

USAIG 2014 Legacy Room Dedication Honoring Our Associates Who Served...

Thursday, November 6, 2014... USAIG hosted a special wine & cheese event in our New York headquarters honoring all past and present associates who served in the United States Armed Forces.

The hosted event dedicated one of our main conference rooms to our associates, naming it - ***“The Legacy Room”*** and to pay tribute to those individuals who served our country over the decades. Depicted on the walls of ***The Legacy Room*** are over 80 photographs and military patches from USAIG employees dating from World War I up through the Iraqi War.



USAIG was founded in 1928 by two World War I aviators – Reed M. Chambers and David C. Beebe – who saw the need for an insurance company that truly understood aviation. Chambers was one of America’s first aviation aces with the 94th Aero Squadron and Beebe was presented with the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with the 50th Aero Squadron. Our co-founders would be proud to know just how many USAIG employees followed in their footsteps by serving their country.



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Special guests present at the event were USAIG retirees Pat Vallone (USAIG years of service: 1947 - 1997), Marie Caufield (USAIG years of service: 1944 - 1990) and Michael Sweeney (past USAIG Chairman, USAIG years of service: 1974 - 2012).



Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren of the David C. Beebe (USAIG co-founder) family also attended the event and saw firsthand the proud legacy that their grandfather started over 86 years ago!



David L. McKay, USAIG President & CEO delivered opening remarks at the ceremony by welcoming our honored guests *“to celebrate our associate’s – past & present – continuing legacy of service by dedicating one of our most prominent rooms to capture that tradition.”* Mr. McKay read a heartfelt passage, written by USAIG co-founder, Reed M. Chambers upon the event of his 22 year partner’s sudden passing, which paid tribute to David C. Beebe - his co-founder, partner and friend. Associates were then invited to view the USAIG **Legacy Room**.



An original copy of David C. Beebe’s book *“The First 25 Years”* which gives historical accounts of what transpired in launching USAIG – America’s first aviation-only insurance company in 1928 - was given to the Beebe family as a keepsake from USAIG.



Edward Poplaski, Commander, American Legion Post 23, presented USAIG and David L. McKay, President & CEO, with a plaque thanking the company for generously donating US Flags of the Armed Forces to the Post.

It was a day for proud reflection of the past, celebrating those associates who so honorably served our great nation, and an eye toward future USAIG generations, as **The Legacy Room** has plans and room to grow!

