

# Friends of Ontario Airport

July/August  
2016



## A few words from your “Prez”

### President’s Message

The Friends of Ontario Airport organization was founded back in the sixties when ONT was becoming a hot property. Local business people felt it was time to get together in support of the airport as an important part of the new Inland Empire economy. Added to the existing railroad, the open space for warehousing offices and hotels was seen as the key to success in the booming Southern California economy.

The deregulation presented an even bigger boom in the seventies and eighties. A boom that collapsed when that deregulation saw the air running out of their balloon. Other issues, like competition, the cost of jet fuel, and the eventual pullback in Southern California’s military contracts and facilities hit just as it finally became time to build the promised new terminals.

Nearly two decades later, the dreams of ONT are still a shining light on the horizon. Today the hope of self-reliance, separate from the umbilical of LAWA, give hope to our airport as a new shining light. New people, new focus, new potential.

Over my years on the board of Friends, I had hoped that more of those area businessmen would get involved again. Hotel innkeepers, restaurateurs, shopkeepers and others would support, as they had, the airport that is the beating heart of the local economy. A few have. Many have not. As we enter the new age of the Ontario International Airport Administration or OIAA, I can only hope that local business people will again see the value of their support of their airport. Our airport. An airport with Friends.

-Joe Lyons

### **JUNE’S GUEST SPEAKER WAS MARVA X., APPLICATION COORDINATOR OF HONOR FLIGHT**

Marva X. is the Navy Brat of a WWII Veteran that joined in 1936 after running away from his grandfather’s farm, and retired in 1960 as a Chief Petty officer. He was proud to serve his country, no matter what job he was given.

In 2010, Marva joined the newly formed Honor Flight—INLAND EMPIRE to assist in sending veterans on a free trip to Washington, D.C. through donations. To date, they have sent 236 Veterans on 11 flights.

Marva is the Application Coordinator that also organizes fundraisers and presentations to advertise and promote this tremendous endeavor. She is a resident of Grand Terrace and works from home, raising her 15-year-old grandson, who eventually wants to attend the Air Force Academy to become a pilot.

Honor Flight accepts donations to continue their mission. Donations are accepted from all individuals. Their goal is to raise \$150,000 each year, which is the cost of sending 150 veterans to Washington D.C. each year. Your contribution to this noteworthy cause will go a long way toward helping them achieve their goal.

You can visit their website at: <http://www.honorflightie.org/>

### FRIENDS MISSION

The Friends of Ontario Airport is a non-partisan, non-sectarian organization that unites people of all backgrounds into a special group with a common interest in aviation, and in the development and growth of Ontario International Airport (ONT) for the benefit of all persons.



Friends of  
**Ontario**  
International Airport

PLEASE ACCEPT MY  
APOLOGIES FOR THE LATE  
NEWSLETTER.  
WITH ALL THE  
TRANSITIONS HAPPENING  
HERE AT THE AIRPORT. WE  
ARE DOING OUR BEST TO  
FILL IN FOR STAFF THAT  
HAVE RETIRED OR  
PROMOTED TO OTHER  
POSITIONS.



## Why join the Friends?

Free admission to the Friends bi-monthly meetings, summer field trip, and annual holiday party; 6 issues of the Friends newsletter; invitations to exclusive airport special events; and a new set of “friends” who share a common interest in the success of ONT. Be a part of the airport “inner circle”!

# JOIN US FOR THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL FIELD TRIP!



**Thursday, August 18 at 5 PM**

The tour will be at the **UPS West Coast Air Facility** located at:  
2925 Jurupa St., Ontario, CA.

Please park and enter from the east side of the building  
(west of Hofer Ranch)

The tour should last about an hour. Make sure to bring your  
government issued ID.

This facility is part of the Ontario airport, therefore everyone entering will  
have to go through a security scan.

Please RSVP to 909-544-5361 by August 10th

## Our Superheroes came out to play

It was a beautiful Friday morning on May 13<sup>th</sup> when Superheroes came out to play at the Upland Hills Country Club for the Friends of Ontario Airport's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament. The power packed tournament pit heroes against villains as they braved their way through an afternoon of smashing golf, soaked in kryptonite infused drinks, enjoyed an energizing lunch and finished with a colossal raffle!

The event was a hit with the heroes raising over \$16,000.00 for the Friends of Ontario, Bob Hope USO Ontario, Travelers Aid of the Inland Empire, and ONT's educational outreach programs for disadvantaged students.

Thank you to all the Friends members that took the time out of their day to help make this event a success!



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KCAA-1050 AM

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