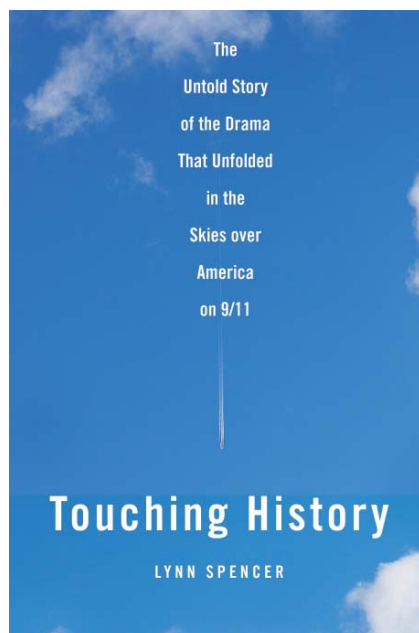


What's Hot Off The Presses?

Two recently published books address topics that should be of interest to ALPA members.

Touching History: The Untold Story of The Drama that Unfolded in the Skies Over America on 9/11, by Lynn Spencer, is a gripping, moment-to-moment narrative of the events from that fateful day. Spencer, an ExpressJet pilot and ALPA member, has taken painstaking efforts to carefully research the morning dialogue between ATC, pilots in U.S. skies,



“Something terrible has just happened over New York City. It appears an aircraft has just struck a building. It looks like we may not be going anywhere for awhile.”

and the Air National Guard. Her extensive research reveals new details not found in the 9/11 Commission Report.

Spencer sets the stage, sharing Newark Controller Rick Tepper's conversation with controller Bob Varcadapane from New York Center about United 175's puzzling activity. The Center's approach controllers are vectoring all flights in the vicinity away

from the rapidly descending aircraft.

“I can see him at the Verrazano Bridge,” Tepper reports. “He's real fast. He's coming down...fast! He's down low now.” The plane is now heading across the Hudson River, heading toward Manhattan at 590 miles per hour. “He's moving up the Hudson,” Tepper continues, “and OH MY GOD! He just hit the tower!”

“Standing stunned at his station, tower controller Greg Callahan looks down at the long line of planes awaiting their takeoff clearances. He keys his mike and chooses his words carefully.

“Something terrible has just happened over New York City,” he mutters heavily. “It appears an aircraft has just struck a building. It looks like we may not be going anywhere for awhile.”

Touching History paints a vivid picture of the many men and women of America's airlines and air transportation infrastructure coming to grips with the unthinkable.

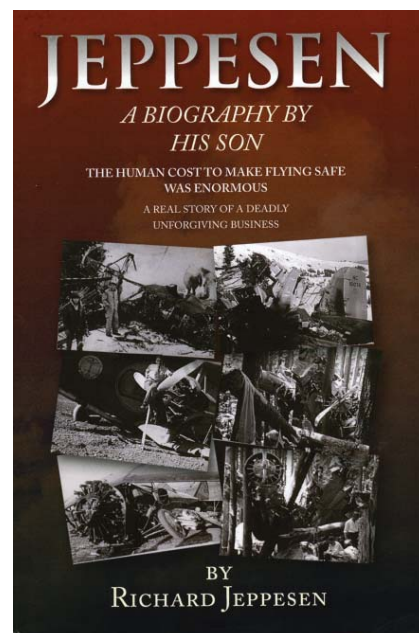
Jeppesen: A Biography by His Son, by Richard Jeppesen, steps further back in aviation history to chronicle one man's efforts to make early flight safer by producing pilot aeronautical charts. Elrey Borge Jeppesen, an airmail pilot, an ALPA member, and a legend in the air transportation industry, recognized the value of charting landmarks, land elevations, and runway details. *Jeppesen* recounts the adventures of a true maverick and his fellow pioneers of air travel who braved rickety airplanes, the weather, nighttime flying, and sometimes-invisible terrain with very little instrumentation to guide them.

Richard describes some of his father's early efforts, noting:

“Dad said he would land during a day flight and taxi up to a farmer's house on one side of a canyon. He would ask the farmer if he would be willing to light a small stack of hay if Jepp called him some night so that he could navigate

through the canyon. Dad would write down the farmer's phone number. After awhile, he had enough names and many times, he would land prior to a canyon, along an air mail route and taxi up to a farmer's house, call ahead, and get the stack lit. He could see the glow of the fire as he flew through the canyon. He knew if he kept the light of the fire visible he couldn't hit anything. Then he would jot down these numbers in a ‘little black book.’”

And Elrey's little black book would



Elrey Borge Jeppesen, an airmail pilot and a legend in the air transportation industry, recognized the value of identifying landmarks, land elevations, and runway details.

eventually launch an industry. Packed with photos and illustrations, *Jeppesen* describes a simpler but more dangerous time when the life expectancy of a career pilot was brief. The book covers Capt. Jeppesen's entire career, following his life with his wife, Nadine, and the terminal at Denver International Airport erected a year before his death, which would later bear his name. 🌐