

PCN Services – High Life *Newsletter, News, Events, Deaths, Illness Notices* and *PCN Calendar*

Large Web Community for World's Largest Airline

A merger on Aug 1, 2009 of RSP and Delta Retired Pilots Communication Network

High Life

For all Delta people who have truly touched the *High Life!*

Dear PCN,

Group Section.....

Mark's Remarks:

GREAT NEW TOOL!

This you are going to like! I came across this by accident and thought why not have one for our net? I use mine every day and the toolbar can be modified with your suggestions. Loaded with a google search, email notifier, live TV, PCN specific links, Travel, Marketplace and soo much more. This new tool will become a quick friend.

Get PCN's own newly developed "toolbar" loaded with specific links that are beneficial to us. Click here to see more:

<http://pcn.homestead.com/Toolbar.html>

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Trying to Improve:

I sincerely appreciate the group of pilots and Deltoids that I serve here at the PCN. It is because of you that I do what I do. Occasionally, an unhappy camper sends me an email or two that are personal in nature and not befitting the net. The complaint is usually based on false assumptions and spews way to much venom to share. To be honest, it does bother me, but actually I try to dissect any personal email, remove some emotion and try to see if there is a constructive criticism that I can take to improve our product. If I were honest, I think we have improved the product and am anxious to continue. I also think that it has been made just as simple as possible for you in the group to get what you want.

Many times a suspected issue arises about a particular "section" of our newsletter or a particular type of notice received by the PCN. That is precisely why I have **segregated emails** sending notices. Don't like a type of notice? Block that particular email. Likewise, in the **newsletter it has been sectioned**. If you want a laugh skip to the humor section. If you want the news only, then just read that. If you only want to hear what your comrades say, skip to the misc section.

You see, I sectioned the newsletter on purpose and I hope you appreciate that. No effort like the PCN can be all things to all people. I say that apologetically, but hope you can see the efforts to be as broad based and sensitive as possible. Some are not the least bit interested in insurance, while others are only interested in the same. My efforts involve a communication net on a variety of topics and issues that will be of interest to members in our group. So far, things are going well and we must be doing something right as we gain more subscribers, now standing at over 2600.

I use tag lines and phrases in the newsletter and on the website. Some may wonder if they are a "double entendre" and/or if you need a super secret decoder ring to decipher these phrases? That is nonsense. Heck, I don't get half of the double entendres on TV that frequent the tube. Ask Barb.

All of the above to say, that I DO desire ideas and/or constructive criticisms to improve what we do. This is a work in progress and I am always willing to try something that may improve it.

In fact I currently have a poll out asking you what you think about adding a **classified section** to our net. As I investigate that, I think it can be useful particularly since I have placed a number of people on hold that wished to advertise an item or a service. There will likely be a cost for me to provide that service. All costs so far I have been willing to absorb. If I offer classifieds, though, I would want them to be self supporting. That would require that some (not all) of the classifieds would likely have a fee. If you wish to voice an opinion on this classified item click here for our poll.

<http://pcn.homestead.com/polling.html>

If you wish to speak up about this or something else than the email inbox is always open.

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Mark's Tips:

For your eyes only: The High Life's archived at our website (not google group and which are the 2nd choice on the notices), are now .pdf files. Why is that important? Well, if you have trouble reading the fine print, try this method that is easier to make the print larger.

Each time a notice comes click on choice 2.

Go there now and try it: http://pcn.homestead.com/Archive_HL.html

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Hot Links in our notices: When the PCN sends you a notice we include links and sometimes email addresses that may not appear hot for you to click on. Two things may help:

1. If you have a google group login... sign in.
2. If you can set your email to HTML, try that.

Both of these things should help our notices have in them hot links which you will be able to click on.

Note: Fallback position is to copy and paste the URL addresses in your browser. Another idea is to save our google group Home page in your favorites:

<http://groups.google.com/group/PilotCommunicationNet>

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PLEASE don't hit REPLY: When you REPLY to a notice that the PCN sends you, your response goes to our google group inbox. It isn't monitored as often. Please use PCN Forms or our Email addresses. Thank you.

News Section.....

Delta News (Recent stories of interest): [Yahoo](#), [AJC](#)

Delta CEO to workers: Call cops if union threatens

Delta CEO say employees who feel threatened by union visits to homes should call police

Harry R. Weber, AP Airlines Writer, On Thursday April 1, 2010, 5:54 pm EDT

ATLANTA (AP) -- The chief of the world's biggest airline is encouraging his employees to call police if they feel threatened by union representatives he says are showing up at their homes unannounced.

Delta Air Lines' two biggest work groups -- ground workers and flight attendants -- have yet to resolve representation following Delta's 2008 acquisition of Northwest Airlines. Both groups were nonunion at pre-merger Delta, but union at pre-merger Northwest.

Ground workers include gate, reservation and ticket agents and ramp and cargo workers. Along with flight attendants they number roughly 50,000 employees at Delta, a spokeswoman has said.

CEO Richard Anderson told employees in a recorded message Thursday that some workers claim International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers representatives have frightened their spouses or children and, in some cases, blocked their driveways, preventing them from leaving.

"Conduct like this is harassment. It's wrong," Anderson said. "This is not how we treat people at Delta."

Read More: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Delta-CEO-to-workers-Call-apf-263436056.html?x=0&.v=7>

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Delta Muscles Way to Canada Code-Share

Ted Reed

03/31/10 - 07:46 AM EDT

ATLANTA ([TheStreet](#)) -- **Delta**([DAL](#)) may push ahead of **Southwest**([LUV](#)) to become the first U.S. carrier to code share with **WestJet**.

Calgary-based WestJet, a low-fare carrier built on the Southwest model, flies Boeing 737 jets to 69 cities in North American and the Caribbean. On its Web site, it says its goal is "to be one of the five most successful international airlines in the world."

In this regard, a code-share agreement with a U.S. carrier would be beneficial. In July 2008, Southwest and WestJet said they had [reached an initial agreement](#) on a code-share deal that would create a cross-border low-fare partnership.

But now CEO Gregg Saretsky said WestJet may code share first with Delta. Delta "has an interest," Saretsky said recently, in an interview with the *Financial Post*. "They have a capability. We like the Southwest partnership, but they've signaled to us that they're not going to be ready."

Read More: http://www.thestreet.com/_yahoo/story/10714701/1/delta-muscles-way-to-canada-code-share.html?cm_ven=YAHOO&cm_cat=FREE&cm_ite=NA

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Tuesday, March 30, 2010, 1:15pm CDT

Twins land Delta sponsorship

Minneapolis / St. Paul Business Journal - by [John Vomhof Jr.](#) Staff writer

The **Minnesota Twins** on Tuesday announced a multiyear, multimillion-dollar sponsorship with **Delta Air Lines Inc.**

Under the deal, Atlanta-based Delta will become the "Official Airline of the Minnesota Twins." It also will receive the naming rights for the Delta Sky360 Legends Club, a premium seating area that encompasses 16 sections of seats on Target Field's club level.

The Delta Sky360 Legends Club will feature a concierge desk staffed by Twins guests-service representatives and Delta employees, outfitted in airline's signature "red coats," to answer questions and provide customer service.

Read More: <http://twincities.bizjournals.com/twincities/stories/2010/03/29/daily16.html?ana=yfcpc>

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Monday, March 29, 2010, 2:02pm EDT

Hartsfield-Jackson stays 'world's busiest'

Atlanta Business Chronicle

Once again, **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport** held onto its coveted title of world's busiest airport.

According to year-end data for 2009 from the **U.S. Department of Transportation's** Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Atlanta's airport hosted 42.1 million enplanements in 2009. The closest competition came from Chicago's O'Hare, which had about 31.1 million enplanements.

Atlanta-based **Delta Air Lines Inc.** (NYSE: DAL) carried 5.4 percent fewer passengers in 2009, but remained the No. 3 carrier with 67.7 million enplaned passengers.

Orlando, Fla.-based **AirTran Airways**, which has its main hub at Hartsfield-Jackson, saw a 2.5 percent drop in passengers with about 24 million. It stayed in eighth place among carriers for 2009.

Read More: <http://atlanta.bizjournals.com/atlanta/stories/2010/03/29/daily7.html?ana=yfcpc>

Other Airline News (Recent stories of interest):

Finance Section (section containing items with financial consequence to our group):

FINANCE: CLAIMS/PBGC/HCTC/INSURANCE/PLANNING/TAX/ESTATE

Remaining financial items for retirees to watch:
After Aug 2007 these are retirement items remaining with financial consequence.

1. ~~PBGC 2nd look re-calc at qualified annuity benefits~~ - completed 8/24/07
2. ~~PBGC make up lump payment for underpayments since termination:~~ most reported received 1/31/08
3. Final claim distribution by DAL through BSI - pending (now likely in '10 according to Kight)
4. ~~Class Action suit against DAL concerning 5 yr look-back worth in excess of \$100 million -~~ withdrawn
5. Final Benefit Determination (FBD) PBGC re-calc "determination" of qualified annuity (likely after claim stock sale) - pending

6. Pension reinstatement/contribution request by DP3 representing the retired pilots. **very long shot....pending**

7. ~~Roth IRA creation as per Worker, Retiree, and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 -- deadline June 22nd, 2009~~

8. Expiration of HCTC 80% premium subsidy will expire on December 31, 2010.

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Estimated Tax Penalty Waiver and Making Work Pay Credit

This IRS news release addresses the 2009 withholding problem with an Estimated Tax Penalty Relief waiver:

<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=218941,00.html>

An IRS video on the same topic can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ayyKJWWc8-w&NR=1>

Thanks to Barbara Hall and Rochelle Oms for this important information.

Insurance (issues about health, life or disability that are of interest):

Robert Moore

Email bolyimo@windstream.net

Issue Area - Insurance

Comments - Can anybody begin to try to explain what DALRC insurance will be like in 2011 with the signing of this health care bill for retirees

Thanks Bob Moore

Pension:

RE- News notice of Bombshell Bill: *Editor: From all that I understand, the new audit done by the trustees of the trust is indeed correct. The problem isn't the adjustment..... it is the timing. Why wasn't it done in concert with the PBGC adjustment? For that reason, a number of our Ret-Dis guys may be rather annoyed. That said, it looks like there really isn't any justification for an action nor any valid legal remedy that I am aware of..*

From: augied@charter.net

Date: 4/3/2010

Mark,

I just received my "Dear Pilot" letter from the D & S people asking for nearly \$30,000 back due to overpayments. I know a lot more pilots received the same letter. The question is, do we have any options?

Thanks,

Augie DeAugustinis

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From: berg1108@aol.com
Date: 4/1/2010 11:51:12 PM
To: mark@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: Fwd: Rje: PCN NEWS - Bombshell Bill

Mark,

Just got a similar bill for \$36,000. After I got my PBGC adjustment without a D&S change, I called and asked for a pay statement and correct paycheck amount. *"Not a problem, an adjustment will be made, but you are pretty much in the ball park now."* So I forgot about it, knowing an *adjustment was coming*.

As I understand the letter, you must contact the Company within 45 days and request a 48 MONTH payback. **If you do not, they will take it out of your pay in 6 MONTHS.**

George Berg

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I got billed by them several years ago and sent one check. Then tried to take care of the situation and was told that in not every case were we being paid too much. They would get back and let us pay over time if necessary. I figured the delay was because it took 2 years to get my disability and I was being double charged for my insurance. Comes as no surprise to me. Dewey Morgan 76er retired. ANGUSBUL@PLANTERS.NET

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Tell them to go "s...w" themselves! If they can afford to give away TRILLIONS of OUR dollars to Large corporations and "Fat Cat" banks, then they don't need the PITTANCE that THEY overpaid US due to THEIR negligence! This kind of crap has GOT to STOP! I'm beginning to think maybe we should ALL join the Christian Militia guys and THAT would give Military Credibility to THEIR cause? Wadda ya think?
Capt. Kenneth B. Kelm (NWA - Ret.) jetlag40@gmail.com
220 Woodland Drive
Camano Island, WA 98282-8748

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From: Jan Gorman
Date: 3/31/2010 11:16:28 PM
To: mark@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: \$59,000 plus due

Mark, I received my letter on March 25 from Delta D&S stating I owe them over \$59,000. I contacted them immediately and they want \$1233 per month for 48 months starting April 1. I receive about \$800 per month from the D&S, not enough to cover the monthly bill. I'll be going into my savings and investments to pay the bill. Jan Gorman, ATL Capt retired 2003

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From: flyriteinn@hotmail.com
Date: 3/31/2010 2:06 PM

I just got my bill for \$17,000 from the d&s trust, and my monthly pension reduced by \$1300/month. The good news is I can pay them back over 48 months, with no interest.

Do we have any recourse to this travesty. I am going to request a full audit. I doubt it will do any good, but at least it might make me feel better.....Ernest L.Hand

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From: egost@hotmail.com

Date: 3/31/2010 2:06 PM

Mark-

Delta has been very accomodating by offering interest free payback of the overpayments over a period of 48 months.

Ev Gost

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From: Desertraat@comcast.net

Date: 3/31/2010 1:32 PM

My bill received last week is for \$30750!!!!

Larry

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From: Stephen Mills

Date: 3/31/2010 4:17:50 PM

To: Pilot Communication Net; misc@pilotcommunication.net

Subject: FW: PCN NEWS - Bombshell Bill

Mark-

I was one of the few who were underpaid. I received a manual check today for \$1211.11. In addition I received a check for \$1312.08 in 12/08. I recall some discussion then on the upcoming audit and reckoning. Paula Reese at 404 677 0765 or her associate Sheila Moffett at 404 677 0765 can answer any questions. I believe those who owe can request the EZ payment plan.

Steve

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From: Fastasp@aol.com

Date: 3/31/2010 2:16:54 PM

To: mark@pilotcommunication.net

Subject: Re: PCN NEWS - Bombshell Bill

Hi Mark,

I had a relatively small adjustment from the D&S Trust people. I requested a audit of this adjustment and have not heard from them since. I was also told that this would not be the final resolution and there might be another adjustment later. I don't think the PBGC or any other government agency ever does anything right!!! It sounds like the Company is jumping through hoops trying to keep all the balls in the air!

Hayes Hutchins

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From: [William Trent](#)
Date: 3/31/2010 1:47:54 PM
To: mark@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: Bombshell Bill

I was adjusted up and down more than a year ago and owed the D&S fund about \$15,000 which they graciously allowed to be paid back over a 48 month period at no interest.

I found the folks at the D&S office very pleasant and reasonable.

Another Bill

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I thank David Roberts for sharing:

DD FORM 214 -- FOR FORMER OR CURRENT MILITARY

Note that you must take your DD-214 in and ask for this benefit.

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2/military.htm>

DD FORM 214 -- SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT Please share this with anyone who's had active duty service between January 1957 to December 31, 2001 and planning for retirement. In a nutshell it boils down to this:

You qualify for a higher social security payment because of your Military service, for active duty any time from 1957 through 2001 (the program was done away with 1 January 2002). Up to \$1200 per year of earnings credit credited at time of application - which can make a substantial difference in social security monthly payments upon your retirement. You must bring your DD-214 to the Social Security Office and you must ask for this benefit to receive it!

Soc Sec website: <http://www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm>

This is something to put in your files for when you apply for Social Security down the road.. It is NOT just for retirees, BUT anyone who has served on **active duty between January 1957 to December 31, 2001.**

FYI - this benefit is not automatic, you must ask for it! We've all been on active duty between 1957 and 2001 or know someone who has.

Passing on good information for our military folks to have when you apply for social security. I know this may be too early for some of you to think about social security but, keep living and you will reach that age.

Commercial Section.....

Investment (Legitimate firms that have helped our group are encouraged to contact PCN to add articles here):

Section reserved for future content.

Travel & Non-Revving (share a quick reco):

Life Section...

Illness Update #4:

Full name of ill - Carl Raymond

Relationship - Pilot

Active Retired - Retired

Update - Update #4

Domicile - NYC

Description of illness - Lymphoma

Living Spouse - Kathryn

Address - 1056 Grande View Pass

City - Maylene

State - AL

Zip - 35114

Comments - As a recap, I had a very aggressive case of Lymphoma. I was given chemo, radiation and an autologous stem cell transplant. Autologous transplant is done using a patient's own stem cells eliminating the possibility of rejection.

I was in Houston---MD Anderson---on March 23rd, 24th and 25th for my follow-up tests. All tests came back excellent---cancer free. This month---March---completes two years since my stem cell transplant. My health is very good. I am off all medications. I have returned to a normal life style.

My wife and I give thanks to God everyday for this enormous blessing.

Carl Raymond

captcarl1942@msn.com

205-358-8285

Misc Posts:

From: [George Chaudoin](#)

Date: 3/31/2010 10:11:01 AM

Subject: Bottled Water

When will you suckers ever learn, especially about the new Desani and Aqua Fina from Coke and Pepsi. (Penn & Teller)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdvJOF-2mm0>

Blue Side Up
George

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From: listadmin@dalrc.org

To: yorkieatl@aol.com

Sent: 3/27/2010 12:34:08 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Subj: Publix Offers Free Glucophage

Publix Pharmacies on Monday began a new diabetes management program, which will include free medication, for its customers and employees.

The program aims to help those living with diabetes with medication, monitoring, education, nutrition and exercise. The center of the program is the free generic immediate-release metformin -- the generic form of the drug Glucophage.

Publix Pharmacy customers will have all their maintenance medications enrolled into the Auto Refill program. This will make sure all prescriptions are refilled when due. A reminder call, to the telephone number on file, will be placed to customers when prescriptions are ready for pick-up.

The Publix Web site at <http://www.publix.com/diabetes> will offer an online library of diabetes-related content, including educational articles, interactive tools for risk assessments, quizzes, podcasts and videos. You might also want to check their free antibiotics program at <http://www.publix.com/freeantibiotics/>.

Publix Super Markets Inc. is privately owned and operated by its 141,000 employees, with 2009 sales of \$24.3 billion. Publix has 1,012 stores in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee, including 145 stores in Atlanta and its environs.

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Cliff Judkins

Email onedotlow@comcast.net

Comments - Sorry, but I just can't let Sheila's comment pass. You know, the one about the two F18 pilots that were grounded by some P.C. staffer who probably flew transport planes before he reached the mk.1 mod.1 desk comma gray. These two aviators were chosen for their aggressiveness and ability. They let the heat of the moment get the best of them in this situation. Two careers ruined and two warriors taken out of the picture. Show me a fighter pilot that hasn't done some "flat hatting" (myself definitely included) and I'll show you a waste of fighter training. I'd gladly fly in the cockpit or on the wing of these two guys and I'll bet a buck that Plato would also. Cliff J. Judkins, world's greatest fighter pilot (ret.)

Human Interest:

Good Read (Good book recommendation & [Community Author's](#) blurbs):

Event Announcements (Click here for [PCN Org & Groups Page](#)): to post pcn.calendar@gmail.com

From: [Bean, Judy M](#)

Date: 4/1/2010 8:31:57 AM

Subject: **Half-Price used flatware sale**

The Delta Heritage Museum will start its annual half-price USED first class flatware sale on Monday, April 5th. The sale will be held in Hangar 2 at Delta's general office complex and run from 9am until 2pm. Paring knives and cheese knives will also be available for purchase at greatly reduced prices.

Office chairs and other miscellaneous items will be included in the sale as well.

The Museum Store will be closed on Monday to accommodate the sale. Please come see us in Hangar 2.

Judy Bean | Heritage Museum Store Manager | 404-773-1219 | Judy.M.Bean@Delta.com

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DLNet/ DNN

Save the date: Block party fun is headed to ATL and MSP soon

March 22, 2010

Delta is gearing up to host employee block parties in Atlanta on **May 22** and in Minneapolis/St. Paul on **June 19**. All employees, retirees, and their family are invited to attend for free food, drinks and entertainment.

The annual block parties are part of the company's goal to make Delta a great place to work.

They will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on May 22 at World Headquarters, and during the same hours on June 19 at the Minneapolis/St. Paul headquarters at Building C. Additional details for entertainment, food and activities, will be available soon on DeltaNet.

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**Delta leverages partnership with Braves, Yankees for employee tickets**

March 19, 2010

Delta is the official airline of the New York Yankees and the Atlanta Braves, and employees are able to take advantage of those partnerships this season with special ticket offers of up to 50% off game tickets.

The offer for discounted Yankees tickets became active on Friday and can be accessed using the link below. Tickets are subject to availability. Discounts are available for tickets between the bases and half price tickets are available on the main, terrace, grandstand, grandstand outfield, and bleacher levels. Employees should use the special offer code "LDELTA" to access the discounts.

The Atlanta Braves are offering Delta employees tickets to their opening day for about 50% off thanks to Delta's sponsorship. The game against the Chicago Cubs begins at 4:10 p.m. on April 5. Prices range from \$8 to \$24.

**See Also:** [\(sign into DLNet\)](#)

[Learn more about discounted Yankees tickets, prices, and game dates.](#)

[Learn more about discounted Braves tickets and prices.](#)

I am looking for....." (Share a post of who you are seeking, if one sought answers....wallah):

Good Deal/Bad Deal (Share a quick good deal or bad deal you have found – no commercials here!)

Ralph Presley

Email [rpres66@aol.com](mailto:rpres66@aol.com)

Issue Area - Good Deal

Comments - Verizon Wireless gives retired and active Delta employees a 20% discount on cell phone service. Show Delta ID at any Verizon store.

Lowes Building Supply store gives a 10% military discount. A veteran or active duty personal, with ID can obtain it by telling the cashier and showing ID.

Hangar Flying (Share a bit of ole hangar flying with the net) :

*(Thank Kim)*

Date: Sun, 4 Apr 2010 11:14:40 -0400

This is so cool!!!!

Top ten you have to see all 10 awesome.

<http://shock.military.com/Shock/videos.do?displayContent=212576&page=1>

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Buddy of mine from a past life before NWA-DAL: Capt Mike Bezzeg:

**Subject:** 747

<http://dailygleaner.canadaeast.com/front/article/911209>

Mark,

The first link is the newspaper article, if you click on the arrow at the top of picture you'll get three choices. (Mike is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> picture).

Humor/Sobering or Fun (Share some "vulgarity free" humor with the net):

Great nerves of steel this bowhunter had!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3rOBE5IEvA>

## Mark

Mark Sztanyo, PCN Dir & HL Editor

[Pilot Communication Net](#)

[Contact the Net](#)

*Life on earth will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last!*

Serving the Delta community, and pilots (active and retired) and their families, *including original Delta*, and *former*: Northeast, Pan-Am, Western, NWA, Republic, North-Central, Southern Airways, Hughes- Airwest, and all the Delta Connection carriers.

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**Delta Pilots Pension Preservation Organization - <http://www.dp3.org>**  
Delta Museum & Fly-in information - <http://www.deltamuseum.org>  
Delta Pioneers - <http://www.deltapioneersinc.com/>  
Delta Golden Wings - <http://www.deltagoldenwings.com/>  
Delta Retiree Connection - <http://www.dlretiree.info>  
Delta Retirement Committee - <http://www.dalrc.org/>  
DAL Pilots DDPSA - <http://www.ddpsa.com/>  
Delta Extra Net Portal - <http://dlnet.delta.com/>

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