

PCN Services – High Life *Newsletter, News, Events, Deaths, Illness Notices* and *PCN Calendar*. *Note: Notices from major sections are distributed by separate email address to allow our subscribers the ability to customize and block notices not desired.*

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.....

Message for All Retired Delta Pilots

Help asked from PCN subscribers – *Contact Fellow Pilots*

All should consider Honor Roll of DP3!

Guys, the PCN has over 2500 subscribers but a lot of retirees aren't members of the PCN. Nor does everyone get the DP3 emails. Many are not aware of this current extremely important battle about the PBGC BDL's. Please forward this message from me personally to urge them to re-engage. THIS IS IMPORTANT! I encourage all pilots to re-engage.

All PCN subscribers **please contact your pilot contacts** (some of whom are not connected to any network like the PCN) and let them know that this is important to them personally.

Bottom line is this - There is a chance to improve our PBGC monthly amounts (even over the possibility of a final determination "improvement" by the PBGC) via the appeal process. I am not promising that you will get more, but the fight is worth it. This appeal is being provided

for DP3 honor roll members by their chosen legal team from our dues. Becoming an honor roll member for one who hasn't paid any DP3 dues will cost \$1200. Now let's get serious. That is serious money. But two thoughts. One the DP3's string of efforts have been worth support. Secondly, if you improve a couple hundred a month, it would justify every penny. Individual appeals would likely be too complicated and too expensive. So this group effort is important to join. Tell your fellow "un-engaged" pilots to re-engage for this one. It's a battle worth waging.

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Some ZEROes becoming HEROes!

I have heard from a friend a formally "zero" benefit PBGC recipient that he recently received his revised final BDL from the PBGC and now is receiving a \$600 monthly benefit. That is HUGE! Not only is the \$600 provide a little more monthly jingle, but my zero friend now qualifies for the all important 65% subsidy from the HCTC of the IRS to help on health care premiums.

I want to be clear on this. The zero guys that now get a benefit owe a lot of gratitude to the DP3 trustees who have fought hard on this very issue. I know that at times I am sounding like a DP3 cheerleader but I just want to recognize that there has been some recent progress that was fought hard for.

Mark's Remarks:

Two Things:

Appeal and Retrieving Numbers for filling out the DP3 Survey

Appeal your BDL: *Why wouldn't you?* See below the "Consolidated Appeal Process" What the PBGC is doling out is (in most cases) far below what you deserve. It is the formula used (not their fuzzy math) that unfairly reduces your monthly annuity for the bases of an appeal. The legal team stands ready and willing to appeal on that basis for any who desire. My question, why would you not desire to join in? You aren't jeopardizing your allotment you can only improve it. Why not try?

Retrieving Numbers for DP3 Legal Team (HRS) Survey: Listen, this is totally doable in fact downright easy. GET THIS SURVEY IN NOW, DON'T WAIT FOR YOUR BDL FROM THE PBGC.

The DP3 is organizing our group info for a group fight against the PBGC by the legal team. They need you to fill out two forms:

1. HRS = Honor Roll Survey (obviously this is for honor roll members of the DP3 and if you aren't it is time to at least consider it. Why not? Your legal representation is worth membership dues alone)
2. DOR = Designation of Representation. Simply a signature stating you want the selected legal team to represent you.

3. BDL = Benefit Determination Letter (Don't wait for this before you send in your survey, but when you get your BDL from the PBGC, send a copy of ALL pages in).

Now about the "HRS" and filling in the blanks. Easy as pie. You only need 3 dollar numbers and one you already know. The current PBGC payment to you is the 3rd request. Just fill in the gross amount. Now locate the gross amount of your retirement annuity value for the 1st request that you either originally got or was supposed to get. Then for the one in the middle just locate the gross amount of what Delta "re-calculated" your annuity to be (pre-termination) as of 9-1-06. With the addition of one kind of forgettable date (your seniority date –usually a few weeks after your hire date and easily found on any seniority list) you are set. Now, most of don't have your BDL letter from the PBGC yet, so fill in that box with four zeroes (0000). That is it! Still need help? Call the Delta ESC 800-MY-DELTA or email at ESC.Delta@Delta.com they can help with the first two numbers required.

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Again kudos for DP3 efforts: Membership Status Box

Your Membership Status

Your Membership Status:
Honor Roll

Status of your appeal paperwork:

HRS* received: YES
DOR* received: YES
BDL* received: no

*HRS=Honor Roll Survey
*DOR=Desig. of Representative
*BDL=Benefit Determination Letter
Data last updated 5/16/2010

This one place quick indicator for members is great. You can see if you are an honor roll member (important to be able to benefit from legal team efforts) and whether your documents have been received or not. I am very glad for the overtime efforts being put in right now from our Trustees for our pilots. Again, great job by our Trustees!

News Section.....

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

Delta to start Seattle-Beijing service on June 4

Delta to start Seattle-Beijing service on June 4 after getting final Chinese gov't approval

On Tuesday May 18, 2010, 2:57 pm EDT

NEW YORK (AP) -- Delta Air Lines Inc., the world's largest airline, said Tuesday it will start nonstop service between Seattle and Beijing on June 4 after receiving final approval from the Chinese government.

The company had first announced the route as part of its international expansion plans in October.

Flights will operate five times per week. Flights will leave Seattle at 9:05 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday and arrive in Beijing at 11:40 p.m.

Flights departing Beijing will start June 6. They will leave the Chinese capital on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 8:55 a.m. and arrive in Seattle at 5:30 a.m.

Because of the new route, Delta is adjusting the flight times for its Beijing to Tokyo route. The flight will now leave Beijing at 6:55 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and at 7:30 a.m. on weekend days instead of the previous departure time of 8:55 a.m.

Read More: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Delta-to-start-SeattleBeijing-apf-2823248073.html?x=0&.v=1>

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Mesa Air may lay off 500 after Delta wins ruling

Mesa Air says 500 layoffs possible after federal judge rules for Delta in long-running dispute

Bob Christie, Associated Press Writer, On Tuesday May 18, 2010, 12:20 pm EDT

PHOENIX (AP) -- Mesa Air Group says it may have to lay off 500 workers at its Freedom Airline subsidiary after a federal judge ruled that Delta Air Lines has the right to cancel a service contract with the regional carrier.

Georgia-based U.S. District Judge Clarence E. Cooper ruled against Mesa on Monday in a long-running dispute with Delta. Mesa said it will leave 22 of its jets without work.

Cooper had prevented Delta Air Lines Inc. from canceling the \$20 million-a-month contract in June 2008. Delta said Phoenix-based Mesa Air Lines Inc. wasn't completing enough of its Delta Connection flights. But Mesa argued that was because Delta asked it to cancel many flights out of John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York during bad weather.

Cooper held a trial last month and reversed himself in his ruling Monday, siding with Atlanta-based Delta.

Read More: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Mesa-Air-may-lay-off-500-apf-365001326.html?x=0&.v=4>

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Delta Air CEO's \$1.3 Million Sale

By MIRIAM GOTTFRIED | [MORE ARTICLES BY AUTHOR\(S\)](#)

Richard Anderson sold 100,000 shares of the airline.

SHARES OF CARRIERS SUCH as Delta Air Lines (ticker: DAL) are beginning to recover as the economy stabilizes and business travel returns. But recently, top insiders at Delta have been offloading shares, with the chief executive selling \$1.3 million worth.

CEO Richard Anderson sold 100,000 Delta shares at an average price of \$13.47 each on May 13. After the sale, he held 1.4 million shares directly and 1.2 million exercisable options, representing less than 1% of Delta's outstanding shares.

A Delta spokeswoman said an executive's decision to sell is a personal one.

Read More: <http://online.barrons.com/article/SB127409787100292825.html?ru=yahoo&mod=yahooobarrons>

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 Letters (FDL's) PBGC re-calc "determination" of qualified annuity (likely after claim stock sale) – **pending (only 45 days to appeal)**
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. Back to 65%.~~

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

From: [Charles Roedema](#)

Date: 5/23/2010 2:36:56 PM

To: misc@pilotcommunication.net

Cc: [Lewis Roger](#)

Subject: "Donut Hole" With DALRC (Medicare) Prescriptions For 2010

Retired Pilots,

I paid \$62.50 for a 90 day prescription with MEDCO in February. I re-ordered this month and the same medicine was \$230.35. MEDCO said I had hit the "donut hole" (coverage gap) with Medicare prescription plans. I had never heard of a "donut hole" but I never attended the briefing last December. I got DALRC on the phone with MEDCO and found out the cost was correct. I had gotten within \$23 of the "donut hole" and this medication put me over. I will be spending the next \$1720 out of my pocket with no discount or co-pay, and then go into a \$2.40/\$6.00 co-pay.

All Medicare prescription plans are set up this way for 2010 but with DALRC, if you have the Emerald Plan, which I do, then I only pay half of the cost instead of the 100%. Had I been on the Opal Plan, the cost would have been \$460.70.

I was just passing this on in case you were unaware of this 2010 change in Medicare.

I was surprised I had paid that much this early in the year but found out the total wasn't just my cost, but what MEDCO says the drug is worth plus your co-pay.

BTW, the prescription I was taking was Caduet, a combination of Lipitor, for cholesterol, and Norvasc, for blood pressure. I was able to "separate" the Caduet and got a MEDCO prescription for the Lipitor that only costs \$125, and got the generic of Norvasc at my local Brookshire's Pharmacy for only \$9.99. So it saved me almost \$100 doing it that way. Similar generic programs are available at Kroger, Albertson's, Walmart, etc.

"Donut Hole" info below.

Chuck Roedema
Denton, TX
MD11 Captain-Retired 2002

Hitting the Donut Hole

The donut hole, or coverage gap, is one of the most controversial parts of the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit and of concern to many people who have joined a Part D drug plan.

Although all prescription drug plans must explain the coverage gap in their literature and advertising, the donut hole comes as a shock to many enrollees when they go abruptly from making [copayments](#) for their drugs to paying 100% of the cost.

How the Donut Hole Works in 2010

This is the standard Part D drug prescription plan for 2010 required by Medicare.

- If you join a Medicare prescription drug plan, you may have to pay up to the first \$310 of your drug costs. This is known as the deductible.
- During the initial coverage phase, your drug plan pays 75% of the covered prescription drug costs after your deductible is met, and you pay 25% until the total drug costs (including your deductible) reach \$2,830.
- Once you reach \$2,830 in total drug costs, you will be in the donut hole and you must pay the full cost of prescription drugs until your total out-of-pocket cost reaches \$4,550. This annual out-of-pocket spending amount includes your yearly deductible and copay amounts.
- When you spend more than \$4,550 out-of-pocket, the coverage gap ends and your drug plan pays most of the costs of your covered drugs for the remainder of the year. You will be responsible for a copay of \$2.40 for each generic drug and \$6.00 for other drugs (or 5%, whichever is higher). This is known as catastrophic coverage.

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LATEST FINANCIAL REPORT ON THE DELTA PILOTS DISABILITY AND SURVIVORSHIP (D&S) PLAN

This is the third article in a series by Ev Gost, retired 767 Capt LAX and Vice-Chairman of the Delta Disabled Pilots and Survivors Association (DDPSA) www.ddpsa.com.

Although the information contained herein is believed to be accurate, no warranties are made of implied as to its accuracy.

PLAN ASSETS FELL WELL BELOW BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The financial statements for the plan year that ended on June 30, 2009, indicate that the **assets** in the D&S Plan **were significantly less than the plan benefit obligations**. The Annual Return (Form 5500 and accompanying statements) filed on April 15, 2010, reveals the following changes in the status of the D&S Plan from the previous plan year.

	<u>Year Ended June 30, 2008</u>	<u>Year Ended June 30, 2009</u>
Plan Net Assets	\$1,465,766,000	\$1,002,822,000
Plan Benefit Obligations	\$1,616,836,000	\$1,575,066,000
Benefit Payments	\$170,173,000	\$173,320,000
Insurance Premiums	\$3,177,000	\$6,118,000
Employer Contributions	0	\$4,599,000
Mgmt and Admin Fees	\$9,294,000	\$4,090,000
Active participants	6,692	12,688
Retired or separated	1,213	1,329

receiving benefits		
Retired entitled to future benefits	4,168	4,126
Survivors receiving benefits	615	642
Assumed discount rate	6.75%	6.375%

Author's opinion: There may be some comfort in the fact that Delta now is defined as an additional source of payment of D&S Plan benefits. However, the D&S Plan assets (which are in the D&S Trust) are the ultimate security for plan benefits because such assets are reserved for distribution to plan participants and restricted from reversion to Delta, its creditors or shareholders.

Several years ago, the assets of the D&S Trust exceeded plan benefit obligations. As of June 30, 2009, **plan assets fell short of plan benefit obligations by more than \$575 million.** Although it is likely that the recent recovery in equity markets has favorably impacted the level of assets in the Plan (D&S Trust), it is unlikely that plan assets currently equal or exceed plan benefit obligations.

The "burn rate" of plan assets may subside somewhat beginning in 2011. If D&S Plan assets are less than \$1.2 billion, Delta will be required to make annual contributions to the Plan in the amount of 4% of free cash flow up to a maximum contribution of \$60 million (free cash flow would have to equal \$1.5 billion for that contribution to equal \$60 million). It would be more comforting to most retired Delta pilots if Delta were to cease drawing \$60 million annually from the D&S Trust to pay pilot sick and vacation pay.

Pension:

DP3 Policy for Communication with the DP3 Attorneys

May 21, 2010

Due to some recent attempts by DP3 members to directly contact Miller & Chevalier (the DP3 law firm handling the PBGC appeal for DP3) and the increased charges we incur for dealing with such contact, we are sending this notice to remind everyone of our policy regarding attorney-client contact between DP3 members and Miller & Chevalier.

DP3 completes an initial review of your appeal information and formats the data into consistent electronic files before forwarding the material to our attorneys. This process is designed to reduce the workload for the attorneys and save our members money.

Our policy is simple. All contact with Miller & Chevalier MUST come through a DP3 Trustee. All documents required to support the appeal must be sent to DP3, not to M&C. Please do not send the attorneys U.S. mail, faxes, or emails. Any such mail, fax or email sent directly to Miller & Chevalier will be ignored, returned, or discarded.

Please note that any contact with M&C made by individual DP3 members, Honor Roll or not, will be billed to you directly at M&Cs regular hourly rates.

Thank you for your support.

Your DP3 Trustees

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PBGC Appeals Update from the DP3 Attorneys

The Consolidated Appeal Process

May 15, 2010

Our attorneys have reached an agreement with the PBGC Appeals Board for a **consolidated appeal process** for the retired DP3 pilots represented by Miller & Chevalier. The consolidated appeal date is tentative, but may become firm when the PBGC is able to determine the likely last date of Benefit Determination Letter (BDL) distribution. Basically, this means that everyone's appeal of their PBGC benefit will be dealt with on a group basis later in the year, once all BDL's have been sent and the last 45 day appeal deadline has passed. Our attorneys will simply extend the appeal deadline for each individual DP3 member until the consolidated appeal is ultimately filed.

It is extremely important for you to understand that our attorneys must seek individual extensions of time for each retired pilot after he/she has received his BDL and within the original 45-day appeal window - and therefore it is important that you send us the copy of the BDL as soon as you receive it. Don't forget to fax or email us your Declaration of Representation form, without which our attorneys cannot act on your behalf. Also, when you send a copy of your BDL, make sure you send us the entire BDL, including all cover pages.

Our attorneys will automatically handle filing the initial appeal and all extension requests as the consolidated appeal deadline approaches, so long as they receive your benefit determination information in a timely fashion.

Please note the membership status box adjacent to this article above left. The status box contains a yes/no indicator as to whether or not we have received your paperwork. This is the only acknowledgment you will receive that your forms have been received. *Please remember that records are entered manually so it may take several days for your status to be updated. If it has been more a week since submission and your information has not been updated, let us know. It is your responsibility to make sure we entered it in correctly.*

Thank you for your support, and be sure to check the Q&A below for recently updated answers to your questions.

DP3 Trustees

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To PCN subscribers this button is "hot" and will take you directly to the DP3 resource page for filing an appeal concerning your PBGC benefits.

DP3 (login required) PBGC Appeals Resource Page



Click to appeal your PBGC benefit

(Note: Must know your DP3 assigned passwords which cannot be shared in our newsletter!)

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From: [George Chaudoin](#)

Date: 5/23/2010 11:56:47 AM

Subject: Tell Lawmakers To Help Secure Your Pension

VERY URGENT - NRLN Action Alert
Tell Lawmakers To Help Secure Your Pension

MY PREVIOUS MESSAGE TO YOU ASKED THAT YOU SEND A CAPWIZ MESSAGE TO YOUR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MEMBER WHO CAN HELP SECURE YOUR PENSION. SO FAR, MANY OF YOU HAVE BEEN CONTENT TO "LET SOMEBODY ELSE DO IT". PLEASE HELP BY TAKING ACTION ON BEHALF OF YOURSELF AND ALL OTHER RETIREES. IF YOU DON'T, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT YOU MAY REGRET IT SOMEDAY.

THE CURRENT STOCK MARKET MELT DOWN COMBINED WITH THE UNETHICAL TAKING OF ASSETS FROM YOUR PENSION PLAN MAY BE PLACING YOUR FUTURE AT RISK AND YOU WILL NOT KNOW IT FOR MONTHS. LET'S STOP COMPANIES LIKE GM, CHRYSLER, ALCATEL-LUCENT, QWEST, AT&T, DETROIT EDISON AND OTHERS FROM STEALING OUR PENSION SECURITY BY DEMANDING THAT H.R. 4213 INCLUDES LANGUAGE THAT WILL PROTECT OUR PENSIONS.

Click <http://capwiz.com/abtr/home/> to access the NRLN Action Alert labeled ACT NOW TO PROTECT PENSIONS. Click the "Take Action" button, type in your zip code and click "GO" to identify your Representative. Click the "Elected Officials" tab and write down his or her phone number! Now personalize the letter with your own comments if you want to. If you have a problem accessing the Action Alert with the above link, go to www.nrln.org and click on the "Take Action Now" at the top of the NRLN website's home page.

SEND YOUR MESSAGE (SEE IT BELOW) NOW..... ALSO CALL HIM OR HER OR TELL ANYBODY THAT ANSWERS, THAT YOU SENT A MESSAGE AND THAT YOU

EXPECT ACTION NOT POLITICAL BS...SAY IT LIKE YOU MEAN IT.....MAKE THAT CALL!!!

You can also find your Representative's phone number in the Congressional Directory on the NRLN website at: <http://capwiz.com/abtr/dbq/officials/> .

Nike says it best --- JUST DO IT!

Sample Letter:

Dear Representative _____:

I am writing to ask that you to keep in H.R. 4213 the provision limiting the ability of companies opting for funding relief to use pension plan assets to make lump sum severance payments. I have heard that General Motors is opposing this limitation. GM, Chrysler, Alcatel-Lucent, Delta and other companies have proven untrustworthy to protect the interests of employees and retirees by using pension assets for non-pension expenses. I believe you have a public policy obligation to me to stop this!

GM reported a \$1.8 billion shortfall as of October 31, 2008, a deficit that had swollen far larger by February 2009. The Detroit Free Press reported that, GM and Chrysler admitted that, for the first time in their history, they were using pension assets to fund lump sum severance payments, ranging from \$45,000 to \$62,500, that would be paid in addition to workers' accrued retirement benefit. Alcatel-Lucent published in its 2003 10-K that they took \$2 billion. Delphi used this "back door reversions" practice and it contributed to the tragedy of many Delphi salaried retirees and placed the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation at risk. The PBGC took over the Delphi salaried pension plan, at 55% funded. These lump sum payments are bribes to induce early retirement and are business expenses, not pension benefits. If you don't understand the concepts, ask an accountant, FASB or the CBO.

Last month the Government Accountability Office reported that GM will need to add \$12.3 billion to its pension fund by 2014 and Chrysler will need to add \$2.62 billion. If those contributions aren't met, is the federal government going to step in and pay for the pensions of the 956,000 GM and Chrysler employees and retirees?

Does Congress want to offer funding relief to GM, Chrysler and others yet leave the door open for them during the funding relief period to simultaneously remove assets from the pension plan for corporate restructuring expenses?

You need to take action that is in the best interest of the constituents in your District who voted to send you to Congress to

take care of their business. I want to hear from you that you will do everything possible to include a provision in the House bill to protect pension plan assets for the benefit of retirees. I want action, not rhetoric and I need it now. Please do the right thing!

Sincerely,
Blue Side Up
George

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...

Misc Posts:

From: Capt767er@aol.com

Date: 5/21/2010 2:28:11 PM

To: mark@pilotcommunication.net

Subject: Blood Pressure

Mark, I read your review of the China trip with great interest. For some time I have been trying to sort out why my own BP can be quite high or ridiculously low. My guess is several things probably affected you? First the commute to China. This includes loss of sleep, airplane food with lots of salt+++ , possibly flying tourist class and edging toward deep vein circulation issues, and last but not least some concern about getting the job.

For the most part my issues for the last 7 years have been personally connected. Being married to "Barbie" who is 25 years younger was a definite connection. Even when things seemed to be OK my brain knew better. LOL

I am writing you because of my experience last year in attempting to get a job as an air carrier inspector with the FAA. I was eventually disqualified because I had not flown 150 hours in the last 3 years. BTW a C-150 would have been OK according to the non flying type at the FAA. My comment was if I had done that they should not hire me because of a lack of common sense.

But I digress. The current Federal Flight Surgeon is a fanatic on BP. He believes it is the route of all evil. I went thru incredible screening because of a minimal dose of a water retention pill. They did everything possible to deny my First Class medical but in the end could not because a Cardiologist found no reason to think there was an underlying problem. They gave me the certificate with this restriction: It was good for only 6 months (no problem right?) Well the rub is it is not downgradeable to Second or Third class and I have to jump thru the hoops every 6 months with visits to the heart specialist and eye specialist who must do a full refraction and retinal examination. As John Denver would sing: "Some days are diamonds and some days are stones." If no one asks me about my Russian ex my BP is about 110/70.

Ask me first and then take it. 150/100. Same thing is the topic of Delta Air Lines and retirement comes up. 😊 All indicators point to living to 95. The bad news is all indicators point to living to 95. I am where I never wanted to be especially when married. "Never be worth more dead than alive. It gives people too much incentive for inappropriate actions."

So, check out the Federal Register and go after that FAA job. I quit the Navy Reserve thinking I did not need it after making CDR and satisfying my ego. What a huge mistake. Any Federal job would fill that square for a Federal retirement. Secondly some farm remedies seem to help with BP. Eating celery seems to have a beneficial effect. My Dad was in congestive heart failure and went on a total salt free diet. This is very difficult to do BTW. End result: He has lost over 25 pounds, BP is 120/75, 85 in October and they now think he will make 100 if they can fix an aortic heart valve without cracking his chest.

Be careful what a well meaning "Family" doctor might write for you. Check it out with a Flight Surgeon if you have any doubt.

Regards, Rick Bauer

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Stephen Grice

Email stevegrice@comcast.net

Issue Area - Insurance

Comments - DALRC INSURANCE USERS BE CAREFUL

Having been retired for 13 years, and having lost my pension along with everyone else, I do not have a lot of trust in Delta Air Lines. Thus when I remarried last month and desired to get my wife (under 65) enrolled in the Delta Medical Insurance plan, I attempted to cross all the T's and dot all the i's. I checked with the ESU and told them my circumstances (retired, DALRC insurance, etc) I was told after several phone conversations that my prospective spouse would be covered were I to do all the necessary paperwork in a timely manner. After doing all this I have been informed that the DALRC insurance does not count as insurance and they (ESU) was sorry for the inconvenience but my new wife was not eligible for coverage by Delta and since I had married her without being on the DPMP she would never be eligible for this coverage. Although Delta subsidizes the DALRC insurance program and offers it each enrollment period, Delta does not consider it as a Delta sponsored insurance program.

I have called the VP of Human Resources as well as his assistant and neither have bothered to call back.

Does anyone know of any way to address this problem other than the appeal which I have submitted? If so, please let me know at stevegrice@comcast.net.

Thanks,
Steve

Editor: Steve, check out the HCTC program and see if she may qualify for insurance with the HCTC subsidy. The 4th item down on the DP3 Blog has a piece on this. <http://dp3org.wordpress.com/> With the unfortunate situation with DMP maybe this can help. Also, the new VEBA that the DP3 is about to roll out may provide some help.

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From: [Jim Mecom](#)
Date: 5/17/2010 9:03:28 PM
To: misc@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: Old Seniority List

Folks,

I have to fill out a PBGC form and they want **my seniority date**. I of course know my date of hire but don't have a clue what my seniority date is. Heck, at this juncture of life, I'm lucky to remember Delta Airlines :-)

If anyone has an old seniority list between Sept of 67 to July of 1997 I would be very grateful for your help.

Thanks,
Jim Mecom
jimmecom@wifi45.com

*Editor: Jim,
Can't find an old seniority list but there is a lot of ways to get this date which is about 3-4 weeks after hire date.*

1. Look for it on a myriad of old Delta docs that may have it.
2. Ask a classmate
2. Call the ess 800 my delta
4. Call ALPA (703) 689-2270

Hope that helps.

From: [Jim Mecom](#)
Date: 5/18/2010 10:41:30 AM
To: [PCN Misc](#)
Subject: Re: Old Seniority List

Mark,
I got the number from ATL this morning. Thanks very much for your help. God bless,
Jim

Human Interest:

From: [Force, Marie](#)

Date: 5/17/2010 10:54:09 AM

To: 'misc@pilotcommunication.net'

Subject: Pat Malone featured on Delta Blog

Thought the pilot group would like to know that the Delta Blog recently featured Pat Malone's induction into the Georgia Hall of Fame. The blog post includes archival photos of "Mother" Malone doing pilot training in the 1940s and 1970s. <http://blog.delta.com/2010/05/03/deltas-pat-malone-inducted-into-hall-of-fame/>

Marie Force

Archives Manager

Delta Air Transport Heritage Museum

Delta Air Lines

1060 Delta Blvd., Dept. 914

Atlanta, GA 30354

phone 404-714-2371

fax 404-715-2037

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: [Tonella](#)

Date: 5/17/2010 12:35:06 PM

To: [Mark Sztanyo](#)

Subject: IMPORTANT LADIES DAY FUNDRAISER INFO...

Mark,

I am a subscriber to your news network, even tho I am a flight attendant (I was a great fan of Dave Roberts and always admired the hard work and hours he put in to keep us all in the loop). I find this an excellent way of keeping up with the news of many of my pilot friends as well as the fact that I am married to a retired DL pilot and he enjoys your information as well.

I know that we all have people knocking on our doors or flooding us with appeals for charity every day. However, I am involved with a volunteer group of active/retired flight attendants who have been helping sick/disabled flight attendants since 1998. We didn't intend to become a fundraiser...it just happened because of incredible need.

We are having our annual party in MSY on June 5th. The Pilot group has always supported us and I wondered if you would be so kind as to include the information in your next mailing. We are a 501-3C recognized charity and donations are tax deductible. We have no paid staff-everyone is volunteer and we have very low expenses. At least 95 cents of every dollar collected goes into our fund.

We also have some fabulous prizes you can buy raffle tickets for...who knows...you just might win something!

If anyone has any questions, I can best be reached by e-mail as I am flying 5-day trips this month.

Many thanks...you do an incredible job!

Toni Holman
active f/a-ATL
tonella@plantationcable.net

Ladies Day Fund, Inc.

May 6, 2010

ATTENTION: Delta F/A's, Ladies Day Members & Friends of Ladies Day...

Please take note of important changes: The location of the MSY Ladies Day Fundraiser on June 5th was changed this week because of the oil slick in the Gulf. The party boat is located in Mississippi & with the ongoing tragedy in the Gulf (oil continuing to flow & spread)... severe damage to the yacht's hull could occur in trying to bring the boat to New Orleans. This year the event will now be held at the Beauregard-Keyes House. Bus service from the hotel to the party will no longer be provided as it is approximately a 10 minute walk to the Beauregard-Keyes House from the Bienville House (official hotel for out-of-town attendees). **Also...** I can never thank enough (the list is unending): Those who this year are helping to make the event special by... selling raffle tickets, donating raffle prizes, buying raffle tickets and volunteering to help when called upon. Thank you so very much! You have no idea how important you are to me & my board of directors... the continued success of Ladies Day would not be possible without you!!! Updated information below...

C. L.

Message from Carole...

Invisible Bonds = Enduring Ties...Delta Flight Attendants!

THE 2010 MSY LADIES DAY FUNDRAISER...

"A Celebration of Friendship" dedicated to the memory of
Atlanta flight attendant Sandy Thurston, CVG flight attendant Greg Hermanns, and the late
Janice Martin who was the inspiration for the first
Ladies Day on the Boat!

THE DATE: June 5, 2010

THE TIME: 4 PM - 7 PM

THE PLACE: The Romantic Beauregard-Keyes House, New Orleans French Quarter, 1113 Chartres Street. NATIONAL HISTORIC PLACE located opposite the Old Ursuline Convent

Something Personal: I grew up in a small town in Minnesota where everyone practically knew everyone else. I grew up believing life is good, life is fair. After college in 1965 I got a job with "a small southern airline called Delta." Life was very good!!! In 1968 my oldest brother was having bad headaches, in a weeks time he went totally blind. He was a handsome, blond, six foot former high school football player and track star... he died six months later on Thanksgiving Day. He left a wife and three small children. He was only 36 years old! It was a **CANCEROUS** brain tumor. My family was devastated!!! I realized then that bad things do happen to good people and... life is not always fair!

Since then I have lost relatives & friends to this terrible disease called CANCER. And in 1998 a good friend, an ATL f/a (former MSY) found out she had terminal cancer. Her name was Janice Martin. Janice's life had not always been picture perfect... part of her childhood had even been spent in an orphanage. Many of her MSY friends were devastated with the news! A few months later... my older sister was diagnosed with CANCER! About the same time I had a suspicious lump which my doctor said was a 50/50 chance of being CANCER! I was terrified!!! Up till the surgery my prayer was ... *Please not now God, I can't deal with that now!!!* I promised, if spared this time, I would make a difference to those who weren't so lucky. After my surgery my doctor told me, *"You are wonderfully benign!"* I kept my promise.

The summer of 1998 in six weeks time I (and three others that I chose) put together the first New Orleans Ladies Day Boat Party Fundraiser!!!

We raised \$5,000.00!!! The money all went to Janice Martin. That was our beginning! We now have raised & given away almost *"half a million dollars!!!"* Aid has gone to hundreds of flight attendants all over the United States... many of them we have never even met! It has been through the generosity of our ever expanding network of compassionate co-workers (former, active & retired) from all over the U. S., as well as others who care about this organization, that we have been able to give these gifts.

Given the fact **LIFE IS NOT ALWAYS FAIR AND BAD THINGS DO HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE**, I'm asking you to please purchase a ticket or tickets for our fundraiser to help continue the work we started 12 years ago! And if you can, join us on June 5th as we come together to celebrate our friendship.

Admission into the event: \$20.00 to be paid at the door. There will be a cash bar. Appetizers will be provided by Ladies Day.

Raffle Tickets: Each ticket is good for chance to win a prize of your choice. One (1) ticket for a \$30 donation, two (2) tickets for a \$50 donation and five (5) tickets for a \$100 donation.

Note: One does not need to be present to win Raffle prizes:
however, one must be present to bid on Silent Auction items.

RAFFLE PRIZES:

K-Paul's Louisiana Kitchen - New Orleans/French Quarter ~ Gift Certificate donated by Sandy & Carl Crowder ~ Value \$100.00

ARTUZZI'S Italian Kitchen - Atlanta, GA (8 locations in the ATL area) Gift Certificate donated by Jeff & Claudia Newsham ~ Value \$100.00

Mary Mahoney's Old French House Restaurant - Biloxi, MS ~ Gift Certificate donate by Bobby Mahoney & Eileen Ezell ~ Value \$150.00

Rose Cottage Quilting - Seattle, WA ~ brightly colored hand-made lap quilt - Titled "Pina Colada" ~ hot pink & peachy background with colors of lime green and turquoise ~ Donated by Mimi Tremoulet ~ Value \$400.00

MUSE Inspired Fashion Boutique - Memphis, TN & New Orleans, LA ~ Gift Certificate ~ donated by Steve & Lisa Doss ~ Value \$100.00

Hoi Polloi Boutique - New Orleans/French Quarter ~ Gift Certificate ~ donated by Lisa Shedlock ~ Value \$100.00

Violets Boutique - New Orleans/French Quarter ~ Gift Certificate ~ donated by Carol Lewis ~ Value \$100.00

The Voluptuous Vixen Boutique - New Orleans/French Quarter ~ Gift Certificate ~ donated by Jacqueline MaCabe ~ Value \$100.00

Trashy Diva Boutique - New Orleans/French Quarter ~ Gift Certificate ~ donated by Brenda Smith ~ Value \$100.00

"Greg's Antique and Other Assorted Junk" - Greg S Antiques ~ Furniture from old houses in Europe arrive monthly to this "*Interesting & very funky*" antique shop at 1209 Decatur St. in the New Orleans French Quarter ~ Gift Certificate donated by Greg ~ Value \$100.00

H. Rault Decorative Hardware - New Orleans, LA ~ donated by Michelle Miller ~ Value \$200.00

Shoe - Be - Do! - "*Fabulous*" New Orleans/French Quarter Shoe Store ~ Gift Certificate ~ donated by Andre' Noujaim & Eric Snyder ~ Value \$100.00

"Charleston Experience" - Two night stay at Historic "Meeting Street Inn" ~ a bed & breakfast at 173 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC (Sunday through Thursday) and a guided walking tour of the Historic District ~ donated by Buck & Frankie Limehouse. Also part of this prize - \$100 gift certificate donated by Carole Lovelace ~ Value \$500+

New Hampshire Condo - 1 week or a long weekend, large two-bedroom condo at the Summit of Linderhof, sleeps 6, 2 bathrooms (ck. web site for Top Notch Vacation Rentals in New Hampshire...it is the 2 brm unit in Glen, NH - Unit L9B3 Linderhof Summit Glen) ~ donated by Debbie Rogers ~ Value \$720.00 - \$800 (long weekend) or \$1,260.00 - \$1,400.00 1wk.stay)

Park City, Utah Condo - 3 nights/5 days ~ accommodations for two ~ 1 bedroom/1 bath condo for winter season located at the base of THE CANYONS SKI RESORT ~ subject to availability (no holidays)...should condo no longer be available (sale/or long term lease) two guests will be accom. in owner's home ~ donated by Rhonda Blockowski ~ Value \$500.00

"Virgins, Saints & Angels" Magdalena Necklace with Cross - Divinely inspired yet crafted by hand, Virgins, Saints & Angels is loved by celebrities! Drawing upon historic and cultural symbolism and utilizing local resources, each piece is lovingly crafted by a small community of artists in the tiny Mexican town of San Miguel de Allende. Wear this unique piece to celebrate the goddess in you and the women who inspire us all ~ Donated by Carole Lovelace ~ Value \$245.00

Raffle Cash Prizes - 12 drawings from this prize container. There will be 10 drawings for \$50 (10 people will win \$50) the 11th drawing will be for \$500.00 (one person will win \$500) and the 12th drawing will be for \$1,000.00 (one person will win \$1,000).

SILENT AUCTION:

Original Art Work from the Stedman Art Gallery - Jackson, MS, a framed giclee on canvas, 18 x 24 titled "*Antique Shop*" donated by Artist Bob Stedman ~ Value \$400.00

Bee Galleries - New Orleans/French Quarter Art Gallery ~ gift & value --TBA, donated by Becky Edwards

Framed signed/numbered Limited Edition Prints by Robert Burridge - "*We Meet Again*" (cafe table and 4 chairs with 3 wine bottles & two glasses) and "*Campina*" (table with vase of sunflowers, guitar and window in background with 2 bottles of wine on windowsill) ~ donated by Linda Hartley ~ Valued at \$185 each

Young Child's Quilt - adorable hand-made one of a kind quilt ~ unisex in color ~ titled "Safari Scrapbook" ~ donated by Toni Garcia ~ Value \$350

"Dinner at Antoine's" Prize - This prize includes the book, "Dinner at Antoine's" by Novelist Frances Parkinson Keyes + two 1 hour tours of the beautiful mansion the Beauregard-Keyes House at 1113 Chartres St. in the New Orleans French Quarter & a restaurant gift certificate for Antoine's Restaurant ~ donated by Troy Woods and Patrick Cunningham ~ Value \$125+

"Galatoire's for Lunch" Prize - This prize consists of a *Susan Lewis Market Bag* (value \$185) with an autographed *Galatoire's Cookbook* (value \$35) and a \$100 restaurant gift certificate inside ~ market bag and cookbook donated by Carole Lovelace & restaurant certificate donated by Sonda Nagy Stacey ~ Total value of prize \$320

Kati Koos Boutique - 500 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA ~ (*Carole's favorite San Francisco Boutique*) ~ 4 One of a kind *designer* Pot holders (4 separate silent auction items) ~ Value \$35 each

"Paris Parties" donations - "Gorgeous silk wrap with pearls" and necklace ~ donated by Susan Rome ~ Value: \$115

Olympic Pins - Three sets of 2 ~ donated by Richard Cohen ~ Value: \$30 a set.

Greek Sarisa Necklace - Five strands of tiny, tiny beads ~ hand strung by Katy ~ donated by Shirley Morrison ~ Value \$69.00

Hand-made Necklace - created & donated by Nancy Nally ~ Value: TBA

TBA: More information forthcoming: The raffle prize list is **complete**. More items & information will be added to silent auction as it comes available...(?) restaurants, (?) art work, (?) antique shop item, (?) jewelry, (?) piece of sculpture, (?) Weekend or week-get-away, etc.

A "SPECIAL PRIZE": Everyone purchasing "*a ticket*" has a chance to win this prize!!! After all raffle prizes are drawn - all ticket stubs (even winning stubs) are put in one container, one ticket will be drawn. The winner receives... *the special prize!* This prize will be announced as more information is forthcoming.

Door prizes: selected items - courtesy of Ladies Day. Also one special edition bracelet of the popular "Mel's Bracelet" with Swarovski crystals. Value: \$45 ~ donated by Friends of Mel Foundation (info@friendsofmel.org)

Hotel Information: The official hotel (for out-of-town attendees) the Bienville House... the block of rooms for Ladies Day has already been reserved by f/a's attending the fundraiser. FYI: The Astor Crowne Plaza, 739 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA, (504) 962-0500 - offers a discount to DL f/a's.

Entertainment: In the patio - live entertainment provided by ATL F/A Caterina ("Cat")Sellers & in the parlor guests will be entertained by Piano music...Pianist -TBA.

Support Our Generous Donors: Please show your appreciation by patronizing the businesses of those who generously donated items for this fundraiser.

To Purchase Tickets: (1) Use the Raffle Ticket Purchase Form mailed in the e-mail following this message... (2) purchase your tickets at the party or (3) purchase from various ticket sellers. The ticket sellers and the prize list in this message will be located on our website - www.ladiesdayfund.com very soon!

What is Ladies Day?

Ladies Day Fund, Inc. is composed of both active and retired Delta F/As who sincerely care about each other. This charity is run by volunteers... no one takes a salary all proceeds, other than operating expenses, go directly to those in need. Our MSY Board of Directors oversees the distribution of all funds, and the amount of each financial gift varies according to the needs of the individual. We are dedicated to supporting Flight Attendants battling serious illness as well as performing other charitable acts of kindness.

In 2009 (even though unable to have a fundraiser & low on funds) we helped f/a's needing assistance in Florida, South Carolina, Ohio, Georgia, Illinois, Texas, Alabama & Washington! Over \$38,000 went to help members needing assistance around the system!

Membership: We cannot stress enough the importance of becoming a member and keeping your membership up... all 2009 recipients of aid were members. In the past, we were usually able to help people needing assistance when their situation came to our attention. The board feels when we have limited funds, as in 2009, aid must be limited to members only. Membership is still only \$10 a year. If you wish to become a member send a \$10 check (made out to Ladies Day) to Ladies Day Fund, Inc., 1000 Bourbon Street # 370, New Orleans, LA 70116 -- plz. note on ck. dues for 2010.

Kindest regards,

Carole

Carole Lovelace

President & Founder of Ladies Day Fund, Inc.

kismetxa@aol.com

504.529.4402

P. S. If you have questions, don't hesitate to call or e-mail...working almost full-time at the boutique but will get back to you soon as possible.

"The best thing to hold on to in life is each other." - Audrey Hepburn

Ladies Day Fund, Inc. Board of Directors

501 (c) (3) non-profit organization

Carole Lovelace ~ Sandy Crowder ~ Emily Tarantino ~ Kristin Johnson ~ Linda Phoenix ~ Michelle Miller
1000 Bourbon Street, PMB 370
New Orleans, LA 70116

Tax ID# EIN 72-1451753

www.ladiesdayfund.com

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." - Galatians 6:9 NIV

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

From: [Phyllis Fischer](#)

Date: 5/18/2010 9:35:44 PM

To: MARK@PILOTCOMMUNICATION.NET

Subject: LOOKING FOR AN OLD FRIEND

I WOULD LIKE TO TOUCH BASE WITH **LANE R. LEONARD** WHO USED TO WORK FOR DELTA AIR. (PILOT). THANKYOU!.

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

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

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

Theodore Roosevelt's ideas on Immigrants and being an AMERICAN in 1907.

'In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated upon the person's becoming in every facet an American, and nothing but an American...There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an

American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag... We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language.. And we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people.'
Theodore Roosevelt 1907

+++++

Subject: Fw: Stock Advice (*Thanks David*)

I called my stockbroker this morning and asked him what I should be buying.

He said, "Canned goods and ammunition."

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.

=====
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/>
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