

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

High Life

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

Dear PCN,

Group Section.....

Mark's Remarks:

Calling the PBGC for BSW:

I wish I had a direct number for the Atlanta office (which you need to ask for when calling the PBGC) but I do not. Simply call the national PBGC number at the Atlanta office.

PBGC in DC- 1-800-400-7242 extension 2000 or **ATL at 404 - 607 8836**

Any questions regarding your benefits or obtaining your **benefit statement worksheet**, *talk to the Atlanta office.*

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From: [David Ewing](#)

Date: 8/26/2010 11:18:14 AM

To: mark@pilotcommunication.net

Subject: PBGC - 1-800-400-7242 EXTENSION 2000. (Still DC use 404 number for ATL)

Mark,

I called the above number and extension today. I was connected with Tiffany who took my information and answered my questions which related to not receiving my Final Benefit Determination letter. She said that all the information had not been collected from DL. I asked if she was in Atlanta and she said no. All calls, even using extension 2000 were routed to the Washington DC office. She offered to connect me to ATL, but said that ATL would give me the same answer. No letter until all the facts are gathered.

Thanks for keeping this Communication Network going. It is a huge job.

Dave Ewing

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Why “REPLY” is a no no: Many of you know that to Reply to a PCN notice the email is sent to our google group and not our inboxes. A Reply therefore is not monitored as well as if you email directly to any of the @pilotcommunication.net emails. Not to embarrass Bill at all I included his response below after he hit the wrong button. Easy to do.

Mark,
Will do.

As soon as I hit the send key I realized it was a mistake and did indeed resend the message to xxxx@email.com or forwarding. Thank you for taking the time to flag the issue for me and for the work you do keeping everyone connected through the Pilot Communication Network (PCN).

GREAT JOB!

Many thanks,
Bill

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The PCN occasionally loses one:

From: [Mxxxxx](#)

Date: 8/25/2010 5:22:14 PM

Subject: unsubscribe

thanks for all the good info but constant reminder of what i had and now don't is not good for the soul.

Editor: I included this un-subscription for a couple of reasons. While we have steadily grown to over 2500 subscribers, we do lose one occasionally. The second reason I included the above is because of the goal of the PCN. We do not wish to “remind” retired pilots of what we have lost. Our goal surrounds the idea of connection and information. We provide all that we do as a service to hopefully accomplish connection and information. The PCN would like to see all of our pilots and employees complete a terrific career and enjoy an amazing retirement. All the while we wish to stay connected to the some of the finest people on the planet.

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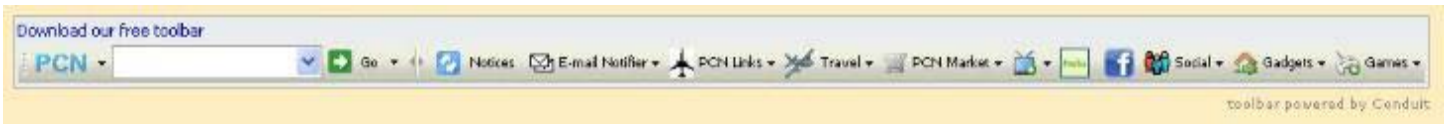
Help me improve the toolbar --- suggest widely used links to add.

Now over 300 users for the Free and useful PCN browser toolbar.

TOOLBAR for IE: Because it took me some effort to create, I will run this for a few issues until you give it a look see. You will like it! Mark

[Click here](#) or on the toolbar image to download and install PCN's new toolbar. Yeah, I know you're skeptical. I was too, until I saw what it can do without any real drawbacks.

This is Great! Install a ton of useful links right at your fingertips!



Can constantly add new features and be revised and upgraded. (Works with IE).

Tip: During installation pay attention to couple of questions it asks you to check. If you have a toolbar you do not want R-Click on the grey top and de-select ones you do not want.

News Section.....

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

Northwest Airlines union sues Delta

Union for former Northwest flight attendants sues Delta, claiming contract breaches

On Thursday August 26, 2010, 4:21 pm EDT

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) -- The union for Northwest Airlines flight attendants has sued Delta Air Lines Inc., saying their new managers are breaking the contract with the union.

The federal lawsuit filed in Washington claims Delta is violating rules about scheduling and other issues. For instance, the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA says its members are supposed to get more than two days off after a long international flight -- but Delta is giving them only 11 hours. The union also claimed that Delta is meeting with flight attendant groups that it chose without inviting the union, and that it is not resolving grievances brought by the union.

Read more: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Northwest-Airlines-union-sues-apf-1619396488.html?x=0&.v=3>

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Delta Launches Tender Offers

Zacks Equity Research, On Thursday August 26, 2010, 9:06 am EDT

Delta Air Lines Inc. , the world's largest airline, commenced cash tender offers to buy certain pass through certificates and its 11.75% senior second lien notes due in 2015. The offer is a part of Delta's ongoing efforts to reduce debt.

The offer includes three series of Northwest Airlines pass through certificates, Delta's own pass through certificates series and its 11.75% senior second lien notes due in 2015, using a modified Dutch auction procedure.

Read more: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Delta-Launches-Tender-zacks-2089233506.html?x=0&.v=1>

Other Airline News (Recent stories of interest):

Justice Dept signs off on United-Continental deal

Justice Department says no more antitrust concerns about United-Continental deal

Joshua Freed and David Koenig, AP Airlines Writers, On Friday August 27, 2010, 6:36 pm

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) -- United and Continental airlines moved a big step closer to their proposed combination on Friday, with the Justice Department saying it has no more antitrust concerns about the deal.

On Friday, the two airlines said they would lease takeoff and landing slots in Newark to Southwest Airlines. The Justice Department says that clears up its main competitive concern.

Shareholders at Continental Airlines Inc. and United parent UAL Corp. are set to vote on the deal on Sept. 17. The combination would create the world's biggest airline.

Read More: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Justice-Dept-signs-off-on-apf-980675940.html?x=0&.v=9>

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 '11 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 (BDL'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%.
9. Financial condition of the D&S Plan--a plan that pays benefits to eligible survivors of deceased pilots as well as to disabled pilots. A form 5500 for the D&S Plan is filed annually.

From: [evan gost](#)

Date: 8/15/2010 10:44:46 PM

To: [Mark Sztanyo](#)

Subject: Suggestion

Hi Mark-

It may be appropriate to add the following under items to watch in the Finance section.

#9 Financial condition of the D&S Plan--a plan that pays benefits to eligible survivors of deceased pilots as well as to disabled pilots. A form 5500 for the D&S Plan is filed annually.

Ev

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

From: Phyliss Harper

Date: 8/23/2010 12:44:50 PM

To: PCN Dir

Subject: Survivor benefit letter

Mark, This is the 2nd letter that I have received concerning status 2010 annual update form. The first was returned completed and quickly. These letters are not sent certified, signature required or any way to insure their delivery to recipient. They say your monthly survivor benefits will be suspended if form is not received by certain date. I am in the process of having radiation after two surgeries. It is possible that my mail could have set unopened for a

period of time. Is this underhanded way of trying to suspend survivor benefits going to continue? I thought that an annuity was just that an annuity? Do they have the right to suspend payments and continue to threaten. If so I feel they will find a way of again taking what you my husband Jack and many others worked and saved for if this continues. It's hard to sleep at night when you fear your income will be taken momentarily. Especially when there is no way of you ever obtaining employment.If you have any information please share with me.

Thank you.
Phyliss Y. Harper
Surviving spouse of
John A. Harper

Dear Phyliss,

You have asked a number of good questions and I have CC Evan Gost who is an expert on the trust. If he is unable to help you please get back in touch and we will get this straightened out. I am soo sorry about the radiation treatments but do hope that they do the trick. Mark

From: egost@cox.net
Date: 8/24/2010 2:22:00 AM
To: [Mark Sztanyo](#); [Phyliss Harper](#)

Subject: Re: Survivor benefit letter

Dear Phyliss-

I am the vice chairman of the Delta Disabled Pilots and Survivors Association (DDPSA). Our membership includes existing survivors of deceased pilots, potential future survivors of deceased pilots and disabled pilots. Our website is www.ddpsa.org.

The only valid reasons that I can see for Delta requesting an annual update from an existing eligible surviving spouse would be in the following instances:

- (1) If there were children eligible for surviving benefits, documentation could be required to prove that the children remained eligible (age, student status, unmarried).
- (2) If the pilot died while in a disabled status before retiring and such death occurred before the effective date of the 2000 Pilot Working Agreement, the surviving spouse could be required to verify that she had not remarried.e copied
- (3) If Delta wanted to verify that the surviving spouse was still alive.

In order for me to better understand your situation, please forward a copy of the request for verification that you received from Delta.

Ev Gost

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From: [Larry Lynch](#)
Date: 08/23/10 15:21:26
To: mark@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: D&S plan

Hi Mark;

Larry Lynch here. First thanks for keeping us all together. Do you know where I can find info on the D&S plan? I have a friend whose husband (retired NE/DL) died. Now they were not married until after he retired but they were married for 28 years. Is she entitled to anything?
All the Best

Larry Lynch
Director Export Sales
larrylynch1@gmail.com

Editor: Larry, I think a spouse must be a qualifying one which means married while active. But in any case please advise them to call to find out for sure. I am including this article that I wrote a while back that has a lot of contact info near last page: http://rsp.homestead.com/DnS_Expose.doc

Here is a quote from an Ev Gost & Jim George article concerning this issue:
"Survivors eligible to receive benefits from the D & S Plan include the "Qualifying Spouse" and in addition, may include natural born or legally adopted children under the age of 19 (under age 23, if still in school.) (IMPORTANT NOTE: A "Qualifying Spouse" is a spouse who was married to the pilot while he/she was an active Delta pilot, and who remains the pilot's legal spouse continuously up until the pilot's death (see the Pilot Benefits Handbook for details.)"

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From: evan.gost
Date: 8/16/2010 10:38:31 AM
To: marksztanyo@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Articles about the D&S Plan.

Mark-

I will be writing additional articles, but timing is currently a factor. A revised and restated D&S Plan that has been in the works for four years should be released soon. Following that release, I will resume writing.

Ev

Pension:

As the PBGC appeals progresses the sensitivity of the information does as well. While the PCN has re-published many of DP3 general postings, we will refrain from re-publishing "private emails" in view of the nature of the process. So when there is a general update we will re-publish and when there is a private email we will help announce it.

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To PCN subscribers these links are "hot" and will take you directly to the DP3 resource page or checklist for filing an appeal concerning your PBGC benefits.

Click for [PBGC Appeals Resource Page](#)

Or

[Appeal Checklist](#)

DP3 (login required)

Click to appeal your PBGC benefit

Call PBGC - 1-800-400-7242

Link of explanation for BSW ([Benefit Statement Worksheet](#))

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

Commercial Section.....

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

Stocks 14,000 or 5,000 by year end? Which way is the economy and/or market headed?

Interesting article by Kelley Wright, I think is worth a read. Mark

The Trend is Your Friend; Until it Isn't.

Submitted by [Kelley Wright](#) on Thu, 26 Aug 2010

Each January, I participate in a roundtable discussion with about a dozen professionals from different sectors of the financial community. The roundtable is sponsored by the premier San Diego business journal, with the executive editor serving as the moderator. Before the roundtable comes to a close the prognostications for the economy and the markets come out and are debated quite vigorously. At our last roundtable the market call that caught most everyone's attention was the suggestion that the Dow Industrials would do as well or better in 2010 as they had in 2009, and could even possibly eclipse the 2007 high of Dow 14,100.

As I tried to fathom what I had just heard, I noticed that heads were starting to nod with agreement. When my opportunity came to opine on the subject, I suggested we should all hit our knees in a prayer of gratitude if the markets did nothing more than to remain flat for the year.

Read more: <http://www.financialsense.com/contributors/kelley-wright/the-trend-is-your-friend-until-it-isnt>

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

In response to the Capt's question:

From: [Carole Neubrand](#)
Date: 08/23/10 13:55:27
To: m3017372@aol.com
Cc: [Mark Sztanyo](#)
Subject: Discount tickets

I think you are referring to the **Fly Confirmed for Less** (a 20% discount for a confirmed seat) as opposed to the **Fly Confirmed for Even Less** (a greater discount for active employees only at this time). Delta is working on opening this lower fare up to retirees, too, but it may be after the first of the year before it is offered.

A **ZED fare** is a mileage based fare for Non-Rev standby seats on *other* airlines. You can access that fare information on the TravelNet from the dropdown panel "Leisure Travel" and, then, click on "Interline Travel".

All these fares - confirmed and standby - must be purchased at a Delta Ticket Counter, not online.

Hope this answers your question.

Carole Neubrand
DFW Delta LINK
caroleneubrand@sbcglobal.net

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From: [Peter Bennett](#)
Date: 08/23/10 09:04:07
To: mark@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: Carry-on baggage

Hi Mark,

First thanks for taking up the baton from Dave. We really appreciate your service. You may want to share with the group that on a recent domestic flight from PBI-ATL, the agent called us to the gate about 15 minutes before departure (the flight was boarding and we had already received seat assignments on the monitor and were just waiting for our zone to be called). He made us check our small rolling bags due to the full flight (just like every flight these days) due to the overhead bins being full. In fact there was room and we had deliberately traveled with hand luggage due to a tight connection in ATL and also because it is my habit to always avoid checking luggage if possible. This may become more prevalent in future although I hope not. Just a word to the wise, it may be that you will have to check a bag on future flights even if it fits in the overhead (or under your seat). In the past they have always gate checked such bags which means you get them back planeside when deplaning. I asked if this would be possible and only got a negative head shake. Since I know better than argue with a gate agent I cheerfully handed them over. We did get them at destination even with a 45 minute ATL transit. Regards, Peter Bennett

Life Section...

Misc Posts:

From: [David L. Roberts](#)
Date: 8/27/2010 11:00:54 PM
Subject: My Morning Run

There's absolutely nothing at all about airplanes in this video. But there's a lot of individual flying to be seen.

Thanks to John in Tampa for this exciting video. Can you believe it???

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hDRV3I164U>

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Gary Curtis
Email garylcurtis@comcast.net
Issue Area Insurance

Comments - I am having trouble finding a straight answer to an insurance question. I have the DPMP for myself and my wife and we are not eligible for COBRA or HCTC. I am two years older than my wife. When I reach 65 if I choose to get a medicare supplement from somewhere other than DPMP can my wife stay on that plan even though I am no longer on it? If anyone can enlighten me on this I would appreciate it. I have asked this question before and all the answers I received referenced COBRA or HCTC. We are not eligible for either of these.

Thanks,
Gary Curtis

Editor: Can someone help Capt Curtis out?

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Jim Hourin
Email jhourin@aol.com
Issue Area Pension
Comments PBGC Atlanta: 404 607 8836

Human Interest:

From: [Bucky & Peggy Stevens](#)
Date: 08/27/10 17:07:39
To: mark@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: Archives

Mark,
Where to I go on your website to find all 14 installments of Gene Hall's "History"?
Thanks, Bucky

Bucky,
Thanks for asking. I think you'll find Gene's writings interesting and he was gracious enough to allow us to archive them for all Deltoids interested. You can find his page linked on our PCN webpage dedicated to all fine [Delta Authors](#) at Gene's page of: http://pcn.homestead.com/Gene_Hall.html Enjoy, Mark

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From: [John Aubrey Anderson](#)
Date: 8/25/2010 2:41:47 PM
Subject: The Cat Lake Guardian

The Cat Lake Guardian
Tuesday, August 24, 2010

From North Texas
to favored friends . . .

The first Texas signing for *The Cool Woman* went off the chart. We met at Mardel's in Denton last Saturday . . . the setting was great, the Mardel people were gracious, and *lots* of you showed up. Thank you!!!

The next signing takes place this coming Saturday, August 28, at Mardel's in Plano, Texas . . . one o'clock . . . at the intersection of Park and Coit, NE corner (972-867-1656). Incidentally, if you have other books of mine you want signed, by all means bring them. **Do me a great favor . . . if you don't live in the Plano area, send your friends who do.** The manager says the store will be busy because it's the Saturday before school starts. We'll see what God thinks.

Things here are in a bit of a mess and I can't find a past *Guardian* wherein the reception at Mississippi State is mentioned. It was a WOW!!! thing. Dean Frances Coleman of the Mississippi State University Libraries hosted the event in the John Grisham Room . . . our good friend Bob "Doc" Bailey was a grand master of ceremonies. I'm working right now to load pictures of the MSU reception on my Facebook group page.

For now, I'll use *The Cat Lake Guardian* to (1) keep you posted on book signings, etc. and let you know how book five is coming. Oh yes . . . I changed the name of [my Facebook group page](#). Come check it out.

For your friends who want to sign up for *The Cat Lake Guardian* . . . my website is hanging fire for a couple of weeks. Tell your friends to just contact me at john@johnaubreyanderson.com . . . I'll add them to the list.

Lastly . . . there are those of you who are gifted Facebook gurus. Would you take time to offer any tips you think I might need? Thanks.

Choose well,
John

Event Announcements (Click here for [Calendar](#)): to post pcn.calendar@gmail.com

From: [Lawrence Rollow](#)

Date: 08/22/10 23:46:28

To: mark@pilotcommunication.net

Subject: Delta Golden Wings reunion

Hi Mark:

Would you run this attachment again? DGW would really appreciate it. Thanks.

Regards,

Larry Rollow

President, Delta Golden Wings, Inc.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

DELTA GOLDEN WINGS 42nd ANNUAL REUNION

THE DEADLINE FOR GETTING HOTEL RESERVATIONS

AND REGISTERING FOR THE REUNION IS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2010

MEMBERSHIP AND REUNION APPLICATIONS

CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE DGW WEBSITE

WWW.DELTAGOLDENWINGS.COM

HURRY, TIME IS SHORT!

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!)

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

From: [David L. Roberts](#)

Date: 8/26/2010 7:32:08 AM

Subject: Boeing's Million-pound Take Off

BOEING'S 747-8 FREIGHTER --- MILLION POUND TAKE OFF

http://www.boeing.com/Features/2010/08/bca_one_million_08_23_10.html

After viewing this, scroll further down to see the painting and first flight videos of the B-747-8.

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Thanks David: Old Fighter Pilot Commercial:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UbS1M4SRL_s

Political (food for thought):

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

From: [Jeff Whitford](#)

To: [Tom Meyer](#)

Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 10:22 PM

Subject: Fw: Current Events Test

From: [Earl Catron, SRA](#)

Date: 08/25/10 09:59:38

Subject: RE: Current Events Test

Hey, I got all 3 questions right.

Earl C. Catron

earl@earlcatron.net

I got all of the answers right. Give it a try. Look at the various reports afterward to see how others did. Very interesting.

A SHORT CURRENT EVENTS TEST

This is a terrific test.

And it shows results in a number of ways. It sure indicates that the majority of Americans don't know what's going on. No wonder our politicians take such advantage. Interesting and simple test. It's astonishing that so many people got less than half right. These results say that 80% of the (voting) public don't have a clue, and that's pretty scary. There are no tricks here - just a simple test to see if you are current on your information.

Test your knowledge with the 11 questions, then be ready to shudder when you see how others did.

1. <http://pewresearch.org/politicalquiz/quiz/index.php>

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Subject: Fwd: Spread the Stupidity

Spread the Stupidity

Only in Americado drugstores make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front.

Only in Americado people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and a diet coke.

Only in Americado banks leave vault doors open and then chain the pens to the counters.

Only in Americado we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and put our useless junk in the garage.

Only in Americado we buy hot dogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of eight..

Only in Americado they have drive-up ATM machines with Braille lettering.

EVER WONDER ...

Why the sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin?

Why can't women put on mascara with their mouth closed?

Why don't you ever see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?

Why is 'abbreviated' such a long word?

Why is it that doctors call what they do 'practice'?

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour?

Why isn't there mouse-flavored cat food?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?

Why do they sterilize the needle for lethal injections?

You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?!

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?

I like this one!!!

If con is the opposite of pro, is Congress the opposite of progress?

If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the terminal?

Mark

Mark Sztanyo, PCN Dir & HL Editor

[Pilot Communication Net](#) from Aug 2009

[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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