

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

Large web community for one of world's largest airlines

High Life



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

Dear PCN,

Group Section.....

Mark's Remarks:

Advent:

The word advent means “coming” and since its arrival this season it points to a lot of comings. For me personally, the time focuses me on what God has done by sending His Son. The year end is full of all kinds of opportunities to grow and experience. The year end and the Christmas season is also chocked full of opportunities to become introspective, reflective and contemplative over the happenings of the past year. I hope that as we all journey through another December, that we will all find time to realize how blessed we are and how truly amazing life is here in the US. Call a friend, hug a kid and in general this year (for once).....leave the ‘bah humbug’ in the closet! ‘Tis the season to be jolly!

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Pilot vs Corporate:

I have always lived by a simple premise as it relates to pilots from different groups. I never blame individuals for decisions made on the collective or corporate levels. To go

a little further, we were fortunate to work for Delta during a good times. But we could easily have wound up on a different path and with a different carrier. I will never forget standing next to a young SO at Delta as he read his computer and declared repeatedly, “those bast@#ds.” This young SO was from Chicago and wanted desperately to be hired by UAL but it didn’t happen. And now at DAL, he views the old target UAL as all bast@#ds. I couldn’t help myself and had to jump in. I asked, “pardon me, but why so angry about UAL?” He told me because they didn’t hire him. So it was easy entrance as I asked, “would you have taken the job with UAL had they offered?” He excitedly replied, “SURE, of course!” I closed with, “Ahhhh, my friend then you would have been one of those bast@#ds!”

All this is to highlight just how easy it is to paint a competitive group with a broad brush. Here at the PCN it is a big tent. Pilots and employees from all kinds of different backgrounds and airlines have been brought together by hire, purchase, merger, transfer etc. Those that have become part of what has become Delta are all welcome. Yes, that includes proud former airline employees from NWA, Western, PanAm just to mention a few.

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Again a Fonda apology:

Now that some of you have informed me of sites like FactCheck or Snopes, I truly don’t like to be had. It does happen though. I can’t trust half of the stuff that comes in my city’s newspaper, so it is easy to see how this one man effort can forward out errors. I simply do not have time to peruse through all the emails I receive and check them all out so I times I trust “trusted” forwarders. Of course that sometimes doesn’t work either. Well, I again apologize and simply know this, that I do not shy away from retractions or corrections when needed.

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Christmas is approaching fast! Get your stuff before out group in PCN Ads!

For all of you who have an item, service or offer to promote:

3 categories are completely FREE!

PCN Ads – up and running!

Every one submitting an Ad gets a private login and complete control over their ads. URL’s and images are allowed and you will see it is a very nice format for entering online ads.

Check it out and get your item, thing wanted, service or house, posted!

PCN Ads

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

Following is not good anymore: (~~extension 2000 or PBGC in ATL at 404 607 8836~~)

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Tools for our members:

- PCN Main Website: <http://pcn.homestead.com/home01.html>
- PCN Ads – <http://pilotcommunication.net/Ads/>
- PCN Tool Bar (for IE browser) - <http://pcntools.ourtoolbar.com/>
- PCN Calendar - <http://pcn.homestead.com/Calendar.html>

News Section.....

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

Delta traffic rises 7.5 percent in November

Delta says traffic and capacity both rose 7.5 percent in November; international traffic jumps

On Friday December 3, 2010, 6:49 pm EST

ATLANTA (AP) -- Delta Air Lines Inc. said on Friday that November traffic and capacity both rose 7.5 percent.

The Atlanta-based airline reported flying 14.59 billion revenue passenger miles, or one paying passenger flown one mile. That was up from 13.57 billion revenue passenger miles a year earlier.

Most of the gain was on Delta's mainline operation, where traffic was up 6.6 percent. Traffic on regional carriers, which haul Delta passengers under contract, rose just 0.7 percent.

Delta traffic across the Pacific and the Atlantic both jumped more than 13 percent compared with November 2009.

Delta added capacity for the demand, flying 18.34 billion available seat miles, up from 17.06 billion a year earlier. Mainline domestic capacity rose 5.5 percent to 8.78 billion available seat miles, while regional capacity rose just 1.3 percent to 2.53 billion available seat miles.

Load factor, a measure of occupancy, fell slightly to 79.5 percent.

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Delta Looks at Airbus A320 Jet for Boeing-Dominated Fleet

By Mary Jane Credeur - Dec 3, 2010

[Delta Air Lines Inc.](#) will weigh adding a more fuel-efficient version of Airbus SAS's narrow-body A320 to its fleet, historically dominated by Boeing Co. jets.

"Like everyone else, we'll look closer at the A320 to see if it might merit deeper consideration for our long-term fleet plans," Chief Executive Officer [Richard Anderson](#) said last night in a weekly recorded message to employees.

Airbus said earlier this week it will offer new engines for its single-aisle A320 aircraft series that can increase fuel efficiency by 15 percent.

The planes, which will be available in 2016, compete with the narrow-body 737 from Boeing.

"We wish Boeing would do the same, but it doesn't look like the 737 will have much innovation in the coming years," Anderson said.

Boeing didn't immediately respond to a request for comment today. The Chicago-based company hasn't committed to offering new engines for its 737 or replacing the plane, a spokesman said earlier this week.

The business case for new engines is "not as compelling as we'd like to see," Boeing Commercial Airplanes CEO [Jim Albaugh](#) said in October.

Delta and Boeing have long had a close relationship, with jets by the Chicago-based planemaker and other companies it acquired accounting for about two-thirds of [Delta's fleet](#) at the end of September.

Read more: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-12-03/-we-ll-look-closer-at-airbus-a320-with-new-engines-delta-says.html?cmpid=yhoo>

Other Airline News (Recent stories of interest):

9 Awesome Foreign Airlines That Put America To Shame

Array, On Thursday December 2, 2010, 2:09 pm EST

The best airlines in the world are all foreign -- except for JetBlue.

[Zagat's yearly survey](#) rated six airlines as "very good-to-excellent." These were all located in Asia. The rest of the top ten included JetBlue and three more Asian airlines.

Other American airlines received embarrassing ratings, none worse than US Airways, which was named the fifth worst airline in the world -- worse than China Southern Airlines and Egypt Air.

We're talking about coach, which is actually a more competitive area for U.S. airlines.

[Click here to see the best airlines >](#)

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Virgin America makes splashy entrance in Texas

Virgin America and Branson make splashy debut in Texas, aim to take on American Airlines

David Koenig, AP Airlines Writer, On Thursday December 2, 2010, 1:15 am EST

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) -- Decked out in clothing straight out of a spaghetti Western, Richard Branson climbed down from Virgin America's first flight to Texas on Wednesday, marking the start of a showdown with American Airlines.

Virgin America has carved a niche for itself by offering amenity-rich service at low fares between California and the East Coast. But Virgin has never flown anywhere in the middle of the country, and it's never entered a fortress hub like Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, where AMR Corp.'s American controls more than 80 percent of the flights.

Read More: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Virgin-America-makes-splashy-apf-1020364182.html?x=0&.v=1>

Finance Section ((Claims, PBGC, HCTC, Insurance, Planning, Tax, Estate) - section containing items with financial consequence to our group):

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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 Mar '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) – **in process until end of year (only 45 days to appeal)**
Appeal extensions generally granted in Nov 2010 now extended by our law firm for all to: revised to Feb 18, 2011.
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% unless legislative action.
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.
10. Formation of a VEBA Health Insurance plan by DP3. **Enrollment period commences.**

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

I am publishing the following because there are those serving with the Benefit Trust and familiar with their DALRC programs that challenge some of the promoted elements of the VEBA medigap plan. In every situation where there are competing interests, why not let them both have the floor and let you decide. On the DP3 site, and through direct email, you will be able to see the VEBA plan in its entirety. I am personally encouraged and very supportive of all the hard work done by the DP3 and the VEBA Board to put this whole thing together as a real viable option for many of our retirees. Getting the right insurance and keeping it active for many of us, however, is sometimes a matter of marrying the right plan with the particular situation. The following was sent to me by Paul Schmidt and makes some points of emphasis that have been produced by the Benefit Trust and from their point of view.

From: Yorkieatl@aol.com

Date: 12/2/2010 4:35:23 PM

To: Yorkieatl@aol.com

Subject: Fwd: Medicare Insurance Decisions Impact Your Financial Future

Attention Fellow Retirees:

Click [HERE](#) if you have recently received material represented as a comparison of other plans to the DALRC Retiree Benefit Trust plans.

Your DALRC Retiree Benefit Trust Board

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From: [Carole Neubrand](#)

Sent: Saturday, November 27, 2010 11:07 AM

Subject: IMPORTANT: DP3 Over-65 Plan details

NOTE: This is a *very long* email - primarily because I've included a print out of the attachments into the body of the email for those of you having trouble reading the attachments. However, the explanations and comparisons offered should clarify most of your questions about the DP3 insurance options.

Please take the time to *thoroughly* read this information so that you make the best possible choice for your over-65 2011 benefits.

Thanks,

Carole Neubrand
DFW Delta LINK
caroleneubrand@sbcglobal.net

Dear Delta Retirees,

The Delta Pilot DP3 VEBA Trust is pleased to announce the establishment of an Over 65 Plan that will provide Healthcare Options for ALL Delta Retirees and their Spouses or Survivors. The DP3 VEBA Trust has negotiated very competitive rates and plan designs for you to consider as you choose your healthcare needs for 2011. We recognize time is short however; you still have plenty of time to select options for the 2011 Medicare Enrollment Window which will close on December 31, 2010 for most retirees over the age of 65.

Medical Coverage through AETNA

The Trust has selected AETNA as their healthcare provider for the Over 65 Medical benefit taking advantage of the excellent Medigap "F" plan AETNA offers with a ZERO deductible and a ZERO out of pocket cost to the retiree, which will eliminate your costs associated with doctor visits, labs, as well as the co-pays. These are great Part B plan benefits that you have access to, in addition to the fact that you will pay nothing for hospital visits throughout the year. The rates for this benefit are based on the plan participants age and zip code and are available by calling the DP3 VEBA Trust Over 65 Call Center at 866-868-9006 or going to the DP3 website at www.dp3.org and using the link provided to put in your age and zip code.

Note: We had previously discussed earlier this fall the possibility of offering a Medicare Advantage plan through AETNA however we were unable to do so.

Prescription Drug Coverage through Express Scripts

The Prescription Drug provider selected by the Trust for the Over 65 program is Express Scripts. We are very excited to be able to provide Delta retirees with a much needed, excellent Prescription Drug benefit that has a very good formulary, offering many more drug choices than can be found in the current plan you may be enrolled in today. The plan is a 4 tiered plan offering a ZERO cost for the first tier of Generic drugs through mail order and provides coverage through the donut hole with Generics only.

Dental Coverage through AETNA

The Dental coverage provider will also be AETNA. This plan provides excellent dental coverage across the United States and provides a calendar year maximum of \$2,000 with no deductible to satisfy, which is a feature you will not find in some of the other dental plans you may have access to. We believe it is an excellent benefit with a very cost effective price for all Delta Retirees.

Vision Care through VSP

The Vision care will be provided through VSP, the nation's largest Vision care provider. We have two plans to choose from, the Basic plan which is excellent as well as a Premium plan that provides for a \$40 co-pay for progressive lenses for a small additional cost. We think you will agree that this is an excellent benefit.

Insurance Broker for the DP 3 VEBA Trust Important

Cone Insurance Group is the insurance broker for the DP3 VEBA Trust. Cathy Cone and Amy Cone are Managing Partners for Cone Insurance and look forward to working with Delta Retirees to provide excellent benefits for your healthcare needs. The office contact information for Cone Insurance is 713. 463. 8575.

*****Facts to keep in mind*****

While we have excellent options for Delta Retirees and their Spouses and Survivors, they will not qualify for the subsidy offered by Delta to some Delta retirees that retired prior to January 1, 2007. We believe the products and coverage you received through these plans we have put together are excellent choices for many, but not for all, due to the fact the medical plan price is determined by your age and zipcode. **You need to make sure you clearly understand what your cost is when you enroll in these plans.** You can do so by calling the Over 65 Call Center.

We also want to make sure that you are aware that **if you elect to opt out of the DALRC plan, you will not be allowed back into that plan at a later date.** The objective of the DP3 VEBA Trust Board is to provide Delta Retirees with options for their healthcare coverage going forward, understanding that one size does not fit ALL and that having broader plan options allows you to choose what meets the needs of you and your family. If you decide to remain in your existing plan (DALRC or any other plan) in 2011, you will still be eligible to join our VEBA during any future enrollment window or life event.

We appreciate you considering our plan offerings for your 2011 healthcare needs and if you have any questions, please contact the **DP3 VEBA Trust Over-65 Call Center at 866-868-9006.**

Sincerely,

DP 3 VEBA Trust Board

Dave Miller – Chairman

George Leatherbury – Vice Chairman

Tony Piacentino – Treasurer

Michael Cox – Secretary

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Medigap Plan F Details for DP3 VEBA Plan

Requires enrollment in Part A and Part B

Selling features are:

- \$0 Deductible
- \$0 Total Out of Pocket

Rates broken down by Age Bands and Zip Code: Under 65, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84
 (DP3 plan should be more competitive with individual market with "attained age" pricing)

Medigap Plan F Comparison

	Aetna/DP3	The Hartford	United Healthcare
	Plan F	DALRC	DPMP OOA
Monthly Premiums	\$130.00 *	\$104.03	\$215.47 **
Deductible	\$0	\$300	\$200
Total Out of Pocket (OOP)	\$0	\$1,500***	\$2,500
Part A Deductible	\$0	\$0	\$0
Hospitalization	\$0	\$0	\$0
Blood	\$0	\$0	\$0
Skilled Nursing	\$0/\$0	\$0/\$0	\$0/\$0
Part B Deductible	\$0	\$155 (part of \$300 deductible)	\$155 (part of \$200 deductible)
Part B Excess Charges	\$0	\$0	100%
Foreign Travel Benefit	\$250 Deductible, then 100% up to \$50,000 Lifetime	\$250 Deductible, then 20% of expenses incurred to \$100,000	Unclear

	Maximum	Lifetime Maximum	
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* Average premium rate, will vary by zip code and age

** Inclusive of Prescription Drug Premiums

***After Deductible is satisfied, then 50% of the 20% coinsurance until OOP expenses reach \$1500, then \$0

Prescription Drug Comparison

	Express Scripts	Medco	United Healthcare
	DP3	DALRC	DPMP OOA
Monthly Premiums	\$73.30	\$64.54	\$215.47 *
Up to 34 Day Retail Supply			
Preferred Generic**	\$0	\$15	\$10
Generic	\$15		
Preferred Brand	\$45	\$25	\$30
Non-Preferred Brand	\$75	\$50	\$55
Specialty Drugs	33%	25%	Not Applicable
Up to 90 Day Mail Order			
Preferred Generic**	\$0	\$37.50	\$25
Generic	\$30		
Preferred Brand	\$90	\$62.50	\$75
Non-Preferred Brand	\$150	\$125	\$135
Specialty Drugs	Not Covered	Not Covered	Not Applicable
Coverage Gap ("Donut Hole")			
Preferred Generics**	\$0	\$15	\$10
Generics	\$15		
Preferred and Non-Preferred Brand	50% of the total cost of participating drugs***	25% of the total cost of the participating drugs***	\$30/\$55
Formulary			
Number of Drugs covered by Plan	3251	1310	Not Published

Dental Plan Comparison

	Aetna	Met Life	Delta Dental - Minnesota	
	DP3	DALRC	Comprehensive	DPMP
Monthly Premiums				
Retiree/Surviving Spouse/Spouse Only	\$40.65	\$50.57	\$35.98	\$38.27
Retiree + Spouse	\$85.37	\$102.27	\$71.96	\$76.54
Retiree + Child(ren)	\$111.79	Not Applicable	\$81.57	\$86.79
Retiree + Family	\$158.53		\$127.16	\$135.31
Deductible				
Individual	None	\$60	\$60	\$60
Family		\$240	\$240	\$240
Calendar Year Maximum Benefit	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500
Class 1: Preventative & Diagnostic	100%	100%	100%	100%
Class 2: Basic & Restorative	70%	70%	70%	70%
Class 3: Major Restorative	50%	50%	50%	50%
Class 4: Orthodontia	N/A	N/A	50%	50%

Vision Plan Comparison

	VSP		Superior Vision	Davis Vision
	DP3 Basic	DP3 Premium	DALRC	Delta
Monthly Premiums				
Retiree/Surviving Spouse/Spouse only	\$6.34	\$7.62	\$6.06	\$6.57
Retiree + Spouse	\$12.68	\$15.24	\$11.26	\$13.14
Retiree + Child	\$12.68	\$15.24	N/A	\$12.49
Retiree + Family	\$14.88	\$17.92		\$19.06
Eye Exam Co-Pay	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10
Prescription Lenses Co-Pay	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15
Frames Allowance	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$120
Contact Lenses Co-Pay	\$0	\$0	\$25	\$25
Contact Lenses Allowance	\$120	\$120	\$120	\$105

Progressive Lenses Co-Pay	20% - 40% off of usual and customary fees	\$40 Co-Pay	Pay the difference between the retail cost for trifocal lenses and the retail cost	\$50 - \$90 Co-Pay
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Overall Cost Comparison

	Medical, Rx, Dental, and Basic Vision		
	DP3	DALRC	DPMP
Retiree/ Surviving Spouse/ Spouse (Single Coverage)	\$262.18	\$225.20	\$260.01
Retiree + Spouse (Two Person Coverage)	\$516.54	\$450.67	\$520.02
	Medical and Rx Only		
	DP3	DALRC	DPMP
Retiree/ Surviving Spouse/ Spouse (Single Coverage)	\$214.74	\$168.57	\$215.17
Retiree + Spouse (Two Person Coverage)	\$418.04	\$337.14	\$430.34
	Dental and Basic Vision Only		
	DP3	DALRC	DPMP
Retiree/ Surviving Spouse/ Spouse (Single Coverage)	\$56.98	\$56.63	\$44.84
Retiree + Spouse (Two Person Coverage)	\$108.04	\$113.53	\$89.68

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From: Yorkieatl@aol.com
Date: 12/2/2010 4:43:53 PM
To: misc@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: Fwd: DALRC Formulary

Hi Mark,

Here is one of the things that is misleading in the e-mail we had talked about. I did go to Cathy's Road Show today here in ATL for DP3. She is still saying they have over 3500 drugs and the Trust only has 1300. Now we know why. I have a list of some other things that were misleading, if you have time please give me a call and we can talk about them.

Again, we are not looking to cause problems, we just want to make sure our fellow retirees have the right info.

Thx Paul

404 314 1446

JSL has just finished a conference call with Medco to gain some understanding about how Cathy could have over 3500 drugs in her formulary when Medicare determines the drugs in every program's formulary. Medco knew immediately as this is what Dennis had done before he moved the Trust plan to Medco. Cathy counted every dosage level of every drug (5 mg., 10 mg., 25mg. etc.) whereas you normally count only the drugs by name. Please feel free to use this information should you have a chance to do so.

Sandy

PS: The Trust has over 3700 drugs in our formulary if you count all the dosages available. Don't you just LOVE trivia!?!?

Pension:

From: [Riley M.](#)
Date: 11/29/2010 4:34:04 PM
To: mark@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: PBGC increase

My thanks to Gary Curtis for his Pension payment increase heads- up. I received my BDL letter last May. I was to receive an increased payment and a check for back payments. They never arrived. I called the PBGC and, "WHOOOPS" again - now that I brought it to their attention, I should receive the payments in January. Make sure you haven't been forgotten also!

Mike Riley
ATL MD-11

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Re-Print of DP3 Chairman's letter:

DP3 Needs Your Help

December 4, 2010

We need your help.

Your DP3 Board is concerned that we still have retirees who do not understand what they have to gain from supporting us. We know that as a DP3 Honor Roll member you do understand, but let us take a moment to clearly define our goals.

The PBGC has valued their use of look backs on IRS pension limitations (401a income limit, and 415b payout limit) at over \$550 million. This reduction affects 3,500 retirees (one thousand of you retired prior to 2002, and 2,500 retired after 2002.) That comes out to an average loss of over \$157,000 in today's dollars per retiree.

We are talking real money. And we are not talking a shortfall in the plan's assets. It is strictly due to several very questionable policy decisions by the PBGC. And it contradicts the intent of the law.

We have a very good chance of recovering some or all of the \$550 million.

So we are shocked that there are still at least 1,500 retirees with so much money on the line, who are not supporting us.

We don't think the majority of the non-members are intentionally leeching off our efforts, assuming that they will reap the benefit of our efforts. We think that most are disillusioned, tired, angry, or just unaware. We think that if they knew what we were doing they would stand shoulder to shoulder with us.

That is where you come in. DAL will not provide us with retiree addresses. We can only reach those who have tuned us out with your help.

Below is the text of a letter or email that we need for you to send to everyone you know or even suspect are not DP3 HR members. You can send a note with it, or you can just send it as it is. [You can click this link to download a copy of the letter in PDF format](#) or just click the "Forward Email" link at the bottom of this message.

To those of you who end up receiving the letter more than once, we apologize, but we need to be sure we have everyone on board. The more members we have - the more strength.

Will Buergey
Chairman, DP3



I am writing to ask you to support DP3. It is in your best interest to do so. I will explain exactly why in the letter below. At the end I will explain exactly how to help. Please take the time to read this.

The big picture:

After all we lost in the bankruptcy itself, the PBGC is using several very questionable procedures to inappropriately reduce the benefits of approximately 3,500 currently retired pilots (including you) by a present value of \$554 million. This is not a result of a shortfall in the plan's funding. It is purely due to PBGC procedures.

At the same time, trustees with a unique set of skills have come together on your new DP3 board, and in combination with some exceptional professional assistance have put in place a multiphase effort to change the way the PBGC is doing our benefit calculations.

Who we are:

DP3 has changed over the years. Eight of the nine trustees are like you, and we have a great deal to gain from our efforts (and the ninth trustee is so absolutely determined to get justice for you that he is sacrificing his time - and paying his dues - for your benefit).

But DP3 is more than that. We have discovered that several organizations over the years have made a token effort to oppose the PBGC. But they have expected their hired professional teams to provide all the guidance and ideas. And consistently they have not been able to afford, and have not selected the best professionals available. The DP3 trustees have been willing to set their retirements aside and work full time to provide the guidance to the attorneys, actuaries and legislative consultants necessary for success. And we have hired the very best professionals. The combination of aggressive, committed trustees and first rate professionals has gotten the attention of the PBGC.

Some retirees are concerned because DP3 was started by former management pilots. There are no former management pilots on your new DP3 board.

Some retirees are concerned because groups like Pan Am had such bad luck with their appeals after the Pan Am bankruptcy. Like the United pilots are learning, a halfhearted effort, started too late, will not succeed in this environment. The PBGC has never been held accountable by an organization as prepared and committed as DP3.

What we are doing:

We are challenging the PBGC at every turn. We are appealing their procedures in a number of areas. We are demanding that they explain every step of the calculations process.

They are not used to this. We have met with the new Director of the PBGC, Joshua Gotbaum. He brought in all of his department heads for that meeting - they all knew exactly who DP3 was. They know we are not going away until they use procedures that result in an appropriate allocation of our plan's assets. We have the law, the intent of Congress, and common sense on our side.

We are also discussing the PBGC's use of these procedures with legislators and exerting pressure from that side.

Our attorneys, Miller & Chevalier, are the best ERISA attorneys in the business, with offices overlooking the Treasury and the White House. While they are expensive, they understand our budgetary limitations and work hard to keep our costs down. They believe in our cause, and have stated that they consider it an honor to represent us.

But why should I bother?

If the reasons stated above aren't enough, it is very simple - The PBGC has discouraged our members from appealing. The PBGC would like us to leave them alone. *If you are not supporting us, you are doing the PBGC's work for them.*

You are one of the 3,500 retirees who will gain so much from all the work we are doing, and all we ask is that you support us financially. We will do all the work and all the worrying. You can pay and forget about it.

The potential gains if we are even partially successful range from about \$500/month to well over \$1,500/month. If we are successful, the average gain will be around \$1,200/month. \$1,200 equals the total dues to date. That monthly increase would represent a retroactive check of well over \$60,000 today - plus \$1,200/month for the rest of your life. That is an incredible return on your investment even if you were to receive considerably less than that.

Even a former Pan Am pilot who retired at age 60 in 2003 could see a \$750/month increase if we are successful in just one phase of our appeals. Former Western pilots would see even more, and original Delta pilots retiring at age 60 in 2003 could see a \$1,500/month increase.

It is very simple; we have 3,500 retirees who stand to gain mightily from our efforts. We have less than 2,000 retirees currently supporting the effort - so over 1,500 are getting a free ride. And the more members we have, the less it costs each individual and the stronger our case.

Please get out a credit card and go to [the DP3 web page](#) and follow the instructions for paying through PayPal.

We are already doing all the work - we just need your support.

Tom Seever

P.S. Read this if you are asking, "I've let my 45 days pass without appealing - why should I support you?"

One part of our appeal will be to allow those who did not initiate timely appeals to partake in any successes. It is very unusual and our attorneys feel unacceptable for a trustee agency to punitively refuse appeals of beneficiaries when there is not a pressing reason to do so - Particularly when that agency has missed deadline after deadline. We believe the PBGC will be pressured to change its stance on that in the administrative appeals, and are certain the agency will be forced to if it is necessary to execute an appellate appeal.

We will include all Honor Roll members by name in both the administrative appeals and the legal appeals (if legal appeals are necessary).

P.P.S. Aren't the Soaring Eagles litigating this for us? Why should I bother?

It is true that the Soaring Eagles litigation could help our appeals, but there are differences. We still have very important appeals that are worth \$421 million - that we will likely win even if the Soaring Eagles are unsuccessful. And the Soaring Eagles litigation could take years. Years from now the PBGC could argue that we had no timely appeal rights left regardless of the Soaring Eagles ruling.

So while the Soaring Eagles litigation could help us, unless we appeal our own issues, we risk not benefiting regardless of the outcome of their litigation.

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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 its existence.

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 in DC- 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!)

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Commercial Section.....

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

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

Life Section...

From: [David L. Roberts](#)
Date: 12/1/2010 10:13:42 AM
To: [carol](#); [Mark@pilotcommunication.net](#)
Subject: DECEASED DELTA PILOTS & SPOUSES LIST

Hi Carol and Mark,

Attached below is the current Deceased Delta Pilots & Spouses List, current as of December 1, 2010. It is in two formats, MS Excel and ..pdf. There are 1939 names on the list and it's 31 pages long in Landscape format.

This is a continuing work-in-progress and my thanks to you Carol for your extensive research finding information on persons who passed away many years ago.

Thanks to you Mark for the Pilot Communication Net and for all your effort in keeping the flame alive.

I hope you two had a great Thanksgiving. Lynne and I and our bachelor son Brad, 47, had Thanksgiving dinner at Maggiano's in Buckhead and ate so much we "hurt" ourselves. But it was fine.

Best regards,

Dave

David's latest work published here: <http://pcn.homestead.com/FlightWest.html>

Misc Posts:

From: [William Stewart](#)
Date: 12/3/2010 8:11:57 AM
To: [misc@pilotcommunication.net](#)
Subject: Delta Stock Warrants

Does anyone know what the process is to exercise the warrants we were given after the bankruptcy? They expire on Dec. 23rd. Thanks, Jack

Editor: Every year about this time some guys clean out their file cabinet or drawers and find these old warrants. The next obvious thing is to see the expiration date and wonder about their exercising worth. Well, we have mentioned this a few times before but will do it again.....these things are worthless!

The are drawn on the old Delta stock that has now disappeared. Vanished! Gone byby! So sorry but maybe you can sell the nice looking warrant certificates on Ebay to a collector.

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From: Capt767er@aol.com
To: tony_velocci@mcgraw-hill.com
Sent: 11/30/2010 2:27:35 A.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Delta/Northwest 15Nov2010

Both articles on the Delta/Northwest merger were well written. Indeed Delta has a history of successful mergers over a 50 year period. However, there is a factual error that should not go uncorrected.

Memo from Richard Anderson/Ed Bastian:

"they pledged" to keep the Delta name and Atlanta headquarters, protect employee seniority rights, provide greater job security and career opportunities, maintain pension plans for employees and retirees,etc"

The reality is this statement is not true for approximately 3,000 "Original" Delta pilots who devoted decades to the bottom line of Delta and it's future. They have not received this pledge and in some cases receive no benefits at all. While some did take advantage of the 50% cash out opportunity that 50% was in fact 25% of the amount necessary to produce half of the promised retirement benefit. For those of us who get something from the PBGC again the figure is 25%. The 2008 banking crisis pretty much diluted the money they were able to retire with and as a result are in some cases suffering significant financial turmoil. One can reasonably assume that either the \$1 Billion that was offered for JAL to enter the SkyTeam Alliance or the new upgrades for \$2 Billion in Business Elite enhancements are being financed in some way by the termination of the Delta Pilot Retirement Plan.

RC Bauer
Fleming Island, Florida
Capt DAL RET

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steveshapard@gmail.com

Sent: 11/29/2010 12:53 PM

You need to be careful especially what you read when it comes to politics. When it come from the extremes, and is on the web, it is usually not very fact based. Just groups trying to prey on peoples fears and prior prejudices. Like a lot of news that is more editorial in content than real news (Fox on the right is not news anymore than Keith Oberman on the left). They just tell people "what they already believe, or "think" they want to believe.

In regards to the internet. You can say almost anything you want with little or no repercussion whether it is right or wrong. It is the high tech high speed way to really spread rumors which if repeated enough people will start to believe.

Take the missing children, pass this along hoaxes. Airplanes on aircraft carriers that are movie props that get sent out as "new secret planes". The so called patriot sounding organizations that are set up to do nothing but smear political foes with false claims and out and out lies.....It goes on and on. When you pass things on that you "think" or hope is true, but never check out the facts...you are just doing what the author hoped would be done. Spread and pass falsehoods on to enough people that it will eventually be believed as the truth. Not a good thing to get sucked in to.

Steve Shapard

Editor: I thank you Steve because there are some good morsels of advice in there. I will attempt to heed them better as I move forward.

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From: [michael](#)
Date: 11/29/2010 4:53:08 PM
To: misc@pilotcommunication.net

Subject: closing statement in newsletter

Mark,

Thanks for all the work you put into keeping us informed. Just wondering if the guys that worked for C & S and then merged with Delta should be included in your list. Thanks.

B. Kendall

Editor: Thanks Michael, take a look below. That list wasn't intended to be exhaustive but I have taken your suggestion and ran with it.

Human Interest:

From: [Gene Hall](#)

Date: 11/29/2010 9:47:57 PM

To: [Delta Memories](#)

Subject: Peggy (Yancey), "we hardly knew ye"

Peggy, "we hardly knew ye".

It's 2:30 AM in Johannesburg. The last time we were here, I time adjusted very well. We came over from Atlanta on the fifteen hour flight in the sleeper seats the same as last time, and I probably slept as much as I do at home, but I am lying in bed at my daughter's home, wide awake, Bose headset on, listening to romantic music on my i Pod. We were in NYC last week with our Mississippi grandchildren, enjoying the Macy's parade, the Radio City Christmas Spectacular, etc. We arrived in ATL on Saturday, and noticed that business seats were available to JNB, so we changed winter clothes to summer, and here we are with our South African grandchildren.

I just finished reading Andrew Sorkin's Too Big To Fail a few minutes ago. He is a financial reporter for my least favorite newspaper, the New York Times. His book reads like a novel and is the best report of the melt down that probably changed the US economy forever that I have read. I had read bits and pieces about the crisis as it unfolded in 2008. The failure of Lehman, the bailout of AIG, and GM and Chrysler were still fresh in my mind, but I didn't know exactly how (or why) the whole US banking business was rescued. I was particularly interested in the fact that Wachovia was only a few hours from being shut down when they suddenly became Wells Fargo. The book is hard to put down, but it's depressing, and then I checked my e mail to have messages from Travis Foster, Carole Lovelace, and the PCN that Peggy Yancey passed away on Thanksgiving Day. Now, I am more depressed.

"It is with great sadness that I tell you Peggy Yancey died Thursday, November 25th, in hospice in River Ridge. Being the very private person she was, no one, except a special friend, knew she was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer a few months ago"....

The only other information about her was her age (80) date of hire (1952), and her only survivor being a brother in New Mexico.

I was a reserve second officer, and lucky enough to be assigned a Caracas trip the first time I met Peggy. She was in a powder blue uniform with a white blouse which curved in all the right places. She was very pretty, but there was a sadness about her. The copilot told me that she had been in love and was dumped for a Hollywood starlet. I don't know if that was true or not, but she never married. She was a very special lady. She was intelligent, sexy, dignified, and certainly not the least

impressed with all the charm that I could muster, but she was always friendly and a pleasure to fly with.

I am surrounded by children and grandchildren in my old age, and reading about Peggy made me very sad. Peggy, "we hardly knew ye". But we will miss you.

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

Dick Blizzard

Email dickblizzard@gmail.com

Issue Area Event

Comments - Dick Blizzard retired from Delta Airlines flying the MD-11 to Asia. Dick has written many accounts of his U.S. Navy and Delta Airline experiences. It is all posted on <http://dickblizzard.blogspot.com> Take a look - you'll like it.

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

From: DWSkjierven@aol.com

Date: 12/1/2010 9:02:20 PM

Subject: 1st Tuesday of the month ORD Delta Pilot's Breakfast

This coming Tuesday, **December 7th** a day that will live in infamy, is the first Tuesday of the Month and time for the ORD Delta Pilot's breakfast. Everyone and anyone is invited so if you haven't headed south for the winter come join the group for a great breakfast with lots of world problem solving. As always, it is at 09:30 at Mama Rini's 177 W. Virginia Ave Crystal Lake or about 1 1/2 miles north of the Lake In The Hills Airport. Let me know if you are flying in and I'll come pick you up. See you there, David W. Skjierven

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

Sent: Tue, Nov 30, 2010 3:47 pm

Subject: Penn Central Crash Info requested

We just received the below message from a lady, Sherrie Reynolds, wanting information about her dad who was killed in a plane crash back in the 1940's. Her Email address is sbobreynolds@gmail.com should you want to contact her.

A stewardess that worked for Eastern suggested I contact you. I am trying to find anyone who might have known my father, William Ellsworth O'Brien, who was a pilot for Pennsylvania Central Airlines in the 1940's. He was killed when a plane crashed into his plane in the Detroit airport. He saved a young pilot but could not get out himself. I am hoping against hope that someone might know him and be able to tell me something about him. Sherrie

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

If you have something you represent that has a commercial interest, place it in the new service of [PCN Ads](#). Designed especially for our group but available to the industry. Registration is free and so are some ads. The rest start as low as \$5. Enter you promo in [PCN Ads](#).

I thank my sis for this one:

From: Marcia Duncan

Date: 12/2/2010 10:09:24 AM

Subject: glasses for cheap!

I saw these on the girl who did my nails -- she has a friend who has lots of pairs -- cute and she said they were really good and this way you can have several pair for the cost of one!

<http://www.zennioptical.com/>

Hangar Flying (Share a bit of ole hangar flying with the net. Need a sim buddy? Use PCN for request) :

From: "Mike Sztanyo"

Date: Dec 4, 2010 8:50 AM

Subject: India incident

To: "marksztanyo" <marksztanyo@gmail.com>

<http://dgca.nic.in/accident/reports/incident/VT-AXJ.pdf>

FO's story doesn't pass the smell test... High drama reading.

Mike

Political (food for thought):

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

A question from Maxine that has circulated the web and maybe some can relate too:

Let me get this straight

We're going to be "gifted" with a health care plan we are **forced to purchase** and **fined** if we don't,

Which purportedly covers at least **ten million more people**, without adding **a single new doctor**, but provides for **16,000 new IRS agents**,

written by a committee whose chairman says he **doesn't understand it**,

passed by a Congress **that didn't read** it but **exempted** themselves from it,

and signed by a President who **smokes**,

with **funding** administered by a treasury chief who **didn't pay his taxes**,

for which we'll be **taxed for four years before any benefits take effect**,

by a government which has **already bankrupted Social Security and Medicare**,

all to be overseen by a surgeon general who is **obese**,

and **financed** by a country that's **broke!!!!**

'What the H#LL could possibly go wrong?

+++++

More TSA humor:

From: old72driver@msn.com

To: old72driver@msn.com

Subject: TSA must nsee video

Date: Fri, 3 Dec 2010 10:20:04 -0500

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9a8jGVXOMsw>

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*. C&S, 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/>
National Retiree Legislative Network - <http://www.nrln.org/>

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