

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:

2011?

Wow! Another year, 2010 has come and gone. It still is a little hard to write 2011. This 70th issue of the HL is the 2nd issue of 2011 and of course I hope that you and your family have a very good year!

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Review of Mission and services:

If you haven't ever seen this page it may help you learn a little more about what the PCN is all about: <http://pcn.homestead.com/About.html>

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Little slow on incoming posts:

I suspect that many of you have been busy around the holidays with family and activities. That is wonderful and I hope that the holidays were rich and full for you. When you get items to share with the PCN let 'em fly and send 'em in.

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My Current Top Ten – Free Useful Web & Software Tools . Please keep it brief, but I encourage you to send in some of your favorite links or online good deals.

1. [Google](#) – (GMAIL, IGoogle Home page, Google Groups, Google Docs, Ties with YouTube, Picasa, Calendar) Of all the online services, it is hard to find one that offers so many things well done and for Free. Google services are really **many** choices not just one. The above list is just a smidgen of what Google offers, yet I use every one of those services and more for free. Haven't seen anybody else who offers more.
2. [Facebook](#) – Yeah, he is a billionaire but his program connects billions in an easy and fun way.
3. [Life360.com](#) – Wow, with an I-Phone or Droid you can track your family's phones anywhere in the world.....for free!
4. [Flight Tracker](#) – Pretty comprehensive site for tracking flights.
5. [ESPN 3](#) – Watch free sports on your PC. Nice!
6. [USA Today](#) online – Remember all those days when finding a USA Today onboard was like finding a treasure? Well, why not read it free?
7. [Skype](#) – How would cheap pilots communicate with the home castle without this amazing and free program.
8. [Avast](#) – free online antivirus program. Decent quality and doesn't slow the computer down like Norton.
9. [PCN Toolbar](#) – Many free useful link at the tip of your fingers in a compact format at the top of you IE browser.
10. [PCN Ads](#) – Where else can you get your product, service or place in front of so many in our exclusive group? Some of the ad categories are actually free and all are extremely reasonable for being in front of our prestigious group.

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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](#)

Is Delta's Stock Cheap by the Numbers?

By Anand Chokkavelu, CFA

January 7, 2011

Numbers can lie -- but they're the best first step in determining whether a stock is a buy. In this series, we use some carefully chosen metrics to size up a stock's true value based on the following clues:

- The current price multiples
- The consistency of past earnings and cash flow
- How much growth we can expect

Let's see what those numbers can tell us about how expensive or cheap **Delta Air Lines** (NYSE: [DAL](#)) might be.

The current price multiples

First, we'll look at most investors' favorite metric: the P/E ratio. It divides the company's share price by its earnings per share (EPS) -- the lower, the better.

Then, we'll take things up a notch with a more advanced metric: enterprise value to unlevered free cash flow. This divides the company's enterprise value (basically, its market cap plus its debt, minus its cash) by its unlevered free cash flow (its free cash flow, adding back the interest payments on its debt). Like the P/E, the lower this number is, the better.

Read More: <http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2011/01/07/is-deltas-stock-cheap-by-the-numbers.aspx>

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Delta Expects Lower 4Q Profit

Zacks Equity Research, On Thursday January 6, 2011, 11:00 am EST

Delta Air Lines Inc. (NYSE: [DAL](#) - [News](#)), the second largest U.S. airline, expects fourth quarter profit will be \$45 million less than its previous expectation as several of its flights were cancelled due to severe snowfall in December across the U.S. and Western Europe.

In December, Delta Air Lines' traffic rose 2.6% to 15.04 billion revenue passenger miles from 14.68 billion in the year-ago month. Capacity or available seat miles grew 3.9% and load factor (percentage of seats filled with passengers) fell 110 bps year over year to 80.1%.

Domestic traffic inched up 0.5% year over year on capacity increase of 1.2% offset by a decline of 60 bps in the load factor to 79.6%. International traffic also increased 5.3% year over year primarily driven by an 8.1% capacity increase while load factor decreased 210 bps to 80.7%.

The current fourth quarter Zacks Consensus Estimate for Delta is 27 cents, representing 200% growth from the year-ago level. The company is slated to announce its fourth quarter earnings on January 24, 2011.

Read more: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Delta-Expects-Lower-4Q-zacks-1461158977.html?x=0&.v=1>

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Other Airline News (Recent stories of interest):

Mistakes Led Planes Toward Near-Collision

The National Transportation Safety Board said a series of slip-ups by pilots and air-traffic controllers twice put a [US Airways Group](#) Inc. jet and a Boeing 747 cargo plane on a near-collision course over Alaska last year.

Communication lapses by both sets of pilots, compounded by lax controller procedures, temporarily cut off radio contact between the relevant controller and the planes.

The board's report on the May incident, released earlier this week, indicates that the US Airways plane with 138 people aboard ended up flying 100 feet under the altitude of the Cargolux cargo jet. The planes were separated by less than one-third of a mile horizontally, as they maneuvered in good weather near the international airport in Anchorage, Alaska.

The report comes amid heightened concerns about reported controller errors nationwide, which have increased recently and last year prompted the Federal Aviation Administration to launch various safety initiatives. The safety board also has stepped up its scrutiny of midair near-collisions.

Read More:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704055204576068263274480204.html?ru=yahoo&mod=yahoo_hs

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

From: Yorkieatl@aol.com

Date: 1/4/2011 1:17:58 PM

To: Yorkieatl@aol.com

Subject: Fwd: Breaking TAX News

LAST MINUTE NEWS **Tax Season Delay for Certain Filers** 1/4/2011

The IRS has just announced a delay in the start of tax season for some individual taxpayers affected by the Tax Relief Act of 2010. This delay affects individual taxpayers who itemize deductions, claim tuition and fees deduction, or claim the educator expense deduction. The delay affects both paper-filed and e-file returns.

The IRS is telling preparers to wait for the IRS prescribed start date – mid-to late February 2011 – before e-filing these returns; returns submitted on paper prior to the IRS prescribed start date will be 'shelved' and processed later than returns filed on or after the start date.

What this means to you: If you itemize deductions, you cannot E-file your tax return until mid-to-late February and will not receive any refund until Mid-March.

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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 **Now Mar 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. Action has continued 80% for Jan & Feb.**
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):

Pension:

Chairman's letter re-print:

DP3 Chairman's Update

January 8, 2011

I hope all of you enjoyed the holidays with friends and family, but I know we are all looking for better things to come in 2011!

We are eager to get the appeal process started after waiting for over four years for the PBGC to finally issue our Final Benefit Determination letters. Unfortunately, as December 2010 passed into history, the agency missed another self-imposed deadline to issue the remaining BDLs. As a result, our appeal date has now slipped again, this time until **March 18, 2011**. Remember, no action is required on your part as a result of this delay - you're already granted extension automatically extends to this new date.

New DP3 Trustee

This week we experienced a change in the ranks of DP3 trustees. As many of you know, Bud Musser has been flying as a B777 captain for Asiana airlines and now Turkish Airlines. The commutes to Seoul and then Istanbul complicated Bud's life enough, but now he has recently married and relocated his wife and son from Korea to the United States.

Bud's hectic flight schedule and living half way around the world proved difficult to overcome when it came to attending DP3 meetings and participating in our regular conference calls. This week I regretfully accepted Bud's resignation from his trustee position. The DP3 trustees all wish Bud the best of luck as he moves on to the next chapter in his life and we thank him for the time he served his fellow retirees.

The trustees have appointed **Clarke Brant** to fill the vacant trustee position. Clarke was the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes in the last trustee election, and both Rhea Nichols and I served together with Clarke on the Delta MEC following the merger with Western Airlines. For those of you who do not know Clarke, here is some information from the resume he posted when running for DP3 trustee:

- Clarke is 65 years old, married once, with two children, both pilots.
- He is a graduate of the University of Washington, with a degree in Economics, and the University of Puget Sound, School of Law.
- Member Washington State Bar Association, retired 2009.
- Began airline career with Western in 1977 and retired from Delta at age sixty in 2005. Flew Captain for four years on the B-737-800.
- Clarke served three terms as ALPA Representative for the SEA and PDX bases, 1988-1994. Also served as Local Strike Preparedness Chair.
- Former FAA Aviation Safety Inspector, Air Carrier Operations.
- City Council member, second elected term. Serves on the Finance, Planning, Code Review, and Public Interest Committees. Currently Mayor-Pro-Tem.

Clarke ended his bio with this statement, "I am eager to serve and can come on speed rapidly. I promise to keep the interests of all member pilots in mind when making decisions concerning DP3 resources."

The other trustees look forward to serving with Clarke and we know he will make a great addition to our team.

Dues Reminder

This is a reminder that the DP3 dues for 2011 have been established at \$300. These dues are payable no later than March 31, 2011 in order to maintain Honor Roll status, but those who have contributed past dues and assessments totaling \$1200 will be considered Honor Roll members until

March 31. In order to participate in the PBGC appeal, all dues and assessments must be current. [You can easily pay here using your credit card.](#)

Check Your Status

Please verify your current membership and appeal status by reviewing your membership information included with this update (in the membership status box above) and on the [Appeals Status Page](#), updated yesterday with all appeals submitted through 0800 on January 7.

Thank you for your continued support.

Will Buergey
Chairman, DP3

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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...

Misc Posts:

From: [Steve Lutz](#)
Date: 1/3/2011 5:18:45 PM
To: [PCN Sztanyo Mark](#)
Subject: New PBGC payment

Hi Mark.

On July,22-2010 I received a letter from the PBGC changing my Monthly Benefit to a higher amount of about \$45.00 more a month. As of today Jan. 3rd-2011 my check still remains the same without the increased payment. I called the PBGC at 1-800-400-7242 and ask them when I could expect an increase in my PBGC check. The person I was talking to forwarded my call to Atlanta and connected me with another PBGC specialist. They said that it takes quite some time for the PBGC to make the corrections, however, they would make the change for me right away and I would be receiving the new amount on Feb. 1st, 2011. You may want to pass this on to others that may have an increase or decrease in payments. Thanks for all your good work.
Ret. Capt. Wal/Dal
Stephen Lutz

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From: [David L. Roberts](#)
Date: 1/3/2011 6:54:28 PM
To: misc@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: SCAM ALERT --- SCAM ALERT

SPAM --|-- SPAM

SCAM ALERT -- SCAM ALERT

WARNING:

- I've received this message with similar wording several times in the last few months.
- Criminals have "*harvested*" other people's email addresses and are sending these "sad requests" to email addresses they find on the same email they harvested from, hoping some will think their actual acquaintance really needs help.
- **Warning Flags:** Grammatical Errors - Illogical Thoughts - Would this person really write to YOU???
- Criminal "*Harvesting*" is why you should NEVER forward emails without DELETING all the email addresses in the message you're forwarding.

DO NOT BE SCAMMED ~~~~ DO NOT BE SCAMMED

Date: Mon, 3 Jan 2011 07:26:16 -0800 (GMT-08:00)

From: John <address deleted by me>

Reply-To: John <address deleted by me>

Subject: Sad News !!!

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

X-Mailer: EarthLink Zoo Mail 1.0

X-ELNK-Trace:

342e7f311b2c5102d780f4a490ca6956abb457f1b4332f5278fc0c5de1758e145c0d3397682fbe65350b
add9bab72f9c350badd9bab72f9c350badd9bab72f9c

X-Originating-IP: 209.86.224.43

X-ELNK-Received-Info: spv=0;

X-ELNK-AV: 0

X-ELNK-Info: sbv=0; sbrc=.0; sbf=0b; sbw=010;

I'm sorry I didn't inform you about my traveling... am presently in London, United Kingdom on short vacation and as i write to you now.. its unbelievable am stuck here,got mugged at gun point on my way to the hotel and my money,credit cards,phone and other valuable things were taken off me at gun point, thanking Almighty God for save keeping my passport.,

i really need (\$1,950) your urgent assistance quickly i promise to refund it back to you once i get home cause i still have some cash in my account but i cant access any here right now ,already canceled all my cards immediately after the muggers took my things off me!!! still at the public internet library where am making use of the free internet access, i will forever be grateful..

SCAM ALERT -- SCAM ALERT -- SCAM ALERT

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From: [David L. Roberts](#)
Date: 12/23/2010 11:44:16 AM
To: Mark@pilotcommunication.net
Subject: DELTA'S OLDEST "LIVING" RETIRED PILOTS

Hi Mark,

In your **next couple of High Life messages** would you please post this announcement for me, or reword it to fit your space requirements. As you know I maintain the list of DELTA'S OLDEST 'LIVING' RETIRED PILOTS and when I started it, I arbitrarily decided that the year pilots became 86 would be the year to add them to the list.

Now that we're entering 2011 it's time to ask that anyone born during 1925, or before, please notify me of their date of birth and the other things below.

Here's the announcement.

Thanks,
Dave

DELTA'S OLDEST "LIVING" RETIRED PILOTS

Retired ATL Captain Dave Roberts maintains this list and each year adds those pilots who will become 86 years old.

If you were born in 1925 or earlier, please send an email to Dave at robertsDL@mindspring.com with:

- Your Date of Birth
- Your wife's name. If she's deceased, please send her name and date of death.
- Your Date of Hire
- Your original Delta Air Lines Company

The list is available - on request - on the PCN web site or from Dave Roberts.

For those pilots with email groups, please forward this announcement to your list.

Human Interest:

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

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

This is the PCN Calendar designed for you to publish your 2011 event dates. Please send them in to Kim.

Click here for our PCN [Calendar](#).

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!)

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](#).

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

From: [David L. Roberts](#)

Date: 1/7/2011 12:21:00 PM

Subject: The Grim Reaper for all of the Airplane Buffs

THE "GRIM" REAPER



BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq (AP) The airplane is the size of a jet fighter, powered by a turboprop engine, able to fly at 300 mph and reach 50,000 feet. It is outfitted with infrared, laser and radar targeting, and with a ton and a half of guided bombs and missiles.

The Reaper is loaded, but there is no one on board. Its pilot, as it bombs targets in Iraq, will sit at a video console 7,000 miles away in Nevada ... The arrival of these outsized U.S. "hunter-killer" drones, in aviation history's first robot attack squadron, will be a watershed moment even in an Iraq that has seen too many innovative ways to hunt and kill. That moment, one the Air Force will likely low-key, is expected "soon," says the regional U.S. ... air commander. How soon? "We're still working that," Lt. Gen. Gary North said in an interview. The Reaper's first combat deployment is expected in Afghanistan, and senior Air Force officers estimate it will land in Iraq sometime between this fall and next spring. They look forward to it.

"With more Reapers, I could send manned airplanes home," North said.

The Associated Press has learned that the Air Force is building a 400,000-square-foot expansion of the concrete ramp area now used for Predator drones here at Balad, the biggest U.S. air base in Iraq, 50 miles north of Baghdad. That new staging area could be turned over to Reapers. It is another sign that the Air Force is planning for an extended stay in Iraq, supporting Iraqi government forces in any continuing conflict, even if U.S. ground troops are drawn down in the coming years. The estimated two dozen or more unmanned MQ-1 Predators now doing surveillance over Iraq, as the 46th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron, have become mainstays of the U.S. war effort, offering round-the-clock airborne "eyes" watching over road convoys, tracking nighttime insurgent movements via infrared sensors, and occasionally unleashing one of their two Hellfire missiles on a target. From about 36,000 flying hours in 2005, the Predators are expected to log 66,000 hours this year over Iraq and Afghanistan.

The MQ-9 Reaper, when compared with the 1995-vintage Predator, represents a major evolution of the unmanned aerial vehicle, or UAV. At five tons gross weight, the Reaper is four times heavier than the Predator. Its size 36 feet long, with a 66-foot wingspan is comparable to the profile of the Air Force's workhorse A-10 attack plane. It can fly twice as fast and twice as high as the Predator. Most significantly, it carries many more weapons.

UNDER THE RADAR: Air Force ramps up in Iraq

While the Predator is armed with two Hellfire missiles, the Reaper can carry 14 of the air-to-ground weapons, or four Hellfires and two 500-pound bombs. "It's not a recon squadron," Col. Joe Guasella, operations chief for the Central Command's air component, said of the Reapers. "It's an attack squadron, with a lot more kinetic ability." "Kinetic" Pentagon argot for destructive power is what the Air Force had in mind when it christened its newest robot plane with a name associated with death. "The name Reaper captures the lethal nature of this new weapon system," Gen. T. Michael Moseley, Air Force chief of staff, said in announcing the name last September. General Atomics of San Diego has built at least nine of the MQ-9s thus far, at a cost of \$69 million per set of four aircraft, with ground equipment. The Air Force's 432nd Wing, a UAV unit formally established on May 1, is to eventually fly 60 Reapers and 160 Predators. The numbers to be assigned to Iraq and Afghanistan will be classified. The Reaper is expected to be flown as the Predator is by a two-member team of pilot and sensor operator who work at computer control stations and video screens that display what the UAV "sees." Teams at Balad, housed in a hangar beside the runways, perform the takeoffs and landings, and similar teams at Nevada's Creech Air Force Base, linked to the aircraft via satellite, take over for the long hours of overflying the Iraqi landscape. American ground troops, equipped with laptops that can download real-time video from UAVs overhead, "want more and more of it," said Maj. Chris Snodgrass, the Predator squadron commander here. The Reaper's speed will help. "Our problem is speed," Snodgrass said of the 140-mph Predator. "If there are troops in contact, we may not get there fast enough.. The Reaper will be faster and fly farther." The new robot plane is expected to be able to stay aloft for 14 hours fully armed, watching an area and waiting for targets to emerge.

"It's going to bring us flexibility, range, speed and persistence," said regional commander North, "such that I will be able to work lots of areas for a long, long time." The British also are impressed with the Reaper, and are buying three for deployment in Afghanistan later this year. The Royal Air Force version will stick to the "recon" mission, however, no weapons on board.

Political (food for thought):

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

A moment or so over 4 minutes but I think a pretty funny bit. *(Thanks Denny, don't see these kinds of guys today!)*

A clip from the Frank Sinatra Show of the fifties.

Larry Griswald was considered one of the World's best divers and known as "the Diving Fool". Here he is in one of his fun stage episodes:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T89HO_qIMyo

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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