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President's Message

Membership Meetings are coming up quickly, and if you haven't been to one in awhile, this will be a good one to attend. We will be voting on at least one very important motion that requires the serious consideration of our Membership.

This motion, which was proposed with amendments, reads:

John Parrott made a motion that TWU Local 556 institute a Special Assessment fee of \$3.00 per Member per month to be used only for the purpose of Contract Negotiations. Denny Sebesta seconded the motion.

Denny Sebesta made a motion to amend the previous motion by adding, "The collection of this \$3.00 will cease thirty days after the ratification of the next Contract." Gwen Dunivent seconded the motion.

Gwen Dunivent made a second motion to amend the previous motion by adding, "Any monies not used will be placed in an interest-bearing account to be used only for future Contract Negotiations." Jennifer Hartman seconded the motion.

I'm glad John made this motion, because the results achieved during our 2002 and 2008 Contract Negotiations prove that it's important to have a dedicated fund to pay our Negotiators, advisors, and, if necessary, fund an extended corporate campaign. Here's what you should know about a special assessment fund:

- It's not a permanent dues increase. The \$3.00 per Member per month special assessment fee will cease thirty days following the ratification of our next Contract.

- Currently, we pay thirty percent of our dues to TWU International for our affiliation and the services we receive from them. This thirty percent does not apply to special assessments, so the entire amount can be dedicated to negotiating another industry-leading Contract.

- The special assessment fund is earmarked only for Negotiations, and is kept in a separate account. The funds cannot be used by the Executive Board as part of the general budget—just Negotiations.

- It sends a signal to Management that our Members are willing to commit our financial resources toward securing a fair Contract.

It may seem hard to believe, but in just one year, our Membership will begin electing Negotiators (who will add a minimum of four full-time employees to the Union payroll) for our next round of Contract Negotiations in 2012. Preparations will then begin with surveys, hiring advisors, and mobilizing the Membership. These things all cost money, and now is the time to make sure we have the resources to achieve the Contract our Members deserve. To put it in the words of former Australian Prime Minister John Howard, "You can't fatten the pig on market day." Now is the best time to save, and a special assessment fund for Negotiations is the best way to do that.

Our last Contract cost over \$2 million to negotiate, but it was easy to do, because we had proven that we were united and committing to achieving a fair agreement. The result was approximately a \$400 million gain for our Members. That's a pretty good return on our investment.

The choice is yours, but I believe this Contract will be more difficult and require more from our Union, our Company, and our Members in order to negotiate another equitable Contract for everyone. I want to make sure we have the resources to stand strong. Are you willing to invest the cost of a cup of Starbucks coffee a month to secure and improve your future? I am, and I hope you are, too.



Thom McDaniel
President TWU 556

Treasurer's Update

Our Dues Database is getting a whole new look, and will be coming online in June. This new system is integrated into our current TWU Web site, and will no longer require two separate logins. This new system will also have an e-billing feature that will save trees and postage—and, consequently, money for your Union.

Statements will be mailed to the address you have on file with Southwest within the next few weeks. Please do your part and pay your past Union dues. Even if you give all your trips away, you are still utilizing benefits that are afforded by the Contract, and therefore owe Union dues. In fact, there are only a few instances where you would not owe Union dues (e.g. when you are on a medical leave and are not receiving any form of compensation). Remember that every dollar collected makes our Union that much stronger.



John Parrott
Treasurer

Meeting Schedule

The second round of 2010 Membership Meetings are scheduled as follows.

JUNE

Dallas - Friday, June 18
Oakland - Tuesday, June 22
Las Vegas - Wednesday, June 23
Phoenix - Thursday, June 24

JULY

Baltimore - Tuesday, July 6
Chicago - Wednesday, July 7
Orlando - Thursday, July 8
Houston - Friday, July 9

For a complete listing of meeting locations and times, please click [here](#).

Contract Education

Contract Education: Riding Fourth While Deadheading

There seems to be some confusion recently about the fourth jumpseat, especially when it comes to deadheads. The following question-and-answers, based on actual Member inquiries, should help clarify some of these issues.

Q: According to the contract, do I ever get a passenger seat other than when the flight is not full, and can I just take a passenger seat when I'm senior to another Flight Attendant?

A: Yes. If a Flight Attendant reports sick or injured while on a trip, then they are considered a "must ride," and will not be required to ride on the fourth jumpseat. The rationale behind this is that when a Flight Attendant is sick or injured, they potentially could be unable to safely perform the responsibilities of a fourth jumpseat rider in case of an evacuation.

Q: Which Flight Attendant will be required to take the fourth jumpseat if the flight oversells?

A: This question is answered in detail in our Flight Attendant manual in "Your Flight, Beginning to End" (Page 1, Section 11): "deadhead-crew reservations are booked to include two passenger seats and the fourth jumpseat. If the flight sells out, the most junior crewmember will take the fourth jumpseat."

Q: How about when one crewmember deadheads instead of the entire crew?

A: If the flight is oversold, regardless of whether you're deadheading alone or as a crew, a Flight Attendant may be subject to riding fourth.

Q: Under what circumstances can a CSA ask you to take the fourth jumpseat in order to get another passenger onboard the aircraft?

A: Any time an entire crew (three Flight Attendants) is considered a must ride, the deadhead must include two seats plus the fourth jumpseat. If every seat is occupied by paying passengers, one crewmember will be moved to the fourth jumpseat. Remember, an oversell is due to revenue paying passengers or must ride employees (not positive space or space available).

Q: What is a scheduled versus unscheduled deadhead?

A: Scheduled deadheads are just that: scheduled (i.e. preplanned). Likewise, unscheduled deadheads occur due to unforeseen and unexpected circumstances.

Q: What is the difference between a must ride versus a positive space deadhead?

A: Flight Attendants traveling on Company business, including deadheads, are considered "must ride" and can never be pulled from a flight due to an oversell. On the other hand, Flight Attendants traveling "positive space" on Company business may be pulled from a flight in the event it's oversold. In either case, however, a Flight Attendant may be considered a priority for riding fourth in an oversell situation.



Denny Sebesta
Contract and Leave
Coordinator

June Live Web Cast

We've just completed our June Live Web cast. If you missed the live broadcast, visit the TWU Web site this Friday to view the replay. You will be able to view the entire Web cast, or just click on the topics that interest you.



The next Web cast will be held July 13, at 18:00 CST. Our special guest will be Crystal Rains to address your questions about our Uniform items.

401k Reminder

Take a step to securing your future with our 401(k). You can sign up for the 401(k) at any time via the "about me" tab in SWALife. Currently, the Company will match your contribution dollar for dollar up to 8.5 percent. Next January, that match increases to 9.3 percent!

[Click here](#) to download an information document from the Southwest Benefits Department. This information is a great place to start in planning your long-term financial success.

35th Anniversary Pins

Help us supplement the 2011 Scholarship fund by purchasing a limited edition TWU 556 35th anniversary Union pin. The pins are \$5.00, and you may order online at www.twu556.org or obtain one from any Executive Board Member. The cost of college is on the rise, please support us as we try to increase the total amount of the Scholarships we offer.



Colonial/Lincoln Ins.

SHORT TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE LINCOLN FINANCIAL GROUP

Many Americans do not have insurance to protect their incomes in the event they become disabled, even temporarily. Lincoln Financial encourages everyone to take steps to prevent disabilities, and to protect your income with disability insurance.

For those enrolled in the Lincoln Financial Short Term Disability Insurance, you can expect a summary of your benefits to be sent to you during July. These summaries will outline the overall plan design, and provide a great point of reference for questions regarding your coverage.

Claim forms are available on the TWU Local 556 Web site at www.twu556.org. If you have specific questions, please contact the Supplemental Service Center at 877-885-9191.

Important things to remember:

All questions or inquiries pertaining to your policy information, claims or billing information should only be directed to the Supplemental Insurance Service Center. This will help prevent delays in answering your questions, and/or to quickly resolve any issues that may arise.

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unity update

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7929 Brookriver Drive, Suite 750
Dallas, TX 75247

Phone: 800-969-7932
Fax: 214-357-9870
Hotline: 800-806-7992

Unity Update Editor:
Kyle Whiteley
MDW F/A #35350

www.twu556.org

