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## President's Message:

Among the many congratulatory notes your Negotiating Team has received over the past few weeks regarding the new Contract, quite a few of them have suggested that we take a well-deserved vacation. A vacation would be nice, I admit, but I'm happy to say that we still have plenty to keep us busy as our Union continues to move forward for our Members.

Our Negotiating Team has kept busy working on the implementation to provide our Members with the hard-bargained gains in our Agreement as soon as possible. Remember there are over 200 changes in automation alone, but the Company has been diligent about working with us to ensure they are all in effect (and operating correctly) as soon as possible. With the help of some additional Members, the NT is also working on a frequently asked questions document for the new Contract, as well as a Contract resource guide to be published soon. We are also training our great Grievance Team on the changes in the Contract, so that they are always ready with the right answers.



**Thom McDaniel**  
**President TWU Local 556**

Additionally, both the Grievance Team and the Arbitration Team are reviewing our past grievances with the Company, including any that may be obsolete under the new Contract language. For those where we cannot seek resolution, our Arbitration Team will be making a concerted effort to take numerous cases to Board of Adjustment and Arbitration throughout the summer. We will be training several Team and Executive Board Members in BOA/Arbitration preparation and presentation, and hope to satisfactorily resolve as many grievances as possible before the end of the year. I am in the process of interviewing candidates for the Grievance Chairperson position, and the new Chair will have a well-trained Team when they take over.

Your new Executive Board hit the ground running with several exciting projects including a Member-driven initiative called "Project Redesign" to develop a strategic plan to strengthen our Union and make it more accessible to our Members.

June Membership Meetings held so far have had very full agendas, as will the remaining Meetings in Houston, Las Vegas, Oakland, and Phoenix. In addition to addressing Membership Motions on the table, this is the meeting where amendments to our Bylaws can be proposed, and they will be voted on in the following meeting. Our Bylaws are the framework by which our Union is run, so please remember that any amendments to the Bylaws must comply with the TWU Constitution and all Labor Laws.

**TWU CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Remaining Membership Meetings for June 2009.**

**Houston**  
**Friday June 19, 2009**

**Las Vegas**  
**Monday June 22, 2009**

**Oakland**  
**Thursday June 25, 2009**

**Phoenix**  
**Friday June 26, 2009**

**All meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. local time.**

**For additional information**  
**CLICK HERE.**

Furthermore, there will be nominations and elections for very important positions:

- Shop Stewards will be nominated and voted on in each meeting. Shop Stewards are our most basic—and most important—form of Membership Representation. As a Shop Steward, you are the face of the Union in your base.
- Board of Election nominations will be taken and voted on in the following meeting. The Board of Election is charged with making sure that all Officer, Negotiator, Delegate and Ratification votes are conducted fairly and legally.
- International Convention Delegates will be nominated for the upcoming TWU Constitutional Convention in Las Vegas in September. The TWU Convention only happens once every four years and is the ultimate rulemaking body in our Union. These are important positions and a great opportunity to represent our Membership and be a bigger part of the democratic process in our Union.

As we move forward in this very exciting time in our Union, I hope that our Members will continue to channel the Unity that was so important in achieving our new Contract by remaining involved through these great opportunities. By the way, if you have any ideas or suggestions about how we can improve our Union for you, please let me know through phone or email—I'll probably try to recruit you to get involved! This is our Union our Company, and it is up to each one of us to guarantee our continued success.

## "I solemnly pledge on my honor, to perform the duties of my office..."



The TWU 2009 Executive Board takes the Oath of Office in a ceremony that launches their new term. Congratulations!



**Don Shipman**  
**TWU Local 556 Negotiator**

## SIPS In Every City

Not all of us are commuters, so why would those that don't hitch a ride to work on a jet ever care about jetway trades? Well, forget everything you used to know about jetway trades, because almost everything has changed thanks to the new Contract—think of them more as SIPs in every city—and there are some exciting features you're able to take advantage of right now!

Unlike the old rule of only being able to trade out of the last leg, the new jetway trades allow you to give away your trip in every city of your pairing, making this truly a benefit for all Flight Attendants. If you want to get off of your trip at any point and for any reason, there might just be a commuter who is willing to work the rest of it so you can go home.

This new ability will allow those of you who do commute greater flexibility. You'll just need to network with your fellow commuters, and work out the system that fits you best. For example, if you are a MCI commuter, start bidding and trading into trips that fly through MCI at some point in the pairing.

Let's say that MCI commuter bid a 3-day line that flew through MCI on the second day of the pairing each week. It would be possible to preplan a jetway trade with one of your trusted fellow commuters. Although you'd have to commute and start your trips in your base, you could end every trip at home.

These scenarios are possible right now; just plan it, meet in the jetway, and give Scheduling a call to process the trade. There will be software changes implemented within CWA that will eventually allow you to advertise your trip for jetway trade/Give Away in any city you want, but those changes are still several months away. Until then, if you want to jetway trade, put your trip in TT/GA password protected (in red) with the comments, "JETWAY TRADE: On day two of this 3-day in MCI @ 1530 – call me (816) 555-1212."



## Appearance Standards Memo

On June 3, Southwest Management released the much anticipated revised appearance standards. The policies that have been implemented have certainly prompted several calls to the Union Office with Members speaking for and against the changes. The number one topic of discussion on these phone calls is regarding footwear.

We'd like to hear what you think about the new footwear rules and regulations by taking a very very short survey: [Click Here](#)

## TWU International Convention Delegates

The Twenty-Third TWU International Convention is being held this September in Las Vegas. The International Convention is held every four years, and is attended by delegates from all the TWU Locals nationwide. Each Local is allowed to send one delegate per 300 Members, and for this year's Convention, we will be sending a total of 33 Members. Our fifteen Executive Board Members will be a portion of our delegation, with an election being held to select the remaining eighteen delegates and three alternates.

While four days in Las Vegas will certainly allow for some play in the evening, lots of work is undertaken during the day. Delegates are expected to take part in lively discussion and debate regarding the TWU Constitution while at the Convention, especially regarding the rules that our International follows and requires of its Locals. TWU International Officers are also elected at the Convention.

Our Board of Election will perform work during the coming months to prepare for you to cast your vote for the delegates you wish to send to the Convention. Your Executive Board urges you to cast your vote during the election period.

**UNITY UPDATE**

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