



Holding Pattern

October 16-November 30, 2008

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A webpage dedicated to Council 03 has been added at www.arwafa.com/03.htm. As we add more useful information and updates to this page you will be able to read past issues of local newsletters, council meeting notices and minutes, committee reports and much more!

Lynn and I are planning on holding a council meeting via conference call in January. An email will be sent out and a post on our website when the date and time has been finalized. Also, look for a *request for* updated contact information form in your v-file in the next couple of weeks.

Over the last year we have not seen a decline in the number of flight attendants turning in or writing up other flight attendants to management. Everyday we clean up after passengers without being paid and I know it is extremely frustrating to have to clean up after each other. I don't think any of you would write up your brother, sister, or other family member, atleast I don't think you would, unless you didn't get along with them! As part of a union, every flight attendant is your brother and sister. We need to look out for one another and take care of each other.

There are many other factors to consider why someone may have left an aircraft in a condition that created extra work for you. Maybe maintenance came to take the aircraft to the hanger and the flight attendant was rushed off the plane? Maybe the inbound crew was running late and was in a hurry to get to the next flight or maybe the flight attendant's Mother was very sick and the flight attendant was in a hurry to get home? I will be the first to admit, I have forgotten to empty the trash before, I have left coffee in the coffee pot, I have left ice in the drawer. I am in no way making excuses. I am simply asking you to consider the multitude of reasons your cabin was left the way it was. We are all human! No one is perfect.

All of us need to communicate with each other. Do not use management to do the dirty work for you. I can't imagine management respecting "tattletails." No one likes a nark. Remember when we were in grade school and the teacher made tattletails wear a tail all day? No one liked that kid! If you know who left your aircraft in a condition that was not to your satisfaction, email them, call them, drop a NICE note in their v-file. I am sure you will find out there was good reason or there was a simple oversight. If any of you are contacted by one of your brothers or sisters regarding an aircraft appearance issue, please just hear the other person out, do not get defensive. If you forgot, just say so and appoligize. Then go get some coffee and get to know each other! It is not acceptable or professional to go up to the crew room and go off on another flight attendant or insist they go back to the aircraft and re-clean it. In the heat of things, it is understandable how frustrating this is. Also, the Company discussion board is not an appropriate place to air any frustrations on how someone left your airplane.

Our Collective Bargaining Agreement (aka Contract) is amendable and very soon we will commence negotiations. This is the time that we all stand united and continue to take care of each other. In the grand scheme of things, grooming issues are minor even though it has an impact on you, compared to the obstacles ahead. Showing any type of division amongst ourselves is a detriment to our success as a Union.

In Solidarity,
Adam Novish, LEC President

The Hotel Committee is looking for hotelwrite-ups. If you have a problem at a hotel, please complete a hotel complaint form on spikemail. Also, feel free to contact Jaime Martinez, Council 03 Hotel Chair directly with any concerns.

Council 03 Contacts:

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Grievance Update

Council 03 has filed and settled the following grievances:

- Denied open time trip add - Settled and flight attendant paid
- Flight Attendant not permitted to get back into trip
- Attendance
- Termination



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IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

YOU ARE ENTITLED TO UNION REPRESENTATION WHEN ATTENDING ANY MEETING WITH THE COMPANY. PROBATIONARY FLIGHT ATTENDANTS ARE ENTITLED TO UNION REPRESENTATION REGARDING CONTRACTUAL ISSUES. IF YOU ARE ON PROBATION AND ARE CALLED IN FOR A DISCIPLINARY ISSUE PLEASE CALL A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER FOR ADVICE ON REPRESENTING YOURSELF.

- ALWAYS CARRY YOUR CONTRACT WITH YOU.
- IF YOU BELIEVE THE CONTRACT IS BEING VIOLATED, PROFESSIONALLY POINT OUT TO THE SUPERVISOR OR SCHEDULER WHAT SPECIFICALLY IS BEING VIOLATED.
- DOCUMENT EVERYTHING! WHO YOU SPOKE WITH, THE DATE AND THE TIME YOU SPOKE WITH THEM AND EXACTLY WHAT WAS SAID.
- CONTACT A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER TO DISCUSS IF A GRIEVANCE WILL BE FILED.
***(please do so ASAP with your contact numbers) ***

Officer Schedule for December:

2nd-5th: Negotiating Committee Meeting (Philadelphia) Adam
8th-12th: MEC Meeting (Chicago) Adam & Lynn
15-16th: New York La Guardia (Arrive 1:00pm on 12/15-Depart 11:30am on 12/16) Adam
17th: Appleton, WI Adam



Around Washington

House Panel Supports Blocking Cell Phone Use on Domestic Flights

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee approved a bill that seeks to prevent the use of cell phones on U.S. domestic passenger airliners on July 31, unlike their European competitors who do allow cell phone use in flight. Much of the hour-long debate preceding the vote revolved around whether it was appropriate for Congress to legislate courtesy. The Committee approved a substitute amendment that would exempt law enforcement officers from the ban and provide flexibility with foreign carriers due to Open Sky agreements.



Around AFA

Lynx Aviation: On November 3rd, AFA filed for an election with the National Mediation Board to hold an election for union representation. Lynx is the commuter affiliate of Frontier Airlines. Lynx flight attendants will vote between December 15, 2008 and January 12, 2009.

Midwest Airlines: On October 31st, flight attendants staged a “Trick Not treat Picket/Leaflet and Candy Giveaway.” in response to management’s decision to outsource more than 50% of Midwest flying to another airline.

Northwest Airlines: The Department of Justice approved the merger between Northwest and Delta Airlines on October 29th. Northwest flight attendants have a 60 year history of union representation. Delta flight attendants are non-union. A representational election will be held to determine whether the combined workforce of 21,000 flight attendants will be unionized. Whenever there is a merger and one group is unionized and the other is non-union, an election must be held to determine whether the combined workforce will be represented by a union.

Representation Elections: On November 3rd, AFA filed for an election with the National Mediation Board to hold an election for union representation at Lynx Aviation and Ryan International Airlines.. Lynx is the commuter affiliate of Frontier Airlines.. Ryan International is a Charter airline that primarily operates flights for the Military and tour operators such as Funjet Vacations.

In Partnership Against Cancer

If you or someone you know has been diagnosed with cancer, the Lance Armstrong Foundation can help you identify resources and answer the many questions you will undoubtedly have as you navigate this difficult road. Visit www.livestrong.org . By partnering with the Lance Armstrong Foundation, AFA-CWA is striving to support the quality of life of each and every member of our flight attendant family. In the quest to defeat cancer, as in the quest for economic justice, we concur with the Foundation when they say “unity is strength, knowledge is power and attitude is everything.”



October 1st our contract became amendable, it DID NOT expire. Do not throw out your contract, it is still in force. Always carry your contract with you. If you lost or need to replace your copy, contact local domicile management for a replacement copy.