



#### Special points of interest:

- Rumor Control
- ExpressJet Tentative Agreement
- Pre-Flight Responsibilities
- "Sleep-In" Works

Volume 1 Issue 5

July 2006

# Serving Cleveland

## The Importance of the Pre-Flight

Flight Attendants have one of the most important responsibilities when it comes to passenger safety. Your ability to handle inflight emergencies rests upon the equipment and training provided. Recent developments mandate a review of required procedures in order to avoid fines and/or discipline. Every time you change aircraft or begin your day, the FAA mandates that every Flight Attendant perform their pre-flight inspection. This inspection is to be performed directly after you stow your luggage. Be sure to perform your inspection of each piece of equipment thoroughly as described in your inflight manual. If you are unable to see any piece of equipment or perform the required check, you must remove that piece of equipment and inspect it - returning it to its proper storage location. If there is a discrepancy with any piece of emergency equipment, you are required to notify the Captain and Lead Flight Attendant (if applicable.) Once you have made the proper notifications, your responsibility is complete. Crew communication is key, remember that the Captain makes the final decision—do not make demands or delay flights. If a situation is not handled according to procedures, make a note of the events and bring them to your grievance reps who will assist you with a resolution.

## Another One Bites the Dust

The airline industry continues to change daily; such is the case for Northwest Airlines Flight Attendants. On July 7th, the NWA Flight Attendants voted out their independent union, PFAA, in favor of the AFA-CWA. The PFAA had been struggling from the beginning; unable to withstand the financial burden of contract negotiations and the union busting tactics of NWA management. Most recently, the PFAA attempted to align itself with the TWU in order to get a cash infusion. The AFL-CIO found that the TWU was not permitted to enter into such an agreement and barred them from continuing their activities. The AFA conducted a campaign to represent the flight Attendants since their union was on the verge of financial collapse. The Flight Attendants overwhelmingly voted for the AFA-CWA to represent them as most were aware that their independent union was unsustainable and on the verge of collapse. If this were to happen, the NWA Flight Attendants would have been left virtually unrepresented. The PFAA had never successfully negotiated an agreement and now has left the Flight Attendants on the verge of contract abrogation and a strike, the company can implement its last offer on July 17th. We should all be thankful that we are in our

## Professional Standards

As professional Flight Attendants we hold ourselves to a higher standard. What do you do if that standard is not met or you have a conflict/concern about a co-worker? You bring that concern to your Grievance Committee. Your Grievance Representatives are discrete and professional, their intervention will pre-

## ExpressJet Gets TA

ExpressJet flight attendant negotiations concluded with an agreement on July 7th. Every EJ Flight Attendant will receive a copy of the agreement and are invited to attend the road shows in each base. Please refer to the Local Lodge website for dates and times. Voting will take place at the Airport Sheraton, Rome Room, second floor from 9 till 5 starting on July 31st and concluding August 7th at 5pm.

## August's Meeting

August's meeting will be on Thursday, the 10th at 4pm. We must have a quorum (15 members) to do your work, please make the effort to come. The meeting is at 669 N. Rocky River Drive, Berea. Check the website for a map. [www.2339C.org](http://www.2339C.org)

**“ You can't reason someone out of a position they didn't reason themselves into.” - author unknown**

## Rumor Control

1. The Union is NOT instructing Flight Attendants to take all of their emergency equipment apart in an effort annoy Maintenance or Inflight.

## “Sleep-In” Works!

The Fatigue “Sleep-In” worked it’s magic. The FAA released the fatigue study that they have been holding onto for over a year. Thanks to the dedication of those Flight Attendants whom volunteered their time to sleep outside in front of the FAA headquarters in Washington, D.C. The results of the study are now in Congress and will hopefully result in regulations that address the obvious fatigue issues that are the plight of the industry. As you may know, the FAA and airlines believe that 8:45 block to block is plenty of time to deplane the passengers, walk to the hotel pickup area, wait for the hotel shuttle service, travel to the hotel, check-in, go to your room, and sleep; only to get up 2 hours before your push in order to report to the plane :45 minutes before departure—you are lucky to get 6 hours of rest. Fatigue is a serious safety and health issue, Let’s keep the pressure on our representatives to mandate that crews get adequate rest.

## ExpressJet Perspectives

By Jenna Daleon

XJT grievance reps along with several XJT FA's had a great opportunity to participate in the 2006 Flight Attendant Conference at the Winpisinger Center. We had numerous guest speakers that covered a wide range of topics from: industry overview, labor protection provisions and merger issues, FMLA, labor history, grievance handling and duties/responsibilities of lodge officers. The conference ended with a tour of the IAM facilities in Maryland. We were honored with a visit from R. Thomas Buffenbarger, International President and Robert Roach Jr, General Vice President of the IAM. FYI for all XJT FA'S there will be a shuttle service to the union meetings each month. The shuttle will leave at 3:45 pm at the employee drop off and pick up end of the terminal at Continental. You will be brought back to the terminal after the meeting is adjourned. There will be a sign up sheet by the union board in the crew room. Please sign up by 2:45 pm the day of the union meeting or before. The sign up sheet will be posted on the 1st of each month. The union meeting is the 2nd Thursday of each month. If you have any questions please contact Jenna at 440-258-9842.



## Professional Standards cont.

vent a co-worker from being disciplined or terminated, In most cases we will be able to resolve the problem or direct the Flight Attendant to the appropriate program to get help. By going to your Union, you can help maintain the high standard of professionalism we all strive for while protecting the work record and livelihood of your fellow Flight Attendants.

## Bites the Dust cont.

current position, we could have been facing the same hardships and uncertainty as our comrades. At Comair, the company is attempting to abrogate their agreement with the Teamsters through a 1113 bankruptcy filing. The Flight Attendants of both airlines have authorized a strike if their agreements are thrown out in court.

## New CAL Contracts are Available

Your new contracts are available from the duty office. Please be sure to visit the Union table and place a sticker in your book, it contains the Union phone number and website address.

## Local Lodge Website

Your Local Lodge maintains a comprehensive website for your Union needs. The website is accessible from the crew room computers by typing [www.2339c.org](http://www.2339c.org) in the address bar.

Financial Services Available to Local Lodge Members. Great service and rates with discounts. Cleveland and Pittsburgh locations through service centers. Open an account online at: [www.pghcentral.com](http://www.pghcentral.com)

