



#### Special points of interest:

- Rumor Control
- Flight Attendant Conference
- New CAL Aircraft
- Professional Standards

Volume 1 Issue 4

June 2006

# Serving Cleveland

## Continental Orders New Aircraft

Continental Airlines announced that it has ordered 10 additional Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft, bringing the total number ordered to 20. That makes Continental the largest U.S. customer for Boeing's newest wide body aircraft.

In addition, the company will acquire 24 more Boeing Next-Generation 737 (737NG) aircraft, bringing the total number of Boeing 737NGs in its fleet to 213 when these aircraft, and pre-existing firm order 737NG aircraft, are delivered.

"These aircraft will give us the ability to seize long-haul market opportunities, remove less efficient aircraft from our fleet and maintain our role as a global network leader. We continue to target 5 to 7 percent annual growth in capacity. Our fleet plan remains flexible, permitting us to respond appropriately to market conditions," Continental's CEO, Larry Kellner, explained.

This new order will bring Continental's firm commitments for new aircraft to 88 (20 Boeing 787s, two Boeing 777s and 66 Boeing 737s). The first of the 20 Boeing 787 aircraft is scheduled for delivery in 2009, and the first additional 737NG will be scheduled for delivery in 2008.



## Flight Attendant Conference

By Lauren Herold

I took the opportunity to attend the IAM/FA Conference last week at the IAM William W. Winpisinger Education & Technology Center in Hollywood, MD. This was the first conference I've attended & the turnout was so successful due to the widespread representation of flight attendants from Cleveland, Guam, Houston and Newark. Approximately 60 of us were given presentations that included the IAM National Pension Plan, Family Medical Leave Act, Contract Familiarization and Work Place Issues.

During my return flight on Friday, I've contemplated over the various discussions that really impacted me. United Airlines employed my father for 45 years and my brother has been with US Airways for over 20 years. Right there...enough said, those two family members and what we have endured in our family would be enough material to cover both pages of this newsletter!

But the one topic that won my full attention & deemed worthy of sharing with my family here at Continental & ExpressJet was the information by IAM Grand Lodge Representative Carla Winkler regarding Cabin Air Quality and the FAA's refusal to release the reports of a study that took place from September 1993 and

## 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,

## EJ Negotiations

ExpressJet flight attendant negotiations resumed on Monday, April 24th, 2006, at the offices of the National Mediation Board in Washington, D.C.. After four days of meetings, the Mediator recessed negotiations on April 27th, to allow the party's to do additional research and costing. We will advise you of future meeting dates when the arrangements have been made. Come to the July meeting for more info.

## July's Meeting

June's meeting will be on Thursday, the 13th 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)

## Rumor Control

1. The Milford Plaza is NOT cancelling it's contract with Continental. Our current contract runs through December of this year.

## Pension Assault

Delta Weighs Terminating Larger Pension Plan - Delta Air Lines will decide soon whether to terminate a pension plan covering current and retired ground workers and flight attendants. The airline has already indicated it will try to terminate the pilots' pension plan. Delta Chief Executive Gerald Grinstein this week lobbied for pension reform legislation in Washington.

## 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. You can ask for representation, get answers to your questions and keep informed. It is the best way to get help and get involved - check it out.

## Professional Standards cont.

their intervention will prevent 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 proper programs 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.

## Flight Attendant Conference cont.

By Lauren Herold

completed in October 2004.

At the request and funding from the FAA, the CDC initiated research studies on exposures and health outcomes in commercial flight crews. United Airlines Flight attendants participated in the study. These studies addressed some of the following:

- Cabin ventilation
- Cabin air quality
- Factors related to job stress among flight attendants
- Adverse reproductive health effects
- Cancer mortality and incidence
- Respiratory symptoms

\*Several of these studies were initiated due to a 1994 Congressional mandate (Public Law 103-305, Section 304) that required the FAA to establish a program to address air quality issues in aircraft including the issue of disease transmission.

On June 7<sup>th</sup> 2006, AFA-CWA staged a sleep-in on the doorstep of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to bring the flight attendant's message home to FAA Administrator Marion Blakey & demand that the Federal Aviation Administration release the long-awaited report and study on fatigue.

Findings from the initial study and report were due back to Congress one year ago but the FAA continues to make excuses for not releasing the report. Even Congress has been stonewalled in their efforts to see the report. Please visit the following websites:

<http://www.cdc.gov/>

[washington/testimony/ws060503.htm](http://www.washington/testimony/ws060503.htm)

I urge you to read more about the Testimony of John Howard, M.D. Director, and CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Before the Subcommittee on Aviation Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure United States House of Representatives.

The Flight Crew Research Program at NIOSH  
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/flightcrew/>

**MOST IMPORATNT!**

Please read these articles, educate yourself and CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS! The following article includes a link (bottom left hand corner) to find and email your local representatives.

<http://www.afanet.org/legislative/default.asp?id=2>

Looking back at the impact of the Airline Industry in my family and how so many topics last week struck home, I believe full heartedly about taking steps while the opportunity is here today to change something so important as viewing the information found in these studies so that we can make the necessary changes in our daily work environment. If not for you, then do this for your family and next generation of flight attendants.

A sincere "thank you" to all the Cleveland Based Flight Attendants for taking their personal time and commitment in attending last week's conference.

**" a chain is only as strong as it's weakest link"**

Financial Services Available to Local Lodge Members. Great service and rates. Cleveland and Pittsburgh locations through service centers.  
[www.pghcentral.com](http://www.pghcentral.com)

