



ANC Council Newsletter -- July

Dear Anchorage Co-Workers:

Wow! July has come and gone already!

RingCentral: We hit a few unexpected snags getting our ANC AFA Hotline number up and functioning, so we appreciate your patience while we work to resolve them!

Negotiations Update: Negotiations resumed in July, and AFA presented its opening proposal (AFA Alaska 2014 TA-2 Opening Proposal). The parties ultimately reached agreement (in concept) on several sections: Section 9 Junior Available, Section 11 Reserve, Section 12 Exchange of Sequences and Section 23 Insurance Benefits. The August 25th through 28th session dates were confirmed, and additional dates were scheduled for October and November.

July 22 Solidarity Event: While this event was once again successful, the message we received was loud and clear – our workgroup wants to turn up the heat! To that end, we have planned our next Solidarity Event to be an informational picketing event! We need as many folks as possible to don the new red-hot AFA shirt and rally with us outside of the terminal, just before the Departures doors on August 27th from 11:00 to 1:00! Please contact our Mobilization Chair, Thresia Raynor (thresiaraynor@gci.net or [907-952-0639](tel:907-952-0639)) to confirm your participation or with any questions.

NEW AFA Website: The new website went live on August 6th and, once again, no registration or login is required for access! We hope that you will visit the new website often and believe that you will find it much easier to navigate!

Governmental Affairs: “I recently returned from a wonderful CWA Next generation convention out in Pittsburgh with Krystle Cook! While this convention focused on young workers in the union labor, we had people of all ages share their experience and wisdom on economic and labor issues in the United States. Our first day there, we were informed about the firing of union staff member janitors at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC). These janitors were fired because of their support and involvement in helping unionize other hospital workers who willingly want a union at UPMC. While the corporate executives are making millions at UPMC, their hospital

workers are unable to live on the wages being offered. (Sounds like a theme today in our American culture.) We met up with 1,000 other union and non-union members and general supporters off the street and we marched through downtown Pittsburgh to the UPMC headquarters and protested. As you can see, trying to get fair pay and living wages is a national battle. I see our struggle here as flight attendants going through negotiations displayed throughout the country in my fellow union and non-union workers fighting for better lives. While progress has been made with minimum wage increases to the city of Seattle, there's more work to do.

On the second day of the convention, I was happy to hear a KFC fast food worker share her story about her and her workers fighting for better pay. They are going on strikes with other fast food workers throughout the Pittsburgh area as they try to raise their wages to \$15/hr. This is where it must start! If we can't give our minimum wage workers a living wage of \$15/hr how can we flight attendants expect a significantly better raise? We all need to stand up and support any worker in this country fighting for living and family wages because if we don't, we can't expect much change in our own lives and contract. There is an elitist attitude that they're just fast food workers and don't deserve more. If you hold this belief you need to change it right now. This is the same attitude that the general public and corporate higher ups have about our career as flight attendants. We're just glorified waiters and waitresses. If you don't think this opinion is being held by others, look at how fast the pilots got a contract vs. the flight attendants. It may not be said to our faces, but actions speak louder than words. We're going past our second year of negotiations. It's time to start showing support to us as workers and to all workers around this country. If we give our lowest waged workers a substantial raise to livable conditions, we make it clear that all workers including us flight attendants need a raise to bring back America's middle class. It is a time when we must stand together with other work groups and their jobs and make sure that every American who works full time gets a living wage. Support their struggles and efforts any time and any way you can. Not doing this for other workers means that our wages will continue to stagnate and decline. Did you know with the country's substantial progress in productivity mixed with inflation over the years, the United States should have a minimum wage of \$22/hr! (Approximately \$45,000/yr full time) That's what this nation's MINIMUM wage/salary should be! But instead, about 50% of full-time workers in the USA make less than that salary today. This means more than half our country is in poverty. We have become a nation of indentured servants and peasants. What has happened to our country and our middle class? When have we become so passive and fearful to the point where we defend our own financial inadequacy and poverty, when we know instinctively we deserve more? What do you expect for your children who you've brought into this world knowing this is their future if nothing changes? And how can we fight for equality socially and economically abroad when we don't have it here?

Through the work and progress being made in Seattle's minimum wage increase and the progress with Pittsburgh's fast food workers, I see hope. We voted down our own TA by an overwhelming majority. The flight attendants at this company know we deserve a whole lot more than what is being given. Let's hold on to this pride and respect and pay it forward to our fellow workers in other work fields throughout the US

in their fight for living and sustainable salaries. Any lack of progress in their movement will directly affect progress in our movement. Go forward fearlessly!” In solidarity, David P. Tafone -- Legislative Representative Government Affairs Committee

Safety, Health & Security: Betsy Demay has graciously volunteered to help out on our committee! In addition to joining the Inflight workgroup in 2008, she is an RN and an Advanced Nurse Practitioner. She spent 24 years in the Air Force, where she is also an instructor for patient safety programs. Welcome, Betsy....and thank you for volunteering! We are lucky to have your expertise!

As a reminder, during this **RED HOT** Summer, your Negotiating Committee and your MEC asks that you stay informed, stay connected and show your solidarity! We are only as strong as our members, and we need ALL of our members **STANDING STRONG!**

In Solidarity: Becky, Lisa & Jan, Your LEC Officers

Upcoming Dates:

Supplemental Benefits ANC Base Sit: August 12 – 14th (throughout the day)

AFA Summer Picnic at Angle Lake in Seattle: August 20th (1:00 – 5:00)

Negotiations Session: August 25 – 28th

ANC Informational Picketing: August 27th (11:00 – 1:00)

ANC Annual EAP Meeting: September 11 (12:00 – 3:00)

FADAP: September 30 – October 2