



ANC May Newsletter

Hello, Anchorage Colleagues:

We have much information to share this month and hope you will take the time to read this newsletter thoroughly!

Afaalaska.org: Just a reminder: This is our official AFA website and requires no login or password to visit or navigate. At this website (broken up by Base) you will find a lot of worthwhile information: Local council information (including Committee member names and contact information), MEC Committee information, Contract information, and an Event Calendar, as well as a link to the AFA International website!

Bidding: Going forward, Lisa Pinkston will be making herself available for several days during each bidding period, to assist members wishing to ask questions about bidding and/or to improve their bidding skills. (It is our hope, if you wish to take advantage of her expertise, that you will avail yourself during this time period, so she will be able to manage her schedule accordingly. For July bidding, Lisa will be available to assist on June 7, 8 and 9, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in our local Inflight Office.

eMaestro: We would like to remind you to keep an eye on your eMaestro line, for accuracy. Because the input process is manual, in order to catch a potential error in a timely manner (so that it can be quickly and easily corrected), it is crucial that you monitor this. For example, if a LR (late report) is placed on your line, and you have no knowledge of the reason, we might more easily be able to get that removed, if we address the issue sooner, rather than later.

FMLA Resources: Please visit www.afacwa.org/fmla_resource_center for information regarding FMLA. This site provides a checklist, Flight Crew FAQs and Forms!

Government Affairs: What is FlightPAC/PAF? In order for AFA-CWA to maintain our influence in the legislative arena, it is essential to support the political programs which complement our legislative activity. Legislation and politics go hand-in-hand, and to successfully promote AFA-CWA's legislative goals, AFA-CWA must be active on both fronts. FlightPAC, part of CWA's Political Action Fund was established in 1982. Dues

from our members are never contributed to campaigns. Violations of campaign finance laws can result in civil penalties, therefore it is important for AFA-CWA leaders and Government Affairs Committee members to understand and observe the laws and rules, which govern PAC's and political activity. FlightPAC/PAF Contributions are Voluntary: FlightPAC/PAF provides financial support to federal candidates to federal office who are committed to helping us accomplish our legislative goals. FlightPAC/PAF is non-partisan: We give to candidates who help flight attendants. We send questionnaires to candidates to get their views on flight attendant issues. In turn, we will support those who respond favorably, regardless of party affiliation. AFA understands that not all of our members have the same political/social beliefs. The fact remains that there are issues that affect all members. These include OSHA protections, certification, the right to collective bargaining, air quality and a host of other workplace related issues. AFA does not factor in the social views of any of our members or the candidates we choose to contribute to. FlightPAC/PAF is the best way to make your voice heard in Washington. It is the most important tool that AFA has to help elect Senators and Representatives who understand and defend the issues important to flight attendants. It provides AFA with access to Members of Congress that in turn allows AFA Government Relations to make our case for the issues that affect flight attendants. AFA-CWA's goal is the enactment of legislation on issues affecting our jobs and workplace so we are not forced to address them at the bargaining table with our employers. This allows us to focus bargaining on improvements in wages and benefits. FlightPAC/PAF is a critically important tool to get us to that goal. [Click here](#) to read more about FlightPAC. You may see our Government Affairs Committee members doing Base sits this month, to help members sign up to contribute to this important cause within our Union!

Inflight Service Committee Quarterly Meeting (4/28): We would like to thank Donnelle Porter, our LEC ISC Chair, for attending the Quarterly ISC Meeting recently, on behalf of our Anchorage Base. Following is an excerpt from Donnelle's notes: (1) Two boxes of tomato juice so no longer have to share half a box with Hawaii and Midcon; (2) New VP of marketing has hired a director for food service experience and a director for interior experience; (3) New cities: Raleigh will be catered as a transcon. They have a kitchen services to provide this. Nashville will be catered as Midcons with limited kitchen services. Charleston needs to be catered as a transcon but there are no kitchen services available. Options for this are being researched; (4) Will be upgrading first class meals. Anticipated start date is 6/1; (5) On flights over 3.5 hours we will be adding a basket service of snacks to be served hour and half out before landing. (This is still in discussion. (6) Adding blankets to all-nighters in first class. Higher quality from before and will be on seats; (7) Feedback from group about adding IFE headsets in FA kits for all airplanes. Group recommendation for quality is 5 per bag; (8) Supposed to have loose ice in beer bins we are not seeing this in ANC. Will be investigated; (9) Black bags being used for Midcons or not? FA's asking for more trash and recycle bags; (10) Want to add 2 rolls of cups to cubby 2-11 in front galley that houses water; (11) Spread the word to empty aisle carts with supplies that need to go back...napkins, cups etc...(12) Need specific write-ups for change to happen (i.e., "catering sucks" vs.: catering conference form with specifics. Next ISC Meeting: July 22, 2015 Wednesday. Please feel free to reach out to Donnelle or any of the ISC Committee members if you

have questions, comments or feedback regarding Inflight Services.

Ongoing Education: Did you know, as an AFA Member, you are eligible to take ongoing education classes at a drastically reduced (or even free!) price? Visit www.lynda.com or www.cwanett.org to see the many courses available!

Workers' Compensation: The issue continues to occur, wherein a FA becomes injured while working, but does not seek medical attention (for various reasons) until the next day, or even several days later. While we can all understand why this might occur, in order for any missed work to fall under Workers' Comp and the FA to NOT accrue points, it is crucial that the FA present for medical attention *on the same day of the injury!*

As always, please feel free to reach out to any of your Local Officers if you have questions or need assistance in any way!

In Solidarity,

Becky Strachan, LEC-P

Lisa Pinkston, LEC-VP

Jan Bottini-Strait, LEC Secretary