

### BLUE NOTES

**Weekly Newsletter** 

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#### What a Week

Friday, July 19, 2024 is definitely a day that Delta workers will remember for a long time. First the meltdown. Then the travel embargo. Then mandatory overtime to clean up the mess. A week later, still cleaning up the mess created by Delta's failure to invest in modern crew scheduling technology and an adequate number of crew schedulers. And in the middle of it all, our leader, Ed Bastian, jets off to Paris for the Olympic games. Corporate leadership has certainly shown what they think of their workers, let alone their passengers.

Many of us are upset about these events. People are asking if a union could have helped during this kind of meltdown. First of all, the number of crew schedulers can be guaranteed by a union contract. That alone could have helped mitigate the severity of Delta's crisis. Second, flight benefits

are guaranteed by union contracts at Southwest, United, and American, so while flying would have been difficult, it would not have been prohibited. Third, at Southwest all mandatory overtime is paid at double time, so, part-time or full-time, on a swap or your regular shift, you would have gotten double time from the first minute you were on mandatory duty.

When the cost of Delta corporate management's failure is added up, you know it is we, the workers, who will be paying the price through loss of profit sharing dollars on Feb. 14, 2025. If you haven't signed a card yet, now is the time. You can get involved in helping to push us toward an election by contacting us at iamdelta.net/get-involved

# New Tentative Agreement for American Flight Attendants

Details of the five-year deal for American Airlines flight attendants are now public (apfa.org/ta2024). Between immediate pay rate changes and the addition of boarding pay, flight attendants will receive up to 28% raises immediately the month

following contract ratification. And they'll get full retro pay for the time spent without a new contract, which can be over \$25,000 per crewmember. Overall, this will put them ahead of Delta Airlines flight attendants.

### Alaska Airlines Flight Attendants Also Score With New Contract

Alaska Airlines flight attendants reached a tentative agreement with the airline on a new three-year contract that includes a 32% average pay increase over the term. The agreement also includes other benefits, such as:

- Boarding pay: Flight attendants will receive compensation for boarding time before the plane takes off.
- Raises: Flight attendants will receive raises on their hire date anniversary and two 3% raises each year on the contract anniversary.
- Retro pay and reassignment pay: Flight attendants will receive retro pay and reassignment pay if management doesn't maintain schedule integrity.

### Negotiations Set to Start for American and United Ramp

Some 28,000 IAM members at United Airlines will begin contract negotiations with that airline in August. At the same time, American Airlines management has reached out to the IAM and the TWU, which jointly represent more than 20,000 ramp agents there, with an offer to negotiate a compensation only package. The idea would be to come to a quick agreement on raises. The unions are evaluating this offer. With unionized airlines, leapfrogging over the highest paid ramp and cargo agents (Southwest) with a new union contract is expected. So IAM members at both United and American would expect to exceed pay at Southwest.

## No Money For Democrats or Republicans From Your Dues

We have recently had discussions with coworkers who were angry that their dues money would go to political candidates that they don't support. When we win our election, get a union contract, and begin paying dues, **not one cent of your union**  dues ever goes to any political party. The Machinist Non-Partisan League does make contributions to political campaigns, but that money comes ONLY from voluntary donations by union members.

### **More Perfect Union**



The online pro-union outlet More Perfect Union recently released a short video about our union campaign. It has recently surpassed 100,000 views. Let's shoot for 200,000 as we place this in the public eye. Please watch it and share it. Let's blast it out even more.

Scan the QR code or visit iam4.me/moreperfectunion





### Union Campaign On a Roll

Bump caps, meltdown, management arrogance, and tone deafness, short staffing: these are all contributing to a surge across the system in card collection. We have seen cards coming in from stations that we had not heard much from. Hubs like ATL are well on their way to more than 50% support. Our social media has absolutely exploded with help from events like the Roland Martin

Unfiltered Show and More Perfect Union video. We are well on our way to filing for an election this October. Keep the pressure on! We are on our way!

To watch the Roland Martin show, scan the QR code or visit iam4.me/rolandmartin



#### New Delta Worker Website

Rank and file Delta workers have recently put together a new website about our union campaign.

Please visit us at

#### deltaworkersunite.org

Spread the word. There are links to Instagram and X on the website as well.

#### **CONTACT US**

If you would like to start receiving text updates from us, if you need a union card sent to your home, or if you want to share something going on in your station, contact us at

iam4.me/deltastories



