

Alpha-Omega Club

Newsletter

March 2007

Hi Folks,

We in the Southern hemisphere are entering our Autumn/Fall season. The experts tell us that the "El Nimmo" effect is disappearing so it may be possible that our 5 year drought could be coming to an end.

2007 Annual Conference:

Attached is Eli Bahat's report from the 62nd Conference

Members news –

I have heard from the following members:-

Ray Gerber who is fit and well.

Yunosuke Tsukamoto who is recovering from Pyogenic microorganisms in the spinal cord – thoracic vertebrae 9, 10 and 11 he was hospitalised from June to early October. He is home now and finds walking somewhat difficult due to muscle weakness. In an e-mail he sent in December he is slowly improving.

James "Ike" Jones and his wife **Shari** are well. They are giving up their farm and animals and downsizing. He maintains he will have more time (Ha Ha) and even acquiring a computer.

Did you know?

If you are like me when I finished my active time within IFALPA I did not maintain a close contact with the happenings within IFALPA. Only recently I discovered that there had been very significant changes in the Administrative structure.

In 2004 a Presidential Working Group (PWG) was tasked to review the then current governing structure of the Federation and to determine if it meets the contemporary needs of the Federation and its member Associations.

After receiving the views from a wide range of individuals and the results of a survey of the Member Associations, it was concluded that:

- General levels of satisfaction with the Federation's activities were high
- There was a perception that the Federation was remote from the Member Associations and their members
- There was dissatisfaction with the RVP structure in some regions

- There was a need to develop flexible regional structure to accommodate the different needs of each region
- Other issues, not directly related to the structure, such as the use of the media, training of representatives and how to ensure that IFALPA remained the "Global Voice" of the airline pilots were also of concern
- The procedures for producing new policy or amending existing policy were too slow to meet current and future needs of the Federation

To correct these perceived anomalies the following recommendations were submitted to Conference for ratification:

- The creation of an Executive Board with 5 Executive Officers and 5 Executive Vice-Presidents (Region) responsible to the Annual Conference
- The creation of an Executive Committee of 5 Executive Officers to manage the day to day operations of the Federation
- The creation of the 5 Executive Vice-Presidents (Region) to absorb the responsibilities of the Principal Officer M & R
- The creation of IFALPA regional Groups specific to the individual needs of a Region

The 60th Conference approved these changes.

Smile Time

All too rarely, airline attendants make an effort to make the inflight "safety lecture" and announcements a bit more entertaining. Here are some real examples that have been heard or reported:

On a Southwest flight (SW has no assigned seating, you just sit where you want) passengers were apparently having a hard time choosing, when a flight attendant announced, "People, people we're not picking out furniture here, find a seat and get in it!"

On a Continental flight with a very "senior" flight attendant crew, the pilot said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we've reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants"

On landing, the stewardess said, "please be sure to take all of your belongings if you're going to leave anything, please make sure it's something we'd like to have"

"There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane."

Until the next Newsletter – keep well.

Warm Regards - Gary