

Alpha-Omega Club

Newsletter

December 2007

Hi Folks,

Well it that time of the year again when Christmas is celebrated and all look forward to the New Year. I take this opportunity in wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy New Year. Remember enjoy all in moderation.

As you are aware there is a section dedicated to the A-O club on the IFALPA website. Please register if you have not already done so. If you are unable to do so because you do not have access to the internet and still wish to receive the newsletters then please contact Mike Mellors at IFALPA who will arrange to have the newsletters despatched to you. If Mike does not hear from before the next newsletter future copies will no longer be sent to you.

Mike can be contacted either by telephone at ++44 (0)1932 579022, email at michaelmellors@ifalpa.org, or if you prefer by letter, to Mike Mellors, Interpilot House, Gogmore Lane, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 9AP, UK

2008 Annual Conference:

The 63rd Annual Conference will be held in Mexico City from the 18 – 22 April 2008. For those with access to the internet the appropriate forms are available on the IFALPA website however a copy is attached if you do not have access.

Vale

Richard “Dickie” Hill – died on 22 April. Richard flew Spitfires during World War II and after demobilisation he flew for several small companies before joining BEA. In the 1950's he was the Chairman of the BALPA Technical Committee and when the UK joint military/civil Air Miss Working Group was formed he was BALPA's first member. He was also a member of the UK Flight Safety Committee, Chairman of the IFALPA Air Traffic Services Study Group for a number of years and represented IFALPA at many International Civil Aviation Organisation meetings in Europe and at Montreal. In 1970 he was awarded an IFALPA Scroll of Merit, in 1975 BALPA's Silver Medal and in 1977 IFALPA's highest award the Sayen Award. On retirement from BA Richard was appointed to the OPS Branch of ICAO and he and wife Peggy lived in Montreal for along period. A family man, Richard survived a tragic car crash that took the life of wife Peggy. He is mourned by two daughters Diana and Hilary and will be remembered by pilots in many countries.

(This information is available by courtesy of Laurie Taylor).

Members news –

It has been noted that only a few members have their postal address listed on the A-O pages of the IFALPA website. If you wish to have your address listed for the convenience of other members please arrange to be listed.

Again I appeal for assistance with news of our members. Don't be hesitant in coming forward.

I have received the following from Ed Smart regarding Reg Smith –

Hi all,

I hadn't heard from Reg Smith for awhile as he did not respond to my e-mails or to snail mail so I started calling and finally caught him at home yesterday. He has experienced a total of eight (yes, 8) heart attacks with two open heart surgeries. After that he got to feeling a bit better so he and his wife Jeanie joined Canadian friends for a trip to Morocco. While there he contracted a vicious intestinal bug that thus far has reportedly totally stumped the Canadian medical cadre). His attitude, however, is good and he is enthusiastic that he will get back into downhill skiing again soon.

Just thought that you might like to know. His address:

Capt. R.H.J. Smith
176 rue Cachee
Mont Tremblant
Quebec J8E 1G9
Canada

Kind regards and Seasonal Salutations,

Ed

Who said Romance had died?

Recently at J Bruce Read's 70th birthday party, AFAP representative a\to the RAC/COM SG late 70's early 80's, after the candle blowing and singing "Happy Birthday" etc. Bruce dropped to his knee proposed marriage to Maree his partner and was surprisingly accepted. A minister, a family friend, then stepped forward and launched into the marriage service. Those present were amazed and delighted. The joy and pleasure of the entire group made this night a most memorable occasion.

Smile Time

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

“Thank you for flying Delta Business Express. WE hope you enjoyed giving us the business as much as we enjoyed taking you for a ride.”

As the plane landed and was coming to a stop at Ronald Regan, a lone voice came over the loudspeaker: “Whoa, big fella. WHOA!”

After a particularly rough landing during thunderstorms in Memphis, a flight attendant on a Northwest flight announced, “Please take care when opening the overhead compartments because after a landing like that, sure as hell everything has shifted.”

Until the next Newsletter – keep well.

Warm Regards

Gary