

Chairman's Message

September 3, 2018

Fellow Pilots,

This Labor Day, for the first time as JetBlue pilots, we enjoy the protections and benefits of a Collective Bargaining Agreement. While our pilot group fought for and earned this contract, none of it would have been possible without the legal right to organize and bargain collectively. Today, let's take a moment to reflect on the hard work and sacrifice of all those union organizers and union members who paved the way for the union representation and CBA protections we have today.

It was American unions that brought us this holiday and numerous other benefits of the labor movement—most importantly, the right to collectively bargain. In 1931, Captain Dave Behrke and a group of courageous pilots brought the protections and benefits of unions to airline pilots. They met in secrecy to form the Air Line Pilots Association.

We should also note the numerous JetBlue pilots who recognized the need for union representation and worked tirelessly to organize our pilots. Captains Mike Sobie and Bill Evans launched the first union drive with the JetBlue Pilots Association. While that attempt to unionize our pilot group failed in 2009, the organizing efforts continued. In 2010, the late Captain Mike Arthurs and a large group of volunteers tried but were unsuccessful to elect ALPA to represent us. Undeterred, Organizing Committee Co Chairs Captains Rocky Durham and Gustavo Rivera led the organizing drive that resulted in the successful vote to unionize under ALPA in 2014. It was the determined work of these pilots, countless others on the organizing committees, current and previous ALPA volunteers, as well as the full support of the pilot group that got us to this point, where we have the protections of a union and a contract.

Now that we have a contract, we all need to do our part to enforce and protect it. It's incumbent upon each of us as union members to read, understand, and follow the contract. The same high level of engagement and unity, so crucial to securing this agreement, is equally necessary for enforcing it. Continue to wear your ALPA lanyard and pin, attend meetings, read your updates, and know and follow your contract. A union isn't a service you hire, it's who we are. Be proud to be a union member; not just today but every day.

Happy Labor Day!

In Unity,



**Capt. Patrick Walsh
MEC Chairman**

STAY INFORMED • BUILD UNITY • FLY SOP • WEAR YOUR LANYARD



Air Line Pilots Association, International
535 Herndon Parkway, Herndon, VA 20170
www.alpa.org

Click here to unsubscribe from this message