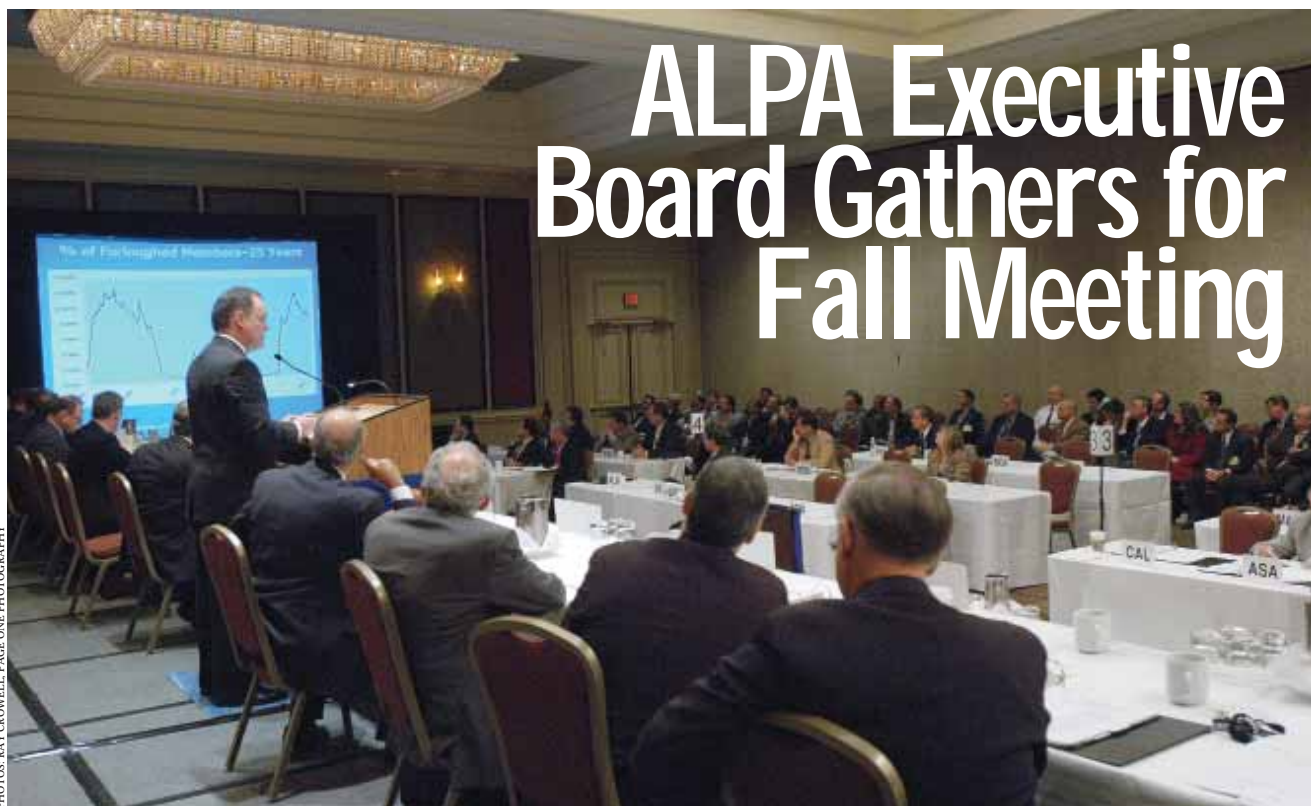


ALPA Executive Board Gathers for Fall Meeting

PHOTOS: RAY CROWELL, PAGE ONE PHOTOGRAPHY



Representatives of ALPA's Master Executive Councils and other ALPA leaders gathered in Reston, Va., in late October for the 96th regular session of the Association's Executive Board to address organizational issues and administrative matters. The Executive Board meets twice a year and is ALPA's second highest governing body.

Throughout the 2-day gathering, Executive Board committee members engaged in debate and prepared language for proposed resolutions before bringing them before the full Executive Board for discussion and deliberation. The Board heard reports from national officers and committee representatives, debated resolutions submitted from their pilot groups and from ALPA's Executive Council, and made decisions or recommendations regarding Association programs and policies.

ALPA's president, Capt. Duane Woerth, opened the meeting with his report to the Executive Board, which detailed many of the important initiatives that the Association is currently undertaking. He took the opportunity to talk to Executive Board members about the recent onslaught of airline bankruptcies, as well as the important role that politics plays in achieving ALPA's goals.

"Nineteen MECs have had to pay the consequences of airline bankruptcies since September 11," said Capt. Woerth. "Three airlines have already liquidated, and more bankruptcies will come.

"Until our members understand how important political leverage is to the work this union does, and are willing to work to put in office people who will help us instead of fight us, we will continue to encounter strong opposition to our goals."

**—Capt. Duane Woerth,
ALPA President**

"Airline managements can get away with almost anything in bankruptcy court these days, but what happens when those airlines come out of bankruptcy? Whether in or out of bankruptcy, airline managements will always need something more from us. And when they come around again to ask for concessions, we're going to be ready for them.

"But, we need more than our resolve to get things done," said Capt. Woerth. "We need to be able to leverage political power. Imagine if the president of the United States actually helped us with pension reform instead of fighting with us against it. We could have had pension reform years ago if we hadn't had to fight opposition every step of the way.

"ALPA has gained substantial political clout over the years. Your union has developed, with both Democrats and Republicans, important relationships that have helped us to achieve many of our objectives. It's important that we continue to develop those political relationships.

"We have the will, we have the resources, and we have the experience to represent our members on issues that are of critical importance to them," said Capt. Woerth. "But we need the political leverage to exercise those resources. Until our members understand how important political leverage is to the work this union does, and are willing to work to put in office people who will help us instead of fight us, we will continue to encounter strong opposition to our goals. We have to have the political courage to get out there and make a difference."

Executive Board actions

During the Executive Board's 96th session, the Board

- amended the ALPA *Administrative Manual* to better define access and privileges of ALPA WebBoard users;
- considered a report from the Special Representational Structure Review Committee (SRSRC) about issues relating to increasing members' participation in local council activities and directed the SRSRC to develop findings and recommendations from its initial report, and to report back to the May 2006 Executive Board with specific proposals for changes to the Association policy;
- amended the ALPA *Administrative Manual* to allow, at the discretion of MECs, the addition of executive inactive members to special mailing lists if warranted;
- voted to amend the ALPA *Constitution and By-Laws*, Article IV, Section 16B, to rewrite vague and difficult-to-understand language regarding the filling of representative or officer positions at multi-council airlines that shrink to a single-council airline, amending language so that members of the single-council airline elect their own leaders to serve for the remainder of the term, with an exception for a short remaining term;
- voted to amend the ALPA *Constitution and By-Laws*, Article III, Section 1C, to require that, in a two-status council, the position of Local Council Secretary-Treasurer be filled by one of the four status representatives—this Executive Board action is subject to approval by a two-thirds majority vote of the ALPA Board of Directors;
- on formation of multi-carrier and multi-MEC system boards of adjustment to resolve disputes arising from multi-party agreements, directed the National Collective Bargaining Committee, with the assistance of the Bilateral Scope Impact Committee, to consider proposed amendments to ALPA's policies for improving contract enforcement mechanisms in cases involving multiple companies;
- amended the ALPA *Administrative Manual* to change flight pay loss policy to address the use of computer bidding/preferential bidding systems, and also authorized ALPA's vice-president-finance/treasurer to establish

transition procedures for MECs on airlines with computer bidding/preferential bidding systems;

- authorized a transfer of funds from ALPA's Operating Contingency Fund to the US Airways MEC account to bring the account to the 90 percent spending limit level required by ALPA policy—the OCF transfer is considered a grant;
- amended the ALPA *Administrative*



Capt. Chris Beebe, ALPA vice-president-finance/treasurer, signs a poster promoting the ALPA Emergency Relief Fund (see page 24) during the Executive Board.

Manual to establish a monthly limit of \$50 for reimbursement of home Internet access costs, as well as a one-time \$50 installation reimbursement every 3 years—the change was made to more appropriately reflect the cost of performing ALPA work using home Internet access;

- amended the ALPA *Administrative Manual* to change the process of appointing and approving ALPA's Executive Air Safety Chairman to conform to procedures outlined elsewhere in the *Administrative Manual* for approving appointments to similar national level committee positions;
- amended the ALPA *Administrative Manual* to create additional policy relating to industrywide sharing of deidentified safety information from flight operations quality assurance (FOQA) and aviation safety action partnership (ASAP) programs;
- received a report from the National Security Committee Structure Review Committee (NSCSRC) and voted to amend the ALPA *Administrative*

Manual as recommended by the NSCSRC; the Executive Board directed the NSCSRC to continue to monitor the National Security Committee's (NSC) restructuring efforts, helping the NSC as necessary with implementation of the new structure.; the NSCSRC will report to the May 2006 Executive Board on the NSC's restructuring progress;

- received a report from ALPA's Re-

tirement and Insurance Committee on member-paid retiree medical programs and alternative member- and company-contribution retirement plans and directed the R&I Committee to issue a Request for Proposal to interested insurance companies for both pre-65 and post-65 plans, as described in the report; the Executive Board further directed the Committee to report to the Executive Council at its January 2006 meeting on the results of the Requests for Proposal with a recommendation about proceeding with such a program, and authorized the Executive Council to implement a program; ALPA's vice-president-finance/treasurer will report to the May 2006 Executive Board on the status of implementation; and

- on ALPA's Age 60 Education Campaign, received a report from the Government Affairs Department on legislative activities related to the Age 60 Rule, and directed the Government Affairs Department to report as necessary to provide updates on legislative activities related to the Age 60 Rule. 🌐