

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP NOTAM SEPTEMBER, 2013

"This Place Works Because I Do"

Our members do it, so one could assume it goes on everywhere... It might! Who knows? It just seems to happen, no matter what. Maybe because folks don't understand what all is involved. Perhaps there's a general mistrust for anything that is out of one's own control. For others, it appears to have gone on so long, it has simply manifested into a full-blown, uncontrollable habit. Sure enough, some people always complain.

Good, bad, or indifferent, everyone seems to have an opinion, and when it comes to the performance of our Local Union leaders, the scrutinizers are bound to come out. Sure, this "Union mouthpiece" could only be expected to characterize the Executive Board in the most positive possible light, but take a good, hard look at what union service entails before wrapping up in the warm fuzziness of your righteousness. Consider that our organization is not only strong but the envy of many of our rotor aviation peers, and the gains made & the advantages obtained might become more apparent. No doubt, once you have sat in the meetings and witnessed the thoughtful deliberations of multiple impacts of the Board's decisions, your perspective will be forever altered.

Don't misunderstand, members should absolutely engage in the processes of administration of the Local, and when they don't like something they see, they should endeavor to better understand it. Why was that course of action taken? Was that something covered by our CBA? Did that approach yield a benefit or did it harm the membership? These questions **must** be considered by the Board when situations and questions arise, but all too often, critics seem to shoot from the hip without having done any due diligence. It never ceases to amaze how people can bend themselves so far out of shape without ever honing in on the specific question of whether something has previously been negotiated and set in our bargaining agreement.

I know, I know... you're thinking, "*who's the one complaining now?!*" Aha, touché. But consider it less a complaint and more a humble attempt at a constructive suggestion. Ask anyone who has



**E-Board
Nominations &
Membership Meetings
GNO base & online Webinar
Sept 29, 2013, 6:00 pm
(CDT)**

Re: WEBINAR

Members who attended the May 19 Meeting via Webinar experienced poor quality of transmission, eventually resulting in discontinuation of the Webinar.

**There will be a very brief
20-minute Webinar
session on Tues, Sept.
24, 5:30pm (CDT) to test
the service.**

ALL AVAILABLE MEMBERS are asked to logon so as to establish as many internet connections as possible and help verify functionality.



See where you
can save!!

<http://www.unionplus.org>



served. Things look different from the inside looking out. Recognition settles in that these members give their personal time to work for the benefit of all of us and they do so with the best intentions and sincerity of purpose.

So here we are, rapidly approaching the selection of the next seven of us who will operate the Local and represent the pilot force in talks with the Company for the next two years. Not only that, but this time frame will include Contract Negotiations, so the process of nominating and electing a strong Board deserves your careful consideration.

Where will you fit in? Will you sit back and watch for the next 2 years, or will you become active, either volunteering yourself or encouraging a member to serve whom you believe will best represent your interests and perspectives?



The old organizing button reads, *"This place works because I do,"* and nothing could be more true. And not just the Company, but with the Local. What happened? Complaining eventually gave way to action, and we have all reaped the benefits. Now... who's up?

On Sept. 29th, a **Special Nominations Meeting** will be held in Galliano (online via Webinar) to nominate members to office. Additionally, an **Election Board** will be selected. All members are encouraged to attend.

Alaska Operations to Cease

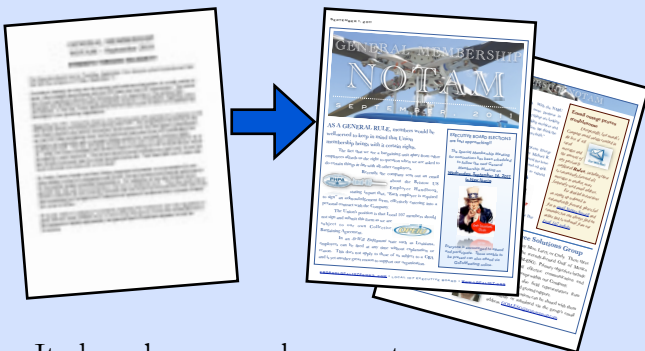
The Company announced early this month that they would be closing down operations in Alaska as existing contracts reach their conclusion. The Union has been in communication with various Company representatives, raising the concerns of our members and discussing a number of pertinent issues, all of which have been subsequently communicated with the Alaska contingent.

This all weighs heavily on the Local and the Executive Board will continue to advocate for these members throughout this transition. Our warmest wishes go out to our brothers & sisters in Alaska.

Editor's Corner:

Tempus Fugit - 3 Years Later

I recently noticed that not only was it the month of September 3 years ago that I began writing the NOTAM for the Board, it was the same month a year later that I decided to experiment with a more dynamic design.



It has been a pleasure to produce these items and I certainly appreciate all the positive feedback.

[Comments & suggestions](#) continue to be welcomed, and prior months' NOTAMs are archived online for reference at the Local 107 website, www.local107.org.

Election Board Volunteers Needed!

OPEIU Local 107 Constitution & Bylaws calls for the election of a three-member Election Board to oversee the conduct of Executive Board elections. This is to take place once the nominations for office have concluded.



Any member potentially interested in serving in this capacity and participating in the election process in this manner is **strongly** encouraged to express this interest during the meeting conducted on Sept. 29th.

Additional details can be obtained by [contacting the Recording Secretary](#) or any other member of the Executive Board.

Our friend [Ed Quaid](#) has served to chair the

Election Board for the last several cycles and, with his departure, the Local surely needs help to make this election a success!

