

ALPA

MUCH MORE THAN JUST A PIN



You may not know this...

but your member benefits include much more than just a membership pin. ALPA offers its members unrivaled products, services, and support that are tailored specifically to airline pilots. Here's a snapshot of just some of the many programs your union—the most influential airline pilots association in the world—offers to support you and your career:

Getting to Work

Jumpseat resources—At www.jumpseatinfo.org, members can access ALPA's Jumpseat Guide and other information they need to ride an offline jumpseat. These materials cover pilot-in-command authority, pertinent regulations, current Transportation Security Administration security restrictions, jumpseating etiquette, airlines using the Cockpit Access Security System, and more.

Known Crewmember Program—Known Crewmember (KCM), the airport screening system for flightcrew members, enables Transportation Security Administration (TSA) security officers to positively verify the identity and employment status of flightcrew members. Developed by ALPA and Airlines for America with approval and support of the TSA, the program expedites pilot access to sterile areas of airports, reduces passenger-screening line congestion, enhances security, and makes airport checkpoint screening more efficient. Because the program is new, it is only available at select airports, but the program continues to expand and will be available at 31 U.S. airports by the end of 2012. For more information, visit www.knowncrewmember.org or see the KCM tab on the ALPA smartphone app.



Professional and Pilot Resources

Professional staff—ALPA's foundation is its staff, subject-matter experts in accounting and finance, aeromedical, communications and public relations, economic and financial analysis, airline safety (including accident investigation), security, pilot assistance, information technology and services, government affairs, legal issues, membership (including balloting and elections), purchasing, real estate, representation (including collective bargaining and organizing), and retirement and insurance. With 319 employees in offices across the United States and Canada, ALPA stands ready to assist pilot groups and individual members as needed.

ALPA committee structure—In addition to staff support, the Association maintains a vast network of committees made up of pilot representatives. These committees deal with airline safety, security, pilot assistance, the jumpseat, flight and duty time, international affairs, air cargo, remote operations, merger policy, crew hotels and layovers, strategic preparedness, and fee-for-departure operations, to name just a few.

■ By John Perkinson, Staff Writer

Insurance and Financial Benefits

Member benefit programs—The Association currently offers seven ERISA-based benefit plans tailored exclusively to meet U.S.-based ALPA pilot needs for primary coverage and to supplement what airlines offer. These include monthly loss of license and loss of license plus, lump-sum loss of license, short-term disability, accidental death and dismemberment, group term life, 10-year level term life, and 20-year level term life. ALPA will soon offer LifeLock to protect members against identity fraud and theft. For Canadian ALPA members, available benefits include basic and optional life, accidental death, disease and dismemberment, home and auto, and critical illness and Best Doctors medical information service. To learn more about ALPA's member benefits, go to www.ALPA.org/mbin or call ALPA's Membership Department at 1-800-746-ALPA.

ALPA Federal Credit Union—Founded in 1947, the ALPA Federal Credit Union is a nonprofit, member-owned financial institution serving airline pilots and their immediate family

**Air Line Pilots Association
Federal Credit Union**

members. It offers savings, trust, and individual retirement accounts, loans, credit cards, and a variety of other services. Because it's not-for-profit, after paying expenses and meeting provisions for reserve funds, the credit union returns all of its income to members in the form of share dividends and low rates on loans. For more information, go to www.alpafcu.org.



Personal financial planning and investment

services—Established through ALPA's National R&I Committee, the Association offers specialized investment opportunities through its preferred-provider relationship with Charles Schwab & Co.

For more information, call a Schwab financial representative at 1-888-600-8905.

Union Plus—Union Plus extends consumer benefits and discounts to members and retirees of participating labor unions of the AFL-CIO, including ALPA. It offers negotiated rates for a broad range of products and services such as home mortgages, car loans, legal and educational assistance, health-care savings, and more. Go to www.unionplus.org to see all the available services.

Safety, Accident Response, and Security Help

Pilot-to-Pilot/Family Awareness—

Administered through individual pilot groups, Pilot-to-Pilot and Family Awareness provide unique ALPA communications opportunities. Pilot-to-Pilot enlists members who are trained and routinely briefed to personally share pilot

group news and information with members in the work environment and to collect feedback. Family Awareness establishes networks through regional functions and newsletters in order to

get families involved in union issues, establishing communication and building unity and support between pilot leaders and a pilot's family.



The Orange Card/Worldwide ALPA Accident/Incident Hotline—

ALPA's "orange card" contains the essential information that ALPA pilots need in the event they experience an aircraft mishap or any other serious safety event requiring an immediate response. The card has guidelines on actions that crewmembers should take to protect themselves, their professional standing, other crewmembers, and passengers. The orange card tells how to reach and use the ALPA Worldwide Accident/Incident Hotline, which the Association has in place to handle time-critical needs of ALPA members. An ALPA Engineering and Air Safety Department staff member is standing by to answer a call to the hotline every minute of every day, and the service accepts collect calls from anywhere in the world. These details are available on the back of ALPA membership cards, on both a wallet-sized orange card and an orange sticker, which can be placed inside a uniform cap or on a flight bag, and on ALPA's website. Additional cards and stickers are available by calling ALPA's Engineering and Air Safety Department during normal business hours at 1-800-424-2470.

World Watch—For ALPA members traveling overseas, World Watch provides security information on hundreds of countries and cities around the world, including in-depth risk forecasting and analysis, real-time alerts, detailed and continuous coverage of breaking events, threat level ratings, transportation safety ratings, and digital maps. To access the secured World Watch website, log on to ALPA's members-only website and click on the Security Briefings button in the right-hand column.



When in Need

Furloughed Pilots Support Program—

ALPA's Furloughed Pilots Support Program provides information about unemployment and medical benefits, government resources, stress management, and job-search assistance (including valuable contacts) to enable affected pilots to get through this difficult period in their careers. The program publishes a quarterly newsletter, *The Flight Path*; offers a one-year membership to FAPA.aero (www.fapa.aero), a premiere career

and financial advisory service for professional pilots (which includes one complimentary attendance at an afternoon-only combo session at a FAPA.aero job fair) or complimentary attendance at one job fair hosted by Aero Crew Solutions (www.aerocrewsolutions.com); and, in some instances, arranges preferential interviewing at member airlines.



AERF—The ALPA Emergency Relief Fund (AERF) is a valuable member resource, available to provide for the immediate needs of ALPA pilots and their families who fall victim to widespread disasters. A Section 501(c)(3) charity, AERF is funded solely from contributions. The Association supports AERF by paying for all expenses incurred to administer the fund. To request a grant or make a contribution, go to www.ALPA.org/relieffund.

Assistance for Military Members

Veterans Affairs—A division of the ALPA Membership Committee, ALPA's Veterans Affairs Subcommittee works with ALPA members who are military reservists and veterans. Through the regulations addressed by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, the group helps to ensure that reservist members are treated fairly by their employers. Veterans Affairs works with the U.S. Department of Defense to provide active/guard/reserve job opportunities for ALPA members who are/were military members, and assists pilot groups with their military affairs programs.

A Gathering Place

ALPA's Conference Center—A brand-new, state-of-the-art conference center with upgraded electronics and fully integrated audiovisual systems is now ready for members to use. This private meeting facility includes strategically placed, high-def video monitors and projection screens, speakers, ample access to power and data retrieval, and adjustable lighting options, all controllable from a touch-screen display at the main podium. Break-out rooms are available with their own and integrated audiovisual capabilities. For more details, see "The Landing," page 36.



Extensive Information Networks

Air Line Pilot—The award-winning *Air Line Pilot* is published 10 times a year and covers pilot group news, Association news and events, commentaries, and related airline industry topics. In addition to the print version, members can opt to read the publication on computers and smartphones. ALPA's Communications Department provides a digital page-turning format as well as a mobile phone-friendly option. Visit www.ALPA.org/epubs to view these digital versions.

Website—The Association's website, www.ALPA.org, provides easy access to the latest ALPA news and is packed with information, publications, and contacts. This resource is readily available at any location around the world that offers Internet access.

ALPA Daily, RSS feeds, and social media—*ALPA Daily* is an e-mail blast delivered to members that contains the latest news on airlines with ALPA-represented pilots, other airlines, the airline industry, and more. Members can also subscribe to RSS feeds on ALPA's "Top Story," "Advocacy," "Pilot Groups," "Safety," and "Events" to easily retrieve timely news highlights and other information posted on the Association's website. If members don't have time to visit www.ALPA.org every day, the RSS feed brings the latest ALPA information to their laptops, BlackBerrys, and iPhones via an RSS reader such as Bloglines, My Yahoo, or Google. In addition, pilots can also follow ALPA using Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

ALPA Mobile app—The ALPA Mobile app offers members with smartphones access to valuable features like Known Crewmember information, the orange card, pilot group contact lists, RSS news feeds, jumpseat information, and, for participating pilot groups, a layover hotel guide and dispute resolution form for addressing grievances. The ALPA app is available through iTunes, Android Market, and Blackberry.



Pilot Partisan blog—Pilot Partisan offers detailed information about the key players, debates, and priorities on Capitol and Parliament Hills that are currently affecting the airline industry and airline piloting profession. To subscribe, view posts, or share a comment, visit pilotpartisan.com.



The FlightDeck—*The FlightDeck*, a monthly ALPA video program, features aviation industry news for ALPA members, industry stakeholders, and the traveling public. The most recent episode covers ALPA's work to level the playing field, the Transportation Safety Board of Canada's new watchlist, and where to find the best airport eats. Plus, Capt. Lee Moak, ALPA's president, and the pilots of First Air fly to the far northern reaches of Canada. Go to www.ALPA.org/flightdeck to check out *The FlightDeck* or scan the QR code.



Political Clout

Government Affairs—ALPA's Government Affairs Department staff and vast network of pilot representatives provide members with a voice on Capitol and Parliament Hills. The Association's "Call to Action" program enables members to directly contact their representatives to express opinions and concerns about policies that affect their careers and airlines. In addition, ALPA works directly with legislators and regulators, providing insight and educating them about ways to improve airline transportation safety and security. Financed solely by donations, ALPA-PAC supports lawmakers (Republican and Democrat alike) who champion airline pilots, the airline industry, and labor issues.



Professional Growth

Training opportunities—Throughout the year, ALPA conducts training for its elected and committee representatives to enable them to more effectively perform their duties. Courses are conducted in leadership training, computer applications, news media interaction, safety, security, accident investigation, contract negotiations, secretary-treasurer training, and a host of other topics.

ACE Club—Want to give something back to the profession? Get involved with an ALPA ACE Club, which provides aviation students and educators the opportunity to learn more about the airline piloting profession from ALPA members. ACE Club student members receive

exclusive information from the union, including select *Air Line Pilot* articles, airline pay rates, and hiring requirements, and can network with ALPA pilots to help them prepare for—and land—the job of their dreams. Aviation educators can also join to gain access to ALPA's professional pilots—all-things-aviation subject-matter experts—and other educational resources that will set their curriculum apart from other programs. More information is available on the members-only site of www.ALPA.org.

