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AFA Turns 72!

72 years ago on August 22, 1945, the Airline Stewardess Association was formed and began to pave the way for what is today the Flight Attendant union: the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA.

Edith Lauterbach and fellow United Flight Attendants Ada Brown Greenfield, Francis Hall, Sally Thometz and Sally Watt Keenan were successful in organizing the first union of Flight Attendants, the foundation from which we have achieved victories for equality, workplace health and safety and contracts that define our work as aviation's first responders.

We continue our work every day to lift the standards for all Flight Attendants. We are stronger and better together.

2017 AFA September 11 Honor Guard

In 2016, we began a tradition of an AFA Honor Guard in uniform to ensure the public remembers the sacrifice of Flight Attendants at our nation’s three national memorials. This Honor Guard is comprised of Flight Attendants who have all done work to advance our legislative agenda to Never Forget. Any member who volunteers time on our Never Forget initiatives throughout the year may be eligible to serve in future years as a member of our AFA Honor Guard. The 2017 AFA Honor Guard is:
September 11th Memorial New York
Beverly Bullock, AFA Seattle Council 19
Craig Macinnes, AFA Boston Council 27

National Flight 93 Memorial Shanksville
Bobbi Morales, AFA Washington, DC Council 21
Jennifer Ritter, AFA Newark Council 6

National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial
Anita Jwanouskos, AFA Piedmont Council 61
Jean Machak, AFA Detroit Council 46

New Steps to Prevent Human Trafficking

In 2016, as part of Hidden in Plane Sight campaign, we successfully achieved mandatory Human Trafficking Awareness training for U.S. Flight Attendants when Congress passed the FAA Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016. We are encouraging our airlines to implement meaningful training and following up with lawmakers on the intention of their legislation. AFA promotes the Blue Lighting Campaign and partners directly with U.S. Customs and Border Protection on this program.

The heinous crime of human trafficking occurs throughout the world not just in the U.S. and many victims are transported on our planes. AFA has been working with aviation unions around the world to promote worldwide action to stop human trafficking through aviation. We took this issue to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Recently, ICAO and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights have begun a discussion to develop human trafficking cabin crew guidelines on training. AFA's Candace Kolander has been serving as the International Transit Federation (ITF) throughout these discussions.

Watch the video >

APALA Marches Against Racism

AFA Member and Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA) board member Stan Kiino joined thousands to march against racism and hate at the 14th Biennial APALA Convention, celebrating 25 years, in Anaheim, California. It is more important than ever that we look out for each other and commit to stand together in support of
equality for all.