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## Candidate for Council 20 First Officer Rep

When was the last time you remember being proud of being an ALPA member? For me that moment was back in 1998 during our strike. With a 98 % strike vote and management miscues, we were out for 15 days. And in those 15 days not one Northwest Plane flew. We had other ALPA pilots from several airlines at our strike centers watching and learning from Northwest Pilots. All of us were united together in unison against a common enemy. After 15 days, we returned to a new contract and a pride in being an ALPA member. There was no Red vs. Green, No Wide body vs. Narrow body no Junior vs. Senior no Yes vs. No... We were all Northwest ALPA pilots on strike against a management that had renege on promises of a snapback plus 3% raise. **Northwest pilots were UNIFIED!**

But alas, A great deal has changed in the last 10 years, now all we hear is how it's red vs. green vs. blue, targeting vs. pensioners, junior vs. senior and wide body vs. narrow. The loss of pride in our union and its leadership has followed. Age 65 has stagnated (**Some of our reps voted FOR This Change**) our careers and did not help in the seniority list integration. As someone who has spent the last several years as a volunteer doing committee work on behalf of the MEC, it has been painful to watch the petty infighting and jealousy of certain individuals destroy the unity of a decade ago. It has been hard to sit back and watch debates on issues and the use of Roll call or its threatened use crush better ideas or critical thinking. And as always, we have heard how it's always someone else's fault. The endless list of sacrificial lambs needs to stop being created for this pilot group to carve upon.

I decided to run because the external threats to Delta pilots will never stop, and your union should not be one of the threats! In the last 10 years all of us have witnessed these threats first hand. Outsourcing of flying, fuel hedging, terrorism, bankruptcy, and the recession just to name a few. New threats to our pilot group are constantly occurring. Could the current problems at JAL and the rumored courting in the business media of JAL by Delta and American bring another Joint Venture to contemplate? Another issue of great importance to Delta pilots is any change to Haneda/Narita slot structure. A DC9 replacement aircraft is also soon needed and the 787 delays and business plan needs to be addressed. Management has shown that they are not without errors in judgment. Whether it's purchasing too many Regional jets, losing over a billion dollars to fuel hedging, investing Millions in Midwest Airlines, or a flawed "last man standing strategy" they make mistakes. **Delta pilots should not have to pay for them!**

Look at who has endorsed my opponent! If you have **ENJOYED** the last eight years, a vote for him is a vote for the same kind of narrow minded politics that DTW pilots should be tired of. My candidacy is a vote for true change, not more of the same. I have taken the time to communicate directly to you while my opponent has had "others" speak for him. Look at who has endorsed my run for the first officer/vice chairman position. I encourage emails ([RlbC20@gmail.com](mailto:RlbC20@gmail.com)) or phone calls (**330-277-3122**) to speak with you and understand your concerns and issues that are important to you. **Lastly, I urge you to vote.** Apathy is what has helped get us into this mess! Please take 5 minutes for your career and vote. Send a message that **DTW** is tired of the same old politic and we want change. I am asking YOU to vote for me, **Ron Barnett** to represent YOU on the Delta MEC. Show management that we are prepared to meet the challenges of **contract 2012 together and unified!**

Fraternally,

Ron Barnett

Please visit my web site at your convenience: [www.RlbC20.com](http://www.RlbC20.com)

**AND VOTE!**