I’m Voting YES for this to be Our New American Airlines

By: Pam Stampp
American Airlines
Home Based Rep., SRO

I’ve only worked at American Airlines for a bit over a year, but I can see that we need a voice to fight for fairness and equality at our company. Even before I started working here, I always flew American and loved the company and the people. Now that I’m part of the new American family, I want to do everything I can to make sure that other passengers have that same experience.

And that starts with respecting employees.

Before joining American Airlines, I worked in another company where we had union representation. That meant that workers’ voices were heard through things like a fair grievance process, which we desperately need at American. We also had better pay and benefits, a better work-life balance where schedules aren’t so hectic, and of course, job security that meant we didn’t fear for our career.

With representation, we could fight today’s unfair policies like the treatment of home-based workers.

We save the company a huge amount of money in real estate and office management, so why does the company keep us locked into a worse benefit and pay scale and refuse to help defray the costs of phone and internet?

Because American Airlines doesn’t recognize that WE are the company’s most valuable assets, that WE are the ones customers interact with every day. If you want to build the world’s best carrier you need to show your employees you value them.

Anyone who thinks they can save their job by keeping quiet and voting against representation hasn’t paid attention to the history of what happens after lost elections.

We need everyone to vote NOW with the access code on the first page of your voting instructions. We can’t take any vote for granted, and need to talk to every single supporter until they confirm they’ve voted.

This is a new day at the new American Airlines; let’s make sure we can move forward with the CWA-IBT Association.

Let’s Get Out Every Vote Between Now and September 16

By: Barb Tobin, Local President & Deborah Pace-Robinson, Org. Chair US Airways, PHL, Local 13301

We’ve come a long way at US Airways and we don’t intend to go back!

When we first started at US Airways, it was a great company despite not having a Union. Everyone was getting paid well, it was an exciting industry to start a career in the late 80’s and early 90’s. Practically the whole industry was booming!

But times have changed, and after bankruptcies, the Company underfunding our Pensions and two bankruptcies plus mergers it has become clear that we can’t count on management to take care of us.

So, we’ve got to do it ourselves, and that is why we must vote YES in this election!!

Today, we’re proud to say that in our Local 13301, Philadelphia, Allentown, Wilkes-Barre, and Harrisburg just under 1000 in membership know we need a Union. All our members in our airports are excited to win this election so we can negotiate a better contract to cover workers from both groups system-wide. That’s why we’re so focused on mobilizing and getting out the vote.

This election will make a huge difference in all of our lives moving forward.

In the Philadelphia Airport alone, we have over 60 mobilizers spread across 5 buildings and many departments. We are reaching out to every single person to make sure they are ready to vote as soon as their voting instructions arrive after August 15th. We are proud to say we are almost a 100% YES VOTE which sends a strong statement.

We need to strike while the iron is hot and WIN! Then we can survey everyone at both carriers to find out the top issues and bargaining priorities and begin bargaining a new contract to cover us!

We are so close to the finish line. Let’s make sure everyone votes YES so our voices can become one in the CWA-IBT Passenger Service Association.
I’m Ready to Win Our Election

By: Richard Shaughnessy
American Airlines
Airport Agent, MIA

American Airlines gives an annual customer cup award to stations that provide outstanding service. At Miami, we’ve won an unprecedented eight times, which would seem to indicate we’re meeting and exceeding the company’s standards. But at the local level, managers nitpick everything we do to the point where a substantial number of agents are on advisories.

With a fair and transparent grievance process, like what they have at US Airways, we would have a real recourse and could work to get those agents off of advisories. That’s one of my top priorities to bargain for once we win our election.

I started working on this campaign back in 1992 with a core group of activists and I’ve got to say that for every election we’ve lost we’ve gotten stronger and closer every time. And now that we’re working with our new partners at US Airways, I am positive we can make sure everyone in the new American Airline family gets that.

We’ve been holding big meetings for agents in Miami, making sure everyone is assigned to someone who will check that they’ve received voting instructions and voted. And I swear, every time a US Airways worker talks about what working with a real contract is like and why they won’t give it up, we convince another American worker to vote yes.

We had a big turnout last election, and we’re doing everything we can to make sure all of our supporters get out and vote. Everyone needs to understand what a huge win this would be for all of us.

Because for me, winning this election isn’t just about what benefits and improvements we can secure in the short-term, it’s about creating a shared vision for our future in the company and how we can get there.

I know there’s a lot of hard-feelings out there towards the ‘redcoats’ or contractors, but my vision of the future isn’t about getting rid of them, it’s about bringing them into the fold. Most of them are a great group of young people who deserve real benefits and fair pay just like the rest of us, and with representation we can make sure everyone in the new American Airline family gets that.

Everyone needs to come together and vote for a voice in this election. Talk to your coworkers and make sure everyone votes CWA-IBT yes!

Our Voice is Only Stronger if We Vote Together

By: Brandy Ledbetter
US Airways
Airport Agent, SLC

The difference between when I started at America West over 20 years ago and what it’s like today at US Airways is night and day, and the reason for that is our CWA-IBT Association representation.

I first started at the Reno reservations office shortly before we lost an election for Teamster representation, and at the time I couldn’t understand why.

My dad worked for a Teamster represented company all his life, and growing up I saw the benefits of having a real contract with guarantees and set work rules. So when I heard about the organizing campaign I jumped on board.

But not everyone was on the same page, a lot of my co-workers seemed to believe that they knew how to work the system and didn’t want to rock the boat. Unfortunately, their loyalty didn’t count for much when America West started closing call centers and laying people off after the election.

After seeing the truth of how uncertain our futures were, and how much power managers had to arbitrarily fire people, we made sure to win our next election before the US Airways merger.

And now? I wouldn’t give up representation for anything and neither would my coworkers.

The Communications Workers of America and the Teamsters may have different local structures, but as a steward and member of our joint contract negotiating committee, I can tell you that we truly are stronger together.

I’ve made great friends on the committee and it’s really helpful to come together and discuss any local issues we’ve all been dealing with to find best practices and solutions.

And I know the American Airlines agents at Salt Lake City are ready for that. We’ve been having lots of great conversations at the gate, and they are so excited about the prospect of bargaining the benefits we have at US Airways like flexible holidays, a wage progression and a contract to guarantee fairness.

The American agents used to ask us “how are you guys so happy all the time?” Now they know it’s because we have a voice at work, and they want one too.

I’m so excited we can all come together under one contract as brothers and sisters to make this not just the biggest airline but the best. Vote CWA-IBT YES!

Important Election Info

- Voting ends September 16th. Results will be announced after 2pm (ET) on Sept. 16.
- After you vote, call 844-CWAIBT4 (844-292-4284) to celebrate!
- Call 817-868-9933 or Email info@american-agents.com with any questions.

Passenger Service Post


Left: American Airlines SRO Representatives. Right: Janet Elston, DFW Activist after voting CWA-IBT Yes.

US Airways agents in Charlotte after voting for everyone to have a union voice at the new American Airlines.