

The BTA Bulletin

Business Travel Association/Philadelphia Chapter



Combined Quarterly Edition – 2Q/3Q 2011

Notes From The President



It would be an understatement, but isn't it busy? Business Travel has grown significantly year over year and we are all tasked it seems with doing more with less.

I encourage you to reach out to your peers in the chapter and use the diverse skills and perspectives of all of our members, both Allied and Direct to help you. Our board is a strong advocate of sharing and collaboration, so if you need help or guidance, have a question or simply want to soundboard with someone, do use all the people resources available to you within the Philly BTA

The last quarter was highlighted by our annual Education Day, held at the Crowne Plaza Philadelphia. What an amazing event with nearly 90 attendees who joined us to learn about diverse subjects such as social media, the "crisis" in distribution and traveler safety. Proven topics also included the buyer and supplier sourcing panels, an update from the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau and a new idea which worked well, that being the "Travel Café". Wow, what a day and I have to thank Fiona Flagler of Cephalon and the entire Education Day committee yet again for all of their hard work.

In May at our spring social mixer, we were treated to the hospitality of the Radisson Warwick Plaza's elegant and trendy Tavern 17 restaurant.

In June, at the Kimpton Palomar Hotel we hosted Joe Bates from the GBTA who gave us some real insight about current financial and economic trends and some projections for the future that impact travel. I found the details fascinating and I hope that those in attendance did also.

And we just enjoyed the second of our 2011 social mixers on July 20, with a delightful evening at the Omni Independence Park.

Enjoy the summer, take time off if you can and relax with friends and family - we all deserve it.

- David McDonald

AIRPORT, SAFETY & SECURITY UPDATE!



[EPIC Highlights TSA Worker Concerns Over Scanner Radiation](#) – by Lauren Darson, Business Travel News

[EPA Proposes Air Pollution Standard for Commercial Aircraft](#) – SUSTAINABLEBusiness.com

[It's the spending priorities that matter](#) – by Joel L. Naroff, phillyburbs.com

[New Air Traffic Control System at Crossroads](#) – by Joan Lowey, Associated Press

[The Coming 'Air War' in Europe - US airlines battle EU carbon cap](#) – Globe.net

[TSA Takes First Steps Towards "Trusted Traveler" Program](#) – by Mike Ahlers, CNN

UPCOMING EVENTS



The **Global Business Travel Association** annual convention is fast approaching, August 21 – 24 in the mile-high city of Denver. This year's theme, "Elevating the Business of Travel" is sure to be a crowd pleaser. Many PBTA members will be attending, so be sure to stay tuned to the Philadelphia BTA website for information on our chapter's participation in the Chapter Chat event, being held on Tuesday, August 23. For more information and to register, [click here](#). Register by August 1 and receive a \$200 discount.

Our next PBTA offering will be our fall chapter meeting on Wednesday, September 21 at the magnificent **Four Seasons Hotel** in Center City. We are pleased to welcome **Joshua Rose of Global Rescue LLC**. Mr. Rose's presentation entitled "Duty of Care", will highlight the types of risks that travelers face and ways in which they impact their organization as well as describe the travel risk management continuum of planning – training – monitoring – response. It will also introduce the Travel Risk Management Maturity Model (TRM3™) tool that GBTA members can use to assess their organization's preparation, ability to avoid, and readiness to respond to travel-related emergencies. This session is critical for anyone involved in corporate business travel, and concerned about minimizing the impact of medical, security, or other traumatic events. Register today at www.phillybta.org/events.

AIRLINE AND TRAVEL INDUSTRY NEWS



[More for Your Money: The quest for transparent airline fees](#) – by Jane Engle, Los Angeles Times

[Air Jamaica: end of an era](#) – The Jamaica Observer

[Can Frequent Flyer Programs Work For You?](#) – by Samantha Bomkamp, Associated Press

[Should Airlines Refund Fees for Mishandled Bags?](#) – by Gary Stoller, USA Today

[Outages at Airlines Can Spiral](#) – by Susan Carey, Wall Street Journal

[Business Travel Spending & Volume Remained Steady in Q2 2011](#) – by GBTA, Hotel Resource

[Feds delay rules on airline pricing, advertising](#) – by Tim O'Reiley, Las Vegas Review-Journal

[US Airways continues profit trend](#) – by Ted Reed, The Street

[American to buy 460 new jets](#) – the St. Petersburg Times

[Government can't afford cost of flights to nowhere](#) – by Eric Weiffering, Minneapolis Star Tribune

[\\$100 Oil Fuels Chance to Embark on Airline Stocks](#) – by Jamie Dlugosch, InvestorPlace

[World Airline Rankings: Regional picture](#) – Flightglobal

[New Benefits of Booking Late](#) – by Timothy W. Martin, Wall Street Journal

GROUND TRANSPORTATION NEWS



[Car Rental Industry Approaches a Consolidation Turn](#) – by Chris Davis, Business Travel News

[IRS Raises Mileage Reimbursement Rate](#) – by Jay Campbell, Business Travel News

HOTEL NEWS



[May Hotel Rates Continue Worldwide Climb](#) – by Michael Baker, Business Travel News

[Addressing Bedbugs in Hotel Negotiations Proves Vexing](#) – by Michael Baker, Business Travel News

[What Have You Done for Me Lately? – The Privilege of Membership](#) – by John Hendrie, Hotel News Resource

A Fun Quote For The Quarter



“There are no foreign lands. It is the traveler only who is foreign.” – Robert Louis Stevenson

OTHER INDUSTRY NEWS



[New Study Proves Tourism Promotion Campaigns Increase Visitation](#) – by US Travel Association, Hotel News Resource

[What Will Be the Next Big Thing in Mobile for the Travel Industry?](#) – Travel Industry Wire

[Insurance for Vacations that are Cancelled](#) – by Scott McCartney, Wall Street Journal

[The Downside of America's Big Used Airplane Export Push](#) – by Erik Sherman, BNET

[Airlines Prepare to Take Off on Fuel Made From Algae, Wood Chips](#) – by Louise Downing, Bloomberg

[FAA shutdown would cost government \\$200 million a week](#) – The Associated Press

[What's Wrong with the Airlines](#) – Fortune Classic 1946

Tip Of The Quarter



Be a courteous traveler at baggage claim & stand behind the Maland Line. Don't know what that is? Check it out here! <http://malandline.com/line.aspx>

RECENT EVENTS – THANK YOU!



We extend many thank yous and kudos to these individuals and organizations, for hosting the following second and third quarter 2011 Philadelphia BTA events.

Lori Goldstein and the Crowne Plaza Philadelphia Downtown, Annual Education Day, Friday April 29

Simone McBean and the Radisson Warwick Hotel, PBTA Spring Mixer, Wednesday, May 18

Carol Watson and the Hotel Palomar Philadelphia, Chapter Meeting, Thursday, June 23

Jason Gaspari and the Omni Independence Park, PBTA Summer Mixer, Wednesday, July 20

Your support is greatly appreciated!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



The Philadelphia BTA welcomes the following new members to our chapter, with a list of those whose memberships were confirmed between March 31, 2011 and July 25, 2011. Great to have you with us!!

Name	Organization
Barbara D. Sivers	Holiday Inn Philadelphia Stadium
Robert Van Ess	Dav El Chauffeured Transportation
Monica Kinney	University of Pennsylvania
Lelia Pierce	Firestone Hotel Management
Christina Hunt	Crowne Plaza Wilmington
Gregory Stevens	Hyatt Regency at Penn's Landing

2011 GBTA LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT



With Sharon Pierce's departure due to her promotion with United/Continental, I have assumed her role as the government liaison for the Philadelphia BTA. On June 21 & 22, I was privileged to represent our chapter at the annual GBTA Legislative Summit in Washington. Members from local BTA chapters from all over the country attended this two day event which seeks to promote legislation that is beneficial to the business travel industry. This year, the three key initiatives on which the GBTA was focused were the FAA Reauthorization Act, the TSA Trusted Traveler program and the "End Discriminatory State Taxes for Automobile Renters Act of 2011".

Working with GBTA staff and the GBTA's lobbying partner, Cornerstone Government Affairs, the first day involved learning about the issues and how to effectively lobby your representatives. Part of the day was actually spent on Capitol Hill in the Russell Senate building where we were treated to a visit by Senator Michael Bennett, D-CO, who gave his views on the issues of concern to our group and an advance welcome to everyone planning to attend the GBTA annual convention, as this year's host city is Denver. On Wednesday morning, a short meeting has held at the hotel with Congressman Steve Cohen, D-TN as our guest speaker. Rep. Cohen is a co-sponsor along with Congressman Sam Graves, R-MO of the car rental tax legislation.

Following the morning session, we were taken to Cornerstone's office near the Capitol building where we awaited our pre-arranged appointments with the offices of our U.S. Senators and district representative. I was able to meet with staffers for Delaware Senator Tom Carper and Congressman John Carney. I was not able to secure an appointment with Chris Coons' office but did stop by and leave the same collateral that was presented in person to the others. A few weeks after these visits, follow-up correspondence consisting of a thank you letter and handouts recapping the issues were sent to each aide with whom I met.

A great experience, I hope to be able to attend next year. If anyone would like additional details about any of the issues or of the event itself, please feel free to contact me.

– Jeff Meadows