

The BTA Bulletin

Business Travel Association/Philadelphia Chapter



Expanded Quarterly Edition – 3Q 2010

Notes From The President



Greetings Philadelphia BTA members! Fall is here, we've just completed our bi-annual chapter elections and a record number of people ran for officer and board positions this year. The complete list of your new board can be found on page three of this newsletter. My congratulations to all of those who will be guiding our chapter through 2011 and 2012 and thank you for your willingness to serve.

Many PBTA members attended the NBTA National convention in Houston in August, which was tremendous. We were well represented and a great time was had by all at the Chapter Chat on Tuesday evening. Additionally, it was an incredible experience to hear Condoleezza Rice, Richard Branson and Lance Armstrong as the three guest speakers.

Looking forward, I'm truly excited about our remaining events for 2010. In October we'll be guests of the **Marriott Courtyard Downtown** for our PBTA Fall social mixer. Be sure to join us for a casual get together to visit and catch up on what everyone's been up to.

Lastly, be sure not to miss the crown jewel of the PBTA year, our annual **Holiday Dinner and Charity Auction**. Now in its sixth year, this amazing event just keeps getting better and better. This year we're thrilled to have the **Hyatt Regency Penn's Landing** as our host property. What could be more magical than celebrating the holidays at this elegant hotel on the Delaware River? And don't forget, proceeds go to our primary charity "City of Hope" and your local BTA chapter.

It's been a terrific year with more to come. Thanks as always for your support.

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AIRPORT & SECURITY UPDATE!



Registered Traveler to Re-Launch in Indianapolis – by Jay Boehmer, Business Travel News, 7/30/10

<http://www.businesstravelnews.com/Business-Travel/Airline-News/Articles/Registered-Traveler-To-Re-Launch-In-Indianapolis/>

Can Dubai Business Survive Without the Blackberry? – by Angela Shah, Time, 8/4/10

<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,2008632,00.html>

Experts say tarmac delay rules a mistake, but DOT disagrees – by Gary Stoller, USA Today, 7/21/10

http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2010-07-21-tarmacdelays21_ST_N.htm

From Nothing to a Global Hub for Aviation – by Christine Negroni, The New York Times, 7/21/10

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/20/business/global/20iht-ravgulf.html?_r=1&src=busin

Companies criticize U.S. travel visa process – by Roger Yu, USA Today, 08/31/10

http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2010-08-31-businesstravel31_ST_N.htm

Are Lithium-ion batteries the next threat to airline safety? – by Gary Stoller, USA Today, 8/17/10

http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2010-08-16-airlinebatteries16_CV_N.htm

UPCOMING EVENTS



Be sure to join us for our fall social mixer at the **Marriott Courtyard Downtown**. We'll meet in The Annex Grille & Lounge on Wednesday, October 20, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for fine food and drink and a chance to mix, mingle and catch up on "what we did for our summer vacations" and our plans for the fall.

And, be sure to "Save the Date" for our **6th Annual Holiday Dinner and Charity Auction**, on Wednesday, December 8, 2010. We'll be wined and dined at the sparkling **Hyatt Regency Penn's Landing** on the Philadelphia waterfront. Enjoy terrific food, entertainment, dancing and the chance to bid on incredible items in both silent and live auctions. This year's grand prize live auction package features BusinessFirst round trip tickets to Geneva on **Continental Airlines** and seven nights in a suite at the luxurious **Intercontinental Geneva Hotel**. Proceeds benefit our primary charity **City of Hope** and your PBTA chapter scholarship fund. Get great discounts for table purchases as well as special room rates for those who truly want to "make a night of it". The year wouldn't be complete without being a part of this stellar evening.

Register today for both of these great events at www.phillybta.org/events.

AIRLINE AND TRAVEL INDUSTRY NEWS



Airline Fees Test Travelers' Limits – by Susan Stellin, The New York Times, 08/3/10

<http://travel.nytimes.com/2010/08/08/travel/08prac.html>

Why U.S. Airlines Are Rebounding Faster Than Europe's – by Charles Wallace, Daily Finance, 08/2/10

<http://www.dailyfinance.com/story/company-news/us-airlines-profit-european-carriers-loss/19575415/>

Southwest to acquire AirTran – CNNMoney.com, 9/27/10

http://money.cnn.com/2010/09/27/news/companies/southwest_airtran/index.htm

Private Jet Operators Link to Foreign Carriers – by Christine Negroni, The New York Times, 07/19/10

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/20/business/20private.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=airlines%20and%20private%20jets&st=cse

Companies try efforts to protect workers in world's danger zones – by Roger Yu, USA Today, 8/23/10

<http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2010-08-24-dangertravel24 CV N.htm>

Harrabin's notes: Could saddle seats in planes help cut CO2? – by Roger Harrabin, BBC News, 9/17/10

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-11330976>

Airline recovery spells good news for business travelers – by David Grossman, USA Today, 07/13/10

<http://www.usatoday.com/travel/experts/grossman/2010-07-13-airline-recovery N.htm>

Shopping for Perks Among the Big Airline Alliances – by Scott McCartney, The Wall Street Journal, 07/08/10

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704545004575353221719220624.html>

Less than 10% of fliers are logging onto Wi-Fi in the air – by Dan Reed, USA Today, 07/06/10

<http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2010-07-06-airlinewifi06 ST N.htm>

U.S. OKs Continental, United Merger, Southwest To Take Newark Slots – by Chris Davis, Business Travel News, 08/27/10

<http://www.businesstravelnews.com/Business-Travel/Airline-News/Articles/U-S--OKs-Continental,-United-Merger,-Southwest-To-Take-Newark-Slots/>

Travel Industry Uses Facebook and Twitter to reach customers – by Charisse Jones and Roger Yu, USA Today, 09/07/10

<http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2010-09-07-travelsocialmedia07 CV N.htm>

GROUND TRANSPORTATION NEWS



Execs: Corporate Car Rental Pricing Likely Not Rising This Year – by David Jonas, Travel Management, 08/15/10

<http://www.management.travel/news.php?cid=corporate-car-rental-pricing.Aug-10.05>

Limo industry climbing out of freefall – by Shaunna Gately, The Patriot Ledger, 07/15/10

<http://www.patriotledger.com/business/x999356719/Limo-industry-climbing-out-of-freefall>

HOTEL NEWS



U.S. Hotel Revenue, Occupancy to Grow More Than Expected – by Michael Baker, Business Travel, 08/24/10

<http://www.businesstravelnews.com/Business-Travel/Hotel-News/Articles/Stronger-2010-Hotel-Performance-Prompts-Colliers-PKF-To-Adjust-Outlook/>

Hotel Chains Raise Satisfaction Among Travelers – by Michael Baker, Business Travel, 07/27/10

<http://www.businesstravelnews.com/Business-Travel/Hotel-News/Articles/Hotel-Chains-Raise-Satisfaction-Among-Travelers,-J-D--Power-Index-Shows/>

A Fun Quote For The Quarter



"I always wanted to be somebody. Now I realize that I should've been more specific."
--- Lily Tomlin

MISCELLANEOUS TRAVEL NEWS



Some Hotels Paying for Checked-Bag Fees – by Roger Yu, USA Today, 8/25/10

<http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2010-08-25-checkedbags25 ST N.htm>

Taking the Family (and the Briefcase) on the Road – by Julie Weed, New York Times, 08/30/10

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/31/business/31family.html?_r=1&src=busln

Cities Levy an Array of Taxes on Visitors – by Hugo Martin, LA Times, 08/23/10

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/31/business/31family.html?_r=1&src=busln

For Gulf Tourism, Problem is Perception – Not Oil – by Noaki Schwartz, Associated Press, 08/22/10

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/38806500/>

Global airlines slam new German departure tax – The Independent, 06/09/10

<http://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/global-airlines-slam-new-german-departure-tax-1995251.html>

Tip Of The Quarter



Check out the Conde Nast Traveler blog on Concierge.com for great travel tips from the experts!

<http://www.concierge.com/cntraveler/traveltips/11316>

SECOND QUARTER 2010 EVENTS - WE HAD A BLAST!



On Wednesday, April 21, 2010 over 70 attendees convened at the elegant **Crowne Plaza Hotel**, in Center City for the first annual **Philadelphia BTA Education Day**. Terrific guest speakers included **Kevin Mitchell** of the **Business Travel Coalition** and **Jack Ferguson** of the **Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau**. Various panel discussions provided valuable information and insight for travel buyers and suppliers alike. We also enjoyed terrific food and facilities, winding up the day with a cocktail reception in the eighth floor Senate room. We are extremely grateful to our Education Day Committee for their tireless efforts in organizing and presenting this event, including Co-chairs **Tom Wilkinson** of TRW Travel Consulting and **Patty Pae** of American Express as well as committee members **Tom Roberts** of Boscov's Business Travel, **Fiona Flagler** of Cephalon, Inc., **Collette DeChalus Lee** of the Royal Bank of Scotland, **Lori Goldstein** of the Crowne Plaza and **Giovanna Cilia-Wheatley** of Continental Airlines. We also thank **Tony Carfagno** of Cephalon, Inc., **Harry Perales** of Campbell Soups, **Michael Demko** of Jones Apparel Group, **David McDonald** of PriceWaterhouse Coopers, **Susan Shaid-Kedson** of Omni Hotels, **Heather Tassoni** of Enterprise Holdings and **Michael Schmeltzer** of US Airways for their participation in our panel discussions. Lastly, many thanks also to **Lori Goldstein** and the **Crowne Plaza** for providing us with such wonderful food and facilities!

In May, we welcomed **Laurie Rusin** of **LXR Travel** at the stunning **Four Seasons Hotel** on Logan Square. Laurie gave a delightful and informative presentation entitled "**Road Warrior Packing & Travel Secrets Revealed**" in which she gave us tips on how to make the travel experience more rewarding, more pleasant and less stressful. Kudos to **Mimi Hudachek** and **Elizabeth Knox** for the always superb Four Seasons food, service and facilities.

Last but certainly not least, courtesy of **Stephanie Williams** and **Southwest Airlines**, PBTA members and their guests were treated to a tour of Southwest's new gate facilities at Philadelphia International Airport's Concourse E. After being given VIP access through the security check-point, we convened at **Cantina Laredo** for terrific food and drink. As the song says, "Oh what a night!" Thanks Stephanie for a truly memorable and unique evening!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



The Philadelphia BTA welcomes the following new members to our chapter, with a list of those joining between May 14, 2010 and September 29, 2010. Great to have you with us!!

Name	Organization
Chris Cawthorn	World Travel Service, Inc.
Jeffery Hitt	TOC Chauffeured Transportation
Ernie Soreth	Sterling Limousine
Stacy Wenger	Enterprise Holdings
Lisa Ramirez	AMR Meetings and Incentives
Karen Smith	Hersha Hotels
Christy Callaghan	Avis Budget Group
Jim Procopio	Avis Budget Group

Congratulations New Officers and Board Members!



Election results are in and we have a new slate of officers and board members that will guide our chapter through 2011 and 2012. They are:

President	- David McDonald of PriceWaterhouseCoopers
Vice President	- Jeff Meadows of Sabre Travel Network
Secretary	- Heather Tassoni of Enterprise Holdings
Treasurer	- Dawn Friedman of Marriott Hotels
Direct Representative	- Louisa MacNeill of Cigna
Allied Representative	- Tom Wilkinson of TRW Travel Consulting

Congratulations and many thanks to everyone who ran for office and to our members for coming out to vote. Most of all, we are most grateful to **Bernadette Polson** of **American Airlines** and **Simone McBean** of the **Radisson Warwick Plaza Hotel** for facilitating and managing the elections process.