



### Monthly Update and Reminders July 2017

REMINDER: Any text that is highlighted in light blue (**TEXT**) is a link to the website or source material to which the text refers. Clicking on the highlighted text will take you directly to the referenced material.

#### **PASS TRAVEL:**

Once again we wish to express our appreciation to Kirk Moore, RAFA Pass Travel Committee Chairman, for his excellent update of our pass travel benefits.

**Compiled by Kirk Moore, RAFA Pass Travel Committee Chairman**

In this issue:

ETC updated the Travel page

Baggage: space available, myUADiscount & Basic Economy More flights to Hawaii coming in December

Order a Retiree Badge

Recent news from United:

RAFA website

Bonus: myUADiscount info from RUAEA

It may be easier to read this UPDATE on RAFA's website: <http://www.rafa-cwa.org/page-1836169>

News: United HR has informed us they will schedule a conference call in the last week of July to respond to the retiree groups' Pass Travel improvement suggestions.

#### **1) ETC updated the Travel page**

On May 15th the Employee Travel Center made the FlyingTogether > Travel page easier to navigate.

What's changed on the Travel Tab?

- The left navigation menu was revised to improve user experience and provide an intuitive menu to make it

easier to find resources and information related to pass travel

- Advisories now have a short tagline and require users to click to read the full article
- More webpage content in addition to the pdf documents of the past
- Related information to the right of each page will include all useful information on that subject including supporting pdf documents, question and answers and other related policies

Visit the [Travel tab](#) and explore revised/improved left navigation menu items! Five dark blue tiles on the main page still take you to “Book a flight”, “Update pass riders”, “Pass Travel Report”, “Other airline/Interline travel” and “myUADiscount”. Note the new [myUADiscount page](#) has really been improved!

“Torgi’s Travel Tips” on page 5 of RUAEA’s July newsletter covers those five blue tile links in depth, especially the myUADiscount page. An excerpt is included at the end of this UPDATE.

RAFA has updated our [Important Links page](#) in the Travel Benefits section of our website to sync with the new FT > Travel page links. Check it out!

## *2) Standby, myUADiscount, myUADiscount-Basic Economy:*

Pass riders flying space available or traveling on myUADiscount tickets have the following carry-on and checked baggage allowances.

Note: When purchasing a myUADiscount Basic Economy fare only one personal item is allowed onboard (must fit under the seat). However, you are still eligible for two free checked bags and one of those can be a full-size carry-on that will be gate checked and put in the belly.

Tickets purchased on the customer United website or somewhere else are not myUADiscount tickets and you will not be eligible for the two free checked bags. To buy myUADiscount tickets go to [FlyingTogether > Travel > myUADiscount](#) or use the [United app](#) > Book a Flight (if your Mileage Plus number is linked to your employee profile in employeeRES).

Where do I sit?

Standby: available seats are assigned at the gate, in [boarding priority order](#), according to the cabin you listed in.

myUADiscount: select a confirmed seat when purchasing the ticket; upgrades to Economy Plus, FC or BF seats may also be available to purchase.

myUADiscount Basic Economy: an Economy seat will be assigned at the gate (there is no guarantee your party will be seated together); upgrades to Economy Plus, FC or BF are not allowed.

## *3) More flights to Hawaii coming in December:*

As United celebrates its 70th anniversary in Hawaii this year we announce significant frequency upgrades *effective Dec 20th* from DEN, LAX, ORD and SFO.

DEN-KOA, DEN-LIH and DEN-OGG will become daily, year round.

LAX-ITO will increase to daily. LAX-KOA & LAX LIH increase to 2x daily. LAX-OGG increases to 3x daily.

ORD-OGG will increase to daily (except Tue/Wed)

SFO-KOA increases to 3x daily. SFO-LIH to 2x daily. SFO-OGG to 5x daily.

Current flights to HNL will continue from DEN & ORD (daily), LAX & SFO (5x daily).

UA also connects to HNL daily from IAH, EWR, IAD, GUM & NRT.

From Scott Kirby, UAL President

See his entire Wingspan blog article "Running the best airline in the country" [HERE](#).

#### 4) Order a retiree badge (Instructions are the same for pilots):

A United retiree badge is available to any eligible former employee currently receiving a post-employment benefit or pass travel privilege. The badge is intended to provide retirees with a tangible link to their former employer and supplement the Verification of Eligibility Letter when applying for any applicable discounts offered to United retirees. This badge is in no way mandatory nor is it required for pass travel. Please note: The badge cannot be used to go thru TSA checkpoints.

Retirees may only order the badge *online* through the "[United Service Anywhere](#)" self-service portal on Flying Together. "United Service Anywhere" or "USAW" can be accessed via the dark purple tile on the [Employee Services page](#) (it's also scrolling across the Travel page). You can also go to employeeRES > Quick Links > EmployeeProfile > "Click here to obtain your Retiree Badge" which will redirect you to USAW (same link as above).

Once arriving on the USAW page, type "Order retiree badge" in the search box. Read the FAQ article or simply click on the green "Request Service" box to order.

First pay a \$35 fee for the initial badge, payable thru PayPal.

To complete your order:

- 1) Input your payment confirmation number from PayPal.
- 2) Submit a passport size photo of yourself in jpeg format (on a light blue or off-white background).
- 3) Submit a copy of your government issued ID for identity verification.
- 4) The badge will be sent via FedEx; a signature is required for delivery.

To print a Verification of Eligibility Letter go to FlyingTogether > Book a Flight (employeeRES) > QuickLinks > EmployeeProfile > "Click here to obtain your Verification of Eligibility letter". It's in the "Saved EmployeeRES Information" box.

#### 5) "[Recent News](#)" on [Flying Together](#)>News

Click the dark blue "Recent News" link above to see other stories.

Here are some you might like:

- 04/24: [Manage your travel on the go](#)
- 04/27: [After flt 3411: How we fly, serve, respect](#)
- 05/08: [More flights, bigger aircraft from SFO](#)
- 05/15: [Improvements to the Travel Tab!](#)
- 05/31: [Enhanced Premium Transcon Service](#)
- 06/01: [LAX-SIN will set record as longest flight](#)
- 06/02: [BEST AIRLINE in the country!!!](#)
- 06/08: [Summer routes now flying: 13 new U.S. cities](#)
- 06/13: [Wounded Warrior Games coming to Chicago](#)
- 06/13: [More Hawaiian Flights](#)

Here's a 6/5/2017 New York Times article about summer flying:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/05/travel/what-to-expect-in-the-air-summer-planes.html>

*6)Have you seen our RAFA website?:*

Check out the Travel Benefits tab here: <http://www.rafa-cwa.org>

Read the Pass Travel Program Summary, helpful links, phone numbers and more.

For other Pass Travel Topics: [Previous Travel UPDATES](#)

*7) BONUS: myUAdiscount ticket information from RUAEA*

Many thanks to Kathie Torgison for permission to reprint this excerpt from “Torgi’s Travel Tips” on page 5 of the July 2017 RUAEA newsletter. Visit RUAEA here: <https://www.ruaea.org>

And who among us just doesn’t want to put up with the uncertainty of standby travel, especially as flights fill up faster and faster these days? Well, take heart because you have easy access to the myUAdiscount program—where a confirmed seat at 20% off the lowest applicable fare is just a few clicks away. It is applicable to all UA/UAX flights and your enrolled friends can use this program, too.

When you click on the link\* you will first go to a page inside the FlyingTogether website which explains the program, shows who is and isn’t eligible to use the discount and explains that 2 checked bags are free, mileage plus miles accumulate, compensation for denied boarding is the same as for full-fare passengers and that all rules of the fare you select are applicable. You must then click the myUAdiscount box on the right side of the screen again to enter the actual booking site. There is no other way to obtain this discount!

Once you indicate your travel date, city pairs and the number of travelers, etc., you will be shown all the applicable fares. Note that each fare clearly shows the words “employee fare” above the fare amount so you can rest assured that your discount has been factored. The discount program applies to all fare classes (basic, economy, business and first class) and all fare levels (refundable and nonrefundable).

A great bargain to watch for these days is the new “basic economy” class. This fare type does not allow advance seat assignments (no guarantee your party will be seated together), no upgrades and no carry-on baggage except that which fits under the seat – and they mean it! But, remember that we are allowed to check up to 2 bags per person for free, so if you can live without your suitcase for a few hours, this inexpensive fare may be “just your ticket”.

\*Access the [myUAdiscount](#) page via the blue tile on Flying Together > Travel.

Compiled by Kirk Moore, RAFA Travel Benefits Committee  
June 16, 2017

**NOTE:**

We recently received some input from one of our members regarding how to obtain the TSA pre-check notation on your boarding pass if it fails to appear as it should.

"When I non-revved back from Denver last week, I tried listing myself 3 times (with intervening cancellations) to get TSA PreCheck with my known traveler number. It failed all 3 times, but when I asked an agent at DIA, I was told that you can go to a kiosk to reprint your boarding pass and there is a prompt to edit your info. I did so, put in my number and got a boarding pass WITH pre-check. I had not known that trick to do at the airport."



### **New Feature in Golden Contrails magazine:**

*Our Secretary, data base manager and Golden Contrails editor, Gary Small, has established a new feature for the Golden Contrails magazine. Gary has submitted the following details regarding this exciting new feature.*

We are hoping to introduce a new feature in the next Golden Contrails under the section heading "The Crew Room". Our hope is that this will provide a venue for members to provide updates on activities, employment, travel, interests, health etc. to each other... much as we did during our working years when we would meet up with friends in the crew rooms.

The success of this, as with most of our volunteer efforts rests with the willingness of you, our members, to provide us with this information. We have created a new form on the website under the Contrails tab ([www.thegoldeneagles.org](http://www.thegoldeneagles.org) - CONTRAILS ---hover your mouse over the word CONTRAILS to see the Crew Room at the bottom of the list. Click on "[Crew Room](#)", scroll past the explanatory text to the bottom of the page where the form is located).

We think that these updates of how our members are pursuing retirement will be of particular interest to our friends, especially those that we do not stay in frequent contact with. Please do not procrastinate on sending us your update, via the form described above on the website, or in an email to [smallgd@outlook.com](mailto:smallgd@outlook.com). Ideally, a CREW Room "update" will amount to just a few paragraphs with post retirement "highlights", so that we can present several from different members in each edition. Additionally, however, we definitely encourage longer length "articles" that will be presented separately from The Crew Room, and which can involve anything of an interesting nature related to your career at Continental/United, travel, personal leisure activities or just aviation-related stories in which you may have played a part that may be of interest to our members. There is no specific limit to the length of these articles, but may be subject to some "editing" to accommodate space considerations.

Thanks,  
Gary



### **Convention news:**

Our annual convention/reunion is drawing close and we want to remind our members to make their reservations in a timely manner so that we can adequately plan the activities. Full details are now available on our Golden Eagles website, [www.thegoldeneagles.org](http://www.thegoldeneagles.org), so check it out and you will see that we have an exciting convention planned. Our President Elect, Tom Doherty and his lovely wife Jamie, who is also the President of the Ladies Auxiliary, have been working tirelessly to assure a very enjoyable convention in an upgraded venue, the [Hilton Houston North](#) in Greenspoint, with all the extras for everyone's enjoyment. Tom has arranged a very nice location for our convention with an excellent banquet including a delicious buffet with three entree choices, a selection of various side dishes and a selection of deserts. There will be a DJ to provide various kinds of music to fit the moment during the banquet, very nice items to be auctioned and the usual raffle with nice prizes for the lucky ticket holders. As usual the Hospitality Suite will be a place to catch up with old friends and share a drink or two at the open bar.

This is a reminder to pay your fees for the convention activities you plan on attending **at the time** you register for the convention on our [website](#). We ask that you use the [website store](#) to pay all Golden Eagles fees rather than sending a check if possible. This makes our job of recording your payments much easier and greatly enhances the accuracy of

our records.

**We would like to mention that the cutoff date for banquet meal reservations is Oct 16.** After that date we must enforce a policy of no refunds since the banquet is only five days later on Saturday, the 21st.



**CURRENT PASSWORD:**

The **current password** for accessing the Golden Contrails Magazine and the member rosters is **mach**. The password will be changed with the next issue of the Golden Contrails so watch for the notice.

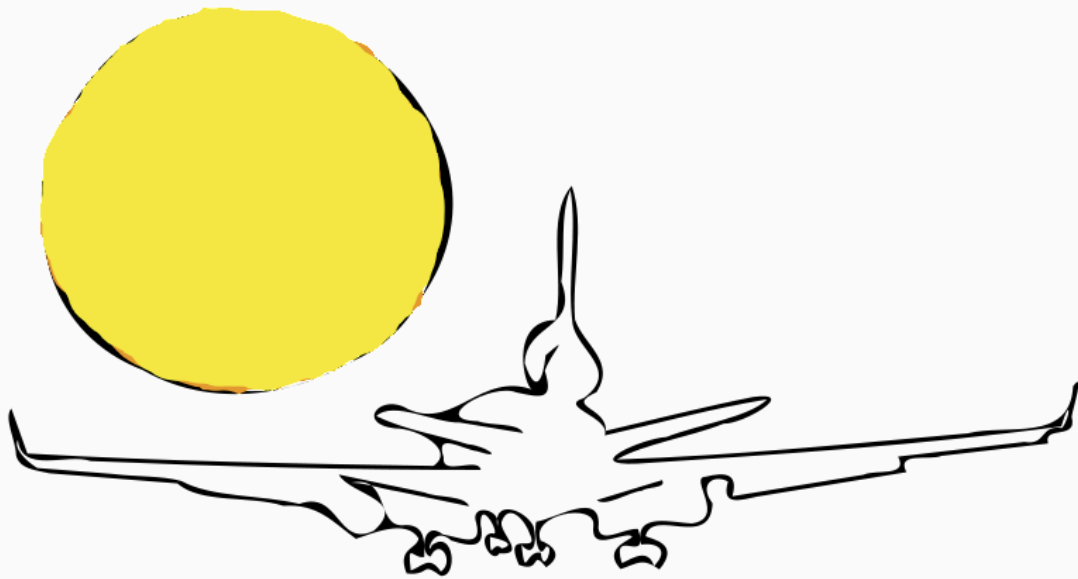
**MEMBER PHOTO ROSTER:**

We applaud the efforts of those who answered the call to send us a photo for our [photo roster](#). From everything we hear, the vast majority of our members appreciate this "resource" ( or perhaps memory aid??). The fact is, however, that this remains an UNFINISHED project for lack of a photo from those of you who have not sent us one. We'd really like to remember what YOU look like, so how about getting your spouse, or one of your buddies to grab that camera or smart phone, take a snap and send it off to Gary at [smallgd@outlook.com](mailto:smallgd@outlook.com).

**MEMBERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERS:**

An important part of maintaining the viability of the Golden Eagles is to continually bring in new members and to get volunteers from the membership to assist in the management of the organization. Please consider encouraging any non-member you feel might be interested in joining the Golden Eagles to submit an application for membership. Our website provides full [details about the Golden Eagles](#) and the [process of joining](#).

Any [Golden Eagles volunteer officer](#) can be contacted if you are interested in volunteering to help us manage the organization. There are several positions that need to be filled and we welcome any member`s contacting us to discuss these openings. Believe it or not, serving as a [Golden Eagles volunteer](#) can be a very fulfilling and enjoyable experience as you interact with your old and new friends on a more personal basis, and you will do your part to help assure the continuing viability of the Golden Eagles.



## **GONE WEST**



### **GOLDEN EAGLES GONE WEST, OCTOBER 2016-PRESENT**

Jim Steinmetz, Dec 7, 2016  
Andy Arthur, Feb 1, 2016  
Ted Herbert, April 6, 2017  
Denis Duffy, April 10, 2017  
Wayne Fischer, April 10, 2017

### **NON GOLDEN EAGLES GONE WEST, OCTOBER 2016-PRESENT**

Bruce Tessmer, Nov, 2016  
Joe Hegidio, Jan 27, 2017  
Jerry Huerta, Feb 18, 2017  
Jocko Harris, Mar 5, 2017  
Dale Haas, April 5, 2017  
Glenn Fox, April 22, 2017

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