



WORLD AIRLINES CLUBS ASSOCIATION

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ACTIVITY REPORT - LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OCTOBER 04 – 09, 2009

It seems like just last month we were dancing to “Jonkanoo” music and having a good time on the beach in Nassau, and it is now time for another AGA – this time in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

As stated in the last report, not much has changed in the Latin America & Caribbean Region. We have not grown or “resurrected” as much as we hoped, but we are still able to make a valuable contribution to WACA. The threat of privatization and downsizing continues to loom over the airlines in the Region, however, we have chosen to not allow it to consume us with worry and anxiety, but to pray and hope that better days are ahead.

Trinidad & Tobago – Since BWIA closed and Caribbean Airlines opened, the reins of TTIC were handed over to Anne-Marie Aleong who has been trying to keep that club active on the WACA books. Of course, the experience that has been lost with these persons leaving the airline business makes it very challenging for Anne-Marie, however we will continue to encourage her to keep the Club running and do whatever she can to revitalize it.

Bahamas - The stars of **ACB** shone brilliantly in 2008 as they hosted the 41st AGA in Nassau Bahamas. Even in the midst of the hurricane season, the sunshine was able to push the rain back just enough so that we could all get a good tan. We all had a delightful time and the local support to the AGA was great as they put the “p” back in “party”. Interliners from the Bahamas continue to support WACA by attending attend AGA’s and other WACA International events in their numbers and no doubt they will make their presence felt in Kuala Lumpur. Again, I congratulate them for a superb job with the AGA 2008. I am very proud to be the RVP of the Latin America & Caribbean Region.

Mexico, has slipped out of contact for sometime now and efforts have been made to keep the lines of communication open but to no avail.

Jamaica – continues to persevere as a club in spite of the constant challenges resulting from the impending sale of the national carrier, downsizing, lay-offs etc. which has been affecting many other carriers. Jamaica hosted another successful Jump-Up event which was held June 4 – 7, 2009. Sixty-five (65) interliners attended and all had a great time especially since there were interliners renewing their wedding vows during the event. Jamaica Jump-Up has become the place to be get “engaged, married and renew wedding vows”, please be advised however, there is no plan to add divorce to the “repertoire” of service provided.

Jamaica Jump-Up 2010 is planned for June 03 – 06, 2010.

JIC continues to help the School of Hope which has been a part of the family for many years. The tradition of treating them at Christmas continued and they were given bed linen, toiletries, clothes and goodies which were well received. The home is visited on a regular basis to stay connected with them.

Puerto Rico - continues to keep their name on the WACA list by paying their dues but there has been no active participation at a meeting. A few interliners continue to attend AGA's however they are not in a position to reactivate to greater participation.

Regional Meeting:

Due to unforeseen reasons, it is not yet possible to have the Regional Meeting, however communication by e-mail has been good.

I would like to thank every member of the EC who continue to do their best to keep the WACA fires going even when the "wood" is damp sometimes. These have been challenging times for all of us, however every year we can look forward to the events and the AGA to distress. The AGA's and other international events succeed because of the love, dedication and perseverance of every single one of us who unite to make it happen year after year. This should not be taken lightly and I would like to take this opportunity to express sincere thanks on behalf of the Latin America and Caribbean Region to all past, present and even future EC members, interliners and friends from all over the world who have made the World Airlines Clubs Association, a "force to be reckoned with.

Thank you again for arranging this wonderful event in Kuala Lumpur and God Bless.

Jacquie Lyseight
Regional Vice President,
Latin America & Caribbean