



District 142

Weekly Update



Continental + ExpressJet + Micronesia + Gulfstream

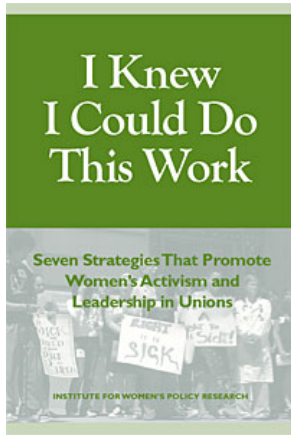
The Update Message from the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers representing Flight Attendants in the 2339 Local Lodges

Friday, February 22, 2008

Labor Leaders Prepare for Possible Airline Mergers – AFL-CIO union leaders declared they would use any and all options to oppose airline merger proposals that failed to meet the needs of employees and the traveling public. “Through decades of experience, we know that corporations will pursue their own interests and ignore the impact of their decisions on employees unless the workers are at the table with a strong voice through strong unions,” said AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Richard L. Trumka and AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department President Ed Wytkind in a joint statement following a meeting of AFL-CIO transportation unions. “We will review the implications of all possible airline mergers on jobs, on collective bargaining rights, on service to the flying public and on the communities that rely on this industry for transportation needs.” Airlines that only recently emerged from bankruptcy are now clamoring for a massive restructuring that could leave passengers with fewer choices, communities with less service and employees facing a new round of cost-cutting efforts. The AFL-CIO leaders pledged an all-out effort to oppose any “poorly conceived” merger proposal that does not protect workers’ collective bargaining rights. “We will engage elected officials at the highest level to ensure the voices of workers are not drowned out by voices of greed and Wall Street who may seize this moment as a chance to create wealth for a few at the expense of many,” said Trumka and Wytkind. **Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) also weighed in on the possibility of airline mergers, coming down squarely on the side of airline workers and passengers.** “If carriers decide to combine in order to cut costs and increase their market clout, we will have to take a hard look at the potential effects on workers and consumers,” said Sen. Clinton. “It is important that we preserve choice and competitive pricing in the airline industry. It is also vitally important that any proposed merger preserve the jobs and worker protections on which thousands of families rely.”



The IAM and District 142 are proud to welcome our newest members, **ExpressJet Airlines Flight Attendant Class 08-01**, Graduating February 29, 2008, **Congratulations!**



Union Members, Union Leaders—Union Women – Working women make up about half of the workforce and nearly half of the union movement. But the number of women in union leadership roles does not reflect the growing numbers of women members. The Institute for Women's Policy Research (**IWPR**), a nonpartisan research group, today issued a report that can help unions promote women's voices and leadership. Based on interviews with women who are union activists, the report, ***I Knew I Could Do This Work***, points out the many obstacles women experience for becoming union activists and suggests ways to overcome them. Here's Amy Caiazza, IWPR's director of democracy and society programs and author of the report: Unions are good for women workers, but they could be much better at promoting women into leadership positions. The strategies outlined in this report are designed to help women claim a voice of authority in an area that is traditionally dominated by men. Having women as powerful and effective union leaders

can benefit women as a whole, according to the report. Click on this link to view the complete article, <http://blog.afcio.org/2007/12/05/union-members-union-leadersunion-women/>

Third Annual Flight Attendant Conference Coming in April 2008 – The IAM has announced that it will sponsor its' third Flight Attendant Conference April 7th through April 10th, 2008, at the IAM William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center in Hollywood, MD. Participants will include your Local Lodge Officers and Grievance Committee Members as well as any Flight Attendant members who want to attend on a voluntary basis. Transportation to and from the conference will be provided along with meals and lodging. Topics for this year's conference are still being finalized, however the intent and purpose of the conference is to provide our members with information about their union and to learn what the IAM stands for and promotes on their behalf. If you would like to attend please contact your Local Lodge President as soon as possible so we can plan for the number of interested participants. We look forward to seeing you!

Crewmember Self-Defense Training – Following meetings between the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the Machinists Union, The TSA and the Federal Air Marshal Service are now offering Crew Member Self-Defense Training (CMSDT) in the Houston, TX and Newark, NJ areas. The techniques presented in this course are easy to perform and effective when applied correctly – something that is critically important when you must respond quickly. **Regardless of your physical size or fitness level, anyone can learn and execute these defense techniques quickly, efficiently, and effectively.** Participation is voluntary, but your Union representatives encourage you to take advantage of this unique opportunity! In the Newark area - Essex County College Police Academy 250 Grove Avenue Cedar Grove, NJ 07009, March 10, 13 ♦ April 21, 23 Contact: Rocco L. Miscia (973) 877-4352 Email: miscia@essex.edu and in the Houston area – Lone Star College - North Harris 10041 Regal Row, Suite 170 Houston, TX 77040, March 19, 20 Contact: Deb Pruitt (281)260-3598 Email: Debra.L.Pruitt@nhmccd.edu.

Next week, the Weekly Update will be posted Saturday, March 1, 2008. The Weekly Update will resume its normal posting on Friday, March 7, 2008.

We would like to encourage all members to attend your Local Lodge business meeting. Each base must have a quorum to conduct business. The following is a schedule for upcoming meetings:

Newark: Tuesday, March 11th, 3:00 p.m. at the Newark Airport Hotel (formerly Doubletree).

Cleveland: Thursday, March 13th, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive.

Houston: Tuesday, March 18th, 1:00 p.m. at 15710 JFK Blvd.

Guam: Wednesday, March 19th, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room.