



District 142

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Weekly Update



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

Friday, April 25, 2008

IAM Urges Congress to Reject Airline Mergers – IAM



IAM President Tom Buffenbarger meets with IAM members from Northwest Airlines following the hearing on airline mergers before the House Judiciary Committee.

members from as far away as Detroit converged on Capitol Hill today as International President Tom Buffenbarger urged members of the House Judiciary Committee to oppose consolidation plans currently being proposed by airline CEOs. “If allowed to proceed, Northwest and Delta will form the world’s largest airline, creating the world’s biggest corporate headache,” declared Buffenbarger in testimony before the committee’s Task Force on Competition Policy and Antitrust Laws. “Consolidation is not the solution for this troubled industry – more competent management is. This industry is in disarray and the executives in charge are only making

things worse.” Today’s hearing, titled “Competition in the Airline Industry,” follows the April 14, 2008 merger announcement by Delta Air Lines and Northwest Airlines and featured testimony by Northwest Airlines CEO Doug Steenland and Delta Airlines CEO Richard Anderson. “Some form of limited re-regulation is necessary if this country has any chance for a safe, reliable, profitable and competitive air transportation industry,” said Buffenbarger. “There is too much at stake to let executives and their legacies of failure try and solve the industry’s problems.” The IAM has been working closely for months with other labor unions, lawmakers and consumer groups to oppose reckless consolidation schemes designed to enrich executives at the expense of passengers, employees and airport communities. “It would be difficult to find anyone outside of a small group of airline executives who expects to benefit from additional airline consolidation,” said Buffenbarger. Buffenbarger’s complete testimony is available at www.goiam.org/mergers.

Local Lodge 2339G President Morna Rector is seeking election to become a delegate to the Democratic National Convention representing Guam. We urge all **Continental Micronesia Flight Attendants** to vote in Guam’s May 3, 2008 Democratic Primary and support Sister Rector’s bid to become a delegate. Voting will take place at their local Mayor’s office. You do not have to be registered to vote; you can simply sign up to be a member of the Democratic Party on May 3, 2008, before you vote. Delegates and voting places will be announced in the local newspaper **Pacific Daily News**. A vote for Sister Rector is a vote for Hillary!

SkyWest Airlines has approached ExpressJet Airlines with an offer to purchase them for \$3.50 per share. While details are vague, ExpressJet has stated that they will not accept the offer. The company has formed a review committee for the purpose of analyzing any future offers. We will advise you when and if more details become available.

IAM Launches Airline 'Merger Watch'



Thanks to a year-long campaign by a handful of airline CEO's, a series of massive and disruptive mergers are threatening to reshape the troubled industry, culminating in a monopoly-like atmosphere for the few carriers that remain. In addition to the recently announced merger between Delta and Northwest Airlines, which would create the world's largest airline, there is widespread speculation that United Airlines, Continental Airlines, US Airways and American Airlines

may also be forced to consider mergers to remain competitive. To keep IAM members advised of the developments in this latest shakedown of airline passengers and employees, the IAM created '**Merger Watch**', a special web page at www.goiam.org/mergers to provide news and information on the merger-related developments. In addition to IAM updates, Merger Watch will provide links to news releases, testimony, videos and background information about proposed mergers and how they could affect IAM members, their families and their contracts.

At ExpressJet, the Union and the company have agreed on a date for the Main Cabin Door Arbitration. The parties will meet on April 30, 2008, in Houston, Texas with arbitrator Josh Javits presiding over the arbitration. We will keep you advised of any future developments regarding this arbitration.

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! We are pleased to advise you that the TSA has reported a marked increase in participation in the self defense training classes and therefore they have added additional training dates for May and June in the Houston area. Spread the word with your co-workers and challenge them in joining you to attend this training course. In the Newark area - Essex County College Police Academy 250 Grove Avenue Cedar Grove, NJ 07009, May 5, 13, 19, 28 Contact: Rocco L. Miscia (973) 877-4352 Email: miscia@essex.edu or Mary Beam (973) 877-4350 Email: beam@essex.edu and in the Houston area – Lone Star College - North Harris 10041 Regal Row, Suite 170 Houston, TX 77040, May 8, 9 ♦ June 19, 20 - Contact: Deb Pruitt (281)260-3598 Email: Debra.L.Pruitt@nhmccd.edu.

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:

Cleveland: Thursday, May 8, 2008, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive.

Newark: Tuesday, May 13, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel (formerly Doubletree).

Houston: Tuesday, May 20, 2008, 1:00 p.m. at 15710 JFK Blvd.

Guam: Wednesday, May 21, 2008, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room.