



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 4, 2008

Sheila Hammond Named IAM 'Sister of the Month' –



The IAM Women's Department has named Sheila Hammond of Local Lodge 2339H in Houston, TX, as "**Sister of the Month**" for April. Hammond first became active in the labor movement in 1968 when she began her in-flight career with Trans Texas Airlines (later renamed Texas International). Within a year, she was serving on several union committees and in 1970 won her first elected office. In 1982, Texas International merged with Continental Airlines, which ultimately brought Hammond to the IAM. As a member of the IAM, Hammond has served as President of the Local and participated in numerous contract negotiations and grievance processes over the years, always doing her best to protect the interests of her union sisters and brothers. Additionally, she has given

authoritative testimony before the National Mediation Board, the National Transportation Safety Board and lobbied both houses of Congress regarding issues important to Flight Attendants. As a breast cancer survivor, Hammond is a strong advocate for awareness and encouraging annual mammograms and monthly self-exams. The IAM "**Sister of the Month**" is an effort to motivate women to become more involved in their union by recognizing their hard work and dedication. If you'd like to nominate someone, download the [nomination form](#) and submit it to the IAM Women's Department.



The IAM and District Lodge 142 is pleased to announce the graduation of Continental Airlines Flight Attendant class, "08-02" and to welcome our newest members to our IAM family, **Congratulations!**

IAM Airline Districts Unveil Merger Survey – Although the IAM strongly opposes mergers among major airlines, some airline executives remain fixated on merging one or more U.S. carriers. IAM Airline Districts have prepared a brief survey to give airline employees an opportunity to weigh in on potential mergers. You can access the merger survey through the District 142 website, www.go142.org.

Third Annual Flight Attendant Conference Receives Capacity Response – The IAM is sponsoring its' third annual Flight Attendant Conference April 7 through April 10, 2008, at the IAM William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center in Hollywood, MD. The Union has received an overwhelming number of requests to attend the Flight Attendant Conference and has reached its capacity at the facility to accommodate additional participants. If you were not able to attend the Conference this year, we look forward to seeing you at next years' Conference. In the meantime, you can learn more about your Union by attending your Local Lodge monthly business meetings. We would like to thank all members that expressed an interest in this years' Conference.

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, April 21, 23 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, April 15, 17 ♦ 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:

Houston: Tuesday, April 15th, 1:00 p.m. at 15710 JFK Blvd.

Newark: Tuesday, April 15th, 3:00 p.m. at the Newark Airport Hotel (formerly Doubletree).
Date changed from April 8th due to conflict with Flight Attendant Conference.

Guam: Wednesday, April 16th, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room.

Cleveland: Thursday, April 17th, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive.
Date changed from April 10th due to conflict with Flight Attendant Conference.