



District 142

Continental • ExpressJet • Micronesia • Gulfstream • CommutAir

Weekly Update



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

Friday, July 4, 2008

Continental Airlines Furlough Notice to Flight Attendants – In accordance with Section 13.C of your Collective Bargaining Agreement the Company has sent a potential furlough notice to the 800 most junior flight attendants possibly affected. The notice is a contract provision and does not take into account the number of flight attendants that will take Company Offered Leaves of Absence that the contract requires to be offered or the Early Out Programs. The Union anticipates that few if any flight attendants will actually be furloughed due to the taking of leaves of absence and retirements by flight attendants. Regardless, the provisions of the contract will be exercised to insure a fair and equitable furlough should the need arise. Please refer to Section 13 of your contract for more detailed provisions of furlough protections. Any question may be directed to your local base representatives.

\$100 Dues - No! A Fairer Dues Structure - Yes! – The fact is that there will be proposals at the IAM Grand Lodge Convention in September that looks at a different formula from the one spelled out in the IAM Constitution. The proposals, if adopted by the delegates, would calculate dues based on a percentage of straight-time wages. Since Flight Attendants don't work a traditional 40-hour work week there will be separate discussions to figure out what method to apply to Flight Attendants. **A committee of Flight Attendants, including the Presidents of the Local Lodges, from around the system have met to discuss this issue** and to work towards a dues structure which is fair for Flight Attendants. This committee will take into account that Flight Attendants choose to increase their flying assignments as well as those who choose to drop some or all of their work pay their fair share. Flight Attendants will be represented at this convention by delegates from the 2339 Cleveland, Guam, and Houston Locals Lodges. The only Flight Attendant Local not represented will be the Newark Lodge. In March 2008, the members in attendance at the monthly union meeting in Newark voted not to send any delegates to the Grand Lodge Convention, where this issue will be discussed, debated, and voted upon. It is time to separate fact from fiction. **There will be no \$100 dues. Don't listen to rumors, get the facts.** Ask your union representative in your crew room for a complete explanation or contact your Local Lodge President.

CommutAir Flight Attendant Negotiations Update – The Union has been informed that CommutAir has retained the law firm of Ford and Harrison to be the Company's representative in negotiations for the Flight Attendants. Ms. Ellen Ham has been assigned as the spokesperson for the law firm. She sent correspondence to the IAM indicating her inability to be available for the dates we have scheduled for July and August. President Directing General Chairman Tom Higginbotham has personally spoken to Ms. Ham and requested that she provide as many future dates available to her so that we may continue to negotiate your first agreement. Ms. Ham has agreed to provide available dates as soon as possible. Once we become aware of scheduled meeting dates they will be announced. Please continue to encourage your fellow flight attendants to give the Union their contact information. Your participation in and knowledge about this process is essential to successfully negotiating a first agreement that you will vote to accept.

Local Lodge 2339N Placed in Trusteeship – General Vice President (GVP) Robert Roach advised members in January 2008, that issues affecting the membership in Newark required that Local Lodge 2339N be placed under supervision. Since then conditions have not improved, in fact, they have deteriorated. Therefore, it has been determined that it is in the best interests of the membership of Local Lodge 2339N to place the Lodge under trusteeship effective July 1, 2008. In accordance with the provisions of the IAM Constitution, Grand Lodge Representative Carla Winkler was named as Temporary Trustee or Deputy to direct the affairs of the Lodge during this trusteeship. Grievances will continue to be handled in the normal, contractual manner. You may be assured that we will take whatever actions are necessary to protect the interests and welfare of our members. In this regard, you will be receiving additional information concerning what actions are intended to take place regarding proper care and handling of the representation of all of our Flight Attendant members.

ExpressJet Flight Attendants: Come and join your fellow Inflight Brothers and Sisters here at ExpressJet and attend the next union meeting. The next meeting will be held at the:

Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel
(Formerly the Doubletree Hotel)
1000 Spring Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07201
Telephone: (866) 353-1031

July 8, 2008 at 3PM Sharp! – We recommend that all of our ExpressJet Brothers and sisters, who plan to attend, please arrive early! All who wish to attend please meet at the P4 Airtrain station at 2PM sharp so that we can go as one, unified group! You can take the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel Shuttle directly from the P4 Airtrain Station. The shuttle is complimentary and runs every 20 minutes. Also, please bring with you the reasons why you refuse to accept a pay cut, in writing. We need to send a strong and loud message to the company during upcoming negotiations. So come to the next meeting and let our voices be heard! See you there!

Crewmember Self-Defense Training – In the Newark area - Essex County College Police Academy 250 Grove Avenue Cedar Grove, NJ 07009, **July** 10, 17, 24, **August** 5, 12, 19, 27 - 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, **July** 15, 17, **August** 7, 12 - 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 Local Lodge must have a quorum to conduct business. The following is a schedule for upcoming meetings:

Newark: Tuesday, July 8, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel

Cleveland: Thursday, July 10, 2008, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive.

Houston: Tuesday, July 15, 2008, 1:00 p.m. at 15710 JFK Blvd.

Guam: Wednesday, July 16, 2008, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room.