



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, October 3, 2008

IAM/ ExpressJet Airlines Update – Discussions regarding the carrier’s request for economic relief will resume Thursday October 9, 2008. The focus remains on reaching an agreement that continues to protect our flight attendants best interest. Representatives from the District as well as representatives from the three bases IAH, EWR and CLE will attend these meetings. No economic changes can occur without membership approval (ratification).

ExpressJet Base transfers are now complete. Your Union representatives are available in the crew rooms to answer your questions or you may reach them by phone:

Base	Representative	Telephone
CLE	Nicole Washington	216-820-5715
EWR	Kristal Taylor	973-856-5392
IAH	Dana Fremont	281-773-8436
IAH	Jessica La Force	832-746-2159

Flight attendants who suffered losses during Hurricane Ike may apply for assistance from the IAM's “**Disaster Relief Assistance Program**”. Application forms are available at the IAH Union table. You may also view/print the “**Hurricane Ike Damage Assessment**” form via the District Lodge 142 website, www.go142.org.

Continental Micronesia Update – The company has announced the adding back of the 9th and 10th position on CO 001/ 002 effective with the November bid period. While making this change the carrier advised it would continue to review the financial impact of this action.

CommutAir has Block Hours Reduced by Continental Airlines – The Company has announced that due to the turmoil in the airline industry, Continental has reduced the block hours given to CommutAir. In turn they need to reduce the staff by 12% and will be furloughing employees. The entire industry has endured these cut backs and furloughs and many employees have had to face losing their jobs. The IAM contracts in the airline industry all have sections with furlough language that spells out what must happen when a company faces a potential furlough of its employees. Many flight attendant contracts include language that offers voluntary leaves of absence before the company may involuntarily furlough an employee. Your Union is trying to negotiate all of these provisions for the flight attendants at CommutAir. The process can be lengthy but we are working to negotiate provisions to protect the flight attendants at CommutAir. Thank you for your continued support.

Coalition of Flight Attendant Unions held a Return to the Cabin Summit, at the Pew Charitable Trust in Washington, DC on September 30 and October 1, 2008. Attendees included members of the Coalition, representatives from most of the major and regional carrier's, the FAA, US Department of Labor, Behavioral Health of the Palm Beaches, Operation Redblock from Amtrak and Executive Office of the President, Office of National Drug Policy. The summit focused on returning flight attendants to duty after completing a substance abuse program and also developing treatment programs tailored to the unique challenges flight attendants face in their recovery. IAM represented flight attendants, are one of two groups that have negotiated in their contract, specific language providing for a second chance opportunity in the event of a confirmed positive drug or alcohol test. Both labor and management were interested in learning more about the specifics of how our IAM contract language handles these situations. We are pleased to report that as a result of this meeting, a working group has been formed to determine the "Best Practices" in the industry and to create a model using our language and "Best Practices" for other carriers to consider.

New Procedures for Winpisinger Center Airport Pick-Up – Beginning on Saturday, October 11, 2008, there will be a permanent change in the pick-up procedure for participants arriving at Baltimore Washington Airport (BWI) for classes at the IAM William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center. After their arrival at the BWI airport, participants will be picked up at the 2nd curb outside of Door 14 (baggage claim, lower level) and transported to the W3 Depot. The Winpisinger Center shuttle from the Airport to the W3 Depot will run every half hour from 4:00 - 8:00 PM. The shuttle will be clearly marked with IAM logos on both sides. As in the past, participants will wait at the W3 Depot until 8:30 pm when the bus will leave the W3 Depot for the Winpisinger Center (arrival time approximately 10 pm). Click [here](#) for more information on the new procedure.

Crewmember Self-Defense Training

Newark Area

Essex County College Police Academy
250 Grove Avenue
Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

Contact:

Rocco L. Miscia (973) 877-4352

Email: miscia@essex.edu

Mary Beam (973) 877-4350

Email: beam@essex.edu

Class dates:

October 7, 14, 23, 27

November 6, 11, 20, 25

December 2, 9, 18

Houston Area

Lone Star College - North Harris
10041 Regal Row, Suite 170
Houston, TX 77040

Contact:

Deb Pruitt (281)260-3598

Email: debra.l.pruitt@lonestar.edu

Class dates:

October 24, 28

November 11, 25

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:

Cleveland: Thursday, October 9, 2008, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive

Newark: Tuesday, October 14, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel

Guam: Wednesday, October 15, 2008, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room

Houston: Tuesday, October 21, 2008, 1:00 p.m. at 15710 JFK Blvd