



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

Friday, November 27, 2009

Support the IAM Voting Rights Campaign for Airline and Railroad Workers

The National Mediation Board (NMB) is proposing historic changes to the rules governing representation elections in the air and rail industries, and the NMB is inviting comments from the public. With the near-certain prospect of additional consolidation in the airline industry, workers at United, Continental and all carriers need to understand how a rule change proposed by NMB would dramatically increase their chances of retaining their contracts, retirement benefits and seniority rights. The proposed rule change would grant air and rail employees the same voting rights enjoyed by workers in other industries and would end a discriminatory practice which treats non-voters as if they had voted "no". The current rules also require an absolute majority of eligible voters in a bargaining unit to cast ballots in favor of representation before a union can be certified. If similar rules were applied to U.S. political elections, many states would have no elected representatives. Elections in the United States are decided by a majority of voters who participate in an election. Nowhere but in the transportation industry do non-voters routinely determine the outcome of an election. Airline executives and their corporate allies are already mounting an aggressive campaign against the rule change, which would close a loophole they have exploited to suppress union organizing drives. All IAM members are strongly urged to submit comments supporting the voting rights of air and rail workers. Family and friends are also encouraged to submit comments - all members of the public are welcome to submit comments. Instructions on how to submit comments electronically download a pre-written letter to sign and return, or how to submit your own personal comments are available at <http://www.goiam.org/nmb>. The deadline for submitting comments to the NMB on the proposed election rules is January 4, 2010. The time has come to provide full and fair voting rights for tens of thousands of air and rail employees who have been unfairly denied their full rights as citizens and workers. Please take the time to send a message to the NMB today.

ExpressJet Reminder: December 2, 2009 is the last day to add family members for pass travel. Please make sure that you follow all instructions for adding your family members.

Guide Dogs Fundraisers Salute Jay Bormann – More than 1,500 cowpokes,



cowgirls, rustlers, rounder's and buckaroos gathered in Las Vegas, NV, last week for a western-themed benefit to celebrate the work of Guide Dogs of America (GDA). The annual event recognizes IAM locals, districts and individuals who volunteer countless hours of service to raise funds for the non-profit GDA, which breeds, trains and provides guide dogs free of charge to sightless individuals. Known officially as the 29th William W. Winpisinger Charity Banquet, this year's event included an emotional farewell to Jay Bormann (pictured to the left),

who is retiring after serving as president of the Sylmar, CA-based GDA for more than a decade. Taking over for Bormann as GDA president will be former Eastern Territory Administrative Assistant Dale Hartford. In addition to the boot stomping salute to Bormann, several individuals were recognized with the 2009 Gift of Sight Award for their commitment to the work of GDA.



This year's honorees included Eastern Territory GVP Lynn Tucker, Local 74 President Mark Hebert, United Technologies Labor & Employee Relations Vice President James Miller and Liberty Dental Plan Vice President Hugh Hazelwood.

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, December 8, 2009, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel

Cleveland: Thursday, December 10, 2009, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive

Houston: Tuesday, December 15, 2009, 1:00 p.m. at 15710 JFK Blvd
December Monthly Union Meeting to be Held at LL Office

Guam: Wednesday, December 16, 2009, 2009, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room