



**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, February 13, 2009

**Machinists Express Serious Safety Concerns at House FAA Hearing** – International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) General Vice President Robert Roach, Jr., today testified before the Aviation Sub-Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on the subject of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2009. "Industry conditions have imposed great burdens on workers as carriers compete to reduce costs," said Roach. "Such an extraordinary focus on the bottom line demands greater, not less, government oversight, and proper FAA funding is a must." Roach urged the Committee to resolve jurisdictional conflicts between the National Mediation Board and the National Labor Relations Board, and address Flight Attendant issues such as fatigue and their lack of workplace health and safety regulations. Roach also called for enough FAA inspectors to ensure one level of aircraft safety and maintenance oversight regardless of where in the world the aircraft maintenance is performed. Additionally, General Vice President Roach requested funding to train America's youth for aviation jobs. "The Machinists Union supports institutions, such as New York City's Aviation High School, that provide students with the skills needed to work in the aviation industry," said Roach. "The FAA should invest in the industry's future by investing in our children and expanding high school aviation training programs." The IAM is the largest airline union in North America, representing more than 100,000 airline employees in almost every classification, including Flight Attendant, Mechanic & Related, Fleet Service, Customer Service and Reservation Agents. The IAM's complete testimony is available at [www.goiam.org/transportation](http://www.goiam.org/transportation).

**ExpressJet Flight Attendants Notice:** It has been reported that there has been an increase of non-compliance regarding pre-flight checks. Avoid the possibility being disciplined by the company. Perform your pre-flight checks immediately upon your arrival at the aircraft.

**Continental Connection Flight #3407 operated by Colgan Air, Inc.** was involved in an accident last evening at approximately 10:20 PM EST. The accident occurred in the vicinity of Buffalo Niagara International Airport. Forty-four passengers were on board along with five crew members. No Continental or ExpressJet crew members were involved in the accident. Although the IAM does not represent workers at the carrier, the IAM has contacted NTSB officials to offer assistance with the incident. District Lodge 142 has been informed that the investigation is confined to representatives of Colgan Air. The IAM extends its sympathies to the family of the crew members and passengers involved in the accident.

**DISTRICT LODGE 142 SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION** – District Lodge 142 is pleased to announce the opening of its 2009 Scholarship Competition, beginning February 16, 2009. The competition will be open to all members in good standing of District Lodge 142 as of February 1, 2009, as well as their legal children who are 2009 graduating high school seniors. The winners of the competition will receive scholarship tuition of \$1,000.00. This money will be paid directly to the college or accredited institution of higher knowledge, at which the entrant is accepted, for tuition only. The competition will be based on an essay competition, the subject of which will be selected by the Scholarship Committee. The essays will be judged on grammar, style, syntax, originality and content, and the decision of the judges will be final. To apply for the competition, a fully completed application form together with an essay must be sent by U.S. mail to the District Office and postmarked no later than midnight April 30, 2009. Competition will open on February 16, 2009 and will close at midnight April 30, 2009. Applications postmarked after that date will not be considered. Winners will be announced on June 30, 2009. Application forms for the competition together with specific rules and regulations are available through your Local Lodge or on the District Lodge 142 website [www.go142.org](http://www.go142.org). Additionally, the General Chairperson assigned to your area can provide answers to any other inquiries concerning the entire program. Good Luck to All Participants!

### **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](mailto:miscia@essex.edu)

Mary Beam (973) 877-4350

**Email:** [beam@essex.edu](mailto:beam@essex.edu)

#### **Class dates:**

**2009**

**February 24, 26**

#### **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](mailto:debra.l.pruitt@lonestar.edu)

#### **Class dates:**

**2009**

**February 18**

**March 10, 19**

**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:

**Houston:** Tuesday, February 17, 2009, 1:00 p.m. at 15710 JFK Blvd

**Guam:** Wednesday, February 18, 2009, 2009, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room

**Newark:** Tuesday, March 10, 2009, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel

**Cleveland:** Thursday, March 12, 2009, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive