



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, February 20, 2009



Attendees at the Transportation Activist Program presented by Local Lodge 2339N

Local Lodge 2339N hosted the 1st Annual Transportation Activist Program at the Newark at the Renaissance Hotel on Feb 18 & 19, 2009. This voluntary training program covered topics that included FMLA, Mergers, Organizing, Pensions and Retirement Programs, Politics and MNPL, and Where Your Dues Dollars Go. Members from the Cleveland, Houston and Newark Local Lodges were in attendance. Transportation Department General Vice President Robert Roach, Jr. addressed the activists on the first day, followed by presenters and speakers from the Grand Lodge and District Lodge 142. Kudos to those members that took the time to learn the facts of how their union operates and to also commit to passing the information they have learned on to their brother and sister members when out flying the line.



National Group Protection Insurance will be offered at the Houston base in the



Continental & ExpressJet crew rooms beginning March 11 - 17, 2009. Underwritten by American Bankers Life Assurance Company, you can elect to have accident; cancer; critical illness; or universal life insurance coverage for yourself and/or your family members. There will be representatives in the crew rooms to explain the coverage being offered for IAM members. District Lodge 142 will notify our members when National Group Protection representatives

will be coming to your base for enrollment. Flight Attendants from all bases transiting through Houston during this time are welcome to enroll.

This week, members of the Joint Air Transport Safety Committee (JATSC) met with members of the Transportation Trades Department (TDD), which is an organization that specializes in lobbying on behalf of all of the aviation unions. The Committee discussed the recently introduced House Bill, H.R. 915 - **FAA Reauthorization Act of 2009**. Members of the JATSC will be acting as a resource for IAM Transportation Department Airline Coordinator Tom Brickner and MNPL Director Hasan Solomon, who will be leading the IAM in its efforts to improve legislation on behalf of its members.

‘Dirty Jobs’ Host Tackles Skilled Labor Bias – The host of the popular Discovery Channel program, ‘*Dirty Jobs*,’ has launched a new [website](#) aimed at raising awareness about the amount of skilled trades jobs being lost in the United States. After four years as host of ‘*Dirty Jobs*,’ Mike Rowe believes there is a bias against skilled labor as well as a nationwide shortage of educational programs to provide training for high school students interested in pursuing high-tech careers. “I’ve come to believe that we marginalize skilled labor,” said Rowe. “We make fun of it. We avoid it. And the consequences of doing so are not good. Our infrastructure is crumbling around us. Yet somehow, we have a labor shortage and high unemployment.” With an arsenal of information and considerable personal experience, Rowe promotes educational awareness and user participation on the unique website. A long-time supporter of unions, Rowe is committed to nothing less than changing how the world looks at work and skilled labor.



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:

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

Class dates:

2009

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:

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

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

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