



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, September 11, 2009

Continental Flight Crew: Unsung Heroes – Members of the crew of US Airways Flight



Continental Flight 1404 attendants Pamela Howard and Regina Ressler

1549, which landed on the Hudson River, were not the only commercial aviation heroes to emerge this winter. They were just the only ones whose heroism was widely noticed. On December 20, 2008, Continental Flight 1404, a Boeing 737-500, veered off the runway in Denver around 6 p.m., hit an embankment and burst into flames. Within 90 seconds, every passenger had been evacuated. There were no fatalities, although 37 people were injured. Much of the credit for the successful evacuation belongs to three flight attendants who made sure the

passengers exited before they did -- even as a fire, burning on the right side of the aircraft, made right side exits unusable, melted overhead bins and caused windows to melt and pop. The three flight attendants were "real heroes," Richard Lowe, one of two pilots flying as passengers that day who also worked to evacuate passengers, told the National Transportation Safety Board. "The epitome of training in action was the flight attendants." For investors, crew heroism has no direct impact on shares: US Airways President Scott Kirby has said widespread publicity over the miracle landing on the Hudson did not stimulate bookings. But clearly, underlying confidence in a given carrier is enhanced when crew heroism is widely recognized. In the case of the Continental crew, however, their heroism has not yet been recognized, in striking contrast to the outpouring that followed the miracle landing of 1549. Read the full story at, <http://www.thestreet.com/story/10596278/1/continental-flight-crew-unsung-heroes.html>

Continental Flight Attendants using the Terminal "E" By-Pass door should be aware of the security requirements for the use of this airport entrance. **Only on-duty Flight Crew members are allowed to use** the Terminal "E" By-Pass door at Bush Intercontinental Airport. Make sure that you answer all security questions honestly and correctly. Flight Crew members are not allowed to use this By-Pass door if; *you are commuting to or from work and/or you are traveling non-revenue for business or personal travel*. Continental Airlines Inflight management has recently terminated Flight Attendants for failure to comply with these directives. In addition crew members are subject to personal fines up to \$10,000.00 for violations. While the Union will continue to challenge the recent firing of our members, your Union representatives ask that members use their best judgment when using this By-Pass door at Terminal "E".

Do not risk losing your job!

World Health Organization recommended steps you should take to protect yourself from catching influenza A(H1N1)? The main route of transmission of the new influenza A(H1N1) virus seems to be similar to seasonal influenza, via droplets that are expelled by speaking, sneezing or coughing. You can prevent getting infected by avoiding close contact with people who show influenza-like symptoms (trying to maintain a distance of about 1 meter if possible) and taking the following measures:

- avoid touching your mouth and nose;
- clean hands thoroughly with soap and water, or cleanse them with an alcohol-based hand rub on a regular basis (especially if touching the mouth and nose, or surfaces that are potentially contaminated);
- avoid close contact with people who might be ill;
- reduce the time spent in crowded settings if possible;
- improve airflow in your living space by opening windows;
- practice good health habits including adequate sleep, eating nutritious food, and keeping physically active.

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, September 15, 1:00 p.m. at Houston Airport Marriott Hotel

Guam: Wednesday, September 16, 2009, 2009, 4:00 p.m. at the Hilton Hotel

Cleveland: Thursday, October 8, 2009, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive

Newark: Tuesday, October 13, 2009, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel