



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

**Friday, March 5, 2010**

**Continental Flight Attendant Negotiations Survey** has been extended through March 15, 2010. Flight Attendants have requested the ability to vote online and this negotiations survey is the first step in that process. Don't miss your opportunity to express your thoughts and suggestions on all contract issues. Data gathered from this survey will be used to produce the next 2 follow-up surveys, "**Economics and Quality of Life Issues**". Please go to [www.go142.org](http://www.go142.org) to take the survey, if you haven't already done so.

**ExpressJet Flight Attendants:**

**Scheduling Committee** – The IAM Scheduling Committee consists of three flight attendants, one from each base, who build the lines using the parameters set forth by the company. You may contact them via email at: [xjtfalinebuilders@hotmail.com](mailto:xjtfalinebuilders@hotmail.com). Please note that the line builders have no ability to handle requests. Please check your bid packet for instructions on how to submit requests.

Please understand that the line builders do not have the authority to alter pairings to improve lines. Pairings are, for the most part, computer generated. All suggestions regarding improving pairings, length of trips, etc. should be emailed to crew planning.

**Pay for Lost Days Off in February (per agreement)** – you will not see the additional pay on your Master Schedule or on your Pay Register. It will show only on your pay check, so please check your March 16, 2010 pay check to ensure you are paid correctly.

**New Base** – The ExpressJet Airlines ORD (Chicago) base is scheduled to open May 1, 2010. The company anticipates 110 crews will be based in Chicago flying United operations. Watch your bid packets for information about the new base, transfers, etc. ExpressJet plans to send out more information about the new base early next week.

**Drafting** – Please continue to monitor your pay registers/pay checks to ensure that you are paid correctly for any drafting or reassignments. If you believe you have been improperly drafted, gather as much information as possible and see your union rep.

**Charter** – Flight attendants please be aware that if you drop a COEX trip to do a charter trip, you are being paid the value of the COEX trip without the charter override. A grievance has already been filed. Please contact Nicole Washington-Fears, the designated union representative for charter flight attendants, if you need assistance with charter operations.

### **American Airlines flight attendants seek to move a step closer to possible strike**

Contract talks between American Airlines and its flight attendants broke off Wednesday night, with the union declaring that negotiations were hopelessly stalemated while the company said it is looking forward to more bargaining. The union said that it would ask federal officials to start a 30-day cooling-off period, after which the flight attendants could strike. There is no guarantee that officials will grant the union's request. The National Mediation Board has rejected many similar requests from other unions in the airline industry, and it could order both sides to resume negotiations. The two sides are fighting over wages and other items. The union, which represents about 18,000 flight attendants, wants raises to offset pay and benefit cuts that workers accepted in 2003, when American was close to bankruptcy. The company, which lost \$3.6 billion in the last two years, says it spends more per employee on flight attendants than Delta, United, Continental and US Airways and must cut labor costs. It has offered a mix of 2 percent raises in some years and industry-average raises in others over an eight-year contract. American, a unit of Texas-based AMR Corp., is also in talks with pilots and ground workers over new contracts. The ground workers have also vowed to seek the ability to strike if a deal isn't reached in the next week. Leaders of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants charged Wednesday night that after they offered a new contract proposal, company negotiators walked out of talks in Washington without making a response. "This display shows complete disrespect and disregard for our hard-working flight attendants," said union President Laura Glading. American Airlines spokeswoman Missy Latham called the union's claim "categorically untrue." She said the latest round of talks ended on schedule and that company negotiators would respond to the union's latest offer at the next bargaining session.

URL: <http://www.startribune.com/business/86294532.html?page=1&c=y>

**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 9, 2010, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel

**Cleveland:** Thursday, March 11, 2010, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive

**Houston:** Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 1:00 p.m. at Houston Airport Marriott Hotel

**Guam:** Wednesday, March 17, 2010, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room