



LL 2339H Reserve Committee Newsletter

January 2010

FROM THE CHAIR

By Marvin Molina

Happy New Year, Reserves! I want to start this New Year edition by thanking all those of you who have stood by your Committee this past year, those of you who have subscribed to our newsletter and those that believe that there is a lot of work to be done and are willing to stick by us.

Many people think that COLA's, healthcare, vacation time, and other benefits of being a flight attendant are gifts from the company. The fact of the matter is that those things that we like about our job are things that we have received by the hard work and negotiations of our union. The contract we have offers us these privileges! And in all honesty, Union members fight hard for what we have and enjoy today. Therefore, my suggestion is work with your union, come to the union meetings, as we are working for you to keep what we enjoy as union member.

I have been approached by flight attendants that say, "Well, you are getting paid for being on the committee." Here is the truth: my position, as well as the position of the reserve committee members, is completely on a volunteer basis. We do this because we want to keep and maintain fair working conditions. So next time you see any committee member - whether it be from

the Reserve, FMLA, Community Service, or any other Committee that make up our union - take a second and thank them for their time, contribution, and for taking time away from their personal lives to serve you. We don't do this for ourselves, but for you - our brothers and sisters. I wish you a safe and happy New Year. May this year bring the best contract possible. This is my wish for all of you.

In Solidarity,

Marvin

UNION MEETING NOTICE

Local Lodge 2339H
Tuesday, February 16
Marriott Airport Hotel
1 pm

BE THERE!

2010 IAM NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

There are many things you should do to stay actively involved and informed during current negotiations.

- 1.) Take the Negotiations Survey at www.go142.org. We need all reserves to continue to give feedback to the negotiations committee and express the changes we would like to see in our new contract.
- 2.) Pick up a Negotiations Survival Handbook at the union table. This pamphlet provides much detail on the negotiations process and answers frequently asked questions.
- 3.) Stay informed on what's happening with the negotiations by visiting the "negotiations" link on the www.go142.org website.
- 4.) Pick up your solidarity bracelet and union pin at the union table. It is important to show unity and support each other during negotiations.
- 5.) Make sure your address is up to date so you won't miss any important mailings regarding negotiations. You can update your mailing address by using the "address update" link from the www.go142.org website.
- 6.) Attend monthly union meetings every third Tuesday of each month at 1 pm at the Marriott Airport Hotel.

CONTRACT 2010

SOLIDARITY AND UNITY



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GLAD WE ARE “OVERSTAFFED” AREN’T YOU?

By Jesse Lindbom,

December has ended and I don’t know if you noticed, but according to the company, we are “overstaffed.” In mid-December, they announced additional four month COLA (February through May bid months), along with a January month leave. Also in December, scheduling was building five and six day trips just for reserves (Reference H5B42B – Dec. 31, 2009 and H3137A – Dec. 31 2009). As a side note for comparison, United’s contract does not allow trips to exceed three days in length (United’s Contract, sec. 3, pg. 14).

In addition, there were 14 days that we finished with zero reserve coverage and an additional nine days that we had less than 10 reserves in the IAH base. These were the days when we were being turned and rolled. Further, you may have noticed the fifth flight attendant on 737-900 pairings has suddenly disappeared on the flights that are normally scheduled with them (Reference: Flight 1766 SEA-IAH, Dec. 22, 2009; Flight 0416 SFO-IAH Jan. 7, 2010; Flight 0016 LAX-EWR Jan. 14, 2010). If you put in a pay claim, the company will deny it and say that if you are eligible for short crew it will automatically be put on your paycheck on the 16th of the month. I have verified that this is only a temporary situation and the fifth flight attendant will be returning on the flights once staffing improves...Wait a minute...but we are overstuffed, right?

Need more evidence that we are “overstaffed?” If you had a 24-hour break between December and January, you were given a true 24-hour break (for example, 4pm to 4pm). Normally, as a courtesy, scheduling will give us a full day off for our break, except when they are short staffed.

To add to the frustration, our contract stipulates, “If staffing allows, reserve lines will be built with 13, 14, and 15 days off.” This past year, additional leaves and job shares were offered multiple times, indicating overstaffing. Yet, we were not offered a 15 day off line once the entire year. They have once again offered full month leaves and additional job shares for February, again indicating overstaffing. Will they yet again deny us this part of the contract? Looks like it, as there are no additional 13, 14, or 15 day off lines for February. Hope your remainder of the year goes much better than most of our December and January have gone!

Crew Member Self Defense Training Program

By Rene Trujillo

With last month’s terror attacks, it reminds us how dangerous our job really is. Some situations cannot be defused, but some can. We want to remind our members that the TSA (Transportation Security Administration) offers free advanced self-defense training to all current air line crewmembers. We hope we never have to use this type of training, but it could help on an airplane or on a lay over.

This training is specific to close quarters, developed and presented by current Federal Air Marshals. If you are interested in attending a training, please email reserve.life@hotmail.com with “self-defense training” in the subject line. If possible, we will try to create small groups to attend together. There are multiple days to attend and there are training classes in most major cities.

Again, it’s free so why not take advantage of the opportunity. Please let other crewmembers know about the program. For more information visit, www.tsa.gov/cmsdt or search crewmember self defense training. Stay Safe!



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LET'S TALK AIRPORT ALERT

By Jessica Mckee

So we all get Airport Alert. It's just a part of being a reserve. We all have to sit there on those ratty chairs with no blankets or pillows praying to the airplane gods that everyone shows up for their job and that phone never rings. (Has anyone ever noticed that the phone in Target sounds EXACTLY like that...makes your skin crawl does n't it!) Well, as long as we have to sit Airport Alert let's know some rules about it!

1.) Sec. 5 pg. 56 #25 states "Reserve flight attendants who are given a pre-boarding assignment that extends beyond the four hour AA period will be credited with one hour toward line value in addition to their AA pay." This means that if you are sent on a pre-board and you are about to get off and that pre-board exceeds your four hours of AA, even by one minute, you are entitled to one full hour of pay.

2) For those of you who sat six hour AA this past month, Sec. 5 pg 48 #8 states that "When a reserve performs AA duty for a four hour period, s/he may be extended for an additional two hours only if there are no Reserves available at home in her/his geographic domicile and on duty who are eligible for a multiple day trip." This means if, and only if, no one is good for more than one day and can't be rolled in IAH, HTA, and HOS are you able to be given 6 hour AAA. Use the availability list to find this out, and as a reminder, leave the "POS" box blank that way you get the full availability list.

3.) A question was brought up to me the other day by a reserve flight attendant. The question was if you have a call out line could they assign you AA outside of those specific times? For example, if my call out line is from 0500-0900 and then from 1700-2100 can they give you AA at 1100? The answer is, "yes" as long as they give it to you the night before at 2000 or call you during your call out times and assign it to you then.

I hope this helps you with some questions you might have or enlighten you on some things you didn't know was in the contract.

IAM Reaches Out to Unemployed with Virtual Union Tool

On Friday, January 15, 2010, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers launched Our Union of Unemployed. This virtual union aims to unify the jobless in a unique and useful way.

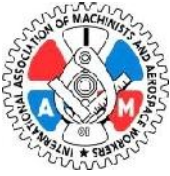
Our Union of Unemployed – or UCubed – connects the unemployed into cubes of six people to end that sense of being all alone in this Great Recession. It organizes those cubes into neighborhoods and then blocks – power blocks politicians cannot ignore, purchasing blocks merchants cannot avoid. But most important, UCubed offers the unemployed a way to use their skills and talents to help others through these hard times even as they help themselves.

Please forward this information to friends who are unemployed, working part-time involuntarily or who have looked for a job in the last year but could not find one. Urge them to enter their zip code in the "Build A Community" area of www.unionofunemployed.com

Labor Quote of the Month

In Honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – January 18, 2010

"The labor movement was the principal force that transformed misery and despair into hope and progress. Out of its bold struggles, economic and social reform gave birth to unemployment insurance, old-age pensions, government relief for the destitute and, above all, new wage levels that meant not mere survival but a tolerable life. The captains of industry did not lead this transformation; they resisted it until they were overcome. When in the thirties the wave of union organization crested over the nation, it carried to secure shores not only itself but the whole society." – Martin Luther King, Jr.



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SCHLORSHIP MONEY AVAILABLE TO UNION MEMBERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

By Christine Diaz

Scholarship money for continuing education is available for union members and/or their dependents. Below I've compiled a list of union organizations that offer financial help. Each organization has different criteria, application procedures, and deadlines. This is an abbreviated list of criteria, so please visit the following websites for detailed information. Whether helping to put a child through college, attending a two-year college, working on your bachelor's or master's degree, or attending law school, the opportunity to finish your degree is there. An other benefit of being a union member!

UNION PLUS SCHOLARSHIP - Since 1992, the Union Plus Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$2.4 million to students of working families who want to begin or continue their post-secondary education. Over 1,700 families have benefited from our commitment to higher education. The Union Plus Scholarship Program is offered through the Union Plus Education Foundation. All applications must be postmarked by January 30, 2010. To download application, visit <http://www.unionplus.org/college-education-financing/union-plus-scholarship>

The 2010 TEXAS AFL-CIO SCHOLARSHIP - The application for high school seniors is now available online at www.texasaflcio.org. The application must be postmarked by Monday, February 1, 2010. All high school seniors whose parent(s) or legal guardian is a union member is qualified to apply.

The 2010 IAM VOCATIONAL/ TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP - The scholarship competition is open each year to IAM members and their children throughout the United States and Canada. Scholarships for a Bachelor's degree or a two-year vocational/technical certification are determined in a competition among eligible applicants that is judged by an independent Selection Committee. No applications postmarked later than February 26, 2010 will be acknowledged or considered. To read more and download an application, visit <http://www.goiam.org/index.php/headquarters/departments/scholarship>

The 2010 IAM COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP - The scholarship competition is open each year to IAM members and their children throughout the United States and Canada. Scholarships for a Bachelor's degree or a two-year vocational/technical certification are determined in a competition among eligible applicants that is judged by an independent Selection Committee. No applications postmarked later than February 26, 2010 will be acknowledged or considered. To read more and download an application, visit <http://www.goiam.org/index.php/headquarters/departments/scholarship>

THE DISTRICT 142 SCHOLARSHIP - Please call the District 142 office at 816-452-6646 for application and deadline information.

SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH - Union Plus has a scholarship search database available to union members. For more information, visit http://unionplus.educationplanner.org/education_planner/paying_article.asp?spnsor=2866&articleName=Grants_and_Scholarships