

Region II Director's August 2009 Update

Contributed by Jack Coonrod
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The month of August was very busy with a Joint Advisory Council (JAC) meeting, SWA attempting to acquire Frontier, and concerns that our relationship with SWA had deteriorated to a point where it appeared, all grievances would end up in arbitration.

The JAC meeting in Denver resulted in a change to our election process for ASAP primary and alternates. We also began a dialogue on the Crash Team Investigation procedures. The NEC, local union officers, and your ALRs met with the SWA management in Denver on the possible acquisition of Frontier and the status of our ongoing relationship with management. You all know the outcome of the Frontier acquisition. The other part of the meeting directly resulted in the reinstatement of one of our members in Tampa, and even if there are no other results from this meeting, it was worth the trip. The NEC also heard that SWA was no longer seeking to reduce the Appearance Technicians headcount by more than 50% but still were requesting substantial concessions. The remainder of my 3 days a week, were consumed by conference calls, replying to emails, phone calls, writing an article for the Grapevine, and etc. Once again I thank you all for this opportunity to be of service, this great job, and no longer commuting daily while working the graveyard shift. Praise the Lord!