



IAM Air Transport District 142

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WHY WE CELEBRATE LABOR DAY

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Labor Day, celebrated on the first Monday of September, holds deep significance for working women and men across the United States. While for many, it marks the unofficial end of summer and a day off work, for union members, it is a day to reflect on the enduring struggle for workers' rights and the achievements that have shaped the labor movement.

Labor Day has officially been a national holiday in the United States since 1894 but unofficial celebrations started a decade before. The first known Labor Day observance occurred in New York City on September 5, 1882, when approximately 10,000 workers marched through the streets in an event organized by union leaders, including speeches, picnics, and even fireworks. Labor Day celebrations didn't take long to spread to the rest of the country.

For union members, Labor Day is more than just a day off; it is a symbol of our ongoing commitment to protecting and advancing the rights and interests of workers.

IAM District 142 continues to fight for fair contracts, safe working conditions, respect and justice on the job, and a voice at the negotiating table. Our efforts have led to significant improvements in wages, benefits, and working conditions for our members, and we are committed to ensuring that all workers are treated with dignity and respect every day, not just on Labor Day.

Labor Day is a time to honor the past, celebrate the present, and look toward the future. As we celebrate today, let us remember that the fight for workers' rights is far from over. Challenges remain, from threats to collective bargaining to the erosion of labor laws that protect workers. But with continued vigilance and solidarity, we know that we will prevail. We know that we are on the right side of history.

From all of us at District 142, have a happy and safe Labor Day!

Sincerely and fraternally,

John M. Coveny, Jr.
President/Directing General Chair
IAM District 142

JMC/td

cc: R. Johnsen, General Vice-President, Air Transport Territory
E. Fraser, Chief of Staff, Air Transport Territory
T. Regan, Airline Coordinator, Air Transport Territory
J. Carlson, Air Transport Coordinator
DL 142 Executive Board

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