

February 2008 Newsletter

The Next General Meeting for IATSE Local 8 will be Wednesday March 5, 2008. The Meeting will be held at 2237 Hartranft Philadelphia Pa. beginning 11:00 a.m.

The Next Executive Board Meeting for IATSE Local 8 will be on Thursday February 28th, 2008. The Meeting will be held at 2237 Hartranft Philadelphia Pa. beginning 11:00 A.M.

Financial 2008 Union Cards and Road Cards will be available Friday January 4, 2008. Stamps will remain \$50 per quarter \$200 per year for 2008.

President O'Shea completes Political IASTE Local 8 Pac-Fund application.

The IATSE Local 8 political action has been operating since its inception with one hand tied behind its back. Unfortunately politics in the United States is driven by special interest and money. While I do not agree with the current set-up, I feel the Local must participate to protect its members. President O'Shea's election promise to set up a functional PAC is now in place. Countless hours were put in by the President to register the PAC. We are now asking the members to do their part. According to PAC rules, all contributions from members must be made on a voluntary basis. A copy of the Voluntary Contribution form is enclosed in this letter. We will also be posting a copy on the Website. Members are encouraged to participate but in no way will be forced or coerced. Rather, we will attempt to get participation through the education of the members. Starting with the 1st Pa. State Senatorial Race and House Representative race. Both races are in districts that contain some of our biggest employers. The membership voted to endorse John Dougherty for 1st District Senate and Bill Keller for House Representative. Both men have proven to be friends of Local 8 and have proven their commitment to working men and women in the City. In order to fully participate, we will need to make contributions to their races. We are prohibited from using General Funds. Therefore we need your help to finance our effort. The membership recommended \$1 dollar per each day you are working, which you can make by signing the Voluntary Contribution Form. Members can donate more by filling out a separate form at the Office. The ability to participate financially will make us an even bigger player on the political front. I would like to thank President O'Shea for taking the time to follow through with this very important issue.

Building Committee has scheduled meetings once a week each Thursday starting at 10:00am. The meetings are open to the membership. The Committee typically reviews the 2.5 million dollar grant application and compliance issues. We are currently discussing design and financing issues. We will be inviting members to help with design issues. The architects presented a power point presentation of the planned facility at our last meeting. Drawings are at the Office if anyone is interested in taking a look.

The Benefit Committee. The IATSE NBF has updated their website to allow participants to audit their Health and Pension Accounts on a more timely basis. This is your money. Check your accounts often and inform the Office if they are incorrect. To access your personal account, go to iatsenbf.org. On the left hand side is a log-in option. Follow the prompts and get your log-in username and password. Once on your personal page, on the left hand side is a work history option. The iatsenbf has also informed us of a phone option that will be available soon. The quarterly report, website and phone options gives you the member the tools to audit and track your money. Help us help you by checking your accounts often. Mike Barnes and Frank Grasso are working with the Benefit Trustee to construct a benefit book Summery.

The Education Committee has scheduled numerous courses for our members and new apprentices. Audio Visual, Board operations, Sound, Projectors, Teleprompters, Rigging, Computers, High Reach, CPR and numerous stagecraft related courses are scheduled. In order to keep up with the changing technology and certification requirements. All members are encouraged to take classes. It takes a smart person to know what he or she doesn't know. Education is for everyone.

2/18/2008	AV	Union Hall	B	10am
2/19/2008	AV	Union Hall	B	10am
2/20/2008	Wellness	Union Hall	B	10am
2/22/2008	Intermediate PowerPoint 2003	Union Hall	B	9am
3/11/2008	Basic PowerPoint 2003	Union Hall	B	9am
3/12/2008	Basic Sound ^	Bauder Audio	C	10am
3/13/2008	Intermediate Sound ^	Bauder Audio	C	10am
3/14/2008	Advanced PowerPoint 2003	Union Hall	B	9am
3/15/2008	Video Editing *	Kimmel Center	A	10am
3/16/2008	Video Editing *	Kimmel Center	A	10am
3/17/2008	Video Editing *	Kimmel Center	A	10am
4/7/2008	ETCP Electric *	Union Hall	A	TBA
4/8/2008	ETCP Electric *	Union Hall	A	TBA
4/9/2008	ETCP Electric *	Union Hall	A	TBA
4/29/2008	BARCO LED Training *	California	A	10am
4/30/2008	BARCO LED Training *	California	A	10am
5/1/2008	BARCO LED Training *	California	A	10am
5/5/2008	Christy Projector Training *	Canada	A	10am
5/6/2008	Christy Projector Training *	Canada	A	10am
5/7/2008	Christy Projector Training *	Canada	A	10am
5/8/2008	Christy Projector Training *	Canada	A	10am
5/6/2008	BARCO Switching *	California	A	10am
5/7/2008	BARCO Switching *	California	A	10am
5/8/2008	BARCO Switching *	California	A	10am
5/12/2008	Grand MA Intro*	Union Hall	B	10am
5/13/2008	Grand MA Operator I*	Union Hall	A	10am
5/14/2008	Grand MA Operator II*	Union Hall	A	10am
5/15/2008	Grand MA Q & A*	Union Hall	A	10am
5/16/2008	Grand MA Open Learning*	Union Hall	B	10am

*** You must register for these classes**

^ This is a 2 day class and you must attend both days to receive credit.

Contract Information:

Visual Sound negotiations are still stalled. There are a number of open issues. The membership voted to give strike authorization. We are attempting to get back to the table to try to resolve the open issues. A Federal Mediator will attend next negotiating session. The issue is familiar, the employer wants to exclude jobs that are now covered under the agreement.

Commerce Bank Arts Center's will be brought back to the membership for ratification.

Sovereign Bank Arena meetings are being scheduled to resolve the expired contract.

Forrest Theater. Parties met and exchanged proposals. Negotiations are continuing.

Apprentice Committee Report: Following the directive of the Local 8 membership, the Executive Board under the guidelines of the Local 8 Constitution and By-Laws is announcing the 2008 Apprentice Class. Forty-six people applied for the apprenticeship slots. The Committee interviewed and has chosen the applicants. To complete the Apprenticeship, applicants must accept 70% of the jobs offered over a calendar year, achieve 20 education points a year by attending classes (most classes are 1 point) and volunteer to perform 80 hours of work per year to Local 8. The full apprenticeship requirements can be found on the Local 8 website. If you identify an apprentice on a job site, take the time to teach them our craft. Our ability to succeed as an organization will depend on the quality of our members. Orientation for apprentices will take place at the Local 8 Office February 28th at 10:00 A.M.

**Kenny Pattison
Larry Sanders
Austen Brown
Brian
McCafferty
Cecil Wilson
David Murphy
David Silvestri**

**Devon Tate
John Pertick
Kevin
Koniewicz
Lorraine Cocci
Luke Oakman
Michael Ruffo
Nicholas Laska**

**Ray Robinson
Raymond
Grinnell
Luis Valez
Robert
Garczynski
Sean Schaffer
Stephanie Bell**

**Tynita Blythe
Tyrone Mayo
William Staab
Paul Myers
Rory Munyan**