

# **December 2008 Newsletter**

**The Next General Meeting** for IATSE Local 8 will be Wednesday December 3, 2008. The Meeting will be held at 2237 Hartranft Philadelphia Pa. beginning 11:00 a.m. According to the Local 8 Constitution, IATSE Local 8 meets the first Wednesday of each month at 11:00a.m.at 2237 Hartranft Street Philadelphia Pa. except during the months of June, July and August.

**Financial** 2008. Fourth quarter stamps are now due. Stamps are \$50.00 per quarter\$200 per year for 2008. According to the Local 8 Constitution, Members may be suspended or expelled without trial by Local Unions for non-payment of dues and other financial obligations. In no event shall a member be expelled unless he or she has been delinquent for a period of more than six months and unless such member has been given at least 10 days written notice, by certified mail directed to his or her home address as last entered in the records of the Local that he or she will stand expelled unless payment of his or her arrears is made within such 10-day period. Members who cannot pay due to a hardship issue should request a waiver by the Local 8 Executive Board. A number of new members still have outstanding balances due on their initiation fee. Don't wait until the holidays to pay this obligation. If you have been working all year, it will be difficult to make a hardship case.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**1. The Resolution submitted by Brother Jeff Brown was defeated 27 No / 2 Yes.**

**2. The Resolution submitted by Brother Mark Grasso was defeated 14 No /15 Yes**

Resolutions require a 2/3 majority "Yes Vote" to pass.

**The following Resolution was made at the October Meeting. The Resolution was read a second time at the November Meeting and will be voted on at the December Meeting.**

**Submitted by John Petrick Sr:** Any change to the Hiring Hall By-Laws or Constitution may not be re-voted on for a period of twelve months.

**A Motion** to change the Hiring Hall Policy was submitted in October. The Membership was notified in the November Newsletter this was a Resolution and would be voted on at the December Meeting. The Chair, in accordance with the Maker of the Motion, allowed the Vote to take place at the November Meeting. Members appeared before the Local 8 Executive Board to inform the Board they would be appealing the decision to allow the vote based on the error in notification. If the membership upholds the appeal, the motion will be voted on again at the December meeting. The Motion submitted was as follows:

**Any Member in good standing who has accrued ten years of service shall be vested on the Hiring Hall List.**

## **A Message from President Loeb:**

I want to personally thank all of the I.A.T.S.E. International Officers, District Officers, Local Union Officers and members for your commitment and participation in this year's historic election. From attending rallies, to working phone banks, to knocking on doors, to driving voters to the polls (and more!), you demonstrated a single minded effort to better the lot of your brothers and sisters in the I.A.T.S.E. and American workers in general.

President-elect Obama will have a steep climb ahead, inheriting trying times with an ongoing war in Iraq and economic instability and uncertainty. The American people have demonstrated their will to the world to change direction. We can take pride that our nation's expression for change transcended the lines of racial bias that only serve to divide us.

In these recent months, as the Presidential campaign heated and Election Day approached, the I.A.T.S.E. stood out through the many activities I have already mentioned. I am not surprised, but I am encouraged and could not be prouder to lead and serve this great Alliance.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Matthew D. Loeb  
International President

### **Business Agent News:**

**The Wachovia Center Contract will be brought back to the membership for ratification. The following is a summery of the deal.**

1. No condition Changes
2. Five year Deal.
3. Wages increase 3% per year compounded. (15% total)
4. Benefits increase 1% year five of the deal. Benefits are currently 41%.
5. .25% contribution of gross wages to the Local 8 education Fund starting 1/1/2010
6. Holidays
  - a. Add Thanksgiving lose Presidential Election Day.
  - b. Add Easter Sunday lose Veterans Day.

The existing contract can be read on our website. Ratification of this contract will take a simple majority present at the December meeting.

**Freeman Audio Solutions signed the Local's Term Agreement.**

**Sterling Audio signed a Project Agreement for the Army Navy Game**

**IPG signed a Project Agreement for work at the Valley Forge Convention Center.**

## **From Union Plus...**

Few working Americans are old enough to have experienced anything like today's financial crisis. With shock and horror, we've seen friends and family members lose their jobs, neighbors' homes go into foreclosure, and trillions of dollars in retirement savings vaporize.

Our advice is, first of all, Don't panic. Remember, you're not alone. You have the support of a union looking out for your interests, and working to keep your benefits and your job safe. This support includes a host of money-management services available to you at Union Plus, where our mission is to help guide you down the path that will protect you best.

Second, be proactive in defending yourself and your family. Here are some recommended steps to help strengthen the financial security you need in these painful times.

### **1. Pay down debt.**

The more you owe, the more vulnerable you are. To pay off credit cards and other debt faster, consider cutting back on your spending. If you need information to put together a plan, go to [www.uniondebthelp.org](http://www.uniondebthelp.org) for tips on digging out of debt, answers to common questions, and repayment calculators.

### **2. Don't sink deeper into a financial hole.**

Swamped with bills? Need a budget? Take advantage of the Union Plus Credit Counseling program. Experienced credit counselors will listen to you and your needs, then help you develop a plan of action you can follow. For a free credit counseling session, budget analysis, and advice to help get your finances on a firmer footing, fill out the online request form or call the 24-hour toll-free line, 1-877-833-1745.

### **3. Cut your expenses.**

From eating in instead of eating out to slashing what you spend on incidentals, cutting back on spending lets you keep more of what you earn. Union Plus offers discounts on everything from AT&T wireless service to car repairs to clothing to make it easier.

### **4. Don't fixate on market fluctuations.**

If your goal is to build up a nest egg over time, don't let daily ups and downs panic you into bailing out of the stock market. Most financial advisers say don't cash-in your stocks or make any other drastic changes. You still may have the opportunity to benefit from its historic long-term growth potential. Tip: Instead of constantly checking your investments, look at your balance once a month (or even just once a quarter) to get a clearer view of the big picture.

### **5. Diversify your investments.**

This involves putting together a balanced mix of stocks, bonds, and money market funds or other short-term investments, with the aim of offsetting "downs" in one asset category with "ups" in another - a strategy, while not working right now with all the downs, can help reduce risk and promote growth through good times and bad.

## **Education Seminars**

- Sound**                      December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>  
Bauder Audio  
Starting Time 9:00 A.M.  
Pre Registration at Office required
- CPR**                              December 13<sup>th</sup>  
Union Office  
Starting Time 9:00 A.M.  
Pre Registration at Office required
- High Reach**                      December 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>  
Convention Center Hall A  
Starting Time 9:00 A.M.  
Pre Registration at Office required

The Education Committee is working a number other seminars that will be posted in the Office and on the website.

## **IATSE Holiday Party**

- When**                      **December 27, 2008**
- Where**                      **Bullies located in the Old Spectrum**
- Time**                      **9:00 PM to 1:00AM**

**In remembrance of Brother Richard Schneck who passed away this month**

*Congratulations to Kenyatta Legrand and Dana on the birth of his son Kenyatta Jr.*