

# March 2010 Newsletter

**The Next General Meeting** for IATSE Local 8 will be Wednesday March 3, 2010. 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.

**The Next Executive Board Meeting** for IATSE Local 8 will be Thursday February 25, 2009. The Meeting will be held at 2237 Hartranft Philadelphia Pa. beginning 11:00 a.m.

**A special meeting** is being scheduled for Thursday March 4<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon at the IATSE Local 8 Union Hall 2237 Hartranft Street. The purpose of the Special Meeting is to allow the Committee to go over in detail the expenditures, design, timeline, ground breaking ceremony and to answer questions regarding the plans..

**First Quarter Stamp** is currently due. **Please be reminded stamps are now \$60 per quarter.** If you are working as a stagehand in the geographical jurisdiction of Local 8, you are obligated to pay 3.5% of your gross wage. If you are on the road working under a Pink Contract, you are obligated to pay the amount called for in the Constitution. If you worked for any of the following companies that did not take out percentage, contact the secretary treasurer to make arrangements to satisfy your financial obligation. If you worked for a GPC, Houser AV or if you are working a Traveling road Show, contact the Financial Secretary Treasurer to make arrangements to pay your percentage

**Jobs.** The Business Agent is in the process of negotiating House jobs at the following buildings. If interested email your resume to the BA at [mbarnes@iatse8.com](mailto:mbarnes@iatse8.com).

**University of Penn.** AV Tech to perform house work previously performed by in-house student and quadrangle employees. This is new work and separate from the jobs Local 8 currently services at Penn.

**Temple Baptist.** This is a new 1000 seat state of the Art Theater. Negotiations are not complete but we look to be establishing two House Jobs at this venue.

**Convention Center IT.** The current IT non-union person is resigning. Local 8 is attempting to capture this important position.

**The following Constitutional Changes were voted on by the membership at the February meeting. These changes along with be sent to the International for their approval. Following approval an updated Constitution and By-Law Book will be printed and sent to all the members.**

## **Constitution**

**Article V Section 2**

**Government Section 2.**

**Article VI.**

**Article VII**

## **By-Law Changes**

**Article V**

**Article XIII**

**Standing Rules. Section 9.**

## **Work Outlook**

2010 is starting off in stagehand typical fashion for most of our membership. The cyclical nature of this seasonal slowdown is predictable and should be planned for when possible. The reasons for the lack of work do start to change in our favor in 2011.

Briefly, from Thanksgiving till the end of the Flower Show in March, The Amphitheaters (Susquehanna, Festival Pier and Mann) shut down, The Convention Center has some holiday parties but Trade Shows typically do not book during the Holidays or when they risk getting interrupted by snow. (Can you imagine if 10,000 Doctors were scheduled to fly into Philadelphia last week for a medical convention.) The Wachovia Center dates are taken up by the Basketball and Hockey Teams and large Rock Tours also avoid the Northeast from December to March to avoid unpredictable weather. Movie work also tries not to book from Thanksgiving to March to avoid weather and the three holidays (Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years) they would be forced to pay in most contracts. Our biggest Employer RPAC did cancel some shows in the Kimmel Center but made up the work at the Academy and Merriam. This provided ample opportunity for the first two pages of members on our referral list.

Looking ahead, the Convention Center has NSTA booked in March. This is one of the largest conventions in the country. Lion King plays the Academy starting March 23<sup>rd</sup>. A 25 million dollar movie starts for 8 weeks and the set of Airbender is scheduled to be taken down. These large jobs will compliment our other work and hopefully start to get more people working. Looking further ahead, U-2, Billy/Elton and Welcome America will provide outdoor concert work. The Forrest is looking to book eleven weeks of Jersey Boys starting in the last quarter of 2010 and if Airbender does well at the box office, Airbender 2 is scheduled to start its next build at the end of this year. In 2009 the D list had a fast start and slow finish due to the movies. In 2010, it looks like the D List will have a slow start but a better finish. While all of these shows and or movies can cancel, we felt it best to give the members the outline to allow them to be available when this work hits. (Mike Barnes)

## **Contracts**

Live Nation negotiations have started. Included in the Employer' proposals are four hour calls at the Tower and Festival Pier, Sunday at straight time, change Double Time to Time and One Half after midnight for Stadium Shows, Shift work at Stadium Shows, changing the Rigger Flat Rate to an Hourly Rate. These changes will dramatically reduce what a Local 8 Stagehand earns at these venues. While these are drastic changes, they are not unexpected. Two years ago the Convention Center proposed taking away our meeting room work and last Summer KCI made drastic proposals for those buildings. Both agreements were protected by our ability to strike the Employer. These are challenging economic times and the employer is trying to roll back the clock twenty years on the gains we have made for our members. As with the other negotiations, I will work with the Negotiating Committee, Membership, International and Labor Community to fight to protect our wages, benefits and conditions. (Mike Barnes)

**The Newsletter** is going GREEN. Members with email addresses will be sent the monthly Newsletter by email. If you do not receive your letter or want a hard copy, contact or come into the Office. Copies are available. The IT Department has updated everyone's email address. In addition, we assigned anyone without an email address a Local 8 Website Email address. If you did not provide an email, your assigned email address is your first initial and last name @iatse8.com You can access your IATSE email address through any computer including the one we have set up in the Office meeting space. Almost 2/3 of our membership is currently signed up to receive their Newsletter by email.

## Committees

**Building Committee.** After years of hard work, we are ready to break ground on the new IATSE Local 8 Education and Training Facility. A special meeting is being scheduled for Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon at the IATSE Local 8 Union Hall 2237 Hartranft Street. The purpose of the Special Meeting is to allow the Committee to go over in detail the expenditures, design, timeline, ground breaking ceremony and to answer questions regarding the plans. This project will have dramatic impact on the Local in a number of ways. Education, Generating Revenue and Marketing Exposure will enhance what we can do for this Local for generations to come. We will be inviting the Architect, Builder, Banker, Caterer, Accountant and Architect to help us make our presentation.

**Education Committee.** The Education Committee has been busy scheduling classes for 2010. Below is a list of classes that were held and are scheduled to be held. If you are not working, take advantage of these FREE classes;

1/12/10	Online	Union Hall	B	10am
1/14/10	PowerPoint 2007	Union Hall	B	9am
1/15/10	PowerPoint 2007	Union Hall	B	9am
1/20/10	Intro to Audio*	Bauder Audio	C	9am
1/21/10	Intro to Audio*	Bauder Audio	C	9am
2/4/10	Hog 3*	Union Hall	A	10am
2/5/10	Hog 3*	Union Hall	A	10am
2/17/10	Finance (Basic Beginnings)	Union Hall	B	9am
2/17/10	Finance (Retirement readiness)	Union Hall	B	1pm
3/1/10	Health (Heart Disease)	Union Hall	B	1pm
3/1/10	Health (High Blood Pressure)	Union Hall	B	2:30pm
3/1/10	Health (Diabetes)	Union Hall	B	4pm

A	Advanced
B	Basic
C	Core
*	Must go to both classes to get credit

**Organizing.** The Organizing Committee asks for members to support the Keswick Picket Line. Also, members are asked to look for non-union technicians doing our work in the Hotels, on the Web and throughout the City. If you find someone doing our work, call the Office immediately. We appreciate everyone's assistance. Current targets include, The Keswick, World Caf , Starlite, Provision. Spellcasters. IMS and Media Theater.

**International Executive Board Committee.** Philadelphia will be hosting the IATSE Executive Board Meetings from July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>. The Meetings will be held at the Sheraton on 16<sup>th</sup> and Arch. Locals 8, 52, 752, 799, 804, B-29, 600, 700, 161 and USA 829 will be the Host Locals. Local 8 is forming a Committee to assist with Transportation, Sergeant of Arms Assignments, Swag, Restaurants, Cultural Activities, Phillies Game, PAC Party and a number of other activities that will be scheduled during this week. The first Committee meeting will be held on Monday February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12 noon at the Local 8 Office. Interested members should contact President O'Shea.



