

## Election 2008- Coming Into Focus

**W**ith the 2008 elections just twelve short months away, it's time for those of us who care about creating a better America for working people to get up, get out, and make sure our voices are heard loud and clear. The candidates' campaigns have been in progress for quite a while now, and with the primaries almost upon us, things are moving into high gear. Now, at the primary stage, is when the issues that end up defining elections often come into focus.

It is absolutely crucial that union members make sure that candidates at all levels know that they have to take us, our families, and our concerns into account.

As you know, the excesses of the current administration and the corporate interests that support it have put the economy in a dismal state. Difficult times for many Americans are at hand. Many of our brothers and sisters—in our industry, and in others—are facing strikes, lockouts, and downsizing.

Something has to change, and we have to change it. With your help, the ball got rolling in the right direction in the 2006 elections. But that was just a start—even with a Democratic majority in Congress, the Employee Free Choice Act failed to pass. Meanwhile the NLRB has struck blow after blow against the labor movement—most recently by eviscerating the voluntary recognition process.

Fortunately, the momentum in the country at large has finally begun to shift our way. But that doesn't mean we can sit back and hope things turn out right. We all know that there are very powerful forces arrayed against us, who would be very happy to see things stay the way they are. We saw what happened in 2004. We have to do everything we can to make sure that this time, people don't get scared and distracted into voting for people who only understand the needs of corporations and the very wealthy.

With new leadership in Washington, there will once again be a chance to start turning the tide back—to replace stagnating wages and diminishing worker rights with prosperity for all and a fair chance for everyone who wants to work and have their work respected.

We can make this happen, but not without a lot of effort, starting now.

The Iowa primaries are just a few weeks away, on January 3 for the Republicans and January 14 for the Democrats. Many more states have their primaries on "Super Tuesday," February 5. Make sure you and friends and families are registered. Volunteer, go to rallies, make phone calls. None of us can afford to let this opportunity slip away.



### OFFICIAL NOTICE

**This is to advise that the regular Mid-Winter Meeting of the General Executive Board is scheduled to be held at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort, 1500 Epcot Resorts Boulevard, Lake Buena Vista, Florida 32830 at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 14, 2008, and will remain in session through and including Friday, January 18, 2008. All business to come before the Board must be submitted to the General Office no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting.**

**Local Union representatives planning to attend the meeting must make hotel reservations with the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort by calling the hotel directly at 407-934-4000 or 888-828-8850. Guest room rates for the IATSE is \$199.00, single or double occupancy, plus applicable taxes. In order to ensure that you receive the preferred room rate established for our meeting, you must identify your affiliations with the IATSE.**

**Reservations can also be made through the IATSE Web site ([www.iatse-intl.org](http://www.iatse-intl.org)).  
Cut Off Date: December 21, 2007**