



OFFICIAL NOTICE

This is to advise that the regular Mid-Summer Meeting of the General Executive Board is scheduled to be held at the Westin Horton Plaza, 910 Broadway Circle, San Diego, California 92101 at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, July 28, 2008, and will remain in session through and including Friday, August 1, 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 Westin Horton Plaza by calling the hotel reservations department at 619-239-2200 or 1-800-WESTIN-1. Guest room rate for the IATSE is \$249.00, 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 affiliation with the IATSE.

Reservations can also be made through the IATSE Web site (www.iatse-intl.org).

Cut Off Date: July 3, 2008.

The Stage Caucus will be held at the Westin Horton Plaza on Sunday, July 27, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in the Plaza Room. Representatives of Stage, Wardrobe and Mixed locals are welcome.

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

We are now living in one of the most challenging times for working families in decades. Both nationally and internationally, we are seeing upheavals and disruptions unlike any we have seen since the first half of the last century. Within the entertainment industry, recent events have had effects that will take years to resolve.

There are, however, some signs of progress. In the United States as a whole, union membership has started to rise. In our industry, the quick and positive agreement between the DGA and the AMPTP has given us hope, where only a few weeks ago, the picture for many of us was bleak indeed.

An end to the Writers' strike solves only one of the grave issues facing the entertainment industry. We are seeing a profound change in the way we work — mainly in the development of new technologies that both threaten our futures and present us with new opportunities unheard of just a few years ago. The “family business” that many in the industry have grown up in, with generations in the same Locals, is now one controlled by global corporations with little interest in the welfare of those working families that make up a tiny portion of their bottom lines. It is up to us to prove that a well-trained work force, with skill sets that are unique and crucial to the efficient production of the best entertainment, is worthy of care, attention, and consideration.

We have no clear picture of how new media will affect us. It is our responsibility to make certain that as these new technologies develop, we are ready, able, and willing to do the jobs presented to us. We must be on the leading edge of creative solutions to the challenges we face. Our forbears adapted to dramatic changes, and I have no doubt that the present generation can do the same.

We cannot stop striving for a better quality of life for all of our members—better working conditions, better communication, and better benefits—even in the face of governmental roadblocks thrown up by an administration that has repeatedly proven itself hostile to those fortunate and brave enough to be union members.

The coming national election will give all working families an opportunity for change and better representation. For the members of this Alliance, it will provide a chance to prove once again that we have a vested interest not only in our industry, but in our country—and a chance to remind our leaders and fellow citizens of the importance of the work we do to our country's place in the world. We hope for national health care, we hope for a stable and peaceful foreign policy, and we hope for the rehabilitation of the American image abroad. Most of all, we hope that come November, we will have elected friends of organized labor who will turn our hopes into a reality of better days.

Fraternally yours,