



2008 Elections— Get Involved

As you read this issue of the Bulletin the summer months are upon us and we can finally all hope to enjoy some great sunshine. As you enjoy your summer, I also ask you all to keep in mind the goals we must set and focus on leading into the U.S. Presidential Election in November. We have seen an unprecedented primary and caucus season that started with Super Tuesday on February 5th. The primary and caucus voters in every state in the United States may never have been looked at so closely and counted on so much by the candidates in this race for the White House.

Towards summer's end we will see the Democratic National Convention called to order in the "Mile High City" of Denver and we will have some members and staff from the IATSE who have been elected to serve as Delegates or Alternate Delegates to the Convention. There is no doubt that the Party had two very strong candidates who campaigned tirelessly for nearly two years. However, coming out of the Convention in August, we must stand together and be certain that our voices are heard loud and clear on November 4th.

It has been admitted and agreed by many that the United States is experiencing a recession and our working class citizens are doing their best to survive - with fuel prices increasing nearly every day, the cost of health care getting harder and harder to manage, the Pension Protection Act of 2006 that has created more difficult challenges in contract negotiations, foreclosures on homes, a war that is lasting longer and costing more than anyone could have imagined, and the list goes on. The Administration we have had in Washington since 2000 has put additional pressures on the labor community through the Department of Labor, the National Labor Relations Board, the Internal Revenue Service, and other agencies, so that our goals of providing the best representation to our members have become more difficult to meet. Additionally, we in the entertainment community have experienced work stoppages last year that put very real and harsh financial burdens on many of our members, burdens that many are still struggling to overcome.

Our participation in the political process in this country is always important so that we may collectively elect legislators who are friendly to working people across this land. This is a difficult time, but it's also a hopeful time, because we have a chance to bring about real change for ourselves, our families, our fellow union members, and other hardworking Americans throughout the country. With new leadership in Washington, we may be able to finally fix some of the laws that have been hurting us for years, and enact new legislation that will give workers a fair shot at improving their lives.

I encourage all of you to be part of the process by registering to vote, getting to the polls and helping others get there as well. Get involved!

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 Gaslamp Quarter, 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 Gaslamp Quarter 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 Gaslamp Quarter on Sunday, July 27, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in the Plaza Room. Representatives of Stage, Wardrobe and Mixed locals are welcome.