

## The One Constant Really Is Change

**F**or the first time in many years, our members in both the United States and Canada find themselves involved in national elections at more or less the same time. Canadians will cast their votes on October 14th and precisely three weeks later on November 4th, our Brothers and Sisters throughout the United States will have their opportunity to head to the polls and have their voices heard.

As with every election season, we are all beginning to find ourselves surrounded by campaign literature detailing the vision of particular candidates and parties. The television, newspaper and Internet advertisements cannot be escaped. While elections almost by definition must contain some element of a change argument, this year it seems that as the campaigns progress, every party and virtually every candidate has now adopted it as their major theme.

With the ever-increasing level of media attention to the election process, it seems that "change" is everywhere. In New York, autumn is approaching and the change of seasons in combination with the election campaigns recently had me pondering that famous quote; "the only thing constant in life is change."

The International does not exist in a bubble within our constantly changing world. We face constant challenges and must evolve and adapt if we are to continue being successful. Change is not always easy, but it must be embraced. This central theme has been key to our success and survival over these past one hundred and fifteen years. Not many labor unions today can boast about that kind of longevity.

By now you are aware that we have experienced change in the position of International President. As you will see in the minutes of the recently concluded meeting of the General Executive Board held in San Diego, and the images on the pages that follow, Thomas C. Short retired as International President after fourteen years in that position and is now referred to as International President Emeritus Short.

International Vice President Matthew D. Loeb was unanimously elected by the members of the Board to be his successor and we welcome him to his new position. President Loeb has a track record of dedication and commitment and I look forward to working with him for many years to come.

As the only President that many of our members knew, President Emeritus Short will be missed. For me he was not only a great leader, but also a mentor and a friend and I, like you, wish him the very best of times in a retirement that is well earned.



### 2009 SUPPLIES

**The local union supplies for 2009 will be mailed at the end of November to those local unions that have submitted their 3rd Quarter Report for 2008 and purchased the appropriate number of per capita stamps.**

**The number of per capita stamps that must be purchased is equal to the number of members reported on the 1st and 2nd Quarterly Reports for 2008 plus two times the number of members reported on the 3rd Quarter Report for 2008 (to allow for an estimate of the numbers that will be reported on the 4th Quarter Report for 2008). When the 4th Quarter Report for 2008 is submitted in January 2009, an adjustment to balance each local union's account is made if necessary.**

### VACATION CHECKS

**An abundant amount of calls come to the IATSE General Office regarding members requesting their vacation checks.**

**The National Vacation Fund receives contributions on behalf of the participants and mails them to a valid mailing address. If you have not received a vacation check, please contact the IATSE National Benefit Funds office. Proper identification may be requested before a check is issued.**