

By Organization and Mutual Endeavor

The 66th Quadrennial Convention is now behind us and I want to express my appreciation to all the Host Locals, and to all the Delegates who made the convention such a great success. I believe the actions of the Convention demonstrated an unprecedented sense of solidarity upon which we can build and move forward.

We must maintain that same solidarity and stand united as we face the difficult and challenging times ahead and demonstrate that in unity there is strength. This has proved to be true in some of our recent efforts, whether with the George Fern Company in the world of trade shows, with NETworks in stagecraft, and with Larry Levinson in television production. We came together to protect ourselves and each other, and we must continue to do so.

The 2009 Convention also adopted a number of resolutions, several of which were regarding Health Care Reform and Anti-Piracy. These are both major issues that we must continue to address and we must step up our efforts to keep on top of our legislators to be sure they understand the impact of these issues on our industry, on our membership and on working men and women across our two countries.

Health care is a critical issue to all working families and the current stalemate in Congress regarding health care reform has caused us more than a little concern. The bright promise of the new administration is still only potential unless and until we can see real results that will provide coverage for everyone.

We must also take an integral role in the effort to protect against theft of intellectual property, so-called piracy that is costing our own health plans millions of dollars every year and drains the flow of revenue to our employers, denying us jobs. At the convention, we encouraged every delegate to contact his or her representatives in the United States Congress on these issues. It is now up to each local, and each member, to see that their voices are heard, their needs are met, and their futures secured. In Canada, we have seen the positive effects of amendments to the criminal code, however, we must not be complacent. Instead, we must continue to lobby and support political allies who are supportive of tightening up copyright protections.

We take pride in the fact that we are a family, we have strength in numbers, and skills that are unique in the workforce. Our unity is the strongest statement we can make at a time of continuing challenge. We must continue to strive to make progress toward our goals. Our involvement in the political process gave us a victory in 2008. It is my great hope that we can continue to keep up that level of involvement and see our goals realized in the not too distant future.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

This is to advise that the regular Mid-Winter Meeting of the General Executive Board is scheduled to be held at Sheraton Austin Hotel, 701 East 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78701 at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 25, 2010, and will remain in session through and including Friday, January 29, 2010. 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 Sheraton Austin Hotel by calling 512-478-1111. Guest room rate for the IATSE is \$199.00, plus applicable taxes, for both single and double occupancy. In order to ensure that you receive the preferred room rate established for our meeting, you must identify your affiliation with the IATSE.

Cut-off date: January 1, 2010