LOCAL ONE DELEGATION TO THE 68TH QUADRENNIAL IATSE CONVENTION:


“The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined efforts of each individual.”

VINCE LOMBARDI
The 68th Quadrennial IATSE Convention was held at the Diplomat Hotel in Hollywood, Florida in July, 2017. With more than 870 delegates representing more than 263 locals, the message was unity and stability as all officers were re-elected by acclamation. Running unopposed, President Matthew D. Loeb’s slate of candidates was sworn into office, including Local One President James J. Claffey, Jr. who was elected as an International Vice President of the IATSE. Local One sent eighteen delegates to the week-long convention which included several first-time delegates.
Many issues were discussed regarding important topics such as Single Payer Healthcare, Right to Work, Discrimination in the workplace, safety issues and Leadership training opportunities. Growth = Strength was the theme of the Convention. AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka addressed the full convention in a rousing speech condemning the legislation proposed by the Republican majority in Congress that advances so-called “Right to Work” laws. “Inequality is not inevitable. We have the power to change the rules of our economy and in the process, change the course of history. We have the power to grow unity in America.”

“We will take back America for the working people who built it, that’s our job!”

RICHARD TRUMKA, PRESIDENT AFL-CIO

PRESIDENT JAMES J. CLAFFEY, JR. ELECTED IATSE INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Local One President James J. Claffey Jr. thanking the entire membership for electing him International Vice President of the IATSE. While serving on the International Executive Board, President Claffey will continue to serve as Local One’s President with the same drive and commitment he has always had for “The greatest Local in the Land.” It is Local One’s honor to be represented at the International level. Congratulations!
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I hope you embrace the return of Local One's "Spotlite" Newsletter as I do. Your Union leadership prides itself in offering our membership the most information possible and the best in communication. My sincere appreciation goes to Trustee Eileen Macdonald for accepting the assignment of "Spotlite Editor" and I believe she is providing us a terrific first publication we can all take pride in. My thanks as well to Trustee Chairman Mike Caffrey for his fine efforts in the launch of our new Website, and to Secretary Bob Score for his guidance and support.

As we move toward the end of a very successful 2017, I want to mention a few noteworthy items. Local One sent eighteen delegates to this past summer’s IATSE Convention and they all served our membership with great distinction. "Mother Local" No. One provided outstanding representation among the 263 locals that comprise the IATSE throughout the United States and Canada. Congratulations are in order for the re-election of our International President Matt Loeb, General Secretary Treasurer James Wood and the entire IATSE General Executive Board of which I couldn't be more proud to be part of on your behalf as the International Vice President. My sincere thanks to Brothers Dan Dashman and Treasurer Toby McDonough for nominating me before the 900 IATSE Delegates.

Our Welfare Fund is as stable as it has been in more than a dozen years with much credit going to fellow Trust Fund Trustees Toby McDonough, Bob Score, employer Trustees, Fund administrator Scott Cool and the fund’s professionals. A special thanks to the entire Local One membership for trusting us over the past dozen years and remaining patient through a nationwide healthcare crisis that continues to devastate many with no end in sight. We will never be in the clear and continue to monitor our Welfare Fund daily. Our Pension Fund remains a source of great pride and continues in excellent health. Local One's four Business Agents and I continue to prioritize Welfare and Pension contributions at the bargaining table in our many agreements.
Local One's Training, Education and Technology Fund (TET) remains the envy of the IATSE with an unequaled curriculum of 57 theatrical subject classes guided by our Director of Training, Vice President Adam Braunstein. Another milestone in Local One's 131 year history is taking place now as the Union recently assumed occupancy of the 2nd floor of our own building. Demolition of the 4,000 square foot space is underway with plans for it to be the new TET Fund learning facility.

Our expanded jurisdiction in Long Island has proven to be as successful as we anticipated. The integration of former Local 340 members and hundreds of Local One members who reside in Long Island makeup the fine stage crews who now enjoy monumental improvements in their collective bargaining agreements at Nassau Coliseum and Jones Beach Amphitheatre. Both overhauled contracts as well as additional work achieved in Long Island are a credit to the superior bargaining strength of the greatest local in the land.

Local One's NYS NYC Stagehands Political Action Committee (PAC) remains a force on behalf of our members. Our volunteer rank and file members who join Brothers Bob Score, Mike Caffrey, Representatives Jim Edmiston, Bill Cassidy, Lou Marcus, Co-Chairman Toby McDonough and I, work daily to successfully gain political influence throughout the Union’s vast jurisdiction. The recent November 7th elections were extremely productive for Local One as nearly every candidate the Union endorsed prevailed. Notable victors include George Latimer as Westchester County Executive, Laura Curran as Nassau County Executive, Phil Murphy as Governor of New Jersey (Local One has nearly 800 members who reside in NJ) and the re-election of NYC Mayor Bill DeBlasio. They will all be essential for the future success of our members and strengthened growth in our geographical jurisdiction.

Please take the opportunity to visit the Unions new "state of the art" lobby on the ground floor of the Local One building. The theatrical elements and creativity are a true reflection of the sophistication of the membership of Local One. Your Executive Board takes great pride in our lobby presentation and I'm quite sure all will be impressed.

In closing, my family and I send you all our best wishes for the Holiday Season, and a Healthy, Happy New Year ahead.

I remain, at your service.

In Solidarity,

Jim
Local One Spotlight

LOCAL ONE SHINES AT THE CONVENTION

Vice President and Director of the Training, Education and Technology Fund Adam Braunstein speaks on the growth of the number of classes offered and the ongoing success of improving job skills for Local One members.

Business Manager Kevin McGarty rose to thank International President Matthew D. Loeb, International Vice President Local One Brother Tony DePaulo, International Officers and other members of our brother and sister locals, who supported us in our successful strike against Carnegie Hall. With their assistance and support, we were able to secure six newly renovated floors (Resnick Education Wing) into our Carnegie Hall jurisdiction.

Recording-Corresponding Secretary Robert Score speaks on behalf of Single Payer Healthcare. The resolution in regard to HR 676 was submitted by the Local One Delegation and was unanimously endorsed for the third consecutive IATSE National Convention.
Business Manager Paul F. Dean, Jr. speaks on the merger of Local One with Long Island IATSE Local 340. The newest venues in our jurisdiction include the Nassau Coliseum and Jones Beach Amphitheater. Growth of our membership and geographical jurisdiction made the new affiliation a win-win.

Brother Ronald Lynch speaks on the “Save the Met” campaign and Local One’s strength and resolve to get a deal.

Trustee Frank Lazarto speaks on the International Training Trust Fund and the success of the IATSE Officer’s Institute.
Congratulations to Local One Brother Anthony DePaulo on his retirement as IATSE Vice President. He was presented the Retired International Officers’ Award on the last day of the Convention. This banner was displayed at the Convention Kick-Off Party hosted by Local One and then signed by the Local One Delegation and presented to Brother DePaulo at the final breakfast. Thank you for your service to this great collective and best wishes from your brothers and sisters of Local One. Well done!

Trustee Eileen Macdonald, Co-Chair of the Local One Sisters Committee takes part in the panel discussion for the IATSE Women’s Committee event: “The Unlimited Potential of IATSE Women.”

The IATSE International Women’s Committee was formed two years ago when President Loeb appointed National Executive Director of the Motion Picture Editors Guild Cathy Repola as the Chairwoman. Since that time, many Locals have formed women’s committees in cities across the country.

“A woman’s place is in her Union!”
FLORIDA RETIREES LUNCHEON

Before the start of the 68th Quadrennial IATSE Convention, Local One Florida Retirees enjoyed lunch with union officers. International President Matthew D. Loeb welcomed the members and applauded their work in their careers. Local One President James J. Claffey, Jr. spoke of the dedication they had to their crafts and to their union. Health Care Director Scott Cool shared about the work being done at the Fund Office and encouraged the retirees to keep up the great work of not working.

TRAINING EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

The Training, Education & Technology Fund or T.E.T. Fund is Local One’s most recent benefit, established as part of the Local One’s 125th Anniversary in 2011. It is primarily funded by Local One’s negotiated employer contributions and the Union’s annual Donald P. Kleinschmidt Golf Outing.

The T.E.T. Fund is a 501(c)(3) organization under the direction of three Union Trustees, President James J. Claffey Jr., Treasurer Robert Toby McDonough and Secretary Robert C. Score, as well as three Management Trustees, Ann Marie Hackett, Hal Weidenfeld and Paul Libin. The fund also has a Director of Training, Vice President Adam Braunstein, who administers and guides the curriculum.

The T.E.T. Fund’s primary function is to teach members required skills and familiarize them with cutting edge theatrical equipment in the service and protection of Local One’s jurisdiction. The NEW HOME of the Local One T.E.T. Fund will break ground on the 2nd floor of 320 West 46th Street soon.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Local One has monthly Political Action meetings. Please keep a lookout for the email blasts informing you of when the meeting dates are held at the union hall and everyone is welcome. The mission of the PAC is to raise money to be contributed or expended toward state and local elections in furtherance of the political interests and concerns of the Local One membership.

PLEASE REGISTER TO VOTE
AND MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT
Brothers and Sisters,

It has been quite some time since the last issue of Spotlite, so I will update you as best I can in this abbreviated format. First, let’s start with the Welfare Fund. As you are all aware, we were dealing with a large deficit two years ago. I’m happy to announce that due to various changes and improvements such as the move to Aetna, Express Scripts, as well as plan qualification changes, we have recovered from our losses and are in a better financial position. Thank you all for your patience and understanding.

The Pension Fund has continued to grow where we have been fortunate enough to be able to continue to give the Holiday Bonus distribution to all pensioners as well as beneficiaries. As always, we continue to look for additional benefit increases whenever possible.

The Annuity Fund also continues to rise. The biggest change came on September 1st when the Wells Fargo Stable Fund was replaced by the Mass mutual SAGIC Fund. You can find it under the Guaranteed heading on the Mass Mutual website. This fund is currently guaranteed at a 3.1% return which adjusts every six months. We are very proud of this new investment which is currently getting higher returns than our former Stable Fund while paying interest at a guaranteed rate.

The TET Fund has taken off to levels we never could have imagined. Director Braunstein has done an amazing job with all the various classes, certifications, etc. Fund balances have grown enough where we have been able to secure the second floor at the Union hall for the Training Fund. Local One will be training its members in our own building!

The Donald B. Kleinschmidt Memorial Golf Outing took place on Monday, August 14th. Once again, it was a tremendous success. I would like to thank all of the volunteers who show up faithfully every year at 8am to set everything up and begin the strike at 8pm. It doesn’t happen without you. It should be noted that all proceeds from the outing go to the Training, Education and Technology Fund of Local One.

If you haven’t been to the sixth floor Wellness Center, please stop by and meet Nurse Mary Kelly, our Healthcare Coordinator. If you are not feeling well and have a sore throat, earache, pink eye, etc., you can utilize the Wellness kiosk and have a video conference with a doctor who can prescribe basic medications for you, send the prescription to the drug store of your choice and you can be on your way. If you go on your lunch hour, you will have plenty of time to still grab a sandwich. Also, your first visit is FREE.
... continued.

This past July, I attended the IATSE Convention in Hollywood, Florida. It was a busy week in which a lot of business was conducted. You should know that in addition to your Local One officers, Delegates John Kelly, Will Armstrong, Greg Deverna, James J. Claffey, Sr., Ronnie Lynch, Joseph Valentino, III, and Larry White represented this Local with honor, dignity and class. You should all be proud of the representation you elected.

While in Florida, I attended the District 10 Convention along with President Claffey, Secretary Score and Business Agent Eddie McMahon. Local One was well represented and many of the politicians we support were endorsed with contributions. It was a very successful convention.

In addition, we hosted a Retiree luncheon at the Diplomat Hotel on the Friday before the Convention. I can’t tell you how great it was to see so many of our retirees and their spouses. We had a great time and it was a lot of laughs hearing all the old stories. There was an informative portion as well as a question and answer period.

I would like to thank President Claffey for the honor of seconding his nomination for International Vice President of the IATSE. I would also like to wish Local One’s own Anthony DePaulo well in his retirement. All the best Tony!

In closing, on a personal note, my Grandfather received his Union Card in December, 1917. That’s 100 years of McDonough’s in the Local. We are now into our 4th generation of Stagehands. Thanks Grandpa.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. I remain at your service.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert "Toby" McDonough
Treasurer

Pssst! Have you signed up for lynda.com yet?
We get a discount!
Contact the Treasurer's Office and start today!
LOCAL ONE GOLF OUTING

The Local One Donald B. Kleinschmidt Memorial Golf Outing was held on Monday, August 14, 2017 at the Turkey Hill Golf Course at Crystal Springs Resort in Hamburg, New Jersey. 130 golfers participated with proceeds going to the Training, Education and Technology Fund of Local One. The Union is proud of the growth of our golf outing since it started in 2005. Many thanks to all Local One members who attended, the many volunteers, along with our friends and guests who turned out to make it such a great success.

After a fun day on the green, dinner was served as the consummate Master of Ceremonies, Local One Treasurer Toby McDonough kept the tons of great prizes flying off the table at a record pace. Brother George Milne won the big screen TV after being cajoled into buying another ticket. He doubled his chances and he won! TET Fund Trustee Hal Weidenfeld of MSG won the 50-50 drawing. Local One extends congratulations to TET Fund Director/Vice President Adam Braunstein for receiving the Donald B. Kleinschmidt Award. Another successful event and all are looking forward to next year!
Out of the Networks….

Brothers and Sisters,

A new TV season is upon us. TV schedules will not only see new programs brought into the networks of NBC, CBS and ABC but also programs that have been signed by Local One in non-network venues.

It was a more stable market for Local One when most, if not all, the programming and employment for Local One members in broadcasting was contained within the large networks. The CBS and ABC studios were booked solid with daytime dramas, local and network news shows. NBC maintained their holdings with solid anchors such as the Today Show, SNL, news as well as local programming.

Local One recognized the market has changed. New York based daytime dramas, the soap operas, were becoming extinct. Work was moving out of the networks. Studios were becoming vacant. Employment for Local One members was declining. During this time there were industry rumors that CBS was considering a proposal to cut the studio height in half and convert the spaces into offices? Local One knew they had to go after the outside work.

One of the first outside targets was the AMV Studios on 26th Street. After several weeks of Local One demonstrating their legal rights outside of the building an agreement was reach with AMV management that Local One represented stagehands would service their productions. This facility is the current home of the long running Rachael Ray Show and Wendy Williams Show. Coupled with an organizing strategy and improved bookings in the network Studios the tide began to change. TV employment for the members has increased.

Signed agreements with Local One now include cable shows such as The President Show, The Opposition Show and The Daily Show and Page Six, all being staged in NEP Studios. Add to these the newly signed TRL Summer In The City Show, The Daily Mail Show and the numerous outside event agreements that get signed almost on a daily bases.

This success exemplifies why Local One has survived and prospered for over 132 years and will continue to do so based on the strength of our membership and our ability to acclimate to ever-changing market conditions and technology.
LOCAL ONE LOBBY RENOVATION

The Local One Lobby has had a facelift and is looking better than ever. Local One is proud to share our story and show off our craft.

AUDIO/VIDEO:
The Local One Story plays for all who enter. Stand on the Local One logo to hear it.

DIRECTORY:
Keep up to date on Local One events and catch the news ticker.

TRIVIA:
The brick came from Chicago and still has a bullet hole in it! Can you find it?

Local One would like to thank the following members for their assistance in the design and fabrication of the lobby renovation: Johan Barends, Jonathan Cohen, Matt Dinsick, Pete Donovan, Jonathan Joyce, Pat O’Donnell, Todd Peterson, Michael Phalon, Dave Tasso and William Wells.
We all know that there is inherent danger in our industry, that workplace accidents happen, and if we have not been injured ourselves on the job, we all know of a colleague who has. However, most of the accidents we encounter can be avoided by utilizing a combination of techniques to ensure a safe workplace. Being aware of your surroundings is one of the most important skills a stagehand can utilize to work safely. Our work environments often have multiple crews working independently in the same work spaces and the work can be happening in front of, to the side of, behind, below and above you. Traps can be left open, battens and truss might be flying in overhead, and all manner of props, scenery, audio, road cases, and lighting can be moving around the deck. And just when you get to know the lay of the land it can all change. In addition, we are often welding, working with electricity, using power tools and climbing on all manner of things to do our jobs. In order to work safely in our industry, we must not only pay attention to what is going on around in our surroundings but actively look for hazards in order to make sure that we go home safe and sound.

Safety training can help you to better identify hazards in the workplace and teach you how to work safely. While many of us have years of experience in this industry and have accumulated a wealth of knowledge that makes us the best stagehands in the world, there is always more to learn and safety regulations are constantly being updated. Consider the changes many of us have seen in our industry in a relatively short period of time. For instance, how many of you wore climbing belts, rock climbing harnesses, or nothing at all when working at heights without another form of fall protection? The use of high visibility safety vests or hard hats are another area where our work practices have changed very quickly. Staying up to date on safety training cannot just increase your employability but it can also save your life. As a result, the Local One safety Committee, in conjunction with the TET Fund, is working to increase safety awareness in our industry by providing training to our members. Certifications in OSHA 10/Basic Safety Entertainment, CPR/AED, First Aid, Scaffolding, Elevated work platforms, fall protection and rope rescue have been offered this past year and we are planning to be offer them again in the future. Although these classes may not seem necessary after years of work experience, things change, and it's important to stay current and safe. It is never too late to learn. If you are interested in any safety classes, please contact the Safety Committee at safety@iatse-local1.org or the Training, Education, & Technology Fund of Local One for approval.

HAVE YOU EVER WORKED A SHOW THAT YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO LOSE YOUR LIFE OR SAFETY FOR?
The Local One Young Workers Committee welcomes members of any age or years of service and functions as a support group, a social club, and a discussion space, focusing on member education and encouraging broad participation in the business and culture of our local. We are enthusiastic and engaged, curious about how our union operates and eager to learn. We are proud to wear the Local One bug and acknowledge the hard work and sacrifices made by all of our members, past and present. The longevity, unity, and success of Local One and its membership is our only goal. Join the email list at youngworkers@iatse-local1.org for news from Co-Chair Will Armstrong.

The Local One Sisters Committee began on August 12, 2011 and just celebrated the 6th Anniversary with their annual brunch. The event was held at Spoonfed NYC and was well attended by brothers and sisters alike. Several former guest speakers were also attended and door prizes were handed out. Everyone left with a souvenir. The mission of the Local One Sisters Committee is to build solidarity and camaraderie within our ranks, learn about the union and have fun! Stay tuned for upcoming events and meetings. Send inquiries to Co-Chair Eileen Macdonald at sisters@iatse-local1.org.
Local One is proud to announce our new United States Constitution Study Group. The Honorable Judge Janet McEneaney has been teaching our class on the first Monday of the month from 4-6pm at the Union office. She is an Administrative Law Judge and Labor Lawyer. She loves the theater as she actually wanted to be a stagehand but was told she couldn’t because she was a girl. So, she became a lawyer instead! Lucky for us, she has volunteered to help us learn about the history of how our country was formed through the words of the US Constitution. So far, we have covered the Preamble and the three branches of government: The Legislative, The Judicial and The Executive Branch. Upcoming classes will cover the Bill of Rights, voting issues and much more. Classes will run through the first Monday in February. The next class will be on Monday, December 4, 2017. If you would like to join us, please contact Trustee Eileen Macdonald at emac@iatse-local1.org. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!

“We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is my honor to begin the task of bringing the Local One Spotlite to life again. We have some new committees, lots of new projects and some history to explore as well. My thanks to President Claffey for appointing me as the new Editor. It is my sincerest hope that every member will feel free to send in contributions. This is your newsletter!

If you have something you would like to read about or a story idea, send an email or pick up the phone. Got a fun photo? We would love to see that too! Send to spotlite@iatse-local1.org

Union Proud. Union Strong. We are One!

In solidarity,
Eileen
LOCAL ONE LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

Local One launched our new website on October 5, 2017. Please go to www.iatselocalone.org to check it out. You can register or sign in on the home page with your email address. If you have any questions, please contact Trustee Mike Caffrey at mcaffrey@iatse-local1.org

A WORD FROM DENNIS LARKIN, FOUNDING EDITOR, SPOTLIGHT

I first met President Ronnie Vitelli when we worked together on the soap opera “Guiding Light”. It was during that time that we became and remained close friends. As President, Ronnie was exceptionally genuine and caring. He was the first President who took the time out of his busy schedule to answer my questions openly and honestly. This stayed with me through the years and long after my role as Trustee, Vice President and finally, President of Local One.

When I was elected to the Board of Trustees, I came up with the idea of starting a newsletter. During an Executive Board meeting, I brought it up and some of the members of the Executive Board were against it. However, President Vitelli told the board to allow me to start the newsletter. And so, the Spotlight was born.

My original thinking for the Spotlight was to not only make it interesting to the membership but to the retirees as well. This would enable them to be a part of and kept abreast of the workings of the Union. It quickly became very popular.

I would like to give a shout out to Trustee Eileen Macdonald who is starting up the Spotlight once again. I know she’ll do a terrific job. Lastly, I want to thank all those involved from the bottom of my heart.

In solidarity,
Dennis Larkin
Founding Editor