

Local 4



NEWS

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514

1st Quarter, 2009

IN MEMORIAM



JOHN J. COLEMAN, Jr.
Business Manager-Emeritus

March 11, 1927 - September 26, 2008

Initiated May 5, 1947

Rest in Peace

*"A shadow o'er our stage is cast
Our brothers and sisters gone for-
ever"*

Local 4 Website!!

<http://www.iatselocal4.org>.

You will find many new and exciting features, which we hope you will use and enjoy. The site now features an encrypted, password-protected secure "**Member Resources**" section.

Here, members will have access to a wealth of union information. This section will include: current contracts, meeting minutes, upcoming educational opportunities, and member contact information, to name a few.

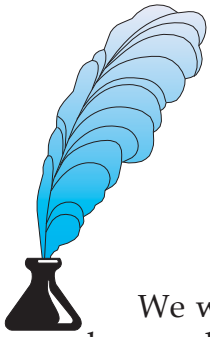
We recommend registered members to check the "**Events Schedule**" often, to keep abreast of the many educational opportunities available.

Thanks to **Business Manager Lew Resnick, Recording Secretary Terry Ryan, and Financial Secretary Bob Borch**, for all their hard work.



Happy Birthday Local No. 4!

Local No. 4 celebrates its **121th birthday** on April 8, 2009. Happy Birthday, Local No. 4!



From the Desk of the Business Manager

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

We welcome 2009 with the hope of a busy and prosperous New Year. Although the dismal economy affected us all, the majority of our venues still remain busy. Both **Showman** and **Stiegelbauer Shops** were able to get the new **Jimmy Fallon Show** for work for the members. **SNL** is still going on. A new set for **FOX Network** is being built by **Showman Fabricators**. **BAM** still remains busy, as it has gone from its "Next Wave" season to its "**Bridge Project**", which runs through mid-March. The crews have done an excellent job keeping up with the long hours and difficult conditions working on **BAM's** crown jewel.

Sesame Street continues back up after their December hiatus and should continue taping in January and February, with rumors of coming back for at least one season more next October. The **IA** ratified a new contract for **J.C. Studios** in December. One key component to this contract is the cost of the Health Benefits to be picked up entirely by the employer during the life of the contract. In addition, there was also a 3% raise compounded for the next 3 years.

There will be changes to the **Annuity** loan programs of Local No. 4 in the coming months. Hopefully these will help ease some of the financial strain imposed on some members due to the economic downturn the nation is experiencing right now.

There is a new **Met Stadium** (Citi Field?) which is now privately owned, unlike Shea Stadium, which was owned by the City and run by the NYC Parks Department. After meeting with Met brass, some rumors are flying that they are interested in doing concerts in the new stadium, as the money generated is now theirs.

The Metropolitan Opera is still up in the air for this summer. The **Philharmonic** will be doing at least 2 shows in **Central Park**. I will continue to do whatever is possible to seek out work for our members so that, hopefully, the spring and summer of 2009 will be as prosperous as in 2008.

Since September 1, 2007, Local No. 4 members are covered by **THE HARTFORD INSURANCE COMPANY**. This move signifies both improved coverage for our members, as well as reduced premium costs for Local No. 4.

For Active (Class 1) members, the benefits for Basic Life is \$5,000, while the AD&D has been raised from \$5000 to \$10,000.

All members previously enrolled in the Security Mutual group policy have been automatically enrolled in the new **HARTFORD** policy. Nevertheless, it is very important that you fill out a new **BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION form** and return it to this office as soon as possible. This form is available for download from the Local's website (<http://www.iatselocal4.org>), or can be mailed to you upon request.

General Meeting Schedule

Monday, January 5, 2009
Monday, February 2, 2009
Monday, March 2, 2009
Monday, April 6, 2009
Monday, May 4, 2009
Monday, September 14, 2009**
Monday, October 5, 2009**
Monday, November 2, 2009**
Monday, December 7, 2009**

** tentative schedule

Annuity Plan Loan Revisions

Peter J. Fitzpatrick
Fund Administrator

To better assist the participants of the Annuity Plan through these difficult times, the Trustees of the Annuity Plan are making the following changes:

1. If you have defaulted on a loan, and seven years have passed, you will now be eligible to take out another loan. The amount of the loan will be governed as per the Rules and Regulations of our present loan policies in the Plan. However, there is one exception; all second loans must be repaid through debit ACH. This means that your checking account will be debited on a monthly basis by Mass Mutual as payment for the loan.

2. If you have a loan presently outstanding, and you want to get a lower interest rate, you can now refinance the loan at the lower rate. This will be treated as a new loan and all forms associated with an application for a new loan must be completed. However, unlike a new loan, you will have to decide if you want to continue with the terms of your present loan or refinance the loan for the full term of the original loan. It is important to make sure that the refinanced loan will have a lower monthly payment. When you refinance your loan, one month of payments will be added to the refinanced loan. All other rules and regulations for the Plan remain the same.

Please call the office if you have any questions.

E-Mail Address and Survey

Local No. 4 needs all our members to send us their **e-mail addresses and return their surveys**. Your e-mail address will be as important as your home address. Please send your e-mail address to **Recording Secretary Terry Ryan**. Thank you for your cooperation.

Government Allows Hiatus in 2009 70^{1/2} for Required Minimum Distributions.

The Government will allow a one-year hiatus as concerns the required minimum distribution for Retirees who have reached the age of 70^{1/2}. A letter will be sent out by Mass Mutual further explaining this option.

Local Four Check-Offs

It is very important that **checkoffs** be filled out correctly at your place of employment, and given to the **Shop Steward**, who will then remit it to the office.

The information on the checkoff is used by the **Fund Administration** to upload information to your Annuity Account at **Mass Mutual**.

Information such as your Social Security Number, your address, and your date of birth is *crucial* to this process.

PAT'S PATTER

by Pat McDonald



Asking dumb questions is easier than correcting dumb mistakes.

An exception granted becomes a right expected the next time it is requested.

A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.

The children of Israel wandered around the desert for 40 years; even in biblical times men wouldn't ask for directions.

One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, floor.

Holiday Party at Buckley's - December 22, 2008



Report on Education by Peter J. Fitzpatrick

The ETCP Electrical Certification class held its last session on January 18. The class consisted of a short review, a practice examination, and a review of this test. The next step is taking the actual examination. We wish great success to all who take the test. We wish to thank Kelly Britt, the instructor, for all his hard work.

During the month of February, two other courses were offered by the Local:

1. "Introduction to Basic Television Electrics" (Tommaso Anzalone, instructor.)
2. "Introduction to Basic Theater Electrics" (James D'Adamo, instructor.)

On March 1st, an "ETCP Arena Rigging Prep" class will be offered to members with arena rigging experience and an intermediate knowledge of arena rigging. The instructor will be Arthur Grillman.

The Education Committee chaired by Steve Cowie meets monthly to discuss education needs of the Local. If anyone has any suggestions, please contact the committee via the union office.

Look for future education announcements on the new Local No. 4 web site. If you do not have access to the web site, you will still be notified by postcard.

Change of Address

If you have moved recently it is important that both the Union and the Administrators of the Local No. 4 Funds have your current address.

If you are not receiving a statement from **Mass Mutual** concerning your **Annuity**, it may be due to an address problem.

Please call the Office if you have experienced difficulty getting mailed information that you see others getting.

Congratulations



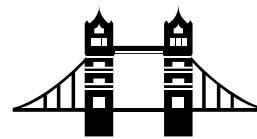
Congratulations to **William and Laura Meems** on the birth of their son, **Thomas William Meems** (6lbs. 11oz, 20" long) on August 28, 2008.

Looking for Work?

If you are available for work, you should call the Local on each Friday for the upcoming week. Your availability will be added to the database and sent to department heads who are looking for members to work in their venues.

Members should log on our website (www.iatselocal4.org) for notices of basic job openings. If you do not have access to the web site, you will still be notified by postcard.

Welcome New Members!



We wish to welcome the following new members who were initiated into Local No. 4 during 2008:

Robert Dell'Arena
Randall Dennis
Amy Domjian
Matthew Greer
Scott Monroe
Erica Stoltz
Dwayne Walls
Noah Winstead



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