

**International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture  
Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States  
and Canada AFL- CIO, CLC**



**Atlanta Stage Technicians Local 927**

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OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, AT 1:00 PM AT MANUEL'S TAVERN ON THE CORNER OF NORTH AVE AND N. HIGHLAND. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL BE AT 11:00 AM ON THE SAME DAY. PLEASE BRING YOUR UNION CARD FOR THE SERGENT-AT-ARMS TO VERIFY THAT YOU ARE CURRENT ON YOUR UNION DUES.

**LAKEWOOD**

On September 20, the contract between the IATSE, Live Nation and Local 927 was signed by all parties. This is a five year agreement from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2020. The jurisdiction for this agreement is amphitheaters in the Atlanta area that are operated by Live Nation. In year one of the agreement, starting on July 15, 2016, we staffed events at Lakewood Amphitheater. We have done 10 events so far at the venue. There are two more shows on the schedule, Florida-Georgia Line Saturday October 22 and Gregg Allman on Saturday October 29. Once the season is over, we will have a strike of gear for the winter. If we meet some training benchmarks over the fall and winter, in the spring the contract will be extended to cover Verizon and Chastain.

As part of this contract, we are offering membership to the current workers at Lakewood. This is over 100 stagehands and riggers. They can join as members under the organizing drive until October 15. If they choose not to become members, we will still see many of them on calls through the referral list. Many of these people have worked in the business for years and they have skills comparable to those of our current members. Some do not. Either way, these are now our brothers and sisters. When they come to meetings and show up on jobs, please make every effort to welcome them as new members. Take some time to speak with them and find out a bit about them. They are just like us, they love the business and have dedicated their work lives to rock and roll much as we have done in theater.

Special thanks go out to many of the members who helped make this happen. Brian Hill, Katherine Walding, Carlos Jackson, Sean Simmons, Karl Armstrong, Charlie Wilcox, Wayne Perry, Chris Perry and others were instrumental in getting the drive going and keeping the drive going, especially after we lost in Federal court. Roger Cook, Al Herman, Dave Fedack, Peter Cocchiere, Hank Collins, Wayne Baugh, Gary Cameron, Rosemary Corrigan, Erik Charles, Sean Neal, James Fowler, Milo Jones, Robert Lee, Ricky Reagan, Greg McDonald, Gail Pearson and others spent time on the protest lines early mornings at Lakewood and cold evenings at Philips Arena. This was not any one member's organizing drive and if I missed you, please do not be offended,. The credit goes to each and every member who took the time to come out, to talk to workers and to the public, gave interviews, wrote on social media, used their contact lists to gather support. Mo Guiberteau deserves the highest praise for taking the steward job at Lakewood and helping to shepherd the new people through the process. She is the reason we are still in the building and the success is due in large part to her skills, drive and, above all, patience. We all know that this was not something that happened overnight. It took years of work and dedication. That was you, the members of this local. This is your victory.

Now we need to get prepared for next year and the addition of Verizon and Chastain.

**OSHA 10 TRAINING AT THE FOX AND 479**

We were able to get 69 members and referrals certified in OSHA 10 in two classes that took place at the Fox on August 30 and 31. These classes were sponsored by the IATSE Training trust, which paid for the majority of the

expenses. We are part of the training trust in the Live Nation and the PSAV contracts negotiated by the International. We will be working with the training trust to schedule another class for 927 members and referrals. In the meantime, Local 479 offers OSHA 10 every month. The class is the same no matter where or when you take it. It is something that you need to take once and then you are lifetime certified. If you take the class with Local 479 be sure to send a copy of your card to the office so Mary has that on file.

### ETCP RIGGING AND ELCTRICIAN EXAMS

This fall and winter we will be offering courses designed to assist members with exam preparation for the ETCP rigging exam and the ETCP Electrician exam. We would like to have 25 certified ETCP riggers before the next spring and between 6-10 ETCP electricians. The rigging class is three days where we learn and review for two days and then take the test on the third day. The IATSE has built a course specific to the rigging exam and has an 85% pass rate for members who take the test immediately after they complete the class. We are looking to schedule that class in late 2016 or early 2017. Again, we will be partnering with the IATSE training trust to help control the costs. You will still have to pay for the test but there are reimbursement options if you pass.

### AT THE FOX

The Fox is booked again starting in the middle of September. We have Jason Isbell on Saturday September 24. Next is The Illusionists going in Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> and running through October 2. The rest of the month is filled by mostly one nighters, Bill Burr plays October 6, followed by Chance the Rapper on October 8. We get Anderson, Rabin and Wakeman from YES on October 10 and Celtic Thunder on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Scott Bradlee's Post Modern Jukebox is the 15<sup>th</sup>, Louis Farrakhan is the 16<sup>th</sup>, Bill O'Reilly and Dennis Miller are on the 21<sup>st</sup>, Bonnie Raitt is the 22<sup>nd</sup> and Festival of Praise is the 29<sup>th</sup>. The Fox is also doing Dance Theatre of Harlem as a co-promotion with CEPAC on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

In October we will begin to negotiate the next Fox contract. Our goal is to be done by December of 2016. In order to do that, we need to have proposals and changes to the union officers within the next two weeks. If you want anything changed in the agreement, please let us know. In this case, us is Peter, Hank and Neil. October is also JCTC time. If you want to get on or stay on the Fox list, please let us know.

### AT CEPAC

BET was a huge success and it looks like they will book a return engagement. We return to CEPAC on September 30 for the load in for Atlanta Opera's The Abduction from the Seraglio. That will run until October 16<sup>th</sup>. The building presents some one offs and then we bring in Dance Theater of Harlem October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### THE ATLANTA OPERA

The Atlanta Opera is currently experiencing a change in leadership. They let Mo Guiberteau go at the end of last season and Shawn Johnson left the company about a week ago. This throws the beginning of next season into turmoil. The Opera is currently looking to fill two production positions, Production Manager and Production Associate. The job postings are on the Atlanta Opera website. Go to the "About us" tab and then go to "employment" and then "Jobs". We need to make sure that these jobs either stay within the local or go to people who are Union friendly. Hank Collins will be the Master Carpenter for the season. Roman Peoples will be the Propsmaster and Katie Dornemann will be the Master Electrician. The Opera loads in to CEPAC on September 30. We are trying something new this season and are doing a split load in with electrics starting at 8a and carpenters coming in later. Let's see how this works out.

## GEORGIA STAGE

We have a contract with Georgia Stage to assist with work that they are doing. Most of the work is rigging related and involves installing curtains, track and rigging components. Some is local and some is out of town. If you are interested in being part of the group of referrals considered for this work, please let Neil know.

## PSAV CONTRACT

The International and PSAV entered into a National agreement for A/V and rigging work in hotels and conventions. This is both general session and meeting room work. Atlanta is being integrated into this contract starting at the end of September. We are getting rigging work and carpentry work for a show at the Hyatt downtown September 30 and October 1. It is a total of 10 jobs to start.

This is a new contract for us and we need to be prepared. Hotel work is a bit different than stage work. It is more customer service oriented. So much so that PSAV will be offering a two day class on customer service training. Anyone interested in this work should plan to attend the class. This includes A/V techs and riggers. We need to dress well, wash, smile and learn how to enhance the client experience. There is potentially huge business for us. These are high five, low six figure jobs as A/V and rigging techs in hotels. PSAV has 43 properties in Atlanta and they are contracting with us to be their labor provider. This is why we spent money on the A/V essentials class and why we are doing OSHA 10 classes and why we are getting certified riggers.

## STEWARD CLASS

The monthly steward class will be held Tuesday October 11 at 1:00PM at the union office. This is the first Tuesday after the meeting. After BET it is evident that we need to improve the computer skills of our onsite stewards. Every steward should be proficient in Excel. If you are not, then you should spend the money to join Lynda.com through the local and you should take the excel classes to become proficient. I spent five hours recreating the BET payroll so that it could be sent to the client. Our stewards need to be more computer literate so that they can do this on site during the call instead of after the call is done. The deal between the IATSE and Lynda.com makes these classes available for a year at a very reasonable cost of \$20.

## ELECTION 2016

November 8 is Election Day. The last day to register to vote in the election is October 11. EVERY MEMBER NEEDS TO REGISTER AND TO VOTE EARLY IF POSSIBLE. We are a smaller local but each of us has an important role to play in this election cycle. We may not have an effect on the presidential election, but there are other close races we can influence. On the federal level we have a senate race to replace Johnny Isakson with Jim Barksdale. There are house seats in every district that are in play both federally and locally that could flip if enough people come out to vote. We need to get active. We lost the Crew One case in Federal court because of an activist Federal Judge appointed by G. W. Bush. Having a democratic president and a democratic congress gives us a better chance to appoint judges who will protect workers. Our unemployment problems could be solved by electing a State Secretary of Labor who preserved instead of cut unemployment benefits to us. His attack on "part time" workers has affected every member filing for unemployment. We need unemployment benefits restored so that we can afford to continue to work as stagehands. Your vote matters. Also, we are looking for members to volunteer to canvas or to phone bank. Unions can increase their roles by having members volunteer. We are asking for every member to volunteer for one day during the campaign season. If we do that, we will have a huge impact on the election and we will get more support from politicians in the future. One day canvassing, knocking on doors, or a four hour shift at the phone bank calling union members makes a huge difference. I was able to help get my state representative elected and she is now someone who I can call on at the capitol when the local needs assistance. This is about positioning us so that when big events like the Super bowl come to Atlanta, we are pushed by politicians as the go to labor source.

## AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Below is the amendment to ARTICLE IX – REVENUES Section 1A. Quarterly Dues which currently reads;

The quarterly dues payable by each member shall be set by the Executive Board and approved by the membership, upon secret ballot vote. Payment is due prior to the start of each quarter. (Dues are currently \$65.00 per quarter)

1. If payment for the full year is made within the first fifteen days of January, the total cost will be reduced by \$20.00.
2. If quarterly dues are not paid by the fifteenth day in the quarter, a late fee will be assessed.
3. **(Added Aug 16, 2005)** Any check returned to the local for insufficient funds will result in a fine for all associated charges, or \$50.00, whichever is greater, to be added to the total of the returned item. This must be paid to the Local by money order or certified check.

Failure on the part of any member to pay any financial obligation to this Local within 60 days after same became payable shall result in such member being automatically declared not in good standing. A member not in good standing shall be deprived of the right to hold office, to attend meetings and to vote. If such default continues for a period of more than six months from the date the financial obligation first became payable and should the member fail to pay up his full indebtedness within 10 days after written notice by certified mail has been sent to him (such written notice specifies the amount due and how such amount was arrived at), the member shall be deemed automatically expelled unless previously he has been granted an extension of time to pay by vote of the membership.

The amendment we will be voting on in August is to add the following one line to the end of the above paragraph. The cost of the certified mail shall be borne by the member receiving notice.

## MEMBER APPLICATIONS

Paul Dunaway is being sponsored by Harvey Mills, Rob Auten is being sponsored by Rob Stafford and Stephen Crawford is being sponsored by Paul Doucet. These applications will receive their first reading at our October meeting. Steven Betolatti is being sponsored by Hank Collins, his application will receive its second reading and be voted on at the October meeting. The Local received a transfer card for Sean Dunn who would like to transfer here from local 60, his transfer will also be voted on at our October meeting.

## NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

First quarter Union dues are due on or before January 1st, second quarter is due on or before April 1st, third quarter is due on or before July 1st and fourth quarter is due on or before October 1st. If payments are not post-dated by the 15th day of the month in which the quarter starts you will be charged a late fee. Quarterly dues are currently \$68.00 and the late fee is currently \$12.00.

According to my records, the following members have not paid their second quarter 2016 dues as of yet; Jasen Danbury, Joe Kendrick (\$15.00) and Morgan Ryan. These members will be receiving certified letters of expulsion.

Also according to my records, the following members have not paid their third quarter 2016 dues as of yet; Corrine Butler, Jason Danbury, Ray Haynie, Brandon Hurd, Joe Kendrick, Robert McGovern, Auburn Rea, Morgan Ryan, Antonio Tiggs and Jason Vargas.

## OUR MEMBERS WITH OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS ARE

John Beaulieu, David Dabrowski, Paul Doucet, Richard Dukes, Chris French, Gary Hardaway, Scott Hardin, Brian Nunnally, Cary Oldknow, Cory Robertson, Malina Rodriguez, William Rose and Jerry Woolard.

Happy Birthday!! ☺