

9/11/09

National Convention

In the leadup to this national convention I had developed some idea of how things would play out. As many of you have heard the 2005 convention was one of both controversy and drama.

I felt since Pres. emeritus Short was no longer driving the IATSE engine things would go a lot smoother. Possibly also times have changed. I could not have been more wrong, it was almost like a caustic, beyond my wildest dreams.

Some highlights

- no Political endorsements were made as this is an off election year.
- national health issues were discussed but not in great depth.
- Tax issues potentially affecting our health Benefits
- Employee free choice legislation working its way thru congress

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- Tony Lennon of Boctu signaled in his remarks something troubling. We possibly as labor should be concerned about maintaining what we have not totally concerned about gains in the near term.
- We were very proud of Sister K.W. who addressed the convention on sleep deprivation which was our Resolution 7 and also in her remarks thanking the Hollywood BA's for keeping us informed about the negotiations for our new contract. This was especially true when we had a large multi-union info at the Police Academy.
- There were the usual parties, but the highlight was the unity Bash sponsored by locals 44, 80, 728, 729 and 52. We all wore special shirts identifying us, and it was the best party of all.
- This completes my report. With this one and from the other delegates President Rowe will be able to craft a concise report.

Jerry P.