

## NEWSLETTER –JULY 7, 2009

*“Difficulties are meant to rouse, not discourage.”*

At the Special Called Meeting on July 6<sup>th</sup>, the Sept 1<sup>st</sup> Journeyman wage rate increase (\$2.60 per hr.) was discussed, with the Negotiating Committee making the following recommendation:

\$0.05 to RESA (per CBA);  
\$0.05 to Apprenticeship Training;  
\$0.50 to SIS Pension; and  
\$2.00 to Wages, of which \$1.00 to go to Vacation;  
(\$0.50 rate increase for all Foremen and General Foremen (per CBA)).

After little discussion, there were no other suggestions from the floor. A motion and second, was made from the floor to accept the Negotiating Committees recommendation. Then a motion and second was made to suspend the rules, to allow for a vote on the recommendation via a show of hands, which was unanimous. The Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> wage rate sheet will be sent out with next month's newsletter.

So there will be **NO** Special Called Meeting on Monday July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 to vote on where the raise will go. It has been settled.

I hope all who attended the Dodger game last month had a good time as we observed a nail biter of a game. It came down to the Dodger's last out of the 9<sup>th</sup> inning in order for them to pull out the win. However, what transpired at the end of the game in front of me, has astounded and shocked me. At the conclusion of the game, I observed members and friends of members throwing food and beverages, which were included in the price of the ticket, at a few Philly fans seated in the first few rows of our section. An action that was totally uncalled for and luckily no one was seriously hurt. Now I know that we all make mistakes but we also have to answer for those mistakes, and as of right now I am of the mindset that if we have another Dodger game outing then it will probably be in the regular seats where everyone will have to purchase their own food and beverages and there will be a limit of 6 or 8 tickets each member may purchase. Then maybe we would avoid just this sort of a situation. If anyone has any thoughts about this matter, please contact me to discuss them.

I would like to take this time to thank all the volunteers that helped out at this year's picnic. It was a great success, but for without your help, I would not have been able to make it through the day. I'd like to thank Chris Hannan, Ray Calderon, Todd Golden, Robin Schledorn, John Holmes, Bob Arballo, Sal Chiaravalloti, Jim Duffy, Erin Duffy, Mickey Hair, Nate Carpenter and the many others that made this day possible. A special thank you goes out to Carmen, who went above and below the call of duty. Thank you once again to all that helped throughout the day.

As of now, everyone should have received their notice from Wells Fargo about their taking over of the SIS Fund from Comerica. This was a business decision made by Comerica to get out of that particular end of the business. However, we, the trustees, are looking at other alternatives and routes to go, since this was not our decision.

**Attention all ex-Guardian Fire Protection employees** - If you worked for the company during the time period of March 2008 through June 2008, you should have received all back payments to your SIS Fund Pension by now. If not, please contact me at the hall.

**Monthly Dues Reminder** - \$19.00 - 26.00 Monthly Dues (Dependent on classification)  
3 Months + 1 Day = \$50 Reinstatement Fee + Dues  
6 Months + 1 Day = Expulsion (Must call Business Manager for amount)

**Reminder for those that have Automatic Payment of Monthly Base Dues through Union Yes Federal Credit Union.** Please be advised that your account must have a minimum balance, at the beginning of each month, equal to that of \$25 plus the amount which you have requested to be paid to Local 709. If not, no payment will be sent to Local 709 and that month's dues will not be paid. Your authorization of payment is for a set amount only each month. You will not receive a notice either from the Credit Union nor Local 709 regarding there being no dues payment. Please contact Maribel or Judy to check on your current charges due.

**Another Reminder to always keep your contact information current.** If we do not have your correct and current contact information, then we will be unable to contact you should there be a need. This means either through mailings or phone calls. Just because you put a new phone number in the out-of-work book, this does not mean that the computers have been updated. You must notify Maribel or Judy of all changes immediately.

**Attention Members** - Local 709 only allows members to work for non-signatory contractors that have signed on to either a PLA or PSA project and have been dispatched by the Local Union to the specific project.

**Irwindale Speedway vouchers** are available. Vouchers are very limited and are on a first come, first served basis with a limit of only two (2) per member. Please see Maribel or Judy at the hall.

**The New July 1<sup>st</sup> Wage Rate Sheet is enclosed.** This will be in effect through August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009

**Anglers interested in a day of Sport fishing,** should contact Local 709 Brother Robin Hillis at (562) 531-8636 or (562) 818-4628.

**Welcome aboard to a New Contractor – AVIG Corp.** We wish them the best and look forward to a long working relationship.

**We are saddened to report the passing of Brother Robert Stillwell.** Our condolences go out to his family and friends. He will be missed.

Fraternally yours,



Michael P. Huerta  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

***Dates to Remember:***

- July 14, 2009 – Retiree Fishing Trip*
- July 21, 2009 - Retiree Meeting @ Union Hall*
- August 3, 2009 – Regular Union Meeting*

Reminder Check payable to: LOCAL 709

Check/Money Order No. \_\_\_\_\_

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| Journeyman \$26; Apprentice \$26; Residential \$24; Retired (65 B4 12/31/01) \$15; Retired (65 B4 12/31/06) \$19; Retired (All Other) \$20 Mail to: 12140 Rivera Road., Whittier, CA 90606 Amount \$ _____ |                      |
| <b>Month(s) Paying:</b>  |                      |
| <b>Initiation Due:</b>   |                      |
| <b>Death Assessment:</b>   | <b>\$21 for 2008</b> |
| <b>Reinstatement Fee:</b>  |                      |

The Newsletter is also available online at [www.sprinklerfitters709.org](http://www.sprinklerfitters709.org)