



BEHIND THE SCENES

SPRING 2009

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 1



How You Can Reach Us

At the Fund Office, we welcome your questions or requests for information. There are a number of ways to reach us.

DROP IN. Our office is at 417 Fifth Avenue, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10016-2204.

CALL US. If you're in New York, the telephone number is 212-580-9092. The toll-free number is 1-800-456-FUND (3863).

SEND US A FAX.

Our main fax number	212-787-3607
Benefits	212-730-7706
Contracts & Contributions	212-792-8322
Finance	212-792-8321
Pension	212-792-8323
Executive Director	212-792-8320

EMAIL US via our Web site (www.iatsenbf.org).

Please note that the Fund Office will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

Good Friday	Friday, April 10
Memorial Day	Monday, May 25
Independence Day	Friday, July 3
Labor Day	Monday, September 7
Columbus Day	Monday, October 12
Veteran's Day	Wednesday, November 11
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 26
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, November 27
Christmas	Friday, December 25

COMING SOON: Direct Payments to Our Lockbox

The detachable coupon on your CAPP statement will soon direct payments to our new lockbox. From here, payments will be automatically updated into our system rather than input manually. This will further speed up processing and ensure that payments are credited to your CAPP account in a timely and efficient manner.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As of this writing, the economy is in turmoil, the Dow is struggling to rise above 7000 and some major financial institutions are hanging by a thread—but our Funds are holding their own. Granted, the Pension Fund has been adversely impacted by the extreme downturn in the market, but it's still sufficiently funded as indicated by its "green zone" status. (See page 3 for more about zones.) Naturally, we monitor and manage all our Funds very closely so that they can continue to provide the vital benefits on which you rely—now and after you retire.

As part of our monitoring of the financial situation and its potential impact on the Funds, we (and the benefit professionals we work with) are keeping a close watch on President Obama's stimulus package—particularly as it may affect COBRA and privacy issues. You'll hear from us as soon as final regulations are announced.

On issues closer to home, you may note that this issue of **Behind the Scenes** was mailed a little later this year than in years past. That's because we'll be cutting back from four to three issues in 2009. Despite the quantity reduction, we'll continue to work hard to ensure there's no slippage in quality. In fact, based on feedback we've received from participants, we plan to provide more information of general interest. (For example, you'll find an article on the importance of sleep on page 2.) Since this is uncharted waters for us, please feel free to provide any suggestions for topics you think may be of interest to our readers.

What we hope you find of interest is the newly designed CAPP statement that was mailed in February to Health & Welfare Plan C participants. Besides having a new streamlined look, the statement is customized to meet each participant's needs and costs less to produce. See the article at left for another change.

Finally, it is with a sense of sadness and loss that we report the passing of Irving Cheskin on December 19 at the age of 94. As you may know, Irving gave a lifetime of service to our industry and its people. A tribute to his accomplishments appears on page 2.

Anne J. Zeisler

CAPP Statements: On Their Way in May

Your July 2009 quarterly CAPP statement will be in the mail to you by mid-May. It will include all employer contributions received, processed and credited to your CAPP account as of April 30, 2009. It will also show any CAPP charges you'll be required to pay to maintain your health and welfare coverage from July 1 through September 30, 2009. Be sure to open your statement, complete the detachable coupon and return it by June 15, 2009 to avoid a lapse in coverage.



DON'T FORGET: Personalized information, such as a detailed report of your work history, is available 24/7 online at www.iatsenbf.org or by phone at 1-800-456-FUND (3863).

Put Your Health Where Your Mouth Is

Healthy teeth make for a nice smile. But there are more serious reasons for keeping your mouth healthy, like preventing oral infections and even reducing the risk of heart disease. Proper brushing and flossing at least twice a day is the first step in protecting your oral health. The second step is getting a professional cleaning and dental exam at least once a year, but every six months is better.

As a reminder, the Health & Welfare Fund pays your dentist according to a schedule of "allowances." Your cost depends on if you use the Delta Dental PPO or Delta Dental Premier network (or go out of network entirely). As long as you stay in network, you pay the difference between the allowed amount that your dentist charges and the scheduled amount. Log on to www.deltadental.com or call Delta Dental at 1-800-932-0783 to find a network dentist.



If you live in New York, you can choose between Delta Dental or Self-Insured Dental Services (SIDS) for dental coverage.

SPRING CLEANING

Each April, we review all CAPP accounts. If there's been no activity in your account—that is, no enrollment charges, no eligible medical reimbursement claims and no new employer contributions—over the prior two calendar years, your account is closed. Any remaining balance is forfeited. These forfeitures help to maintain benefits for currently active participants.

Catch Those ZZZ's

We all know that a poor night's sleep usually means an unproductive morning after. But did you know that it also may make you gain weight? Researchers reporting in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* found that a lack of sleep changes the circulating levels of hormones like ghrelin, which activates hunger, and leptin, which tells the brain when we are full. The report also noted that sleep-deprived study subjects not only woke up hungry, but they awoke craving calorie-rich, high-carbohydrate diet killers like candy, cookies and cake.

Getting more sleep may keep your weight down and prevent health conditions associated with being overweight, such as high cholesterol or high blood pressure, which means a healthier you and controlled health care costs for the Fund.

COST RECAP

Here are the CAPP charges that are effective April 1, 2009 and will remain in effect through June 30, 2009.

	Quarterly CAPP Cost to You
Plan C-1 and HMOs (Kaiser and Harvard)	
–Individual	\$2,730
–Family	\$5,694
Plan C-2	
–Individual	\$1,530
–Family	\$2,598
Plan C-3	
–Individual	\$1,086
–Family	\$2,058

A TRIBUTE

We note with sadness the passing of Irving Cheskin, the most senior member of the Boards of Trustees of the I.A.T.S.E. National Benefit Funds, on December 19, 2008 at the age of 94. Irving, who had been a fixture in the theatre community and entertainment industry for over fifty years, served his career working on behalf of the entertainment industry's retirement and health benefit funds. The lights of the Broadway Theatres in New York City dimmed in his memory on December 23, 2008.

Irving was a founding Trustee and Co-Chairman of the IATSE Annuity Fund, the IATSE National Vacation Fund and IATSE National Welfare Fund, and later also became Co-Chairman of the IATSE National Pension Fund. Irving fought tirelessly to protect and improve the retirement and health benefits of employees and their families. Irving served as Executive Director of the Broadway League (then known as the League of New York Theatres and Producers) from 1961 to 1982. In 1982, Irving transitioned to the role of Director of Employee Benefit Funds for the League. Irving recently stepped down as Co-Director at the age of 94, but continued to serve as a consultant of the League.

All those who knew Irving knew that he loved every aspect of the Entertainment Industry and the men and women working in it. Irving was a true friend of the IATSE National Benefit Funds. We will miss him and his wise counsel.

The Money Is Yours... Just Not Yet



During tough financial times, you may be looking for additional sources of cash.

Unfortunately, you cannot withdraw money from the IATSE Annuity or 401(k) Plan—neither plan has loan or hardship withdrawal provisions. Benefits from both plans are available to

you only at your retirement or termination of employment. However, this does not mean the money isn't yours. In fact, just the opposite is true. By keeping your money in the plans, you will ensure that it's there when you are ready to retire.

Keep in mind that while your money must remain in the plans until retirement, you're never locked into your investment decisions. You can stop or change your salary deferrals

at any time for both the Annuity and 401(k) Plans by notifying your employer and the Fund Office in writing. To change your investment choices for either plan, simply log on to www.prudential/online/retirement or call Prudential at 1-800-253-2287.

No Time To Zone Out

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA '06) requires trustees to actively monitor their pension plans' funding. The goal is to identify and correct funding issues in time to prevent further decline and to stabilize the plans' finances. As part of this process, a plan is classified as being in one of three zones: *adequately funded* (the "green zone"), *endangered status* (the "yellow zone") or *critical status* (the "red zone"). If a plan is classified in either the yellow or red zone, specific actions must be taken to improve the plan's funding. Rest assured **our Pension Fund is in the green zone** and we will continue to carefully monitor our funding levels to ensure it stays there.



VACATION

Hit the Bank, Then Take a Breather in Belize

If your employer contributed to the Vacation Fund for work you performed in 2008, you should have received a direct deposit application in the mail early in 2009. If you elected this option, your vacation check will be deposited automatically in May into a checking or savings account, whichever you chose.

If you didn't elect direct deposit, your checks will continue to arrive by mail. Watch for the next one in May. Remember that you must cash your check within 180 days. If you don't, it will no longer be valid and you'll have to contact the Fund Office for a replacement. If you wait more than 24 months, your check will be voided automatically and you'll forfeit the full amount.

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Vacation Fund	Matthew D. Loeb James B. Wood	Jeffrey Ruthizer Christopher Brockmeyer
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Anne J. Zeisler		

Supporting Cast

Here's a list of the organizations that support and administer our programs. You can find contact information in the SPDs or link to their Web sites from ours (www.iatsenbf.org).

Hospital and Health
Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield

HMOs and PPOs (Plan C)
Harvard Pilgrim
COSVI
Triple S
Kaiser Permanente

Prescription Drug
Caremark

Vision
Davis Vision
Comprehensive Professional Systems
General Vision Services

Dental
Delta Dental
A.S.O./S.I.D.S.

Medical Reimbursement Program (Plan C)
A.S.O./S.I.D.S.

Physical Exam and Hearing Aid Benefit
A.S.O./S.I.D.S.

Life Insurance
ULLICO

Annuity and 401(k)
Prudential

We've summarized many important plan rules in this newsletter, but we don't intend for these summaries to replace or amend the official plan documents of each of the plans. We will follow the rules of the official plan documents if those rules differ from the summaries in this newsletter.



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