

Welcome Brother and Sisters to IBEW Local 369 Louisville, KY for the 75<sup>th</sup> IBEW International Bowling tournament. This is the seventh time our Local has hosted and we are extremely proud to have the Diamond anniversary. We hope you enjoy our great city. There is a lot to do outside of the hotel and bowling lanes. Louisville is known for Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby, Louisville slugger bats, the world's oldest Mississippi River-style steam boat (Bell of Louisville), world's largest bat and the birthplace of some great celebrities such as Diane Sawyer, Jennifer Lawrence and the GREATEST Muhammad Ali.

Our Local is now the second largest in the 4<sup>th</sup> District by member numbers and our jurisdiction takes up a large part of Kentucky and seven counties in southern Indiana. We have had great organizing efforts out and are still hard at it. We have gotten hundreds of tree trimmers from Eastern Kentucky. And organized workers in a hospital at Fort Knox. We have been working hundreds of travelers for the last 7 years and it looks like we will continue to in the near future.

Since our jurisdiction is so large it includes a lot of noteworthy locations. The longest cave system in the world, Mammoth Cave, is just 80 miles south of Louisville. The General Motors plant where they make the famous Corvette and its museum (with sinkhole) is in Bowling Green. A real medieval castle is at Castle Post in Versailles. Cumberland Falls home of the only place to see a moonbow in the western hemisphere. Yes, a moonbow. Rainbow by the light of the moon at night.

Louisville is also known for some lesser known things as well. Disco balls, 90 percent of mirror balls are made in Louisville. The old Kaelin's restaurant is said to be the inventor of the cheeseburger. The first successful hand transplant was done here, and the first self-contained artificial heart.

Right down the street from the host hotel is 4<sup>th</sup> street live with many bars and restaurants with a huge variety of music to listen to. The Belle of Louisville is just a few feet north on the river, you can hear the calliope from the hotel. Louisville slugger museum and factory is just blocks west as well as the Muhamad Ali museum. To the East is whiskey row. You can also start the Bourbon Trail if you stay a couple days. Many bourbon distilleries are within a couple hours driving distance and I highly suggest the tours.

Once again, I want to welcome you to Louisville. Our volunteers have been working very hard to make sure you have a good time. Friday night there will be buses available to bring you to and from our Hall for our Hospitality night. Good luck bowling and safe travels

Charlie Essex

Business Manager/ Financial secretary