



THE BULLETIN

HOLLYWOOD
CALIFORNIA

CHARTERED
MAY 15, 1939

LOCAL 728 STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS
THE ONLY IATSE LOCAL DEDICATED TO SET LIGHTING

VOL. 20; No. 1
2010

Earl Williman, Jr. Retires; Leaving Critically Acclaimed “Dexter”



At his retirement party, Earl was surprised to receive a portrait of himself painted by Actor/ Author/ Artist John Lithgow (pictured above)

*Feature story and crew photos
Pages 4 & 5*

Dexter photos courtesy of Jack Guberman

Also Inside:

- ◆ PRESIDENT GROW'S FINAL MESSAGE, Page 2
- ◆ NEW BUILDING PICS, Page 2
- ◆ Helping Less Fortunate Members: BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES REPORT, Page 3
- ◆ TREASURER/CALL STEWARD'S COLUMN, Page 6
- ◆ TRAINING DIRECTOR'S COLUMN, Page 7
- ◆ LOCAL 728 HOLIDAY PARTY PICS, Page 8

President's three-year term comes to a close

Thank you for the opportunity to serve

by Dennis K. Grow, President



Our Holiday Party at the Montrose Bowling Alley was a big success. Many more Members with their families attended than last year. If it gets any bigger we will have to find a new venue. Thanks to Renee George for her hard work in coordinating this event. A great time was had by all.

Kyle Boorman has taken over as Merchandise Committee Chairperson. He is looking for members who would be willing to help him on this committee. The Merchandise Committee researches and designs the various t-shirts, caps, jackets, cups, pins, etc. that the Local sells or uses as promotions with our logo on it. He is specifically looking for members with graphic design skills and strong Adobe Illustrator skills.

If you are interested in working on this committee,

please contact Kyle by email: kyleboorman@earthlink.net

As my term of office comes to a close, I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity given me to serve as your President these last three years. It was a very rewarding experience. I enjoyed the challenges and the ability to help make positive changes for the Local. I appreciate all the help and support offered by each of you. I only ask at this time that you extend the same courtesies to your new President.

Fraternally,



*The Future
1001 Magnolia
is Here*



The construction remodeling phrase has officially began on the Local's new headquarters in Burbank. To stay up-to-date on the progress of *your* new building, members are highly encouraged to attend the Local 728 General Membership meetings.

I.A.T.S.E.
LOCAL 728
HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

PRESIDENT

DENNIS K. GROW

VICE PRESIDENT

GREG A. LANGHAM

BUSINESS REP-SECRETARY

PATRIC J. ABARAVICH

TREASURER-CALL STEWARD

R. BRUCE PROCHAL

EXECUTIVE BOARD

GARY ANDERSEN

BRANCH BRUNSON

MICHAEL EVERETT

LARRY K. FREEMAN

PASCAL GUILLEMARD

ROGER L. LATTIN

STEVEN R. MATHIS

MICHAEL PAUL OREFICE, SR.

RAYMOND J. POBLICK

DAVID WATSON

KAREN WEILACHER

ROBERT A. WOOD, JR.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

RICHARD MCCONIHAY

PARLIAMENTARIANS

ALAN M. ROWE

RAYMOND J. POBLICK

SAFETY & TRAINING

ALAN M. ROWE, DIRECTOR

SHOP STEWARDS

CBS - JOHN L. MURRAY

FOX - GINA M. ISAACS

PARAMOUNT - FRANK VALDEZ

SONY - JOHN JACOBS

UNIVERSAL - JIM FINE

WARNER BROS. -

GARY M. ANDERSEN

CLC DELEGATES

PATRIC J. ABARAVICH

MIKE EVERETT

DENNIS K. GROW

PASCAL M. GUILLEMARD

RICK KELLEY

IAIN O'HIGGINS

S. CRICKET PETERS

ALAN M. ROWE

OFFICE STAFF

SANDRA O'CONNOR

SEAN HARKESS

JULIANNA BESSEY

THE BULLETIN
PUBLISHER

MARGIE STITES

PACIFIC MEDIA GROUP

EDITOR

DENNIS K. GROW

UNION SPOTLIGHT

DECEASED

BROTHER MERLE E. MILLER, 83 YEARS OLD, A MEMBER SINCE NOVEMBER 8, 1954, PASSED AWAY DECEMBER 8, 2009.

BROTHER WILLIAM B. BRYANT, 62 YEARS OLD, A MEMBER SINCE OCTOBER 14, 1972, PASSED AWAY JANUARY 5, 2010.

FIRST NOTICE

RANDY DYE AND GREGORY CHMURA.

SECOND NOTICE

OLIVER M. ALLING, MATTHEW S. MCADAM, RALPH MIGDALSKI, GABRIEL PATAY, JOSEPH J. PASSARELLI AND JULIO ZAMUDIO.

MEETING NOTICE

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

THE NEXT GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE HELD
AT 9:00 A.M. (SHARP) ON
SAT., MARCH 13, 2010
AT IATSE LOCAL 44,
12021 RIVERSIDE DR.
NORTH HOLLYWOOD
**PLEASE BRING YOUR
UNION CARD!**

11500 Burbank Blvd.
North Hollywood, CA 91601
1-800-551-2158
1-818-985-0728
Fax: 1-818-985-8798



Local doing all it can to help less fortunate members

*by Patric J. Abaravich,
Business Representative - Secretary*

As a new decade begins and the first year of my second term ends, I'm looking back at the most unusual year and a half that most of us have ever encountered. It was fraught with the biggest work slowdown; the likes of which most of us have never seen. And for many, there was just 'no work', which indeed devastated these members and their families.

Thankfully, a large number of our members were lucky enough to keep or find employment, but many of you were on the other end finding the bottom falling out of not only work, but your lives. Because of this, I and the Local have done some strategy shifting and a lot of research.

Fortunately, we have discovered many avenues to help the less fortunate members find work or financial resources to help pay rent or mortgage, take care of outstanding bills, and on occasion, modify a toxic home loan preventing members and their families from ending up on the street.

We've also seen some of our brothers and sisters too young to retire beaten up by their careers lifting, carrying, and God knows what else, all the equipment we have to deal with on a daily basis. They get on disability just to find that the short time they are on disability barely covered the bills. Without completely recouping from their injury, they're back in the workforce and in the same working conditions with unresolved and unhealed trauma and now in the position to possibly reinjure themselves.

Too many members find themselves too young to retire in dignity

mainly because if they retire, they may have enough hours and years in the business but they're not old enough to retire with a full pension and health benefits. Retiring early gets you a much smaller pension and you must wait until you're over 60 to be able to get your health benefits.

We've begun helping members navigate their way through the sea of Social Security's bureaucratic paperwork. This allows a member to get a social security disability award which will get you your pension and your health benefits giving you the time to recuperate from the career injuries. Growing old is bad enough without starting your retirement years already screwed up.

I've been helping these members fight their way through the bureaucracy with some success. It's amazing how many questions arise when you're dealing with temporary disability, Workers Comp dilemmas, and benefit claim issues. I'm very proud of the fact that I've raised the bar of the Local's involvement in assisting our brothers and sisters who – in the past – have dealt with these issues on their own.

I must reiterate that short or long-term disability claims are not a quick ticket for members who are just tired of working. Fraudulent claims are identified quickly and dealt with on the level they were discovered at. Assisting the membership to this degree is truly for our neediest members – the ones who have found their work life and home life in ruins in the last year.

As long as I am here, the Local will do all in its power and all that it can do researching avenues to help each and every member. This is a brotherhood

Continued on Page 6

Earl Williman, Jr. Retires; Leaving Critically Acclaimed “Dexter”

The Showtime hit series *Dexter* will begin filming its fifth season this summer but will be missing a key component: Longtime and second-generation Local 728 member Earl Williman, Jr.

“It’s bittersweet,” he says of retirement. “But it’s time to move on and let the younger guys take over.”

In a nearly 40-year career working on some of television’s icon shows such as *The Waltons*, *Falcon Crest* and *Murder She Wrote*, Williman says he’s bidding farewell after working on one of the best shows he’s ever done.

“My favorite is *Dexter*,” he quickly noted. “It’s a special kind of show. It’s nominated every year. It’s a police drama with a huge following. I’m very proud of it.”

Williman landed the great gig when New York-based DP Romeo Tirone hired him over the phone.

With the young, energetic DP partnering with the veteran lighting pro and a crew of talented 728 specialists, the team created a distinct look to the show.

“The lighting sets a huge tone for the show,” Williman pointed out. “We have created the *Dexter* look which is very good and really unique. We shoot at a lot of low light levels; a lot of backcross kickers. It’s very innovative in that it’s the HD format, and the low end level is very forgiving. We can really experiment at that level.”

The one-hour episodic is a two-camera (but they have four) show shot on tape on three Sunset Gower Studios stages. Williman and ACLT Cameron Smith (who is the show’s new CLT when it resumes shooting in June) work with a small but mighty crew including Rigging Gaffer JA Byerly, Board Operator Gene Hara

and lighting technicians Scott Williman (Earl’s son), Jack Guberman, Michelle Sutor and Tony Tucker, and permanent day players David Watson and Bill Koski.

The group easily overcomes minor location challenges and the occasional script change with ease. They’ve also got the smaller, lighter and much more efficient lights associated with HD down to a science.

“We’re using a lot of smaller LED units which are marvelous,” Williman explained. “We use brick light for the cars and interiors, but we do use a lot of Rifa light and have a large mix of soft and hard light that is actually the key to the look of the show. We light all of our backgrounds about one-third of the foregrounds. HD allows us to really sculpt the look of the show.”

While the HD format and LED lighting was exciting to work with, Williman emphasized that it is the cast and crew that made *Dexter* an exceptional show to end his career.

“It was such a pleasure to come to work everyday. It’s not a huge ensemble show but all the actors were very professional. The production was great to work with and I can’t say enough about the 728 lighting crew and the other crafts. They’re all terrific. My situation was wonderful,” he beamed.

“Everyone from the main cast on down is going to miss him,” Cameron Smith touted. “He’s just one of those guys on the set where he walks into the room and everyone knows him. And he has such a depth of knowledge. Everyone understood, but they were very sad when Earl decided to retire.”

*Turning off the lights -
“I’ve enjoyed the ride”*

In October when *Dexter* wrapped its fourth season, the cast and crew were all on hand to give Earl a send-



The *Dexter* Rigging Crew includes (L-R) Kurtis Pomerleau, Ryan Shopay, Curtis King, David Delgado, and Rigging Gaffer J.A. Byerly.



The *Dexter* First Unit (2009) included (L-R) ACLT Cameron Smith, Michelle Sutor, Tony Tucker, CLT Earl Williman, Jr., Gene Hara, Scott Williman and Jack Guberman

off party he won't soon forget.

Actor, writer and artist John Lithgow presented Williman with a portrait he painted on canvas for the retiring lighting veteran. "I was so blown away and surprised. The painting is incredible ... fantastic ... and John signed the back of it," he said.

Williman, who turned 66 in January, was sworn into Local 728 on July 8, 1961, following his father Peewee (former 728 Vice President and Gold Card member) into the business. His first job was on the rigging crew at MGM loading equipment for the film *Mutiny on the Bounty* where his uncle George Lashar served as the show's gaffer. Williman later gaffed for *Little House on the Prairie* and marked his first lighting technician post on *My Favorite Martian*.

Williman was also a very active 728 member. He served on the Executive Board, has been a convention delegate numerous times, served on the CLT Committee, and in 1996 started the Training Program for the Local and the Hollywood rental companies.

"The business has been good to me and I've been good to the business. I've always tried to

support both the young and old, and to respect the senior members because that's what I was taught. And I've always tried to teach and inform, and impart some knowledge to the younger members."

Throughout the years, he and wife Linda, "She raised the kids; I call her the general!" had sons Scott and Jason, and daughter Jill. Later in his career, they called Santa Maria home but found a unique way for Earl to manage long hours at the studios: "In 2002, I parked my fifth-wheel trailer at an RV spot in Van Nuys and I called that home throughout the week."

A brand new fifth-wheeler now welcomes Earl's retirement. "We want to go to the High Sierras to finish off the end of trout season," the self-proclaimed fishing fanatic noted. "Next year, we'd like to go to Mount Rushmore, Yellowstone and the Grand Canyon. In 2011, God willing, we'd like to spend three months in Alaska."

Among all the travel, Earl wants to play a little golf, spend more time pursuing his hobbies of making Native

American jewelry and driftwood wind chimes, and possibly teach a class or two at Hancock College.

"There's no doubt I'm going to miss all the guys and all the camaraderie, and being on the set. But, it's time to turn off the lights and walk away. I've got a lot of great stories, and I've enjoyed the ride."

The Local 728 Executive Board, Officials and Staff join the entire membership in thanking Earl for his years of dedicated service to the union, and wish him nothing but the best in his new adventures.



Earl Williman, Jr. with his sons Scott (L), a member of Local 728 and Jason, a U.S. Marine Corp veteran

Fasten Your Seatbelts ... It's going to be a wild ride!

*by R. Bruce Prochal
Treasurer - Call Steward*

Greetings everybody! Well, by now, the leftovers should be all gone and the decorations put away until the end of this year. The end of the year is traditionally a time for family and friend gatherings, remembering what we should be grateful for in our lives, and for remembering those who have passed on and the good times that were shared when they were with us. I hope all of you had a joyous and safe holiday season filled with many pleasant memories.

I am still not back in the office, but hope to be soon! Judging by the number of members who have paid their dues in a timely manner, I would guess to say that many of you are working. Let us all wish for a very busy year.

I am short of space in the issue, so let's get to the theme – "Fasten Your Seatbelts ... It is going to be a wild ride!"

During the last few months, many things have been changing in the world of broadcasting which are certain to impact our work. Many projects will be

Helping Members

Business Rep's column

Continued from Page 3

whose core foundation was built upon taking care of one another. We are family. We will not forget you, and we will not ignore you ... and that includes your family members as well.

Many of you are lucky enough to be working through these hard times. I'm sure your holidays were filled with happiness and good cheer. For those members not quite as fortunate, it's important for you to focus on a brighter tomorrow and to know that you're not alone. Your Local is always here for you. Happy New Year.



prime targets for the new media provisions of our current contract. While some of them may be intended for internet only and/or direct-to-video distribution, one can never predict when a project will become the next ballistic hit on commercial television or a theatrical release.

If any of you are offered work on a project like this (primarily the low budget type offering) or have questions about working conditions, PLEASE CALL THE LOCAL. Some of these projects may start out non-union.

We have two primary reasons, in my opinion, for all of our members to report these shows to the Local. The first is that it is your responsibility as a union member to do it. All of us took an oath to that effect.

The second, and I am sure, probably more important to most of us, is that our future health benefits could be negatively affected by a lack of reporting these and all work opportunities. Our International Alliance (IATSE) needs as much information as possible on new media and all projects to be able to organize them and to continue to negotiate reasonable contracts with minimal concessions, especially with regards to health benefits (and believe me, I know firsthand as to how good the benefits we currently enjoy are!).

Well, I'm over my word limit for this issue. There are many things in the works for this year at the Local level. At the forefront is the remodeling of our new building. It has finally started and hopefully we will be in it before the next holiday season.

I hope to see many of you at the next Membership Meeting where you will find out more.

Time to go! ... RBP

CALL STEWARD INFORMATION

Any Local 728 member representing the producer in filling calls or needing assistance, should contact the Local office during normal business hours. The Local's normal operating hours are 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If you need to hire prior to 8:00 a.m., after 6:00 p.m. or over the weekend, please phone the Call Steward at 818-438-0728.

Members seeking weekend work should call the Steward at the Local on Friday to put your name on the Weekend Availability List.

Anyone who hires off roster or hires any member who is not current with their dues without first calling the Call Steward, shall have charges filed against them and shall be subject to the assessments levied by the Trial Board if found guilty.

Our present contract work week consists of any five (5) consecutive days out of seven (7) consecutive days.

First Quarter 2010 Suspended & Dropped Members*

ACQUISTAPACE, CLINT W.
ALGER, RICHARD
ALLISON, THOMAS M.
BARTEL, II, EDWARD C.
BOISEN, BJORN H.
BOUZA, DAVID
BROWN, JOEY D.
COLEMAN, TYRONE
CONATY, CHRIS
CORTEZ, ERIC ARNOLD
COX, THOMAS P.
DALY, JUSTIN
DAVIS, MILES T.
DAWSON, BRIAN M.
EDINBURGH, ERIC E.
ENNEKING, JEFFREY A.
FRAZIER, KANZLER
GALLART, MICHAEL
GEMBALA, JAMES
GRIFFITH, KHAN E.
HATRIDGE, JAMES L.
HAUIS, WILLIAM
HEALY, TIMOTHY D.
HEARD, HOLLYWOOD KEVIN A.
HICKS, JOSHUA A.

Continued on Page 8

Local recognized, honored to be part of developing int'l standards

*by Alan M. Rowe,
Safety & Training Director*



National Movement Towards Safety

Our entire country is in the midst of a trend towards greater safety awareness. With many of the large entertainment companies (both in and outside of the motion picture/television industry) being owned by large corporations, the effect of this move towards safety awareness is being seen throughout the entertainment industry.

IATSE is taking this seriously as International President Loeb has created an International Safety Training Committee (official name pending). President Loeb has tasked this committee with establishing international safety standards so that all of the locals of the IATSE have the resources to provide their members with the safety training necessary for their members to work in a safe environment and make it home to their families every night.

Local 728 has been on the leading edge of this trend for several years through our Training Program and our long-standing involvement with organizations like ETCP, ESTA, and LDI. It is to our credit and an honor to Local 728 that International President Loeb has recognized our commitment to our members and to the entertainment industry by appointing me as one of six founding members of this committee.

With this appointment, Local 728 will have a voice in the development of this new program which will benefit every member of the Alliance as well as establish the standards for safety throughout the entire entertainment industry.

Use the Hotlines

Far too often, those of us on the Joint Labor-Management Safety Committee hear about on-set safety violations either third hand and/or weeks after the occurrence. By the time it makes it to us, there is little we can do about it.

If you are being subjected to an unsafe situation, you have options to protect your health and safety that will also protect your anonymity. First, all of the major studios have anonymous Safety Hotlines. All calls to these hotlines are confidential.

If you do not feel comfortable using these hotlines or you are on a show that is not affiliated with a major studio and does not have a hotline, you can call me anytime at the Safety & Training Office (818-843-0012.) This number forwards to my cell phone after hours so I can normally be reached at any time.

Any calls I receive about unsafe situations get forwarded to the International Safety Office and the issue is dealt with at the International level and not specifically by any Local. This protects not only your anonymity, but also the anonymity of your crew. If you report a situation to a Studio Hotline, please call me so we can make sure it gets resolved. We are here to support you, so please call.

ETCP (Entertainment Technician Certification Program)

Contract Services has announced that beginning on March 1, 2010 they will reimburse members of Local 728 for the cost of the exam fee when they pass any single ETCP Certification exam. This reimbursement is not retro-active and Contract Services will not reimburse re-test fees or sample test

fees. If you are interested in taking the exam, please let me know.

This decision by CSATF indicates that the AMPTP is taking this certification seriously and there are rumors that some studios may start to require at least one certified Entertainment Electrician per show.

Local 728 has several resources, including our Skills Training Classes & Seminars, to help you refresh your knowledge and prepare for any certification. For more information about the ETCP program, please call me at 818-843-0012 or check out their website at www.etcpesta.org

Thursday Night Seminars

Beginning in February, Local 728 in conjunction Local 80, will be holding career-related seminars the first Thursday of every month. Many of our members attended the "Art of Negotiating Your Own Deal" that we held on November 5. Topics that we are booking include "Your Rights in the Workplace," "Color Measurement," and "Resume & Interviewing Skills."

In addition to these seminars, we will also be hosting smaller events targeted towards IATSE members and families. These will include our regular "Injury Prevention Seminar: How To Retire and Still Be Able To Do The Things You Love;" various Financial Planning Seminars; and CPR/AED training. These events fill up quickly so if you are interested, sign up for our email notification group by sending an email to: www.728training-subscribe@yahoo.com. You can also receive notices by joining the IATSE Local 728 group on Facebook.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Alan M. Rowe".

STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS

I.A.T.S.E. LOCAL 728
11500 BURBANK BOULEVARD
NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 91601



FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Los Angeles, CA
Permit No. 34694

PRE-SORT FIRST CLASS

First Quarter 2010 Suspended/Dropped List

Continued from Page 6

HIGGINS, TODD R.
HOFFMAN, RONALD D.
IMBRIALE, VINCE
JORDAN, MICHAEL R.
KALAITZIAN, GREGORY JOHNNY
KELLEY, KEVIN THOMAS
KEYS, JAMES JOSEPH
KRATTIGER, JIM
LaRUE, LaRUE S.
LEVIN, RONALD M.
MABRY, BRETT
MAGARACI, TIMOTHY
MANTHEY, MARK
MARQUEZ, MICHAEL S.
MC KANE, WILLIAM T.
MC KENZIE, JOSEPH C.
MELTZER, ADAM
MEYER, RYAN
MILLER, KIRK D.
MOE, KEVIN A.
NEWBURN, WILLIAM R.
OLIVER, MARK R.
OREFICE, JARED KEITH
OREFICE, JEREMY P.
PERSAUD, WILLIAM
PESCASIO, MICHAEL D.
POMERLEAU, KURTIS
RAMOS, ROBERT J.
RICHNER, JONATHAN B.
RODRIGUEZ, CARLOS
SAUNDERS, STEPHEN
SCHNEIDER, TRACE K.
SCHULTZ, PERRY PAUL
SIMMONS, ROLAND M.
SMITH, JOSHUA E.
SOBEL, DUNCAN M.
SORENSEN, CHARLES R.

STEWART, JOHN JEFFERY
SUGAR, GEORGE C.
TACKETT, BURKE
TERPIN, DAVID
THIRLAWAY, SIMON
THOMPSON, BENJAMIN
WEEKS, JOHN W.
WETERRINGS, FRANS J.
WHITMORE, DAN
WOLBERGER, PERRY

Dropped:

ANGUS, JASON M.
BERARDI, PHILIP N.
CRESTOL, STEVE M.
DAVIS, KEITH M.
ENRIGHT, JERRY M.
GLOVER, WALTER
HALL, TERRANCE W.
JOHNSON, KARRON
MORRIS, REGINALD
NORIEGA, DAVID M.
PETRETTI, VINCENT JAMES
PHILLIPS, BRENDON
"REDDISH, PATRICK M.
RICHARDS, ADAM N.
ROGERS, JOHN R.K.
SMITH, ERIC D.
SMOCK, RICHARD CARL
STANMAN, RYAN
TYRELL, KEITH
WALSH, MICHAEL J.
WASHINGTON, WARREN
WILLIS, ERIC
ZWIRNER, CHRISTOPHER A.

**List current as of January 8, 2010*

Holiday Gathering



A great time was had by all when a large group of Local 728 members and their families flanked the Montrose Bowl in December for the Local's annual holiday party.



When they weren't hitting the lanes, Jack McLean and Jane Krueger showed off their pipes at the popular Karaoke machine manned by Don Navarrette.