



THE BULLETIN

HOLLYWOOD
CALIFORNIA

CHARTERED
MAY 15, 1939

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

VOL. 21; No. 6
2011

Celebrating a Milestone



Members, Families and Friends gather for Open House

INSIDE

- ◆ Members Helping Members, PRESIDENT LANGHAM, Page 2
- ◆ The 800-Pound Guerilla, BUSINESS REP'S REPORT, Page 3
 - ◆ Open House Photos, Pages 4 & 5
- ◆ When Were Dues Due?, by CALL STEWARD/TREASURER Pro-Tem, Page 6
 - ◆ Wow!, An update on 2007 Scholarship Recipient Hillary Tilden, Page 6
- ◆ Personal Protection Equipment, TRAINING DIRECTOR'S COLUMN, Page 7
 - ◆ Coming Events, by MEMBER JERROD HETTLER, Page 8

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS EMPHASIZE THE FOUNDATION OF BELONGING TO A UNION

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS



*by Greg Langham,
President*

In our last issue, we featured the 2011 Scholarship winners. I couldn't be prouder of these extraordinary kids who are doing extraordinary things. To emphasize my point, check out the latest news about Hillary Tilden, a 2007 Local 728 Scholarship recipient on Page 6.

Being able to assist our members financially with the soaring cost of higher education is important. In fact, the whole foundation of our scholarship program is 'members helping members' – the true meaning of a union.

In addition to the scholarships, there's another way we're trying to help out. I'm proud to announce that we will be hosting our 2nd annual seminar, "Financial Aid Basics: How to Cut the Cost of Your Child's College Degree" on Sunday, September 25th. Keep in mind this seminar is not just for first-year college parents, but for any industry family who has kids in college and needs help navigating through the system and finding ways to help ease the financial burden.

Members' helping each other has also been the premise of the Motion Picture Trust Fund. For over 90 years, the MPTF's "taking care of our own" motto has grown to include community projects, senior services and the finest health care around. Moreover, the fund has helped IA members with financial assistance. To the right is a graph so you can see just how many members have received help in the last few years.

Not long ago they launched the Every Member Counts campaign. The Local is proud to support this worthy organization and I hope you will join us. Every dollar counts. In fact, a dollar a week out of your paycheck will have a huge impact on the important work the fund is doing for all of us. Take a minute to go to their website, www.mptvfund.org/ia. *Every Member Counts* and I hope every Local 728 member will participate.

Speaking of every member counting, the IA is putting out a survey regarding our benefits. In order to participate, they have to have email addresses. This will be rolling out in October and it's important that the IA hear feedback from each of us. Make sure the Local has a current email address on file. In addition to that, town hall-style meetings to discuss our health and pension benefits for the upcoming contract negotiations are scheduled for November 13-15. All members are invited to attend. In fact, we highly encourage your participation. If you're interested in coming to one of the meetings, please call the Local and put your name on the list as space is limited.

- Greg Langham

Financial assistance provided to Local 728 Members by the MPTF

Year	Grants	# Clients
2008	\$102,291	61
2009	\$ 63,008	48
2010	\$ 41,569	23
2011*	\$ 15,070	09

Financial assistance provided to all IA members

Year	Grants	# Clients
2008	\$1,175,826	647
2009	\$ 748,422	499
2010	\$516,134	290
2011*	\$207,821	105



The Motion Picture & Television Fund
www.mptf.org/ia

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

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THE BULLETIN

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UNION SPOTLIGHT

FIRST NOTICE

NICHOLAS BUPP, BRANDON M. GLEAVE, FRANCISCO GOMEZ, THAIRONE HARVEY, JEREMY MENNEL, AND ROBERT S. ROBERTS.

SECOND NOTICE

RONALD ARREDONDO, DOUGLAS S. BIEL, KYLE BRYSON, ELTON M. JAMES, PAUL LYONS, SUZANNE SOTELO, TYLER TANGO, JEFFREY SILJENBERG AND NATHAN TRUJILLO.

NEW MEMBERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN ON JUNE 30: MATTHEW A. COTTER; ON JULY 8: CODY BANKS; ON JULY 16: AMANDA CAMPBELL, BRADLEY C. FERM, ASHLEY PAVICIC, JOHN SCHMIDT, CHRISTINA TAMBAKAKIS AND JOHN DAVID WALKER; ON JULY 18: SUZANNE SOTELO; ON JULY 19: KEVIN BURKE; ON JULY 20: TROY BOGCESS; ON AUG. 9: OMAR SAENZ, AND ON AUG. 12: PHILLIP ABEYATA.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

THE NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 9:00 A.M. (SHARP) ON **SAT., SEPT. 17, 2011**
LOCAL 728
1001 W. MAGNOLIA BLVD.
BURBANK
**PLEASE BRING YOUR
UNION CARD!**

SPECIAL EVENT

All industry families are welcome to attend the seminar
"Financial Aid Basics:
How to Cut the Cost of Your
Child's College Degree"
Sunday, Sept. 25, 2011
2pm - 5pm @ Local 728.
Please call the Local to RSVP:
818-954-0728

Classified Ad Special

FOR SALE: 1991 Int'l 5-Ton Truck with commercial lighting package. Asking \$125K. Call Bruce (818-883-3117) or Richard (818-222-2584)
Email: casualcharm@aol.com



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

As you'll read in Bruce's column, it's busy, and with less than 100 people on the books, most of you are working. But, I have been getting calls from some of you that shows are checking on CSATF SafetyPass requirements. They range from your I9 information renewal to missing a couple of classes. It's a bit surprising to me that there were so many calls regarding missing classes, especially some of the classes that we all were required to take years ago.

But with that said, the member's obligation is to have those required classes completed to continue employment. There are studios and employers that check every new hire through Contract Services. Are you on the roster? Do you have your I9? Do you have all your SafetyPass classes? If there is a 'no' on any of these questions, they will ask you to go home. When your best boy tells you he has to lay you off because you're missing something, one of the next things that happens is a call to the office.

There are many things that I can negotiate or make promises with acquaintances I know at certain studios, however the SafetyPass requirements are something I can't work around. All the yelling, whining and cajoling about losing your job won't help because I don't have a mechanism to convince the studios to let you slide. Although I'm always open for calls and can help direct you – even making phone calls to help get you in and out of classes as quickly as possible – there's not much I can do when they tell you to go home because you're missing something. If you need help with Contract Services or some direction, call me. That's what I'm here for. I'll do whatever it takes to get this bump in the road taken care of as quickly as possible.

The time has come. The sleeping 800-pound guerilla in the room has awoken from its slumber. On August 23, the 400-hour qualification began for health benefits. So if your qualifying period starts in August, you

The 800-Pound Guerilla

have between now and February to capture your 400 hours. Most of us older guys will start in September and will go to March to get our 400 hours.

A few years back, to make it easier and quicker to qualify for health benefits, MPIP went to a monthly rather than a semi-annual schedule. So to figure out your qualifying period, you need to know when your eligibility period is. Your qualifying period is usually a few months prior to your eligibility period. We printed the schedule in the Bulletin a few months ago (Vol. 21; No. 4) and it's on the web site, but feel free to call the office and I'll be happy to tell you what your eligibility period is.

Studios are still chasing tax incentives offered by other states, and for a myriad of reasons some of those productions are choosing to take many of us along with them. Depending on whether the production is TV, a big budget or low budget movie, when they hire you they have to provide you with transportation, housing and per diem. Now depending which contract you're working under, some of the working conditions may vary. What you can't do, however, is just show up somewhere else and think you can work as a local in one of these other states.

The Hollywood Basic Agreement allows us to travel around the country and work in other Locals jurisdictions but you're still covered under the Basic Agreement. There are some 728 members who belong to more than one local. If indeed you're working on a show under the jurisdiction of another local, your wages and working conditions will fall under the Area Standards Agreement. So if you're working under the Basic Agreement distant location conditions, other than being somewhere other than home, not much else changes. If you are a dual card holder working under the Area Standards Agreement, you will owe whatever dues assessment that Local will charge.

Continued on Page 7

Celebrating a



On June 11, Local 728 Board Members and officials were pleased to host members, families and friends for an Open House. The gathering was a milestone celebrating the Local's new home on Magnolia.

"What a great building for the members of Local 728," IATSE Vice President Mike Miller pointed out. "It's a modern, efficient building that serves all of the Local's needs, and it's a great accomplishment. Congratulations to the officers and members."

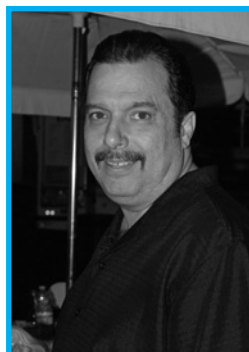
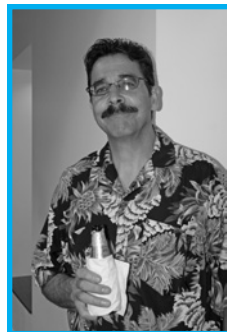
The festivities included personal tours of the building and dinner featuring delicious Mexican cuisine provided by Kogi.



Milestone

Thanks to valet parking, the rear lot was adorned with tables and chairs giving members a chance to mingle and relax inside and outside of the building.

“The open house was a great event but many of our members couldn’t make it due to other obligations,” Local 728 Patric Abaravich said. “Although you missed a great event, it’s not about the party – it’s about us. Please feel free to come by, grab a cup of coffee, get a tour and get to know your home. We have training classes and it’s a great meeting space. The retirees gather here and other locals are utilizing our fantastic space.”



WHEN WERE THE DUES DUE?

by R. Bruce Prochal, Treasurer/Call Steward

*“Well, here’s another nice mess you’ve gotten me into.”
Oliver Hardy to Stan Laurel in many, many of their short films,
and he never said “fine mess.”*

Greetings everybody! I hope this writing finds all of you well. Television shows for broadcast television are in production or about to start; cable television shows are continuing to shoot, and believe it or not, there are a few features in town, mostly low budget.

As predicted last month, the state of the town, from my perspective, is BUSY.

As always, it really helps our Business Representative and yours truly, if all of our ACLTs (Best Boys) and /or CRTs (Rigging Gaffers) report to the Local their shows, crews and new hires. I can say that more of you are reporting compared to years past and more CLT’s (Gaffers) are actually reporting their shows. This means less tracking down for me. Please keep this information coming in. It allows us to serve you, the members, better.

To make this process even easier, you can, and have been able to, email this information to the Local. We now have two (2) email addresses to which you can send your show information, the established loc728@iatse728.org, and, the new, callsteward728@iatse728.org. I hope that the new second address will make it easier to remember. Time will tell!

Let us move on to this month’s theme ... “When were the dues due?”

Some of you must have had a really great summer judging by the number of members who have told me they had forgotten that the dues were due before or on the 1st of July (and on the 1st of every quarter, meaning, every January, April, July and October).

I have heard many reasons over the years why a member may be behind or late in paying their dues. More often than not, it is just plain forgetfulness. We all get busy with our lives and forget. Early on in my career in Local 728, I too, had been the victim of forgetfulness.

When we are all working, everything is great. We can pay our mortgage/rent, utilities, etc., or pay for that new

car and/or boat or motorcycle and even take vacations. We can provide for our families and, maybe, even remember to pay our dues.

Why is it that we are able to do this? The answer is simple. We all work for a living and the monies we earn make it possible to do these things.

However, what makes it possible for all of us to work in one of the more elite industries on this planet? It is because we are all members of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE). It is because we ALL belong to a UNION. Moreover, it is a good, STRONG union. Without the Union, you can bet that we would not have the Health and Pension benefits we have now. You can also be sure our IATSE is already gearing up to protect those benefits in our next negotiations with the Producers (aka, AMPPT, Association of Motion Picture and Television Producers), which are not far off.

With the Union being the conduit for our livelihoods, why is it that paying Union dues seems to be so difficult for some? Besides forgetting, I have heard plenty.

I will be the first to say, “Family should be one’s highest priority, and that also includes health.” Nevertheless, if one’s work makes taking care of those highest priorities possible, then should not the timely paying of one’s union dues be a close second or, at least, third priority?

Well, think about it!

Lastly, check out the newly, redesigned website at www.iatse728.org. I think you will be pleasantly surprised! Be aware that you must re-register for the “Members Only” section.

In closing, I would like to remind all of you that dues are due before or on 1 October 2011. Start saving or just pay it now, while you are working.

Until next time... 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.

Wow!

Congratulations to Hillary Tilden, the daughter of Brian and Laurel Tilden, and a 2007 Local 728 Scholarship recipient. Hillary was one of 130



students nationwide who was recently awarded a Union Plus Scholarship. Hillary graduated with honors in May from CSU-Long Beach with a Bachelor of Arts in Communicative Disorders. In addition to being a President’s Scholar, and on the Honor list all eight semesters of her undergraduate studies, Hillary was awarded the Outstanding Student Citation in her major at graduation. She’s also one of only 15 students nationwide accepted into CSULB’s Graduate Program for Communicative Disorders where she will pursue her Master of Arts Degree to become a Certified Speech and Language Pathologist.

Addressing the mistaken beliefs that PPE will always protect you from injury

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT



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

When it comes to your own safety, you are the first and last line of defense. While it is extremely important that you always use Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) when necessary, I want to address the mistaken belief that PPE will always protect you from injury. This opinion leads some to believe that PPE is an acceptable first (and often only) action to take when confronting a hazard.

This is simply not always the case since if you are wearing PPE you are being exposed to a hazard. Before exposing yourself and your crew to any hazard, there are things that must be considered. This equally applies to all hazards from respiratory hazards to hazards from moving vehicles.

When facing a hazard, the first thing that should always be done is to figure out if there is a way to remove the hazard from the workplace so the crew isn't exposed. For example, can hot-wire foam sculpting be done off site or at separate

times from when we work? Can trucks be parked away from active roadways or not use the jockey boxes on the traffic side? By either removing the hazard from the crew or the crew from the hazard, we avoid exposure all together. It is always better not to be exposed at all, and when it comes to PPE, it is important to consider that sometimes it may not work.

However, the reality is that there are times when exposure is unavoidable and we will have to use PPE. When this happens, it is essential that you are aware of what PPE is necessary to protect you from the hazard and that you use it properly.

When it comes to electricity, we need to remember that for many of our tasks (such as voltage metering and operating equipment) we cannot remove ourselves from the hazard. Because we cannot guarantee that an electrical event won't happen, it is important to always wear the proper PPE for the task that you are doing and de-energize the circuit whenever

possible. The open secret about arc-rated PPE is that it is only designed to *reduce the effects of an arc event to a second degree burn*. This means you can still be injured while wearing your PPE. Again, the best course of action is to avoid exposing yourself to the hazard in the first place and when you can't, always wear the appropriate PPE for the task at hand.

As always, if you are being exposed to any hazard call Patric or myself at the office and call the studio safety hotline if one is available.

Training728 is the online portion of our website dedicated to our Safety & Training Program. Here you will find schedules, class description, vendor resources, automatic notices of new events, and more. You can access Training728 either from the Local 728 website or directly at <https://www/training728.org>.

BUSINESS REP'S COLUMN

Continued from Page 3

But if you're working under the Basic Agreement and you notice a dues assessment or a percentage taken out of your check and there's a mistake, call me. Mistakes do happen and we will try to rectify as soon as possible. It's easier to correct the problem when it first happens rather than six months down the road. Although we all hate filling out paperwork, when you start a new job it's important that you not only fill it out, but complete every page. Lately, it seems like when a new hire's start paperwork leaves their hands and that of their best boy's, it somehow gets lost a couple of weeks later. Some productions have been known to withhold paychecks because of a lack of start paperwork, especially copies of your I-9 information –

which, by the way, they cannot do. When this happens, they can ask you for copies of your information. So please, when you're doing start paperwork make it a habit – especially you best boys out there – make copies of everything. If you hire someone and they ended up working only a few days – and you know you turned in all the paperwork like all good best boys do – and some production accountant says he/she doesn't have the paperwork of some guy who worked three weeks ago – it's easier to go to a file and have the copies available rather than track down the member.

Just to wrap it up, last month we kicked off our participation in the Every Member Counts campaign for MPTF. As mentioned,

the goal is to get 100 percent participation from IA locals. We're doing OK; we're ahead of the grips, but we're getting our butts kicked by the Studio Teachers, Costume Designers, Set Medics, Hair & Makeup, and Wardrobe. There are many ways to donate. Please go to the web site, mptvfund.org/ia, to learn more. We enjoy the least expensive and the best health care around thanks to the MPTF clinics. A recent study said that most people in the industry spend more money on haircuts in a year than they do on health care. That's because of the low rates we enjoy. Let's kick some butt and show them who we are.

STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS

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PRE-SORT FIRST CLASS



Attention Members: Have a child in college?
See Page 3 for a Special Event notice.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Please be aware
that there will be

Nominations for Election of Officers

at the
September Membership Meeting
Saturday, September 17, 2011
at 9:00 a.m.

IATSE Local 728,
1001 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank

FOR THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

Business Representative/Secretary (1)

Executive Board Members (4)

Central Labor Council Delegates (8)

I.A. and District 2
Convention Delegates (23)

A complete list of the Election Guidelines
can be found in your
Constitution and By-Laws handbook.

Mark Your Calendar!



Greetings fellow Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Jarrod Hettler and I am the Family Events Chairperson. We have two great events coming up on the calendar this year.

The Annual Holiday Party is scheduled for Saturday, November 26th from 6pm til midnight. Please mark your calendars now and watch for more info to come in future Bulletins.

Before our Local party, I hope all of you will plan on joining our Brothers and Sisters from Locals 44 and 729 for our Annual Family Picnic! The date is Sunday, October 2nd starting at 10 a.m. After realizing how much fun everybody had the last time we put a Family Picnic together, we were determined to not let the economy keep us down and out this year.

So talk to your Lot Stewards now as they have tickets on sale for \$12.00 pre-sale or stop by the hall and get them while they last. Tickets can also be purchased at the gates on the day of the event for \$20.00 each while they last. Tickets are limited this year, so don't miss out!

Hope to see you there for Live Music, All You Can Eat BBQ, TV Football Room, Carnival Rides, a huge Raffle with great prizes, free T-shirts and a lifetime of memories your whole family – at work and at home – are sure to enjoy!

If you have any questions about these events, please feel free to contact me at jarrodhettler@yahoo.com.

Fraternally Yours,

Jarrod Hettler

IATSE 728 Family Events Chairperson



**Family Picnic
Sunday, October 2**



**Annual Holiday Party
Saturday, November 26**