



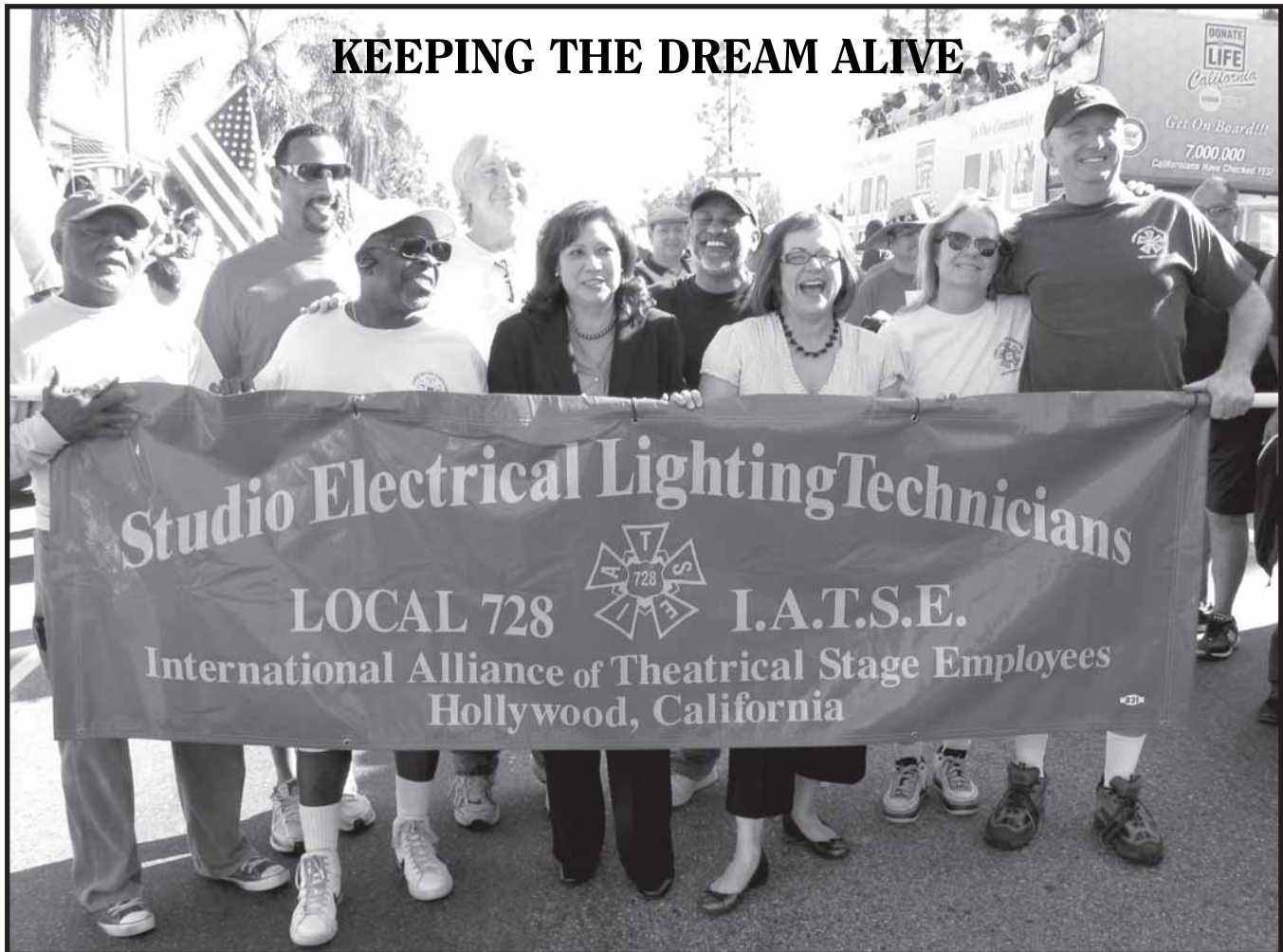
# THE BULLETIN

HOLLYWOOD  
CALIFORNIA

CHARTERED  
MAY 15, 1939

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

VOL. 21; No. 2  
2011



## KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE

ON JANUARY 17, LOCAL 728 PROUDLY MARCHED IN THE ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARADE. PICTURED (L-R) ARE: CORDELL BOYD, FITZHUGH BANKS, RONDALIS TANDY, BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE PATRIC J. ABARAVICH, U.S. SECRETARY OF LABOR HILDA SOLIS, STEPHAN OHAB JR., LOS ANGELES COUNTY FEDERATION OF LABOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER MARIA ELANA DURAZO, LEIGH KLEMMER AND DAVE DARWIN. STORY PAGES 4 & 5

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WE'RE IN THE CROSSHAIRS HERE,  
AND ALL OF US NEED TO BE CONCERNED

# FIRST WISCONSIN AND NEXT, Us



by *Greg Langham,*  
*President*

The union-busting tactics that are going on in Wisconsin by Republican Gov. Scott Walker are disturbing on so many levels. This is just another assault on working families, but particularly the strong, unified voices of organized labor.

How dare he blame the state's fiscal crisis on sanitation workers, teachers, firefighters, police officers and the untold thousands of public workers that work hard day in and day out?

The governor can sugarcoat the state's fiscal crisis all he wants, but the facts show that – once again – the public union members in Wisconsin were willing to negotiate salaries and pension compensation with the state to help shoulder the burden.

And don't even get me started about the now infamous tape-recorded phone call he had with a journalist posing as David Koch from Koch Industries. It proved he's in bed with Corporate America and willing to fight tooth and nail to destroy the state's public unions.

What happens when the governor gets his way and silences the collective voices of the state's public unions? Sure, they've lost their seat at the table to negotiate salary increases and pension benefits. But just as devastating, they'll lose all contractual agreements covering worker rights. Imagine walking into work and your boss saying you have to work a 10-hour day with no lunch break and, oh yeah, you don't get overtime either. Make a fuss and kiss your job goodbye. Imagine working for a supervisor who – for some reason or another – doesn't like you and fires you on a whim. Adios to having a leg to stand on. You don't even have a local to call.

I've been working in this industry my whole life. There are generations of Langhams – from my grandfather and dad and uncle to my kids – who have had the ability to raise our families, own homes and make a pretty good living in the entertainment industry. I attribute it to

having a strong union fighting for my rights and protecting my best interest.

First Wisconsin and public unions ... and next, us. We're at a crosshairs here and all of us need to be concerned. If the governor has his way, the next victims will be private-sector unions. Then it's only a matter of time before the producers will try to follow suit. If we don't stand firm and united and support public unions, then ALL of labor is in jeopardy.

*Greg Langham*

## Making National Headlines



Pascal Guillemard captured this shot of snow lacing the Local on February 25th. The event was so notable, several national television shows mentioned the odd occurrence during their broadcasts.

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

### PRESIDENT

GREG A. LANGHAM

### VICE PRESIDENT

PASCAL GUILLEMARD

### BUSINESS REP-SECRETARY

PATRIC J. ABARAVICH

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R. BRUCE PROCHAL

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#### EDITOR

GREG A. LANGHAM

## UNION SPOTLIGHT

### DECEASED

BROTHER GEORGE DUNAGAN, 53 YEARS OLD, A MEMBER SINCE APRIL 8, 1978, PASSED AWAY FEBRUARY 20, 2011.

### FIRST NOTICE

JOSE BAROCIO, JR., JOHN P. BRADLEY, NATHAN A. CARBALLO, JOSE GARCIA, GUSTAV HELGERSON, PATRICK A. HUBBARD, JORDAN JOHNSON, MARK MANN, STEVEN G. MARTINEZ, TRAVIS SCHOTT, JON W. TILTON AND JOSEPH TURRENTINE.

### SECOND NOTICE

STEPHEN E. ALLEN, CASEY BYERLY, JOSE A. CALDERON, MICHAEL CHATEAUNEUF, DOMINICK KYPRAGORAS, VICTOR LOPEZ, JACOB PENNINGTON, JOHN TANZER

### NEW MEMBERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN ON: JANUARY 20, TODD WARN; JANUARY 31, MATTHEW MARKEY; FEBRUARY 3, STEVE MANSOUR,; AND FEBRUARY 4, MARK STUEN.

## REMINDER

2nd Quarter dues in the amount of \$220.00 are due on or before April 1st

### ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

THE NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 9:00 A.M. (SHARP) ON SATURDAY MARCH 12, 2011 LOCAL 728 1001 W. MAGNOLIA BLVD. BURBANK PLEASE BRING YOUR UNION CARD!

### IATSE LOCAL 728

1001 W. Magnolia Blvd.  
Burbank, CA 91506  
1-800-551-2158  
1-818-954-0728



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

In the last several weeks, we've witnessed an uprising in the Middle East with Egyptians taking to the streets insisting on change and Libyans rallying to overthrow the Gadhafi regime.

Last November, American's wanted change as well and elected many Tea Party candidates to Washington and statehouses across the nation. Even the very stable, politically active state of Wisconsin looked for changed and elected a tea party governor thinking that would be the answer. The way non-partisan politics should work has been working in Wisconsin forever. Yes, they've had their differences, but everyone before now has put what's in the best interest of the state first, not the party.

There is a whole movement happening in the world. In a time of frustration and a near economic collapse – whether you're a young Egyptian using the internet and tweeting to rally a nation or the worker in Wisconsin who voted with confidence – people want change.

There is no doubt that the country is faced with a lot of up-hill battles and we need answers. However, it wasn't the unions or organized labor that created the financial mess America finds itself in. I agree change is good. But not when it rips away basic worker rights and is used as a union-busting tactic.

This is the situation in Wisconsin and the battlefield we find ourselves in. Fortunately, public employees and tens of thousands of their supporters across the nation are taking to the streets to support their right to have a seat at the table.

It's easy to fulfill campaign promises to "stop the spending" but the 'Governator' in Wisconsin is using his position for a greater cause – to take away collective bargaining. Even faced with losing \$46 million in federal funds should his controversial bill pass, Governor Walker (as of this writing) was not backing down.

In response, I.A.T.S.E. International President Matthew D. Loeb wrote, "... This

WISCONSIN IS JUST THE STEPPING STONE

## NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO DESTROY UNIONS

is part of a national campaign to destroy unions as the most effective and powerful progressive force in America. It is the most serious threat to organized labor in generations, and it has to be stopped. Allowing this to happen is not a choice and is nothing less than an attempt to break unions and further decimate the middle class of this country ..."

I join President Loeb in urging all union members to "stand together as a united force against those who would strip us of the hard-won benefits it has taken us decades to build."

If Gov. Walker gets his way, the right to negotiate salaries and pensions won't be the only thing taken away from Wisconsin state employees and civil servants, including teachers – the very people that are responsible for educating the next generation. A whole host of working conditions such as overtime and wrongful termination will be adversely affected and there will be no recourse without collective bargaining.

Please don't be fooled into thinking that public unions are the reason states are in so much financial trouble. In fact, public union employees in Wisconsin and across the country have been making concessions for the budgetary restraints since the collapse in 2008. This is nothing new. In fact, that was the best part about negotiating; both sides sat down and worked it out. Moreover, what if they get rid of collective bargaining and the wide variety of agreements in the contracts – would that mean teachers wouldn't have to be licensed or former felons?

And although some news outlets would have you think otherwise, let's not forget that public union employees *are* taxpayers as well. There are 100,000 public-sector union members in Sacramento alone. I can bet each and every one of them is paying more in taxes than the workers at Wal-Mart.

# Keeping the DREAM ALIVE



Rondalis Tandy sharing a moment with Jabari Jumaane, candidate for the 8th District City Council

Marching with pride and with a purpose, Local 728 members participated in the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. parade on January 17<sup>th</sup> waving to thousands of cheering people lining the streets of Los Angeles in near picture-perfect weather.

“I’m so proud of the Local for getting involved in the community and being in the forefront,” member Stephen Ohab said. “The crowd this year was almost triple. It was very energetic and a great experience.”

Moreover, Ohab says, the Local’s presence was good for the entertainment industry. “There were so many people who looked at our banner and read it. They’d see the words ‘motion picture and television lighting’ and they’d cheer and yell out, ‘Way to go, Local 728’”.

Although the film and television industry is such a huge part of Los Angeles, by all accounts, except for the Teamsters, Local 728 was the only trade participating in the parade. “It’s kind of funny that it all lands on us

to represent Hollywood. With thousands seeing us and calling out our name, it was a great feeling and a tremendous sense of pride ... not just for the Local, but for the industry as well.”

This is the second year that the Local marched in the parade. “By participating, we are helping to ensure that labor is visible during the parade,” Local 728

Executive Board Member Karen Weilacher noted. “Our financial support also helps the LA County Federation of Labor (LACFL) buy commercial time during the parade.”

Weilacher, who’s also a member of the Local’s Diversity Committee, petitioned the members again this year to support the event. Several years ago, Wal-Mart wanted to become one of the media sponsors for the event, she explained. Wal-Mart’s well-publicized worker abuse issues prompted the LACFL to step in, stop the big-box retailer’s involvement, and become the

co-media sponsor with KABC Ch. 7.

“I’m very proud of Local 728’s involvement in this important celebration. Dr. King was on the forefront of supporting workers’ rights and the labor movement,” Business Representative Patric Abaravich pointed out.

In 1964, Martin Luther King, Jr. became the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for his work to end segregation and racial discrimination. He was assassinated in Memphis on April 4, 1968 at the age of 39. He was in Tennessee to support and lead a strike for sanitation workers trying to organize.

“Everyone is aware of King’s vision and his peaceful civil rights activism. Not very many people know about how involved he was in the labor movement, and even his desire to see health care for everyone,” Local



Local 728 members Leigh Klemmer and Karen Weilacher

## LOCAL 728 MEMBERS PROUDLY MARCHED IN THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARADE ENSURING HOLLYWOOD IS VISIBLE AND LABOR IS SUPPORTED

728 Cordell Boyd noted. “Our involvement with the parade underscores his involvement with labor.”

In 1983, the U.S. House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a bill to have a national holiday honoring Rev. King. Today, the Martin Luther King holiday is known to be a day of service.

“At least that’s what the family had always hoped it would be recognized for – work with neighbors to clean up the neighborhood ... lend a hand building a project in your community,” Weilacher said. “It’s really unlike any other holiday. I felt like our service was marching and showing awareness for the IA and assisting the LACFL to co-sponsor the event. That’s our service and I’m very proud of that.”

First-year participant Rondalis Tandy was thrilled to participate but admits the three-mile walk was work. “It was a huge celebration and a wonderful feeling to walk down the middle of Martin Luther King

Boulevard and have folks on both sides of the street shouting out ‘Happy King Day!’ My right arm got tired and I had to start waving with my left arm. Thank God Fitz didn’t live that far from the parade route,” he chuckled. “I’m not as young as I use to be.”

Again this year, member Fitzhugh Banks generously opened up his home to host the Local before the event and for lunch following the parade. He even solicited family to help, including his brother who shuttled members to the start of the parade.

“We wanted fresh feet on the parade route,” Banks laughed. Following the event, his girlfriend had lunch ready – catered Woody’s BBQ.

“I enjoy every bit of the day,” he said. “Hosting our group, and especially participating in the parade. I believe in keeping the dream alive.

Next year I hope the weather is just as beautiful and that many more members can participate in keeping the dream alive.”

Ohab agrees. “Our numbers were short. How great would it be to have a slue of members behind our banner and maybe get a rolling light? That would be fantastic. I



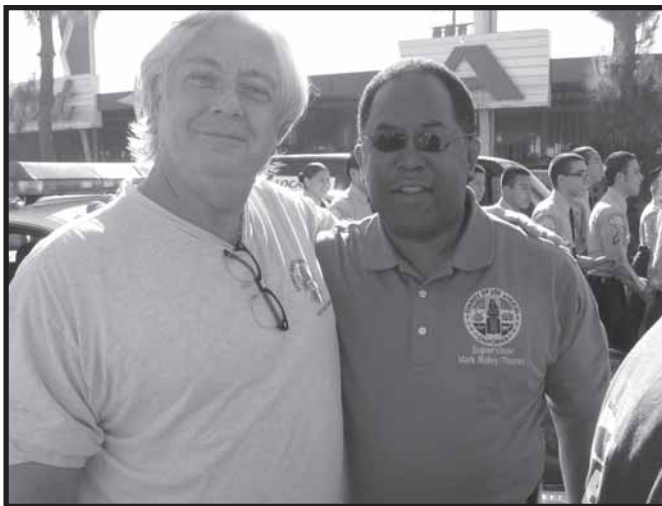
Local 728 members Fitzhugh Banks and Cordell Boyd

know a lot of our members were working, but personally, I would take a day off to do it.”

Everyone who participated in the memorable event walked away very grateful to the Local for supporting the worthy cause.

“I’m really proud our Local put forth the money to support the event,” Weilacher added. “We were the only IA Local marching in the parade. Others gave money and helped sponsor, but we were the only ones physically marching in the parade.”

The Local 728 Diversity Committee hopes to use the MLK Parade as springboard to do other worthy things in the community and within the Local. “We want to be of service to members helping them connect with one another,” Karen Weilacher noted. Members interested in learning more about the committee are encouraged to contact Karen at 323-833-2900.



Local 728 Business Representative Patric Abaravich and Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas



# THE GOOD NEWS & STRENGTHENING OUR LOCAL

*by Pascal Guillemard,  
Treasurer/Call Steward Pro-Tem*

In January, Local 728 had its first ever audit by the Department of Labor. An audit can be triggered by several factors and is similar to an IRS audit. This investigation was conducted to determine whether or not the Local is operating within Federal Department of Labor Laws and conducting its financial affairs properly.

A DOL agent spent a week at the Local pouring over years of documents and questioned our accountant and bookkeeper. Two weeks after concluding his audit, he called a meeting where B.A. Patric Abaravich, bookkeeper Julianna, accountant Michael Borenstein and I were in attendance. I am proud to report that our Local passed with flying colors. Vendors were called and receipts verified against bills presented. Our investment and accounting practices were praised, such as our capital investment in the new building and our practice of leasing items such as the Business Rep's vehicle, the office copier and postage machine.

The transparency, guidance and oversight provided by our Treasurer, accountant, bookkeeper and Executive Board were singled out as exemplary. The agent expressed that our perfect audit was rare, without so much as a minor violation of complex DOL rules, such as having a current copy of our Constitution and By-Laws on file. This agent is a union audit veteran, having completed 60+ reviews. Ours was one of two which had no violations. He concluded by stating that if he were a member of

this Local, he would be proud to know that his union dues were well protected, well invested and properly accounted for.

I've been working to improve our knowledge of what shows are currently working and where they are located. The goal is to know where everyone is working and under what contracts. This benefits us by providing better and more effective representation and the ability for the member to know at any given time how much production is going on. I've spoken with the B.A.'s of other IA Locals who tell me that their membership gains a lot from having access to this information. If our B.A. can know at any instance where we are working and for whom, he can establish an early rapport with production.

This personal contact can be invaluable in resolving issues between production and members should they arise. As well, we've all wondered how we could find out what shows are currently working and how busy the town is. Our new dispatching database is packed with show, production and manpower information. Several other Locals publish parts of this information daily on their websites to keep their membership informed about what shows are currently working. I believe it would benefit us all should we choose to do the same.

The Call Steward's need to know about your change of employment has become even more important as we approach the new 400 hour qualifying periods for health

## — 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.

insurance coverage. We are working on ideas to provide ways for those who may face a shortfall of required hours to pick up the needed time without impacting members who are on the books. Every Call Steward asks members (especially best boys) to report changes in employment. I cannot overemphasize the importance of this as we seek to strengthen our Local through greater communication and sharing of information.

Fraternally,  
*Pascal M. Guillemard*

## Training728 is here!

<https://www.training728.org>.

**This is a secure site so please do not forget the "s" in "https."**

**Get all the details on the next page**

# OVER 50 FUNDED CLASSES TO IMPROVE THE WAY YOU WORK



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

CSATF has awarded us funding for the Skills Training year starting in March 2011 and going through January of 2012.

Unlike the required Safety Pass classes, Local 728's Skills Training classes are voluntary and exist for your benefit. These classes are all centered around skills that will make you a more knowledgeable and valuable technician and us a stronger union. Taught by experts from within our ranks and some outside, these classes will provide a direct impact to your daily life and work on set.

This year we were given funding for 51 classes that will improve the way you work. We have six classes in electricity; six classes in rigging; five classes in lighting consoles; seven classes in DMX, ethernet, and dimming; four levels of Vectorworks; three classes in previsualization; two classes in spreadsheets; four classes in LEDs/Digital lighting; three levels of Underwater Lighting; and 11 specialized technician classes.

There are six new classes in the line up this year and they are: Spreadsheets 101A & B; ESP Vision; WYSIWYG; Wireless DMX; and a Soldering Workshop. A full catalog of classes and descriptions can be found at <https://www.training728.org>.

Training728, the Safety & Training component of our web presence is online and operational. Here you will find a full course catalog of the classes that we offer, a schedule of upcoming events, biographies of our instructors, a partial list of vendors that support Local 728, online supplements to our Skills Training classes, useful downloads, a "Test Your Knowledge" section, and a section for articles including some written by such notable authors as Harry C.

Box, Richard Cadena, and Mike Wood. The url for the site is <https://www.training728.org>. This is a secure site so please do not forget the "s" in "https."

We need your help to identify hazards and problems at work. Nobody knows these hazards better than you do but if the Local doesn't know about a hazard, we can't work to resolve it. If there is a hazard that you are concerned about, there are two things to do: call the anonymous safety hotline for your production; and call the Local and talk to Patric or myself to let us know about the hazard. We can make sure the issue is resolved and keep your identity a secret. We have been very successful in getting issues resolved, many of them in less than 24 hours, once we know about them. Working together to resolve these issues will result in a safer workplace and a stronger union.

Prospect/ ABC	800-699-4870
CBS Radford	818-655-5085
CBS Television City	323-757-4170
Dreamworks	818-733-6015
MGM	800-631-5975
NBC/Universal (Alameda)	818-317-9819
NBC/Universal	818-777-2153
Paramount	323-956-8955
Sony	888-883-SAFE (7233)
Turner	310-994-4248
20th Century Fox	310-369-3000
Walt Disney Studios	800-560-7391

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## Not here to be Big Brother ... but to be *your* Big Brother

Local 728 has a whole new computer system updating both our hardware and software. More so now than ever, we need your contact information including cells phone and email addresses. Updated cell phone numbers are important because in this day and age, we're texting more than emailing.

Help us help you. Please call the office

to update your information or to confirm that the contact numbers we have for you are current. While you're at it, call in your shows. In order for the BA to help with violations and to protect you, we need to know which stage or studio you're working. Sometimes, we don't get the information until the show is over.

In order for everyone to work more

efficiently on your behalf, we need a little more information from you - like contact information, and where you are. We can service you better, protect you better and respond more quickly to problems on a show from a workplace violation to a payroll issue if we know where you're working. We're not here to be big brother ... but to be *your* big brother.

**STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS**

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## Thank You!

Thank you to the entire crew – especially Local 728 members – on the Nickelodeon show *Brain Surge* who stood in unity. Local 728 BA Patric Abaravich was proud to walk the picket line with his members. One hundred percent of the crew walked out to ensure benefits for the entire production and they prevailed.

**You put your jobs on the line, you stood united, and we thank you.**

### First Quarter 2011 Suspended and Dropped Members\*

#### Suspended

Kenneth G. Berkhout  
Michael Bonewitz  
J. Cortland Boyd  
Chris Conaty  
Luis Gonzalez  
Nick Haynes  
Jeff M. Hill  
George A. Hock  
James King  
Jim Krattiger  
Ronald M Levin.  
Michael S. Marquez  
Joseph C. Mc Kenzie  
Justin G. Mc Mahan  
Robert M. Nellis  
Kurtis Pomerleau  
Brad D Timmer

Amanda Treyz

Wrenn Vincent

#### Dropped

Eric S. Adamson  
Jay Dahlquist  
Eric E. Edinburgh  
Michael A. Gall  
Walter Glover  
William Havis  
Michael R. Jordan  
Larue S. Larue  
Jack E. Mc Lean Jr  
Chris H. Reddish  
Adam N. Richards  
Perry Wolberger

*\*List current as of  
February 25, 2011*

# Local 728 Retirees



# JOIN US..

..for a devil of a good time!

## Retiree Luncheon & Gathering

**Wednesday, March 16, 2011**

Local 728 Membership Room  
1001 W. Magnolia Boulevard, Burbank

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Bring your stories and your appetite!**