

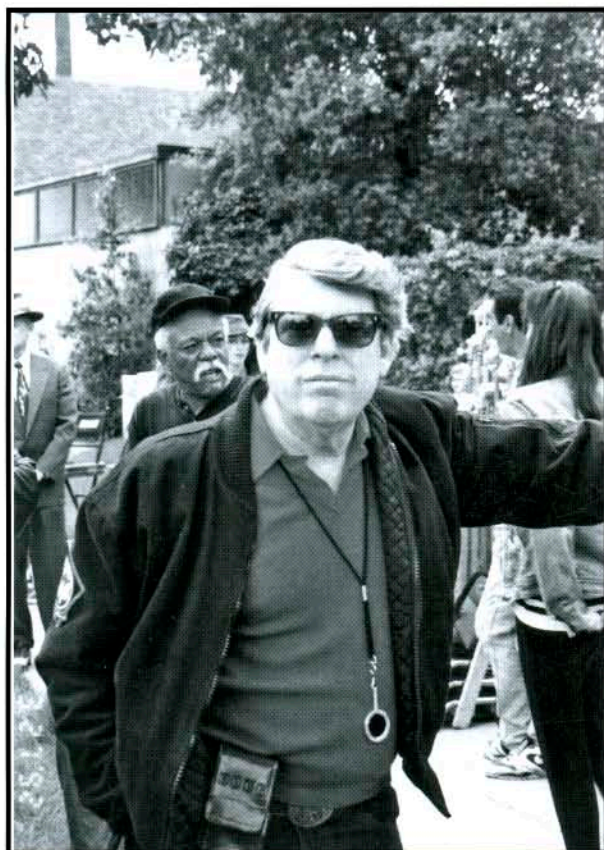


# Bulletin



Volume 16, No. 5

*We Light Up Your Life!*



## Retiree Spotlight on Doug Mathias

*The four-decade member looks back on his fabulous career and shares with us just how active retirement can be.*

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*The 'Wal-Mart' of drug stores just became #1 in Southern California. Your Business Representative explains why you should take your business elsewhere.*

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*Don't Get Left Behind! Check out the list of upcoming Safety Classes.*

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*News from the Motion Picture & Television Fund and Taking Care of Our Own at the Country Home*

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*The summer television hiatus is the perfect time to ensure that all of your ducks are in a row. Check out the Treasurer's suggestions.*

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*Get the scoop on the largest trade show in the world dedicated to entertainment lighting - LDI - coming to Las Vegas in October.*

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## Local 728 Officers and Executive Board

**Larry K. Freeman**  
President

**Dennis K. Grow**  
Vice President

**Patric J. Abaravich**  
Business Rep. - Secretary

**R. Bruce Prochal**  
Treasurer/Call Steward

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Branch Brunson  
Paul Caven  
Michael Everett  
Michael Gips  
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Steven Mathis  
Richard McConihay  
Jerry Posner  
Karen Weilacher

**Sergeant-at-Arms**  
Greg Argarin

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Bernie Bayless ..... Disney  
Pascal M. Guillemard..... Fox  
Frank Valdez ..... Paramount  
John Jacobs ..... Sony  
John Trujillo..... Universal  
Gary M. Andersen....Warner Bros.

### *CLC Delegates*

Patric J. Abaravich  
Paul Caven  
Mike Everett  
Iain O'Higgins

### *The Bulletin Editor*

Patric J. Abaravich

## LETTERS to the EDITOR

are always welcome, as are story ideas, crew pictures, classified listings or photos announcing births, anniversaries, etc.

# The 'Wal-Mart' of Drug Stores Just Became #1

**By Patric J. Abaravich, Business Representative**

Recently, the stand-alone Sav-On stores - owned by Albertson's - were sold to CVS. This sale solidifies CVS from a once-minor player in the drug store chain business to the market leader in Southern California.

The problem is CVS is the 'Wal-Mart' of drug stores. Their employees get very little, if any, in the way of benefits, and over 65% of the company's stores operate non-union. Although CVS stores sell a wide variety of products, the lion's share of their profits comes from the prescription drug portion of their business.

When you make the decision to buy overpriced prescription drugs from CVS (or Sav-On) you are choosing to give your hard earned dollars to an anti-union organization in return making them millions of dollars in profits. Not only do they collect our small prescription co-pay at the cash register, but the Motion Picture & Television Trust Fund later sends this company countless dollars to cover the cost difference.

If you do your prescription business with CVS/Sav-On, I urge you to think twice and let them know you are taking your business elsewhere. Members can support their union brothers and sisters by simply having prescriptions filled at any of the six area union-staffed Costco stores. Best of all, you do not have to be a member of Costco to take advantage of their pharmacy services.

Costco also offers some of the lowest prices in the nation for name-brand prescription drugs and their generic equivalents. As an example, the generic equivalent to Compazine (used to prevent chemo-related nausea) is sold at CVS for approximately \$1.00 a pill. Patients shopping at Costco can purchase 150 pills for \$28.00.

The Teamsters have proudly represented Costco employees working at the Alhambra, Burbank, Inglewood, Northridge, Oxnard, and Santa Clarita locations for over two decades. (Be sure to call first; in many locations the pharmacy operating hours are limited.)

As a reminder, District 2 is fast approaching and again we ask for Local members to share any ideas for resolutions, or business that they believe needs to be brought up at the convention. Please submit your comments to the office as soon as possible so the full committee has a chance to review your suggestions and proposals.

## On The Cover

*Top Left: Retiree Doug Mathias looks cool and confident on the set of "Homefront" in Pasadena in March of 1992. The only thing missing is his beloved camera. This active retiree has been a huge contributor to the Local's web site supplying a host of invaluable crew photos chronicling our rich history. Bottom right: Local 728 President Larry Freeman took a few minutes in April to visit with Motion Picture & Television Country Home resident Ruby Wharton at her 'Claudette Colbert' bungalow. Ruth's husband, Joe, joined the Local in 1936. Sadly, he passed away in 1983 at the age of 83.*





## Rebuilding Together

The Motion Picture & Television Fund has launched a collaborative effort with Rebuilding Together. This effort allows the Fund to coordinate volunteers to modify and repair homes of our Industry elderly homeowners, particularly those with limited resources.

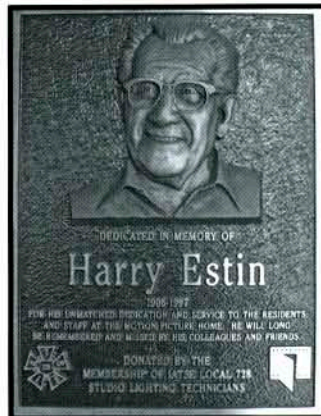
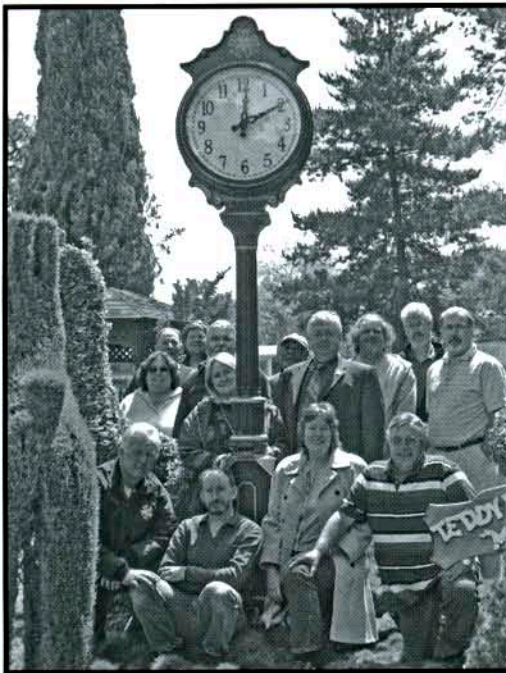
We are looking for homeowners who feel they need renovations to make their homes safe and are unable to pay for these renovations. Examples of home modifications include installation of grab bars, widening doorways for wheelchairs,

lowering door thresholds for ease with walkers and wheelchairs, and building wheelchair ramps. If you are interested in an evaluation for possible volunteer home modifications and live in Los Angeles County, please call Kimberly Gyle, Director, Elder Connection at (323) 634-3842.

### *Taking care of*

## Our Friends at the Motion Picture & Television Home

In April, the Local 728 Executive Board held their monthly meeting at the Motion Picture & Television Country Home. The meeting gave members the chance to visit with residents, and underscored the Local's continued commitment and support to the facility.



The Motion Picture Home has always been an important benefactor of Local 728's charitable contributions. In 2002, the Local commissioned the design and installation of a magnificent clock. Spearheaded by member Frank Sontag, the stunning, American-made timepiece proudly adorns the home's garden courtyard area.

Local 728 also began and continues to support the Harry Estin Fund. The fund was created following the death of Estin, a longtime member and resident of the home who frequently paid for excursions for the residents. Continuing in Harry's honor, the fund helps pay for residents who might not otherwise have the means to enjoy day trips to various locations throughout the area.

# Call Steward INFORMATION

Any Local 728 member representing the producer in filling calls or needing assistance, please contact this local during business hours. The local office operating hours are 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you need to hire prior to 8 a.m., after 6 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.

**Mark This Date!**  
for the next

**General Membership Meeting**  
**Saturday, July 8, 2006**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
at  
**IATSE Local 44**  
**12021 Riverside Drive**  
**North Hollywood**  
**Bring Your Union Card!**



## Deceased

Brother William W. Hanna, 91 years old, passed away April 22, 2006.

## First Notice

**New applicants for membership are:** Nathan Beck, Richard Botchlet, Erik Gonzales, David Haskins, Ole Kagelmacher, Wes Meilandt, Andrew Mueller, Robert M. Nellis, Steve Rabor, Jeremy Scholling, Benjamin Thompson, and Tim Wattez.

## Second Notice

**New applicants for membership are:** Daniel Dorowsky, III, Michael Lee, William O. Foye, Peter Radice, Francisco Reyes, Somsy Vejsiri and William M. Walsh

## New Members

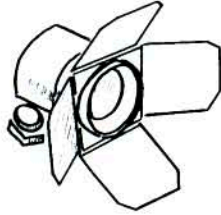
**The following member was sworn into Local 728 on May 8, 2006:** Narc Dohn Ritzema. **The following members were sworn into Local 728 on May 13, 2006:** Nicholas Aiello, Joseph Ayer, Nathan Blauvelt, Cedric Bonier, Alexander Brown, David Carter, Salvatore Covuzza, Richard Cronn, Jr., Ruben Escobar, Gene Fereaud, Jerardo F. Gomez, Augustus Gordon, Jr., Jeremy Graham, Christian Grosselfinger, Jared R. Kennedy, Kyle Kovacs, Justin Martel, Lance Nicholls, William Otto, Warren L. Purfoy, William Reilly, James Reynolds, III, Michael V. Roy, Scott Shaver, Alexander Szuch, Dale Tibor, Cale Tompkins, Kenneth Tucker and Peter B. Weiland; **On May 15, 2006:** Steven Dorowsky, Nick Haynes and Pedro Huerta; **On May 16, 2006:** Mikal Sky Irwin, Gabriel J. Lewis and Michael Parry; **On May 22, 2006:** Christopher C. Kraning, Owen G. Simmons and Wolfgang Steinbeck; **On May 25, 2006:** Mark Manthey

## UNIONNumbers

**(818) 891-0728**

**(800) 551-2158**

**Fax (818) 891-5288**



Local 728's

# Retiree Spotlight on Doug Mathias

Like many Local 728 veteran members, Doug Mathias was born and raised in the motion picture industry. His father, Nelson Mathias, was a master bridge builder who eventually was recruited by the studios, and in 1936, became a charter member of GRIP Local 80 working at Republic Pictures in Studio City.

Born in 1937, young Mathias quickly became a regular on the lots accompanying his father to work. "I had a daily connection to motion picture filming, and remember being on the sets of serials frequently," Mathias recalled. "It was family to me."

Growing up on the sets with the children of his father's co-workers, Mathias quickly learned and became familiar with crew names and job titles.

In 1956 he graduated from Notre Dame High School and began working as a freelance photographer for a variety of companies including The Valley Times newspaper. The young patriot also served his country as a photographer in the Base Photo Lab with the California Air National Guard in the 146<sup>th</sup> Fighter Interceptor Wing based out of Van Nuys.

Holding dear his passion for photography, Mathias headed back to the studios and in 1959 began work as a Prop Man for Four Star Productions at Republic Pictures. A variety of Westerns began filling his resume from Wanted Dead or Alive and The Law of the Plainsman to The Rifleman.



*Doug Mathias (far right) on the set of "Beverly Hills Cop" in 1984 with crew members Best Boy John Murray, and Local 728 lighting technicians John Milinovic, Clyde Jackson, Bob Jacobsen and Brian Olson.*

A friend in the lot's Camera Department told him he could work part-time in the Loading Room. "I loaded Mitchell Film magazines for a while. But in those days, the sons of cinematographers were the only ones that were admitted into the Camera Local 659," he remembered.

One day in 1960, Mathias was having lunch with his father in the studio commissary when a forklift supporting a crew riding in a basket drove by. "I asked my father what they did. He told me they were 728 'Juicers' - that's what they were called then."

Thinking the job looked like fun, Mathias pursued the interesting lot work and soon became a 'juicer' with Local 728. Starting wage for the young rigger was \$3.10 an hour.

"The first time I handled 4/0 cable and the 170 Arc, I thought maybe I had made a mistake," he recounted.

*Continued on the next page*



Continued from previous page

In 1969, Mathias was working at Warner Bros. but still commissioned with the California Air National Guard Wing when the unit was activated for the Berlin Crisis. Duty called and he headed overseas for a year. He returned to Warner Bros. in 1962 - the same year the studio shutdown for a short time. Bouncing around lots, Mathias ended up at Universal Studios in 1964 working on the television series *The Virginian*.

"Everett Lehman was the Gaffer, and because I showed an interest in the lighting and was curious about why he placed the lights where he did, he asked me to watch the set up and then questioned me on what I would do with the lights."

Lehman offered his advice and expertise helping Mathias learn the intricacies of the trade. "I finally caught on to the 'formula,' but I soon learned that information varied from Gaffer to Gaffer," he pointed out.

Mathias worked as a Lamp Operator for Everett on a number of television series and a variety of features including *Airport* and *The Andromeda Strain*.

In 1969 member Ron McLeish moved to the Lighting Gaffer position and Mathias became his Best Boy. "I learned a lot of lighting techniques and shortcuts to speed up the lighting process."

For eight years the pair worked together on a variety of popular

television shows including *Emergency*, *Alias Smith & Jones*, *The Bold Ones: The Lawyers*, and *Night Gallery*.

In 1977 he started Gaffing at Universal and worked on a number of notable shows from *Operation Petticoat* and *Quincy* to *Baa Baa Black Sheep*.

"New cinematographers would come onto the Universal lot to do TV shows, and as happens, they would move on to shows at other lots. Fortunately for me, they would ask me to go with them."

In 1979, Mathias had the opportunity to work on a number of 'Movies of the Week' with Chuck Wheeler. "I learned a great deal more about photography from him," Mathias noted.

But it was a variety of talented cameramen - all whom had their 'bag of tricks' which Mathias would stash away for future use - that the veteran member feels blessed to have worked with over the years.

"Director of Photography, Enzo Martinelli, was the biggest resource of photographic tricks. I did *The Hardy Boys* TV pilot in 1977 with Enzo. He created a mysterious photographic look with the lights that would have

Continued on Page 8



*Russ Hopton, Frank Holdsworth and Doug Mathias on the set of "Getting to First Base" in January of 1992. (Photo by Dena Thompson.)*

## Delinquent List Second Quarter 2006\*

ALONSO, GARY  
BABILONIA, CONSTANCIO  
BARGINEAR, ERIC  
BARTEL, II, EDWARD C.  
BERARDI, PHILIP N.  
BLAUVELT, NATHAN  
BOUZA, DAVID  
BREEDLOVE, SHAUN  
BRYDON, BRINK SULLIVAN  
CANTRELL, MATTHEW O.  
CARLSON, BILL  
CASLIN, FRANK C.  
CLARK, DENNIS  
COCHRAN, ERIC H.  
COHEN, MARC  
COOPER, KENNETH  
CRISP, LOWELL E.  
DE BLAU, JOHN W.  
DICK, ROBERT O.  
EUBANKS, JERRY  
FANNING, PAUL J.  
FEINBERG, ADAM R.  
FREEMAN, PETER  
GIVENS, STEVEN L.  
GONZALEZ, LUIS  
GROSHON, HAL  
GUERRA, JONATHAN D.  
HAESSIG, RHIO  
HANES, JOSEPH A.  
HANNAS, RONNIE MARKWOOD  
HANSEN, ELDON J.  
HOLDSWORTH, JUSTIN MICHAEL  
HOLMES, TREV M.  
HOOD, ALBERT A.  
HORTON, LAURIE  
JOHNSON, KURT H.  
JOHNSON, VAN  
JORDAN, MICHAEL R.  
KAGAN, STEVE  
KATZ, DUANE  
KING, CHARLES E.  
KINNISON, TY J.  
KLINE, RONALD  
KNIEST, JAMES  
KRATTIGER, JIM  
LaRUE, LaRUE S.  
LOVE, DAVID JAMES  
MAGARACI, TIMOTHY  
MALDONADO, RICHARD G.  
MARQUEZ, MICHAEL S.  
MARSHALL, TERRY N.  
MARX, FREDRICK W.  
MC GEHEE, STEPHEN W.  
MC HUGH, DENNIS



## Delinquent List Second Quarter 2006\*

Continued from Page 5

MC NEAL, THOMAS  
MEDCALF, SCOTT A.  
MEISENHEIMER, MARC  
MILLER, TED C.  
MORRIS, TAMI  
NEVILLE, ROBERT S.  
O'MELIA, WILLIAM P.  
PULFORD, DARRIN M.  
RAMOS, ROBERT J.  
RASMUSSEN, RICHARD  
RICHARDS, BEAU D.  
SELICEO, ERNEST A.  
SHAIN, NOAH B.  
SIMS, SHARON  
SPARKS, TAYLOR  
THIRLAWAY, SIMON  
THOMPSON, DAVID G.  
VALENTI, JORDAN  
VALENTINE, MICHAEL L.  
VAZQUEZ, ERNESTO A.  
WATSON, JACQUELINE J. JONES  
WILLIAMS, KEITH  
WILSON, JEREMY  
WOOLAWAY, MICHAEL W.  
WRENN, VINCENT  
WYCOFF, ERIC  
ZWIRNER, CHRISTOPHER A.

### **Suspended**

ABBOTT, MARK  
BARRERA, REYNALDO  
CICCONE, HENRY  
CORTINA, HUGO P.  
COX, THOMAS P.  
FORTUNE, JAY  
FRANCHETT, TOM  
HALL, THADDEUS GERALD  
PENTEK, JEFFREY D.  
SINGER, RANDY GUY  
SMITH, ROBERT J.  
TAKAMURA, SATOSHI

### **Dropped**

COHLIMIA, CHAD M.  
FINO, CRUZ S.  
GALINDO, RENAN  
HARRIS, ELISHA  
ROY, ROBERT W.  
SPRAWLS, DALE S.  
SWEZEY, BRYAN L.

### **Active Commercial Roster**

TOBEE, AKIN

\*List current as of May 23, 2006

# 728 Sets the Standard

By Alan M. Rowe, Master Instructor

We are the only organization in the world that solely deals with Set Lighting. Every other film local in the Alliance outside of LA County is a Studio Mechanics local that covers all studio crafts. No one else is as specialized or as dedicated to studio lighting as we are. This gives us a high standing in the industry and a great responsibility as we are the ones who set the standards for the entire motion picture industry.

With 480V power systems becoming more common on our sets, we have decided that we need to set the standards to be used throughout the entertainment industry. To do this, we need the help of the Rigging Gaffers and Best Boys who are on the front lines handling this power every day. If you are a Rigging Gaffer or Best Boy who deals with 480V power and would like to participate by taking a survey, please email me at [safetyandtraining@iatse728.org](mailto:safetyandtraining@iatse728.org).

For those members who are not aware of LDI, it is the largest trade show in the world dedicated to entertainment lighting. Originally focused on lighting equipment for theatrical and live events, it has shifted to include most of the equipment and technology that we use every day. LDI has traditionally been the place where new technology and equipment are introduced. Consequently,

LDI attracts lighting professionals from all aspects of the entertainment industry from Broadway to Hollywood. This year the local is participating in LDI to promote our members as being the best lighting technicians in the world. LDI is being held in Las Vegas October 16 - 22. For more information on LDI, please visit their website at <http://www.ldishow.com/>. If you can, please make plans to attend.

The ETCP exam will be held at LDI on Thursday, October 19. The cost is \$500 for IATSE members and the Local will reimburse members who pass the exam. Any member of the Local who wants to take the exam must register with the local in order to be reimbursed and should sign up for the online study guides and the refresher class. To sign up for the online study guides please send an email to [728Training-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:728Training-subscribe@yahoo.com). For more information on the ETCP exam, please contact me at 818-843-0012 or the ETCP website at <http://www.etcpesta.org/>.

We have fourteen different classes this year so whenever possible, we will be using email to schedule classes, update locations & times, and notify members of special events. Please check your email regularly and when you sign up for a class, expect an email confirmation. If you do not receive one within a week, please let me know.

## Calling All Rigging Gaffers and ACLTs

*Your help is needed for an important survey*

With 480V power systems becoming more common on our sets, we have decided that we need to set the standards to be used throughout the entertainment industry. To do this, we need the help of the Rigging Gaffers and ACLTs who are on the front lines handling this power every day. If you are a Rigging Gaffer or ACLT who deals with 480V power and would like to participate by taking a survey, please email Alan Rowe at [safetyandtraining@iatse728.org](mailto:safetyandtraining@iatse728.org).



# Rocking Chairs and Honey-Dos

By R. Bruce Prochal, Treasurer/Call Steward

Greetings everybody! If you have not figured it out yet, it's very slow out there. Almost all of the TV shows are on hiatus. There are still a few features going in town. Now is the time to take care of business at home or get out of town. Traditionally, work starts picking up towards the end of June and the beginning of July.

Speaking of taking care of business, here are a couple of suggestions. The first is scheduling a physical at one of the several Motion Picture & Television Fund (MPTVF) clinics located in the greater Los Angeles area. Yearly physicals are offered at no cost to you. We all have worked many hours and the producer contributes monies, based on hours worked, towards our health benefits to make these services available. Please take advantage of them.

Also, consider donating to the Fund. The Motion Picture & Television Fund, established during the 1920's, has the motto of "We Take Care of Our Own." It is a non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible. They offer more than health care, an example being emergency financial assistance. The website is [www.mptvfund.org](http://www.mptvfund.org).

All of you should have received a copy of the IATSE ORGANIZER. The current issue provides an eye-opening overview of our health plan, how it compares to others in the country, and what many others are losing.

My second suggestion of things to do while you are busy cleaning and repairing the house is to check your beneficiaries. While it may not apply to our newer members, those of us with five or more years in the Local should check to make sure that our beneficiaries are current. None of us want the wrong person(s) to receive benefits they should not be entitled. You may have remarried or gotten a divorce, perhaps a beneficiary has passed away, maybe you want to add to your list. Whatever the reason, check with the Local and the Motion Picture Industry Pension and Health Plan (MPIPHP). A phone call will do to check the status, while a change generally involves some paperwork.

Well, for a writer with nothing to say this month, I've exceeded my word limit. Time to go! Until next time...RBP.



## INMemory

*Brother John Wright passed away on April 5th. Upon hearing of his death, member John Scalzo wrote us and said, "Geez, I can't believe he's gone ... the president of the 'Dawg Fart Crew.' I'm really going to miss him." He also sent along this picture of John taken at the Disney Ranch in 1997.*

**NEW "AFTER HOURS"  
PHONE NUMBER  
818.438.0728  
EFFECTIVE 1 MAY 2006  
MAKE THE CHANGE IN  
YOUR CELLPHONES AND  
LABEL IT "AFTER HOURS".  
THANKS, RBP**

## LOST <sup>and</sup> FOUND?

**We currently do not have correct addresses for the following members of Local 728:**

**Jim Krattiger  
Darryl Murchison  
Greg Shummon**

**Please update the Local as soon as possible!**

## PLAN AHEAD

**Third Quarter Dues are due on or before July 1st**

## ACCESSORIES

**Wear it Proudly!  
Local 728 has a wide assortment of logo gear available for purchase. Hot items include Jackets and Vests. A wide assortment of T-Shirts, Polos, and Blankets are also available. Visit the Union Hall to check it out!**



# Retiree Spotlight: Doug Mathias

Continued on from Page 5

ordinarily been done in the lab.”

From the beginning of his gaffing career in 1977 until he finished in 1999, Mathias proudly points out that he was also fortunate to work with outstanding Best Boys and lighting crews.

Today, Mathias has little time to sit down and reflect on his years in the business. Retired but still extremely active, he enjoys a wide variety of hobbies including photography and developing photos in his Black & White darkroom; shooting rifles, pistols and trap & skeet; woodworking; collecting memorabilia; genealogy researching; lunching with studio friends; volunteering at his church and with a number of charities; and traveling with his wife, Mary.

“Now that I’m retired from the I.A.T.S.E., I look back and say, ‘Boy that 40 years sure went by fast!’” he added.

The talented photographer has also been a huge contributor to the Local 728 web site. For the last several years, members have enjoyed the countless, and priceless, crew photos Mathias has generously contributed to the site. “My father carried a camera with him and I guess I carried on that tradition. I enjoyed taking pictures mostly of the crews ... not so much the actors.”

**Don't Get Left Behind!**



## SAFETY CLASSES

**Upcoming**

- June 10** HID Lighting
- June 17** Lighting Console Programming
- June 24** Power I Plot/Vis/Archive
- July 15** Equipment Specialist
- July 22** HID Lighting Power I
- July 29** Rigging I Vector works

Times and locations vary. To learn more and reserve your seat, call Master Instructor Alan Rowe at 818-843-0012 or email him at [safetyandtraining@iatse728.org](mailto:safetyandtraining@iatse728.org)

### Studio Electrical Lighting Technicians



Local 728, I.A.T.S.E.  
14629 Nordhoff Street  
Panorama City, CA 91402  
*Return Service Requested*

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