



THE BULLETIN

HOLLYWOOD
CALIFORNIA

CHARTERED
MAY 15, 1939

LOCAL 728 STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS
THE ONLY SET LIGHTING IATSE LOCAL IN THE WORLD

VOL. 17; No. 8
2007

Get Plugged In

Why it's never been
more important for
members to get involved

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Constitution and By-Laws Changes

by *Dennis K. Grow, President*



Our current Constitution and By-Laws is dated 1983. A lot of changes have occurred in our industry and it needed to be updated. I'm sure you have read our Constitution and By-Laws, so you know that in certain areas it is ambiguous and unclear. The Constitution & By-Laws Committee has attempted to clean this up by rewriting some sections and deleting others. Instead of attempting to revise the entire document, the committee chose to address what they felt to be the most important changes.

President Short has endorsed the changes as recommended by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. There are 17 resolutions, one for each article that has a revision. Each resolution needs 230 signatures (10% of our Membership) before they can be put to a vote before the Membership. At that Membership Meeting, each resolution will require a 2/3 vote of the voting Members for the resolution to pass. And then it will become part of our Constitution and By-Laws.

There are some major changes that are being proposed that you should be aware of. One change is an increase in quorum requirements for our Membership meetings. Currently it is 25 (1% of our membership), way too low for a membership of 2300. The Committee is recommending an increase to 2% of the Membership, or 46 at present. That is still very low but if we don't have a quorum at our Membership meetings, then the Membership won't have a fair say in the business of the Local. We debated this for a long time and this was our compromise.

The biggest change is the creation of a new full-time elected position, the Office of Secretary-Treasurer. This change will allow the Business Representative to better serve the Membership in dealing with labor and contract issues by not burdening them

with the tasks of being the Secretary and the Office Manager. Since our membership now numbers over 2300, the Call Steward has become too busy to effectively do the work of the Treasurer. The Committee felt that it would be more efficient to create a new elected office to handle these responsibilities. The Call Steward will become an appointed position.

Of course, there will be a financial impact as we are adding a new Officer to our payroll. The salaries of the Secretary-Treasurer and Call Steward will be negotiated before the nominations for the Secretary-Treasurer and the appointment of the Call Steward. The Membership will approve these salaries.

In the near future, the full wording of these changes will be sent to you. You will be notified of the Membership meeting where these resolutions will be debated and voted on. Please take the time to read and understand these revisions to our Constitution and By-Laws. These are the rules that govern our organization.

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee has worked long and hard on these revisions. I wish to thank all of them for giving up so much of their time so that we could get this work done.

Faternally,

Dein

**Don't miss the next
Local 728 Retiree
Get Together!**

September 19, 2007

11:00 a.m.

the Sportsman's Lodge

**A deli-style lunch and classic
old stories will be served!**

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

PRESIDENT

DENNIS K. GROW

VICE PRESIDENT

RAYMOND POBLICK

BUSINESS REP-SECRETARY

PATRIC J. ABARAVICH

TREASURER-CALL STEWARD

R. BRUCE PROCHAL

EXECUTIVE BOARD

BRANCH BRUNSON

MICHAEL EVERETT

MICHAEL GIPS

GREG A. LANGHAM

ROGER L. LATTIN

STEVEN R. MATHIS

DICK MCCONIHAY

SHONA CRICKET PETERS

JERRY POSNER

TONY LEE TROY

DAVID WATSON

KAREN WEILACHER

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

LARRY K. FREEMAN

PARLIAMENTARIANS

ALAN M. ROWE

RAYMOND POBLICK

SAFETY & TRAINING

ALAN M. ROWE, DIRECTOR

SHOP STEWARDS

CBS - JOHN L. MURRAY

FOX - PASCAL M. GUILLEMARD

PARAMOUNT - FRANK VALDEZ

SONY - JOHN JACOBS

UNIVERSAL - JOHN TRUJILLO

WARNER BROS. -

GARY M. ANDERSEN

CLC DELEGATES

PATRIC J. ABARAVICH

MIKE EVERETT

DENNIS K. GROW

IAIN O'HIGGINS

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 DONALD WOLAK, 64 YEARS OLD, PASSED AWAY JULY 19, 2007. HE HAD BEEN A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL SINCE MAY 9, 1966.

BROTHER RAYMOND WATTERS, 93 YEARS OLD, PASSED AWAY JULY 28, 2007. HE HAD BEEN A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL SINCE MARCH 31, 1936.

BROTHER EDWARD SAVARESE, 40 YEARS OLD, PASSED AWAY JULY 31, 2007. HE HAD BEEN A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL SINCE FEBRUARY 7, 1997.

BROTHER SANFORD HOFFMAN, 93 YEARS OLD, PASSED AWAY EARLIER THIS YEAR. HE HAD BEEN A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL SINCE DEC. 14, 1935.

FIRST NOTICE:

DANIEL COTRONEO, HECTOR E. CASTILLO, NATHAN FETZER, JASON GOODELL, CLIFFORD MYERS, JASON SACHSE, AND JASON P. SALINAS.

SECOND NOTICE

JAMES BANFIELD, DAMIEN R. COLLIER, JONATHAN R. CUSHING, BLANE DYDASCO, CHRIS FERGUSON, JOE IVERSON, ROBERT LAM, JOHNNY MADISON, JAMES W. REESE AND MATTHEW WEILUND.

NEW MEMBERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS: ROMEL ESPEJO, WHO WAS SWORN IN ON AUGUST 1, 2007; AND MARK A. MARROQUIN AND JUDSON D. MCKELVEY WHO WERE SWORN IN ON AUGUST 7, 2007.

CONTACT NUMBERS

818-891-0728

1-800-551-2158

FAX: 818-891-5288

WWW.IATSE728.ORG



Getting Back to the Basics

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

Now that the television season is in full swing and all the bugs are worked out of the new sets or re-rigged stages, let's step back and examine some of the basics.

CLT's. Your guys bust their butts for you, not the Producers, so, when you leave them to clean up at the end of the day, make that personal connection and thank your crew or just say "good night". It means that much.

Crews. Your CLT has been on the set ALL DAY LONG. Not able to take a break from that nagging DP or that whining AD wanting to bring talent in now. When you are outside the stage, hanging in the truck or checking out craft services and at the end of a long day your CLT disappears, most likely he is dragging his sorry tired butt to a quiet walkie-talkie free environment and driving home.

If you take a call and for some reason you are going to be late, call someone. Call Bruce or the Best Boy and explain what is going on. If you get lost on your way to a job, call someone. Do not expect everyone will be OK with you showing up late. Most of the reason we are called to work is to get a bunch

of things done. It all happens from call time and hopefully there is enough men and/or time in the day to get it done. You not showing or getting in late throws the schedule off.

With that said, I think we've covered enough ground to do a professional job and to enjoy the shows you are working on.

On another note. The UCFW (grocery workers) have settled their contract and averted any strike.

Sunday, Sept. 30 is the Backlot Crafts Picnic at Calamigos Ranch. Tickets are \$15 now and \$20 at the gate. Get your tickets at the Local or contact the Lot Stewards.

September 19 is the Retirees Get Together. All retirees should have received a letter, if not please call me at the Local. Please call to let us know that you are coming.

It may sound early but if you have high school seniors, remember the Local 728 Scholarship Program. More will be coming soon and when you send in your applications, be sure to ask about other Union Member Scholarship Programs.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:

THE NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WILL BE HELD AT 9:00 A.M. (SHARP) ON

SATURDAY, SEPT. 15, 2007

AT IATSE LOCAL 44,

12021 RIVERSIDE DR., NORTH HOLLYWOOD,

**YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THIS IMPORTANT MEETING
IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED
PLEASE BRING YOUR UNION CARD.**

A Long Time Coming ...

by Michael Everett
Political Action Committee Chairman

It's now been eight years since the phenomenon of runaway jobs first became an issue in our industry. During that time some half dozen subsidy bills were submitted and then rejected by our state legislature. Meanwhile Canadian film/TV production has continued to thrive on jobs raided from our country by ever-escalating Canadian production subsidies.

The Film & Television Action Committee (FTAC) was pursuing a different angle – trade remedies that were embedded in Federal law and international trade rules that have been agreed upon by both the United States and Canada.

The specific trade remedy was a Section 301(a), a law that permits any industry or 'group of workers,' to request that the United States Trade Representative (USTR) investigate foreign subsidies to determine whether they are consistent with WTO rules which generally bar subsidies. If the USTR finds Canada to be in violation of WTO rules, she can negotiate with Canada to remove them, or she can go directly to the WTO which has the power to order their removal.

The only problem with the 301 was that it was expensive. Only specialized lawyers were competent to handle them,

Canadian film/TV production has continued to thrive on jobs raided from our country by ever-escalating Canadian production subsidies.

and an enormous amount of documentation was required to file them. FTAC estimated it would take \$300,000 to get the petition filed. They went to just about every local and every union in Hollywood until they had reached their goal. Major donors included the Teamsters, SAG, the Laborers, the Plasterers, Local 44 and ourselves. Last year our members voted to give \$37,500 to the legal fund – a sum that was then matched by Local 44 for a total of \$75,000, thus taking us to our \$300,000 goal.

This now brings us to the point of filing which took place Sept. 4 and will be announced by full page ads in the trades. The law specifies that we receive some answer to our petition within 45 days, which now presents us with four possible outcomes:

1) The USTR may ask for more time.

2) The USTR may ask for hearings.

3) The USTR may reject it.

4) The USTR may accept it and proceed to secure a resolution with Canada.

So now the real battle begins. During these next six weeks every one of us needs to hammer our Washington legislators with faxes, letters, and phone calls in support of our 301. While Congress

doesn't vote on these matters, they do influence the outcome and winning their active support is essential to success.

FTAC has set up a web page <http://www.ftac.net/> to facilitate the pressure campaign. They've posted sample letters, and a way to find your representative's name and contact info by entering your zip code. To their information I would add; a fax, letter or phone call is worth a hundred emails so please don't limit your participation just to sending off an email.

We have a good chance of winning, but it's no slam-dunk. We NEED those faxes, letters, and phone calls to put us over the top and there's no better time to do it than RIGHT NOW!

Classified Ad Special

EQUIPMENT SALE

MOLE/ARRI/AC POWER LIGHTS,
CABLE, POWER DISTRIBUTION,
AND CONTROL DEVICE SALE
ALL INQUIRIES CALL
(310) 505-4212 OR E-Mail
vabbene@socal.rr.com

Looking for a Home Loan or to Refinance?



Call Maria Cardoza-Pleasant at Union Plus Mortgage.
Maria can explain the many benefits offered
to union members

818-226-0750

ELECTION NOTICE

Upcoming Election of Officers

Please be aware that there will be
Nominations for
Election of Officers
at the September Membership Meeting

Saturday, September 15, 2007
at 9:00 a.m.

IATSE Local 44 Office Building, 12021 Riverside Drive, North Hollywood

FOR THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- 1 - Vice President
- 1 - Treasurer/Call Steward
- 3 - Executive Board Members

Election Guidelines

Section 4 – WRITE-INS No write-ins shall be allowed.

Section 5 – NOMINATIONS FOR ONE OFFICE ONLY

No member shall be permitted to accept a nomination for more than one (1) office, this not to include nominations for election of delegates to conventions or Central Labor Council.

Section 6 – NOMINATIONS AND REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS

- a). In order to assure the most democratic nominations possible, all nominations will take place on the floor at the Membership meeting regardless of odd or even year, and that notice of such nominations to take place shall be put in Local 728 monthly newsletter "THE BULLETIN" prior to the meeting.
- b). Any Member working in our jurisdiction, on the day of nomination, may send the Local a written request to place his name in nomination for any office; said request to be placed in nomination by the presiding officer of the meeting.

Section 7 – ELIGIBILITY

A person must have been a member of Local 728 for a period of two (2) years before he can become a candidate for any office, and further must be in good standing at the time of nomination. A member in good standing shall be any person who is not in arrears and who neither has voluntarily withdrawn from membership nor become inactive from membership nor has been expelled or suspended from membership.

Additional Bylaws include:

Section 3 – RETIRED MEMBERS

I.A. Retired Members shall not hold elective office in Local 728.

Section 4 – FAILURE TO ATTEND

Non-salaried Officers who fail to attend three (3) meetings, both Executive Board and Membership within a twelve (12) month period without a satisfactory excuse, in writing, shall be recognized as vacating such office. This Section is not in conflict with Article 17, Section 16 of the Constitution.

ARTICLE 8 – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

Section 1 – LENGTH OF TERMS OF OFFICE

President, Vice President, Business Representative-Secretary, Treasurer-Call Steward, Delegates to the I.A.T.S.E. & M.P.M.O. Convention, Delegates to the Central Labor Council of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO shall be elected as hereinafter provided, and shall hold their office for a period of three (3) years or until their successor has been installed, as thereafter provided.

Customs and Practices Not in the Contract

by R. Bruce Prochal,
Treasurer - Call Steward

Greetings everybody! The town is really busy at the time of this writing. If you want to work, please get "on the books" and if you are on the books, call me once in a while to let me know you are still looking for work. The majority of the membership getting "off the books" are finding their own work. Make your phone calls.

The number of contract questions coming into the office increases dramatically when it gets busy. These questions are generally answered by the Business Representative. However, in this instant gratification society, everybody wants some kind of answer, "Now!", so the call, when the Business Representative is out of the office, is often transferred to me.

Having spent most of my career in this Local as a Best Boy or Rigging Gaffer, I am familiar with many of the most "Frequently Asked Questions" and am willing to answer them. Keep in mind, my answers are my opinion. For the Local's interpretation of the contract, I have to defer you to speak to the Business Representative, especially if he may have to go to bat for you in dealing with Unit Production Managers, Labor Relations, etc., and, sometimes, even our own members.

With that said, let's get to this month's theme, "Customs and Practices not in the Contract."

Over the course of labor history, we,

as a society, have come to expect certain customs and practices, such as, the morning and afternoon breaks and wash up time, as examples. Some of these are actually addressed in state labor codes. Exceptions occur when an employee is part of a "collective bargaining agreement," such as our Basic Agreement. If it is not in the agreement or contract, it is not enforceable to a certain extent.

Most of us have worked in non-contractual environments prior to working as a union member working under a contract. In most of these environments, taking breaks is commonplace and, in fact, the practice carried over into our work place. Meal breaks/periods are covered in our contracts.

Due to the nature of our work, sometimes it may be impractical to take a break at what seems to be a reasonable time and we may work a bit longer than usual to "get the job done." This happens. However, if you are working in extreme conditions, such as the high temperatures the area has recently experienced, it is totally irresponsible to not allow the crew to break frequently, rehydrate and cool off before resuming work. It could save a life.

Most shows today should be glad to make sure you have plenty of water available and possibly electrolyte drinks. Rigging Gaffers and ACLTs, make it a point to ask for these supplies, and

emphasize the crews safety. Employee safety is important. Otherwise, why do we have a Safety Pass Program?

When it comes to wash up time, the only contractual provision is for going from off production to on production. This rarely happens anymore because very few lots do any lot rigging and generally do not pull a guy off a rig to put him onto a show (but they did when I got in).

In practice, it is just common courtesy to give the crew a certain amount of time to wash-up before being released for the day, but there is no contractual obligation to do so (and when I got in, they worked you up to the last possible minute on a rigging crew).

As I said at the outset, it is busy and I hear the phone ringing, again. I've got to go. 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.

SUSPENDED/DROPPED MEMBERS THIRD QUARTER 2007*

** List current as of August 31, 2007*

Suspended

BERARDI, PHILIP N.
CASLIN, FRANK C.
EDINBURGH, ERIC E.
EUBANKS, JERRY
FRANCHETT, TOM
HAESSIG, REID R.
HARRIS, WENDELL
HINKLE, BRADLEY
HUGHES, JOSEPH G.
JOACHIM, EARL
JORDAN, MICHAEL R.
LINDSAY, ROBERT
MEDCALF, SCOTT A.

MEILANDT, WES
ROBERTSON, CHRISTOPHER D.
SHAIN, NOAH B.
THOMAS, RAY
TIMMER, BRAD D.
TOSCANO, DANIEL
Dropped
ADAMS, DAVID B.
DE PERNA, ROBERT J.
DODDS, ADAM J.
ELLISON, CASEY
GLICK, ADAM SETH
HALL, THADDEUS GERALD

HOLT, KENNETH J.
MANTHEY, MARK
MYGATT, JEFFREY C.
RICHTER, SHANE M.
SZOPA, PAUL A.
WATSON, JACQUELINE
J. JONES
WYCOFF, ERIC
Retiree 728 Dropped
DIAL JR., HARRY E.
LEONETTI, JOSEPH D.

The Key to Navigating Technological Changes

by Alan M. Rowe,
Safety & Training Director



I was recently invited to serve on a technical committee for the ASC. During our first meeting, we discussed digital technology and how it may possibly affect the film industry. The next few years can bring incredible changes to our industry and other organizations like the ASC, DGA, and ADG are working hard to embrace these technological changes. This is very important because if we, as an industry, do not embrace and shape how new technology affects us, it could eventually replace or severely diminish our role in the production process.

With the evolution of lighting technology, both software and hardware, it is essential that Local 728 be involved with the technological changes to protect ourselves now and in the future.

The key to successfully navigating these technological changes is to be pro-active. For several years our Local has been pro-active in organizations like ESTA & LDI and that participation has given us many good benefits. However, being pro-active needs to happen not only on the Local level but on the individual member level as well.

To effectively control this technology we must be continually educating ourselves on what is available, what is

being developed and how to utilize this technology to help our jobs on set and to ensure that we have jobs further on down the road.

Being pro-active applies to using "old" technology as well. Frequently, we will do what we have always done when perhaps there is a different, more efficient way. With a solid understanding of electricity and the codes that govern it, there are many solutions to the problems that frequently present themselves. For example, transformers and loop circuits can save time, equipment, and our backs when used properly. With a 480V transformer on a long 4/0 run you can significantly reduce the number of pieces of 4/0 that are required. (Please see the Raffle Question). However, these techniques can carry significant risk and should ONLY be utilized by someone who has been trained to use them safely. This applies to both Rigging Crew who installs them and Shooting Crews who utilize them.

We have many opportunities that will give you the knowledge to utilize both the new and the old technology and make you more valuable on set.

These techniques and new technologies will enable you to be more efficient which means that you can work faster, more often and for many more years.

Our classes, ranging from Electricity 101 to Media Servers/Digital Lighting, will give you the foundation on which our craft depends and the ability to learn new technology as it becomes available. Class schedules will be published in the bulletin and on the website. For more information and to sign up for any of our classes, please call me at 818/843-0012 or send me an email at safety&training@iatse728.org. You can also sign up to have notices of classes sent to your email address by sending an email to: 728Training-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

With movies being shot all over the country, there are a lot of people who consider themselves Set Lighting Technicians. We must constantly be innovative, aware of what is available and be able to integrate new technology and techniques into our workplace to maintain our standing in the lighting industry.



IATSE Local 728 Skills Training Schedule

September 22
Rigging For Wet Locations
DMX Networking

September 29
Ethernet/Advanced DMX
Plotting/Vis/Archive
Balloon Tech

October 13
Electricity 101
HMI/Xenon Seminar

October 20
Electrical Power Lab
Vectorworks I

October 27
Lighting Console
Fixtures
Balloon Tech

November 3
Rigging I
November 10
Membership Meeting
November 17
To Be Announced

**PLEASE NOTE: NOT ALL
AVAILABLE CLASSES ARE
LISTED ON THIS SCHEDULE**

ALL CLASSES AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

To sign up for a class, please contact Alan Rowe at 818-843-0012 or at amrowe@iatse728.org. For more information and schedule updates, please check the monthly bulletin; the Local's website at www.iatse728.org, or send an email to 728Training-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Local 728 Training Raffle

This Month's Question:

The Gaffer requires the following 120V lamps to light the set: 2– 5k fresnels, 4– 2k fresnels, and 8– 1k fresnels. Using 2/0 and without paralleling any conductors, which of the following is the MAXIMUM distance a single-phase generator can be from the set without exceeding the Allowable Voltage Drop as per the NEC?

- A: 100'
- B: 150'
- C: 200'
- D: 250'

To enter, please send a standard size postcard with your name and answer to Local 728 (14629 Nordhoff St., Panorama City, CA 91402). Entries must be received by October 5, 2007. The winner will be drawn at the Executive Board meeting. Contest is limited to IATSE Local 728 Members in good standing. Members can win only one prize in any 12 consecutive-month period.

The correct answer to the previous question published in The Bulletin (Vol. 17; No. 7) is: D: Black Down, Green Right

The Prize!

*The new
2006
Updated
Edition
Electricalc
Pro
Electrical
Code*

*Calculator includes the 2005,
2002, and 1999 NEC Code*



Features & Applications:The ElectriCalc Pro is the world's most complete Code based electrical calculator. Solve electrical calculations in seconds; answers conform to current NEC. It's a complete electrical reference tool that will save time, trouble and money. Update to future code revisions with an easy-to-install kit.

STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS

I.A.T.S.E. LOCAL 728
14629 NORDHOFF STREET
PANORAMA CITY, CA 91402



Back Lot Family Picnic



**Sunday, September 30th
Calamigos Ranch, Malibu**

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

PRE-SORT FIRST CLASS