



THE BULLETIN

HOLLYWOOD
CALIFORNIA

CHARTERED
MAY 15, 1939

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

VOL. 18; No. 1
2008

Giving Back

*Behind the scenes with the Local's
newest Executive Board Member
Gary Andersen*

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Top Items from January's Meeting

by
Dennis K. Grow,
President



The Writers Strike has finally been settled and hopefully everyone will be back to work soon. The Screen Actors Guild's contract is up at the end of June. Let's hope the actors don't go out. Our health plan can't afford it.

At the Membership meeting in January, three motions were passed in an effort to help those having a hard time due to the strike. The first is to waive the \$25 reinstatement fee for suspended members; members who are two quarters delinquent in their dues.

The second is to waive the \$50 late fee for members working delinquent. Dues must be paid in full by the day after the first pay period. This is to let you work first, and then pay your dues.

The third is to waive the requirement that your dues be paid before you can take any of Local 728's Training courses. This was a good time to take advantage of these classes. You should have received a postcard with the increased schedule of classes.

All of these motions are in effect only until the end of this quarter, March 31.

A recent ruling by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission stated that employers do not have to provide the same health benefits for retirees under 65 as they do for retirees 65 and over. The International said that this ruling would have no effect on us, as our retirees over 65 already coordinate their health benefits with Medicare.

The building at 1001 W. Magnolia in Burbank is now ours. The sellers remedied the problems we had with the building. We are now working with the architect on plans for remodeling. This is the same architect who did Local 80's

building. Please don't expect it to be anything like their building. But we promise it will be a building you will be proud of. Our goal is to make it as "green" as possible.

You will be receiving the Membership Directory for 2008 soon. We are going to make an electronic version that you can download from our web site. Along with the annual printed version of the directory, we will update the electronic version quarterly. The directory will be in PDF format and posted in the Members Only section. At some point in time, we hope to make the directory an interactive database on the web site. A member could log on and change his/her info and the directory would be as current as possible.

Have you been to our web site? There is a lot information available to you. David Watson does a great job of keeping it up to date. Currently on the front page is strike survival information that could be of help to those you having a hard time right now. In the members Only section you will find past minutes of our meetings, the Basic Agreement, the Commercial Agreement, our Constitution and By-Laws, forms and other information that could be of use to you. Our web site address is: <http://www.iatse728.org>

Fraternally,

CONTACT NUMBERS
818-891-0728
1-800-551-2158
FAX: 818-891-5288
WWW.IATSE728.ORG

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

PRESIDENT

DENNIS K. GROW

VICE PRESIDENT

GREG A. LANGHAM

BUSINESS REP-SECRETARY

PATRIC J. ABARAVICH

TREASURER-CALL STEWARD

R. BRUCE PROCHAL

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BRANCH BRUNSON

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THE BULLETIN

PUBLISHER

MARGIE STITES

PACIFIC MEDIA GROUP

EDITOR

DENNIS K. GROW

UNION SPOTLIGHT

DECEASED

BROTHER ANDREW ROBERT SCHORR, 74 YEARS OLD, A MEMBER SINCE FEB. 14, 1966, PASSED AWAY JAN. 5, 2008.

BROTHER MICHAEL B. LAMBERT, 42 YEARS OLD, A MEMBER SINCE MAY 18, 1996, PASSED AWAY FEB. 6, 2008.

BROTHER CARL BOLES, 81 YEARS OLD, A MEMBER SINCE SEPT. 9, 1946, PASSED AWAY FEB. 10, 2008.

FIRST NOTICE

JESSE M. AUSTIN, MATTHEW BERGER, CHRISTOPHER BURR, PAUL A. CHRISTIAN, BRIAN S. D'HAEM, DERRICK ESPERANZA, MICHAEL GIOULAKIS, LUKE MILLER, RYAN NORRIS, JORDAN PARHAD, WILLIAM POGODA, MICHAEL SIKIE, AND LANGSTON YORK.

SECOND NOTICE

JASON APPERSON, JEAN-PHILIPPE BELLIARD, GREGORY CAPP, JESSE COOPER, MICHAEL DOROWSKY, DONALD FISH, DAVID HARRIS, DANIEL HICKEY, THOMAS HOWARD, CHRISTOPHER PASS, BEAU LAMBERT, LANDON LIVENGOD, RYAN P. LYNCH, WILLIAM MCCORMICK, YUJI NAKAZA, DAVID NAVARRO, BRIAN C. RUPP, MATTHEW THEIMANN, RICHARD THOMAS AND JOHN ZIVELONGHI.

NEW MEMBERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS: CLIFFORD MYERS, WHO WAS SWORN IN ON JAN. 10, 2007; AND UKWUOMA AMAECHI, LARRY BRECHT, JR., DESSIE COALE, LAREN FITTON, EDUARDO GIRALDO, JARROD HETTLER, STEPHEN IRVINE, DAVID KANE, WILLIAM MESSINA, WILLIAM PERSAUD, JAMES PLAXTON, CRAIG POULSEN, JASON PLAXTON, CRAIG POULSEN, JASON SALINAS, DAIMON SHIPPEN, MITCHELL URSETTA AND JEROME WARD WHO WERE SWORN IN ON JANUARY 12, 2008.



Collateral Damage

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

Now that the WGA strike is over, it will still take a few weeks to get back into full swing. During the 100-day strike, many forces came to the aid of our members in time of need. First and foremost was the Motion Picture Television Fund (MPTF); these are the people who operate the motion picture health clinics around town. Not only do they provide great medical services, but it is very inexpensive for our health plan. We saw them come to the frontlines with their community support. They helped tremendously by providing not only financial aid but other services during the strike.

Additionally, the Actors Fund provided both financial and moral support; and the LA County Federation of Labor came forward mobilizing their troops in the housing (mortgage/rent assistance) and utility assistance program.

All of these supporters helped a myriad of people in our industry who were adversely affected during the strike.

I'd like to remind you that when you see those flyers to donate some money or to give a weekly check donation to the MPTF or donations to the Actors Fund, or to our participation in the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, this is where some of your money and time go.

Another thing as you head back to work: Many of you have not completed your Safety Pass classes. Although the many weeks off during the strike would have been the perfect opportunity to complete the classes, it seems the majority of the members in need did not take advantage of the down time. I must

remind you that you need them to go back to work. Maybe not next week or next month, but it will catch up with you. If you need to schedule a class or classes, please call me at the office.

And on one last note, I have been saying the same message over the past 20 months trying to encourage everyone to save their money for a strike. I must sadly remind you that nothing is settled with the actors, and although a usable contract template is there, no one knows at this point whether or not the actors will be able to modify it for their needs.

MEETING NOTICE

**ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS
THE NEXT**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING WILL BE HELD AT
9:00 A.M. (SHARP) ON
SATURDAY,
MARCH 8, 2008**

**AT IATSE LOCAL 44,
12021 RIVERSIDE DR.,
NORTH HOLLYWOOD
PLEASE BRING YOUR
UNION CARD!**

*Serving on the Local 728 Executive Board
is just Gary Andersen's way of*

Giving Back

At 54 years old and nearly 35 “blessed years” in the business, newly elected Local 728 Executive Board Member Gary Andersen says he simply wants to make a contribution before he retires.

“I want to retire at age 60,” he notes, adding, “The main thing is I want to leave the business a little bit better than I found it.”

Gary always knew he would go into the entertainment industry. At a very early age, he would accompany his father to the set of the New York-based *Gary Moore Show*, a live television broadcast where the senior Andersen ran the teleprompter. (Gary is named after the famed television host.)

“My dad was very well known and popular in the industry. He got into the business right after World War II in 1946, and he worked on a lot of shows over the years. He became a union member in New York in 1948. We moved out here in 1971 and even though he was the general manager of Q-TV, the teleprompter company, he kept his union card.”

Gary was 20 years old when he first started working for Q-TV. “Being the son of someone who was respected and as good as he was, I had to be as good or better. We worked together for a while and we had a great working relationship,” Andersen recalled.

He was working at Q-TV when his father passed away in 1979. It was during that time that Gary was involved in his first union movement. “I wanted the pay of the teleprompter operators to be equal to the set lighting guys. The bosses took offense to that and they laid

me off while I was on location.”

Management then made a deal with Local 728, and the union soon put Gary to work in set lighting. “I really had no clue, and no job training,” he recalled.

“In fact, I hated it. I was at Universal on the noon rig and everyone at that time knew it was the worst call in the business.” With a pregnant wife at home, Andersen toiled on the lot until they laid him off shortly after his arrival.

“I almost got out of the business at that time. But one day I ran into Harold H. Muskatell [a former Local 728 union official] and I told him that I was used to working with actors all day and I never got dirty. Now, I’m schlepping cable,” Gary recanted with a laugh.

Muscatell’s sage advice pointed out that the job really couldn’t get any worse, so Gary stuck with it and soon went to work at 20th Century Fox. His big break came at 26 years old when he started working on *Trapper John, M.D.* and began shadowing gaffer Bill Shaw.

“I told him I wanted to learn everything he did, and he taught me. Then, halfway through the show, Bill wanted screen credits and they wouldn’t give it to him so he quit. They needed a gaffer and the camera man approached me. I had learned a lot from Bill; he



A motorcycle enthusiast, Gary often takes to the road on his Harley for vacations. The most recent was a grand, nine state, 6,000 mile journey with his daughter.

was an excellent gaffer.”

The rest, as they say, is history. And today, Gary’s resume is filled with a long list of pilots, mini-series, and extremely popular shows including *Hotel*, *Step by Step*, *Family Matters*, *The Colbys*, and *The Love Boat* – the one series that took Gary to 32 different countries in a nearly 10-season run.

“I’ve basically worked for two producers my whole life, Miller Boyett and Aaron Spelling. And Spelling

Continued on the next page



A New Term Begins

At the January General Membership Meeting, Local 728 President Dennis Grow swore in members who will be serving a new three-year term on the Executive Board. Pictured above are Gary Andersen, Larry K. Freeman, new Vice President Greg Langham, Treasurer-Call Steward R. Bruce Prochal and Karen Weilacher. (Not pictured: Alternate Executive Board Members Branch Brunson and Robert A. Wood, Jr. The pair will serve a one-year term and were sworn in at a later time.) A host of new members also took the union oath. For a complete list, please see Page 3.

Gary Andersen

Continued from the previous page

treated us like gold. Everything was first class. I had a great time on his shows.”

The years also brought some union activism. Gary served on the Executive Board about 20 years ago, and was a long-time Warner Bros. lot steward. For the past eight years, he’s been a WB rental agent.

“I stopped gaffing after 22 years. Honestly, I got tired of the hours and I got older. When I first got the rental job working 7 to 5, it took me months to get used to getting off at five o’clock. I really thought I was doing something wrong.”

In January, Gary was sworn in as an Executive Board member to serve a three-year term. “I was nominated and

figured I wouldn’t get elected,” he recalled with a chuckle. “I work at the WB. How popular could I be? I didn’t campaign yet I got the second most votes. But hey, it’s a big responsibility and one I’m taking seriously.”

Currently, the Northridge resident says it’s important for him to sit back and learn as much as he can. “I’m not one to jump into something until I know what I’m doing. But, I do have some definite ideas on some things I’d like to see get accomplished.”

One area of concern is training. “Because we’ve lost the grouping system, today we have kids being thrown into the mix who really don’t know what they are doing. Training is

a huge issue and very important. You have to learn your craft as well as you can.”

It’s also not uncommon for long-term members to compare today’s standards and practices to those long ago. “We had a lot more camaraderie back then. I think it’s very important for us to watch out for one another and to take care of our brothers and sisters.”

This is exactly what Gary would like to accomplish as a member of the executive board. “I’ve enjoyed a really good living putting two kids through private school, traveling, buying homes ... the industry has been very good to me. The least I can do is give back a little bit.”

So, you think you're "On the books!"?

by **R. Bruce Prochal,**
Treasurer - Call Steward

Greetings everybody! While I hope that all of our members have found a way to remain financially stable during this protracted Writers strike, I still get many calls from members who have not. I am sure that the Business Representative gets as many, or more, of these calls as I do.

Do not give up hope. As of this writing (06 February 2008), The Writers Guild of America is rumored to be calling for a membership meeting very soon to consider ratification of a currently tentative agreement with the Producers/Conglomerates. Do we want it to happen? Of course. Will it happen? Let's hope it does.

So much for the Writers, let's get to this month's theme; So, You Think You Are "On the Books!"

With nearly five hundred members still "Delinquent," I am really surprised at the number of members who call to find out whether they are "on the books," only to find out that they are not "on the books." Why are they not "on the books," because they are "Delinquent."

Strike or no strike, our Local is under contract to the Producers to supply, when requested, members who are in good standing with the Local. I can not and will not dispatch a member who is delinquent.

Generally, by the fifteenth day of each new quarter, we are down to about 300 "Delinquent" members and that is the time when I usually purge the "on the books" list. This year, with the strike, I waited four weeks before purging the list.

The point I am trying to make is this, do not believe that being "on the books" is a safe refuge if you have not

paid your dues. Lately, EDD (also known as the Unemployment Office) has started calling me more often, and if you are not "On the Books," for whatever reason, I have to be truthful to them.

If you have recently paid your dues and believe you were "on the books" prior to 1st January, 2008, please call me to get back "on the books."

I've got to go... RBP

SUSPENDED/DROPPED FIRST QUARTER 2008*

SUSPENDED

ADAMSON, ERIC S.
BERARDI, PHILIP N.
BERNSTEIN, EDWARD B.
BROWN, EVANS
CASLIN, FRANK C.
COOK, DAVID AVERY
FEINBERG, ADAM R.
FREEMAN, PETER
GEAGAN, EMILY S.
HOLLE, VESA
JACKSON, RENALDO
JOHNSON, KURT H.
JONES, KELLY J.
KANESHIRO, ALAN
KLINE, RONALD
LUCA, IAN E.
MABRY, BRETT
MARQUEZ, MICHAEL S.
MARTIN, JAMES D.
MORRIS, REGINALD
RAMOS, ROBERT J.
REGAN, ROBERT A.
SCHNEIDER, KENNETH
SIMMONS, OWEN G.
STRONG, JAMES K.

Dropped

COX, THOMAS P.
FRANCO, CHRIS
HOOD, ALBERT A.
ISWARIENKO, KURT A.
MORTON, TIMOTHY LEE
TAMAYO, VLADIMIR A.
WAUGH, KIERAN J.

Active Non Roster

MUSKEY, JACK G.

**List current as of Feb. 26, 2008*

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.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

March 15

DMX Networking &
Dimming Technology

March 29

Lighting Console Programming

April 5

TBA

April 7 & 8

GrandMA Console Training

April 12

Electricity 101*

April 12

Expression Console Training

(*Indicates this course qualifies for
ETCP Certification Renewal Credits.)

Voltage requires specific training

480V Power Systems

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



There is an old saying that you don't know what you don't know. With rapid changes in technology and health and safety codes, this is true for every member of our local.

The continuing evolution of technology affects how we do our jobs. LEDs, Media Servers, Automated Lighting, Drafting, and Pre- Visualization are just a few of the examples where we have to keep current with the tools that are available to us. This is not only to make ourselves more efficient now but also to protect our jobs in the future. The local offers classes and seminars to keep us up-to-date with new technology. The best way to keep current on these events is to send an email to: 728Training-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

The codes and guidelines that govern how we do our jobs are also constantly evolving. The Industry Wide Safety Committee is currently developing an addendum to Safety Bulletin 23 on the use of 480V power systems. Use of 480V power gives our Gaffers some great new tools and allows our rigging crews to run long distances with less cable.

However, this voltage requires additional training and specific equipment. It is very important that

people utilizing 480V systems receive training prior to their use.

Since yellow is used as a phase identifier in 480V systems it is important to remember that YELLOW IS NOT SUITABLE TO USE AS A PHASE IDENTIFIER IN 120V POWER SYSTEMS. This applies whether or not 480V systems are currently in use. 480V circuits are found with transformers, air conditioning, special effects and some lighting fixtures. These items may become present on any set at any time.

Many of our members have been taking advantage of the downtime to come in for the accelerated training that we have been offering. This has led us to re-formatting several of our classes into a more interactive and fun format. I am an advocate of hands-on training so we are integrating more "toys" into our classes.

Our Electricity classes are a prime example of this as we are using low voltage kits to demonstrate the principles that we discuss in Electricity 101. This continues into the Electrical Power Lab where we do the same hands-on experimentation, only on a

larger scale.

We will be starting up our Rigging for Wet Locations & Underwater Lighting classes once the weather gets warmer. If you are interested in Underwater Lighting, you must be SCUBA certified with a minimum of an Open Water certification. I recommend several post-certification dives and Advanced Training before you take these classes or work underwater. Now is the time to start thinking about this training or brushing-up on your dive skills. If you are interested in SCUBA diving for recreational or business purposes there are several local training opportunities. With class offerings from the Basic Open Water through NITROX and working in overhead environments, there is something for everyone.

For a list of companies that are offering discounts for members of Local 728, please email me at safetyandtraining@iatse728.org.



Funding Awarded for Skills Training

Contract Services has awarded the funding for our Skills Training Program through next January. They have given us the backing to provide 27 different classes for our members.

Most of these classes are shorter 4-hour sessions that focus on specific topics to make you a better Set Lighting Technician and more valuable member of the crew. Of these 27 classes, 5 of them are Electrical Classes; 5 are related to Plotting and Visualization; 4 are Rigging Classes; 9 are Lighting Control Classes; 3 are Specialized Technician Courses; and

our Underwater Lighting Class. 9 of these classes are new to our schedule. I will be writing class descriptions over the next few weeks and will publish those as soon as they are available.

We are currently working on producing a schedule for the entire year. A partial list can be found on Page 6 of this publication. The Rigging for Wet Locations Class and the Underwater Lighting Class will start in June/July. The newer classes will start being introduced into our schedule in the summer.

These classes are available to all

members who are in Good Standing with the Local and have completed their Safety Pass classes. New members are eligible to take these classes during their first 90 days even if they have not completed their Safety Pass requirements. If your I-9 with Contract Services has expired, I will be able to update it at most classes.

The entire list of classes is listed on the Local's web site, www.iatse728.org. Members can also contact Safety & Training Director Alan Rowe at safetyandtraining@iatse728.org directly for more information.

Through Payroll Pledge, you help us help you.

The Motion Picture & Television Fund has been caring for the entertainment community for 80 years. Payroll Pledge is a way you can directly help this legendary charitable organization and care for your family and friends in the industry. The small percentage of your weekly pay that you pledge to the Fund is tax deductible. More important, it dramatically increases our ability to provide quality services when they're needed: health care, social services, child care, emer-

gency and charitable financial assistance, as well as independent and assisted living, and the nationally renowned program, Harry's Haven, which provides dignity, care and comfort for those with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

Your contribution makes these services possible and ensures that MPTF will be here to care for your family and friends for generations to come.

Suggested Giving Guide

Donation amounts are an individual choice. The following is not exact but is a guide to help you determine the level of gift that you feel you would like to make.

Your annual income

Up to		Weekly 2% gift	Weekly 1.5%	Weekly 1% gift
		Up to \$6	Up to \$4	Up to \$3
\$15,000	\$20,000	\$6-\$7	\$4-\$5	\$3-\$4
\$25,000	\$30,000	\$7-\$10	\$5-\$7	\$4-\$5
\$35,000	\$40,000	\$10-\$12	\$7-\$9	\$5-\$6
\$50,000	\$60,000	\$12-\$13	\$9-\$10	\$6-\$7
\$70,000	\$80,000	\$13-\$15	\$10-\$12	\$7-\$8
		\$15-\$19	\$12-\$14	\$8-10
		\$19-\$23	\$14-\$17	\$10-\$12
		\$23-\$27	\$17-\$20	\$12-\$13
		\$27-\$31	\$20-\$23	\$13-\$15

Method of Payment

PAYROLL DEDUCTION (I authorize my employer to deduct my total annual contribution from my paycheck in equal amounts)

1. I wish to give \$_____ per paycheck 2. I wish to give _____% annually

3. I wish to give a one-time gift of \$_____ (Please attach check payable to the Motion Picture & Television Fund or write credit card information below)

____ American Express ____ MasterCard ____ Visa ____ Discover

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date ____/____/____ Social Security # _____

Signature (required for all contributions) _____

Printed name _____

Your employer _____

Name or local number of your union, craft or guild _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

e-mail address _____

Thank You!



**Motion Picture
& Television Fund**

818.876.1900 | www.mptvfund.org

22212 Ventura Boulevard

Suite 300

Woodland Hills, CA 91364



STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS

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

Return Service Requested

**FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID**

**Los Angeles, CA
Permit No. 34694**

PRE-SORT FIRST CLASS