



Bulletin



Volume 15, No. 1

We Light Up Your Life!

January 2005

Show Profile:



“Medical Investigation”

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ALSO INSIDE

Your New Year's resolution can include a better you! Learn about the health and wellness programs offered to members in Norm Glasser's column on Page 2.

Speaking out: Frustrated over an article written attacking IATSE wages, member Bob Snyder writes to the editor of the Wall Street Journal - and his letter gets published. Page 5.

Talk about frustrated, every member needs to read newly elected Call Steward and Treasurer R. Bruce Prochal's column on Page 6.

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The Bulletin Editor

Patric J. Abaravich

*Make 2005 the year of better health by taking advantage of
classes and programs designed for members*

Wellness Program Offers Health Management Options

By Norman Glasser
Business Representative - Secretary

As I usually do this time of year, I again call your attention to the Wellness Program offered to Motion Picture Industry Health Plan participants and dependents.

Although our members receive periodic literature regarding these benefits, many do not take the time to read and familiarize themselves with the programs available.

The Wellness Program offers several Health Management options each quarter. The courses run 3-6 weeks and provide in-depth support, information and motivation.

Courses offered will be three of the following:

- a). Managing Your Stress to Improve Your Overall Health
- b). Increasing your fitness level
- c). Type II Diabetes Management
- d). Lowering Your Cholesterol
- e). Hollywood Quits (a new, innovative smoking cessation program)

Also offered is a Lifestyle Enhancement Series which includes programs designed to help reduce unhealthy risk factors and improve your overall health.

The Family Learning Services Program is designed to promote the well being of children and families. A panel of experts cover contemporary issues such as "Communicating With Your Teenager," "Sibling Rivalry," "Preparing for Pregnancy," "The ABC's of Solving Family Problems," and "Pediatric Life Support."

For those of you who wish to fulfill your New Year's Resolution, you can take advantage of the Preventive Medical Care benefits. Comprehensive Physical Exams and discounts on health clubs and yoga studios are all offered through the Wellness Program.

So, as you can see, there is something for everyone. The Wellness Program has been designed specifically to address the needs and concerns of Entertainment Industry members.

To register or receive more information, please call (800) 654-WELL (9355).

COVER PHOTO

Local 728 members are enjoying working on the new, high-budget NBC drama "Medical Investigation" that's been referred to as "... well-made and zippy ..." by the Los Angeles Times. Pictured on the cover are, from left to right, (back row) Martin Weeks and Glen Mark Shearer; (middle row) Steve Castaneda (standing), ACLT Troy White and Joe Ruiz; (seated, front) John Kristopik, and CLT Max Pomerleau.

Permits are working and so should you - but quality is key to lasting longer than one day

A Little Effort, Waikiki & A Resignation - Read On

**By Patric J. Abaravich,
President/Editor**

Happy New Year. I hope all your holidays were pleasant and if not, well at least they're behind you.

By the amount of new faces and permits I have seen lately, I sure hope that anybody that wants to work is working. And if not, you're giving the opportunity for non members to acquire their 30 days. So with that, knowing that there are members taking day calls – when so many permits are out there – each of you should take stock in your quality of work. I've been getting many phone calls about well-experienced brothers and sisters being sent out from the hall only to work as if it were a one day call. Not to say that everybody is performing this way, but many best boys have complained to me that some of the people they are getting could have stretched a day call to two days or to two months with just a little effort – effort that we know everyone is capable of. Just remember, the call you take today or the best boy you work with could be a contract for a long and prosperous run of show. Enough said.

This summer your hardworking convention delegates will be slaving in Waikiki Beach. At this point in time, we are having convention delegate meetings to establish what business, if any, we as members of 728 want to bring to the floor of the convention. Business is addressed at the convention in the form of motions and resolutions.

At this time, and I will remind you again in the future, any ideas for motions and resolutions from the rank and file will be taken seriously and discussed. So if anyone has any ideas – as crazy as they might sound – contact the office with either the idea or a contact number and we will reply.

And last but not least, if you have not heard already, brother Frank Sontag recently tendered a letter of resignation to the Executive Board for personal reasons. I myself will miss his ideas, knowledge and experience, and I'm sure I speak for all the officers and members. We came to count on Frank for his guidance and know-how, and grew not only as a union under his leadership but his direction also helped form the tight-knit unity of our organization. We wish Frank nothing but the best in all of his future endeavors.

Keep Your Skills Up-to-Date!
**Training Program Contact
Information**

Telephone: Web Site:
818-502-9932 www.csatf.org

**Union Phone
Numbers**

(818) 891-0728

(800) 551-2158

Fax (818) 891-5288

Web Site:

www.iatse728.org

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 818-207-3094.

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.

Delinquent List First Quarter 2005*

AASLAND, JOSEPH D.
ABBOTT, MARK
ADLER, MICHAEL
AGUILAR, RICHMOND L.
AHERN, CHRISTOPHER
ALDERSON, RANDY
ALLISON, THOMAS M.
ALONSO, GARY
AMERIAN, ROBERT M.
AMINI, CYRUS
ANDERSON, RONALD
AREVALO, SOLOMON
ARNOLD, KEVIN SCOTT
ASH, NORMAN
BAIN, DAMON
BARNES, EDWARD J.
BARNETT, BILLY H.
BISHOP, SOFIA
BITHELL, WALTER
BLACK, CHARLES D.
BLUMBERG, MORRIS A.
BONEWITZ, MICHAEL
BOSWORTH, MARTIN J.
BRAY, CHARLES DEAN
BRISCO III, SIDNEY
BROWN, EVANS
BRYAN, TONY
BRYANT, WILLIAM B.
BUTKUS JR., RICHARD M.
CANTRELL, MATTHEW O.
CAPPILLA, JOHN J.
CARLIN, EDWARD D.
CASLIN, FRANK C.
CAULEY, KEVIN M.
CHASSLER, JEFF

Deceased

Brother James P. Porter, 69 years old, passed away January 3, 2005.

First Notice

New applicants for membership

are: David Besdesky, Steve T. Brock, Roger Chingirian, John Cropley, Patrick J. Gaynard, Brady M. Gurley, William McLachlan, John J. Moriarty, Tony Sweeney, Peter C. Villani, and Robert Waers, III.

Second Notice

New applicants for membership

are: Anson A. Beck, Michael Callahan, Devin D. Campbell, Brandon Cunningham, Russell E. Curtis, Sean Emmons, Jerry C. Gregoricka, Richard Lyons, Kenneth P. Ratliff, Steve Rollins, Ramior Ruiz, Sean-Michael Smith, Michael Strand and Vladimir A. Tamayo.

New Members

The following member was sworn into Local 728 on December 17, 2004: Anthony Gudino. The following members were sworn in on January 15, 2005: Christopher S. Burgon, Paul H. Cowdin, Chris J. Dambra, Sean Hourihan, Ted Rapp, Riley J. Sidore, William Streit, Michael Visencio, Michael A. Weekes and Nicholas Zeigler. The following member was sworn in on January 19, 2005: Susan R. Diamond.

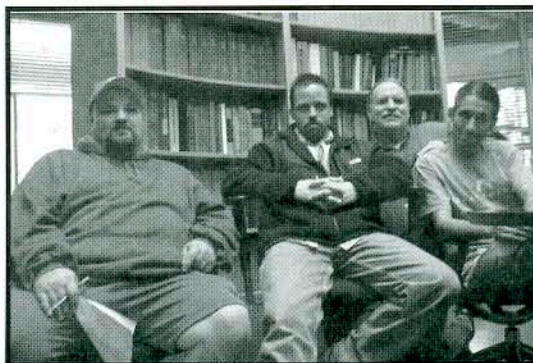
You're Invited!

The next regular General Membership Meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, March 12, 2005 at IATSE Local 44 12021 Riverside Drive North Hollywood No R.S.V.P. needed!

Show Profile: "Medical Investigation"

Premiere Date: September 10, 2004

Televised: Fridays, NBC



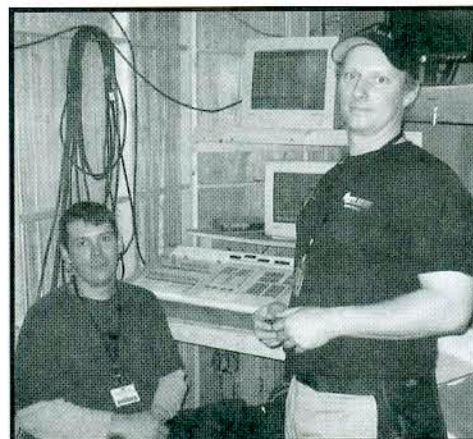
The "Medical Investigation" Rigging crew includes (from left to right) Don Stanford, Rigging Gaffer Erik Warner, Dave Hengsteller and Mike ("Smokey") DiGrasse.

Filed at: Paramount Studios, Stages 5, 6, and 7

Quotable Notables from CLT Max Pomerleau:

"This is my first time doing television and it's going fine," he notes. "It's a different medium than movies and commercials, but I'm really enjoying myself."

About the crew: "They are a great bunch of talented guys. They make my job easier," he stated. "Actually, the whole crew is tremendous. From wardrobe to hair and makeup to the script, everyone is a professional, and always in a good mood."



Dimmer Board Operator Martin Weeks (seated) and Lighting/Balloon Technician Glen Mark Shearer.

The 728 Players: CLT Max Pomerleau, ACLT Troy White, Dimmer Board Operator Martin Weeks, and First Unit Lighting Technicians Joe Ruiz, Steve Castaneda, Mark Glen Shearer and John Kristopic; Rigging Gaffer Eric Warner and Rigging ACLT's Jim Noble and Patric Abaravich.

Show Base: National Institutes of Health, Baltimore, Maryland



CLT Max Pomerleau

About the set: "We have three stages fully rigged ... offices, the NIH, two hospitals, and a swing set on Stage 7 that is always changing. Eric and Jim are constantly rigging and they do a great job. They bust their butts ... they are in there up to their armpits."

"With 80 set ups a day, we're runnin' and gunnin'!"

The feel of the show: "We've got a good look. Felicks Parnell has got the mood and style down."

Continued on the next page

Show Profile: "Medical Investigation"

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Lighting costs: "We've got a pretty healthy budget. With three stages rigged, we spend quite a bit on lighting."

Biggest challenge: "Staying on budget every episode."

One of the best aspects: "Working 12 to 14 hours a day and no weekends. It's nice to be home and near my family."

The buzz on the street: "... a slick thriller ... well-made and zippy."
(*The Los Angeles Times*)

Medical Investigation stars: Neal McDonough, Kelli Williams and Anna Belknap.



Looking serious on the set are (from left to right) Steve Castaneda, ACLT Troy White and Joe Ruiz.

"Wall Street Journal" Article Attacks Wages; Member Fires Back with Poignant Letter

Once again, our members are speaking out and shaking things up – this time in the highly acclaimed *Wall Street Journal*.

In mid-November, a classical music writer for the *Journal*, Barbara Jepson, wrote a story about "steep production costs" at many of Manhattan's finer concert halls – union venues under contract with IATSE Local 1 in New York. Jepson attacked labor charges, minimum call hours, and overtime. Comparing their wages to concert hall officials and principal players in symphony orchestras, she listed a stagehand by name in New York who made over \$300,000 in 2002, and noted that three stagehands at the Los Angeles Music Center earned upwards of \$170,000 in the same year. She writes, "In both New York and Los Angeles, cities with a strong entertainment-industry presence, stagehands' wages approach record-setting levels for blue-collar workers."

Although Ms. Jepson wrote that stagehands do perform a vital service to the production, she insists it's classical musical organizations who are suffering. Jepson says high labor costs make it nearly impossible for them to perform at some of New York's finest venues, and while they are struggling to attract new audiences, high production costs increase their fund-raising burden.

Bob Snyder, a member since 1999 and regular reader of the *Wall Street Journal*, saw the Jepson piece and became frustrated. "We hear that kind of logic all the time. It's the same story: If it wasn't for the wages we wouldn't have to take movies to Canada or make them out of the country ... we can't have the manpower we need because of the wages," he said, further explaining, "We're not stupid. We see where the money is spent on the set.

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CICCONE, HENRY
 CLAYTON, JOSEPH DELPHINE
 COCHRAN, ERIC H.
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 COLLINS, M.C.
 CONKLIN JR., CHARLES R.
 CONWAY, CHRISTOPHER J.
 CORTINA, HUGO P.
 CRESTOL, STEVE M.
 CRONN, ROBERT
 CROPLEY, STUART E.
 CROSS, WILLIAM
 CULLITON, CHRISTOPHER M.
 CYBULSKI, JOHN
 DAHLQUIST, D. MICHAEL
 DAHLQUIST, JAY
 DALEY, PAUL
 DALY, JUSTIN
 DAVIS, MARISA J.
 DAWSON, BRIAN M.
 DE BLAU, JOHN W.
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 DILLINGER, JAMES F.
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 DUBOIS, DAVID W.
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 DURR, TIMOTHY R.
 DUVAL, JUSTIN
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 FARRIS, RICHARD R.
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 FERRAT, RICARDO F.
 FERRERO, JEFFREY STANTON
 FORTUNE, JAY
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 GLICK, ADAM SETH
 GLOVER, WALTER
 GOLDASICH, JOHN KEVIN
 GORDEN, ROGER A.
 GOWDY, LLOYD COLLINS
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 GRAHAM, BEN O.
 GRAY, GARY L.
 GRIFFITH, KHAN E.
 GRIFFITH, RUSSELL
 GUZMAN, ANTHONY D.
 HAGERMAN, STEVEN W.
 HALL, DONNA LEE
 HALL, TERRANCE W.
 HALL, THADDEUS GERALD
 HANSON, MARK STEVEN
 HART, RANDY A.
 HATHAWAY, NATHAN G.
 HAYN, JEFFREY A.
 HILL, DARRIN
 HINKLE, BRADLEY
 HODGE, STEVEN C.
 HOLLYFIELD, LYDIA S.
 HOLMES, TREV M.
 HOLT, CONNIE BUFORD
 HOLT, KENNETH J.
 HOLT, MARY T.
 HOLT, THEODORE P.
 HOOD, ALBERT A.

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JOHNSON, CHRIS M.
JORDAN, MICHAEL R.
KALLEN, JASON A.
KANESHIRO, ALAN
KARASICK, MICHAEL I.
KATZ, DUANE
KIM, KAISER KAI
KIMURA, JAMES
KINKEAD, NEIL
KINNISON, TY J.
KNIEST, JAMES
KORBEL, BLAIR
KOVALESKY, STEVEN J.
KUCHARSKI, STEVEN D.
La VIOLETTE, MICHAEL
LANGER, DARREN
LAYNE, JOHN L.
LAZARUS, STEVEN
LEONETTI, JOSEPH D.
LEVIN, RONALD M.
LEVINE, LENARD M.
LIGGET, CRAIG HESTON
LINARES, JOHN M.
LINDSAY, MARK A.
LOFTHOUSE, BRIAN C.
LOGAN, GUY
LUKASIK, DAVE
MAGARACI, TIMOTHY
MANNING, WRIGHT K.
MARCHETTI, MARK
MARCOS, ROBERT J.
MARX, FREDRICK W.
MAXWELL, GEORGE
MAYBERRY, WILLIAM R.
MC CARTHY, RALPH H.
MC CARTHY, ROBERT
MC COMAS, JAMES K.
MC CULLAGH, JAMES F.
MC ELROY, BRIAN
MC GRATH, JEFFREY
MC GRATH, THOMAS
MC KANE, WILLIAM T.
MC KAY, JR., ROBERT A.
MOE, KEVIN A.
MOORE, JOHN C.
MUNDY, JR., JERRY W.
MURRAY, PATRICK MICHAEL
MYGATT, JEFFREY C.
NAUFEL, ALEXANDRE E.
NEAD, THOMAS G.
NICHOLS JR., WALTER J.
NIETERT, DAYTON E.
NILSON, KATIE
NYIRENDA, NGOLI V.
OFF, MICHAEL D.
O'MELIA, MICHAEL K.
OREFICE, JARED KEITH
ORSA, JEFFREY E.
PALMER, MICHAEL
PARRA, ROLAND
PAULIN, DEREK M.
PAULL, STEPHEN M.
PAUSBACK, LARRY
PEACOCK, SEAN C.
PENTEK, DOUGLAS J.
PENTEK, JEFFREY D.
PETERSON, DENNIS L.
PETRETTI, VINCENT JAMES
PHILION, JON P.

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The Value of Paying Dues on Time ... PRICELESS!

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

It's a little late for holiday greetings, but I hope everyone had a good holiday season. I know most of you had the two weeks prior to January 1st off work. For me, this was only the second time in 25 years I had to work those two weeks. I guess this is part of the burden of a desk job.

Anyway, on January 3rd about 7a.m. I returned to the "Office" expecting a certain number of delinquent members, maybe 300 to 500. When Ken, our bookkeeper, handed me a 15 (fifteen) page document with over 1050 (that's right, one thousand fifty plus) names on it, I was dumbfounded. Over 50% (fifty percent) of our membership had not paid their dues in a timely manner.

Before I knew it, and having barely recovered from this shock, it was 8 a.m., and in came the phone calls. These calls were from members wanting to place credit card dues payments because they were returning to work – most of them already at work – and many of them waiting on hold for as long as 30 minutes to complete their transactions. The calls did not slow down until about 5 p.m. (1700 hours).

I talked with many of the initial callers and reminded them that they were working "delinquent" and that they must pay the \$50.00 (fifty dollar) fine for working while delinquent.

The office staff and I had many members attempt to squirm out of paying the fine by telling us they had a 10:00 am or later call. (Listen up Brothers and Sisters: If you call and we hear radios and construction noise in the background, we know you're working. Quit fooling yourself.) Unfortunately for them, many best boys – acting responsibly – had already called me to check to make sure their crews had paid their dues, and told me their call times.

Many of these same best boys later confided to me how frustrating it was for them to let these delinquent members spend so much time on the phone paying their dues. "I'm under the gun here and I've got guys on the phone waiting to pay their dues who told me their dues were paid!" was a common lament I heard that Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. (Why do you hire these guys? That's why you should call the day before you hire a member to make sure they have paid their dues.) Another comment I heard frequently was, "Make sure he/she pays the fine!"

Let me digress for a moment about the origins of the credit card payment program. This method of payment was provided as a means and convenience to our members to get off the "Delinquent List." With a simple phone call, a few days prior to the first of the quarter, a member could pay their dues in a timely manner and be assured of never being delinquent and then paying off their credit card at their convenience. The deluge on the 3rd of January was totally without reason. Again, as mentioned before, most of the credit card callers had the two weeks prior off work. Why did they not call during that time?

Unfortunately, the credit card payment program has apparently spawned a lack of responsibility, lassitude and a general feeling that a member can pay at the last minute and not incur the fine. This is truly a sad state of affairs.

This is a good moment to regurgitate the title of this article. Let me remind all of you that dues are due "ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST OF THE QUARTER" and if you pay in a timely manner, you will not incur the additional fine. Meaning, if your dues are paid timely, there is no penalty and therefore "priceless."

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Snyder Speaks Out in "WSJ"

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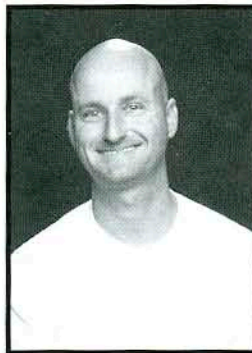
The simple fact is, if you want to keep wages down, organize your time better."

Snyder noted that he'd happily work a 10-hour day so he can have a life off the set. "We come in every day and expect to do our jobs. The actor's late and it turns into an 18-hour day. We'll work the 18-hour day because we're professionals. But, get on the actor, not us. The article mentioned nothing of the hours we put in or the loss of a family life."

The article reminded Snyder of a Halloween shoot a couple years ago. Working on a feature in Piru, production officials told the crew there would be an early morning (5:00 a.m.) call so everyone would be out by 4 or 5 p.m. to be with their kids. At the last minute, the director added a scene and the production worked late into the evening. "I must have heard ten people on their cell phones talking to their kids," he recalled. "When I read the article I thought about that night. She (Jepson) has no idea what she's talking about."

This is the second letter to the editor Snyder has had published. "When you hear things, be as vigilant as possible and try to get out the counterpoint," he advises. "People have misconceptions on why there are runaway productions and why wages are so high. We really need to speak out."

Additionally, Snyder believes the members need to band together when it comes to the fine balance between working and family. "If someone's kid is graduating or there is some other special function, let's make it so they can get off the set and go. The producers will work us until we drop, so the members need to work together," he added.



Bob Snyder

Bob's Letter to the Editor of the *Wall Street Journal* as published on Nov. 25, 2004:

Stagehands Don't Create the Costly Problems

In her Nov. 16 Leisure & Arts article "Where Stagehands Clean Up in More Ways Than One," Barbara Jepson asks why the stagehands of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) are paid so much when theatrical productions are struggling with budgets in certain high-end venues.

Her naive conclusion would hold water if actors and performers weren't making money in the millions; if Michael Eisner and Michael Ovitz weren't in litigation over a \$140 million severance impropriety; and if The Wall Street Journal hadn't published an article earlier this year about the Producer's Guild of America's efforts to curtail the practice of producers attaching themselves to projects (for screen credit and pay) with which they have little or no affiliation.

It is efficiency and safety that "minimum calls" are included in IATSE contracts. The right number of men and women, each performing a trained task, ensures that necessary actions occur on cue and with incident.

Ms. Jepson asserts that it's unfair for productions to pay someone for a four- or eight-hour minimum. I ask, would she like to trudge all the way into work and get paid for only one hour? Would anybody? She admits that "rehearsals and performances often run into overtime." When this happens the IATSE contract provides that the worker receive extra pay and in some cases penalties for missed meals (meal penalties are mandated by state law). These clauses were not included to bilk productions out of money. They are in place to discourage employers - i.e. production companies - from engaging in certain

employment abuses. For example, it is common practice by some non-union production companies in Los Angeles to begin paying overtime penalties after 15 hours of work. Why are people working 15 hours to begin with? This is in part the reason scores of good people are injured, permanently injured or killed in the entertainment industry each year.

Adding insult to injury, overtime is rarely caused or wanted by the worker. More often than not, it is caused either by an actor or actress who arrives late to the set or a daily schedule that is far from realistic. Whatever the reason, the worker's day does not end until he is released; many a night goes by with people on cell phones tucking their kids into bed from the set.

I believe a little more emphasis on the managing, coordinating and scheduling of all stages of production would do more to eliminate costs than trimming workers' wages. As it stands, the worker suffers as well as benefits because of this poor management system. Efficiency is the key to decreasing the fund-raising burden and providing for more creativity in concert presentation.

I feel Ms. Jepson is correct in her assumption that many shows are probably being excluded from performing at certain high-end venues due to production costs. But if she is going to look under the rug for who's "cleaning house," I suggest she lift the whole damn thing up. She might be surprised by who else she finds under there.

Robert Allen Snyder
Lighting Board Operator
IATSE Local 728, Los Angeles

Delinquent 1st Qtr 2005*

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PHILLIPS, BRENDON
PRAMPIN, CHRISTOPHER H.
PRESLEY, ALVIN D.
PRICE, BRENNAN L.
PRIMERO, CHRIS B
PULFORD, DARRIN M.
RALSTON, PATRICK G.
REDDISH, CHRIS H.
REDDISH, PATRICK M.
REESE, ROLAND LAMONT
REGAN, ROBERT A.
REILLY, TIMOTHY JAMES
RENLIE, JEFFERY M.
RICHARDS, BEAU D.
RIFFEL, DANIEL G.
RISTIC, NIKOLA
ROBERTSON, CHRISTOPHER D.
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ROFFREDO, JOSEPH F.
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RUMANES, GEORGE N.
RUSHTON, JESSE
SANCHEZ, RAFAEL E.
SCHAMP, KENNETH G.
SCHMEHR, KENNETH L.
SCHNEIDER, TRACE K.
SCHULTZ, PERRY PAUL
SCHWEIGER, GARRY G.
SELICEO, ERNEST A.
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SIMMS, ANTHONY H.
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SMITH, ROBERT J.
SNEED, GARY M.
SPARKS, TAYLOR
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STERN, THOMAS EVANS
STILLMAN, ALLEN
SVIMONOFF, VICTOR STEVEN
TANDROW, GARY BRADY
TERMEER, NEWTON T.
THOMPSON, ELI
THOMPSON, LON R.
THORPE, JAMES R.
TILLMAN, JAMES W.
TOBEE, AKIN
TOSCANO, DANIEL
VALENTI, JORDAN
VALENTINE, MICHAEL L.
WALDRON, JARRED B.
WALKER, PHILIP D.
WARD, ANTHONY
WARFEL, DAVID M.
WEINGARTNER, MARK H.
WEINSTEIN, PHILLIP T.
WHITESIDE, MATTHEW T.
WILLIAMS, JAMES B.
WILLIAMS, KEITH
WOOLLEY, JASON R.

Suspended

AHRENS, ROBERT
ANGUS, JASON M.
BARRETT, JAMES
BAYER, JOSH M.
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GOLDEN, JACK EDWARD
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HOLMES, KRIS
JUNGE, RAYMOND
KAISER, DAVID
MC HUGH, DENNIS
MC MAHAN, JUSTIN G.
MITROVICH, RUSSEL
PATCHETT, ERIC SHAMUS
RAMOS, ROBERT J.
SEARCY, ROBERT
SMOCK, RICHARD CARL
STEGATH, CHRISTOPHER J.
SWEZEY, BRYAN L.
THOMPSON, FRANCIS R.
TODD, JOHN DOUGLAS
TYRELL, KEITH
WEISS, ROBERT RYAN
WYCOFF, ERIC
ZAMOSCIANYK, CHRIS

Dropped

ANASTASION, P. SEAN
BATEMAN, JOSH C.
BOUZA, DAVID
DE BORTOLI, BRIAN A.
ESQUILIN, WILLIAM
FERRER, JAVIER
FREEMAN, JAIK
HERNANDEZ, RICHARD H.
MC DERMOTT, PATRICK
SELF, WILLIAM
TAYLOR, JOHN H.
WORKMAN, DAVID L.

**List Current as of 01/17/05*

Priceless *Continued from Page 6*

After the first of the quarter, ALL DUES MUST BE PAID BEFORE RETURNING TO WORK. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Now here is where confusion enters the picture: QUESTION: If the first of the quarter occurs on a holiday or on a weekend, as it did this year on New Year's Day, when are dues due? ANSWER: Always on or before the first. (Can you believe a member actually called me on January 1st to make a credit card payment? I do not do credit card payments! January 1st is a holiday. Why is anybody calling me on this day?)

QUESTION: My show comes back on the 15th of the month of the first quarter, when are my dues due? ANSWER: Although I do not fully agree with it, past custom and practice of this Local is to allow members to delay dues payment until they resume work. This means a dues payment must be made BEFORE RETURNING TO WORK, NOT AFTER RETURNING TO WORK. Our Local has drop boxes available outside the office to deposit dues payments before members report to work. The drop box deposits are treated as being made on the last business day.

For all those members who paid by credit card in the early days starting this new year, as I have already commented, most of you had the time off, knew you were going back to work on the 3rd or the 4th and had ample time to pay your dues in a timely manner. Where are, and what are, your excuses for not paying your dues in a timely manner?!

Unfortunately for you, I write from experience and what you have read is only part of my frustration for the beginning of the year. I truly believe the total membership of this Local union is better than the poor dues performance reported in this article, and as your elected Treasurer/Call Steward I am hoping for an improved performance from the membership next quarter. There will always be those who are encountering some kind of hardship, but for the great majority of our membership, in my mind, there is no excuse for 50% of our membership being delinquent on dues.

In closing, after ragging on the delinquents who try to avoid the \$50 fine, I want to congratulate those members who stepped up to the plate and willingly, without questioning, paid the \$50.00 "Delinquent Fine" knowing they were working when they paid their dues. I wish I could list your names, but I will not. I simply say "Thank You."

Your comments are always welcome. Until next time. RBP

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