Starting things off with a bang:

A New Year, A New Business Representative and a New Contract



Although members enjoy a 'Cadillac' medical plan, Local 728 isn't immune to the national health care crisis. After some health adjustments, the producer's new three-year proposal features improved wages and pensions, and two important gains.

The Local
Bids a Fond
Farewell to a
True Friend
of the Union,

Norman Glasser

Local 728 Officers and Executive Board

T.B.D. President

Michael Gips Vice President

Patric J. Abaravich Business Rep. - Secretary

R. Bruce Prochal Call Steward/Treasurer

Executive Board Members

Branch Brunson
Paul Caven
Michael Everett
Dennis K. Grow
Roger L. Lattin
Steven Mathis
Richard McConihay
Jerry Posner
Alan M. Rowe
Karen Weilacher

Sergeant-at-Arms Greg Argarin

CLC Delegates
Branch Brunson
Paul Caven
Mike Everett
Iain O'Higgins
Mark Crosthwaite

The Bulletin Editor Patric J. Abaravich

First Job: Negotiations

By Patric J. Abaravich, Business Representative

This is my first column as your newly elected Business Representative and I couldn't be more thrilled and excited to take on the responsibility of representing you. You put your confidence in me, and I am not taking the job lightly. I am grateful to be elected and will work hard. However, I need your support and I want to hear from you. My door is always open to any member. Likewise, I will frequently be out at the studios in order to hear your viewpoints, feedback and thoughts. Don't be shy; call me, stop in, or grab me when you see me on the lot.

The very first job I was responsible for after you elected me as your Representative was to participate in the two weeks of negotiations for our new contract. It was eye-opening to see some of the producers' contract proposals – or shall I say, the level they would have liked to drag us and our contract down to.

After two intense weeks, I believe this is a good contract. (I detailed many

important aspects of the new agreement in a Power Point presentation at the January 14th General Membership Meeting. Included in this publication is an overview of what was featured and discussed at that meeting.)

I believe this new proposed three-year agreement is a fair and equitable contract. There are some that feel this is a substandard agreement. However, considering the times we are living in – with major corporations reducing or eliminating benefits, particularly health care – we've made several gains, and we didn't need to nickel and dime every little benefit. If times were better or different, possibly a new agreement could have been more financially

Considering that our pension plan has grown and our IAP accounts have skyrocketed, this proposed agreement is fair and equitable.

favorable. But considering that our pension plan has grown and our IAP accounts have skyrocketed, this proposed agreement is fair and equitable.

Some of the things the producers asked for but didn't get include: A four-hour minimum call on the sixth day; increasing the 30 mile zone an additional 10 miles to a 40 mile zone; and they wanted to renegotiate low budget \$8.5-\$25 million rates. But since that would be subsidizing grossly overpaid SAG members, I feel that they can create a low budget tier for these features in the SAG negotiations. They only have to make a handful of people happy, not 70 or 80 crew members.

The things that we asked for but didn't get are: Martin Luther King, Jr. day as a paid holiday; 10-hour turnaround no matter what you were working on; and they said 'no' to a plan of weekend turnarounds.

Moreover, there were no takeaways and we battled and emerged victorious over two hotly contested jurisdictional areas: Balloon Lighting and Base Camp.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments after reading the highlights of the new agreement in this publication, please do not hesitate to contact me. When each of you receives a ratification ballot, I want every member to feel comfortable and knowledgeable about what you are voting for. If ratified, the new agreement will become effective August 1, 2006.

Ch, Ch, Ch, Changes

By R. Bruce Prochal, Treasurer / Call Steward

reetings everybody! I truly hope all of you had a great holiday season. While I had hoped that the New Year would get off to a fast start, it seems to be only a slow start. I was also disappointed that I came to work on Tuesday, January 3 and was faced with more than 1,200 delinquent members. Christmas presents seem to be more important than the job that pays for them. Go figure!

Anyway, this year will present this Local with a lot of possibilities for change. At last year's Convention in Hawaii, anybody paying attention should have noticed a major changing of the guard. On a smaller scale, our Local is going through a similar change.

An issue at the forefront of discussion will be: Do we stay at our present location or do we move? Also, should we split off the office of Treasurer/Call Steward and recreate the office of Secretary/Treasurer? This is how it was in past years and is the common practice in almost every organization on the planet. Stay tuned.

It has come to my attention that more of our members are beginning to use the bill paying options offered by online banking service providers to pay their dues. If you are one of these members, please instruct your service to issue your dues check at least two weeks prior to the first of the quarter. In many cases, the checks, while issued on the date requested, were not mailed until a week or more later. This caused your dues payment to arrive late and made you a delinquent member. Dues payments are due on or before the first of each quarter.

One last reminder: If you accept a call and, for whatever reason - sickness, a car accident, a family emergency, etc. - you cannot make the call, please phone the person who hired you and also phone the Local. Believe it or not, there are people who are concerned about your welfare.

That's it for now. See ya ... RBP!

Delinquent List First Quarter 2006*

ABBENE, VICTOR J. ADLER, MICHAEL AHERN, CHRISTOPHER ALLISON, THOMAS M. ALONSO, GARY ANDERSON, DONALD R. ANDERSON, RONALD ANDERSON, TARIN M. ANTENORCRUZ, FRED B. ARNOLD, KEVIN SCOTT ARREDONDO, KURT ASH, NORMAN PIERRE BARNES, EDWARD J. BARR, JOHN L. BARRERA, REYNALDO BATEMAN, CHARLES WARREN BENSRHIR, SALIM B. BERARDI, PHILIP N. BERNSTEIN, ERIK

BOSWORTH, MARTIN J. BRADLEY, JONATHON BRISBIN, JAMES E. BROWN, EVANS BROWN, JOEY D. BRYANT, WILLIAM B. BRYDON, BRINK SULLIVAN BUCK, DANIEL G. CANTRELL, MATTHEW O. CAULEY, KEVIN M. CHAVEZ, ROBERT A. CICCONE, HENRY CLISSOLD, VANCE K. COCHRAN, ERIC H. COHEN, MARC COOK, DAVID AVERY COOK, JUSTINE COOPER, KENNETH CORTINA, HUGO P.

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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-

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.



miss the next

General Membership Meeting Saturday, March 11, 2006 9:00 a.m. at IATSE Local 44

12021 Riverside Drive North Hollywood Page 3

UNIONBusiness

Deceased

Brother Brent Schreiber, 42 years old, passed away Dec. 26, 2005.

First Notice

New applicants for membership are: Benjamin Agee, Nicholas Aiello, Phillip Badger, Ryan Clemons, Camilo Figueroa, Jerardo F. Gomez, Anthony Jefferson, Matthew Kubas, Ryan McCoy, Isaac D. McKee, Andrew Meyers, Michael Ohmie, Lance Oyabu, Robert Showmaker and Edward Tucker.

Second Notice

New applicants for membership are: Tyler Anderson, Kerry K. Camak, Eric Felland, Patrick George, Jessie L. Gregson, Greg Hecq, Gabriel J. Lewis, James Mastrangelo, William Otto, Yanis Rutmanis, Ari Schwartzman, Kenny Solomon, David Wilson and Jerald L. Wilson, Jr.

New Members

The following member was sworn into Local 728 on Dec. 30, 2005: Nick Pomerleau.

The following members were sworn into Local 728 on Jan. 14,

2006: Ryan Allen, James E.
Bandy, Donald R. Francis, Michael
Graves, Steven Hale, William
Havis, Dave Haws, Jeff A. Heck,
Stephen Henderson, Laizure
Hunter, Christopher Leiker, Bryan
Marks, Charles McNamara, Joseph
P. Moran, Tim Orteg, Joel Potter,
Nick Rossello, Jeremy R.
Schonwald, Burke Tackett,
Amanda M. Treyz, Lazard Ward
and Michael Woodside.

LOCAL #'s

(818) 891-0728 (800) 551-2158 Fax (818) 891-5288

2006 Contract

After two weeks of intense negotiations, Local 728 Business Representative Patric Abaravich has outlined a new three-year contract proposal with the producers.

On January 14th, Abaravich detailed many key areas of the agreement, which includes wage and pension increases, at the General Membership meeting. Calling the proposal "a fair and equitable agreement," he also pointed out critical gains for Local 728 members.

"We battled and emerged victorious over two hotly contested jurisdictional areas. One is being balloon lighting. If indeed this contract is ratified, balloon lighting will solely be in the jurisdiction of Local 728. Secondly, and something we've been hearing about for years, is base camp. If ratified, base camp – in the basic contract – will solely be in the jurisdiction of Local 728 which should prove to bring additional employment for the members," he explained.

Additionally, he said that there were no 'takeaways', however some healthcare modifications were necessary. "Like working Americans across the country, we did

01/14/06 Contract Proposal

WAGES

Year 1

\$.75/hour increase (Approx. 2.6%) \$.25/hour pension \$.25/hour health plan (.20 active, .05 retired)

Year 2

3% increase (Approx. \$.92/hour) .5% IAP

Year 3

3% increase (Approx. \$.95/hour .5% IAP Total Increase over 3 years is approximately 11.4%

MEAL PERIOD

1st Quarter Policy Meeting with SAG & DGA to limit meal periods to 5 HOURS while on controlled sets (i.e. studios). Meal Penalty Increases:

First Penalty \$8.50 Second Penalty \$11.00 Third Penalty \$13.50 Succeeding Penalties \$13.50

PENSION PLAN

Continue 13th & 14th checks

Increase Defined Benefit Plan by 10%

BASE CAMP

Base Camp power distribution is under the jurisdiction of I.A.T.S.E. Local 728

BALLOON TECH

Balloon Tech included in the Contract with Special Operator

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE ROSTER

Removal from the Roster after 3 years of inactivity

MADE FOR DIRECT-TO-DVD/ VIDEO

Work under Long Form TV Side letter instead of Tier 1 or 2

WORKWEEK SHIFT

2nd round trip can be requested when moving to another city (features only)

TRAVEL

Travel by air on any certified carrier to Canada or Mexico satisfies 1st Class clause

CHANGE & CANCELLATION OF CALLS

Clarify language but terms remain the same

TRAINING

Contributions to CSATTF (Safety Pass & Skills Training Programs) to \$.26 per hour

Page 4

Negotiations

have to make some adjustments to health care co-pays and prescription drugs," he

Although Local 728 has held a strong line regarding retiree benefits over the past decade, some alterations were made to that benefit as well. "Unfortunately, I know that the retirees' prescription drug plan has taken a major hit. We, the active members have held the line hard and fast over the last three contracts to keep the retirees' prescription out-of-pocket costs as low as possible. The cost of prescription drugs continues to skyrocket at no fault of our own, or the producers. Without nickel and diming the active members, it finally came time in this contract to make an adjustment to the retirees' drug plan."

Members will be receiving their ratification ballot in the mail shortly. Every member is highly encouraged to return their ballot by the due date. Abaravich also is advising that any member who has questions, concerns or comments about the proposed agreement should contact him directly at the Local prior to voting.

Power Point Presentation

SCOPE OF AGREEMENT

If employed in Los Angeles to perform work outside U.S., guaranteed 75 hours per week to benefit plan. Fractional weeks will be prorated.

GENERAL CONFIRMATIONS

Removal from the roster due to retirement may request re-instatement

1-9 information condition of roster placement

Member on permanent disability with one employer may not work for another employer and will be removed from the roster as permanent disabled

Discuss contributions to MPIPHP from multiple employers in same pay period

HEALTH PLAN DESIGN

Professional Visits Currently \$10.00/visit (waived if MPTF used) \$25.00/visit in MPTF area \$15.00/visit out of MPTF area (waived if MPTF used)

Area to be worked out by zip code or distance from nearest clinic

Out of Area Coverage

Currently 75% Hospital 85% Professional non-network

70% All non-network

Emergency Care

Currently 100% Emergency Care

100% after \$50/visit

(waived if admitted as emergency)

Active Member Rx

Currently \$10/\$15/\$25 Retail \$20/\$20/\$36 Mail

\$10/\$20/\$30 Retail \$20/\$40/\$60 Mail

Retired Member Rx

Currently \$3/\$5 Retail \$6/\$10 Mail

\$5/\$15/\$25 Retail \$10/\$30/\$36 Mail

Delinquent List First Quarter 2006*

COX, THOMAS P.

CROUCH, JOSEPH CUNNINGHAM, BRANDON CURTIS, MIKE DAHLQUIST, JAY DALE, CHRITOPHER J. DALEY, PAUL DE PERNA, ROBERT J. DEALBA-YOUNT, AUGUST DIAMOND, SUSAN R. RICK, ROBERT O. DILLINGER, JAMES F. DORSEY, J. MATTHEW DUBOIS, DAVID W. DUVAL, JUSTIN ELIAS, JASON ENG, GEOFFREY T. ENRIQUEZ, ERNEST R. FANNING, PAUL J. FERRERO, JEFFREY STANTON FILLIS, ROBERT A. FIORE, ROBERT L. FISCHER, SAMUEL M. FITZGERALD, JEFFREY D. FORTUNE, JAY FRANCHETT, TOM FRANCK, JR., PAUL A. FRAZIER, ALAN FROHNA, JAMES GALL, MICHAEL A. GALLART, MICHAEL GAYER, EARL D. GIVENS, STEVEN L. GLICK, ADAM SETH GOLDE, JACK EDWARD GONZALEZ, LUIS GORDEN, ROGER A. GRADZHYAN, HARRY H. GRAY, GARY L. GROSHON, HAL GUERINO, JOSEPH F. GUERRA, JONATHAN D. GUNN, WILLIAM T. HAESSIG, RHIO HALL, TERRANCE W. HALL, THADDEUS GERALD HAMNER JR., JIM H. HANNAS, RONNIE MARKWOOD HANSEN, ELDON J. HART, RANDY A. HART, RICHARD T. HARTMAN, MARK HARVEY, GEORGE HATHAWAY, NATHAN G. HAYN, JEFFREY A. HEARD, HOLLYWOOD KEVIN A. HERNANDEZ, ORLANDO HERNANDEZ, RICHARD H. HILL, BLAKE HINKLE, BRADLEY

Continued on Page 6

Delinquent List First Quarter 2006*

Continued from Page 5 HOLDSWORTH, JUSTIN MICHAEL HOLLYFIELD, LYDIA S. HOLT, KENNETH J. HUME, ROB IHRT, ALEXA ISWARIENKO, KURT A. JOHNSON, CHRIS M. JOHNSON, VAN JONES, KELLY J. KALLEN, JASON A. KANESHIRO, ALAN KARASICK MICHAEL I. KATZ, MICHAEL WILLIAM KENNEDY, DOUGLAS S. KENT, HAKIM KILGORE, JASON KIMURA, JAMES KINCAID, IAN R. KOPELMAN, BAQI KOVALESKY, STEVEN J. LANDER, DARREN LEE, SCOTT C. LEEDS, JASON M. LEONETTI, JOHN THOMAS LERMA, DAVID A. LEVIN, RONALD M. LEWIS, CHRIS LIGGET, CRAIG HESTON LINDSAY, DAVID T. MAC CALLUM, DANNY E. MAC DONALD, GEORGE A. MARCELLINO, DAMON MAROUN, JEFFREY J. MARSHALL, JON MARTIN, CHRIS W. MARX, FREDRICK W. MATTEL, ALYOSHA MAYBERRY, WILLIAM R. MACARTHY, ROBERT MC DOUGALL, MIKE D. MC DUFFEE, MICHAEL W. MC EACHEN, JAMES MC EWEN, JAMES MARK MC GRATH, THOMAS MC NEAL, THOMAS MEDCALF, SCOTT A. MERIANS, LAURA MELODY MOODY, SCOTT MOORE, JOHN C. MORRIS, REGINALD MORRIS, TAMI MORTON, TIMOTHY LEE MURRAY, BRIAN K. MURRAY, PATRICK MICHAEL MYGATT, JEFFREY C. NAJIM, NIZAR

Continued in next column

NAUFEL, ALEXANDRE E.

Delinquent List First Quarter 2006*

NELSON, ANDREW MARK NEVILLE, ROBERT S. NIETERT, DAYTON E. NILSON, KATIE NORTON, JONATHAN O'MELIA, MICHAEL K. O'MELIA, WILLIAM P. OREFICE, JARED KEITH OREFICE, VINCENT ORSA, JEFFREY E. PALMER, ANTHONY Q. PARRILLO, JAY PEIRCE, JOHN JEFFERY PENTEK, JEFFREY D. PEPPER, CURTIS U. PERKINS, JENNIFER PETRETTI, RICHARD K. PHILION, JON P. PHILLIPS, BRENDON PORTER, BRICE W. POTTER, DAVID K. PRITCHARD, DERIK PULFORD, DARRIN M. RAMSEY, MARK RAO, RAMAN N. RASMUSSEN, RICHARD REDDISH, CHRIS H. REDDISH, PATRICK M. REGAN, ROBERT A. REILLY, TIMOTHY JAMES

RENLIE, JEFFERY M.

REYES, MANUEL R. RICHARDS, BEAU D. ROBERTSON, CHRISTOPHER J. ROMEO, JOSEPH A. RONDO, ALLAN SALINSAS, DAMIAN D. SANTARELLI, TOBIAS J. SCARPITTI, AARON SCHAMP, KENNETHY G. SCHIERNECKER, EDWIN SELF, WILLIAM SELICEO, ERNEST A. SHAW, CHRISTOPHER D. SIMS, SHARON SINGER, RANDY GUY SLEMP, GARY LEE SMITH, PETER BURGESS SMITH, SEAN-MICHAEL SPARKS, TAYLOR SPENCER, LEE STEWART, JOHN JEFFERY STROMP, MICHAEL G. SWEENEY, MICHAEL J. TAKAMURA, SATOSHI, TANDROW, GARY BRADY TAYLOR, BRYAN L. TERRANOVA, JOSEPH T. THOMPSON, LON R. TOSCANO, DANIEL TREMBATH, MARK E. TUNNEY, EDWARD T.E.

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8th Annual Local 728 Scholarship Awards

Local 728 is pleased to offer 10 scholarship awards to high school students graduating in 2006. Five awards in the amount of \$4,000.00 and five awards in the amount of \$2,000.00 will be presented. The deadline to file a completed application and all required documentation is March 3, 2006. Don't miss out on this exceptional scholarship opportunity for your child! To request an application, please complete the form below.

8th Annual Local 728 Scholarship Awards

Please send me an application for the 8th Annual Scholarship Awards. I understand that this request itself is not an application and that the application must be completed by me and filed with Local 728 by March 3, 2006.

Name:	
Address:	
City:	
State:	
Zip Code:	
Parent(s)	
Name:	• (818) 891-0728

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From CPR to SCUBA training,

Members Have an Array of Learning Options

By Alan M. Rowe, Master Instructor

I am very proud of our Local when the Industry Wide Safety Committee makes a Set Visit. We have walked onto stage after stage where the cables are neatly dressed, the fire lanes are clear of lighting equipment and everything of ours is in order. We are the experts in Set Lighting and it shows on our sets. There are many reasons to be proud and many benefits in belonging to our Local, including the opportunities offered to us simply because we are members.

Through the Motion Picture Fund, we have access to the Wellness Program which offers discounts to health clubs and classes in many wide ranging subjects from Smoking Cessation & Stress Management to Qi Gong to CPR & Infant Life Support. These classes not only enhance your health and lifestyle, but can save your life or the life of a family member. Best of all, these classes are free. For more information on the Wellness Program, please call 800-654-9355 or visit www.mptvfund.org/scrvices/Wellness%20Program/calendar.htm..

Another opportunity we have is with SCUBA training. Whether you want to dive for work or play, you will need to be certified and the more experience you get with dive classes the better off you will be. Several local dive shops and instructors are offering discounts on classes and equipment to our members. Different packages are available depending upon your needs and NITROX training is available. Some of the participating companies are: LA Scubadiving (www.lascubadiving.com): West Coast Divers Supply (www.westcoastdiver.com); and Hollywood Divers (www.hollywoodivers.com). All of these companies will want to see your Union card and at least one will check to see that your dues are paid. For further information, class requirements and other dive-related training opportunities, please contact me at 310-702-2909 or via email at safetyandtraining@iatse728.org.

Don't forget that you can sign up for the email notification list of training opportunities (some of which happen literally at the last minute.). To sign up, send an email to 728Training-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT: THE GIZMO

As DMX Networks become more complex the need for accurate and quick test devices grows. The GIZMO from Doug Fleenor Design fills the bill very well. With an easy to read display and a full 25 button keypad, the GIZMO is simple to use but packs some very advanced features. The GIZMO can receive and display data in several formats making troubleshooting very fast. The GIZMO can also store 100 scenes of DMX data so in a pinch it can act as a stand-alone console or as a backup. When used to check the reliability of DMX cable, it goes beyond just checking for continuity. The GIZMO sends data through the cable and checks to see if it has been degraded. The unit has a strong metal housing and is large enough to use comfortably yet small enough to carry in your tool bag. You will see the GIZMO at our DMX Networking Classes. For more information, please call me at the 310-702-2909 or email me at safetyandtraining@iatse728.org.

Delinquent List First Quarter 2006*

UPDEGRAFF, WILLIAM D. VAN DYK, ANTHONY E. VENETIS, STEVE WATSON, JACQUELINE J. JONES WEAVER, MICHAEL N. WEIL, JENNIFER WETERRINGS, FRANS J. WILLIAMS, KEITH WILLIS, ERIC WILSON, JEREMY WIROSKO, JAMES WOODS, ARTHUR RANDALL WRENN, VINCENT ZAMOSCIANYK, CHRIS Delinquent Commercial THIRLAWAY, SIMON Active Nabet STILLMAN, ALLEN Dropped BITHELL, WALTER BREEDLOVE, SHAUN CARROLL, CHRIS CHRISTMAN, PATRICK E. COHLMIA, CHAD M. DE BLAU, JOHN W. DEMAS, DEAN FINO, CRUZ S. FREEMAN, PETER GALINDO, RENAN GUERRERO, CHRISTOPHER HARRIS, ELISHA HARRIS, WENDELL HOOD, ALBERT A. JOHNSON, KURT H. KINNISON, TY J. KOVACS, LESLIE J. LaRUE, LaRUE S. MAGARACI, TIMOTHY MARCHETTI, MARK MARQUEZ, MICHAEL S. MC HUGH, DENNIS ROY, ROBERT W. SPRAWLS, DALES. SWEEZEY, BRYAN L. VALENTI, JORDAN Active Commercial TOBEE, AKIN Dropped AHRENS, ROBERT AMINI, CYRUS BAIN, DAMON BISHOP, SOFIA DALY, JUSTIN ERICHSEN, ERIK A. ESQUILIN, WILLIAM HUBER, DUSTIN A. NAKAHARA, MARK STERN, THOMAS EVANS TOWNSEND, FREDERICK A.

List current as of January 19, 2006

Glasser Retires; Abaravich Sworn in as new Business Representative



In a heartfelt farewell to a dedicated union man, Local 728 officials and members said goodbye to Business Representative Norman Glasser at the January 14th General Membership Meeting. After 40 years as a member of the Local, and having served 12 years on the executive board, the three-term Business Representative and proud Gold Card member will now have plenty of time to pursue other passions.

Throughout his long and devoted service to Local 728, his number one priority had always been to protect the membership. In addition to many noteworthy accomplishments, Norman established the Local 728 training program, and created a formidable partnership with the International which greatly benefited the membership.

The entire membership wishes Norman all the best as he journeys down new and exciting paths!

Newly elected Business Representative, former Local 728 President Patric Abaravich (right), and Norman Glasser share laughs and memories at the General Membership Meeting.

Studio Electrical Lighting Technicians



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

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PRE-SORT FIRST CLASS

