



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. 12
2007

World-wide audience amazed by the scope and skill

LDI 2007



of IATSE Local 728 Professionals

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New Building, Budget Kick-off New Year

by
Dennis K. Grow,
President



If you didn't go to our Holiday Party, you really missed out on a fun time. Many members and their families showed up to bowl, eat pizza and spend time with friends that they haven't seen in awhile. Retirees and new members alike were there. I was pleasantly surprised to see the response with such a short notice. Next year we will start earlier and hopefully it will be bigger and better with more of you in attendance. Benny Alavarado had the high score.

By the time you read this, we will have sold our building in Panorama City and the escrow will have closed. We are now tenants of our old building. We had a lease-back agreement with the buyers. The inspection and proposed remedies of the building we made an offer on in Burbank is taking longer than we had hoped. If our demands aren't met by the sellers, we will back out of the deal. I'll have more info next bulletin.

The Ways and Means Committee is working hard on the budget for 2008. It is time we outlined our spending and actually see where the money is being spent. This is something we have never done before. We hope to put it before the Membership at the March meeting.

I have gotten some very positive feedback from the article in the last bulletin on retirement written by Steve Mathis. It seems to have answered many of the questions a lot of you had. We will have a follow up to his article in the near future with more information.

The holiday season is now over and I hope everyone was able to spend time with family and friends. Here's hoping that we all can get back to work soon and that the New Year will be a happy and prosperous one for us all.

Best wishes in the New Year,

Dein

Sometimes, we just get it wrong

In the last issue of The Bulletin, the contact number listed for Herb Hughes was incorrect. For those generous souls who tried to make a donation but could not reach him, we apologize. Below is the correct information.

DONATION REQUEST

Herb Hughes is teaching at USC and is requesting donations of gels and expendables (any and everything that could be used in lighting production by student filmmakers, i.e, lighting equipment and any items that would be thrown away). A tax-deferment letter will be provided. Please contact Herb at (818) 606-4845 or by email, hhughes@usc.edu.

ACCELERATED TRAINING SCHEDULE

To better serve the needs of our members, we have accelerated our Training Schedule. This will continue as long as the WGA strike lasts. Many of these classes and seminars will be scheduled on a short-notice basis so please sign up for the Local 728 Training Notification E-Group by sending an email to: 728Training-subscribe@yahoo.com. For more information, please call the Training Office at 818-843-0012 or send an email to amrowe@iatse728.org.

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

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VICE PRESIDENT

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THE BULLETIN

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FIRST 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 LIVENGOOD, RYAN P. LYNCH, WILLIAM MCCORMICK, YUJI NAKAZA, DAVID NAVARRO, BRIAN C. RUPP, MATTHEW THEIMANN, RICHARD THOMAS AND JOHN ZIVELONGHI.

SECOND NOTICE

LAUREN FITTON, EDUARDO F. GIRALDO, JARED HOY, JAMES LYONS, JUAN MENDOZA, WILLIAM MESSINA, JOHN MURRAY, WILLIAM PERSUAD, CRAIG A. POULSEN, JOSUE RODRIGUEZ, DAIMON K. SHIPPEN AND JEROME WARD.

NEW MEMBERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS BRENDON FORD WHO WAS SWORN IN ON DECEMBER 4, 2007 AND JUSTIN WOLAK WHO WAS SWORN IN ON DECEMBER 13, 2007.

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!

CONTACT NUMBERS

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



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

A Proud Local By, and For, its Membership

As we enter the New Year, we can look forward to some new and long-awaited changes.

The Nordhoff building at this point is days away from closing and so will that chapter on our local's history. It has served as our local's headquarters for over 20 years and most of the membership only knows that as "the local." As far out of the film community loop as it is, it will be a bit sad to pack up and move on.

As part of the moving on, we are approaching a deal on what appears to be our new local. It will serve not only as the local office, but as a meeting hall as well. We have always had to use some other facility to have our meetings and I feel that having our own hall will bring a ground swell of "local pride."

But enough with this coming year. These last few years have brought us closer to the members. We, the office, have worked hard to make the local friendlier to we, the members. The office is more visible in the field and is more approachable by phone.

More member services have been introduced to make the local more user-friendly. Credit card payments for dues, updating contracts and more beneficial and pertinent information on the web site, a fresh new face for The Bulletin, discount for year-paying members, and the list goes on.

We have approached our union obligation to organize the

unorganized with a passion. We are seeing new members with highly trained skills enter into our brother and sisterhood. These people have been servicing the non-union world for years without a pension or health plan. We also have extended our reach to our retired members. The quarterly retiree luncheon has become a new growing tradition. These luncheons give our retirees a chance to renew life-long friendships and continue to tell their old war stories – which we are archiving for our next generations. We need to appreciate our history as we walk through the portal to our new future.

With that said, the local will continue its search to make lives a bit easier when you need us. We will work on continuing the picnic, the holiday party like the one we just had and the retirees get together. We are also searching for new ideas like "e-dues" and more ways to electronically communications with the membership.

This is our local. Be proud of the fact that we are now a local by, and for, its membership.

ON THE COVER

Local 728 members working the booth at the LDI show in Orlando include (from left to right): Rodger Melnick, Dennis K. Grow, Alan M. Rowe, Josh Thatcher and Scott Barnes.

LDI 2007

World-wide audience amazed by the scope and skill of IATSE Local 728 Professionals

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

LDI 2007 was a great success. We had representatives from countless IATSE studio mechanics, mixed and theatrical locals stop by for a visit and to marvel at our mastery of portable power distribution. Everyone commented how good it was that we had a presence at the show that showcased our members' unique skills and talents.

LDI (Lighting Dimensions International) is the entertainment lighting industry trade show that brings together lighting professionals and manufacturers from around the world to showcase their products and talents.

The purpose of our participation at LDI is three-fold. First, since this is the place where all of the vendors showcase their products, it gives us the opportunity to interact with them to make their products more suitable for our use.

Second, it gives us the opportunity to showcase our members and their skills to an industry that only a few years ago didn't recognize us. No one else uses portable power distribution systems at the frequency or scale that we do on a regular basis.

Third, it allows us to discover new technology as early as possible and get it to our members on set to make our lives easier and more efficient. This also typically means that these vendors will assist us with our training program.

This year we hosted a small booth on the trade show floor where vendors



Local 728 members on location at the 2007 LDI Show in Orlando include (from left to right) Rodger Melnick, Dennis K. Grow, Alan M. Rowe, Josh Thatcher and Scott Barnes.

and representatives of other Locals would be able to find us and see the results of the hard work and undeniable skill of our members. People were consistently amazed at the size of our rigs and in awe of what we can accomplish.

The booth also served as a home base for our delegates who spent most of their time on the show floor getting to know the vendors who make the products that we use and talking with them about how to make them better for us.

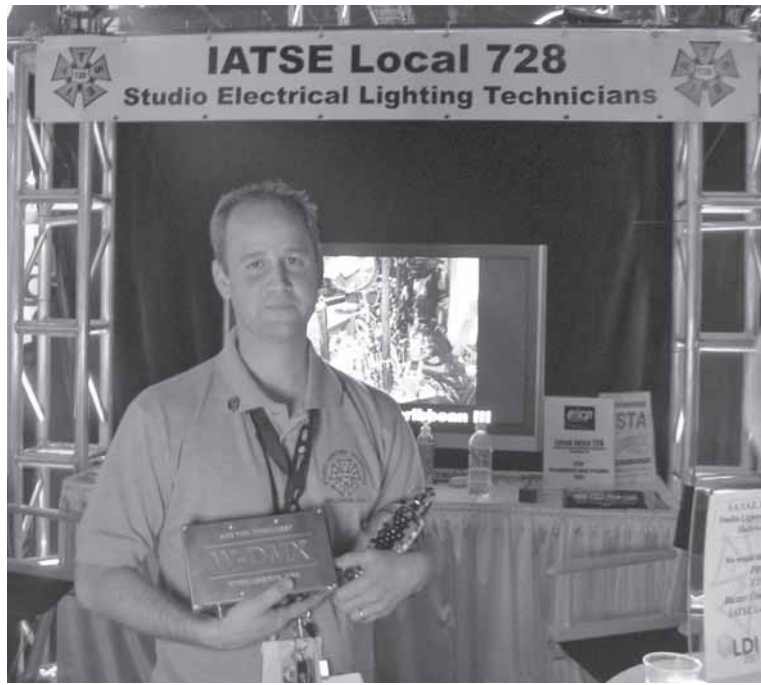
Some of the highlights of this vendor interaction include Lex Products (flat cable, distro & GFCIs); ETC (concerning the long awaited 20k dimmer rack); Vectorworks (training & developing their software to meet our future needs); ESP Vision

(volume pricing for our members & developing their software); Vari*lite (product development & training); Clay Paky (training); Bender (training); Union Connectors; High End Systems (product development & training); Martin Professional (training); and Strand Lighting (training).

While many of these companies have a presence in Southern California, their designers and engineers are normally in other locations around the country and the world. The advantage to being at LDI is that we get to talk directly to the designers, developers, and owners of these companies.

In addition to our presence on

Continued on the next page



Local 728 Member Wins WDMX Visionary of the Year Award

The WDMX Visionary of the Year Award is given to individuals who are lighting professionals that pioneer the use of WDMX in their respective industries. This year Brother Joshua Thatcher was given the custom-made WDMX GoldBox (one of five in existence) for his work integrating wireless technology into the motion picture and television industry on such films as Mission Impossible III; Iron Man; Spiderman III, and Transformers. Kudos to Josh for winning this award and our thanks for his representation of the Local in his acceptance of this honor.

LDI 2007 *Continued on from previous page*

the show floor, we hosted two panel sessions that raised people's awareness of who we are and what we do. These are not training sessions or seminars but presentations to increase the awareness of the talents and skills of our members and to provide an insight on how to make the products available more useful to us.

The first was examining our use of Automated Lighting & Media Servers in the Motion Picture Industry. In addition to members Joshua Thatcher and Scott Barnes, we had award-winning lighting designers John Tedesco and Jeff Ravitz, and media server developer Steve Gilbard, participating on the panel.

Our second panel was a showcase of our large-scale portable power systems. This was a presentation designed to make people aware of the scale of the electrical systems that we are capable of rigging. Rodger Meilink & Roger Lattin were on the panel to point out specific facts of the rigs (number of generators, miles of cable, etc) and Joshua Thatcher and Scott Barnes were on the panel to

highlight specific facts about the dimming systems involved with these rigs.

The ETCP Entertainment Electrician exam was given again and it is becoming required for many employers in the theatrical, touring, and industrial sectors of the Entertainment Lighting Industry. Several locals that we talked to have followed our lead and are reimbursing their members who pass the exam. The exam is now being offered at local computer centers on a regular basis.



This year, the Local hosted a small booth on the trade show floor where vendors and representatives of other locals were able to see firsthand the results of the hard work and undeniable skill of Local 728 members. Participants walked away amazed at the size of the Local's rigs and in awe of the Local's accomplishments.

The LDI Show management was very pleased with our participation and have asked us to increase our participation in the seminars and panels for next year. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

When Might it End?

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

Greetings everybody! I hope you all enjoyed the holidays. As a result of the Writers Guild of America (WGA) strike, I do not have much to report. The Local's availability lists are rather full with nearly 400 members (as of this writing in late December), and I predict it will go higher. This number is high, even for this time of year.

Let's get to this month's theme: "When might it end?"

This is anybody's guess. I have heard a few estimates of an agreement soon (meaning maybe mid-January) and many predictions that it may be several months. Labor contract negotiations, especially with multi-conglomerates like the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP), are an extremely difficult process. Both sides want to come out on top. At some point, there will have to be compromises in order to reach an agreement.

One ray of hope for an early ending could be the Directors Guild of America (DGA). The DGA has a history of

negotiating early. If this happens, and the DGA agrees to less than what the WGA is attempting to negotiate, that could move the WGA negotiations into an agreement. I would not count on it, at least not right away.

Another thing that could get the negotiations moving is the short time before the "traditional" pilot season. Pilot season is the time when the television networks attempt to set prices for advertising and sell new shows. All of the major television networks are represented, in one way or another, by the AMPTP. This could also affect the WGA negotiations.

Both of the scenarios I have presented are pure speculation on my part. Anything could happen and, obviously, many factors are involved in contract negotiations.

Let us all hope for a quick ending to this strike and a return to the regular chaotic order of business as usual.

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 FOURTH QUARTER 2007*

Suspended

AMATO, NICOLAS A.
BANDY, JAMES E.
COX, THOMAS P.
FRANCO, CHRIS
GONZALEZ, LUIS
HANSEN, ELDON J.
HOOD, ALBERT A.
ISWARIENKO, KURT A.
JANICELLI, KEVIN
MORTON, TIMOTHY LEE
MUSKEY, JACK G.
ORSA, JEFFREY E.
TAMAYO, VLADIMIR A.
WAUGH, KIERAN J.

Dropped

HINKLE, BRADLEY
HUGHES, JOSEPH G.
JORDAN, MICHAEL R.
MEILANDT, WES
THOMAS, RAY

*List current as of Dec. 21, 2007

In Memoriam 2007

The Officers and Staff of Local 728 wish to express their heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and loved ones of our departed brothers.

Gerard A. Ary, 44

Angus Clark, 85

Herman J. Collier, 95

Robert W. Cravens, 78

Rodney P. Everson, 82

Sanford Hoffman, 93

Irwin Edward Levine, 77

William C. Lindner, 68

Dennis G. Marks, 71

Donald E. Morgan, 64

Jack McCarthy, 80

Larry E. Peets, 86

Edward M. Savarese, 40

Robert J. Smith, 71

William E. Stafford, 78

James E. Sullivan, 72

Raymond Watters, 93

Donald M. Wolak, 64

LOCAL 728 HOLIDAY PARTY



SATURDAY, DEC. 16, PINZ BOWLING CENTER, STUDIO CITY

You Need

Recent ruling on retiree health benefits may affect future negotiations

The United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) recently issued a ruling concerning retiree health benefits. The ruling states that employers are not required to provide the same health benefits for retirees 65 and older than for retirees not yet 65 years of age. We have asked the International how this may affect us in future negotiations with the producers. We will let you know.

2008 IA Observed Holidays

Monday, February 18, President's Day
Friday, March 21, Good Friday
Monday May 26, Memorial Day
Friday, July 4, Independence Day
Monday September 1, Labor Day
Thursday November 27 and Friday, November 28, Thanksgiving Holiday
Thursday December 26, Christmas

Congratulations, Art



Congratulations to long-time member Art Frantz who was presented with his 35-year commemorative lapel pin at the October General Membership Meeting.

STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS

I.A.T.S.E. LOCAL 728
14629 NORDHOFF STREET
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