



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. 10
2007

728 Goes Deep



with Underwater Lighting Class

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A Few Things

by
Dennis K. Grow,
President



Scholarships

Applications for the 10th Annual Local 728 Scholarship Awards are due Dec. 31, 2007. This is one of our programs that we are most proud of, to be able to award scholarships to our members' children to help them further their education. The link to the application is on the home page of our web site, <http://www.iatse728.org>. The International also has a scholarship program. Information is available at: <http://www.iatse-intl.org/services/scholarship.html>. And UnionPlus has one as well: <http://www.UnionPlus.org/Scholarships>. Links for all of these are on our home page. If you have children who are graduating from high school, take advantage of these opportunities to help pay for college or vocational school.

Picnic

The picnic seems to be getting bigger and better each year. It was great to see so many of our members and their families enjoying a beautiful day at Calamigos Ranch. The raffle for the Harley Davidson motorcycle raised over \$20,000 for the Motion Picture & Television Fund. Sorry, it wasn't won by a Local 728 member. I hate to say it but it was a grip.

Benefit for the Motion Picture & Television Fund

In October, I, along with our Business Representative, Patric J. Abaravich, and two Executive Board members, Jerry Posner and Greg Langham, had the privilege of representing our Local at a benefit for the Motion Picture & Television Fund. International President Thomas C. Short was the Guest of Honor. He was there to receive the Silver Medallion Award "as someone who has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the Motion Picture and Television Fund and its mission." Over \$1,000,000 was raised for the Fund. It was a fun evening and I saw many of our members who were working on the show. Our Local donated \$5,000.

Update on the 301(a) Petition on Canadian Film Subsidies

The United States Trade Representative has turned down the 301(a) petition concerning Canadian film subsidies that we helped support. "...the interagency committee unanimously recommended that the USTR not accept the petition because a dispute based on the information and arguments set out in the petition would not be effective in addressing the Canadian subsidies." Perhaps a different argument needs to be made! I don't expect this to be the end of this. Whether it is another country or another state, we will continue to do whatever necessary to keep our jobs here where they belong.

LDI

As I mentioned in a previous bulletin, Local 728 is sending a delegation to represent the Local at LDI in November. Along with a booth, we will be hosting two panel discussions in conjunction with ESTA: *Automated Lighting and Media Servers in Motion Pictures*, and *Large Scale Portable Power Distribution Systems*. These are not training seminars. These are designed to answer questions from manufacturers, vendors and other attendees about what we do, who we are and remind them that we are the experts in entertainment lighting.

Next month's bulletin will have Local 728's election results and hopefully some news about our search for a new office building. Stay tuned.

Fraternally,

ON THE COVER

Back row: Mike Parry, Brian Kinzey, Chris Ferguson, Lead Instructor Gary Lowrance, Mike Maley, Instructor Steve Millington, Peter Smith and Instructor Andy Huber. Front Row: Mike Curtis, Divemaster Alan Rowe, Glen Magers, Greg Nadal, and Curtis Andrews. Not pictured: Mark Goodwin.

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

PRESIDENT

DENNIS K. GROW

VICE PRESIDENT

RAYMOND POBLICK

BUSINESS REP-SECRETARY

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TREASURER-CALL STEWARD

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UNIVERSAL - JOHN TRUJILLO

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THE BULLETIN

PUBLISHER

MARGIE STITES

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EDITOR

DENNIS K. GROW

UNION SPOTLIGHT

DECEASED:

BROTHER JACK MCCARTHY, 80 YEARS OLD, PASSED AWAY OCTOBER 6, 2007. HE HAD BEEN A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL SINCE JULY 20, 1974.

FIRST NOTICE:

JOEY ABBENE, UKWUOMA AMAECHI, DESSIE COALE, WILLIAM D. HART, JERROD L. HETTLER, STEPHEN D. IRVINE, DAVID KANE, JAMES PLAXTON, MITCHELL URSETTA AND VINCENT YOUNG.

SECOND NOTICE

LARRY BRECHT, JR., JAMES CAFFERTY, III, BRANDON FORD, JAMES GAMBALA, LUKE KALTEUX, DUSTIN PENROD, ROBERTO SIFUENTES, DAVID THURLOW AND DANIEL TKACZYK.

NEW MEMBERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBER WHO WAS SWORN IN ON OCTOBER 19: **RAUL DUSTIN SANCHEZ.**

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:

THE NEXT
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING
WILL BE HELD AT 9:00 A.M.
(SHARP) ON
SATURDAY,
Nov. 10, 2007
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*

Preserving the American Dream

In 2008, some of the most diverse contract negotiations in the country affecting countless working Americans will be negotiated. This comes at a time when America's middle class is on life support and barely hanging on. To ensure that the health of the middle class regains its strength, we need to support our neighbors who work in the many forms of organized labor that are not film or entertainment-industry based.

The facts are evident: We have an administration that is clearly anti-labor and pro-business. That is why the time has never been better to support our friends, neighbors, and acquaintances – workers in hotels, the ports, construction, security, airports, and the like – in their fight to achieve a living wage, job security and decent benefits. In Los Angeles County alone, the future of an unprecedented 350,000 workers will be determined at the bargaining table.

Just to let you know what we are up against, there has been a deluge of recent NLRB decisions. The board issued 61 decisions at the end of September; 20% of the past fiscal year's output. Almost all of those 61 decisions reduced workers' rights, and most involved ridiculous delays – including back pay for workers – while some even disregard the court of appeals decisions in prior cases.

So with this in mind and considering the present administration is pushing through as many anti-labor decisions as possible, we must take it upon ourselves to help our neighbors who provide critical and vital services in our communities and cities.

On another note and speaking of sliding legislation behind our backs, Gov. Schwarzenegger quietly vetoed several union-backed bills in early October showing his clear lack of support regarding crucial labor issues.

One, SB906, affects all working Californians. Although he lowered the amount of monies for injured workers

several years ago, this state bill would have improved the Workers' compensation claim process. SB906 would have streamlined the filing and billing process for services on behalf of the injured party, and any medical treatment providers. With his veto, the injured worker – who may be subject to red tape and insurance snafus – could have their billing and paperwork rejected, leaving the injured worker liable for payment to any medical providers.

Other bills vetoed by the governor included SB108, which would have made it easier for farm workers to organize. Another is AB8, which would have expanded affordable healthcare coverage to millions of uninsured Californians. And he vetoed AB1413, which would have put a halt on the wasteful spending by executives in the state university system.

Because the federal and state governments are doing all in their power to break the backs of the middle class, we must stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our neighbors to safeguard the power of organized labor and preserve the American Dream.

IT'S A WRAP!

Local 728 Member Danny Ochoa and his wife Rose are proud to announce the arrival of their daughter, Danielle Joy Ochoa, born August 9, 2007. Baby Danielle weighed in at 7 pounds 2 ounces and was a perfect 19 inches long.

**Congratulations
Danny and Rose!**

728 Goes Deep

Safety and enhanced skills emphasized in the Local's Underwater Lighting Class



by Alan M. Rowe,
Safety & Training Director



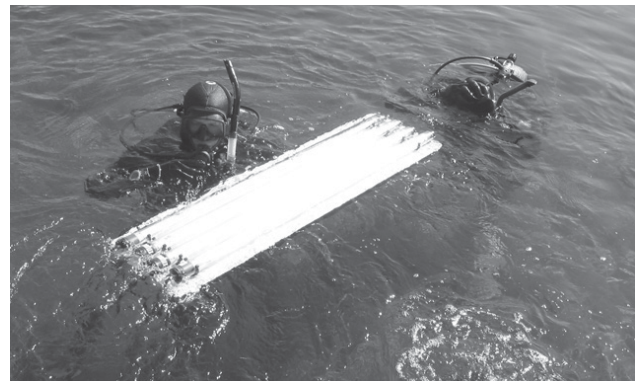
Local 728's first Underwater Lighting Class was held on October 14, 2007. We had 10 members (a full class), three instructors and one Divemaster participating. This class was developed by Underwater Lighting Technician, Brother Gary Lowrance. Gary is a longtime diver, certified scuba instructor, and is very passionate about our role underwater as well as protecting our submarine jurisdiction. We were fortunate to also have Brother Andy Huber working with us as an instructor. Andy, a member of Global Underwater Explorers (GUE), is an experienced Technical Diver and also frequently works as an underwater lighting technician. Our third instructor was Steve

Millington of LA Scuba Diving. Steve, also a member of GUE, has certified several of our members and works exclusively as a scuba instructor.

The Underwater Lighting class is designed to give our members the opportunity to adapt their surface skills to the underwater environment safely and efficiently. Since the challenges of working underwater are unique, the class was evenly split between surface discussions covering everything from hypothermia to kit rentals and underwater skills that included setting/focusing lights, running cables (without dragging up the bottom), & special finning techniques that allow the underwater lighting technician to maneuver without affecting the water clarity.

Maintaining your position can take a lot of attention particularly when you need to avoid drifting into an underwater hot set.

Task loading on a diver can accumulate quickly and it can take considerably longer to perform the simplest tasks underwater. In our dive class we had members who could tie a bowline in a few seconds on the surface. The situation was a little



Mike Maley and Mark Goodwin prepare to set a Hydroflex 4 x 4 Kinoflo during the class.



Instructor Andy Huber gives direction to another diver in the art of working with electricity underwater.

Since most humans do not have gills, being submerged for more than a few moments is not a natural state for us. There are certain laws of physics that must be observed simply to survive underwater. In addition to remembering to breathe, the diver must also always be aware of their movement and position. Water movement can cause the diver to move forwards, backwards, and side-to-side, as well as up and down.

different once they were 20 feet underwater and had to maintain their position. The same members who tied a bowline in a few seconds on the surface took a few minutes to tie the knot underwater.

It is important that the surface crew also remember the laws of underwater physics. Since water is 25 times as dense as air, everything takes a lot longer to accomplish underwater than it would on the surface. This is one reason (but not the most important) why you should always have a scuba diver in a swimming pool instead of a crew

Continued on the next page

Underwater Lighting

Continued from the previous page

member who is breath-hold diving. It is very unlikely that anyone could place, focus, re-focus, and lock off a light on a single breath. Multiple trips to the surface tires the swimmer, risks unfocusing the light, takes time and irritates the crew.

The most important reason you should use a scuba diver instead of someone who is holding their breath is the risk of entanglement. All of our lights have cables and weights, which could easily trap someone underwater. There are also frequently ropes, other lines, and surface obstructions in the water that may prevent someone from making an immediate ascent to the surface to breathe. If that person has no independent air source, they could quickly drown before anyone realizes that they need help.

In order to take this class and be a successful underwater lighting technician, you will need to be SCUBA certified by a recognized dive training organization and pass a medical questionnaire and/or exam. Since some basic dive skills (such as air management and buoyancy) are essential for the

underwater lighting technician, it is recommended that members wishing to dive on set gain as much dive experience as possible before working underwater.



Hollywood, CA

My personal recommendation (as a Divemaster) is that members who are serious about working underwater receive a minimum certification level of Rescue Diver or equivalent. The Rescue Diver course emphasizes techniques for getting yourself and other divers out of perilous situations and gives the diver more confidence underwater. There are several local dive training organizations that are willing to offer discounts or other

incentives for our members. Please call or email me for more information.

The Underwater Lighting Class is preceded by the Rigging for Wet Locations class. In that class, we cover GFCIs (both in function & application), wet-rated lighting equipment, and how to safely use electricity in and around water. Using electricity in water is not something to be taken lightly and requires specific knowledge and training.

The curriculum for the Underwater Lighting Class is currently under review by PADI to become the first instructional class of its kind to be recognized by a major underwater certification organization. Once approved, our members who complete this course will be eligible to receive a certification card recognizing them as an Underwater Lighting Technician.

In addition to the hard work of our instructors, this class would have not been possible without the generous support of Gene Warren Jr. of Fantasy II Film Effects, Matt Brown and Damon De Grignon of Hydroflex, and Paul Menetrey of Bender.

Local 728 Training Raffle

This Month's Question:

Which of the following is the trip current range for a Class A GFCI?

- A. 2 – 4mA
- B. 4 – 6mA
- C. 6 – 10mA
- D. 10 – 20mA

To enter, please send a standard size postcard with your name and answer to Local 728 (14629 Nordhoff St., Panorama City, CA 91402). Entries must be received by December 7, 2007. The winner will be drawn at the Executive Board meeting. Contest is limited to IATSE Local 728 Members in good standing. Members can win only one prize in any 12 consecutive-month period.

The answer to last month's question was: A 100m (328')

The Prize!



Eagles Nest Outfitter's Single Nest Hammock

There is nothing like relaxing during lunch and the lightweight ENO Single Nest Hammock can quickly be hung anywhere by two supporting structures. This backpacking hammock fits into a small stuff sack that will easily fit into your bag.

A Quest for Courtesy

by R. Bruce Prochal,
Treasurer - Call Steward

Greetings everybody! Since my last article, Hollywood has remained very busy. The "Availability List" has consistently been below 50 members for the last several weeks, which is good. It tells me that almost everyone who wants to work is working. Let us all hope that it stays this way, at least through the end of the year (with no Writers' Guild strike).

Let's get to this month's theme, "A Quest for Courtesy."

Here is a sample of what I have been hearing from many Best Boys and Rigging Gaffers lately:

- 1) "Why don't they answer their cell phones?"
- 2) "Why don't they at least call back?"
- 3) "I penciled the guy in a week ago and when I called him to give him a call time, he told me he was already working and could not accept the call."

Does any of this sound familiar?

You are probably wondering where am I going with this?

The answers are "communication" and, what should be, "the common courtesy return call."

I will spare you the history lesson about how it was when I entered the business. Today, with cell phones and other forms of electronic technology, communication is a key component for our members getting and maintaining jobs and establishing new contacts for work.

It is a basic fact of life that everybody has certain people who they would prefer to have as co-workers. In the case of a Best Boy, he has to plan ahead and "pencil in" potential hires for future work. The frustration of the Best Boy experience is when their calls to hire a member, who previously claimed to be available on a certain date, get turned down later because said member has already accepted other work. Also, adding to the frustration, are all the calls that go unanswered with no courtesy return call.

Most of us have cell phones and, to my knowledge, they all display missed calls. While the Local is obligated to continue to call you if you do not reply to the Local's calls, a Best Boy or Rigging Gaffer has no such obligation. They could just write you off as someone not to call in the future because you did not answer your phone nor make "the common courtesy return call."

Keep in mind, this is a two-way street. Sometimes it works the other way around; wherein, a member was expecting a call on a certain day, only to find out that, through his own inquiry, production requirements have changed. Now, there is no call and the member is left without a job; possibly, having turned down other work because the Best Boy did not give a courtesy call and inform

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.

the member of the changes.

Working in this Business is very fluid and it is important to keep your work contacts informed as to your availability. This includes not only members of the Local, but the Local itself.

Let us all work together to keep all of us working.

Until next time ... RBP

SUSPENDED/DROPPED MEMBERS FOURTH QUARTER 2007*

*List current as of October 19, 2007

SUSPENDED

AMATO, NICOLAS A.
BANDY, JAMES E.
CONKLIN JR., CHARLES R.
CORTINA, HUGO P.
COX, THOMAS P.
DUPLEASIS, ANTHONY
FRANCO, CHRIS
GONZALEZ, LUIS
GUERRERO, CHRISTOPHER
HANSEN, ELDON J.

HAYNES, NICK
HILL, JEFF M.
HOOD, ALBERT A.
IRWIN, MIKAL SKY
ISWARIENKO, KURT A.
JANICELLI, KEVIN
KELLEY, KEVIN THOMAS
LEVY, TODD STEVEN
MORTON, TIMOTHY LEE
MUSKEY, JACK G.

OLIVA, ROBERT A.
ORSA, JEFFREY E.
PEPPER, CURTIS U.
PETERSON, DENNIS L.
REDDISH, PATRICK M.
REESE, ROLAND L.
SMITH, SEAN-MICHAEL
STERN, THOMAS EVANS
TAMAYO, VLADIMIR A.
TILLMAN, JAMES W.

VALENTINE, MICHAEL L.
WAUGH, KIERAN J.

DROPPED

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

10th Annual Local 728 Scholarship Awards

Your Local 728 officers and members are pleased to offer 10 scholarship awards.
Five awards in the amount of \$4,000.00
and five awards in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the year 2008.
The 10th annual awards will be granted to 10 high school students graduating in 2008.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The rules of eligibility for the 10th Annual Local 728 Scholarship Awards state that an applicant must:

- a) Be the son/daughter of a member in good standing of Local 728.
- b) Be a high school senior at the time of application.
- c) Have applied, or be about to apply for admission to an accredited college or university as a fully matriculated student.
- d) Have applied, or be about to apply for admission to a vocational school.
- e) Use the scholarship award by the first term of the same year awarded.

HOW TO APPLY?

1. An application is to be requested by completing the coupon below and forwarding same to Local 728 at the address below.
2. The application is then to be completed and returned to Local 728.
3. A complete sealed copy of the applicant's high school transcript is also to be submitted to Local 728.
4. The record of scores achieved by the applicant on the Scholastic Aptitude Test, college entrance examination, or other equivalent examination may also be submitted, either by the student or by the testing organization.
5. At least three (3) letters of recommendation should be submitted for inclusion in an applicant's file and will be accepted from any of the following: Teachers, Counselors, Clergy, Community Service Organizations, Employers, etc.
6. In addition each applicant will be required to have a personal interview with the selection committee.

DEADLINE?

The deadline for filing all of the above required materials with Local 728 is DECEMBER 31, 2007. The winners of the scholarship awards will be notified by Local 728 in May 2008, and will be announced in a future issue of the *Local 728 Bulletin*.

14629 Nordhoff Street, Panorama City, CA 91402 ♦ (818) 891-0728

10th Annual Local 728 Scholarship Awards

Please send me an application for the 10th 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.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Retirees laugh their way through latest gathering

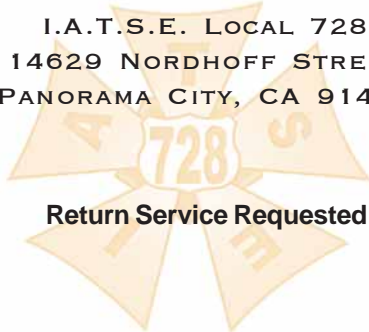


Photo courtesy of Paul Welch

The Local 728 retiree gatherings are becoming the hot ticket in town! In September, a large group of our veteran members gathered for a casual afternoon that included catching up with old friends, trips down memory lane, and a lot of laughs. “Some guys are still the same clowns they were when we worked together,” 20-year member Paul Welch reported. “We had a really good time. It was very enjoyable.”

STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS

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



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