



THE BULLETIN

HOLLYWOOD
CALIFORNIA

CHARTERED
MAY 15, 1939

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

VOL. 18; No. 5
2008



Top (L-R): CLT Skip McCraw, ACLT Bob Good, Lighting Console Operator Dave Darwin, and ELT's Abby Antweil, Scott Romsos, JT Gurzi and Benny Alvarado. Right (L-R): Rigging Best Boy Shaun McClelland, Mike Haynes, Rigging Gaffer Paul Zecchini and Brandon Herzon.

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Keeping you informed

by
Dennis K. Grow,
President



Just a few things:

There's nothing new to report on our building. We will be submitting our renovation plans to the City of Burbank for Public Review. When we do, the plans will be available for you to see at the Local office. After we pass the review, we'll pull permits to start the work. Maybe next issue, I can give you a timeline.

It was great to see so many of you at CineGear this year. A lot of members of other locals and non-members as well stopped by our booth to chat. Except for being so unbearably hot, it was a good show with most of the vendors highlighting new products. Thanks to Roger Lattin for putting our booth together.

LDI will be in Las Vegas at the end of Oct this year. Local 728 will have a booth again. Like last time, we need members to help us. If you are willing to come to Las Vegas and work in the booth, we will give you a room. We will post an application next month.

There will be a Labor Day Solidarity Parade, Rally and Picnic, September 1 in Long Beach. We help sponsor this event every year and we will be there with our banner. So come out and walk with us. For more info, call the Local.

The Back Lot Locals picnic will be Sept. 28. It may not be at Calamigos Ranch this year. We will let you know as soon as we know. Ticket prices will be the same. Bring your family. It's always lot of fun.

Since our Membership has increased to almost 2400, our Convention Delegates will grow from 20 to 23. Nominations for Delegates will be made at the Sept. Membership meeting. Represent your Local as a Delegate. It is a chance for you to see how our Union works at the International level.

In a letter I received from President Short, he writes "United Way has been the human services partner of unions through the AFL-CIO Community Services network for more than 60 years. I invite members of IATSE to consider a contribution in support of the good work of the United Way and the AFL-CIO Community Services network it helps fund."

Remember to send in your Local 728 Directory form!

Fraternally,

Dein



Local 728 representatives who attended the District 2 Convention in San Jose recently included (Back Row, L-R): Dennis K. Grow, O'Shana Walker, Cordell Boyd, R. Bruce Prochal, Michael Everett, Jim Franz, Roger Lattin, and Patric J. Abaravich; (Front Row): Larry Freeman, Ken Roerden, Cricket Peters, Iain O'Higgins and Alan M. Rowe.

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

PRESIDENT

DENNIS K. GROW

VICE PRESIDENT

GREG A. LANGHAM

BUSINESS REP-SECRETARY

PATRIC J. ABARAVICH

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PARLIAMENTARIANS

ALAN M. ROWE

RAYMOND J. POBLICK

SAFETY & TRAINING

ALAN M. ROWE, DIRECTOR

SHOP STEWARDS

CBS - JOHN L. MURRAY

Fox - PASCAL M. GUILLEMARD

PARAMOUNT - FRANK VALDEZ

SONY - JOHN JACOBS

UNIVERSAL - JOHN TRUJILLO

WARNER BROS. -

GARY M. ANDERSEN

CLC DELEGATES

PATRIC J. ABARAVICH

MIKE EVERETT

DENNIS K. GROW

IAIN O'HIGGINS

OFFICE STAFF

SANDRA O'CONNOR

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THE BULLETIN

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UNION SPOTLIGHT

FIRST NOTICE

GREGORY DUPREE, JESUS INIGUEZ, JOSE MARTINEZ, JAIME REYES, CHRIS NABERS, CARLOS RODRIGUEZ AND JOHN R. ROGERS.

SECOND NOTICE

JOSE AGUIRRE, RAUL ALVAREZ, CARLOS APODACA, FRANCISCO J. BULGARELLI, MANUEL CISNEROS, TYRONE MARK COLEMAN, HALSEY CORBIN, DAVID CUPP, D. ALFREDO N. DIAZ, KANZLER FRAZIER, CRAIG R. KAZOR, JOSHUA HUTCHINGS, VINCE R. IMBRIALE, MIGUEL LANDEROS, JR., JUAN R. LOPEZ, JAMES J. MAGALLONEZ, CESAR A. NAVIDAD, STEPHEN OHAB, M. ASHLEY REID, WILIAN A. ROMAGOZA, DEREK A. SNATORO, RAUL E. SOTO, ERIC STOLIKER.

NEW MEMBERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS: MICHAEL SIKIE WHO WAS SWORN IN ON JULY 1, 2008; AND MEMBERS CARLOS B. ARANDA, TIMOTHY BAGGETT, MICHAEL BECKMAN, BENJAMIN DYNICE, BRIAN J. GLASSMAN, JEAN-BAPTISTE LECONTE, GARY SANDOVAL, DARRAN WEBB AND DONALD WINTERS WHO WERE ALL SWORN IN ON JULY 19, 2008.

MEETING NOTICE

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

THE NEXT
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING WILL BE HELD AT
9:00 A.M. (SHARP) ON
SATURDAY,
SEPT. 13, 2008
AT IATSE LOCAL 44,
12021 RIVERSIDE DR.,
NORTH HOLLYWOOD

**PLEASE BRING YOUR
UNION CARD!**



Wiring of fixtures is OUR work

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

So you get to work one day and the Sproducers say that you are over budget on man days and they cut out your dimmer board operator. What the heck ... that person sits there most of the day and gets paid for it so we will replace that position with the crafts service person (who no one knows where they are most of the time anyway). This way, when a cue is coming up, they can scoot the person over to the board. Let's get two jobs done at the price of one. Now I know I would be one of the first calls made from the set.

Well somehow fixtures is one of our covered positions that seems to get swept under the rug by a few of our crews. Production tells us we can't have the extra person and that set decorators will handle it themselves. Some of us say OK, I need the manpower on the set anyway. It never seems to be a problem for set decorators to get the extra guy to do fixtures, and it isn't even their job.

Most shows now have a high demand for fixtures and once wired, for the most part get patched into the dimmer board.

I am not trying to point out anyone; I just want us all to know what is going on and some of the implications.

First off, let me start with some history. Back in July of 1989, a jurisdictional

dispute between locals 728 and 44 was presented to the then International President Di Tolla. President Di Tolla appointed a committee consisting of International vice presidents Michael Procia, Frank Hobbs and J.E. Johnson. Once the committee met with the affected locals, a meeting with the AMPTP was arranged. Although there were early discussions about cross utilization, it was agreed that cross utilization did not mean total interchange without regard to a Local Union's jurisdiction.

The final determination of the committee was that the wiring of fixtures – which are to be rendered practical for productions – has historically been, and shall remain, the jurisdiction of Local 728. Furthermore once the fixtures are wired and electrically connected, the fixtures are to be in the jurisdiction of Local 728 until they are disconnected.

OK what does this really mean? Wiring of fixtures is our work and letting those jobs be done by another Local doesn't help our members who are looking for work. If it is about the lack of budget to place someone on the job, please call me. I would be more than happy to remind the producers about whose covered work they are assigning.

An *International* shining star



Local 728 is extremely proud to announce that Louisa Levy, the daughter of Jeffrey Levy and Heather Roseborough, is an IATSE 38th Annual Scholarship Award winner. The highly prestigious \$7,000, four-year award, was bestowed to only two graduating seniors of IA members. The award winners were announced recently by the trustees of the Richard F. Walsh/Alfred W. Di Tolla/Harold P. Spivak Foundation. Louisa is also a recipient of the Local 728 Scholarship Award and was featured in last month's Bulletin.

Location Location Location

Keeping pace on the HBO hit comedy series

‘Entourage’

It is easy to see why the HBO hit comedy series *Entourage* has had a reputation for notorious long hours: The show has only one standing set; they’re on stage, on average, one out of every 10 days; and many times there are three or four company moves a day.

Entourage is now in production on its fifth season and CLT Skip McCraw notes that although there continue to be lengthy days, the production runs like a well-oiled machine.

“Scripts are ready and we plan and do all the lighting plots. On scouts, we have everything down. We plan it all

out and try to stick to that, but we’re also very flexible and always have contingency plans in place,” he noted.

The crew – ACLT Bob Good, Lighting Console Operator Dave Darwin and lighting technicians Abby Antweil, Scott Romsos, JT Gurzi and Benny Alvarado – McCraw quickly adds, are among the best in the business. “They’re all smart and very clever. They’re perfectionists and before I say anything, they’ve figured it out. I am partial to my guys, but I’m no dummy; you have to surround yourself with the best.”

That includes the rigging crew headed

up by Gaffer Paul Zecchini. “We tend to shoot very quickly, and I can’t say enough about my crew and how much I appreciate them.”

Zecchini admits that he doesn’t have a huge crew because – for one reason – they only have one truck. Yet, just recently, the riggers were at five locations in one day. But the small group, which consists of Rigging Best Boy Shaun McClelland, Mike Haynes and Brandon Herzon, somehow gets it all done. Couple their challenges with budget cuts, narrow roads, location changes, and ‘down and dirty work in pristine locales’, the crew has their hands full.

“We’re a very close-knit group and everyone gets along really well. I have to hand it to my crew and the Transportation Department,” Zecchini noted, adding “and it is fun to get it all accomplished but sometimes I just don’t think there are enough hours in the day.”

The production may be thrifty but that doesn’t mean hold back on the lights.

“We’re doing multiple moves a day with full lighting. It’s not like we are skimping on the lights. It’s one show that we try to make look as good as possible and try to adhere to a high standard at the same time we’re running all over the place,” McCraw said.

He also points out that production heads know the lighting department wouldn’t be asking for things if they



Emmy-nominated Entourage actor Kevin Dillon and Local 728 CLT Skip McCraw

didn't need them. "They trust us and understand the challenges of the show. Anything we can do to make the production value higher and to streamline the workload, then they're for it."

Even though they're masters of jumping over the daily location hurdles, McCraw says it's a show that is never boring. "The same thing hardly happens twice. We always get the question: 'What can you come up with?' And we figure it out, but it's nothing we can do again or patent. And we do put lights in the craziest places – especially during the 200-yard walk and talks. We've hid lights behind every pillar you can imagine," he added with a laugh.

McCraw and crew are always trying to improve what they use as well. A couple years ago they removed the large, hot lights on the backing of the stage and replaced them with roughly 28 Lumapanel fluorescent fixtures. And they're known to utilize some unconventional lights such Barger Bag and Aura Soft. "They work well for us. They are soft lights that don't use too much grip equipment and they're easy to use. You can put them on a stand

and drag them from set to set or flip them around," he explained.

In addition to their vast location shoots throughout the greater Los Angeles area, the production has been (or will be) filming in Hawaii, Joshua Tree, Las Vegas and New York for the 12 scheduled episodes of the fifth season. While 12 to 14 hours are currently the norm, production will soon wrap (in

mid-August) with the first episode to air in September.

Entourage was recently nominated for five Primetime Emmys including Outstanding Comedy Series, Supporting Actor (two nominations; Kevin Dillon and Jeremy Piven) in a Comedy Series and Outstanding Director for a Comedy Series.



*Rigging Gaffer Paul Zecchini
and Rigging Best Boy Shaun McClelland*

On the set of *Entourage*

In his own words

by *ACLT Bob Good*

Two seasons ago Skip and I started mid-season as the Rigging Gaffer and Rigging Best Boy when one of Skip's DP's, Rob Sweeney, got the show and 1st unit jobs weren't available. Knowing Rob's style was a major qualification in the decision to hire us. The next season the former Gaffer, Dave Kagen wasn't available, and the logical choice for 1st unit Gaffer was Skip, and I followed as 1st unit Best Boy.

Years ago I had heard how impossibly hard this show was from a former Best Boy. With only one standing or recurring set, the show is 90% location work with multiple moves almost every day. With most of the locations being in Hollywood and Beverly Hills, it sometimes makes sense that we work off a 10-ton truck for parking access, but when my truck sits in base camp all

day and we work off stake beds only, it seems insane.

We're the only department, when we change from day to night, that needs to change almost all of our equipment out. We have to change out multiple carts of lights requiring yet another stake bed load's worth of equipment. Most of the locations are so tight on staging space that as soon as the new equipment comes in the other equipment needs to go away.

This job has made me hate the telephone. It seems I'm constantly on the company cell, I get someone on call waiting, while someone is trying to reach me on the radio and simultaneously my personal cell is ringing. With the almost constant re-scouting, the 11th hour budget cuts, emailing new and revised equipment lists and budgets,

coordinating the moves, I sometimes feel like I should be in an office somewhere, nowhere near the trucks, equipment and certainly

not anywhere near the set. I know this is a crazy concept, but it's how I feel sometimes.

If I didn't have a great crew (I defy you to read an interview in the newsletter that says a crew stinks, but this time I really mean it), that I can delegate some of my duties



Continued on Page 8

Summertime, Summertime, Sum, Sum, Summertime

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

Greetings everybody. At this writing (15 July, 2008), the town seems to be fairly busy. The "availability list" may not reflect this. Considering that we have over 100 new members, since this time last year, I would say most of our members who can find work are working.

If you do not have any work, continue to call to get "on the books." You never know, you might just get a call from me. Also, if you are willing to work for low budget shows (\$10 to \$17 dollars per hour), please call me to let me know. Remember, all organized shows get full benefit contributions (pension and health care) regardless of the hourly rate.

Let's get to this month's theme, Summertime.

Some of you older members may remember a Top 40 song by the same name back in the Sixties. What does that have to do with this summer? Absolutely nothing, yet everything.

This summer has been very different from the last three summers. Historically, most of the continuing television shows would go on hiatus in April or May, and restart in late June, July or August. This year was not the case.

Some television shows chose to extend their season and get a few shows "in the can" for next season. The reason for this action may be to be prepared for a possible Screen Actors Guild (SAG) strike and possibly to catch up for time/shows lost due to the Writers Strike.

Many shows are currently on hiatus and I presume are coming back in August. What really surprises me are the number of shows that have already returned to production and the number of features that have started production.

If you have any ideas for my articles, please call me and give me some input. All of your ideas are welcome.

I've got to go. RBP

C I N E G E A R 2 0 0 7



Rachel Wells,
Dennis K. Grow
and Roger Lattin



R. Bruce Prochal and
Alan M. Rowe



Dennis K. Grow,
Jerry Posner,
Dwight Campbell,
Patric J. Abaravich and
Danny Graff

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 3rd Quarter 2008*

SUSPENDED

CAPILLA, JOHN J.
CUFFEE, PAUL
DIAL, ALLEN
DUBOIS, DAVID W.
EPSTEIN, JONATHAN
ESQUILIN, WILLIAM
FINE, SEAN A.
FREEMAN, PETER
GALLART, MICHAEL
GREENE, CHRIS
HANSEN, ELDON J.
HARB JR., JOSE
HIGGINSON, TIMOTHY
HORTON, LAURIE
JOHNSTONE, STEVE
KING, CHARLES E.
KNIEST, JAMES
LEVIN, RONALD M.
LYONS, RICHARD
MARQUEZ, MICHAEL S.
NEAL, JAMES L.
RICE, DENNIS B.
STOCKWELL, PAUL
TIMMER, BRAD D.
TUNNEY, EDWARD T.E.
WEBB, WILLIAM E.
WILLIS, ERIC

DROPPED

CONLEY, DAVID E.
CORTINA, HUGO P.
GRANADA, ROY C.
HALL, TERRANCE W.
KALLEN, JASON A.
MC DUFFEE, MICHAEL W.
MYRICK, DAVID JOSEPH
O'MELIA, MICHAEL K.
TAPIA, CARLOS
TAYLOR, JOHN H.
WILLIS III, JOHN

* List current as of July 22, 2008

Competitive lighting industry provides equipment options



by Alan M. Rowe,
Safety & Training Director

Very often under the pressure of production, we select equipment based on what we have loosely heard about or a generic name and forget there may be other options available.

Recently I had a conversation with a CLT about one of the new ultra-bright moving lights. While he felt that it was a good light, this one didn't quite fit his needs. He was surprised to learn that there are several manufacturers who make similar lights and they are widely available. When it comes to technology, the lighting industry is very competitive and there are very few items that are "the only one of its kind." This holds true with moving lights, GFCIs, lighting consoles, networking equipment, and all of the gear that we use in our craft. It always pays to do some research and get the equipment that best suits your needs.

As members of Local 728, you have several resources to discover what is available. First, you can call the Training Office. The Local has close relationships with both vendors and equipment manufacturers through our participation in organizations like ESTA and LDI. I am frequently asked to give feedback on products while they are in development so we often have advanced knowledge of products that have just been released. Vendors also have open houses and seminars to showcase their equipment and

I will be happy to arrange for demos and hands-on sessions.

Secondly, you can call on other Local 728 members for assistance. Console Programmers as well as members who frequently work on big event shows have to be up-to-date on all of the available new lights and control system equipment so they can use them properly. Since these members have hands-on experience they are an excellent resource and also know the requirements for using any new technology. Rental houses and equipment manufacturers can be an excellent source for finding information about products, just bear in mind that depending on their business arrangements they may be unable to volunteer information about products they do not carry or manufacture.

When you are doing a camera test with moving lights, it is essential that you insist on seeing comparable lights from different manufacturers since different lights have varying features and different qualities. One more thing to remember about camera tests with moving lights is that it is important you have the programmer from your show with you so they can let you know about any nuances in programming that might be different or take more time to execute.

One place where you can see all of the lighting technology that is available to us, both old and new, is at the LDI (Lighting

Dimensions

International) Trade Show. This year the LDI trade show will be held in Las Vegas on October 24, 25, & 26. There are also events and classes beginning on October 20 on topics such as Vectorworks, most Lighting Consoles, GFCIs, and Electrical Power. Please make plans to attend the trade show and get your hands on the gear, ask questions, and see it for yourself before you see it on set. For more information, please visit their website at www.ldishow.com.

We need your feedback. If you have any suggestions for classes or seminars, I would like to hear them. Additionally, we are here if you would like specific training for your crew. Please contact me at 818-843-0012 or amrowe@iatse728.org for more information.

To be notified of upcoming training opportunities, please sign-up for our Training Notification Mailing List. This email list is notification only of upcoming events, including opportunities that may not be able to be posted in the bulletin. You can sign up for this mailing list by sending an email to: 728Training-subscribe@yahoo.com.

Local 728 Training Classes

August 9

HMI/Xenon Technician

August 16

Vectorworks Spotlight II*

Advanced DMX/Ethernet Protocols+*

August 24

Electrical Systems Installation+

Sept 6

Dimming Technology Seminar+

All classes are free to members who are in Good Standing with the Local. To sign up for classes, please contact Alan Rowe at 818-843-0012 or at safetyandtraining@iatse728.org.

*Pre-requisites apply.
Please contact the Training Office for more information.
+Course qualifies for ETCP Entertainment Electrician Re-Certification Credit

Entourage

◆ Bob Good, In his own words

Continued from Page 5

to, an excellent rigging crew and an extremely helpful transportation department, I would have been fired a long time ago.

Don't get me wrong, I love this show (it's the show you love to hate). I've always enjoyed a challenge and this one is a constant challenge.

Yesterday was a perfect example of the curveballs we get thrown more than occasionally. We were supposed to shoot at the beach for 3 hours while the rigging crew was cabling and moving in lights to a logistically impossible location (no space for trucks) in the Malibu Hills. But because it was overcast at the beach, the decision was made to go to the house first. Instead of the stake beds going up to the house one or two at a time, they all descended on this location at once, having to wait in the road down the hill until the previous one was unloaded and moved out to make room for the next one. And because the rigging crew was planning on using one of the stake beds while we were at the beach, they didn't have one available. They were forced to take their big truck up to the location and block the whole driveway while they unloaded it.

Don't get me wrong, I actually really enjoy delays first thing in the morning, as long as it isn't my, or my department's, fault. I don't think they pulled the trigger until about 3 hours after call time.

Upcoming Election of Officers

Please be aware that there will be
Nominations for Election of Officers
at the September Membership Meeting
Saturday, September 13, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

IATSE Local 44 Office Building, 12021 Riverside Drive, North Hollywood

FOR THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

1 - Business Representative/Secretary

4 - Executive Board Members

23 - Convention Delegates

8 - CLC Delegates

Election Guidelines

Section 4 – WRITE-INS No write-ins shall be allowed.

Section 5 – NOMINATIONS FOR ONE OFFICE ONLY

No member shall be permitted to accept a nomination for more than one (1) office, this not to include nominations for election of delegates to conventions or Central Labor Council.

Section 6 – NOMINATIONS AND REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS

a). In order to assure the most democratic nominations possible, all nominations will take place on the floor at the Membership meeting regardless of odd or even year, and that notice of such nominations to take place shall be put in Local 728 monthly newsletter "THE BULLETIN" prior to the meeting.

b). Any Member working in our jurisdiction, on the day of nomination, may send the Local a written request to place his name in nomination for any office; said request to be placed in nomination by the presiding officer of the meeting.

Section 7 – ELIGIBILITY

A person must have been a member of Local 728 for a period of two (2) years before he can become a candidate for any office, and further must be in good standing at the time of nomination. A member in good standing shall be any person who is not in arrears and who neither has voluntarily withdrawn from membership nor become inactive from membership nor has been expelled or suspended from membership.

**A complete list of the Election Guidelines can be found in your
Constitution and By-Laws handbook.**

STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS

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

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