

LOCAL 44 NEWSREEL



VOLUME 16, ISSUE 6

IATSE LOCAL 44

AUGUST, 2005

RONNIE CUNNINGHAM
BUSINESS AGENT

ELLIOT JENNINGS
SECRETARY-TREASURER

STACEY MCINTOSH
PRESIDENT

BUILDING THE FUTURE: THEME OF 2005 IATSE CONVENTION



Local 44 Delegates at the 2005 I.A.T.S.E. Convention. Back row (standing): George Paine, Barry Kingston, Craig Raiche, Stacey McIntosh, Ronnie Cunningham, Brenda Meyers-Ballard; Front row: Gary Oseransky, Elliot Jennings, Erin Hennessey

Additional Convention Coverage Pg. 5, 6, 8-10

*Special Effects Updates... Pg. 3
Local 44 Inventors... Pg. 12
Speak Up!... Pg. 15*

"If 'pro' is the opposite of 'con' what is the opposite of 'progress'?"

-Paul Harvey

LOCAL 44 SHOP STEWARDS

CBS Studio Center

Tibor "Ted" Barti

Arthur Eishtadt

Universal Studios

Michael Cappello

Sony Studios

Chic Chaldu

Paramount Pictures

Tony Chavez

Warner Bros.

Dennis Christensen

Rick Manson (Property)

Gene Owens Jr.

John Petros

Santa Clarita

Andrew DeMuri

Field Stewards

"Grande" Gonzalez

Jay Hirsch

Brian Kelner

Coy Lawson

Joe Recchia

David Roesch

Tomas Sallvin

Randy Severino

Michael Todd

Ken Wilson

Alpha Medical

Alex Hernandez

CBS Television City

Andrea Joel

Disney Studios

Kenneth Knight

Fox Studios

James "Jimmy" Meyer

Bryce Vardanian

Las Vegas, NV

Bobby Zeletes

ISS

Leigh Dennis

SAT

Alex Vuckovich

Assistant Business Agents:

Michael Clark

Ed Brown

Roving Assistant Business Agents:

Ron Hall, Ed Langdon, and Milt Wilson

NEWSREEL SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for the next

Newsreel is:

Tuesday September 6, 2005

**Please be sure your contact
information is clearly marked.**

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**Questions? Call 818-769-2500
X120**

LOCAL 44

WEBSITE:

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CONNECTED!**

LOCAL 44 OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Officers:

Ronnie Cunningham, Business Agent

Elliot Jennings, Secretary-Treasurer

Stacey McIntosh, President

Erik Nelson, Vice President

Executive Board:

Erin Hennessey, Propmaker Representative

Gene Owens, Propmaker Representative

Armando "Grande" Gonzalez, Propmaker Representative

Peter Angles, Property Representative

Gary Oseransky, Property Representative

Joseph Recchia, Property Representative

Emily Ferry, Property Master Representative

Craig Raiche, Property Master Representative

J.D. Streett, Special Effects Representative

Jeff "JC" Machit, Special Effects Representative

Brenda Meyers-Ballard, Set Decorator Representative

Robinson Royce, Set Decorator Representative

John Matheson, Coordinator Representative

John Samson, Coordinator Representative

Mary Gullickson, Sergeant-At-Arms

Delegates:

Erin Hennessey, Propmaker Delegate

Gary Oseransky, Property Delegate

Craig Raiche, Property Master Delegate

George Paine, Special Effects Delegate

Brenda Meyers-Ballard, Set Decorator Delegate

Barry Kingston, Coordinator Delegate

Trustees:

Bob Carlyle, Trustee

Otto Lungren, Trustee

Jeannie Gunn, Trustee

**Executive Board members can
be reached by e-mail at
eboard@local44.org**

*"Nice guys finish last, but we get to sleep in."
-Evan Davis*

BUSINESS AGENT'S COLUMN

By Ronnie Cunningham



The following was sent from Local 44 to the West Coast I.A.T.S.E. on behalf of the Special Effects craft:

Mr. Joseph Aredas
International Representative in Charge
I.A.T.S.E. West Coast Office
10045 Riverside Drive
Toluca Lake, CA 91602

Re: Special Effects' Request

Dear Joe:

At a recent Special Effects Craft meeting held at Local 44's hall, our Special Effects members gained and maintained a quorum and a motion was made and passed to have me make the following request of your office.

Among the many discussions that went around the room, the main item on everyone's mind was safety. As you know, there have

been several accidents dealing with members injured during their work with Special Effects. It is the overall concern that producers are placing unqualified people without the proper training, experience, or a Special Effects card to supervise others doing Effects work on stage or location.

It is thereby Local 44's request that the IATSE send a letter to all signator production companies affiliated with any IA contracts to be reminded that only "Special Effects" card carrying members can oversee Effects work. For those producers looking for qualified Special Effects members, the production company can always contact our Call Board for a Special Effects availability list.

I thank you in advance for helping us keep all of our mem-

bers safe along with those brothers and sisters of SAG, DGA and producers alike. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance on our end to help this process along.

Fraternally,
Ronnie Cunningham
Business Agent
Local 44, I.A.T.S.E.

cc: Thomas C. Short,
International President, Matthew D. Loeb, Vice President, Michael F. Miller, Vice President JC Machit, Special Effects Representative, JD Street, Special Effects Representative

Remember your Contract: SPECIAL EFFECTS

In our Local 44 Agreement the following is the definition and qualifications for Special Effects and Prop Shop Classifications:

Paragraph 68.

Only those persons skill-identified on the Industry Experience Roster as Prop Shop persons may be recruited and trained and reclassified as "Special Effects" on the Industry Experience Roster, subject to qualification rules, training standards and the determination of the duration of the training period as shall be deemed appropriate by the Special Effects Qualifications Committee. Such Committee shall be composed of qualified Special Effects persons appointed by CSATF. Upon certification by such Special Effects Qualifications Committee that such a trainee has satisfactorily completed the special effects training program and possesses the required skill and ability, he shall be reclassified on the Industry Experience Roster in Industry Group 1 in the job classification of "Special Effects."

Paragraph 96. Special Effects

The supervision, setting up, operating, striking and storing of all equipment and material in making special effects, such as wind, rain, air effects, snow, artificial atmospheric window frosting, frost, fire, smoke, flares, torches of all kinds, fog, steam, mist, water, waterfalls, portable spill tanks, storms of every nature, waves, cobwebs, lightning and explosives. The creation and operation of all sound effects used in the making of motion pictures, except that written into the musical score as part of the rhythm or requiring a musician to operate, shall be done by Special Effects persons.

What this means to YOU!

If you are a member working or a Foreperson hiring members to perform duties that do not coincide with their classification, your producer can be grieved for violations of the local agreement and the individual can be fined by the Local for negating our own Constitution and By-Laws.

DOWNEY STUDIOS DEEMED “HEALTHY WORK ENVIRONMENT” BY IATSE

The following letter was sent to the attention of Kevin Murphy in Operations at Downey Studios from Joseph A. Aredas, International Representative-in-Charge and carbon-copied to Locals in the area.

RE: *CONFIRMED HEALTHY WORK ENVIRONMENT AT DOWNEY STUDIOS*

This letter is sent to clarify comments made in my letter to Downey Studios, dated April 27, 2005.

The April 27th letter incorrectly stated that an Indoor Air Quality Testing Report performed by Mintie Corporation (the “Mintie Report”) at Downey Studios “confirmed” the presence of mycotoxins at Downey

Studios. IATSE has learned that the Mintie Corporation in its Report about the indoor air quality at Downey Studios never made any findings about mycotoxins and, in fact, never even tested for the presence of mycotoxins.

Downey Studios, in cooperation with IATSE, and in an effort to assure our membership that no such health risks exist at Downey’s facilities, retained the environmental consulting firm QUEST Environmental, Inc. to perform a comprehensive study of the quality of the indoor air at Downey Studios. QUEST performed its testing on May 19, 2005 and published its results and analysis in a report dated June 6, 2005 (the “QUEST

Report”).

QUEST found and reports in its June 6th QUEST Report that the indoor air quality at Downey Studios is normal and that, “The results of the samples collected are considered normal and typical for healthy buildings.” A final report verified that the environment is free of mycotoxins.

We apologize for any undue concerns about the indoor air quality at Downey Studios, which may have been caused by our April 27, 2005 letter. But more importantly, we are pleased to report the cooperative efforts of Downey Studios. A copy of the QUEST report is available at our offices for your inspection.

A MESSAGE TO COORDINATORS

By John Matheson, Coordinator Representative

My fellow Coordinators, it is time for your wake up call. Your participation in Local 44 is at a low ebb while the fate and the fortune of your craft and your local is at a crossroads. My name is John Matheson and I am one of the Coordinator Representatives on the Executive Board. I have been a Construction Coordinator since May 9th, 1989 and a Propmaker since 1964. Though I am nearer to retirement than many of you, I still have a great interest in improving the conditions and benefits of those who will follow. I cannot do this alone, though. Your participation is imperative to give strength and to demonstrate the determination to implement the improvements.

The Construction Coordinator position came about in the mid nineteen seventies because the Producers were trying to save production costs by moving away from the “Main Lots”. This move meant that the tools normally checked out from the tool rooms now had to be provided by the individual Coordinators. This meant that the Coordinators had to purchase the tools, maintain the tools, and rent them to the production companies. The Coordinators would rent tools out depending upon the size and scope of the build and the number of propmakers employed.

This process seemed to work fairly well at that moment in time. The Coordinators had a rental agreement that stated what the weekly rent would be and had a blanket liability insurance policy provided by the production. Major changes started taking place in rental and compensation agreements in 2001.

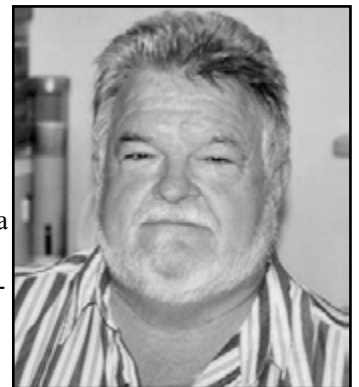
If you have not noticed, the producers have developed a reluctance to sign rental agreements that assign fire, theft and

liability of rental tools to them.

They instead would like to assign these liabilities to you, fellow Coordinator, and dictate a rate for that rental as well. This is not acceptable (and not allowable under the contract) but if you are not aware of the remedies you cannot know how to change this condition. If you choose to avoid your union and ignore your professional association you may be stuck with this situation for many shows to come. If, however, you become involved, you may learn some of the remedies that Local 44 and the CCA have cultivated with the help of your Business Agent, Ron Cunningham, and Lewis Levy, counsel for Local 44.

We are trying to get the language in place for a fair tool rental agreement. We need your involvement and input to implement the changes that will be required to assure that you always sign a fair rental and compensation agreement. But “involvement” is the critical word! Construction Coordinator craft meetings are held for your benefit. Your attendance and participation are essential. Additionally, the Construction Coordinator’s Association meets on the first Tuesday of every other month at the Local. All union Coordinators are invited to attend. Your union is working for you, but it won’t benefit you unless you get involved!

Fraternally,
John Matheson



I DON'T THINK WE'RE IN KANSAS ANYMORE...

By Elliot Jennings

I recently returned from two weeks of International and District Conventions. We are often so consumed with the happenings of our own Local that we forget we are part of a larger organization. It was an eye-opener from many perspectives.

What is the International Convention? This is not the time for negotiations, though subjects for future negotiations may be discussed. This is the time when International internal government changes, objectives and direction are discussed. This is the one time every 4 years that the Locals across the country and Canada send Delegates in an attempt to change policy.

One of the first things that you become aware of in a body this size, and this one in particular, is that those of us who work in the motion picture industry are a very small part of the International. The majority of the International membership is stagehands, ticket sellers, projectionists, hair stylists and costumes, hotel workers, drivers, and members that work at theme parks, airlines, and radio.

By the atmosphere at the Convention, and by the conversations with the delegates from the smaller Locals in North America, I came to understand that International President Short and his Vice-Presidents are looked upon with favor. Many of these Locals (new or with recently organized members) had for the first time living wages, health care, and some type of pension.

The amount of work and time involved (if you're actually attempting to accomplish anything) is more than anyone led me to believe.

We spent the first few days as visitors to the International Executive Board Meeting that occurs twice a year. It is an opportunity to witness how your International is working throughout this continent, its victories, its setbacks and its plans of attack. For the most part those in the audience are spectators, unless or until a topic involving your Local occurs, as did Local 44, when discussing the cooperative effort of Hollywood Locals to organize set shops. If you are one of the

dozen or so members of Local 44 who have taken advantage of sitting in on our Executive Board Meetings this is similar, but with a larger scope.

Two veteran officials of the International retired during these meetings; Gus Bottas of the CLC (Canadian Labour Congress) and VP Edward C. Powell who served the International for over 30 years.

The real work began during the weekend of District Two (California, Hawaii, Nevada and Arizona). This could be Local 44's (and Hollywood's) more influential base of operation. As it is composed of the four western States, and more of the Locals in this region are film based than the rest of the country, District Two *should be* an interim body to move specific agendas forward.

From the veterans of these events, I was told that this was one of the most active groups they had witnessed. On our Sunday, there was no lunch break; food was brought in to allow people to continue working in their respective committees without leaving. Resolutions were debated and voted on for the general convention, and the debates were often spirited and diverse (the resolutions passed are listed later in this Newsreel).

There was an election for the Secretary-Treasurer of the District. The surprise victor was Missy Humphreys of Local 800, who rode a platform of better coordination of Locals within the District which beat out incumbent Moshe Bilac of Local 720 (Las Vegas).

At the main Convention, reports were given of the past four years of work the International had performed. Many of the Delegates were divided into committees; finance, grievances, resolutions, Constitutional changes, etc. Their recommendations are later brought before the larger body to approve or disapprove. Beyond the resolutions voted on, some changes occurred that will have an effect on Local 44 members:

In the Constitution, the experience time requirement for a member to retire out of the International was eliminated. In other words, you can now retire at 65



years old, no matter how long you've been in the union. The reason for this is that the International has been organizing throughout the country, and many organized members now find it hard to make 25 years. This then alters Local 44's Constitution for those Retired members (who do not want to vote) who are 65 or older, in order to comply.

The International per capita tax increased, though much less than most of the "experts" predicted:

- In 2006, the increase will be \$1 per quarter;
- In 2007, the increase will be \$1 per quarter;
- In 2008, the increase will be \$2 per quarter;
- In 2009, there will be no increase.

In the final day of the Convention the vote for the International Officers took place. Most of the Officers were unopposed. The vacated VP seat of Edward Powell was filled by Dan DiTolla of New York Local 52 and Local 632 of New Jersey. The CLC seat was filled with Dan Ramsen.

The only major contest was for the position of International Trustee. Three seats were available and four contestants ran. Local 44 Business Agent Ron Cunningham did not run for re-election to his Trustee position.

That left incumbents C. Faye Harper and Al Burns of host Local 665, and challengers George Palazzo of Hollywood Local 729, and Mr. John Ford of New York Local 52. Ms. Harper, Mr. Palazzo, and Mr. Ford were elected.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve the membership as an Officer and Delegate of this Local. I hope I've given you some insight (without filling this article with minutia) into the events of this important gathering, and I hope our Local can play a more involved role in future Conventions.

HONORABLE WITHDRAWAL AND INACTIVE

Since last October, the employment of our membership has been fairly robust. Of the members-in-good standing, few lacked work November through December 2004, even into January 2005. March and April had a stronger than usual pilot season, and after the standard hiatus lull in June, the summer season could be another banner employment time.

One thing became clear as we brought members back into good standing through our collections work, and as others called to “re-up” after years of absence when the good news of plentiful work reached them; the majority of members don’t understand how the categories of Inactive and Honorable Withdrawal work.

These **ARE NOT** after-the-fact categories you request when you’ve had periods of long-term unemployment or self-imposed removal from our working ranks!

These categories are available to all members, but they take an effort on *the member’s* part! You must file paperwork. At one time or another we may all have a need to take advantage of one of these categories, so here’s the proper procedure:

Inactive: This category is for short-term leaves of absence; you need to take care of a sick family member, you’re going back to school, you’re leaving the country for an extended period, etc.; but you’re planning on returning to the Local’s rolls.

Inactive requests require you to fill out a single paper at the office, and you only have to do this once in a career. The page is kept in your files and may be reactivated any time you wish. This must be done no later than the first month into a quarter, and if you have worked at all in that quarter it is not an option. This is not a category you can use at the end of a quarter when work availability was difficult.

Inactive is a reduced payment situation. You pay the per capita taxes due and half the dues to Local 44 that you would typically pay each quarter; that makes your quarterly payment about 2/3rds your normal payment.

If you are Inactive you must remain unemployed with our Local for at least two full quarters. You may not go Inactive and the next quarter, go back to work; if this happens you will pay your full quarterly payment for both quarters. Also, when Inactive, you are off the Callboard Availability List and will not be called for work. You must call the Local when you are ready to be placed on our call list again.

Honorable Withdrawal: This is for long-term absences. You have been given a grant to investigate the ozone hole in Antarctica; your multi-level side-business is taking off; or you are leaving this insane industry for good, but just in case...

This also requires you to file a one-page form *each time you use this option*. A copy is sent to the International to inform them of your status. Again, this is not something that is done after-the-fact, **and** you must be a member-in-good standing when you apply for this category.

Honorable Withdrawal takes you off our working rolls, just like Inactive, you are not called for work, from the Local’s point of view you’ve dropped off the radar.

Here’s the difference; your quarterly payments are zero. You owe nothing. Why not just take a Withdrawal instead of going Inactive? Inactive quarters are at a reduced rate; Honorable Withdrawal is at your full quarterly rate upon return.

Then why not just go Inactive? That’s why this is a long-term option. Honorable Withdrawal pays the full quarterly payment, but no matter how long you’re gone, 5 years or 20 years; you cannot pay more than eight quarters dues to the Local or eight quarters per capita to the International!

Understand these categories. Use them when and if you have a need, but use them properly.

NOTICE:

IF YOU GO ON PERMANENT DISABILITY, YOU MUST BE RECEIVING A SOCIAL SECURITY AWARD. PLEASE MAKE SURE THE LOCAL GETS A COPY OF IT TO KEEP YOU AS A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING.

DELEGATE UPDATE

BY GEORGE PAINE

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you all for the opportunity to attend the 65th convention and represent all members of our local as a Special Effects Delegate.

Being new, I had no preconceived notions or agendas, but there were some surprises and there were some disappointments. I spoke with many delegates, and my conversations were about how to make locals run better, save money, and achieve results with vigilant planning and open communication. I spoke with representatives who are willing to listen, advise and hopefully assist us in achieving security for the future of the Special Effects Craft. I will address specifics to Special Effects craft members in a letter soon. I will pursue discussion with representatives of the International to voice our concerns and keep you apprised of further developments.

We need the voice of many. Please attend our upcoming committee meetings and share your ideas so we may have intelligent, well thought out and supported plans to present to the West Coast representatives for consideration in the coming contract negotiations. The next meeting, after this issue arrives at your home, will likely be August 22 at 7 p.m. in the Local 44 building

Issues of safety and of breathing new life into the Special Effects courses that should be funded by the CSTAF are to be discussed, and I am sure they will be pivotal in the coming talks. Kevin Pike is Chair of the committee, please call Kevin, or the hall for future meeting dates.

In conclusion, I will pass on a cost saving measure I garnered while a member of the Special Reports Committee. I found that the Local can save approximately 40 cents on every piece of mail undeliverable due to bad addresses by converting to electronic notification, this cost saving measure should be implemented shortly. More to follow, stay tuned, CALL THE HALL.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY STACEY MCINTOSH

As I write my first article as the president of Local 44, I can't help but think of the strange journey that has brought me to this place.

I was very saddened to hear from Jack Thomas that for several reasons he needed to step down as President. If not for Jack's insistence that I succeed him, I most likely would have remained Vice-President. With the unanimous vote of the Executive Board, Jack's request to succeed him, and with the complications relating to the Convention, I felt that accepting this position was the right thing to do for our membership and the Local.

My pledge to the membership is

to always be honest and respect the position I now hold. I do not take this pledge lightly. I will always work to protect and to better Local 44's position within our industry and I.A.T.S.E.

I have been asked to give the membership a brief background of my experience in the industry: I have been a member of Local 44 for over 27 years. I started as a Propmaker and spent some time working in Special Effects. I was given an opportunity to coordinate a film in 1983, and have been coordinating ever since.

I love building sets and working in construction, but I also have a tremendous respect and admiration for



all the crafts in this Local. As your new President, I promise to represent the entire membership.

I am making this article short to allow for more convention information. In the future I will be writing a more detailed article.

In solidarity,
Stacey S. McIntosh



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Name: Brenda Meyers-Ballard
Member of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences: 1990-present.
Emmy Nomination for original CSI Las Vegas series.
Executive Member of the Set Decorators' Society of America: 1993-present.
Evan and Rachel's Mother.

Position: Set Decorator

Years Served on the Executive Board: 1992-present

What made you decide to run for a position on the Executive Board? I was asked to run by my peers. I continue to have the privilege to serve only by their continued support. In turn, I know my job is to be their voice, protect our jurisdictions and always listen to their concerns.

What are some of the challenges you have faced as an Executive Board member?

Representing Local 44, being a multi- talented group that includes eleven crafts, is always more complex than if we were less diverse in classifications. The challenge for us is to always fairly represent everyone.

Working with real-time and representing members who accomplish everything in studio time. Issues often take months to years for results. Therefore, informing the members in a way that they do not lose confidence with the Executive Board is never-ending.

To keep our Local financially sound and to be well informed by our officers and staff so we can be accountable to our membership.

What has surprised you most about being on the Executive Board? I have been active in Local 44 politics for 28 years, delegate for three terms, have served as one of the two Set Decorator E-Board Representatives during four Business Agent's tenor, and to my surprise *it never settles*. Although internal politics steal valuable time, most of what keeps us moving is the never-ending list of issues. Some of my best and worst are: The death of studio departments, women entering into all fields, Local 44 receivership, the birth of the non-union show, right to work states, organizing, movie of the week contract, video tape versus film scare, the slow disappearance of the basic contract, the forming of the S.D.S.A., writing of the Budget Guidelines and New Membership manuals, the birth of the Independent Account Plan, Canada, CGI and technology in film, commercials go union, the digital revolution... Lets face it; complacency will never find a home in this house!

What would you like to see the Executive Board accomplish while you are a member?

I would expect for us to advance with technology and protect our areas of expertise with education. Each member's job is a business. I would like to emphasize more direction on what specifically would benefit *each* craft and continue to strengthen the unity of Local 44.

I would be proud to be among the dedicated board members when we present a revised Constitution and By- Laws to our members.

Is there anything else you would like to add? Please embrace our new members, express empathy and help to our unemployed, support the rights of those in the field and keep in touch with our retirees...their war stories hold many a key to our future!

STRAIGHT TIME

By Craig Raiche

Before I say anything about our recent convention, I want to thank the Property Masters for allowing me to serve as their delegate. I think you made an excellent choice, but truth be known, I voted for Ms. Ferry. She is an amazingly insightful person and I am very fortunate to call her both friend and mentor.

A CONVENTION OVERVIEW

In my opinion, we Local 44 delegates were neither distracted by the location, nor the pomp and circumstance of our convention. I think we grasped both "the big picture" and the smallest of details alike. We saw a few "firsts," not the least of which was L.44 offering three resolutions for consideration. Surely, I am biased, but having participated in many IA conventions, I believe this delegation served our local very well.

Again, the purpose of our union is to exact improved wages and working conditions (via collective bargaining) for all our members. The purpose of our convention, however, is for elected delegates to review and, if necessary, re-shape our union's policies and procedures; and also, of course, to elect the officers of our International Union.

The IA Convention takes place only once every four years. During its first week, members of the IA General Executive Board discuss and review concerns that affect our entire union. I don't know if this part of the convention is open to all IA delegates, but traditionally, L. 44 attendees are restricted to only our Business Agent, Secretary - Treasurer, and President. They attend strictly as observers and have no voice or vote in the G.E.B.'s discussion. The second week of convention begins with a brief, one-day, "District Meeting" for officers and delegates from a particular, geographical area (ours being District 2 which includes all IA locals in Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada). The last five days of our IATSE Quadrennial Convention is where officers and delegates from all our locals meet in one place, at one time, to decide IA policy and to elect our International Officers.

Here's how I would breakdown the general attitude of all the delegates: 40% solidly supported the IA's stated policies and positions - for completely legitimate reasons. Another 40% consistently supported the status quo - but for, what I believe are, more "questionable" reasons. 10% nei-

ther supported nor opposed much of anything at all - for unknown reasons they were just... there. 10% firmly opposed a number of the IA's positions - also for legitimate reasons.

As expected, President Short fiercely defended the existing policies of our union. He openly treated all who expressed opinion contrary to his own in a truly scornful manner. Two unsigned flyers were distributed to each delegate as they entered the convention hall. Both were nothing less than smear campaigns levied against two delegates whose opinions are known to be quite contrary to President Short's. When a delegate questioned legitimacy of the flyers and criticized the author(s) for hiding in anonymity, President Short accepted full responsibility for authorship and distribution of both flyers. In an agitated, if not angry, state President Short loudly proclaimed the acts as simple expressions of his right to free speech... but as an overwhelming majority of convention delegates were consistently agreeing with his views, such behavior seems altogether unnecessary and much too heavy-handed. Still, it is impossible to deny that most delegates believe he is leading our union in the right direction. Some of President Short's accomplishments do, in fact, warrant acknowledgement and many delegates did exactly that.

OF PARTICULAR INTEREST

Due to a provision in the IA's Constitution and By-Laws, our B.A., Ron Cunningham, was precluded from acting as both IA Trustee and L. 44 Delegate. He chose to serve in the capacity of IA Trustee. His allotted delegate votes were then equally split among our remaining delegates and he did not seek re-election as an IA Trustee.

I am compelled to admit that L. 44's delegation was not truly united. Brother Barry Kingston, our Construction Coordinator Delegate, claimed he was unaware of our resolutions prior to his arrival at the convention. In fact, the final draft resolutions were e-mailed to him weeks before the event. Upon his arrival and his review of our resolutions he decided to oppose all three and his name was removed as a proponent from each.

President Short proudly reminded us that, due his efforts, HBO is finally a bona fide signator to "an IA agreement" and, further, declared he will never ask HBO to



sign an IA West Coast (Hollywood) Basic Agreement. He also touted the strategic benefits of his consistently negotiating and settling our major contracts up to one full year before their expiration dates (... a strategy that, I believe, does not always work in our best interests).

Guest speakers at our District 2 Convention focused their comments on (what they believe are) Governor Schwarzenegger's failings.

District 2 Secretary - Treasurer, Moishe Bialac, (L. 720, Las Vegas, Nev.) failed to win re-election. Our new District 2 Sec/Trea. is, Missy Humphries, (L. 800, Hollywood, Art Directors). Check out the IA District 2 website at - www.iadistrict2.org

District 2 Conventions will no longer convene annually. They'll be conducted bi-annually.

COMMITTEE'S, RESOLUTIONS, AND "FIRSTS"

For the first time ever, and for whatever reason(s), our Union did not assign me a committee to work on. This "oversight" was pointed out to IA General Secretary-Treasurer, James Woods, but the dye was cast - I would not be assigned any committee. So, I attended the meeting of our IA Resolutions Committee as an observer - with no voice and no vote. In session, the very first comment from a committee member was, "If we have any "observers" present, I'd like to motion their removal from this meeting." The motion was seconded... discussion ensued... I was removed. I talked to, at least, 50 delegates about this and not one of them, in all their years, had ever heard of a delegate who was not allowed to simply observe a committee meeting... (another first.) Be that as it may, as an official proponent of L. 44's resolutions, the Committee did allow me to re-enter the meeting to offer a brief statement in support of our resolutions.

(Resolution # 4: Requested our International Union to officially inquire our

members about which manner they would prefer to use when electing our International Officers.)

WHEREAS, All IATSE officers consistently, openly, and rightfully extol the virtues of fairness and democracy in their manner of governance; and

WHEREAS, IATSE President, Thomas Short, has, also, consistently, openly, and rightfully urged each member of this Alliance to participate in the democratic process by exercising his, or her, right to vote; and

WHEREAS, This Alliance, via secret ballot vote, may elect its International Officers by, either, its convention delegates, or by its rank and file members in good standing; and

WHEREAS, Rank and file members of this Alliance have never, officially, been asked which manner of election they might prefer; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Alliance, in the spirit of fairness and democracy, officially, inquire its rank and file members as to which manner of vote they would prefer when determining our International Officers.

On the above resolution, I told the committee: "Many IA members have expressed a desire to directly vote their choice of international officers. Such is lawfully mandated in Section 401 (a) of the U.S. Labor Code. It is the members of some other unions, such as The International Brotherhood of Teamsters and The United Auto Workers, who elect their officers... not their convention delegates.

We are not asking the IA to change its election policy. We're asking only that the IA directly inquire the opinion of its members with regard to its election policy. Many feel an election by our members could prompt a broader field of candidates as some delegates find it much too difficult to voice their constituents opinions... especially when they're contrary to the status quo."

(The recommendation of the Resolutions Committee was that delegates reject this proposal by voting non-concurrence. And so it was.)

(Resolution # 5: Requested our International Union to determine a more equitable distribution of votes to locals at our convention.)

WHEREAS, The formula currently used to determine the allotted number of dele-

gate votes for each local was set at a time when both the IATSE's total membership and its number of locals were significantly smaller; and

WHEREAS, This formula currently affords some locals a voting strength that is not commensurate to the number of members they represent; and

WHEREAS, This formula currently provides a grossly imbalanced distribution of votes to our locals, to our delegates and, by extension, to each of our IA brothers and sisters; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the IATSE determine an amended formula by which an unquestionably fair and equitable distribution of delegate votes shall result; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, This amended formula will be determined no later than twelve (12) months after convening this 2005 Convention.

With regard to this resolution, I told the committee: "In seeking a more equitable distribution of votes to our locals at convention, I'll just point out that the IA's West Coast ("Hollywood") Locals have a combined 33% of the IA's total membership, but the percentage of total delegate votes assigned us is much, much lower than that. We understand that, quite recently, many IA locals have been merged.

Still, just about a decade ago, Hollywood trade papers reported that some 250 "small" IA locals with a combined 20,000 members were allotted a total of 500 Delegate Votes. At the same time, some 20 "large" IA locals with a combined 30,000 members were allotted a total of just 330 Delegate Votes. We hope our union will recognize this imbalance and take action to rectify this situation."

(The recommendation of the Resolutions Committee was that delegates reject this proposal by voting non-concurrence. And so it was.)

(Resolution # 6: Requested our International Union to work in conjunction with our employers and other related agencies to reduce occurrences of identity theft.)

WHEREAS, Identity Theft remains the fastest growing crime in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Identity Theft presents continual and substantial threat to all IATSE members; and

WHEREAS, Currently, protective meas-

ures guarding against Identity Theft are individually formulated and inconsistently implemented by each agency and employer with whom our members regularly interact; and

WHEREAS, A coordinated effort to protect our members from Identity Theft has yet to be attempted; and

WHEREAS, Such effort would, likely, yield more effective results than are currently realized by any one, particular, agency; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the IATSE shall strive to cause such coordinated effort in an attempt to more completely and efficiently protect its members from the crime of Identity Theft.

With regard to this resolution, I told the committee: "Recent occurrences such as a \$50 million case of identity theft and Warner Bros. admitting it "lost" the personal data on more than 600,000 current and former employees are, already, much too common and they're increasing exponentially. Two years ago, I spoke with top level officials of CSATF, USDOL, AMPTP, and E.P. Payroll Company. All said they'd be glad to sit down with the IATSE to discuss various proposals on how to reduce identity theft in conjunction with all other agencies.

A considerable part of the problem is the unregulated manner in which our employers gather, store and dispose of "start paperwork." Personal information needed to conduct identity theft is found in multiple places throughout this paperwork, yet no standardized set of safeguards are in place to protect the privacy of this information. Some production companies actually dispose voluminous amounts of start paperwork by tossing it in a trash bin - where, in fact, it was once retrieved for use as set dressing in an office!

Certainly, a coordinated effort to reduce identity theft among the chief agencies who are required to obtain this information will produce more effective solutions."

(The recommendation of the Resolutions Committee was to refer this to the IA's General Office for further study. And so it was.)

To be sure, Sisters and Brothers, the convention included many other noteworthy events. If you've any questions or comments you'd like to share with me, please do. It was my honor to serve and I thank you for reading.

Craig Raiche

IA Convention Resolutions

By Craig Raiche

IA convention resolutions are not always meant to impact just our own members. Like beauty pageant contestants, our convention delegates usually proffer broad-based, idealistic resolutions - such as would end world famine or enable world peace. Only a few ever challenge the official policy of our status quo. In numerical order, our 2005 Convention Resolutions were:

From Local One, Stagehands, N.Y., NY:

1) That our Intl. President make every effort to influence the AFL-CIO and its affiliates in effecting single-payer, quality, affordable, comprehensive, universal healthcare for all. *Delegates and the Resolution Committee agreed on a recommendation of approval.*

2) That our Intl. Union and its locals make every effort to engage with all of organized labor in demanding federal, state and city legislators fund quality, affordable housing for all working men and women; and urge legislators to guarantee low cost mortgages to all working men and women. *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation to refer this to IA's General Office for implementation.*

3) That the IA become a leader in guiding entertainment unions globally in fighting corporate America by forming an International Coalition of the Entertainment Labor Organizations. *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation to refer this to the IA's General Office for study and implementation.*

From Local 44, Affiliated Property Craftspersons, Hollywood, CA:

4) That the IA officially conduct an inquiry of our rank and file as to whether they would prefer electing our Intl. Officers by vote of our convention delegates or by popular vote of our members. *Delegates and the Resolution Committee agreed not to approve this resolution.*

5) That the IA determine an amended formula by which a more fair and equitable distribution of delegate votes to each local should result. *Delegates and the Resolution Committee agreed not to approve this resolution.*

6) That the IA attempt a coordinated effort to bolster our fight against Identity Theft. *Delegates agreed with the Resolutions Committee recommendation to refer this to the IA's General Office for further study.*

From National Local 600, Cinematographers:

7) That the IA form a "Diversity Committee" to meet at all future IATSE General E-Board Meetings and Conventions. *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation of approval.*

8) That the IA work in solidarity with other unions to organize Wal-Mart. *Delegates*

agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation to refer this to the IA's General Office for implementation.

9) That the IA actively support all legislative efforts to create a single payer health insurance program in the U.S. and to preserve and strengthen the universal public health insurance system in Canada. *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation of approval.*

From Local 720, Mixed, Las Vegas, NV:

10) That local unions will provide an accounting to the Intl. Secretary Treasurer of time and expenses necessary to provide representation and enforcement of agreements (pursuant to Article 19, Sect. 30 on the Intl. C&BL's) and also be reimbursed for certain time and related expenses. *Prior to a vote by delegates, this resolution was withdrawn.*

From Local 728, Studio Electricians, Hollywood, CA:

11) That salaries of all elected Intl. officers be frozen at their current levels and the issue be revisited at the next Convention. *Delegates and the Resolution Committee agreed not to approve this resolution.*

12) That the IA return to a 3-year interval between its conventions (as opposed to the current 4-yr. interval). *Delegates and the Resolution Committee agreed not to approve this resolution.*

13) That the IA acknowledge its involvement and role in the Hollywood Blacklist; apologize to those harmed; and delete that section commonly known as a "red clause" (Article One, Sect. 3, part 3) from its C&BL's. *Delegates and the Resolution Committee agreed not to approve this resolution.*

14) That the IA comply with Section 105 of the LMRDA (Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959) by posting a copy of the "Union Members Bill of Rights" at their website, and also once per year in the "IA Bulletin." *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation of approval. (But only in the sense that local unions - not the Intl. - advise their members of such rights.)*

From the delegates of District 6 - OK, TX, AR:

15) That the IA C&BL's be amended to allow our President, or his assigned Representative, to function as "co-bargaining agent" whenever local unions negotiate with national producers of theatrical stage events. *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation to refer this to the IA's General Office for further study.*

From the delegates of District 2 - CA, AZ, HI:

16) That the IA, its local unions, and all assembled delegates stand opposed to the loss of

American workers' pension benefits by companies' use of bankruptcy laws; and that we publicize the moral and economic harm workers face due to corporate deception. *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation of approval.*

17) That delegates of District 2 support the United Farm Workers and pledge to join the Farm Workers in their boycott of Gallo Wines; and that the members of the IATSE pledge to engage in any action or any other economic activity requested of us by the workers represented by the United Farm Workers Union of America. *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation of approval.*

18-20) *As these resolutions called for much the same things as were already acted upon in resolutions # 7, 8, and 9, no further action was taken.*

21) That the IA urgently request that fatigue be recognized as a health and safety hazard by the Labor Management Safety Committee, the Safety Pass Program and CSATF. *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation of approval.*

From the delegates of District 7 - TN, AL, GA, NC, SC, MS, LA:

22) That we support the following legislation: S. 846 (provides fair wages for America's workers); S. 840 (prohibits discrimination in the payment of wages on account of sex, race, or national origin, and for other purposes); S. 841 (provides more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes); S. 842 (levels the playing field for employees attempting to organize a union or negotiate their first contract). *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation of approval.*

From the delegates of District 2:

23) That the IA and its motion picture production locals support anti-piracy legislation and increase awareness of the harm that piracy causes to motion picture and television industry workers. *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation of approval.*

24) That the IA oppose any and all attempts to privatize the Social Security System. *Delegates agreed with the Resolution Committee recommendation of approval.*

From the delegates of Districts 7, 8, and 14:

25-27) That all locals and delegates extend their warmest regards and heartfelt appreciation to the Host Local (665, Mixed, Honolulu, Hawaii) for their efforts in insuring a successful convention.

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

We wish to recognize and extend congratulations to all members celebrating an August Milestone as a Local 44 member.

50 Year + Anniversaries

Duncan, Chester (68 Yrs)	Property Master
Lauritzen, Eugene (60 Yrs)	Coordinator
Simonson, Thol (58 Yrs)	FX
Tindall, Joseph (58 Yrs)	Prop Maker
Russell, Wilbur (58 Yrs)	Property Master
Low, Thomas (58 Yrs)	Greens
Smith, Ernest (58 Yrs)	FX
Curry, Vern (58 Yrs)	Draperer
Marshall, Robert (58 Yrs)	Draperer
Burke Jr., Jonnie (58 Yrs)	FX
Dennis, Gerald (58 Yrs)	Prop Maker
Perkins, John (58 Yrs)	Prop Maker
Farrington, Floyd (58 Yrs)	Property Master
Scheerer, Richard (58 Yrs)	Property Master
Teufel, Jack (58 Yrs)	Property
Westcott, Kenneth (58 Yrs)	Property Master
Ferry, Stephen (58 Yrs)	Property Master
Orendorff, James (58 Yrs)	Coordinator
Lee, Daniel (58 Yrs)	FX
Parker, Richard (58 Yrs)	FX
MacDonald, Gerald (58 Yrs)	Coordinator
Ewing, Herbert (58 Yrs)	FX
Kraum, Manly (58 Yrs)	Prop Maker
Tillman, Lukey (58 Yrs)	FX

There were no 50, 35 or 25 year anniversaries in August

10 Year Anniversaries

Anderson, Hawley	Property
Zorowski, Neal	Property
Renard, Peter	Prop Maker
Radell, Nicholas	Prop Maker
Edwards, Danny	Prop Maker
Pages, Eric	Property
Nicholson, Charles	Property
Germaine, Gordon	Property
Salvaggio, Anthony	Prop Maker
Malone, Michael	Property
Hernandez, Mario	Upholsterer
White, Barry	Floorcoverer
Blanchard, Joel	Prop Maker
Johnson, Rickey	Upholsterer
Penley, Paul	Property
Dean, James	Property
Drury Jr., James	Prop Maker
Abrahamson, Douglas	Property
Holmes, Robin	Property

Bizarro, Louie	Property
Mansbridge, Brook	Prop Maker
Broderick, Colleen	Property
Serdena, Gene	Set Decorator
Reed, Patrick	Prop Maker
Barringer, Chad	Prop Maker
Nieman, Richard	Property
Hodges, Jonathan	Property Master
McCrea, Michael	Property
Capetanos, George	Property
Kartiganer, Kym	Property
Peltola, Scott	Prop Maker
Zilliox-Deras, Jennifer	Property
McClung, Suellyn	Property
O'Regan, Desmond	Property
Licoan, Alvin	Prop Maker
Baruth, Curtis	Coordinator
Jones, John	Property Master
Miller, Donovan	Property
Weaver, John	Property Master
Upham, Gerald	Prop Maker
Askerneese, Claude	Property Master
Sues, David	Prop Maker
Allen, Michael	Prop Maker
Stanger, Michael	Prop Maker

As we started our member anniversary listing in June, we will be including January through May anniversaries in upcoming issues.

In this issue we list our 50 Year + Anniversaries.

50 Year + Anniversaries

January

Tomasino, Mariano (71 Yr)	Prop Master
Tolliver, Charles (66 Yr)	Prop Maker
Swenson, Kenneth (69 Yr)	Prop Master
Carfagno, Orie (58Yr)	Prop Maker
Carico, Jack (53 Yr)	Prop Maker
Tafarella, Jean (51 Yr)	Property
Stone, Jesse (51 Yr)	Prop Maker
Yzuel, Lorey (51 Yr)	Property

February

Hafley, Lucien (74 Yr)	Set Decorator
Gausman, Hal (69 Yr)	Set Decorator
Gordon, Sam (69 Yr)	Prop Master
Ayers, Maurice (69 Yr)	FX
Webb, Richard (69 Yr)	FX
Burud, George (59 Yr)	Prop Maker
Hermann, Robert (58 Yr)	Property
Pierce, Clarence (54 Yr)	Prop Maker
Skarsten, Donald (54 Yr)	Prop Maker
Goss, Joseph (54 Yr)	FX
Lowers, Herman (54 Yr)	Coordinator
Elm, Oscar (54 Yr)	Coordinator

Brewer, Roy (54Yr)	Prop Maker
Ellis, Albert (54 Yr)	Prop Maker
Stonecipher, Dolph (54Yr)	Prop Maker
Hester, Howard (53 Yr)	Coordinator
George, Roger (53 Yr)	Coordinator
Shugart, Jack (53 Yr)	Prop Maker

March

Ackerman, Jackie (69 Yr)	Prop Master
Henderson, Bob (69 Yr)	Prop Master
Capitano, Louis (59 Yr)	Prop Maker

April

Clove, William (54 Yr)	FX
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May

Wermich, Walter (70 Yr)	Property
Newby, G.S. (58Yr)	Property
Jones, Merle (58 Yr)	Prop Maker
Story, France (58 Yr)	Prop Maker
Bond, Jason (58 Yr)	Coordinator
Robles, Gene (58 Yr)	Coordinator
Murphy, Harold (58 Yr)	FX
Wright Jr., Alton (54 Yr)	FX

**KEEP AN EYE
OUT FOR YOUR
ANNIVERSARY
IN OUR NEXT
ISSUE!**

**If you have an
upcoming anniversary
and DO NOT want it
printed in the Newsreel,
please notify the
business office.
818-769-2500 ext. 105**

Local 44 Inventors: Jim Fox's MINI-FOG

Property master Jim Fox began his career in Hollywood at CBS TV in the Special Effects Department in 1955. In the 60's, Jim had his own Special Effects company, but when one of his partners blew his hand off, Jim decided the Prop Department might be a safer career choice.

Jim became a Property Master in Local 44 in 1978. In the mid-80's, Jim was doing a commercial with director John Pytko at Hollywood Center Studios. They were using a so-called "cracked oil" fogger to create atmospheric fog on stage. At that time, it consisted of a 50 gallon drum with at least 5 gallons of foil in the bottom and a capped piece of pipe with holes drilled in it fed through a one inch air hose from an industrial compressor outside the stage.

It worked fine until the lot manager kept shutting off the compressor because it was disturbing a sound shoot on the adjoining stage. Jim realized it shouldn't take that much air to create fog, and John told him if he could figure out a better way, he would back him financially in producing it. Jim went home to his shop and started playing with some ideas. After trying a few experiments with limited results, Jim discovered that by directing very small jets of air into the oil bath, he could create a superior fog that consisted of microscopic bubbles. This method consumed very little air or oil.

After making a prototype with improved filtration, Jim decided to go for a patent. After about a year of going back and forth with the U.S. Patent Office, a patent was finally issued on June 6th, 1989, and they were in business.

Jim decided early on, learning from companies like Chapman, Panavision and others in the industry, to make the machines for rental and lease only, not for sale. After making further improvements such as a remote control and improved packaging, Jim started making the machines in his home shop. The MINI-FOG machines were very successful, especially after being tested at less than 5% of what OSHA considers safe for mineral oil mist. This is ten times cleaner than the DF-50 according to Reel EFX's own literature which shows less than 50%. And the MINI-FOG fog has a longer hang time.

The MINI-FOG machines were carried for many years by Special Effects Unlimited until new management took over. They are now available directly from Jim and his company, Prop Services Unlimited. And for the first time, the machines are for sale.

Jim can be reached by e-mail at propmaster@filmstew.com or by phone at: (323) 462-2272

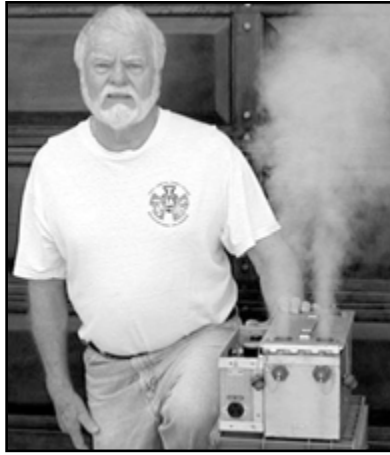
Product Name: MINI-FOG

Product Specs: MF3: 20" wide, 20" deep, 12" high, 95 lbs.; MF4: 11" wide, 17" deep, 11" high, 32 lbs; MF3A 14" wide, 19" deep, 20" high, 100 lbs; MF4A: 11" wide, 19" deep, 14" high, 37 lbs.

Special Features: The MF4 models are lightweight and designed for use where there is a stage air supply or compressor, the MF3 models include a remote controlled air compressor, and most MF3A systems have built-in wheels and a pull-up handle. All units include a foam-lined carrying case.

Made in the USA: Yes - all machines are made by Jim with no foreign parts.

Distributed by: Jim Fox e-mail: propmaster@filmstew.com or phone: (323) 462-2272



**TO THE BEST OF
LOCAL 44'S
KNOWLEDGE,
THE FOLLOWING
SHOPS ARE
NON-SIGNATORY:**

Applied Effects

**Culver City Custom
Props**

Flix Fx Inc.

**The Hand Prop
Room**

KNB

Stan Winston

**Any Key Personnel
using these
non-signatory shops
in connection with
Local 44
Jurisdiction work
will be the subject
of appropriate
disciplinary action.**

ATTENTION PROPERTY PERSONS AND PROPERTY MASTERS: FIREARMS SAFETY/HANDLING COURSE AVAILABLE

**A Contract Services sponsored Firearms Safety Handling Course open to Property
Persons and Property Masters will be held at Local 44 on Saturday, October 1, 2005.**

Check the website (www.local44.org) for more details.

Please call 769-2500 ext. 120 for applications and additional information

LETTERS TO THE LOCAL

The viewpoints of the individual members expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of Local 44, its officers or staff.

The show is Supernatural, directed by David Nutter. The studio is Warner Bros. The story is the same story that has been plaguing the film industry for the last decade.

Described as a cross between The X-Files and Route 66, this drama tracks Sam, a recent Stanford graduate with legal aspirations and his estranged older brother Dean who encounter unusual ghosts and local creatures straight out of American folk lore and urban legends during a road trip from San Francisco back home to Los Angeles and go on an adventure in order to track down the forces responsible for their mother's murder 20 years earlier.

I've seen the pilot in its entirety. We all know several of the people that worked on it. It's a good, out-of-the-ordinary experience, however, back to reality. While the show centers around locations in the U.S. and the pilot was filmed here in good 'ole sunny Southern California...the producers have, once again, opted to move the series to Canada in their usual bean-counting fashion against the wills of the director, several labor unions and countless other people in the state. I can't even begin to tell you how many people are put out of work because of a move like this or, for that matter, how many different occupations are affected (ones that are not even remotely considered part of the film industry)! From dry-cleaners to food production right on down to construction manufacturing, everyone takes a hit. Although I know that there is nothing good on television right now, I ask that you all think before supporting this series, as supporting it is akin to supporting the outsourcing of a multitude of American jobs. Spread the word...Keep our jobs here!

In staunch support,
Kay Quitan
Property

Dear Delegates and Union Brothers and Sisters,

I am enclosing a proposal that I hope you will review and consider. This is something that has been long overdue and your personal attention is necessary. Please take a moment to read it over and voice your opinion.

Between all the Union Locals, many hundreds of us live in the Antelope Valley. Everyday we commute 2-6 hours to Burbank, Hollywood, LA and further to work. Everyday there is Filming and Production taking place in Antelope Valley. AV Resident Union Members are commuting below and the members that live below commute to the Antelope Valley. We, the Union Members that live here would like a better opportunity to work locally. When I have asked Producers that film in the AV why they don't hire locally, they say there is no benefit. Due to the Studio Zone Regulations they have to pay Drive-To, Per Diem and Housing to everybody. In the meantime, the local AV Union Members spend many hours in traffic to commute below without any compensation. I am not asking for compensation for the commute, I chose to live here, and Union Members that commute to the AV deserve the compensation that they get.

My proposal is that we develop an incentive for Producers filming in the AV, to hire locally; with an amendment to the basic agreement that exempts Producers from paying the Outside the Studio Zone Fees on local residents.

This would only affect the members that live in Palmdale, Lancaster, Littlerock, Lake LA and surrounding communities in the Antelope Valley. Members that live below and are hired to work here would not be effected or lose any benefits. I would gladly give up those benefits and fees (Drive -To, Per Diem and Housing) in order to work near my home and have more time to be with my family.

This amendment proposal is a Win/Win situation. The Union Members and Producers win, and we save life and limb for those of us that commute. It

will also create incentives for Producers to develop Studios and Production facilities in the AV.

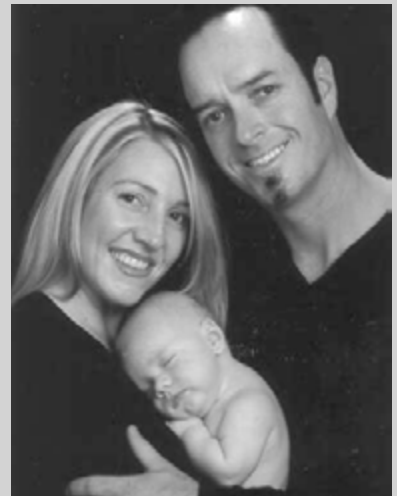
We also have a unique advantage in that in the AV, we have a Free Enterprise Zone that allows Employers to receive tremendous State Tax Benefits for hiring out of the AV labor pool. We are worried about Runaway Production, and Tax Subsidies like these are just another way that we can compete with Canada, North Carolina, Austin, Dallas, Australia and Europe.

Help me Brothers and Sisters, This won't solve all of our problems, but it's a start in the right direction.

Thank You,
David E. Harshbarger, Property Master
A Proud Local # 44 Member

If you would like to send a Letter to the Local, please make sure submissions are typed or printed neatly and e-mail newsreel@local44.org, fax: 818-769-1739 or mail to Local 44, ATTN: Newsreel, 12021 Riverside Drive, North Hollywood, CA 91607. Submissions may be edited for content and length.

NEW ARRIVALS



Property Person Todd Farmer and wife Jodi are proud to announce the arrival of their first child, Logan Taylor Farmer, born 10/5/2004, 7.2 lbs. at Scripps LaJolla Hospital.

UPDATE ON JOHN PARKER

By Lynn Parker

John's liver transplant surgeons tell him that the series of events on the morning of July 10th was an absolute miracle. A liver was flown up from Southern California that was meant for another patient but for some reason, he could not make it to the hospital for the procedure.



*John Parker at the Burbank
"Relay for Life"*

The Chief of Surgery, who had pulled the plug on John's living donor transplant which had been scheduled for May 27th, immediately thought of John, just as he had promised. John received the call to show up at hospital and after a record breaking four hour surgery, John was taken to the ICU to begin the rest of his new life.

The following morning, Steve Purcell, who was to have been John's living donor came to the hospital to visit with a new wound of his own. He had just been thru shoulder surgery the day before for a badly torn rotator cuff. Apparently, he had endured the pain for months and had made the decision to donate half his liver to John instead of taking care of his own injury.

After eight days, John was released to go home in my care. I knew he was feeling better when after a couple of days, I heard guitar music coming from the downstairs studio. John had told everyone in the hospital that he was going to play a July 2nd concert at Redondo Pier and refused to be talked out of it.

He showed up at the Pier, just 22 days after surgery - literally held together by staples. He really intended to only sing maybe two songs, then let his band, Forced Call, take over but once he was on stage, he sang and played for two full hours. The following weekend, at the Burbank Relay for Life, he played host, walked laps, led the luminary ceremony and performed with his band for a full day. He was exhausted but extremely satisfied.

Everyone says that John has more guts than anyone they know and he continues to amaze us all. He is now starting the next phase of his therapy which is an intensive six month systemic chemotherapy treatment, designed to make certain he has no cancer cells still running around to cause more trouble. He has a great amount of hope for the future which is the most important asset one can have.

John and I would like to thank all of our brothers and sisters who have contacted us during this ordeal with good thoughts, love and prayers. We never knew how lucky we are to have so many friends behind us.

THANKS FROM THE WHEATLEY FAMILY

Dear Friends,

We never know what life will bring. When I received the call that Scott was hurt, I never could have imagined it would be as serious as it was, nor how much people would care. We all know people care about us, but when something like this happens, the care and support is overwhelming. Words cannot express how grateful I am.

The last weeks have been nothing short of a roller coaster ride. When Scott is doing well, we are at the highest emotional point, and when he is not having a good day, we must reach deeper for strength. However, every day, the boys and I feel your support. The many cards, gifts, and visits have been very much appreciated. Words do not express the depth of our love for you and thanks for all you do to support us.

Scott is receiving excellent medical care at Torrance Memorial Burn Center. The doctors and staff have done everything possible to answer my hundreds of questions and to not only make Scott comfortable, but me too. Doctors say Scott's recovery will take many months in the hospital and even more at home, but all of us know Scott is a strong man, in his faith, and emotional determination.

The boys are doing well. Each have visited Scott and now understand the severity and length of recovery this accident requires. They are keeping busy with summer activities, visiting friends, playing pool on a new pool table and will be swimming once the pool is warm.

While visitors are very limited for the next period of time, once Scott is able, I know he will want to thank you personally. Until then, I am keeping a log of each act of kindness, to show Scott just how much he is loved.

The words "Thank You" do not even begin to tell you how much our family appreciates having you in our lives.

With much love and thanks,
Mary Wheatley and Family

**Blood Donation For Scott Wheatly
Torrance Memorial Medical Center
3330 Lomita Blvd. Torrance, CA 90505
Blood Donor Center – 2nd Floor
Call (310) 517-4647
for an Appointment in Scott's Name
Hours: M: 8a – 7p, T – Th: 8a – 4:30p, F: 8a – 3:30p**

LATE-BREAKING NEWS

As this was going to press: International President Thomas C. Short was elected as a Vice President of the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO. Short's election marks the return of the IATSE to the AFL-CIO Executive Council, after a 31-year absence. Richard Walsh retired from the Council in 1974.

SPEAK UP! ...



Your chance to speak up on issues you care about.

In the June/July 2005 issue of the **Local 44 Newsreel**, we started a new regular feature: "SPEAK UP!". We posed a question and promised to print as many responses as possible in the following issue. The June/July question was: *What is the most important issue on the table in the upcoming contract negotiations between the IATSE and the Producers?*

We can't print the responses in this issue, because we didn't receive any! Not one.

So, we're taking a different approach to "SPEAK UP!" this time. We picked a topic: *fighting runaway production*. Please read the background info and the questions. Then, check the appropriate boxes in the response form, remove the response form, and mail it in. We will print the results in our next **Local 44 Newsreel**.

Fighting Runaway Production

Background: For some months now, Local 44 has been fighting runaway production at its root cause by aligning itself with other labor organizations and attacking unfair and illegal film production subsidies used by foreign governments to lure production away from the United States.

To do this, we support the filing of a petition under Section 301(a) of the Trade Act of 1974 with the United States Trade Representative, asking him to investigate foreign television and film production subsidies to determine whether or not they violate existing trade agreements and, if they do, to pursue their removal through the World Trade Organization. This is the same legal mechanism the studios are using in their well-publicized fight against film piracy. We have joined with entertainment workers, guilds and other unions – in California and across the U.S.A. — in building public support for this effort.

In letters and articles in **Newsreel**, in spirited discussions at the March membership meetings and the June craft meetings, in a motion passed by our Executive Board in April, in lobbying for and winning the Burbank City Council's support for the filing of the Section 301(a) petition, Local 44 has been educating and agitating on behalf of this legal tool to fight runaway production.

In conjunction with other locals and guilds, both within and outside of the IATSE, we would share the financial burden for this trade remedy. Now we need help to raise our share of the money necessary for the legal battle. Top flight international trade attorneys are on board. But attorneys and reputable economic studies cost money.

SPEAK UP! RESPONSE FORM

Local 44 Survey for August 2005.

(1.) I support Local 44's campaign to fight runaway production at the root by attacking unfair and illegal foreign film production subsidies. In conjunction with other locals and guilds, I think we should file the Section 301(a) Petition and we should raise and spend money to do so. AGREE DISAGREE

(2.) In order to pay for this filing, which funding method do you support (**check one**)?

- A one-time payment at the beginning of 2006 of one hour's pay per member, at the basic minimum scale for your craft's pay rate.
- A quarterly allotment payment of \$5.00 per quarter per member, collected in four quarterly payments during 2006.

(3.) Please write any comments you have about fighting runaway production at its root by attacking foreign production subsidies.

Please remove the SPEAK UP survey by cutting it from the page. Mail it in to Local 44 no later than September 6, 2005. If you just answer the survey, you may remain anonymous. If you write any comments and want them to be printed in the following **Newsreel**, please give us your name. Thank you for participating. Thanks for speaking up.

HAVING AN OUT-OF-POCKET EXPERIENCE?



At the Motion Picture & Television Fund Health Centers you won't. In fact, you'll have significantly lower out-of-pocket expenses, if any at all. And you'll get the best doctors, the finest healthcare, convenient locations, more flexible hours, and caring medical professionals who understand the demands of the entertainment industry. Why go anywhere else? For information or to make an appointment, call 800-876-8320 (choose option 2).

MPTF HEALTH CENTERS. Where The Spotlight Is On Good Medicine.

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Motion Picture
& Television
Fund
Taking Care of Our Own™

MORE BORING BUT IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Quarterly payments shall be paid on or before the first day of each quarter.

First quarter payments are due on or before January 1; Second quarter on or before April 1; Third quarter on or before July 1; Fourth quarter on or before October 1. **It is your responsibility to pay on time.**

According to our Constitution (Art. 5, Sec. 2): "Each member must keep themselves advised of the status of their account, and this Local is not required to send any person any notice whatsoever of their dues or other indebtedness." For those members who would like a complimentary dues reminder in advance of the new quarter by e-mail, please e-mail the local to get on our Local 44 Email Updates list: newsreel@local44.org. **Daily late fees are assessed on members who are late and working.**

Members are allowed a seven calendar day grace period after the first of the quarter. If members are working, they shall be fined a **Late Fee of \$1.75 per day** for every day they are late with their payments until the payment is received (if you are mailing in your payment, your postmark determines the timeliness). You may find yourself with a balance due if you wait until the last minute to mail in your payment. **"Suspended" means you haven't paid your dues for a whole quarter.**

Right now (third quarter 2005), you would be suspended if you had paid your first quarter 2005 payment, but hadn't paid your second quarter payment. When you are Suspended, your Local 44 Life Insurance policy has been cancelled, you are not receiving calls through the Call Board, and you are not eligible to work. You are subject to a reinstatement fee.

"Dropped" (or "Expelled") means you haven't paid your dues for two consecutive quarters.

In third quarter 2005, you would be dropped if you had not paid your obligations for first and second quarters 2005. Your Local 44 Life Insurance policy has been cancelled, you are not receiving calls through the Call Board, you are not eligible to work, and you now owe a reinstatement fee, and you must get the approval of the International in New York before you member status is cleared.

**Reinstatement Fees are \$175.00.
Avoid them by paying dues on time.**

REMEMBRANCES
For complete tribute articles, and updated, detailed information on funeral and memorial services, please log on to our website at www.local44.org and click on "In Memory Of."

REMEMBRANCES

ROBERT ANDERSON
COORDINATOR
BORN: 3/31/28
SWORN IN: 2/18/1961
RETIRED: 1/1/1994
DIED: 7/3/2005

GEORGE OTERO
PROPERTY
BORN: 9/01/1912
SWORN IN: 8/28/1947
DIED: 06/04/2005

EARL O. BLACKWELL
PROPMAKER
BORN: 8/2/1927
SWORN IN: 10/13/1965
RETIRED: 10/1/1989
DIED: 5/27/2005

**WILLIAM "BILLY"
PARRISH**
PROPERTY
BORN: 9/25/1954
SWORN IN: 1/24/1974
DIED: 6/20/2005

MORGAN J. BOURDREAUX
PROPMAKER
BORN: 7/9/1919
SWORN IN: 8/24/1964
RETIRED: 9/1/1981
DIED: 7/20/2005

SAMUEL M. RUSSELL
PROPMAKER
SWORN IN: 9/2/1965
DIED: 6/20/2005

HOWARD R. HESTER
COORDINATOR
BORN: 8/1/1923
SWORN IN: 2/1/1952
RETIRED: 8/1/1988
DIED: 7/24/2005

**RALPH SFORZA
DRAPER**
BORN: 3/31/1917
SWORN IN:
10/18/1966
RETIRED: 4/1/1982
DIED: 6/11/2005



ROBERT E. KRUME
COORDINATOR
BORN: 9/9/1931
SWORN IN: 4/16/1961
RETIRED: 4/1/1993
DIED: 7/27/2005

CURTIS JENKINS
PROPMAKER
5/29/1955 - 5/3/2005

Curtis James Jenkins was born May 29, 1955 in Washington D.C. He was the only child of James D. Jenkins who preceded him in death September 6, 1991, and Thelma Curtis Jenkins who also preceded him in death February 27, 1997. He always had a smile as large as life and a sense of humor that brought joy to many lives.

As a proud and talented Propmaker and member of Local 44, Curtis was part of a team that built and designed movie sets that included *Back to the Future I and II* and "Moonlighting" of which he was extremely proud. Curtis married Pamela Mosley on September 21, 1985 and from this union came two daughters, Erricka Jane and Natashia Joyelle. Curtis later married Sharon Ragsdale who preceded him in death December 11, 1997. No children came from this union.

Curtis leaves his cherished memory to his daughters, former wife and caregiver, Pamela Jenkins; in-laws, Jack and Berrye Mosley; sisters-in-law, Debra Caudle and Karen Mosley; nephews, Michael (Yolanda), David and Christopher, and niece Brittani; his Los Angeles family and best friends, Larry Carter (Deborah), Anthony Moore, Irvin Bates and Derrick Cross, although you were all far apart, you were always close to his heart; and Mr. Melvin Morris, a long time family friend, mentor and father figure whom Curtis loved dearly.

ANDREW D. MARTINEZ
SWORN IN: 1/1/1958
DIED: 5/30/2005

FRANK E. MITCHELL
GREENS PERSON
BORN: 8/23/1923
SWORN IN: 10/7/1959
RETIRED: 6/1/1988
DIED: 7/9/2005

MONTE MONROE
PROPMAKER
BORN: 12/08/1918
SWORN IN: 1/1/1959
RETIRED: 1/1/1984
DIED: 6/27/05

CHARLES F. OELZE
PROPMAKER
DIED: 6/6/2005

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS HIGHLIGHTS

Many of our members have expressed an interest in the content of the monthly Executive Board meetings. Below is a summary of the most recent meetings. These are only brief highlights and do not contain great detail. They are meant to give an overview of things that were discussed, not a fully accurate account. Any member wishing to read the minutes of the Executive Board in their entirety, may do so by appointment through the Secretary-Treasurer's office.

* In this issue the Craft meeting's are included.

Tues., May 31st – Special Constitution Meeting

Trustee Request

Trustee Jeannie Gunn addressed the Board in Executive Session

Revised Constitution Consideration

Counsel Lewis Levy was present to go over each discussed revision of the Constitution.

Article 9 Section 1

The discussion of who were considered Officers. The position of a Retiree representative was discussed. The International earlier denied this position. It was decided to discuss this in another Article. The three-year term of office was reworded to adjust to the previous election problems and federal law.

Article 9 Section 2

This section dealt with the creation of a standing Election Committee. Discussion was over the number of members, how they were constituted, and compensation.

Article 9 Section 6

This section dealt with voting and run-off elections. Instant run-off elections were discussed as well as other formulas.

Article 9 Section 8

This section dealt with protest procedures for elections and the federally mandated time frame for protests.

The final draft of Article Nine was approved with a proof copy to be presented to the E-Board by counsel Levy.

Unfinished/Deferred Business of E-Board meeting of 5-24-05

Delegate Convention

Discussion: It was determined in the last meeting to eliminate Local 44's booth. Was there a need for extra "volunteers" at the convention?

Discussion: Whether Local 44 would host a hospitality room at the convention and how it would be catered; using 44 members or hotel staff?

Discussion: The amount of per diem paid at the convention to Delegates.

Motion: To reduce the per diem traditionally paid to Delegates at the Convention.

Motion passed.

Discussion: Representative Raiche was asked by Local 871 to make a retraction in the upcoming Newsreel about their Local's inclusion in a list of supporters of FTAC's 301(a) filing from a previous Newsreel. A statement quoting 871's support of FTAC's filing in April 2003 was read and no retraction was offered.

Thurs., June 2nd – Prop Master's Craft Meeting

The Prop Masters did not attain a quorum. The necessary number for a quorum was 55. 26 were present.

Tues., June 14th – Special Effects' Craft Meeting

Special Effects did attain a quorum. The necessary number for a quorum was 27. 28 were present.

Motion: To maintain a quorum throughout the meeting.

Motion passed.

Discussion: On the Business Agent sending a message to Propmakers and Prop Shop personnel that only Special Effects members are allowed to supervise Special Effects work. There was a discussion on the timing and vehicle for the announcement. The Business Agent brought up the problem with signatory shops.

Motion: That the Business Agent publish in the August Newsreel a letter reminding all members that Special Effects work is to be supervised only by Special Effects cardholders.

Motion passed.

Discussion: With the recent rash of Special Effects accidents on sets, the subject of the rejected training course was brought up. The price tag was \$250,000, less than a lawsuit could be.

Motion: To have the Business Agent assign a Special Effects shop steward.

Motion passed.

Discussion: Over the ability to require Special Effects workers on Commercial shoots. The jurisdiction for the enforcement of the Commercial agreement is with the West Coast I.A.

Motion: That our Business Agent draft a letter to the West Coast I.A. to send a letter to all Commercial signatory shops to inform them of the availability of Special Effects personnel.

Motion passed.

Motion: To form a contract committee for Special Effects to discuss issues for the upcoming negotiations.

Motion passed.

Discussion: Some of the ongoing problems with "cross-utilization". Prop Masters vs. Effects jurisdictions. SFX doing the rigging for Coordinators.

Discussion: Developing a certification standard for Special Effects members. Remind Producers that Stunt members are not covered by Worker's Comp and the Producers are liable.

Wed., June 15th – Regular Meeting

Presentation: Trustee Recommendations after Audit

Trustees Gunn, Carlyle and Lungren presented their findings.

Using the independent audit findings and information provided by the Secretary-Treasurer the Trustee's created a chart showing a restructuring of job duties within the Local.

Discussion: Actual handling of cash. Auditors suggest more hands not less should be involved with cash and checks, this allows extra safeguards.

Discussion: For the sake of efficiency, the Trustees had eliminated some office positions and added workload to others, incorporating the audit report duties.

Discussion: Salaries for the restructured positions. Some members were concerned that extra work was placed on the new positions, or whether the old positions had not done enough. The Trustees said the restructure was "in a vacuum", the personalities currently holding spots were not considered, only what was possible under normal workloads.

Discussion: Whether the Board was stepping outside their duties in recommending the position changes. Should a special meeting be called to let the Secretary-Treasurer digest the information?

Motion: That the Board uses the Trustee's charts as a template for the discussion that was slated for the night regarding office compensation and staff.

Motion passed.

Discussion: With attorney Levy, regarding dismissal of office staff and their compensation if any.

As it appeared the length of this meeting would not allow a discussion on the CBL rewrite of Article 9, attorney Levy passed out the revamp so E-Board members could be prepared for the next meeting and excused himself from the Board.

Discussion: The E-Board requested that the Secretary-Treasurer take the proposed restructuring and decide on a time table to implement the changes.

Motion: That the Secretary-Treasurer use the new structure and phase it into reality and come back with salary numbers for the new positions. A report to be given the E-Board within 14 days.

Motion passed.

Discussion: In the office restructuring; was there going to be talk about the salaries of the Business Agent and Secretary-Treasurer? It was decided the salaries would remain intact through this term and if changes to the structure occur, it would be well in advance of the next election for the incoming officers.

Monthly Budget Update

The Secretary-Treasurer handed out the monthly budget update.

The number of new initiation was just on

track for yearly estimates.

Lawyer fees were running above estimates.

Retiree medical co-pays were significantly higher than year's past possibly due to the information to all Retirees that these benefits existed.

Convention Ad

Discussion: Over the look and the size of the "ad" printed in the Convention brochure.

Motion: To take out a half-page ad.

On a split vote, motion passed with two abstentions.

Motion: In the ad to use the traditional film scroll with the nine crafts and the words "In solidarity" added.

Motion passed.

Commercial Contract Enforcement

The meeting with the West Coast IA had been postponed.

Discussion: Two Special Effects men had been burned in explosions in two separate explosions, both needed financial assistance.

Motion: To aid both members with financial aid.

Motion passed.

Request: Representative Gene Owens needed a leave of absence due to surgeries he would undergo.

Discussion: Whether to have the hotel staff at the Convention cater the luncheon, or do it with our own staff. The cost savings of using the hotel staff versus bringing Local 44 members.

Motion: To bring one E-Board member, willing to go without pay and staff the meal with hotel workers.

On a split vote motion passed, with one abstention.

Discussion: The Secretary-Treasurer reported that the invitation for member Charlotte Laughon to speak to the Board about her feelings of mistreatment had received no response.

Discussion: Local 665, the Convention host Local, sent a letter requesting assistance in offsetting their expenses. It was noted that this was common practice.

Motion: That Local 44 assist Local 665 with their expenses of hosting the Convention.

Motion passed with four abstentions.

Thurs., June 16th – Property Craft Meeting

Property did not attain a quorum. The necessary number for a quorum was 149. 50 were present.

Mon., June 20th – Set Decorator Meeting

The Set Decorators did attain a quorum. The necessary number for a quorum was 31. 43 were present.

Tues., June 21st – Coordinator Meeting

The Coordinators did not attain a quorum. The necessary number for a quorum was 28. 12 were present.

Thurs., June 23rd – Propmaker Meeting

The Propmakers did not attain a quorum. The necessary number for a quorum was 231. 56 were present.

Wed., July 6th – Regular Meeting

Discussion: The trial of former officers had to be postponed. Each officer had sent in a request at the minimum deadline. The new date would be set 60 days hence with the knowledge that no further extension would be given.

Motion: That both officers be given notice in various forms to ensure they had adequate time to prepare for trial.

Motion passed.

Discussion: Attorney Levy noted that with this continuance, the charged parties have adequate preparation time. If they fail to show, the charging party will present evidence and any decision of the trial body stands.

Presentation: Member Lenny Mazzola made a pitch to continue to fund his designing and building of the stage for the Golden Boot Awards. Mr. Mazzola was requesting that Local 44 place a Property Leadman and two Prop Men on salary as the Local's donation to the benefit.

The Secretary-Treasurer noted the bill would be \$21,000 without OT. Mr. Mazzola said the MPHPIP would donate 2 tables to Local 44 for the event.

It was discussed that no veteran E-Board member remembered funding this event in the past. The Secretary-Treasurer noted that it first came to his attention on last year's LM2; he assumed it was a customary expense. The Board agreed that under current financial situations the expense was too high.

Motion: That the Local will not fund the payroll for this year's event, but would consider buying a table as a direct donation.

Motion passed.

The Board entered into Executive Session.

Discussion: The Secretary-Treasurer handed the Board menus from the hotel of the Convention and discussed the possible bills.

Motion: That the expenditure for hosting meals at the Convention not exceed \$10,000.

Motion passed.

Discussion: Article 9 of the CBL rewrite. The selection of the installation date of officers, and the corresponding dates by using any of three available options.

Motion: To use a June 15th installation date for officers.

On a split vote, motion defeated with one abstention.

Motion: To use a May 15th installation date for officers.

Motion passed with one abstention.

Update: Office Restructuring

The bookkeeper has been notified that his position is being eliminated and replaced by a CPA, until such time he remains on staff.

The collection officer was asked if he could stay at the reduced salary desired by the Board and take on the additional tasks of disability and death benefits. He declined the position, but requested to maintain his position for 3 months to

train his replacement and make his 63rd birthday. That was granted.

The Newsreel formatting person has moved into the Business Office.

The assistant to the Assistant B.A.s had been informed of the elimination of her position, but not been given a specific date.

Presentation: Local 485 (Arizona) preferring charges against Local 44 members.

A letter was read by the Business Agent from Local 485 B.A. that Local 44 members, working in their jurisdiction failed to pay dues owed their Local.

The Board went into Executive Session.

Motion: To take cognizance of Local 485 charges against Local 44 members.

Motion passed with one abstention.

Discussion: What would be the policy regarding absences from the Board and placing of alternates during absences. It was decided that no policy was needed at this time, and that it would be discussed in the CBL rewrite.

Business Agent Report

The report concentrated on several grievances that were in the works but still stalled.

Secretary-Treasurer Report

The Secretary-Treasurer read three thank you letters from members or their families for the support Local 44 had given them in recent tough times. He also read a letter from one family requesting quicker updates on films which members might boycott like the recent "Cinderella Man".

A request by the Cal Fed had come out of the Business Agents meeting for \$1 per member for the next 5 months. This would be an additional \$25-30,000.

An email sent to the Executive Board was passed out which defended Tim McHugh one of the leaders of FTAC.

It was noted the computer integrated phone system financing had been completed, but installation was being delayed until after the Convention.

Reports: Craft Meetings

Brief reports on each craft meeting were presented.

**OCTOBER 1, 2005
IS THE NEXT DATE FOR
LOCAL 44 DUES.
DUES ARE PAYABLE ON OR
BEFORE THE FIRST DAY
OF EACH QUARTER.
DUES DATES:
JANUARY 1,
APRIL 1, JULY 1,
OCTOBER 1**