



“DINNER FOR SCHMUCKS” CREW

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2010

Business Agent's Report
Page 3

Sec. Treasurer's Report
Page 5

In This Issue:

- Business Agent's Report, pg. 3
- “Dinner for Schmucks” cont. pg. 4
- Secretary Treasurer's Report, pg. 5
- “Big Time Rush” cont. pg. 6
- Convention Report, pg. 7
- Severance Pay Information, pg. 8
- In Memory Of..., pg. 9
- Dropped Members, pg. 9
- Member Anniversary List, pg. 10
- E-Board Meeting Motions, pg. 11
- Reminders and Events, pg. 12
- Tool Crib, pg. 12

Welcome to L.A. “Dinner for Schmucks”

By Buffy Morton

Dinner for Schmucks, originally slated for New Mexico, was one of the first tax incentive features to come to Los Angeles and thank goodness that it did; it kept our members working and only Hollywood 44 members can offer audiences "The Best of LA".

If you are in the mood for dinner, laughter, and a captivating experience, then satisfy your appetite in 2010 with this DreamWorks' comedy feature. Dishing out this visual masterpiece is Local 44 Construction Coordinator Terry Scott, Set Decorator Susan Benjamin, Special Effects Coordinator Bruce Steinheimer, and their commendable crews.

The Fender Mansion dining room, brought into existence by Terry Scott, Foreman Ciro Vuoso, and their crew is something to be talked about. It is a beautiful replication of a dining room from an existing Tudor style mansion in Pasadena. The mansion location is also used for the filming of "Dinner for Schmucks". According to Scott, "The uniquely crafted dining area has a graphically designed coffered ceiling, Styrofoam casing jams offering a stone look, textured wood panel walls introduced by Paramount Moulding, and a practical wild fireplace." Once all of this was put into place, (continued on page 4)

Nickelodeon's "Big Time Rush"

By Buffy Morton

As we all know, the face of television caters to audiences of all ages and with each generation comes a new theme in programming. With young viewers, it appears there is an increasing hype in sitcoms that feature pop star talent. It all began with Disney's Hanna Montana followed by the all too familiar Jonas Brothers. Now with a new year and a fierce competitive edge, Nickelodeon will offer its viewers "Big Time

Rush". This newly acclaimed series will follow the lives of four teens who find that hockey is not their only talent. In addition to the recently debuted scripted series, "Big Time Rush" will also be making its mark in the music scene with its first single and theme song titled "Big Time Rush".

Construction Coordinator Tim Zeug, (continued on page 6)



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Michael Torvinen

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Local 44 Website Registration

Stay up to date with Local 44 news and information. Register at the Local 44 website. It's easy. Just go to www.local44.org, click on "fill out this form" link found in the same box for Username and Password. Fill out and submit the registration form. Then check your email for your user name and password.

Business Agent's Report

By Ed Brown



Commercials

In the last issue of the Newsreel, I wrote about Local 44's commitment to addressing and correcting the "Commercial Problem". That time has come. As this piece is being written, my office has filed, what more than likely will be a string of Grievances against the AICP (Association of Independent Commercial Producers) for infractions of the agreement.

Throughout the last quarter of 2009, we observed from Commercial set visits some astounding figures. Of the AICP Commercial sets that the Business Agent's staff visited, 226 crewmembers were listed on call sheets under Local 44 classifications. We found that, in fact, only 57 of those 226 were actually members of Local 44 or just about 25%. On those same call sheets, 206 P.A.'s were listed in various classifications, many of them IA covered areas. Every position filled by non-IA persons, meant wages and benefits lost to those of you who could have taken those jobs.

We also found a disturbing trend; many of those non-IA persons were hired by our own members or other IA members. If our own members violated the agreement, you can bet the AICP Producers will do the same. Those days are done! Our covered work will not be performed by any persons other than members of the respective IA Locals. It is difficult to say when all 200-plus AICP Production companies will be in compliance but we will take every recourse under the agreement to get there. When we do, many jobs currently being held by non-union persons will open for those of you wishing to take them. For those of you working and hiring in this world, it is time to make sure you only hire union! More than likely, some of these companies think they are in compliance with the agreement. So when they get a Grievance they will look for someone to blame it on. Don't let it be you. The days of our members working

Commercials being taunted by non-members, who believe they have circumvented the system, and still receive benefits, are done as well. There is a Union Security clause in the agreement. When producers fail to comply with that clause, they allow non-union members to fill those positions. Those of you that work Commercials and would like to assist us please contact the Business Agent's office.

Working Non-Signator Shops

I realize that we are coming out of two very difficult years. Many of you are hurting financially. Work is work and any kind of work means a paycheck. However, when that work is at a non-union facility, most likely that work comes at the cost of lower wages and definitely no benefits. Many non-signator facilities are out there; fabricating custom props, building scenery, renting property items, fabricating draperies or upholstering. Most recently, we discovered an extremely large build for visual effects. What's disappointing is that many of our members work at these locations and never report this to the Union. These facilities continue to profit, many times on the backs of our own members, and somehow during all of this the phone number to the local gets lost. If you are a member employed at a non-signator company, we can't help you without knowing where this work is being done. If you feel that your job will be in jeopardy by calling the Union, remember that this job has taken advantage of you from the beginning, and that the Union would only work to better your conditions. I encourage you to contact my office, either me directly or one of the Asst. B.A.'s with any information about these facilities. We will do all we can to help, and be assured your information will be held in confidence.

L.A. Film Commission

On January 5th, the L.A. City Council met to discuss the creation of a Los Angeles Film Commission. Initially, when I heard they were intending this meeting, I was shocked that L.A. didn't already have a Film Commission. Once the shock wore off, I realized this should come as no surprise from a city and a state that has been waiting on the sidelines for almost a decade while commerce of all natures ran away from California. That morning I assigned

Asst. B.A. Paul Ahrens to attend the City Council meeting and to observe and report. Councilman Richard Alarcon had proposed the creation of this Commission to work with FilmLA in competing with other cities and states currently advancing in their industry programs. With the Council's unanimous vote, they directed the Chief Legislative Office to research how to finance this Commission and to research what other metropolitan cities have done with their Film Commissions. Our Local Union will continue to take part and monitor the progress of this Commission. We hope that L.A.'s Film Commission would have enough budget and legislative pull to have a positive effect on Film and Television production here in Los Angeles. It would mean nothing to the working men and women of our industry if this Commission has no budget and no clout. We do not need more bureaucracy and red tape. We need a Commission that has meaning and purpose. We need a Commission that has ongoing input from behind the camera workers. My office will continue to monitor these proceedings as they progress.

California Incentive Shows Update

With your help, my office has been tracking the California Tax Incentive Shows shooting in the Los Angeles area. As of mid-January, fifteen productions, either finished or currently in production, have employed 829 members of Local 44. Proving again how valuable the Tax Incentive program is, not only to Local 44, but to the entire Industry throughout the State. I want to thank those of you that provided Vendor lists and those of you that notified us that you are working on these shows. As you can see, by providing that information we are able to record with some degree of accuracy the number of good middle class jobs the program produces. We will continue to need your help, so please keep calling in your work and sending in Vendor lists from these Incentive shows.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Faternally,
Ed Brown
Business Agent
I.A.T.S.E. Local 44

Welcome to Los Angeles "Dinner for Schmucks"

By Buffy Morton

(continued from cover)

Set Decorator Susan Benjamin, Lead Joel Prihoda and crew embellished the interior with elaborate artwork, an abundance of breakaways from Lennie Marvin, drapes from Fox, Lennox China, and additional upscale pieces from Omega, Greenset, and Universal. Benjamin compliments her crew's work as a "realistic contemporary contrast between the look of the mansion and the comedy of the film."

Also contributing to the formal dining room is Special Effects Coordinator Bruce Steinheimer and his crew; Michael Clarke, Scott Garcia, Isidoro Raponi, and Garth Steinheimer. Together the group produced a fire sequence where a set of drapes manufactured by Deborah Smith and her crew at Fox Drapery catch on fire. Benjamin expands by explaining, "Leadman Joel Prihoda and Bruce Steinheimer worked closely with Deborah to build a



L to R: Antonia Sola, Jack Fisher (Driver), Erik Soderstrom, John Markovich, Greg O'Donohue, Set Decorator - Susan Benjamin, Johnathan Rudnick, Lawson Brown, Paul Hartman, Anne Marie Hamill, Draper - Deborah Jones

rig that was fire safe and accommodated the heavy load of drapes. Bruce supplied us with various kinds of lining fabrics that were burn safe. The painters painted them the color of our drapes and Deborah and her department did an amazing job of sewing them together with our silk fabric to create a stunning drapery treatment. According to

Steinheimer, "a fire of this capacity would normally be done outside. However, with our experience and proper fire proofing, we're going to pull it off." Greensman Tony Castagnola also played an important part in transforming the exterior of the mansion by dressing the outdoor court yard with a large freestanding pergola

with artificial wisteria vines, four artificial cherry blossom trees, and a few topiaries.

On a larger scale, Scott's construction crew displayed an elevated level of skill by building an entire New Age apartment set. Foreman Ciro Vusco describes, "Tim's Apartment is a great mix of modern architecture, Art Deco, and the Designer's own vision. Glass tile, flooring, finishes on furniture and cabinets, metal handrails, elevators, wall coverings and textures, all had to be blended and tested to make sure that the end product was as good as we needed it to be, so that the set could come to life. Kind of like Frankenstein, only not scary! The transformation was amazing; first to have an idea, then a concept, which became a vision that culminated in the talents of the 44 people." The finished product of Tim's Apartment is "the best of LA's upscale sophistication," says Benjamin.



L to R: Michael Clarke, Scott Garcia, Isidoro Raponi, Garth Steinheimer, Bruce Steinheimer

On the Cover

Front Row (L to R): Mark Lopez, Anthony Syracuse, Chris Perez, Patrick Silvera, Randy Syracuse, Dave Diersing, Susan Benjamin, Michael Corenblith, Terry Scott, Mark Bates, Jerry Casillas, Richard Ramirez, Rick Trujillo.

Second Row (L to R): Business Agent-Ed Brown, Don Weaton, John Elliott, Don Cooke, Doug Rosenberger, Calvin Mangum, Doug Seagrave, Tyler Dupee, Lori Cambell, Conlin Dennis, Frank Kilpatrick, Antonio Salazar, Ciro Vuoso, Jeff Perkins, Eric Marlow, Michael Alvarado.

Third Row (L to R): Brian Elliott, Eric Pifer, Rick McCarthy.

Scissor Lift (L to R): Amber Haley, Johnathan Rudnick, John Markovich.

Secretary Treasurer's Report - by Anthony Pawluc



"Here We Go"

2010 is here and we are all happy to shake off the past two dismal years of low employment for our membership and get back to doing what our crafts do best, building, decorating and crafting the best looking sets, props and special effects.

I am happy to report that even during a turbulent year for our membership and the Local's Treasury, we were able to come in under budget in 2009 because of responsible leadership, tough decision making and reducing or modifying scheduled staff shifts. I applaud our Officers and Executive Board for prudent spending and for always having the membership's money as our A-1 priority.

As most of us remember, our Local was famous for promising members that "things will break loose any minute" and "you will be working in no time." Unfortunately, most of these predictions would not materialize and unemployed members would only get further frustrated. Since taking over as Secretary Treasurer, our Callboard has maintained a policy to provide actual information rather than wishful, crystal ball, word-on-the-street type forecasts of production work. When current production lists are compared with our unemployment levels and we begin to see substantial fluctuations with our numbers, it points to an increase of employment and we can be certain where work is picking up.

With that said, Hollywood has been all a buzz that 2010 will see a ramp up of production in anticipation of another round of WGA and SAG negotiations, whose contracts expire in 2011, in addition to refilling what should have already been in the can. We all hope this buzz holds true and members will be able to keep busy and catch up with any financial short falls experienced in the recent past enabling them to turn their attention to saving some extra dollars for a possible slowdown in 2011. Being prudent and prepared is preferable to being behind

and playing financial catch up.

As you know, our **Call Board** is here to assist any of our department heads with confirming the classification and good standing of current or recently hired members. It is important for the union to have this information so we can keep accurate numbers of employment. It is equally important to our keys so we can help them avoid any potential grievances if they have non-members or persons in bad standing working on any given production. It does not take long, just fax your crew list to 818-769-4222 and our Call Board Stewards will be happy to confirm the crews standing. Another ongoing service our Call Board provides is the Local 44 Assistance Packet. It contains details on financial relief agencies including the Motion Picture and Television Fund, The Actor's Fund and the Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation. Other information offered in our packet include health care, credit counseling, housing, emergency food and shelter programs, utility assistance programs, etc. Also included is Local 44's own food bank, which has assisted many members and their families recently. We are always grateful to receive donations to the food bank or to our Local 44 Benevolent and Retirement Fund.

As with any new year, our **Business Office** keeps extremely busy with walk in, mailed, telephoned or PayPal dues payments. For the first time in many years, members are getting their union cards in January instead of waiting for months after they have paid to receive their membership card. It was my goal to budget the final payment for our per capita stamps in early November 2009 so we would receive our membership cards and 2010 per capita stamps in December, when our members began paying dues for the New Year. I commend the staff for working so hard to get the cards with stamps to our members when they pay their dues (what a concept!).

As we update and improve our **Website**, we sometimes come across certain new features that have conflicted with previous site behaviors. When this occurs, we make the necessary adjustments and improvements. One of the most common concerns among our membership is, "I can't find this or that, where did it go?" When we launched our new site, I mentioned it would take time getting acclimated and recommended perusing

the site to find your favorite areas. However, if you are trying to find something fast (contracts, signator companies, PayPal, etc.) use the new "Search Function" located on the top right side of the page to help you find what you are looking for. It saves time and it is very easy to use.

Additionally, in an attempt to bring www.local44.org up to website industry standards, a new user management system was implemented that allowed users to change their own password, update their email address, request login credentials to be sent to their last known email address, and select their own username. This new system created an unforeseen conflict with a Local 44 Message Board policy that requires all posters to the boards be identifiable by their actual name. For those who find the message boards entertaining, the following solution was developed and implemented; Posts to the message boards will continue to display the username. If the username is not the user's "real name", when clicked, you are taken to their message board profile screen which will display the member's real name along with their username. This way, anyone reviewing the posts to the boards will know who is posting in a transparent manner. Beginning February 1, 2010, if you are a member who had previously registered with the site and would like to change your username, please email your request to webmaster@local44.org. Please include your full name and union ID number in the request.

I hope you continue to enjoy using our new site and be on the lookout for future upgrades.

As you have seen in these pages, our **Newsreel** Team continues to be busy in the field. I hope you enjoy our spotlights on "Dinner with Schmucks" (a California Tax Incentive Production) and "Big Time Rush".

Future editions will include pictures and interviews from Paramount Moulding Department, "True Blood", and "Wheel of Fortune".

Until next time, keep busy and work safely.

Best,

Anthony Pawluc
Secretary Treasurer
I.A.T.S.E. Local 44

Nickelodeon's "Big Time Rush"

By Buffy Morton

(continued from cover)

Foreman Ira Proctor and crew are responsible for making the invigoratingly colorful sets used in this children's comedy. Within stages 27 and 28 at Paramount Studios, Zeug's construction crew put together four permanent sets consisting of a recording studio known as "Rocque Records", an apartment, a pool area, and a lobby. Zeug describes the apartment set as, "The ultimate teen hang-out. It is a modern industrial loft with all the electronics a kid could want; flat screen TV, Play Station, Wii, a few old school video games, and a slide from the loft to the main floor. This playground style apartment has steel framing, a square modern module look, laminate wood flooring, and a full kitchen and bathroom." Aside from the apartment set, Zeug's team got creative when they put a real swimming pool into the courtyard set. Zeug claims, "We cut into the stage floor, hauled out the dirt, and put in an actual pool. It was made in such a way that we can cut 4 inches off the poolside, put a deck over it, and leave it for the next show." In dressing the courtyard set with plant life, Greensman Adam Briggs brought in over 100 silk trees and shrubs, 6 twenty-foot palm trees built on stage from preserved natural stock and ferns, and live plants that he continues to maintain.

On the production side Property Master Derrick Hinman and assistants Hunter Brown and Adam Rodgers have done a marvelous job of supplying the series with a number of uniquely fabricated props such as 'Leaf Hats' worn by the 'scheming' cast to blend in with bushes, graphic props like magazine covers and product labels,



L to R: Brian Hahn, Ira Proctor, Adam Briggs, Tim Zeug

as well as a spontaneous fake cat paw holding a spray paint can. Hinman reveals, "In creating these props, we really had to think outside the box and attempt to produce things that don't really materially exist." The trio also had to seek out such props as a working tuned harp, adult sized tricycles, and a life size rubber alligator to name a few.

Additional contributions to the production are made by skilled Special Effects Person Mike DelGenio and Jeff Nary from ANA Special Effects. Together the pair has created a working elevator, wind effects, and spark gags for the series. In addition, the two men will be responsible for flying a 90-pound girl through the air in and out of a frame.

Collectively these Local 44 crews have done an excellent job at selling the series to a younger generation. Their dedication to creativity, child humor, and vibrant color, will hopefully result in "Big Time Rush" being a big time hit.



L to R: Adam Rodgers, Derrick Hinman, Hunter Brown



L to R: Mike DelGenio, Jeff Nary

International Convention Report

By David Elliott

(Editor's Note: This story was delayed due to spacing issues with previous editions of Newsreel.)

Dear Members,

I am the person you elected to represent you as your Construction Coordinator Union delegate. I ran for this position because I feel that if you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem. I didn't need another activity in my life to keep me busy or supplement my income.

Please bear that in mind when I tell you that it was with some skepticism and trepidation that I went to Florida to participate for the first time in the I.A.T.S.E. Quadrennial Convention. I am someone who is leery of politics in general and Union politics specifically. Even though we were traveling as a unified delegation that gave us one of the largest voting blocks of all the locals, I still felt like we would be just a small cog in the giant machine of the International and frankly I believed that the event was going to be a giant waste of my time.

What I have come home with is a humbled respect for the power, dedication, professionalism, and inspiring leadership of our current International Alliance.

Several times on each day of the event I heard stories and examples of how men and women like the people I work with every day stood together to overcome some adversary of decency. Winning because of the hard work and dedication of the International's representatives, combined with the weight of an organization that can wield its power for our benefit in any state of this country, Canada and Europe. Time and time again I found these stories breaking through my cynicism and moving me with pride and admiration for fundamental trade unionism in the brightest definition of that term.

The Convention allowed me to see the larger picture of how our Local can influence and interact with the other men and women loading trucks, building scenery, painting flats, sewing costumes, lighting, shooting, and servicing sets in every location and venue of this country for the improvement of all our lives.

It also inspired me to report to you a number of ideas and facts that were discussed and presented throughout the week.

I've been a member of a number of Guilds and Unions in this industry since

1969. The one thing that I've come to realize as the only constant in our business (and in life) is change. If you haven't realized that our world as film and television artists and craftspersons is changing more rapidly in the last few years than ever before, then it's possible you are in a coma.

As a nation we are going to have to adapt to the challenges presented by the burgeoning global economy with all of its detriments as well as its opportunities. If we don't learn how to cooperate, trim our fat and get proactive as a national economy we will find that very shortly we will go from first to last. Already other cultures are starting to surpass us in many avenues of business.

As filmmaking professionals we are also going to have to adapt to the new landscape of interstate and international production. The days of Hollywood being the only superpower are over. We too are going to have to reshape ourselves and engage innovative adaptation techniques.

There are two ways we can take on these challenges from foreign markets that are competing with lower labor rates and tax incentives: we can fight them; trying to protect our standard of living at the detriment of others, or we can attempt to even out the playing field for everyone so that companies will make their decisions on where to film for reasons other than saving money on labor.

I believe that if we fight our fellow men and women in other states that we will lose; because we have more to lose. But if we help them we can win; because we have more to offer. After witnessing the power and organizational strength of the I.A.T.S.E. at this convention, I believe that the best way to help ourselves is to support every effort of the International to organize and negotiate commensurate agreements for our counterparts around the country and the globe.

Hollywood still has better weather, better infrastructure, and more qualified personnel for making movies than any other location in the world. If the Producers know that they will have to pay the same wages and benefits to the working members in Detroit or Louisiana or Santa Fe as they do in LA, it will create more work for us not less.

This trip also afforded me the opportunity to witness our redemption as an

Organized Labor Local to be reckoned with on the national stage. Because of the missteps of some of our previous elected officers, Local 44 has been the redheaded stepchild of the International in the recent past. After what I observed, I can proudly say that is no longer the case. Your Business Agent Ed Brown, your Secretary Treasurer Anthony Pawluc, your President Erin Hennessey, your Assistant Business Agent Paul Ahrens, as well as the rest of the delegation, worked relentlessly before and during this event to present a posture of Local 44 to the convention that was squared away.

While other delegations were at the pool, the restaurant or the bar relaxing, Ed Brown had us gathered as a delegation orchestrating the moves that we could make both on the floor and in the other social settings that would most effectively use our time to regain the respect we deserve.

It is no accident that Ed Brown was elected to be the Secretary Treasurer of District Two encompassing the Locals in California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii.

Similarly, every member of your delegation in one way or another got "face time" with important representatives on the national and international stage that won't be forgotten.

There are members who will ask, "Why is that important?"

The answer is, "who would you be more willing to fight for?" Some guy or gal you don't know that you've heard bad things about? Or some guy or gal you've laughed with? Someone you realize has the same problems you do, the same frustrations, the same values and similar obstacles? Would you rather fight for someone who is a name on a list, or someone who's bought you a drink specifically to signify how much they appreciate your efforts?

I am here to report that I witnessed the members of the International who do the heavy lifting when it comes to negotiating your contracts, being repeatedly influenced in a positive way by the subtle arts of diplomacy exhibited by the delegation you sent this year.

Lastly I want to pass on the keynote issues that were the hallmark of the guest speakers and dignitaries. The first is supporting the enhancement and enforcement of Anti-Piracy legislation. International President Loeb is working with representa-

(continued on page 8)

International Convention Report

(continued from page 7)

tives from the White House to lobby our plight. It is estimated that the illegal copying, distribution and downloading of our artistic product has destroyed six billion dollars of entertainment revenue. Which means that your percentage of that six billion dollars didn't get invested in your pension, I.A.P. or health plans.

But the Union representation can only do so much without the active support of the members they stand for. There are indications that some of this theft is coming from within our industry. Someone who would think it abhorrent to steal his partner's tools, might not think anything of running off copies of a DVD that they got access to. We need to wake up to the unthinking theft from ourselves and our friends, as well as stop by legal force if necessary the willful larceny if it comes to our attention.

The second, and I feel most important issue that we all have been asked to take action on is Health Care Reform.

You may ask, why should we? We have one of the best medical benefit packages available. But you must also take a look around and ask yourself how long that can last?

The fact that we only suffered minor rollbacks in eligibility and benefits during the last negotiation of the Hollywood Basic Agreement is a testament to the strength and dedication of our negotiating team. Just a year, before another large labor organization in our area was virtually broken over this very issue.

I believe the fundamental principal behind our country and trade unionism is that when we stand together and support one another, it makes us all stronger and more powerful. For this reason we should support Healthcare Reform with a Public Option.

In forming the United States Constitution our forefathers encouraged us to "form a more perfect Union, establish Justice,

insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity..."

If we work together to share the burden of health care, it will be in the spirit of a more perfect Union.

How better to establish Justice than to ensure that no American citizen will have to worry about taking their child to the doctor if they lose their job or become disabled?

Won't it insure domestic Tranquility to know that the primary cause of personal bankruptcy in the country will no longer be the onset of a medical crisis? (This statistic is true for those with insurance as well as those without)

Isn't the common Defense best served when the insurance premiums of those who pay for health insurance no longer have to allow for the urgent care of those without healthcare who need expensive treatment by emergency rooms when the issue that could have been treated with medication now requires surgery?

How better to promote the General Welfare than to guarantee a basic level of wellness to all of our citizens, like every other developed nation in the world?

If we do this, if we improve the quality of health for every citizen of these United States, in what better way can we secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity?

I hope that you will take these thoughts to heart and act upon them when you can. Thank you for letting me represent you.

Sincerely,
David Elliott
Construction Coordinator Delegate

Severance Pay, What It Takes?

If you have been working on a long running TV series, a lengthy film, or at a fixed facility for awhile and are laid off, you may have severance coming. You had to have worked 200 days or more (without a break in time greater than 90 days) in a 365 day period counting back from your last day worked prior to the layoff. If this is your case, you may be due severance pay. The longer you have on the job the more severance you may qualify to receive.

You will have to wait 90 days after your layoff to file a claim. To file a claim, fill out a form letter, send it to the Payroll Company, the Production Company and to the Business Agent of the Union. You have 1 year from your layoff day plus 90 days or roughly 15 months to make a claim, although it's best to file at day 91.

If during your course of employment you are rehired before a 90 day break, your tenure of employment continues and you continue to accrue time towards severance.

If you are offered a call in under 90 days from that same employer and you refuse that call, you may lose all or a portion of your right to severance. Severance when you retire is not automatic.

If during your course of employment you claim and collect severance, the severance clock with that employer is reset to day one.

Sample Letter:

DATE

Payroll company address

Production Company address

Via 1st Class Mail

Dear *Producer/Labor Relations Dept.*,

I am requesting any and all severance pay due at this time. My social security number is: XXX-XX-5555. As your files will reflect, I have worked for "PRODUCTION COMPANY NAME" and "PAYROLL COMPANY NAME" on the production of "SHOW NAME" start date of "DATE".

I have been a member in good standing of Local 44 since "DATE" and I would appreciate your expediting this request.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Best regards,

Member Signature

CC: Local 44, I.A.T.S.E.
Business Agent's office

In Memory of

For tribute articles and updated, detailed information on funeral and memorial services, please log on to our website at www.local44.org, move your cursor over the "Local 44" menu under the blue pictures and click on "In Memory Of".

<u>Stanley D. Beaudin</u>	<u>Richard C. Bradley</u>	<u>Billy R. Hensley</u>	<u>Kenneth Jones Jr.</u>	<u>Blanche E. Lang</u>	<u>Joseph M. Lebaron</u>	<u>Timothy Sandor</u>
Born: 5/18/1921	Born: 1/11/1935	Born: 9/20/1922	Born: 11/28/1943	Born: 11/24/1906	Born: 11/9/1918	Born: 4/23/1972
Sworn: 1/28/1963	Sworn: 5/19/1989	Sworn: 10/18/1966	Sworn: 6/13/1977	Died: 11/5/2009	Died: 10/5/2009	Sworn: 12/29/2005
Died: 12/17/2009	Died: 12/22/2009	Died: 1/1/2010	Died: 9/29/2009		Craft: Propmaker	Died: 12/5/2009
Craft: Propmaker	Craft: Propmaker	Craft: Floorcoverer	Craft: Propmaker			Craft: Property

DROPPED FROM MEMBERSHIP

AS OF JANUARY 8, 2010, THESE MEMBERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR WORK

PLEASE NOTE: Persons listed below *may* have put themselves back into good standing since the list was printed on 1/8/10.

Please call the hall to double-check the status of listed persons.

If your name is listed erroneously, please let us know and we will print a retraction in the next issue.

<u>Commercial Master</u> Smith, Lansing	<u>Greens</u> Nowling, Andrew	Halstead, Andrew Johnstone, Kyle Kelly Sr., Jermaine Shapiro, Michael Williams, Le'Vert	Freiburger, Brian Gallion, David Gootsan, Greg Greene, Matthew Hannigan, Kevin Huggins, Patrick Jennings, Elliot Jimenez, Rutilo John, Daniel Johnson, Caylen Keys, Harvey LaPrell, Robert Lee, Christopher	Lomeli, Javier Lopez, Gregory Ludke, Geoffrey Mahaney, Richard Maldonado, Richard Martin, Matthew Martinez, Chris Moore, Raymond Morris, Joseph Mullaney Jr., Oliver Neill, Robert Olvera, David Oosterbaan, Greg	Ortez, Von Paul, Timothy Rees, Roger Rojas, Sergio Thomson, Scott Wimer, Newton Zaragoza, Enrique
<u>Commercial Property</u> Bailey, Jeb Sanger, Mark Tragert, Christopher	<u>Property Master</u> Fishman, Eric Harshbarger, David MacDuff, Dana O'Brien, Jeffrey Paul, Cheri	<u>Propmaker</u> Arreguin, Jose Bakman, David Barber Jr., Barton Beasley, David Burns, Dennis Colquhoun, Robert Durrell, Timothy			
<u>Coordinator</u> Jones, Curt Pemberton, Daniel Silvia, Manuel	<u>Property</u> Bakerian, Andrew Chambaret, Clovis Gray, Robert				<u>Set Decorator</u> Daniels, Marsha Price, Jacqueline
<u>Draperer</u> Abarca, Armando					<u>Special Effects</u> Guynes, Morgan

The names posted on the above list may not be aware of their standing with the union or of its consequences.

If you are in contact with any of these people, please advise them to contact the Local so that we can get them back into good standing.

NOTE TO HIRING PERSONNEL:

It is YOUR responsibility to call the Local and check on the status of any member that you wish to hire PRIOR to hiring them.

Keep your Union Brothers and Sisters Working. Use Union Companies.

Alpha Companies
Alternative Metal Supply
A.N.A. Special Effects
CBS Studio Center
CBS Television City
Contempo Electronics/Woody's Props
Forty Four Cards
FXperts, Inc.
Grant McCune Design
Green Set Inc.
HPR Custom
Independent Studio Services

Jackson Shrub Supply
Kevin Hannigan Special Effects, Inc.
Lennie Marvin Enterprises
Marty Gibbons Enterprises, Inc.
Motion Picture Glass Inc.
Movie Art
Movieglas
Omega Drapery Department
Paramount Studios
Reel Greens Inc.
Scenic Express
Sign Set

Snow Business
Sony Pictures Studios
Southwind Greens
Spectrum Effects
Studio Art & Technology
Take 1 Motion Picture Plant Rentals, Inc.
Team Three Studio Diving
Twentieth Century Fox Studios
NBC/Universal City Studios
The Walt Disney Studios
Warner Bros. Studios
White Rhino Production Services

Do it Union!

Remember to use only Union fabricators, Union Labor, Union Brothers and Sisters. We have the talent, the resources, and the abilities to create anything the Producers request. And they have a contractual agreement that requires Union covered work to be performed by Union members. Do what's right, do it Union!

Ed Brown
Business Agent

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

January

Over 50 Years

Tomasino, Mariano - Property Master (76)
Swenson, Kenneth - Property Master (74)
Barbier, Mark - Property (55)
Westcott, Fred - Property Master (55)
Ayers, Robert - Greens (54)
Crawford, Kenneth - Property (54)
Greenberg, Benjamin - Property Master (54)
Ross, Michael - Property Master (54)
Donelan, Louis - Property Master (52)
Martin Del Campo, Armando - Property Master (52)
Bell, William - Coordinator (52)
DiNieri, Richard - Property Master (52)
Dawson, Robert - Special Effects (51)
Fraglia - Jepsen, Clara - Property Sewing Person (51)
Greene, Richard - Greens (51)

35 Years

Brewer, Gary - Property Master
Carolus, Lyle - Propmaker
Ehling, George - Propmaker
Hall, Allen - Special Effects
Janson, Roger - Coordinator
Rutchland III, John - Coordinator
Smiley, Doyle - Propmaker
Strub, Lucinda - Special Effects
Webster, Carlton - Propmaker
Wood, David - Propmaker

25 Years

No 25 Year Anniversaries for January

10 Years

Brown, Peter - Propmaker
Hurst, Dorit - Set Decorator

February

Over 50 Years

Hermann, Robert - Property (63)
Skarsten, Donald - Propmaker (59)
Price, Fred - Set Decorator (55)

50 Years

Petersen, Raymond - Property
Pierce, Charles - Set Decorator

35 Years

No 35 Year Anniversaries for February

25 Years

Burton, Christopher - Special Effects
Rizzardi Jr., Eugene - Special Effects
Shook, Dwight - Propmaker

10 Years

Brostowicz, Allen - Property
Castellanos, Jaime - Greens

Fowler-Beach, Elizabeth - Set Decorator
Gorrell, Kenneth - Propmaker
Hahn, Brian - Propmaker
Johnson, Scott - Propmaker
Klingerman, Michael - Property
Knightley, Mark - Coordinator
Purcell, Bruce - Property
Schultz, Christopher - Property
Steinberg, Jordan - Property
Tuttle, Mark - Property
Williams, Robert - Property Master
Yates, Daniel - Propmaker
Ziegler, Douglas - Propmaker

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

If you have an upcoming anniversary and
DO NOT want it printed in Newsreel,
please notify the Newsreel Crew. Be sure
to include your name and your Union ID
number with your request.

email - newsreel@local44.org
phone - 818-769-2500 ext. 118

ADDRESS

I.A.T.S.E. Local 44

attn: Newsreel

12021 Riverside Dr.

North Hollywood, CA 91607

MPTF Update

From January 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2009, 359 members of Local 44 have received help from MPTF's Community Social Services department. Of those, 112 have received financial assistance to a total of \$186,335. This cash assistance could be anything from payment of mortgage, rent, utilities and other related expenses; health insurance premium support, or support through the Elder Connection program. These numbers do NOT include local 44 members who are campus residents and may be receiving residential subsidy.

Next to SAG, Local 44 has received the most financial assistance from MPTF of any other union or guild for this time frame. MPTF has given the industry about \$1.4 million in financial assistance in this time frame.

Please Make This Year a Joyful One!
HELP OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN NEED

DONATE TO LOCAL 44'S FOOD BANK



FROZEN FOOD - BAKED & CANNED GOODS
TOILETRIES - GIFT CARDS

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU OR SOMEONE IS IN NEED

Executive Board Meeting's Motions

IATSE Local 44 invites and encourages all members in good standing to take interest in their Union's business. One of the best ways to do so is by reviewing your Local's Executive Board Meeting minutes. All you need to do is follow Article VIII, Powers and Duties Section 4 Secretary/Treasurer paragraph K (l) Minutes and Log of Motions of Local 44's Constitution and By-Laws. The article states: "Any member in good standing who submits a written request to schedule an appointment to review a copy of the minutes or the log of motions may do so." This allows members to draw their own conclusion on the entire meeting, not just highlights that someone else considered important to print. Contact the Secretary Treasurer to schedule an appointment so we can accommodate your request. The following are motions/actions of past Executive Board Meetings.

SUMMARY OF MOTION(S): 9-9-09

Andrew: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Regular Executive Board meeting minutes of August 12, 2009 as amended/corrected."

Tony seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Dave Elliott: "I would like to make a motion to approve the Land Management Committee's request to increase the amount for the roof repair up to \$45,000.00."

Tony seconded the motion. The motion was carried by majority vote with one member in opposition (JD Streett).

Michael Cappello: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Land Management Committee Report as presented."

Tobey seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Andrew: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Employee Handbook Committee report as presented."

Dutch seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Andrea: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Constitution Committee Report as presented."

Dutch seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Dave Elliott: "I would like to make a motion to accept the On-Set Dresser Committee Report as presented."

Eric seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Ed: "I would so move to donate \$500.00 to be a sponsor and supporter of the United Farm Workers Holiday Reception."

Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Ed: "I would like to move for a \$1,000.00 donation to the City of Justice Awards Dinner, which we will get two seats to the awards dinner and a half-page ad."

Michael Cappello seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Dave Elliott: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Business Agent report as presented." Dutch seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

JD Streett: "I would like to make a motion to

allow the Fox Studio Staff and Molding Mailer to be sent to the construction coordinator craft at their expense."

Ed seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Anthony: "I motion to donate \$1,200.00 (from the non-IA donation, line item #236) to the Los Angeles County federation of Labor/Miguel Contreras Foundation."

Ed seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition."

Anthony: "I motion that Local 44 donate \$500.00 to the California Association of Labor Relations Officers. The funds shall be derived from line item #236 or 237."

Michael Cappello seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

JD Streett: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Secretary Treasurer report as presented."

Tony seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

JD Streett: "I would like to make a motion to adjourn."

Mike Diersing seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

SUMMARY OF MOTION(S): 10-14-09

Dave Elliott: "I move that the executive board uphold the trial committee's ruling of guilty on charges 1, 3, 4, and 5. Furthermore, since the trial committee found the defendant guilty on charges 1, 3, 4, and 5 on the grounds that the member performed Local 44 covered work during the date certain period of March 23rd through May 6, 2009; and that charge number 2 of unfair is based upon the defendant performing Local 44 covered work during the period of March 23rd through May 6, 2009. The executive board amends the trial board's ruling of charge number 2, and find the defendant guilty of charge number 2 and impose the statutory penalty of \$1,000.00. In addition, the board rules that the penalties for the charges of guilty be levied at the amounts recommended by the Constitution and Bylaws:

Charge 1	\$1,962.00
Charge 3	\$1,000.00
Charge 4	\$ 500.00
Charge 5	\$ 500.00

Tony Chavez seconded the motion. The motion was carried by majority vote with one member in abstention (Ed Brown).

SUMMARY OF MOTION(S): 10-28-09

Michael Cappello: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Regular Executive Board meeting minutes of September 9, 2009 as amended/corrected."

Ed seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Ed: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Trustees report as presented."

Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Michael Cappello: "In our ongoing effort to support the labor fight for health care and to make real our commitment here in Los Angeles County and to follow through on the IATSE's endorsement and this executive board's

endorsement on House Resolution 676, I urge that the Local affiliate with the Labor Task Force for Universal Health Care. With that, I motion that we donate \$1,000.00 to the Task Force to further its work."

Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Ed: "I would like to make a motion to match our donation last year of \$500.00 to the AFL-CIO Community Services Turkey for Toys Program."

Tobey seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

JD Streett: "I would like to make a motion to allow the mailer of the SDSA Tech Sunday (at their expense)."

Emily seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

JD Streett: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Secretary Treasurer report as presented."

Tobey seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Tobey: "I would like to make a motion to adjourn."

Armando seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

SUMMARY OF MOTION(S): 11-11-09

Michael Cappello: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Special Executive Board meeting minutes of October 14, 2009 as amended/corrected."

Mike Diersing seconded the motion. The motion was carried by majority vote with four members in abstention (Amy Wells, Andrea Joel, Emily Ferry and Dave McGuire).

JD Streett: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Regular Executive Board meeting minutes of October 28, 2009 as amended/corrected."

Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was carried by majority vote with three members in abstention (Amy Wells, Andrea Joel, and Dave McGuire).

Ed: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Constitution Committee report as presented."

Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Ed: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Land Management Committee report as presented."

Tobey seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Andrea: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Business Agent report as presented."

Tobey seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Emily: "I would like to make a motion to donate \$1,000.00 to the Motion Picture and Television Fund in the name of Nicholas Counter."

Michael Cappello seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

JD Streett: "I would like to make a motion to duplicate what we did last year for the staff with a cap of \$1,200.00."

Andrea seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Michael Cappello: "I would like to accept the Secretary Treasurer report as presented."

Amy seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Ed: "I would like to make a motion to adjourn."

Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

IATSE LOCAL 44
12021 Riverside Drive
North Hollywood, CA 91607

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CA
PERMIT NO. 646



TOOL CRIB POLICY:

Ads will be run for *two consecutive* issues of Newsreel, after which the ad will be removed unless it is renewed. Renew your ad by emailing newsreel@local44.org or by calling the hall at **818-769-2500 ext. 118**.

PLEASE NOTIFY US AS SOON AS ITEMS HAVE BEEN SOLD.

For Sale

Qty 2, 40-foot sea/cargo containers. 1 with lights pre-wired - \$2,200.00. 1 with lights and 110/220v outlets wired for shop - \$2,600.00 or \$2,000.00 without extras. Contact 818-785-8827 or 818-390-0765 ask for JB.

12-inch wood jointer, 220v, 3-phase, \$1800.00 or best offer. Hardinge tool room **lathe**, 220v, single-phase, \$1500.00 or best offer. Custom rolling plan **bench cabinet with drawers**, \$500.00 or best offer. Contact 818-785-8827 or 818-390-0765 ask for JB.

Propmaster Kit: 2 full prop boxes, 18 tall **directors chairs and rack, filing cabinet-full, 4 nice director's podiums with lights**, and double deckers. Retiring. \$12,000 or best offer. Call 818-970-4662.

18" Mole-Richardson E/fan: Great condition, \$3000. Call 661-547-1100

15 tall and 15 short directors chairs, 2 ISS chair carts, 4 **Director podiums** with gooseneck lights, 4 **Propboxes** semi-stocked, 5 RubberMaid **carts** with pneumatic wheels, **Microwave oven**, 13-inch **TV with built in DVD player**, 3 portable **butane burners**, **Toaster oven** and much more. \$1850 or BO. Call 818-422-4972.

Construction Coordinators complete tool package with 40' trailer. Inventory on request. **MUST SELL** \$15,000.00 or best offer. Contact Robert Bonino (Beans) at 661-510-3120

Construction Tool Package: 45' semi trailer loaded and ready to go. Includes rental hardware, expendables, 4 hydraulic **wall jacks, ladders, grip dollies, chopsaws with tables, table saws, nailguns, air compressors, tool boxes** and more. Call Chuck @ 805-495-9813 or 805-660-9849 I can fax or e-mail full inventory.

CREW SHOT

Send Us Your Pictures!

Local44.org and the Newsreel are looking for pictures of you and other Local 44 members on the job for print and display. Photos should be in jpeg format and emailed to Newsreel@local44.org. Photos **MUST** be accompanied by a name of the production and names of everyone in the photo.



Reminders and Events

February:

February 12: Acceptance Nomination Deadline
February 16: Campaign Submission Deadline for Newsreel Special Election Edition

March:

March 15: Primary Election Ballots Mailed
March 31: Primary Election Ballots Tabulated