

The Evolution of a Modern SFX Department



YOUR LOCAL 44 OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Working Hard for You and the Union

OFFICERS

Business Agent

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818-769-2500

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Erin Hennessey
310-500-7457

Sergeant-At-Arms

Wild Bill Elliott

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Property

Peter Angles
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Eric Hulett
Ray Schrefel, Jr.

Propmaker

Michael Cappello
626-359-3259
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818-506-7897

Property Master

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323-462-4468
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Set Decorator

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Steve Rostine

Coordinator

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Special Effects

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REPRESENTATIVE

ALTERNATES

Property
Scott Bobbitt

Propmaker
Tom Bowen

Property Master
Carlos Jayson

Coordinator
John Richardson

Set Decorator
Rosemary Brandenburg

Special Effects
Sandra Stewart

DELEGATES

Property Delegate
Ray Schrefel, Jr.

Propmaker Delegate
Michael Cappello

Property Master Delegate
Paul Ahrens

Coordinator Delegate
David Elliott

Special Effects Delegate
J.D. Streett

DELEGATE ALTERNATES

Property Master
Emily Ferry

Set Decorator
Andrea Joel

Coordinator
Carl Hicks

Special Effects
Timothy Graham

TRUSTEES

Robert Carlyle
Jeannie Gunn
Erik Nelson

ASSISTANT BUSINESS AGENTS

Paul Ahrens

Tobey Bays

Rick McGee

SHOP STEWARDS

Fox Studios
Bryce Vardanian

HPR Custom
Michael Torvinen

Lennie Marvin
Denise Grisco

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Sony Motion Picture Studios
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Spellman Desk
Alex Hernandez

Universal Studios
Michael Cappello
Ray Schrefel
John Barton

Warner Bros.
Dennis Christensen
Steve Lampke (Property)

FIELD STEWARDS

Rocco Buffolino

Tony Chavez

"Grande" Gonzalez

Andrea Joel

Thomas Krausz

Chilly Nathan

Marc Meisels

Ross Parker

Randy Severino
Anthony Syracuse

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Milt Wilson

NEWS REEL

VOL 26 ISSUE 2 MAR/APR 2015

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Local 44 Newsreel accepts submissions in person, by mail, or by e-mail (preferred). All submissions are subject to review and approval.

Written submissions should be checked for accuracy and spelling by the author. Local 44 Newsreel takes no responsibility for errors in member submitted content.

Please include names of all persons pictured in submitted digital and print pictures to be eligible for publication.

Submissions are subject to revision and editing when necessary.

Local 44 Newsreel offers no guarantee that any submission will make it to print.

NEXT DEADLINE: APR. 29

E-mail newsreel@local44.org

Fax 818-769-4222

Mail Newsreel Submissions

c/o IATSE Local 44

12021 Riverside Drive

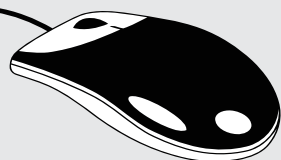
North Hollywood, CA 91607

Questions? Comments?

Call 818-769-2500

Register with Local 44's Website, www.Local44.org, for access to these great features:

- Manage your Contact Information
- Update Your Work History
- Download the Current & Future Show Lists
- Pay Your Dues Electronically
- Stay Current with Local 44 Events & Deadlines
- Post Ads in the Online Toolcrib
- List Your Work Resume for FREE!
- Browse the Photo Gallery
- Download Retiree & Beneficiary Forms
- Read past editions of the Local 44 Newsreel





From the Desk of BUSINESS AGENT ED BROWN

Unions across the country are still fighting a deeply rooted anti-Union war. A war that began in 1944 when Arkansas became the first “Right to Work” state and quicker than you can say employer abuse seven more states followed. Right to work laws undermine the fundamental structure of what is considered to be a union shop or facility, specifically one with a collectively bargained agreement. The key union contractual demand that any worker in a unionized shop be a member of that union with all the rights and obligations of those specific unions is broken with right to work laws. Tearing down the union’s ability to bargain on behalf of all of the employees for better wages and working conditions.

Under these laws union shops would have mixed workers, union and non-union yet all would potentially benefit by the unions ability to represent the entire workforce. Currently there are twenty-four states that have a right to work law. And sometime over the next few weeks there more than likely will be a twenty-fifth, Wisconsin. Lead by that states Governor Scott Walker, who began a right to work law campaign back in 2011, and is poised for its passage this spring. Walker a staunch anti-union Republican is making headlines throughout the mid-west with this campaign, and word in that parties’ circles are that he is a likely candidate for President in 2016. Kent Wong, Director of the UCLA Labor Center agreed that “Walker has risen to prominence because of his stand on labor issues

and the gutting of unions.” With union membership at a fifty year low, 12% public, 7% private (we are private), our fight against this very real movement is at the top of union’s priority list. In Hollywood we have this disconnected feeling from unions across the country. Being a private sector union and one that is rooted in union friendly California these fears of right to work laws just don’t resonate. But just imagine a President whose agenda is based on destroying unions, all unions! Remember maintaining a union family is all of our fight. Participate in union events and support union friendly candidates. Next year it will surely hit the fan.

Fraternally,
Ed Brown
Business Agent

ANNIVERSARY MILESTONES

We recognize and congratulate the following individuals for their years of membership with Local 44.

MARCH 2015

OVER 50 YEARS

Richard Bayard - Coordinator (51)

50 YEARS

No Members

35 YEARS

Oscar Delgadillo - Property
Michael Gibbons - Property Master
Anthony Russo - Propmaker
Erlindo Sunga - Propmaker

25 YEARS

Jerry Casillas - Propmaker
Anthony Davis - Propmaker
Bart Dion - Special Effects
Steve Hagberg - Coordinator
Dawna Hammond - Propmaker
Erin Hennessey - Propmaker
Humberto Jimenez - Propmaker
Craig Pittman - Property
Wayne Shepherd - Set Decorator
Louis Terry III - Property

10 YEARS

Sean Clark - Property
Ryan Galiher - Property
Shane John - Property
Kevan Knight-Weber - Property
Alejandro Luna - Property
Eric Marks - Property
Jose Martinez - Propmaker
Steve Newquist - Special Effects
Joshua Towers - Property

APRIL 2015

OVER 50 YEARS

Eugene Cornelius -
Special Effects (51)
Irwin Epstein - Draper (51)
Archie Gillett - Propmaker (54)
John Page - Propmaker (54)
John Sexton - Property Master (54)
Paul Stewart - Special Effects (54)
Barton Susman - Property (54)
Johnny Borgese - Special
Effects (60)
Neil Labbe - Propmaker (60)

50 YEARS

Ernest Depew - Coordinator
Harlan Johnson - Special Effects
John Slatsky - Draper
Jerry Swift - Property Master

35 YEARS

Salvatore Esposto - Propmaker
Edward Felix - Special Effects
Wesley Mason - Coordinator
Lee Runnels - Greens

25 YEARS

Russell Anderson - Property
Tony Aranda - Propmaker
Bruce Bellamy - Property
Thomas Callinicos - Property
Christopher Casey - Property
Debra Combs - Set Decorator
Steve Everett - Propmaker
Amy Feldman - Set Decorator
Saul Hernandez - Propmaker
James Imfeld - Draper
Mauricio Jimenez - Propmaker
Roger Knight - Property
Robert Lambert - Propmaker
Richard Lemeus - Propmaker
John Lieberman - Property
Gregory Lynch Jr. - Coordinator
Robert Maisto - Coordinator
Caryn Marcus - Property
Harold Mauck - Propmaker
James McDermott - Property
David Mitchell - Property
Ronnie Montgomery - Propmaker
Jose Olmos - Propmaker
Paul Picerni - Property Master
Shawn Poston - Propmaker

David Potter - Property

Leonard Ricci - Propmaker
Ronald Sain - Propmaker
Shannon Wetklow - Propmaker
Dennis Yeager II - Special Effects

10 YEARS

Robert Amato - Upholsterer
Max Bringas - Propmaker
Jose Castillo - Property
Christopher Cook - Property
Joseph DeSantis - Property
Nelson Drake - Property
Jason Gunderson - Propmaker
Jonathan Haaz - Property Master
Brad Halvorson - Property
Daniel John - Propmaker
Mathew John - Propmaker
Richard King - Propmaker
Allan Lane - Property
Jordan Lawrence - Coordinator
Frank Mazzotta Jr. - Property
Erin Morache - Set Decorator
Roya Parivar - Set Decorator
Bruce Seymour - Property
Brandon Watson - Propmaker

OPT-OUT NOTICE

To have your name excluded from future anniversary rolls, please send an e-mail to newsreel@local44.org, or call (818) 769-2500.
When leaving a message or writing an email, please provide your full name and Union card number for verification.



From the Desk of SECRETARY-TREASURER ANTHONY PAWLUC

WHERE DO OUR DUES GO?

Some members have wondered or better yet asked, “What do Local 44 dues pay for?” That is a great question! The obvious answer is they maintain our good standing membership status with Local 44, allowing us to continue to work under our collective bargaining agreements, earning the wages, insurance and retirement benefits in our respective professional trades.

Our membership and roster status protect our jurisdictions and ultimately our jobs as the workforce behind the Entertainment Industry. Even though we have the most talented artists and craftspersons, without union contracts, employers would be able to hire from “any source.” All of us know there are

tens of thousands of people in a ten-mile radius of any film studio in Los Angeles that would take any deal to compete for our work. That estimate doesn’t include out of state folks who would come for their chance to work in Hollywood!

Union dues also pay for Union association costs to the IATSE, IA District 2, California Labor Federation, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, etc. They pay for the representation each of us receives as members working under collectively bargained contracts. Union dues cover all the membership services in the following departments: Business Agent, Callboard, Business Office, IT/Web, Finance, Legal, Newsreel, Social Services (programs like disability, catastrophic relief, financial assistance programs,

re-financing homes, counseling, etc.).

Another common question is, “Can a delinquent member be assessed fees if working and dues are unpaid?” Yes. We have sometimes heard a fellow member venting about dues and fines. Nevertheless, our Constitution and By-Laws applies day fines to working members who have not paid their dues before the quarterly deadlines of January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. The best way to avoid fines and aggravation is to pay dues on time. Our dues work out to the cost of a cup of coffee per day. Save on just one cup and your dues are paid for in ninety days.

After decades of concerns about quarterly dues invoices, I created the “friendly dues reminder” e-mail that is sent **(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)**

From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer (cont. from page 5)

to over 4500 members, two weeks prior to the turn of the quarter. The positive response from members regarding those e-mails has been outstanding. If you run in to someone befuddled about due dates, ask them if they have signed up at Local44.org for reminders to help keep them on time while working in this fantastic industry.

Going forward, if you hear a co-worker talk about dues, point them in the direction of this article. Better yet, give me a call and I will be happy to come down to your work site to discuss the matter accurately so everyone is on the same page.

Best,
Anthony Pawluc
Secretary-Treasurer



Classified ads are removed after two issues unless you call to renew. Contact the Newsreel team at 818-769-2500 or newsreel@local44.org.

Please call when your item has been sold. You may also post ads at www.Local44.org by going to Members: Community: Tool Crib.

FOR SALE 45' SPECIAL EFFECTS TRAILER / PKG COMPLETE. Complete Effects package ready to roll. Belly boxes , 6000 lb. lift gate, Very well stocked too much to list. Call for details / appointment 805-208-8372

CONSTRUCTION COORDINATOR PACKAGE FOR SALE.
2 trailers full part or all.
Contact Terry Scott 805-506-8556

MOTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

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 (I) 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): 01-21-15

Michael Cappello: "I would like to make a motion to accept the Regular Executive Board meeting minutes of January 14, 2015 as amended/corrected."

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

Eric: "I would like to make a motion to accept the proposed 2015 Local 44 Budget as presented."

JD Streett seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

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

JD Streett seconded the motion. The motion was carried without opposition.

Keep Your Beneficiary Information Current

Have you had a change in your relationship status or family composition? Do you know who your current beneficiary is? A benefit of being a Local 44 Member in Good Standing is your Life Insurance Policy provided, through MetLife. Updating your beneficiary information as needed ensures your policy will be paid as you intended. If you would like to request a new beneficiary form or would like information on who your current beneficiary is, please contact Local 44's Social Services Department for assistance. You can also download a Beneficiary Form on the Local 44 website found under "Members: Local 44 Info: Beneficiary Procedure/Form".

IN MEMORIAM

Chris M. Alvarez
Propmaker

*Born: January 24, 1964
Joined: December 2, 1992
Died: February 9, 2015*

Russell M. Condon
Greens

*Born: May 9, 1934
Joined: April 30, 1979
Died: November 15, 2014*

Horst H. Grandt
Property Master

*Born: December 23, 1934
Joined: October 7, 1959
Died: January 25, 2015*

Tommy L. Wiggins
Propmaker

*Born: January 5, 1947
Joined: November 14, 1974
Died: February 1, 2015*

Inside Paramount's Department of Movie Magic

By Buffy Deaton

The Special Effects Prop Shop and Manufacturing Department, located behind the gates of Paramount Pictures in Hollywood California, is the epicenter for Special Effects related products and services. It is the largest Special Effects department within any major movie studio, servicing both on-lot and off-lot productions. Beyond serving film and television production, this team also creates custom designed and manufactured products, provides a vast array of equipment rentals, and maintains

restore a positive perception of our craft within the film community. With any project I work on, I strive for effects excellence. Special Effects personnel are some of the most vital crew on a film set. With our broad-based knowledge, we are able to troubleshoot areas pertaining not only to effects, but other departments as well. We work hand in hand with stunts, the camera department, art department, grips, and electricians to provide the best service for our clients.”

The Special Effects Prop Shop



SPECIAL EFX/PROP SHOP

a coterie of highly experienced staff. This innovative team aims to find solutions to the myriad demands placed on filmmakers to create the imagined worlds we've all come to expect and enjoy.

Many productions remain unaware of this team's vast capabilities, and few are aware of the department's off-lot services. In an effort to raise awareness and launch the next century's Special Effects mastery, Paramount placed expert Blumes Tracy at the helm of the department in late 2014. Local 44 Newsreel learned that Blumes brings a fresh and modernized approach to the department's operations. He shared his vision of the department's expanding role in the future of Special Effects, "It is incumbent upon us, as a department and as individuals, to

and Manufacturing Department offers over fifty different profiles from the largest Vacuum inventory in the business. Brother Tracy is also in the midst of procuring a new 25 HP boiler that is AQMD compliant. With over 6,000 square feet of building space, another 4,000 square feet of machine shop and project area, and with gantry cranes to move materials, the department could build just about anything you could dream up.

Blumes' enthusiasm and zeal is certainly contagious. He truly loves what he does, believes in the department and has a great deal of respect for Paramount Pictures. He says, "I want to take the department from Good to Great." With all the resources and support at his fingertips, we believe he will do just that.

A blue power drill is shown in a close-up shot, angled towards the right. It has a black handle and a blue body with a silver-colored tip.

DEPARTMENT OF
**MOVIE
MAGIC**

MANUFACTURING & SPECIAL EFFECTS

- Custom, On-site Manufacturing from Multiple Materials
- Electronics, Hydraulics, Pneumatics and Pyrotechnics
- Rain, Snow, Wind, Smoke, Fog, Fire and Steam Effects

THE STUDIOS
★★★★★ at ★★★★★
Paramount

From the Cover (Left to Right)

Doreen Lehrhoff, Scott Johnson, Blumes Tracy, and Mike Millar

Not pictured: Paul Obest, Nick Reade, and John Peyser



IATSE Local 44
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North Hollywood, CA 91607

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KEEP YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS WORKING!

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 CBS Television City
 Dangling Carrot
 FXperts, Inc.
 Goodnight & Company
 Grant McCune Design
 Green Set Inc.
 Greenco Studio Rentals
 Hand Prop Room Custom
 Independent Studio Services
 J.E.M. F/X Inc.
 Jackson Shrub Supply
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Motion Picture Glass Inc.
 Movieglas
 Omega Drapery & Upholstery Department
 Paramount Studios
 Reel Greens Inc.
 Scenic Express
 Sony Pictures Studios
 Spellman Desk (formerly Alpha Medical)
 Studio Art & Technology
 Take 1 Motion Picture Plant Rentals, Inc.
 Team Three Studio Diving
 Twentieth Century Fox Studios
 NBC / Universal Studios
 The Walt Disney Studios
 Warner Bros. Studios
 White Rhino Production Services

PERSONS NOT IN GOOD STANDING

As of March 13, these persons are not eligible for work. If you believe there is a mistake, please call (818) 769-2500.

Be advised that some members may have become reinstated by the time this issue went to print.

Addotta, Frank
 Alpert, Van
 Avila, Adan
 Canfield, Cyndy
 Castoe, James
 Dery, Jason

Durrell, Timothy
 Haney, Lawrence C.
 Hartounian, Andrew
 Hartounian, Arnie
 Hartounian, Eric

Hashimoto, Gary
 Hoeck, Heidi
 Jackson, Wayne
 Johnson, Allan
 Kelso, Scott
 Koppelman, Paul

Lennon, P. Bret
 Lira, Sandra
 Phillips, Seth
 Purtill, Mark
 Rettino, Adam

Ryan, Sean
 Samuel, Morgan
 Spire, Billy
 Taylor, Ronnie
 Warren III, Gene
 Zunt, Garrett

EMPLOYERS

You are responsible for clearing all union personnel. Call our Business Office at (818) 769-2500 to verify that they are a Member In Good Standing and working in the proper Craft.

MEMBERS

Please reach out to these individuals and urge them to contact Local 44 as soon as possible; they may be unaware that their Union membership is in jeopardy.