

# LOCAL 44 NEWSREEL



VOLUME 16, ISSUE 7

IATSE LOCAL 44

NOVEMBER, 2005

RONNIE CUNNINGHAM  
BUSINESS AGENT

ELLIOT JENNINGS  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

ERIK NELSON  
PRESIDENT

## INDUSTRY GLASS AND PLAN "B" BECOME SIGNATORY TO THE I.A.

*...Article on Page 11*



*Above: Plan "B" Crew Left to Right: Front Row; Jason Castillo, Anthony Hernandez, Phil Gordon, Jeff Mauch, Josh Steinberg. Back Row; Brian Aldrich, Terry Kester, Danny Dunkle, Mike Landi, Rod Hynes, Local 44 Business Agent Ronnie Cunningham.*

*Industry Glass owners Charles Basurto (left) and Craig Von Lanken (right) with Local 44 Business Agent Ronnie Cunningham (center).*

*Upcoming Negotiations... Pg. 3  
Retiree Spotlight... Pg. 10  
Speak Up! Results... Pg. 13*

*"In real life, I assure you, there is no such thing as algebra."*

*-Fran Lebowitz*

## LOCAL 44 SHOP STEWARDS

### CBS Studio Center

Tibor "Ted" Barti  
818-236-1641  
Arthur Eishtadt  
818-236-0372

### Universal Studios

Michael Cappello  
818-215-4303  
Coy Lawson (Property)

### Sony Studios

Chic Chaldu  
818-236-0581

### Paramount Pictures

Tony Chavez  
818-236-0366

### Warner Bros.

Dennis Christensen  
818-953-0300  
Steve Lampke (Property)  
Gene Owens Jr.  
818-953-5623  
John Petros  
818-236-6605

### Santa Clarita

Andrew DeMuri  
818-236-0917

### Field Stewards

"Grande" Gonzalez  
818-236-6732  
Jay Hirsch  
Brian Kelner  
Anthony Price  
Joe Recchia  
David Roesch  
Tomas Sallvin  
Randy Severino  
Michael Todd  
Ken Wilson  
George Zamora

### Alpha Medical

Alex Hernandez  
818-236-1172

### CBS Television City

Andrea Joel  
818-236-5553

### Disney Studios

Kenneth Knight  
818-467-1966

### Fox Studios

James "Jimmy" Meyer  
818-236-5835  
Bryce Vardanian  
818-513-2237

### Las Vegas, NV

Bobby Zeletes

### ISS

Leigh Dennis

### SAT

Alex Vuckovich  
818-236-6242

### **Assistant Business Agents:**

Michael Clark,  
work cell: (818) 266-7990

Ed Brown,  
work cell: (818) 212-8137

### **Roving Assistant Business Agents:**

Ron Hall, Ed Langdon, and Milt Wilson

### **NEWSREEL SUBMISSIONS**

**The deadline for the next**

**Newsreel is:**

**Monday, November 21, 2005**

**Please be sure your contact  
information is clearly marked.  
E-mail: [newsreel@local44.org](mailto:newsreel@local44.org),  
[cpleasants@local44.org](mailto:cpleasants@local44.org)**

**Fax: 818-769-1739**

**Mail: Local 44 Attn: Newsreel  
12021 Riverside Drive  
North Hollywood, CA 91607**

**Questions? Call 818-769-2500  
X109**

**LOCAL 44**

**WEBSITE:**

**[www.local44.org](http://www.local44.org)**

**LOG ON AND STAY  
CONNECTED!**

## LOCAL 44 OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

### **Officers:**

Ronnie Cunningham, Business Agent  
Home: 661-296-5368

Elliot Jennings, Secretary-Treasurer  
[ejennings@local44.org](mailto:ejennings@local44.org)  
Cell: 818-983-8272

Erik Nelson, President

Erin Hennessey, Vice President

### **Executive Board:**

Gene Owens, Propmaker Representative

Home: (818) 353-9282 e-mail: [geneowens@comcast.net](mailto:geneowens@comcast.net)

Armando "Grande" Gonzalez, Propmaker Representative

Home: (818) 506-7897

Michael Cappello, Propmaker Representative

Peter Angles, Property Representative

Gary Oseransky, Property Representative

Home: (818) 845-7949

Tobey Bays, Property Representative

Emily Ferry, Property Master Representative

Home: (323) 462-4468

Craig Raiche, Property Master Representative

Home: (661) 253-4116 e-mail: [crayboo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crayboo@sbcglobal.net)

J.D. Streett, Special Effects Representative

Pager: (818) 559-4108, e-mail: [iatse@jdsfx.com](mailto:iatse@jdsfx.com)

Jeff "JC" Machit, Special Effects Representative

e-mail: [jcefx@yahoo.com](mailto:jcefx@yahoo.com)

Brenda Meyers-Ballard, Set Decorator Representative

Home: (661) 259-8388

Robinson Royce, Set Decorator Representative

John Matheson, Coordinator Representative

John Samson, Coordinator Representative

e-mail: [samsenic@mindspring.com](mailto:samsenic@mindspring.com)

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](mailto:eboard@local44.org)**

*"It is our responsibilities, not ourselves, that we should take seriously."*

*-Peter Ustinov*

## BUSINESS AGENT'S COLUMN

By Ronnie Cunningham



### **MOST TALKED ABOUT CONTRACT ISSUES**

**Health and Welfare  
Pension**

**Cost of Living Adjustment  
Sharing Hours for the plans**

**Increasing Banked Hours**

**Early Retirement**

**Car Allowance**

**Equipment Rentals**

**Screen Credits**

Contract Committees have been meeting for the last several months and the finishing touches are being put on proposals for individual crafts. If you have an important issue that you feel is not being addressed, please contact your craft representative as soon as possible.

Negotiations of the Basic Agreement have been confirmed and will take place at the offices of the AMPTP.

**LOCAL NEGOTIATIONS:  
DECEMBER 5-9, 2005**

**GENERAL NEGOTIATIONS:  
DECEMBER 12-16, 2005**

The deadline for proposals to be submitted to the IATSE West Coast Office is Thursday, November 10, 2005. Any proposals received after this date will not be accepted.

### **Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses...**

Local 44, in conjunction with the I.A.T.S.E. and the LA Shop Task Force, is going after non-union shops who fabricate or rent props for the motion picture industry in full force. In just the past few months, we have successfully organized several small shops including Set Masters, Industry Glass and Plan B. We are also close to signing an agreement with Lennie Marvin Enterprises.

If you or someone you know is tired of poor working conditions, low wages, and no benefits at a non-union shop, please feel free to contact me. You have the right to organize under Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act of 1947. Please contact me at the hall 818-769-2500 or at home, 661-296-5368, all conversations will be held in the strictest of confidence and your privacy will be protected. We look forward to hearing from you and helping to facilitate better working conditions and benefits.

### **Special Announcement regarding Downey Studios**

As you know, \*\*\*\*\* is a workers' compensation attorney representing some of our members who were injured working at \*\*\*\*\* Studios. In order to pursue your claims further, he needs more of the dust and material some of you collected when working at Downey. Please contact me and I will arrange to get these

materials to him so that he can have the contents studied in a laboratory.

As we have explained at the meetings, each member who files a claim is sent to a doctor for treatment. John has agreed with the insurance adjuster to have our members examined by an Agreed Medical Examiner. The AME is considered impartial and his opinion will have a significant effect on all the claims for the members. Mr. Miller has advised me that the first AME report was received this week and it held in favor of the member. It said his symptoms were all a result of the work he did at \*\*\*\*\* Studios, that the air was toxic, mold was present, and the member needs ongoing medical treatment for his sinus condition, headaches, and additional health problems. In addition to the workers' comp claims, Mr. Miller is filing civil cases in Superior Court for each injured person who worked at \*\*\*\*\* Studios.

If you have not filed a claim, contact us as soon as possible and we will get you in contact with an attorney. And remember, if you have any dust or materials from the walls, ceiling, ground, yellow asbestos caution tape, and/or photos, please contact us at your earliest convenience.

# 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.*

Dear Newsreel;

Another Thanksgiving is upon us, my 86th, and I would like to give thanks to Local 44 and the Motion Picture Industry Pension and Health Plan. Without their support, I may not have been able to continue my two year fight against cancer.

I was a Propmaker and Special Effects Man from 1965 until retiring in 1986. I mourn the passing of all the brothers, especially those I personally knew and worked with, recently Bill Parks and Joe Goss, and others, and I say to active working members of IATSE, "SUPPORT YOUR UNION, AND IT WILL SUPPORT YOU."

Sincerely,  
Mr. Gordon W. Graff

\*\*\*

## New Way of Bringing in Members

Well brothers and sisters, we have a new board and officers. And as with every new regime, there are changes. But the one I experienced at our last meeting was a bit out of the ordinary. I was speaking my piece as a paid up member has the right to do, when our new vice president told me to SHUT UP and SIT DOWN. In the 30 years that I have been going to meetings, no one has ever done that to me. If this a way of trying to get to my good side it wont work.

JOE PINOY LOZANO  
local 44 member of 30+ years

\*\*\*

On Sunday October 16, 2005

the L.A. Times published an article entitled "Down, Dirty in Morocco" about the filming of "The Hills Have Eyes." The film is set in New Mexico but was shot in Morocco.

It was hard to miss the arrogance of those Producers trying to save a buck and exploit the cost savings of low wages and no rules while shuddering at having to rub shoulders with the locals. These quotes from the article speak volumes.

Producer Frank Hildebrand expressed the dream of all Hollywood Producers. "There are no rules, no laws. As long as you get permission to shoot in the country, you can do anything."

Moroccan Producer Sam Layani said "I see the things [the foreign film crews] don't see, and I don't want them to see. People around here live in misery."

Producer Marianne Maddalena showed her interest in multi-culturalism by traveling to Morocco with Sylvester Stallone's high protein pudding. "That way, you don't actually have to eat any food."

These quotes are embarrassing to the film community and once again perpetrate the image of the Ugly American.

David Glazer  
Property Master

*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.*

# MEMBER ACCOLADES



Local 44 congratulates Dan Needham, owner of Green Set, Inc. for receiving the P.A.L.S. 2005 Man of the Year Award for his support of the police department and North Hollywood community. Dan was honored at the 37th annual Police-Community partnership Luncheon sponsored by the East Valley Pals (Police Activity League Supporters). Mayor Antonio Villaraigoza presented the awards to honor officers, civilian employees, volunteers and citizen heroes of the L.A.P.D. North Hollywood Division. Way to go Dan!

\*\*\*

**Thanks to Jory Alvarado for sending in this photo of the *Fun with Dick and Jane* set dressing crew!**



*Back Row Left to Right: Mikki Mulgrew (399) Set Dressing Driver; James Pollack, Shannon Brock, Tom Spencer. Front Row Left to Right: Michael Garcia, Michael Boudreau, Jory Alvarado & Ernesto Felix. All Local 44 Set Dressing*

---

# AN IMPROVEMENT

By Elliot Jennings

It's hard to believe that I just passed the first anniversary of assuming office (October 1, 2004). We have made major strides in improving the health of Local 44 financially.

As a result of installing a budget early this year from which to operate, determine cuts and costs savings, the financial advisors of the Local commented this is the first year since they began servicing our accounts that they can remember the Local adding to the funds instead of depleting them.

At the general meeting in March and again at the craft meetings in June and October, those members that attended were given the budget, the 2004 numbers and where we were currently during the year, and members were allowed to ask questions. This is the openness we promised.

One of the biggest complaints when I assumed office was that members would be working side-by-side with other members who were dropped or suspended. Many of these members bragged at how they could get away with this and even if they were caught, the Local let them off without paying their fines.

In October 2004, the number of these individuals was over 500; in October 2005 the number is below 100. Most of these are day players, who have been laid off by the time we catch up to them on a show. The influx of the penalties and reinstatements has helped shore up our finances.

For 2005, the Executive Board had to make some hard decisions on cutting personnel, programs, and benefits. That was until we got our

financial house in order.

There were two major reasons for our financial strife, unregulated overspending, and under-charging of each member's obligation. Over the past decade that resulted in at least a \$3 million dollar loss to the Union.

Without getting into details, this was improperly done. All fees and financial obligations need to be collected in full; once collected, a Union has the ability to institute programs and distribute benefits back to its members.

Why this background? 2006 is fast approaching and you will be receiving an increase in your quarterly payment. But that's a good thing! Remember, your dues are based on four hours' pay of your craft's lowest Basic Agreement wage. You only get a dues increase when your hourly rates go up. According to the CBLs, the Local is required to tie your dues to your hourly rate.

Your quarterly payments include the International Per Capita; and affiliate taxes for District 2 – IATSE, Cal-Fed AFL-CIO, L.A. County Fed/ AFL-CIO, and Cal-State Theatrical. In the past several years, Per Capita and affiliate taxes have not reflected in the yearly dues increases. The Affiliates don't let us underpay them! As a result, dues are lower than required by the CBL's, and there is a discrepancy between the incoming amount and the amount Local 44 is *required* to pay out.

Who suffers from the shortage from each member? The Local. The shortage comes out of our operating capital. Who suffers from that? You do. Because we



undercharge, you lose out on benefits, programs, and training possibilities. Last year the Local had to subsidize \$380,000 from its coffers to pay its obligations to other Affiliates.

What did that do last year? Because of budget shortfalls, we had to hold off on increasing the life insurance policy, we had to cancel the Picnic and several Retiree events, and we couldn't begin scholarship funds, strike funds, or educational programs for our members.

You will get an increase in your quarterly payments, a minimum of \$5 per quarter (that is your dues increase and the International per capita tax).

Additionally, when polled in the craft meetings and in the Newsreel last month, an overwhelming majority of the members (94%) agreed to an amount of \$20 or one hour's pay next year to support FTAC's position for fighting runaway production. If it is made a budget item, your dues may increase another \$5-\$7 per quarter to fund this.

Realize there is a \$50 to \$70 a year subsidy for each member in the Local. While we have no intention of jumping everyone's payments in one year to what it is required to be, over the next several years we want to try and eliminate this problem. This money will return to you in increased benefits.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Erik Nelson

## Did You VOTE?

I hope you did and I hope that the propositions 74, 75, & 76 were defeated. I write this before my absentee ballot has arrived in my mail. I found that is the easiest way to get my vote into the mix, even when I was working those damnable 14 or 18 hour days, or when I was on distant location.

Those were important issues, but we will have one of our own in the next short while. There has been a committee working on changing out-moded parts of our constitution for some time now and the Election Article will soon be in the mail for your ratification. At the time I write this, it has already been sent to the International for vetting (it must pass muster with International C & BL before we can replace the old Article in our Constitution. This is a very important matter for all of us – you must be aware of some of the problems we have had in recent elections, and it cost this local money. We think that we have solved the problems and are compliant with Department of Labor rules. Take the couple of minutes to help make this change when this issue comes up for election.

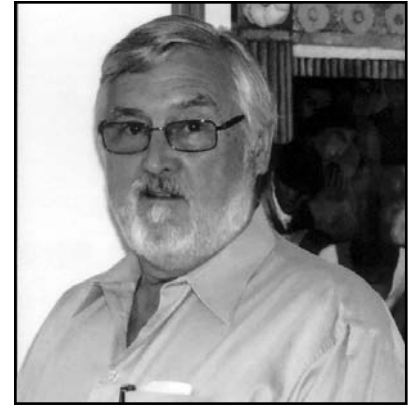
\*\*\*

I had the pleasure of sitting in on the Firearms Safety class that was held at the Hall on the 1st of October. There were only a few members who

took advantage of this program that is important for anyone handling firearms in motion pictures and television. It probably is important to those of you who are just on the set when firearms are being used as props. There was a lot of hands-on inspection of a variety of weapons and blank ammunition. The class is paid for through the AMPTP with the thought that a version of the class will be added to the Safety Passport program. There will be similar classes held in the near future with the developing of Intermediate and Advanced classes to follow. All Property Masters should take the course whether they handle the firearms themselves or have an assistant who is licensed and takes care of the weapons and ammunition. Knowledge is power. There is always something new to learn.

\*\*\*

I recently had the occasion to travel to British Columbia and Alberta – for pleasure! Not for work. While there I stayed in Vancouver for a few nights and besides enjoying the sights and sounds I checked out some of the stages. North Vancouver was bustling, Burnaby had productions waiting by the stages for the previous company to get off, and my taxi was diverted by a production company on the streets. Then, in Calgary, I found filming on the streets was backing up rush hour traffic– just like in L A. I



mention this not to congratulate our brothers and sisters in Canada, but to remind you that some of the work should be here in Hollywood and but for the subsidies that they throw at our producers, that work would be yours. I urge you to vocally support the 301a petition for which money is being raised so that the WTO will investigate the illegal subsidies being paid by a number of countries to take our work out of the USA. If you don't know how to complain about it, just let me know, or go to FTAC.org. The recent SAG election that put several new members on their board and elected an active, progressive President has resulted in SAG's donation of \$10,000 to fund the CEIDR Report and to unanimously endorse the 301a. We have the opportunity to donate money toward the finalization of the 301a through our dues payments similar to the per capita that the international and the AFL-CIO assesses. Several of you responded that it was important to do just that.

## 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, November 19, 2005. Applications must be received by Contract Services no later than Monday, November 14, 2005.

Please call 769-2500 ext. 109 for applications and additional information.

---

# STRAIGHT TIME

By Craig Raiche

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Contract Negotiation

Committees have all turned in their final proposals to our Business Agent. Weeks before you read this, our Executive Board will have already discussed and decided the feasibility of each proposal. This process (allowing each craft to determine their own contract proposals via committee) is still very new to us. This is just the second time we've done it like this and we can thank former Business Agent, Stew McGuire, for instituting this practice. Over time, we will only get better at it.

On October 17, the West Hollywood City Council joined a small, but growing, number of U.S. cities who have also called for an investigation into, possibly, illegal subsidies paid by foreign governments to U.S. studios and producers who shoot films outside our borders. A few months prior, the city of Burbank did likewise.

As you also know, Local 44, officially, resolved support for this effort and our members overwhelmingly responded in the positive to financially support this, truly, grassroots movement. Support continues to build and L.44 proudly stands at the forefront of this issue. If you'd like to help even more, or if you'd just like more information, please contact the Film and Television Action Committee (FTAC) at [ftac.org](http://ftac.org).

Our local still lacks correct information on how to contact a small number of members. Please, update your contact info. To receive pertinent info in the most timely and convenient manner, include your email address.

Many members have stated their desire for a website where all L.44 members can express themselves. Although it is an "unofficial" site,

there is such a place. Please, check out:

<http://iatse.org/44/forum/index.php>

There WAS a site for all IA members to join in a communal comment, but it "died" recently. It was "Free Your International Alliance" (FYIA.org) and its webmaster pulled the plug a few months ago when he decided it was much too "Hollywood" centric... and L.44 centric to boot! If any L.44 member would like to revive this site, (and, by that, I mean "assume its managerial chores") please, let me know and I'll put you in contact with its former webmaster. In just three years it received close to four thousand posts, each chocked-full of opinionated dialogue. This site is sorely missed by many. I especially liked their credo: "Democracy is not a 'thing' - it is a participatory process."

We recently held our latest round of craft meetings. Congratulations to our Set Decorators as only their craft managed a quorum. My craft, Property Masters, had a truly dismal turnout. With apologies to all other crafts, I'd like to say a few words in praise of our Prop Masters.

You'll receive very little recognition and you'll not receive even one Emmy or one Oscar nomination, but there IS a reason you're called "Master." Due to the immediacy of the job, you're often forced to make your own "working props." Under certain circumstances, you are allowed to perform minor special effects and minor set decoration. You can function as prop master, assistant prop master, lead person, shopper/buyer, set dresser and on-set dresser. To assist you in the performance of your job, you will hire an endless array of "specialists," such as, computer experts, food stylists, weapons handlers, graphic artists, ani-



mal trainers, etc. Ironic, as it is, you will, invariably, pay each specialist more money than you are being paid. Not surprisingly, most of you have performed a "bit part" on camera; many of you carry an S.A.G. card; and some of you will even execute a stunt or two before you retire. It is an amazing position and in all the IATSE no other craft is allowed to work in so many different capacities. My hat is off to all of you, too. You are, indeed, "Master's of All Properties."

Before I step down from the soapbox, I want to thank everyone who took the time to inquire my reason for not writing anything in the last NEWSREEL... I'm glad you missed me. I'll try to not let it happen again.

As always, I thank you for reading.  
Craig Raiche

**JANUARY 1, 2006  
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**

# MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

## 50 Year + Anniversaries

### October

There were no 50 + year anniversaries in October

### November

Petrota, Victor	Property Master
Long Jr., Charles	Draperer
Mossman, Theodore	Property Master
Smith, Donald	Prop Maker
DeMarco, Frank	FX
DeMarco, Alfred	Prop Maker
Peterson, Robert	FX

## 50 Year Anniversaries

### October

Gordon, Allan	Property Master
Butz, Carl	Draperer
Leggett, Alfred	Property Master
Lombardi, Robert	Greens
Loreno, Sam	Property Master
Steffensen, Robert	Property Master
Bernaducci, Daniel	Property
Goldfarb, Irving	Property Master
Richards, Robert	Property Master
Camerini, Eugene	Prop Maker
Krisman, Harold	Prop Maker
Nifong, Frank\	Property Master
Dockrey, Samuel	FX
Brown, Claire	Set Decorator

### November

Alvarez, Alex	Property
Wainess, William	Property Master
Lucas, Jerry	Property

## 35 Year Anniversaries

### October

Wiles, Willie	Property
Sertin, Charles	Property Master
Thompson, Willie	Property Master
Garay, Celso	Prop Maker
Vlastas, Michael	Property
Harris Jr., Carey	Property
Orme, Kenneth	Property Master
Guerra, Thomas	Property
Hughes, Archie	Prop Maker

### November

Lyons, Riley	Prop Maker
Lindsay, Robert	Prop Maker
Faria, Guy	FX FX
Herron Jr., Jimmie	Property Master

## 25 Year Anniversaries

### October

Marquis, Neil	Property Master
Jones, Gregory	Floorcoverer
Foster, Frank	FX

### November

Hernandez, Norbert	FX
Sharpe, Rod	Prop Maker
Caruso, Robert	Prop Maker

## 10 Year Anniversaries

### October

Elliott, Josh	Property
Saccio, Michael	Property
Goldsmith, Lisa	Property
Sutton-Doll, Linda	Set Decorator
McNown, John	Property
Langdon, Sean	Property
Gaffin, Lauri	Set Decorator
Miller, Steven	Property
King, Stephen	Property
Morris Johnson, Tracy	Property
Tarantino, Frank	Prop Maker
Dupuy, Tyler	Prop Maker
Dixon, Kevin	Prop Maker
Youngblood, John	Property
Bozeman, Max	Prop Maker
Eddleston, Troy	Prop Maker
Casey, Peggy	Property
Andresen, Mark	Property
Bioni, Richard	Property
Pritchett, Casey	Prop Maker
Brady, Donald	Prop Maker
Grant, William	Property
Schneider, Crista	Set Decorator
Wolf, Jason	Property
Hanna, Daniel	Property
Rogers, Karl	Prop Maker
Petrak, Mark	Prop Maker
Ripperton, Kenneth	Prop Maker
Vick, Alun	Coordinator
Galín, Jake	Prop Maker
Corbett, Bryan	Prop Maker
Martin II, Edward	Property
Byers, Mark	FX
Croyle (Hirsch), Jennifer	Property
Dennis, Stephen	Prop Maker
Campbell, Billy	Property
McCarthy, Brant	Prop Maker
Markey, Brian	Coordinator
Cuneo, Christopher	Prop Maker
Annis, Mark	Prop Maker
Ricciardella, Joseph	Prop Maker
Moore, Stephen	Prop Maker

McDuffee, Paul	Property
Cruz, Fabian	Property
Guerino, Steve	Property Master
Weaver, Russell	Property

### November

Cohea Jr., Wayne	Prop Maker
Smith, Jeff	Property
Young, Rick	Property
Hay, Jeffrey	Property
Johnson, Michael	Property
Hughes, Patrick	Property
Stecyk, Ricky	Property
Watwood, John	Prop Maker
Matheny, Susan	Property
Blom, Brent	Property
Aguilar, Tom	Prop Maker
Holcombe, James	Prop Maker
Wood, Kent	Maker
Bottoni, Michael	Prop Maker
Stover, Mike	Property
McNary, Glen	Prop Maker
Alexander, Matthew	Prop Maker
O'Connor, Phoebe	Property
Higgins, Dwayne	Property Master
Clancy, Danie	Set Decorator
Peterson, David	Prop Maker
McClaran, Merdyce	Property
Kanter, Peter	Property
Euell, William	Prop Maker
Hasmann, Klaus	Property
DeMuri, Andrew	Prop Maker
Patvaldnieks, Mary	Property
DeSilva, Michael	Property
O'Harra, Michael	Property
Shanahan, Ronald	Prop Maker
McCarthy, Meredith	Property
Haas, Nathan	Property
Nary, Robert	Prop Maker
Schmitz, Charles	Prop Maker
Anderson, Joseph	Property

**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**

**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 25 & 35 Year Anniversaries.**

**35 Year Anniversaries**

**April**

Riggin, Lee Prop Maker

**There were no 35 year anniversaries in Jan, Feb, March or May**

**25 Year Anniversaries**

**January**

Ragosta, James Prop Maker  
 Arbogast, Michael FX  
 Austin, Scott Prop Maker  
 Barry III, William Property  
 Cobb, William FX  
 Eaton, David Prop Maker  
 Foy, Lucinda Prop Maker  
 Frankenheimer, Leslie Set Decorator  
 Gebr, Tom Property  
 Hernandez, Victor Upholsterer  
 Oyler, Dennis Prop Maker  
 Planck, Stephen Property  
 Ramsey, Joe FX  
 Russo, Charles Prop Master  
 Stimson, Mark Prop Maker  
 Ullman, Dennis Prop Maker  
 Westcott, Kenneth Property  
 Blevens, Larry Prop Maker  
 Burroughs, Cynthia Property  
 Cline, Richard Property  
 Dawson, Carl Prop Master  
 Giordano, Robert Property  
 Gordon, Joyce Floorcoverer  
 Harford, Mark Prop Maker  
 Mercatoris, Robin Prop Maker  
 Norris, Mollie Sewers  
 Preston, Bruce Prop Maker  
 Ross, Christopher Prop Maker  
 Smith, Patricia Sewers  
 Takahashi, Phil Prop Maker  
 Webber, Donald Prop Maker  
 Stockman, Ricky Property  
 Agoston, Jozsef Prop Maker  
 Martinez, Henry Prop Maker  
 Grande, Patrick Floorcoverer  
 Barton, Richard Prop Maker  
 Bugenhagen, Thomas Set Decorator  
 Casey, Gina Sewers  
 Lamppu, Eric Prop Maker  
 Swenson, Carol Property

**February**

Cabral, Barbara Property  
 IIsley, Paul Floorcoverer  
 Knerr, Kerry Prop Master  
 Lanning, David Property  
 Lantieri, Louie Prop Maker

Miller, Thomas Prop Master  
 Miranda, Barbara Set Decorator  
 Nash III, James Prop Maker  
 Parrish, Hope Prop Master  
 Rigby, Mark Prop Maker  
 Rodgers, Bryan Prop Master  
 Sweeney, John Prop Master  
 Thomason, Mitchell Prop Master  
 Anton, George Property  
 Arrigo, Donald Floorcoverer  
 Buffolino, Vincenzo Property  
 Dambros, Ellen Property  
 Forsmith, Leslye Property  
 Gualtiere, Judith Property  
 Lichtenstein, Ralph Prop Maker  
 Miskanin, Jeffrey Prop Maker  
 Rankin, John Property  
 Smallwood, Richard Property  
 Taylor, Mark Property  
 Sexton-Ostertag, Mikki Property  
 Stipsky, Joseph Prop Maker

**March**

Delgado, Oscar Property  
 Gibbons, Michael Prop Master  
 Russo, Anthony Prop Maker  
 Spain, James Prop Maker  
 Sunga, Erlindo Prop Maker  
 Broderick, Michael Prop Maker  
 Day, John Prop Maker  
 Haynes, Victor Prop Maker  
 Willhite, Daniel Prop Maker  
 Crump, Don Prop Maker  
 Wooten, David Prop Maker

**April**

Darensbourg, Gregory Floorcoverer  
 Baum, Richard Prop Master  
 Esposto, Salvatore Prop Maker  
 Felix, Edward FX  
 Runnels, Lee Greens  
 Mason, Wesley Coordinator  
 Crompton, William Prop Maker  
 DeMeskey, Patrick Prop Maker  
 Ray, Michael Property  
 Townsend, Steve Prop Maker  
 Von Franck, Sterling Property

**May**

Nirvana, Yana Property  
 Perez, Robert Prop Maker  
 Donaghy, Robert Prop Maker  
 Altavilla, David Prop Maker  
 Jones, Michael Prop Maker  
 Sparks, Jeffrey Prop Maker

**HELP STOP RUNAWAY PRODUCTION**

**By Erik Nelson**

We are enjoying fairly full employment in most of our crafts RIGHT NOW, but Runaway Production has taken so many of our jobs away from Hollywood that we will very likely be feeling the pinch of lower employment again soon – if things do not change regarding subsidies from foreign governments undercutting our reasonable wages.

On Oct. 17, the West Hollywood City Council, in recognition of the problem, voted to endorse the 301a petition being moved through the political process by FTAC. My two minutes went much too quickly, but several volunteers from SAG, 399, WGA, 728, 600, 800 and others spoke on the issue against a lone third-stringer hired by the MPAA. The cause moves forward. The enlightened leadership at FTAC deserves more than applause for their unpaid efforts. Check it out: [www.ftac.org](http://www.ftac.org) Thanks, West Hollywood!!

I wish to express my thanks to Erin Hennessey for sitting in on the Craft meetings that I was unable to attend due to personal “business” in Texas, and keeping me apprised as to what happened at those meetings. Those that I was able to attend were interesting for me with intelligent people discussing rationally some of the problems of their Crafts. Too bad there were so few of their brothers and sisters in attendance.

What do you want to see, hear or do at your Craft meeting that would make you want to attend? How about that for the question of the month? I hope to hear from you on that subject!!

# Retiree Spotlight: Susan Moffett

Susan Moffett is not your typical 95 year-old. A retired Property-Sewing person, she's quick with a laugh and quick to tell you her age, "I'll be 95 in October and I'm proud of my age," proclaimed Moffett, sitting comfortably in her immaculate home with her daughter Elizabeth Langworthy and granddaughter Catherine Mawer. "I'm proud that God has let me live as long as I have."

Moffett arrived in Los Angeles from Providence, Rhode Island in 1929. (Back then, she was Assunta Angelina DiMeo, she would later change her name to the more American "Susan.") "There were ten of us in a big Studebaker," she said, describing with a mischievous grin, her cross-country trip with her father, mother, and seven brothers and sisters, "It was a long ride."

On October 15, 1935 Moffett married Joseph Robert Delahanty who was an upholstery foreman at MGM; but it would be twenty years before she started in the studios. "I started working on May 10, 1955," she recalls with remarkable precision, "they needed an upholstery seamstress at Warner Brothers and my sister-in-law recommended me. At the time, we had our own drapery and upholstery business. But I decided to help them out for a few days." Twenty-one years later, Moffett would retire as the head of the Warner Brothers Upholstery/Drapery department.

In those days, almost all of the work was done in the studios. "We made everything you saw on the sets, now a lot of it is shopped out," said Moffett. "We did a lot of intricate work - beautiful detail that you just don't see any more. And we did every single piece."

Moffett worked on shows ranging from *Auntie Mame*, to *Camelot*, to "Police Woman." "I can't remember them all, a lot of the time they didn't even tell us what we were working on, but I guess I did most of the Warner Brother's pictures at that time."

Some of her fondest memories from her years at Warner Brothers are of the people she encountered along the way. "Angie Dickenson came in when she was doing 'Police Woman,' they shot one of the segments in our department. I told her the show was going to be a success,

and it was," Moffett recalls. "I loved Rosiland Russell too," she adds, "she gave me one of her cigarette holders - she so was down to earth and friendly."

At this, Mrs. Moffett's granddaughter, Catherine Mawer, chimes in, "that's because Grandma is so friendly - when I'm out with her, she's hugging everybody - strangers - she's friends with everybody."

"Nobody's a stranger to me," Moffett shrugs. "I love everyone. I like people."

Perhaps Moffett's people skills were what led her to serve on the Local 44 Executive Board in the late fifties. "They just put my name down and there I was, representing my craft." During her ten-year term, she attended three conventions, "it was my first trip on a plane; we went to Kentucky, then Michigan, then Kansas."

Moffett retired from Warner Brothers on February 28, 1976. "When I left, I had fifteen girls working for me. They were all crying, you'd think I'd died," Moffett says with a laugh. By this time, she was married to studio driver Frederick "Ted" Moffett. Joseph Delahanty passed away in 1957. "I was very lucky to have two wonderful men in my life," Moffett mused. "Ted was seven years older than me, and I don't drive - so he was carting me back and forth to work everyday. When I retired, I told Ted, 'now you can retire for real.'"

But for Moffett, retirement didn't mean inactivity. "I owe my longevity to keeping busy," she explains. "I don't sit around dilly-dallying." For starters, Moffett was the inspiration for the formation of the Warner Bros. Studios Retirees Club. "I went to get the pin for my years of service, and Royal Regan said, 'I guess you and Ted will be doing a lot of traveling now.' I told him I didn't really care to travel. So Royal said, 'let's start a Retirees Club.'"

In 1977 the WB Retirees Club was officially formed and Moffett was drafted as Treasurer, a position she has held ever since. "More than once I've pulled a Coolidge - 'I don't care to run,' but they wouldn't let me go. I'm still the Treasurer. Oy Vey!" Moffett explains that when the club first started there were only seven members. "Now we have 376. The



*Left:  
Susan  
Moffett  
steps out  
at a Local  
44 Retiree  
event*

end of the fiscal year is July 31, so that's a busy time - they're all renewing their dues." Astonishingly, she does all of the accounting in her head.

Moffett said she has been doing crossword puzzles since she was thirteen. "I love crosswords, and that's good because it keeps my mind sharp." Then she adds with a giggle, "You know, anything to make it work." Additionally she writes the alphabet (uppercase and lowercase) and her numbers one through ten once each day to keep her handwriting in shape. She taught all of her children to do the same, "I still do my numbers and letters," said Moffett's daughter Elizabeth. "You should see Mom's handwriting, it's still perfect, it's tiny."

Moffett has nineteen great-grandchildren, twelve grandchildren, and two daughters, Elizabeth Langworthy and Gloria Gowdy. She is very active with the Local 44 Retirees as well as with the Warner Brothers studios retirees; and she spends a great deal of time throwing parties for family and friends in her home. "I love throwing parties - for Easter and Christmas, I have forty people over and I have a sit-down dinner. We rearrange the furniture so everyone fits - I don't want the kids in the kitchen, I want them at the table - they're family!"

One can't help sensing that Susan Moffett has lived every minute of her 95 years to the fullest - surrounded by family, friends, and a flurry of activity. "I thank the good lord I'm still alive and kicking." With this, she gives a little kick.

We should all be so full of life.

## INDUSTRY GLASS PROVIDES A NEW OPTION

Industry Glass is the first shop of its kind to become part of the IATSE Signatory family. "Most of the glazing in the industry is let out to other companies," said Craig Von Lanken co-owner of Industry Glass. "We thought it would be great if we could start a signatory company, because we can keep people working through the union. A lot of these glass company employees make \$12 an hour coming on to the lot, while there are Propmakers sitting at home without a job."

Von Lanken along with his partner Charles Basurto are backed by a combined twenty-five years of glazing experience and 14 years of propmaking experience. Their unique skill-set, combined with a thorough knowledge of set construction, makes them an asset to any project. "As propmakers, we know the system of building sets," said Basurto. "Set building is different from work in the outside world," added Von Lanken, "The way you fasten storefronts, the hardware, there are tricks to all of it, and you have to know how to assemble it so that it's safe. An outside glass company might not know how to do that."

Von Lanken started in the glazing business at the age of 19, and as propmakers, both Von Lanken and Basurto worked extensively with glass. "As a Propmaker," said Von Lanken, "I would tell the coordinator what to order and how to install to save money. With Industry Glass, we hope to achieve that on a larger scale." Von Lanken said that the next step for him and Basurto is to implement a system that will help the coordinator by creating packages that suit the specific needs of the show while staying within budget. "We will give the coordinator choices of how the glass is installed. For example: 'Charles and I can do this storefront, but you'll save some money if you use your own Propmakers for this.'"

Von Lanken and Basurto don't foresee their decision to go signatory effecting their ability to keep costs low. "We can use union guys and be just as competitive as other companies," said Von Lanken. "And now coordinators have the union option – before there wasn't a union glass shop – now there's a choice."

**Industry Glass is located at 31324 Via Colinas,  
#104, Westlake Village, CA 91362.  
Phone: 818-706-1972, Fax: 818-706-1872.**

## PLAN "B" DESIGN GROUP: HOME OF FAST-PACED PROPS

Mike Landi, a mechanical engineer and president of Plan "B" Design Group, is thrilled that his company has become signatory to the IATSE.

"We're really excited and looking forward to doing union work – we've wanted to do more movie work, and now we can," said

Landi. "Ronnie Cunningham and everybody at Local 44 has been totally supportive – and it's made it really a pleasure to start doing business in this formant."

For years, Plan "B" has been designing and manufacturing large-scale mechanical props. "We build working trolleys and carousels, large-scale convention displays, and rock-and-roll staging equipment, and we're heavy into automotive, we recently did some work on *The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift*" said Landi. Last year, Plan "B" did world tour sets for the likes of Missy Elliot, Nelly, Busta Rhymes, Mary J. Blige, and 50 Cent among others. Currently, they are working on a set for Madonna's world tour. "We do a lot of production equipment for awards shows as well, from MTV to BET to source, to the American Music awards," added Jason Castillo, Plan "B's" Vice President. "We also do a lot of trade show work - it could be anything from Autoramas to magic shows. So we're very versatile." Additionally, Plan "B" also does remote-control animatronics and robotic work.

According to Landi, Plan "B's" sensitivity to compressed time frames is one of the company's biggest assets. "Our general outlook and experience in the business kind-of sets us apart. We have a very professional attitude and a professional, highly-qualified, technically-minded crew. We build things quickly and cost effectively. We can do a lot of things for less."

Another of Plan "B's" attributes is the fact that they're a one-stop shop. "We really don't sub anything out," said Castillo. "We have a full wood shop, we have people who can do sculpting and molding, we have a full welding shop and a full machine shop."

"We're also very focused on precision. Our machinery is high precision, including CNC equipment and precision welding equipment," Landi added. "We can do fiberglass and molds, or we can do the set work and the carpentry, we can do all the mechanical work and anything that coordinates between the two, and we can do it all in-house, at a great price."

**Plan "B" is located at 1055 N. Victory Place, Burbank, CA  
91502. Phone: 1-800-449-6747, Fax: 818-239-1801.**



*Plan "B" President Mike Landi (Right) and Vice President Jason Castillo*

# JUST A FEW REMINDERS

By Ed Brown

With contract talks right around the corner and our focus on issues that could use additions and upgrades, I wanted to take a moment to touch on some things that won't change and need to be reinforced.

A reminder to all supervisors when working anyone in a **"Higher Classification"** for two hours or more you must re-rate that person to the higher rate of pay for the entire shift. This applies to all crafts at any point during the work day. Specifically be reminded that Drapery and Flooring goods are to be installed by just that, Drapery and/or Flooring persons. If you utilize Property crew for this work, it

must be incidental, as well if this work consumes more than the stated 2 hours, those crew members must be re-rated. Remember that the key to re-rating kicks in at the "two hour" point.

**"Rest Periods" or "Breaks"** are not only State mandated they are clearly defined in our contracts. As stated in **Paragraph 20.2 "Rest Periods for "Off-Production" Employees" – An "Off Production" employee shall be given, when time permits, a rest period not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes for each four (4) hour work period.** The key words here are "when time permits". This wording does not allow for the elimination of a break, nor does it allow for breaks to take place hours after they should occur. It is mandatory that persons supervising a crew be aware that these breaks are again State mandated.

There have been some instances where we have found members working in classifications other than the classification you are on the roster for. In just about every case it has been some kind of oversight or paperwork mix-up. Please take a moment and go to the Contract Services web-site, (the link can be found at [www.local44.org](http://www.local44.org)) log in under "General Access" enter your information and check to make sure they have you listed properly.

**To All Property Persons! The Wiring of Practical Lighting Fixtures is beyond our scope of expertise!** The installation and dressing of lighting fixtures is the jurisdiction of Local 44, the practical wiring is not, most fundamentally from a safety point. We are not licensed Electricians and cannot assume the liabilities involved with practical wiring. This includes



wiring of practical outlets on sets built on stage. As well, a greater concern, I have been made aware that on several occasions Set Dressing persons have been requested or coerced into removing practical lighting fixtures from private homes and reinstalling Set Decoration lighting fixtures. Be aware that this puts you and your production in a situation of liability if a wiring short occurs with a resulting accident or worse yet a fire. If you are put into this situation you must bring this to the attention of the show's Location Manager and put this responsibility into their hands and out of yours.

On another note, when you call the hall to speak with me if you get my voice mail please don't hang up. More than likely I am on the other line with another member. It is my preference to not put people on hold to take other calls I prefer to give complete attention to whoever I am on the phone with. So please do leave a message, I will get back to you. Remember the only stupid questions are the ones that go unasked. We are here for you! Wishing you and yours a heartfelt Thanksgiving holiday. Spend time with the ones you love, it is time well spent. Stay in touch, stay informed.  
Ed Brown  
Asst. Business Agent

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Beware of using your personal car for business. AAA's annual study of driving costs estimates the cost of running the average car at 56.2 cents per mile. (The estimate factors in depreciation in the value of the car over five years, cost of insurance, fuel maintenance and finance charged and assumes that 15,000 miles are driven per year.) That's almost 41% higher than the IRS's 40.5 cents per mile maximum that companies are allowed to reimburse employees in 2005. If your company uses the IRS maximum mileage reimbursement, you lose 15.7 cents for every mile you drive. For a 200-mile business trip, you would lose \$31.40. Also: Many companies will *not* reimburse employees for the car insurance deductible, typically \$500, if the car is involved in an accident. Consult your employee benefits manual, or ask a human resources representative about current policies. By Eric Gelb, CPA, author of *Personal Budget Planner* (Career Advancement Center), Hewlett, New York. From: *Business Week* 10/1/2005

## SPEAK UP RESPONSES

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

**Below are the comments we received in response to the SPEAK UP! question in the Sept./Oct. Newsreel: "Where do you feel negotiations should concentrate their efforts?"**

Adjust requirements for retirement. Perhaps two of the current three (#1 -30 yrs, #2 - 60,000 hours, #3 -60 years old). Then our older brothers and sisters could opt for full retirement rather than compete with younger members for fewer jobs.  
-David McGuire  
44 Property Master

Our wages need to go up considerable on par with actors, lumber and housing. Make us outrageously expensive and let them all \$@\*# off to Canada.  
-Bobby Pollard  
44 Property

We definitely need to work, not just for bigger gains in our pension plans but for changes in the health and pension plans' requirements for retirement. Our jobs are pretty rough for anyone to do when they are young but to be propmaking or hustling furniture when you're over 50 is a hazard to all AND to be forced into such labor at that age in order to be able to get permanent medical or to receive your full pension is simply ridiculous!  
-Kay Quitan  
44 Property

*There is no "SPEAK UP!" Question this month. The "SPEAK UP!" feature will return in next month's Newsreel.*

## 2006 TRAINING: PARTICIPATE!

Contract Services has issued applications for 2006 industry training. Each year, around January or February, the board of Trustees of Contract Services Administration Training Trust Fund meets to allocate funds to IATSE Locals for industry training. These applications are due on November 21, 2005.

In 2005, Local 44 was granted funding for the Firearms Safety class. During the process of selecting training programs to request, Local 44 is required to show not only the cost and purpose of the training program, but also a level of interest from members indicating that this training will benefit as many people as possible.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**  
Please contact your craft representatives and let them know what kind of training you are interested in and make a commitment to attending class if Local 44 is granted funding. **HELP US HELP YOU!**



*Class instructors Larry Zanoloff (left) and Mike Gibbons (right) of Gibbons Ltd. Entertainment Armory lead the October 1, 2005 Firearms Safety Class.*

## REMEMBRANCES

**Santino Barriciello**  
**Propmaker**  
**Born: 11/2/1929**  
**Sworn in: 11/11/1965**  
**Retired: 11/1/1993**  
**Died: 9/13/2005**

**William A. Parks**  
**Coordinator**  
**Born: 4/18/1915**  
**Sworn in: 6/8/1945**  
**Retired: 3/1/1982**  
**Died: 9/21/2005**

**Anton P. Rupprecht**  
**Propmaker**  
**Born: 11/ 9/1962**  
**Sworn in: 10/5/2001**  
**Died: 3/27/2005**  
*Missed by his wife,*  
**MJ Torres Rupprecht**

**Scott Stephens**  
**Property Master**  
**Born: 7/31/1957**  
**Sworn in: 1/23/1996**  
**Died: 9/19/2005**

**For complete tribute articles, and updated, detailed information on funeral and memorial services, please log on to our website at [www.local44.org](http://www.local44.org) and click on "In Memory Of."**

---

# 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.

## **Wed., September 7th, 2005 – Regular Meeting**

Michael Cappello is sworn in as new Propmaker Representative, replacing vacated seat of Erin Hennessey who filled the seat of Vice-President.

### Presentation: Lot Stewards

Several lot stewards presented their objections to the Executive Board's mandate to use log books and procedures.

*Motion: The required Steward logbook would be eliminated and instead any Executive Board member can attend any Steward meeting and additionally all Lot Stewards should attend training within 6 months.*

### **Motion passed.**

Discussion: The second postponement of a member trial.

*Motion: That the trial be postponed until November 2nd.*

### **Motion passed.**

*Motion: That the "excuse" letter not directly delivered to the Secretary-Treasurer's office by one of charged parties, not be recognized as legitimate.*

### **Motion passed.**

### Report: Trustee Quarterly Report

The Trustees presented the results of their Quarterly Audit including their suggested changes and concerns. There was a request for hiring the same auditors for the yearly audit as were retained last year. The cost should be less than the previous year.

With the Trustees doing the quarterly report, did we need an accountant doing the quarterly audit and the yearend audit? With the hiring of an in-house CPA, it would not be necessary to have a quarterly auditor only an independent yearend auditor.

Attorney for Local said that only problem with independent auditors recommendations was an Investment Committee of members outside the Executive Board. The Federal Government places responsibility on the elected Board to make the financial decisions of a Union.

*Motion: To retain the services of the previous year's Accounting firm for this year's audit.*

### **On a split vote, motion passed with one abstention.**

Presentation: The facts as each one knew them, of a dispute between one of the Executive Board Member's and one of our Shop Stewards.

The E-Board member stated that he was merely explain to certain members on a stage the

facts surrounding the B.A. and some legal matters. The Steward had told him to stop bad-mouthing people.

The Steward stated that members had reported that the E-Board member had spread dissent against the B.A. and he told him to stop.

Both the Executive Board member and the Steward resolved to let the incident pass.

### Discussion: Craft Meeting Dates.

The Representatives set the dates for the upcoming Craft Meetings.

The Propmakers requested a small stipend to create "door prizes" in an attempt to garner interest in their meeting.

*Motion: To allow prizes, (not to exceed \$400) for Propmaker Craft Meeting.*

### **On a split vote, motion passed with two abstentions.**

Discussion: Could we attempt to "squeeze" in a Local Picnic as we were beginning to look better financially. The time frame was too short, and we couldn't guarantee the rest of the year's outlook. The picnic would be looked at for 2006.

Discussion: To donate to the CEIDR report. This report was to update information on the extent of runaway production. The report would cost \$50,000. Local 600 had donated \$15,000. Local 44's membership was over 90% in favor of the 301a and this was a first-step.

*Motion: To donate \$5,000 to CEIDR update.*

### **Motion passed.**

Discussion: Contract Committee submissions and the deadline.

There is a November 10, 2005 deadline to submit request to the IA office. We needed to have each craft submit their proposals well ahead of time so that the B.A. and the Executive Board can review them before submission to the International.

*Motion: All craft committee chairs need to have final proposals typed and presented to Executive Board before October 19th.*

### **Motion passed.**

Discussion: Anthony Pawluc and his position as a quasi-Assistant Business Agent.

Brother Pawluc was to be temporarily moved up as an Assistant B.A. if the B.A. would be missing for a significant time period. That did not happen. The B.A. would have to approve any Assistant B.A. and could not make the move by fiat. With all the negotiations going, would it be unreasonable to add an Assistant B.A. and hire another office staff assistant to the Local?

It was pointed out that from a budget standpoint this might be a premature move.

*Motion: To table discussion of Assistant B.A. until next Executive Board meeting.*

*Counter-motion: To postpone consideration of another Assistant B.A. until the 2006 budget.*

### **Motion passed with one abstention.**

Presentation: SDSA marketplace and advertisement.

A request of a waiver of the mailing fee for

a notification to Set Decorators. Also, a request for Local 44 to sponsor a coffee cart with a donation at the event.

The SDSA magazine was asking for its annual advertising fee from Local 44.

*Motion: To waive the mailing fee and sponsor a cart at the marketplace.*

### **Motion passed with two abstentions.**

*Motion: To pay annual advertising fee to SDSA magazine.*

### **Motion passed.**

Presentation: The Secretary-Treasurer read a letter from the International President requesting donations to help IATSE members affected by Hurricane Katrina. The International had donated \$10,000.

*Motion: To approve \$10,000 to the Hurricane Katrina relief for IATSE members in the affected area.*

### **Motion passed.**

Discussion: The continued absences of one of the Representatives of the Board. It was noted that one Board member had habitual absences, due to circumstances in his personal life. Board wished to have a complete Executive Board as on occasion a quorum had barely been maintained.

*Motion: To send a certified letter to the Board member, requesting his participation, leave of absence, or resignation from the Board. No response would be considered to give Board the right to remove the member.*

### **Motion passed.**

Discussion: Lot Steward objections to the use of log books. As was noted earlier many Stewards objected to having to prepare log books. They didn't like the paper trail and felt it interfered with their ability to keep member's trust. Board members stated the purpose was to allow them to keep a pulse on the situations going on with the membership.

*Motion: That Shop Stewards would no longer keep log books, but that B.A. would require Stewards to obtain formal training and that any Board member be allowed to attend Steward meetings at any time to here concerns.*

### **On a split vote, motion passed.**

### Presentation: Business Agent Report

Downey Studios: Downey had filed suit against Local 44 because of the articles on concerns of contaminates at the facility in our Newsreel. It was pointed out that all articles were reprints of various reports, including a reprint of the West Coast IA's letter that certain contaminates were cleared.

Special Effects Letter: A letter to International President Short was being drafted to respond to the IA President's letter referencing the Special Effects conditions in a Newsreel article.

Discussion: To have the Committees from Property, Prop Master, and Set Decorators confer on the issue of "Shopper-Buyer" category before the October 19th deadline.

---

**Wed., September 21, 2005 – Regular Meeting**

Presentation: Gavin Koon from the West Coast IA came and gave an update on the efforts to organize Lenny Marvin Prop Shop.

It was noted that the prop shop was nearing final signing of a contract. The Board was informed of the history of the negotiations and their current position.

Discussion: Surrounding the methods and procedures which were followed during the negotiations.

Presentation: Hiring a second opinion lawyer regarding the powers of the Executive Board. Al Price came as an advocate for a second opinion attorney that had been recommended to the Local.

Discussion: The attorney had many years practice in the construction field, but did not specialize in pure labor law.

*Motion: That the Executive Board not engage the service of the specific attorney recommended.*

**On a split vote, motion passed with one abstention.**

*Board entered into Executive Session.*

Reading into Record: The Secretary-Treasurer read charges from members against former officer of Local into the minutes.

Discussion: The practice on some production lots of using a preferred vendor book; the "Red Book". How were our members to deal with this practice, especially when some of the vendors were non-union?

Discussion: A member had been identified as the one responsible for being the source of information on misconduct on a production and felt that the Union had not given him protection. The individual was given an offer as a Shop Steward for this lot.

Presentation: The Secretary-Treasurer presented the Board with the UBS financial reports, and answered questions.

Presentation: The Business Agent Report. Plan B and Window King are in negotiation to become signatories.

Attempts to define what a Set Decorator can do while driving their own car. Transporting other people is not one of the abilities.

With the removal of the Shop Steward log books, where was the B.A. with respect to getting the Steward's training?

Presentation: The Secretary-Treasurer Report.

Board members were provided with member status reports.

New initiatives were on track, even ahead of February's budget numbers at 130 current.

A letter was read that the Board had direct to be sent from one of its members for habitual absences. The letter had been mailed requesting the Board member respond.

*Motion: That pending any legal ramifications the current Board member is to be removed from office. At the October 5th meeting, at least two alternate choices for replacement should be physical present, and chosen by the Representatives from which the vacancy occurred.*

**On a split vote, motion passed.**

On of our members has begun a non-profit organization to help disadvantaged youths learn skills. He is asking for donations of money or time from current or retired 44 members to teach.

We are still searching for a Labor Union trained CPA. Upon his hiring the Bookkeeper will no longer be responsible for recordkeeping. The disability and collections have been consolidated into one position.

John Matheson was given two weeks severance pay after ending his service with the Local 44 office.

Craft meeting cards would be going out next week, any special wording needed to be submitted immediately.

Discussion: Upcoming contact negotiations. Representatives from each craft should be able to speak on their own behalf.

*Motion: That all regular submissions to the Newsreel (B.A., Secretary-Treasurer, President reports) must adhere to the deadline published in the previous month's Newsreel.*

**On a split vote, motion passed.**

Discussion: That agenda items for Board meetings be submitted well enough in advance that Executive Board member's are aware of the topics coming up for discussion.

---

**Wed. October 5th, 2005 – Regular Meeting**

Presentation: November ballot measures. Steve Neal a representative of the L.A. County Federation of Labor (AFL-CIO) came to give the labor line. Prop 74, 75, 76, and 77 were considered to be anti-labor attacks. The AFL-CIO was requesting mobilization and education of union members and encouraging get out the vote efforts to defeat the measures.

*Motion: That the flyers provided by the County Fed be mailed to all members of the Local.*

**On a split vote, motion passed.**

Nomination: New Property Craft Representative

Two names were presented to the Executive Board; Tobey Bays and Victor Nerone.

Each candidate was given an opportunity to make a speech and answer questions from Board members.

*Under Executive Session the Board voted by secret ballot.*

**Tobey Bays was voted into the Property Rep position.**

The Secretary-Treasurer swore in Brother Bays who immediately took his place on the Board.

Presentation: Business Agent Report Scott Wheatley returned home from hospital.

Much of the contract negotiation proposals have come in. E-Board members will receive all craft proposals in advance for review.

Special Effects disposal of explosives were discussed.

Three new signatories happened; Team III Divers, Industry Glass, and Plan B.

Three new grievances were going to arbitration.

Concerns from long-time members on the low amount of pension were brought to the attention of the B.A.

Presentation: Secretary-Treasurer Report The second reading of charges against a former officer was read into the minutes.

Discussion on the pending trial of November 2nd was explained.

Setting of second trial in December was discussed and settled at the 7th.

There were currently 144 new members in 2005, nearly the budgeted number.

ISS presented a gift check of \$5,000 to Local 44 from their Prop Master golf tournament.

Member Riley Lyons had completed California teaching certification, had started a non-profit organization teaching disadvantaged youth trade skills, and was seeking support from Local 44 in donation of materials or possibly Retiree's volunteer help in instruction.

*Motion: To give a \$400 gift card for lumber supplies to Brother Lyons for training kids. Upon evidence of the appropriate use of the funds, additional funds would be considered.*

**On a split vote, motion passed.**

The Secretary-Treasurer read a letter from the Theatrical Musical Association. This is the 144<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

*Motion: To donate \$500 to the Theatrical Music Association.*

**On a split vote, motion passed.**

The Secretary-Treasurer read a letter from John Diaz of Local One. IA President Short had appointed him to help fight bills in Congress weakening OSHA standards.

Discussion on how we continued to spend money on IA functions ensued. The Secretary-Treasurer pointed out that in the February 2005 budget a line item was set for these events and it hadn't been exceeded.

Presentation: CCA report on box rental.

Disney is trying to set hard numbers on box rentals.

Disney also is attempting to require all Coordinators to be the Safety Supervisor on their sets (not just for construction, but for anyone using the set). Coordinators have been given no all-encompassing training on safety.

Discussion: On the tabled talks about the shortened terms due to the previous election problems. The E-Board believed that though there might be changes in the CBLs, they had to use the language in the current CBLs, and there existed no precedent for extending terms.

*Motion: To table any discussion on term extensions until 2006.*

**On a split vote, motion failed with four abstentions.**

*Motion: That the current compensation and terms be used and there will be no extension due to the previous elections.*

**On a split vote, motion passed with one abstention.**



# TOOL CRIB

## FOR SALE:

Tools for sale: Makita Joiner/Planer EXCELLENT condition \$2,500.00. Snap-on 9 drawer rollaway with tools \$1,000. Delta 12" bandsaw \$250. Call: 818-521-2498. Ask for John.

MOLE-RICHARDSON E-FAN with rolling stand. 17 years old but low hours. Original owner. \$1200 OBO. Call Spencer @ 310-477-4333 or palmcasa@verizon.net

New Detailing Trailer: with pump hose - 3 nozzles generator - only 42 hrs. - 90 gal. water tank. HAS 30 gal. extractor - vacuum and attachments - everything complete, heating element (never used) carpet cleaner, engine cleaner. Custom trailer built by Rightlook. Powder coated. Diamond plated boxes - all locks keyed the same. Super radial tires, locks for trailer, will include all detailing equipment, cleaners, etc. Everything you need to start. \$12,700 OBO. Also have brand new polisher \$375.00 Must sell now. Call Roger Page 775-727-0751 (H), 702-499-6316 (C) Can fax pictures and list, worth well over \$15,000, asking \$12,000 OBO

Holey cable cutters 3/16", 3/8", 7/16", call 626-831-7584

Laser cutting and engraving call Tony 310-413-9713 or e-mail tony\_models@earth-link.net

Honda ES 6500 generator. Very Clean. Call Harold 818-371-2953

45 foot trailer W/ lift gate. Good condition. \$3,500 firm. Call Al MacLaury at 805-732-4455

Miller welder for aluminum, type: SYN-CROWAVE180SD, USED ONCE, \$1,200.

White enclosed trailer, fairly new, 5' X 10'. Call Mike 805-857-9695.

1989 Dorsey Trailer 48ft. Swinging Rear Doors /Side Door, Overhead Steel Frame Storage Compartments, Interior Lighting System, Internal and External Power Sources, Liftgate, Jockey Boxes; Pneumatic and Electrical Package, Construction Coordinator tool list on request. Trailer and tools to be sold together. Call (818) 419-1816.

\*MILL For SALE\*, Ex-Cell-O 602 Vertical Mill (like Bridgeport), with Kurt Swivel Vise, with variable speed head, with quickchange, DRO, Automatic power feed for X and Z, Blake CO-AX indicator, \$5000 OBO. Call Tom @ (661)252-0990 or (661)714-0729

Mini-Fog fog machines being sold for the first time. These fog machines are up to 10 times cleaner than a DF-50 by actual testing. They also have better hang time. Contact Jim Fox, phone: (323) 462-2272, e-mail: propmaster@filmstew.com

Tool Time: Retail equipment and tools, call Mark Ibnoujala 818-841-2800

Specially designed coats made with material similar to furniture pads - although not bullet proof, the material has been treated to be flame, water and soil resistant. Comes with a hood and carry bag for just \$395 and is available at safetyfiregarment.com or by calling (888) 328-5711.

Scubapro Diving Equipment: Mark V11 regulator; 132 gauge w/cover; tempered goggles; Aqua Craft abaloni knife; 2 pair rubber sandals; rubber hood; 30# weight w/strap; depth gauge 849; jet snorkel; knife & belt; large flippers; rubber gloves; large plastic carrying case with straps. Call Gasper Nisito, Pager: 818-513-3305.

Rental yard space available for trailers or storage space. Newhall/Santa Clarita

Valley. Call Steve Kelley 661-254-6133.

New Shopsmith accessories: bandsaw blades, drum sander belts, 12" sander discs. 1 set of wood drill bits, 1 set of router bits for Shopsmith - new. Call Harry 818-342-5475.

Retired Property Master selling everything. Honda generator, tanks, pumps, rigs, pressure pots plus lots of misc. equipment and materials. Contact Jim Fox, phone: (323) 462-2272, e-mail: propmaster@filmstew.com

Multipurpose prop box; can be used on sets, storage room, etc. for props, tools, etc. Excellent for shipping to locations. Set box (7' x 7' x 3'), great for stages or Gold Room; Directors chairs; miscellaneous props and hand props (guns, watches, jewelry), dollies. \$600. Call midday through week. Lamont Johnson: 310-532-6900

Good for Effects gig: 74 Peterbuilt dump truck and trailer, runs well, needs paint: \$14,000. Call Greg 818-378-6839.

Be OSHA compliant! For rent: brand new 54" double-lock hyperbaric chamber for diver decompression. Call Greg Roehr: 818-378-6839

Special Effects ditty bags for sale. Made of 18 oz. cotton canvas, 2-inch webbing strap, 30 pockets total inside and outside. Includes 5 gal bucket ready for insert. "It's the ditty bag you are looking for." Stock on hand. No waiting. \$65.00. (714)812-0007 or dittybag@covad.net.

## NEW TOOL CRIB POLICY:

Ads will be run for **two consecutive issues** of the Newsreel, after which **the ad will be removed** unless it is renewed by calling the hall at 818-769-2500 ext. 109.

**PLEASE NOTIFY US AS SOON AS ITEMS HAVE BEEN SOLD.**

## IATSE LOCAL 44

12021 Riverside Drive  
North Hollywood, CA 91607

NON PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CA  
PERMIT NO. 646