



Motion Picture & Theatrical Division

www.ht399.org

Teamsters Local 399 NewsReel

Secretary-Treasurer Leo T. Reed

Winter 2010

Industry Honors Location Managers

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Catherine and Jordan Schmidt



Judy and Mike Fantasia



Shana and Greg Alpert



Scott Trimble, Justin Besemer and Dan Beal

Job Site Visits by Business Agents

Message from the Secretary-Treasurer

By Leo T. Reed

Listening is an important part of any union election campaign.

Even if I was re-elected by an overwhelming margin, this doesn't mean that all of you were totally satisfied.

When I spoke with many of you, I learned you are pleased with your new contract and confident that the local was being run in an efficient and trustworthy way. You expressed trust in the local's ability

It is most important that those who prefer anonymity can air their concerns in private. The BA's must earn this trust, and the only way is to be out there with the members.

Negotiating an agreement is only the first step. What is agreed upon must be enforced. It makes no sense to stand firm at the negotiating table if the contract provisions are going to be ignored. Without trust between the members and staff, this might happen.

I was listening to your comments. I recently held a Business Agents meeting and instructed the staff to give the highest priority to visits to the job sites. I want you to get to know them, learn to trust them more, be able to confide in them and assist them in enforcing your contract.

Local 399 Business Agents have a difficult job. They answer calls from members, confer on problems, investigate complaints and file grievances. Most of their efforts are in confrontational situations. But they do the job and for the most part do it well. It is up to you to help them serve you better, especially when they



Secretary-Treasurer Leo T. Reed

visit your job site. Remember, we are a team, the Brotherhood of Teamsters.

If there is an issue that you want to bring to my attention please call me directly. I am always available to take your calls personally.

***Our Business Agents
will be on the
job sites
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to take on management to enforce the contract.

But you wanted to see more day-to-day visits to the job sites. So, our Business Agents will be on the job sites more often. Yes, I know that confidence must be earned, and you are right; the only way is to be out there physically. Computers are excellent, but there is no substitute for face-to-face discussions.

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Local 399 Business
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Visit our website at www.ht399.org

**New!
Improved!**

Local 399 is proud to announce the launch of its newly redesigned website.

Local 399 is proud to announce the launch of its newly redesigned website. The updated site will provide a greater range of important information to members, while also making browsing much easier. Visit our website at www.ht399.org.

On the **Home** page, members can catch up on current issues and news, read popular articles that are important to Local 399 members, check the events calendar, or view links to other important websites.

The **Union** pull down menu provides a complete overview of the current administration



serving the Local. Pictures of the Executive Board members, principal officers, business agents, office staff and callboard are there to help you put a face on the people you interact with at the Local or over the phone.

In the **Members** category, you can find the best ways to contact the different Contract Services departments, as well as information on dues, the union's free notary services, and a place where members can update their contact data. Members can

also receive important updates from the local by signing up for the email list. We encourage you to take advantage of this important tool.

The **Contracts** menu provides information on all



the Teamster 399 contracts, as well as fringe benefit breakdowns. This is a quick way for any member to see what "rate" they should receive. Another section provides members with information on who to contact for their health and pension questions and needs. It also provides contact information for the Western Conference of Teamsters Pension Trust.

Check out the **Gallery** section for pictures of Local 399 members from around Hollywood. You may even find a picture of yourself.



Industry Honors Location Managers



Perri Fichtner, Peter Costelli, Michael Louis, Lori Balton, George Alvarez, Marie Healy, Joan Collins, Mike Fantasia, Brigitte Pope, Donny Martino, Jr., George Shockley and Chas Allen.

Hundreds of industry professionals crowded into the Beverly Hilton Hotel on October 24, honoring location managers, scouts and assistants for their work in features, television and commercials. The ceremony also recognized the many city, county, state and federal employees who work alongside location managers throughout the year.

Held in the same room as the Golden Globes, the 16th Annual California On Location Awards was broadcast around the world online and was hosted by famed television actresses Joan Collins and Linda Gray.

Teamsters Local 399 was heavily involved in the event. Two award categories – Assistant Location Manager of the Year for Features and for Television – were sponsored by the local, which was honored as a Diamond Sponsor.

Business Agent and Organizer Steve Dayan presented the two awards sponsored by the local. Teamster member Jason Kaplon won for the Television category and Michael Wesley (Aycock), also a member, won for Features.

Also greatly involved in the awards was Business Agent Ed



Business Agent Ed Duffy with Location Professional of the Year winner Kent Matsuoka

Duffy, who was again asked to serve as one of this year's judges. He joined Local 399 members Michael Chickey, Robert Gregory and Darrin Lipscomb on the nine-person judging panel to pick the winners of this year's awards.

"This is a wonderful recognition of the hard work put in all year by location managers," said Duffy, an eight-year Local 399 trustee who has represented location managers as a Business Agent for 5 years. "It's named the California On Location Awards for a reason: location managers are doing all they can with their unsurpassed expertise to keep as many shoots in California as possible."

Along with the two Teamster-sponsored awards, five other categories were won by Local 399 members:

Kent Matsuoka, Location Professional of the Year – Commercials (Ford Superduty); Timothy Hillman, Location Professional of the Year – Episodic Television (CSI: NY); Mike Fantasia, Location Professional of the Year – Features (The Green Hornet); Tony Salome, Peter Sands, Dorion Thomas, JJ Levine, Roger Fath and Ronald Antwine, Location Team of the Year - Episodic Television (NCIS: Los Angeles); and Mike Fantasia, Donny Martino Jr, Peter Costelli, Steven Lee, Marie Healy, Perri Fichtner, Michael Louis, George Shockley, George Alvarez, Chas Allen, Brigitte Pope and Lori Balton, Location Team of the Year - Features (The Green Hornet).

Secretary-Treasurer Leo Reed, attending the event, said: "We are tremendously happy to see these talented and very hard-working professionals get the recognition they deserve, and we are proud of the contributions our local makes to the film and television industry in California."

Industry Honors Location Managers



Kent Matsuoka & Organizer Steve Dayan



Host Linda Gray and Tim Hillman

*Holiday
Greetings
from
Local
399*

Kathryn E. Watson

Kathryn E. Watson, who may have been one of the first female members of Local 399, passed away on September 24 in Pahrump, Nevada.

Her Hollywood career began as a waitress and cook for Michelson's Catering in North Hollywood. In 1965 she began driving the catering truck and became eligible for Local 399 membership.

"She was always extremely proud to be the first woman Teamster in Hollywood," said her son-in-law Joe Lomax, a retired Local 399 member. "She had two families – the Teamsters and her children, nine grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and three great-great grandchildren.

Kay served on the Executive Board as Recording Secretary in the 1970s and retired in July 1986.

Location Managers Build Homes To Help Families in Lynwood



When location managers from Local 399 traveled to Lynwood on October 30th, it wasn't to scout a location for a new feature or television show – they were there to help build ten houses for families in need.

The location managers teamed with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles for the project. The non-profit organization is famous for its efforts to build affordable and adequate housing for families around the world. Over its 43-year history, the group has built more than 350,000 low cost homes across five continents, providing housing for over one and a half million people.

The Local 399 members joined members of the Location Managers Guild of America as well as several Habitat "partner homeowners" in this important cause. As one of the requirements to receive a new home

Tony Salome, a Local 399 member for many years and 1st Vice President of the Location Managers Guild of America, expressed his pride for this year's event.

from the organization, potential homeowners must dedicate 500 "sweat hours" to help build their – and their neighbors' – homes.

Throughout the day, members remained in high spirits as they helped tile, scrape, cut, drill and hammer the emerging frames for the new homes. Everyone involved was working with a sense of purpose, knowing that the new houses they were helping to build would help change peoples' lives.

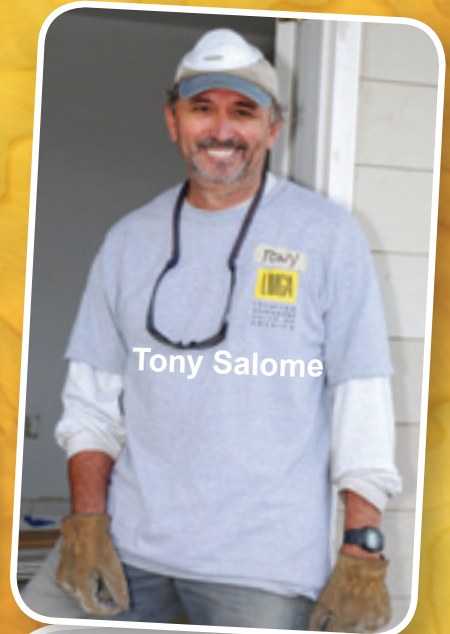
"When I heard from Ed Duffy that Local 399 location managers were involved in such a great cause, I



Jim Maceo

was very impressed," said Secretary-Treasurer Leo Reed. "Our members are very involved with charities, and helping to build houses alongside Habitat for Humanity is typical of the pride Teamsters take in helping the community."

Location Managers Build Homes To Help Families in Lynwood





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Local 399 is proud to announce the launch of its newly redesigned website.

See story on page 3

- For additional photos visit www.ht399.org and visit Gallery.