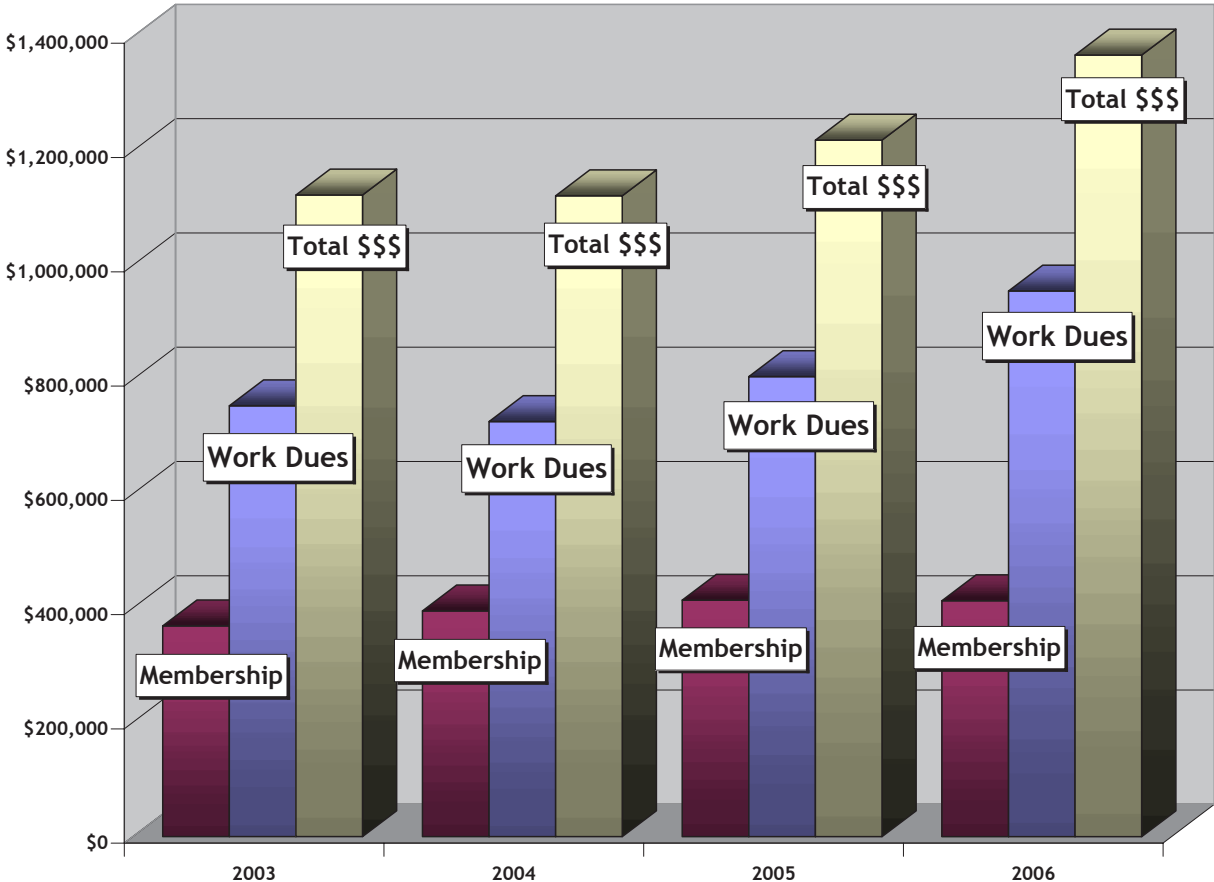




APRIL 23rd LOCAL 47 MEETING

Work dues hikes, fees on the Funds?

This is the last general membership meeting before the AFM Convention. The Federation has crafted a plan to raise work dues, tax special payments, and still not provide service, representation, organizing or planning. Be at Local 47 on April 23rd, at 7 pm!



Local 47 Membership and Work Dues sent to the Federation

Local 47 members actually give far more than the numbers above indicate; 13.5% new use work dues add up to hundreds of thousands, and more than \$500,000 went to the AFM from Special Payments fees for 2004. Look at the increase in work dues as the result of the work dues increases adopted by the last AFM Convention...

and they're coming back for more this summer! Show up on April 23rd!

Our Bylaws have gotten out of whack - let's get back to real democracy

Bylaws have been changed to undermine the right of Local 47 members to have their elected representatives do the jobs we elected them to do. Three Resolutions have been placed before this April meeting, co-sponsored by Gary Lasley and Marc Sazer. Please read the following descriptions, show up to cast your vote on April 23rd!

Resolution 1

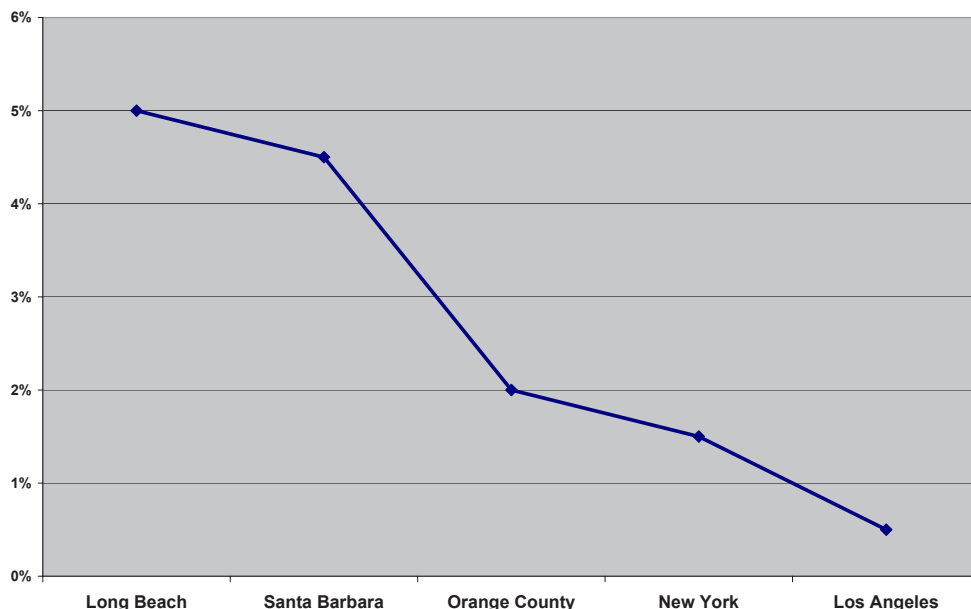
WHAT IS A FAIR AND DEMOCRATIC QUORUM?

The first resolution to be considered at the Local 47 Membership Meeting on April 23 would raise the quorum for such a meeting from 50 to 170. Why is this necessary?

The current requirement of 50 represents less than .5% of the total membership. It is the most lenient in the entire AFM. By contrast:

Local 802 in New York requires 1.5%,
Local 7 in Orange County requires 2%,
Local 353 in Long Beach requires 5%,
Local 308 in Santa Barbara requires 4.5%.

Local 47 administers millions of dollars of our assets.
Yet all of our assets can be controlled
by the tiniest quorum percentage around!



Currently, 26 unelected and unrepresentative members, or less than .25% of the total membership, can change the Local 47 bylaws.

This is very undemocratic and unduly exposes the Local to frivolous and possibly even dangerous changes to its bylaws.

As of Dec. 31, 2006, the total membership of Local 47 was 8520.

Therefore 85 members represent 1%. 170 represent 2%, modest by any standards. So a minimum of 86 would be required to change the bylaws.

As the largest and most prestigious Local in the nation, it is imperative for Local 47 to maintain the highest possible democratic standards.

So let's all exercise our rights! Come to the Local 47 meeting on April 23 and help take our Union back!

The American Federation of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund (AFM-EPF) has launched a website, which can be reached at www.afm-epf.org.
Or, for further information, the Fund can be reached at 1-800-833-8065

Resolution 2

THE WHACKADOODLE BYLAW

Did you know that Local 47 Bylaws currently give a tiny, unelected group the ability to force changes to our Bylaws? Under this bizarre rule, unelected members must be picked on the spot to pressure for or against changes to the structure and finances of our Local. When there is no quorum, a meeting must be held anyway! The Executive Board must act and vote, even if the majority of the Board seats are filled by unelected appointees!

This profoundly undemocratic power grab has got to go.

We have elections every two years at Local 47. We elect Officers, Directors and Trustees, and all of us have the right to participate in electing those who we can trust to guide our Local for their term of office. Those elected officials are responsible for the financial health of our union. They have specific job-related obligations to our Health Care system, our Treasury, the building we own, and all of the other significant assets and benefits that belong to Local 47.

Some think that a small handful of members who have not been elected by anybody should be able to guide important decisions; decisions that we have elected Officers to make, decisions that could have important financial and legal consequences. This is dangerous to the health and future of our Local.

Resolution 2 will fix this dangerous loophole in the Local 47 Bylaws. If a Bylaw change has been proposed, and a quorum is not present when it comes up for a vote, then the Executive Board should be able to do its job as our elected representatives, and take care of business.

**Everyone wins with real democracy.
Please support Resolution 2.**



Resolution 3

MAKE VOTES COUNT IN LOCAL 47 ELECTIONS

The last Local 47 election in December was, in large part, a great success. Titled Officers, Trustees and Directors were elected by the membership in an open and fair manner. However, there were serious problems in the way in which the ballot was constructed for Delegates to the AFM Convention.

The AFM Convention is the top governing body of our union. The dues we pay, the rules we work under, the relationships between cities and countries are all established by the Convention. Who we choose to send to represent us is vitally important.

While there were a series of problems that plagued this part of the ballot, the most disturbing was the presence of Serena Kay Williams on the ballot separately as Delegate.

Each of the titled officers, including the Secretary/Treasurer, is a Delegate by virtue of office; this is already in the Bylaws. It was clear as soon as nominations were closed that Ms. Williams was unopposed, and was therefore already elected as a Delegate by virtue of office.

Nonetheless, her name appeared in the list of candidates for Delegate, even though she was already elected to that office. Sorry to say, every one of the 508 votes cast for Serena was a wasted vote. Every member who cast a vote in good faith for this candidate was disenfranchised. Not only was their vote for Serena thrown away because she was already elected, but each voter was denied the right to cast that vote for a different candidate; we were limited to three choices.

We must never again have this sort of confusion reign in our elections. If a member would like to run for President, Vice President or Secretary/Treasurer, then they are already running for Delegate -it only confuses the ballot, and disenfranchises voting members, to have them listed twice for the same office.

We need clean and fair elections, without confusion or manipulation.

Join your colleagues in voting yes on Resolution 3!

OFFICERS

Neil Stubenhaus - President
Phil Ayling - 1st Vice President
Marc Sazer - 2nd Vice President
Phil Yao - Treasurer
Sue Ranney - Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Antony Cooke Mark Graham
Dan Greco Jennie Hansen
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AFM Convention, Tom Lee style:

At the last AFM Convention, work dues were raised on recording musicians to historical highs, in an effort to solve serious budget shortfalls. In exchange, a Bylaw was put in place mandating a Committee to study the appropriate relationships between annual membership dues, initiation fees, and work dues.

Now, before that Committee has even had a chance to make proposals or finish its work, Lee has gotten the IEB to push new taxes on the Secondary Markets Fund and the Sound Recording Special Payments Fund.

Let's make sure that our Delegates are unified in their opposition to the AFM imposing these unfair burdens on working musicians! Let's make sure that all of our Delegates will vote to protect working musicians in Los Angeles and elsewhere!

**Show up on April 23rd, 7 p.m.
Make your voice heard!**

THINK TOMORROW

There is no end in sight to the work ahead of us. Let's work together to make the RMA as strong and as "member-friendly" as possible.

THINGS CHANGE, WE REMAIN

One thing never changes -
the need for professional musicians to stick together.
After almost 3 decades, RMA is stronger than ever.
Our team has grown larger. We are more efficient. We are more engaged.
Stick with us, your career may depend on it.

Think organized. Think stick together. Think strategic.

INVEST IN RMA

Basic dues for 2007 are \$140.00. RMALA is on a calendar year membership. Your prompt payment helps us stay on schedule and create a comprehensive directory on a timely basis while maximizing our resources.

This year's directory will begin production in June. Pay now and be listed in it!

**You should have gotten your renewal form in the mail.
Renew or join online now at www.rmala.org...or call the office at 323-462-4762**