

THE INFO CHANNEL

RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCAST ENGINEERS NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 1220

AUGUST 2008

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Sisters and Brothers:

This month will be one where I am reminded so much of the work we do everyday. For the past week, my family has enjoyed the Olympic coverage from Beijing. Local and network stations have all had special coverage, remote reporting and unique interviews with the athletes and those surrounding them. It is amazing to watch all the special coverage of the events and the use of some very special cameras. These are not the things that our technicians and engineers get to use everyday but we would gladly step up and give it our best if given the chance. Just today, I have seen some of the underwater cameras, some moving and some stationary. I have seen overhead robotics cameras covering the rowing competition and sled cameras being used to follow the runners in the track events. It seems that handheld cameras and steadicam and even boom cameras are being used everywhere. It makes me very proud to know we have members that not only know how to use such devices but in some cases actually own the equipment. The graphics elements used in this coverage are outstanding as well. It is obvious that some of those new graphics devices are being used to their fullest supported by some great artists. Let us not forget all the editors who are working to get the stories out in a timely fashion while trying to bring a producer's idea to light.

Later this month, our engineers and technicians will be asked to work another extremely difficult set of events, the Democratic and Republican National Conventions. Again, the camera operators, editors, graphic artists and technicians will be plying their trade without the viewing public being aware of the sacrifice and dedication that our brothers and sisters put forth everyday. I can only express my sincere thanks to all of you for a job well done. During the conventions and the campaign trail that follows, please be careful. Don't risk yourself or your equipment to try and get that extra special shot. Be aware of those around you, keep hydrated and get rest when you can.

This is the time to start reminding everyone to vote in the national elections in November. If you are new to the area or have recently moved, please be sure to register to vote. The deadline is October 7. Please don't wait, every vote is important. "It is by their votes the people exercise their sovereignty." Thomas Jefferson.

WBBM is on the move and will soon be operating from their new location in the loop. Several members have been hard at work installing and wiring all the new equipment. Please watch for the kickoff broadcast in September. It is a strange feeling knowing that the old McClurg Court Studios will soon become silent. Anyone who has ever visited or worked there will have lasting memories of their time at the old WBBM building. WTTW will soon have new Master Control switchers. Their launch is also scheduled for September but they are still waiting for some of the equipment to arrive. By the time you read this, WTTW will have conducted a ratification vote and I hope to be able to report next month that the shop has a contract.

I recently received an announcement for White Sox Union Day 2008 to be held on Sunday, 1:05 PM, September 7 at U.S. Cellular Field against the A's. On this day, specially priced tickets are available to all Union members, families, and friends! You can obtain your tickets in advance by visiting www.whitesox.com-click on Schedule and then click the T in the September 7 box. On the corresponding page, type "UNN" in the special promotions box. Service fees will apply. You can order parking and a special priced hotdog meal is also available. Or you can call 866-769-4263 for Ticketmaster and give the "UNN" code. Service fees will apply.

Please note that next month's meeting is the day after Labor Day, Tuesday, September 2.

Fraternally,

Al Skierkiewicz
President

NEXT MEETING DATE TUESDAY, Sept 2, 7:00 PM

At the Union office

8605 W Bryn Mawr Ave #309, Chicago

You are the Union!

Join in conducting the business of your Local. Your input is valuable.



INFO CHANNEL AUGUST 2008

This Newsletter is published monthly by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 1220, Radio and Television Broadcast Engineers, of Chicago, Illinois.

Anything you might expect to read in a business letter or see in a telegram that pertains to this Local and your part in it will be communicated to you through this channel of information. Consider this your dues invoice, your by-laws update, your meeting notice, and your call to participate.

Any article submitted for publication should be sent by mail, Fax or email to:

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Chicago, IL 60631
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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Any member wishing to bring an issue of concern to the attention of the Executive Board of this Local Union may submit a request in writing to the Board at any time, stating the reason for the request.



**REMEMBER TO NOTIFY
YOUR UNION OF ANY
CHANGE OF ADDRESS,
PHONE OR EMAIL**

NAME _____
STREET _____
CITY, ST, ZIP _____
PHONE _____
EMAIL _____

COPIES OF ANY IBEW 1220 AGREEMENT MAY BE OBTAINED UPON REQUEST AT THE UNION OFFICE
Our contractors are listed on the web site—www.ibew1220.org

YOU UNION NEWS

PER CAPITA INCREASES 1-1-09

The per capita payment to the International Office goes up by \$1.00 as of the first of next year. Please make a note of that. BA (non-pension) members will pay \$12.00 per month, making the minimum dues before applying earnings to the formula, \$43.50/month (\$115.50 per quarter).

DUES RATE DECREASES 10-1-08

The Treasurer has announced that the balance in our Local Union accounts on June 30, 2008 was at the level which triggered a dues deduction. As of 10-1-08 dues will be calculated based on 1.4% of base pay, instead of 1.7% of base pay. Freelance and per diem dues minimums payable in advance will remain 112.50. (until 1-1-09—see above)

SHIRTS AVAILABLE:

IBEW 1220 SHIRTS—Henley style, in either white or navy, are available at the Union office for \$20.00.

NEW SIZES ARE IN

Contact the office to order—we take credit cards—call 773-714-1220 or email info@ibew1220.org.

MEETING INFORMATION AVAILABLE

Members can view meeting agenda, bills and copies of the correspondence 30 minutes prior to the meeting by appointment.



FIRST READINGS:

Kent Van der Kolk – Program Prod Joseph Mick-WGN TV

APPROVED PENDING ORIENTATION:

Jamiel Chappel	Andrew Graves	Ned Englehart
Harvey Harris	Clay Kappelman	Dominic Magiera
Jesus Palacios	David Sommers	Willie White

NEW MEMBERS APPROVED:

Roderick Stanbeck	Jared Rayl	Tabitha Gilbert
Carson Greene	Guillermo Rojas	Daniel Seiler
Armando Aguilera	Steve Baldwin	Paul Carey
Darrell Fitzgerald	Donald Adydan	Drew Aebischer
Elias Alanis	Vanessa Boring	Edmund Curley
Christopher DeLira	Jeremy Freeman	David Jack
Alejandro Marin	Tom McCoskey	Anthony Medici
Felix Mendez	Raymond Radelia	Johnny Scott
Robert Schweppe	Lance Spalla	Michael Thomas
Tim Valentine	Daniel Wolande	Kyle Maguire
Joseph Lynn		

OUR SYMPATHY TO:

The Rehberger family (WTTW). Bruce lost his father-in-law last month. Our sincere condolences.

The Blue family (WTTW). Barry lost his father August 3rd.

GET WELL WISHES TO:

John Thomas (WGN) who is recovering from a sudden illness. Get better!

Mary Calvin (WBBM) who is recovering from a serious bicycle accident in July. Hope you are back to full speed soon!

OSHA OFFERS SAFETY TIPS FOR WORKING IN SUMMER HEAT

WASHINGTON -- The hot days of summer are here. Throughout the country, thousands of employees who work outdoors face the potential dangers associated with overexposure to heat. Factors such as working in direct sunlight, high temperature and humidity, physical exertion and lack of sufficient water intake can lead to heat stress.

"During the warm season, it is important to understand that exposure to heat can cause serious illness or death," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Edwin G. Foulke, Jr. "We encourage employers and employees to take advantage of OSHA's many free resources that offer advice on how to stay healthy while working outside."

Exposure to heat can cause heat cramps and rashes. The most serious heat-related disorders are heat stroke and heat exhaustion. Symptoms include confusion; irrational behavior; loss of consciousness; hot, dry skin; and abnormally high body temperature. Drinking cool water, reducing physical exertion, wearing appropriate clothing and regular rest periods in a cool recovery area can lessen the effects of working in summer heat.

[Protecting Workers from the Effects of Heat](#) is a fact sheet explaining heat stress and how it can be prevented. The fact sheet [Working Outdoors in Warm Climates](#) provides recommendations on how to protect employees from exposure to ultraviolet radiation (UV) and offers information on insect-caused illnesses such as West Nile Virus and Lyme disease. Employers and employees will find more practical tips for guarding against UV radiation in [Protecting Yourself in the Sun](#), a pocket-sized card addressing skin cancer, describing its varied forms, and suggesting ways to block UV rays.

These outdoor work-related publications and others are free and can be downloaded from the [Publications page](#) on OSHA's Web site or ordered from the publications office at 202-693-1888. More information can be found on the Web sites of the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) and the [National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health \(NIOSH\)](#).

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing a safe and healthy workplace for their employees. OSHA's role is to promote the safety and health of America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards; providing training, outreach, and education; establishing partnerships; and encouraging continual process improvement in workplace safety and health. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REACH US BY EMAIL???

INFO@IBEW1220.ORG

THE NEXT REGULAR UNION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, SEPT 2ND AT 7:00 PM
AT THE UNION OFFICE
8605 W BRYN MAWR AVE #309 CHICAGO

PHONE (773) 714-1220

FAX (773) 693-0009

www.ibew1220.org

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