

# THE INFO CHANNEL

## RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCAST ENGINEERS NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 1220

AUGUST 2009

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT.....1	INSIDE THIS ISSUE	YOU-NION NEWS.....3	MEETING NOTICE .....4
	PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....2		

Brothers and Sisters,

### **Business Manager's Report**

#### **Financial**

It's been a busy month and a half. Progress is slow, but we are moving forward. The Local now has a better idea of where we are sitting financially and we are taking steps to protect our members from future dues increases. Our dues are at 1.4%. The increase should have been implemented by the previous Business Manager, but now this unpopular implementation falls to me. This is determined by our bylaws and must be done to protect our Local.

Members have asked what this will mean when they pay their dues. Please use the following table for reference:

**1.4% of base pay above \$1715.00/month — \$5145.00 per quarter. The math: For every \$1000.00 a month earned over \$1715.00/mo., you pay \$14 instead of \$10. (extra \$4 per \$1000.)**

As we enter in contract negotiations, we will see a drain on our bank account. Members want to know how this happened. We are over budget in some areas, election issues, severance and vacation payouts, and legal fees are all factors. I will be working tirelessly to prevent the dues from rising to 1.7% or even going so far as to need another Assessment. Unfortunately we can't predict what will happen with the economy, but being fiscally responsible will help.

#### **Bylaw Proposal**

There's a bylaw proposal scheduled for our next membership meeting. It reads as follows:

*The new by-law would be Article XII, Section 2: Any member who has done no union work for any approved union contractor for more than one year, and has no other active union business pending (such as a grievance or arbitration) will have their union membership suspended. A member on suspension may not attend meetings, vote on any matters, or hold union office. A member on suspension may apply for reinstatement once it's proven that she/he has resumed regular union covered work.*

It is open for discussion and amendment at the next meeting.

#### **Moving Forward**

Over the last month and a half I have been making personal appearances on job sites and stations. The amount of neglect in certain areas of our Local has caught my attention. All members are strongly encouraged to report any job site violations of the contract, under-crewing and non-union crewing issues, and potential issues and concerns to the hall immediately. Your anonymity will be protected. "Business as usual" is no longer the policy of this hall and with your help; we can build a stronger and more vital Union. I will continue to be in the field. I am writing this at the CBS PGA Tournament. I have met with our freelance members as well as members of 1200, 1212, 45, and other locals. Their ideas, comments, and contributions reinforce the need for the Business Manager to take a more active role in being present for the members.

We are also looking forward to implementing a new training program. We are hoping to implement training by late September. It will be available throughout the year to all members. Registration will be by email. Due to cost restrictions, there are a limited number of licenses, so it will be on a first come first serve basis. To expedite the process, please make sure that the hall has your most current email address.

In Solidarity,

*John Rizzo*

John Rizzo  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Brothers and Sisters,**

I have made a few changes to our local's telecommunications packages, which will allow for more flexibility and reduce our monthly costs. Our new office telephone plan will not be billed on a minute by minute basis, but will be unlimited in our local and local toll area. Additionally, our long distance plan is now billing at a much lower rate.

Our internet service has been upgraded from 384 kbps download speed to 6 mbps, which is about 15.5 times faster, while at the same time will reduce our monthly costs to about one third of the previous recurring charge. These changes will allow for a more flexible human-technology interface, i.e. video conferencing, hosting in-office union meetings, etc. Our mobility service now has new, improved, and more capable and flexible equipment, while the recurring costs have been reduced.

The status of the three above mentioned accounts has been removed from former business manager Madeline Monaco's personal credit (using her social security number for control and security), to Corporate Union Foundation Plans. These new services have "Metropolitan Turbo Area" pricing, taking advantage of our office's prime location for the first time ever. Our local is saving money while benefiting from enhanced services!

The above mentioned services have been obtained through "Unionized" AT&T.

All of the members of our local union may now receive a 10% discount, on eligible voice and data plans, under Foundation account number 113662. Full information on this program is available through the AFL-CIO's Union Plus web site at <http://www.unionplus.org/att-wireless.cfm>

I am interested in learning of anything technical, operational, or financial that you may know of or have observed, regarding the Local News Service (LNS). Whether you work for either of the LNS participating stations, WBBM-TV or WGN-TV, or simply may have pertinent knowledge that you would like to share, please contact Business Manager Brother John Rizzo at our office.

I appreciate our members who took the time out of their busy schedules to attend the last membership meeting. They shared their valuable knowledge on important issues to our local; they were heard, recognized and appreciated. Remember, you are all welcome to attend every membership meeting! Please join us whenever you can.

Also, a special thanks to all of our active union participants who are diligently working along with Marie Kowalski and Brother John Rizzo. They continue to put forth great effort to restore the proper operation of our office, records, and data systems.

Your union leadership is working diligently on new initiatives that will benefit our members tremendously in the near future. John Rizzo and I look forward to announcing these benefits to you, when they are ready for your consideration.

In solidarity,

*Glenn Hannigan*  
President of Local 1220

## INFO CHANNEL August 2009

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:

John Rizzo, Editor Info Channel  
Radio + TV Broadcast Engineers  
8605 W Bryn Mawr Suite 309  
Chicago, IL 60631  
FAX 773-693-0009  
EMAIL info@ibew1220.org

### A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dan Warren has been appointed as the Interim Treasurer until the Executive Board makes a determination on a permanent Treasurer.

Interested candidates are encouraged to call or Email the hall. A decision will be made at the Executive Board meeting in August.

Mr. Bruce Rehberger has been elected Chairman.



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

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY,ST,ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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](http://www.ibew1220.org)

## YOU UNION NEWS

### MEETING INFORMATION AVAILABLE

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

### NEW ARRIVALS:

Kenn Felde (freelance) & Sharmaine Lawson are the proud parents of Gianna Linda 6lbs. 14oz. Born July 27, 2009

Roger Steel (freelance) and Jynx are proud parents of Jame Jack 6lbs. 11oz. Born July 19, 2009

### BASEBALL TICKETS

Discounted White Sox tickets offered to unions for Sunday August 23, 2009. If interested please call the Union office.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### **LABOR DAY CELEBRATION IN HISTORIC PULLMAN**

At Chicago's Pullman State Historic site, 111th Street and Cottage Grove Avenue. Monday, September 7, 2009—2:00pm. Music, Food, Exhibits and Entertainment.

### FAITH & WORK

Labor Day Weekend, September 4-6, 2009

The Chicago Federation of Labor will organize the Labor in the Pulpits program. Your help in recruiting speakers to communicate Labor's message. Volunteer speakers will receive training and other materials to help them prepare for the event. If members are interested, please contact Jorge Ramirez at 312/222-1000.

### FREE TICKET DRAWING

Ike (Richard) Isaac is the winner of 2 White Sox tickets held in a drawing at the July Membership meeting.

### HONORARY WITHDRAWAL GRANTED TO:

James Walters Chuck Ayres Mike Torchia  
Pamela Johnson Edward Glab Keli Jennings  
Kelly Engler

### FIRST READINGS:

Jessica Zellermyer—WGN Per diem.  
Timothy Kolessar—Program Prod.

### NEW MEMBERS APPROVED:

Thomas P. Nizinski - WYCC Matthew Coppedge- Program.  
Dominic Magiera - Program Eric Melcher- WGN News Eng.

### VACANT/OPEN POSITIONS:

1 TREASURER  
1 RECORDING SECRETARY  
3 EBOARD POSITIONS

**WYCC - Full time maintenance Engineer needed.**

Interested parties should contact the hall at:  
info@IBEW1220.org  
(773) 714-1220

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REACH US BY EMAIL???

INFO@IBEW1220.ORG

THE NEXT REGULAR UNION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST. AT 7:00 PM**  
AT THE UNION OFFICE  
8605 W BRYN MAWR AVE #309 CHICAGO

**WWW.IBEW1220.ORG**

PHONE (773) 714-1220

FAX (773) 693-0009

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED