

# THE INFO CHANNEL

RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCAST ENGINEERS NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 1220

FEBRUARY 2007

## BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

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Sisters and Brothers:

The members voted at the February Union meeting to forego a Union picnic this fall. If anyone wishes this issue to be re-visited, please speak up. We did discuss both a blood drive and CPR/AED training, and are following up on both. There is currently a severe shortage of blood and platelets and our Local would like to help. We did vote to volunteer to answer the phones during WTTW next pledge drive—and will let you know when.



Some of our members have been helping us to explore less expensive options for high speed internet—and we do appreciate their help. Currently, all options would wipe out our web mail and we are not yet willing to give up on that.

The IBEW/CBS Semi-Annual meeting was held last month and it was announced that our national agreement with CBS will be extended with 3%, 3%, and 3 1/2% raises. Several other small improvements and no losses make this a good thing.

Our members at WYCC rejected the negotiated agreement we presented and we will return to the table on 2-21.

Our negotiations at WCIU continue, with some progress being made. Meetings are scheduled this month and next.

Our contract with WTTW will expire this summer and we are preparing surveys for our members to fill out in an attempt to prepare early. Think about your wants and needs and be ready.

Some of our contractors have been slow in making their required payments to the Flex Plan. This is being pursued both politely and with legal action by the manager's of the Flex Plan.

A "Town Hall" meeting was held for member input into the new Sports/Broadcasting agreements. Thanks to Kim Nicole for her efforts. Those who attended made great contributions and we will go forward with that input.

The members who returned their forms asking to be called for utility work have been sent letters with the information they need to participate. Only those who have submitted the form by the deadline and registered in advance for the class will be allowed to attend. Those who returned their forms but have already attended two such classes will be exempt from this required training. Future classes with any new or different content may require attendance by those who are exempt this year.



**We really would like to save some trees—and some money for your Local Union. Please give us your email address. You can accomplish this by simply emailing us at [info@ibew1220.org](mailto:info@ibew1220.org). We promise we wont spam you.**

In Solidarity

*Madeleine Monaco*

NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, March 7, AT 7PM

AT THE UNION OFFICE

Come in and discuss the business of your Local Union  
We need to plan for the long range goals of the Local.  
Your input would be welcome.



## INFO CHANNEL

February 2007

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

### JENN'S TAKE.....

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF DISPLAYING YOUR UNION CARD

Greetings Sisters and Brothers:

Hope the cold weather is finding you well, warm, working, and hydrated. For those of you who work with our video production contractors, there are many changes from the old agreement. Please take the time to re-read the ratified agreement.

'Proud to be union' is the best way to protect your jurisdiction, and your future. It shows others that we have/are qualified technicians doing what we do best. Whether you're at a station or out in the field, displaying your union card creates solidarity with your IBEW brothers and sisters, as well as other unions.

FYI: The job clearances that are forwarded by the Union Hall to the various hotels and convention centers include a statement that you are "a member in good standing", and either "must" or "should" display LU 1220 credentials. Being identified as a 1220 member tells both the public and other union reps that we are doing the work that is in our jurisdiction. We keep our jurisdiction and your jobs by keeping non-union people out. The other trades display their solidarity by wearing their union credentials and so should we.

When you're out in the field and question whether or not our jurisdiction is getting encroached on, it is easier to observe who is Local 1220 if we all show our Union Cards. Each of us works under a collective bargaining agreement, let's collectively continue to strive for professionalism, solidarity, job security for ourselves and our brothers and sisters.

**The Union is in the process of collecting everyone's preferred and correct e-mail address.  
Please update yours at the office.**

**Call, write, or even better, send an e-mail from your preferred address to [info@ibew.com](mailto:info@ibew.com).  
Please include your name, in the text, as so many of you have very creative addresses.**

**THANK YOU!!**

*Jennifer Kastigar*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It would appear that the award for the big news this month goes to WBBM/CBS. In an unusual move, the IBEW and CBS agreed to extend their contract for another three years without a lengthy period of negotiation. The proposed contract extension was sent to CBS employees for ratification and it passed at the end of January. The agreement will provide pay increases over three years of 3, 3, and 3.5 percent. In addition there is some language that employees believe will give union members more work in the field of Internet content delivery. At a time when CBS is struggling with layoffs and work reductions, this provides a little long term security to our members. For Local 1220, this ratification will translate into some reduced operating costs in that staff and local shop members will not be required to spend long days away from home negotiating a new agreement.

The recent Superbowl, although a tragedy for Chicago fans, was yet another demonstration of the dedication and work ethic of IBEW members. Our members worked through the toughest of conditions to bring this year's event to a worldwide audience. As anyone who viewed this program could tell, the rain was a real issue for technical staff. It has been reported that several of the lenses had weather seal failures and moisture accumulated inside the glass elements. Water droplets also frustrated technical staff as the rain continued throughout the game and the spectacular half time show. I would like to congratulate those dedicated members who worked to bring us a wonderful television experience under such difficult conditions. I am so proud of the members of the IBEW for the work that they perform everyday in bringing entertainment to our homes.

The recent cold weather reminds of us the need to be protected in the field. Near zero temperatures provide an ample opportunity for frostbite and damage to exposed skin as you come in contact with objects in the cold. Hypothermia is a real threat at these times as well. Be ever watchful for signs of hypothermia, a condition which can make people appear intoxicated. Slurred speech, disorientation, and lack of coordination are all signs that someone needs to get inside and warm as soon as possible. To prevent this from occurring, keep covered with warm, multiple layers of clothing and insulated outerwear, paying particular attention to keeping your head covered. Don't work outside when fatigued or hungry. Keep well hydrated and consider foods with higher fat content to keep internal temperatures at normal levels. Plan activity so that you are out of doors for limited lengths of time and can return to a heated and sheltered area when needed.

Thanks to the members who braved the cold and snow for the February meeting. Your dedication allows the local to carry on with business. The local is still in desperate need of a Recording Secretary. Won't you please think about volunteering for this important position as an officer with the local. You can contact the office or me or any of the Executive Board members for a description of duties or to volunteer. See you all next month, Wednesday, March 7 at 7:00 PM.

Fraternally,

*Al Skierkiewicz*

## YOUNION NEWS

### FIRST READINGS

Christopher DeLira – Program Productions  
Timothy Aiossa – Program Productions  
Michael Hirschberg – Program Productions  
David Natareno – CBS Goodyear Airship  
William Tennant – CBS Radio Maintenance Engineer  
Darryl Dupell – Fox Sports

### HONORARY WITHDRAWAL

The following members have met the requirements for the granting of this status:

William Natale – RCTR Graphics no broadcast work  
Alberto Llamas – WGBO—Nabet  
Kristin McCoy – WFLD – Nabet  
John Kennamer – Retired from WTTW  
Anthony Fraveletti – now Asst Chief Engineer WCIU

### AND A THANK YOU FROM:

Sharon Patterson, for our donation to the Tiffany and Rebekah Patterson Educational Trust Fund. We miss Norm and are wishing his wife and daughters the best future possible.

### NEW MEMBERS

Duane Linscott- WTVO	Charles Hayes WGN News
Bruno Strapko – Camera Orig	Ralph Liggins – WCEV
Richard Watts – CBS	Joe Tannerbauer – CBS
Deshun Smith – WYCC	Rob Kalbfus – WTVO
Michael E Smith – Fox Sports	Brian Delaney – CBS Spt
Thomas Pollack – WCIU	Adam Phillips WGN Radio
David Pellenz – WYCC	Alonzo Buchanan Fox
Gerard Evans – Event	Julia Cohn – WGN Nswrtr

### RETIRED MEMBERS

Ray Kirk reports he not fishing any more—too bad  
Jim Mulqueeny is 81 this month—Happy Birthday Jim  
CBS Retirees still meet for a monthly breakfast at Denny's  
in Oakbrook Terrace 9:15am March 6th is the next one!

### SAFETY TRAINING

We are setting up safety training to be held with NABET at WBBM studios. Notice will be sent to all of the date & time.

### OUR SYMPATHY

To Manny Medina and his family on the recent loss of Manny's mother.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REACH US BY EMAIL???

INFO@IBEW1220.ORG

THE NEXT REGULAR UNION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH, 7TH AT 7:00 PM**

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