

THE INFO CHANNEL

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**CONGRATULATIONS, MADELEINE MONACO ,
ON YOUR RETIREMENT FROM THE IBEW
We wish you well!**

PLEASE Remember:

The office will no longer be accepting credit card payments over the phone. Payments can now be made directly on our website. You may continue to mail in a check/money order or stop by the office with your payment.

Dues Change as of April 1, 2010

Union funds have fallen to a level that has triggered a Dues Increase from 1.4% to 1.7% of base earnings **effective APRIL 1, 2010.**

Freelance base dues remain \$115.50 per Quarter

Working Dues over \$4,236 of earnings per Qtr. will be billed at 1.7%

Local 1220 Administration is Saving our Local \$\$

The Union office payroll consists of 2 full-time staff members (with benefits), the Business Manager and Administrative Assistant, and 3 part-time positions (no benefits).

The Union office cancelled its subscription of a daily newspaper.

The Union office cleaning service has been reduced to once weekly.

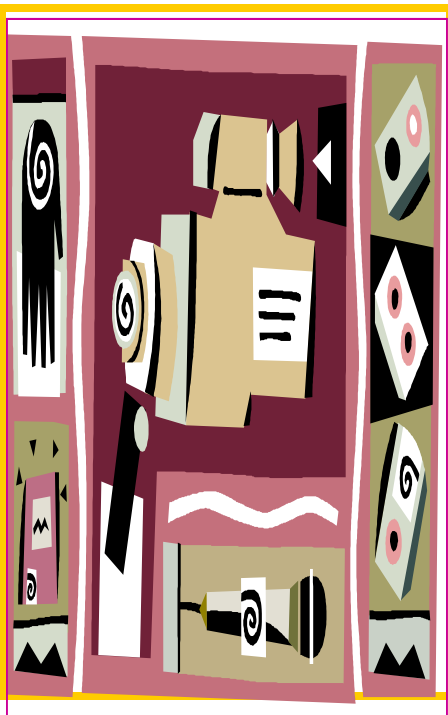
Our website system is being maintained and continually updated by a 1220 member, as opposed to paying an outside (\$) consultant.

A less expensive brand of letterhead stationery is being substituted for routine union written correspondence.

The Union office has been updated with a new postage meter taking advantage of an \$800 rebate and maintaining comparable monthly lease payments.

Cost of postage has also been reduced with increased usage of email correspondence (including the newsletter).

Staff time on the phone has been reduced due to members paying their dues online using our updated Website.



Business Manager Report

Brothers and Sisters,

Time. I often find myself falling further behind when it comes down to putting out this report. Although the winter months are slow for our members, the Union is ramping up it's representation. Travel, education, and conferences eat up a good amount of time. I have been out in the field, checking show sites and representing our members. All contract negotiations will be in full swing shortly. The WGN AM and most Video Production contracts have been ratified, signed and turned into the International. WYCC, WCEV, and WGN TV are still open. WTVO and CBS will begin close to mid-year.

In the midst of this we are also organizing. Our membership numbers are down by close to 100 members. The down economy has hit everyone in the wallet and companies are crying poor. When the Union starts going down this road, it's time to step up and do something about it. Organizing will be a big part of our mission statement in 2010.

The CBS Semi-annual meeting will begin on the 22nd of Feb. and will kick off the negotiation process for the national contract. March 2nd we roll up our sleeves and get back to the table with WGN TV. WCEV is playing hard to get, but we are hopeful that we can begin negotiations soon and come to a resolution quickly.

As we march forward, we remain vigilant. We need your help to enforce our contracts and to keep a watchful eye out for violations. Utilize your stewards. They are a direct pipeline to this office and can often settle disputes on site. NEVER enter into a meeting that may lead to discipline with management. PERIOD. Even if you are unsure, request a steward. It is your right by law. You can postpone any discipline meeting until a steward is available. There have been several times when I have shown up personally to aid an individual member. It's when a member takes matters into their own hands that the real trouble begins.

With all that has been going on and with our ongoing schedule, we always try and make the time for you. Please know that this is your Union and we are just a phone call or email away.

In Solidarity,

John Rizzo

Presidents Message

The 12 Fox-owned and Operated TV stations have purchased (\$400,000 ea.) new generation television production control software from Sony Corporation that will interface with their existing or future Sony video switchers, Vinten/Radamec pedestals and heads, audio consoles, graphics devices, and other engineering and news (scripting & prompting) equipment to form a totally automated newscast.

The overall system reportedly is more advanced than the systems that we have already seen such as Parkervision.

On their website, <http://www.vintenradamec.com/>, Vinton makes the following statement: "In summary, the use of robotics dramatically increases creativity as all camera movements are pre-stored and recreated accurately and reliably. This consistency preserves the unique look and identity of the show."

Dear members, we need to be part of the future and not outmoded by technology that is emerging. Please comment and opinionate to our info line at info@ibew1220.org

Here is a "Must see" website for our news writers, technicians, and engineers. You cannot afford to miss it! Please visit this website!
<http://broadcastunionnews.blogspot.com/>

You have probably seen our mentions in the "Info Channel" regarding the Xceed (formerly Xerox) Financial Credit Union. Due to my current needs, I contacted the Naperville, Illinois office of Xceed and found several services that I will use. The programs that I will be using have better rates and accommodations than what I have found at major organizations at which I have done business with for many years. Saving money is very important for all of us. There are numerous types of savings and checking accounts available, too many to list all of them here. Most importantly, there are low cost home and consumer loans of several types. In addition, there are investment tools and advice available at this friendly, **not for profit**, resource.

I have never been treated better by any organization with which I have conducted business with in the past. If you would like to contact the branch manager of Xceed Financial Credit Union for more information, contact:

Ms. Jean Sommers, Financial Center Manager
Xceed Financial Credit Union
263 Shuman Boulevard
Naperville, Il. 60563
(630) 864-4612
jsommers@xfcu.org

In Solidarity,

Glenn Hannigan, President

you – NION NEWS

MEETING INFORMATION AVAILABLE

Members can view the agenda, bills and copies of correspondence prior to the meeting. The hall is usually open by 6:30pm and the meeting starts at 7pm.

Thank you BM Rizzo for the refreshments after the meeting. See how it pays to stick together!

The Executive Board Meeting will be on Wednesday March 17 at 8:15pm.

IBEW Local 1220 Executive Board: We are still in need of 2 additional members in good standing to join the E-Board. The Board meets the third Wednesday of every month.

HONORARY WITHDRAWAL

Donald Coleman—WBBM
James Thale—WBBM

RETIREMENT:

Madeleine Monaco- IBEW Pension
Donald Coleman—CBS
James Thale—WBBM-TV

NEW MEMBERS:

Greg Albrecht – Program Productions
Roscoe Burks – WGN-TV
Jeffery Raatz – FOX Sports/Program
Marc Shaykin – Program Productions

**The Video Production Contracts (VPC)
“A” Agreements (Hotels & Conventions)
have been ratified and are in effect
through December 31, 2012.**

VACANCIES / OPEN POSITIONS

WGN NEWS WRITER:

The Writer is responsible for all aspects of writing for WGN News Broadcasts. This responsibility includes: writing stories and teases: writing for on-air and on-line” working with reporters and photographers in the field; desk-top video editing; reviewing feed tapes,; posting text and video to the internet and gathering information on late stories.

Applicant must have at least 3 years experience as a writer or producer of television news broadcasts. They must have a college degree in Journalism or Mass Communications or significant related experience.

FREE ONLINE TRAINING FROM LYNDA.COM

In an effort to keep our members competitive and highly skilled, Local 1220 has acquired (5) training licenses from Lynda.com., an online training program with over 650 courses for Union members. Please peruse this site for a complete list.

This program is free only for IBEW Local 1220 Union members. Space is limited to (5) members at one time. During your (2) week period time-use, you can utilize the “subscription time-period” to learn as many programs as desired. Sign up on our web page. (We may as well stay productive during these slow cold months.)

UPDATING THE SKILL SURVERYS:

Please check your mailboxes for new Skill Surveys. We will be updating them to create and maintain a more comprehensive list of our members' skills. The goal is to create an electronic database that can easily be forwarded, on a monthly basis, to all employers. Be sure to include the makes and models; be as specific as possible.

The new VPC (Video Production Contractor) contracts include a clause that states, "The Employer at any time may sponsor new members for consideration of admittance into the Union by employing them *after all members eligible, competent, and qualified to work, have been contacted.*"

Coalition of Labor Union Woman (Chicago Chapter) has invited us to join CLUW as they celebrate their Annual International Women's Day Awards Dinner on Thursday, March 18, at 6:45. They will be honoring great women who have spent their lives working with the labor movement to help make our unions strong. If anyone is interested in attending please contact the union office for more information. It will be held at the New Martinique Ballroom at 8200 S. Cicero Ave.

SHOP STEWARDS

WBBM TV

John Trautschold, Mark Losiniecki, Morris Jones, Howard Florence

WGN TV

Mary Bohentin, Jim Guthrie, Glenn Hannigan, Charles Hayes, Mike Clay, Jerry Howard, Richard (Ike) Isaac, Jordan Guzzardo

WTTW TV

Tom Siegel, Dan Rozkuszka, Peter Adrianopoli

WYCC TV

Andrew Freund

WCIU TV

Will Watkins

WTVO TV

Dave Seaton

WGN RADIO

Ed Wilk

WBBM RADIO

Steve Wright

WCEV RADIO

Jeff Frizzle

FREELANCE

Mike Sullivan, Scott Jones, Sean Mahan

INFO CHANNEL FEBRUARY 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 an email 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:

Theo, Editor Info Channel
Radio + TV Broadcast Engineers
8605 W Bryn Mawr Suite 309
Chicago, IL 60631

FAX 773-693-0009
EMAIL info@ibew1220.org or Theo@ibew1220.org



REMEMBER TO NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF ANY CHANGES IN ADDRESS, PHONE OR

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REACH US BY EMAIL???
INFO@IBEW1220.ORG
Take a look at our website @ www.ibew1220.org

**THE NEXT REGULAR UNION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY MARCH 3, AT 7:00PM
AT THE UNION OFFICE
8605 W. BRYN MAWR AVE #309 CHICAGO**

PHONE (773) 714-1220

FAX (773) 693-0009

INFO CHANNEL

THE INFO CHANNEL
RADIO & TELEVISION BROADCAST ENGINEERS
I.B.E.W. LOCAL 1220
8605 WEST BRYN MAWR #309
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60631