

# THE INFO CHANNEL

RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCAST ENGINEERS NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 1220

MAY 2009

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## ***BALLOTS ARE DUE BY JUNE 2ND REMEMBER TO VOTE IT IS YOUR RIGHT AND YOUR PRIVILEGE***

Contracts are now open at the following stations: WGN Radio, WGN TV, and WYCC TV. In addition, the management has requested consideration of their economic situation and asked for concessions at CBS and at WTTW. Also we have an arbitration pending for improper compensation to employee/members at Program Productions, an arbitration scheduled for improper wage payments at WCIU TV and an arbitration pending for a terminated employee. There are contract grievances in process at WBBM, WTTW, and WCIU. There is a national contract committee meeting scheduled for LU 1220, 1200, 1212, 4 and 45 with Fox Pro Sports in June. The IBEW Broadcast Conference is to take place in Nashville Tennessee also in June.

We are working hard to find ways to keep as many members employed as possible. We advertised for and collected names and skills of the "underemployed" and have shared those names with our contractors who have asked for new possible employee/members. The recent attempt to win a grant for installation of converter boxes in the City was unsuccessful, but we will continue to partner with whichever of our employers will work to find a way to add work hours. We try to share with our laid off members as much information as possible to help them find work within our economically ravaged industry. Any idea, from any source will be considered.

We have a new ability to accept payments on Discover Cards. Previously only Visa and MasterCard were allowed. The payment of dues and fees by credit card has steadily increased in popularity since it was first introduced a few years ago. There will no longer be any administrative service fees charged for late payment of dues. Please keep in mind that the prompt and proper payment of your dues is an obligation of Union membership. And the collection of those dues is an obligation of the Financial Secretary of this Local Union. Know that when your dues are 6 months past due, the International Office automatically moves you to inactive status. Your Local officers are not able to alter that status. Your privileges as a Union members are no longer in place. Please help us to keep the work of the Local Union going strong by paying your dues on time.

We continue to work on arranging either free or low cost training on new and heavily used equipment for our members. VIZ RT training has been actively pursued for many months now, and we continue to stay on their trail for the possibility of some classes. We also are working on some classes with Sony on new equipment for the hotel and convention business. Our participation on the BURST program with NABET is ongoing.

This is YOUR Union, be active, be involved, be a part of it.

In Solidarity,

*Madeleine Monaco*

Business Manager/Financial Secretary

## INFO CHANNEL MAY 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:

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Radio + TV Broadcast Engineers  
8605 W Bryn Mawr Suite 309  
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](http://www.ibew1220.org)

## YOUR UNION NEWS

### MEETING INFORMATION AVAILABLE

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

### SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The new IBEW Local 1220 scholarship is now available to children of our members who are either seniors going into college or continuing college students. Please contact the office for applications. Deadline for receipt of apps is June 1, 2009. First 30 received will be judged and processed for awards of \$500.00 each. Application and details were published in last months newsletter. You can find it on our web site and reprint [www.ibew1220.org](http://www.ibew1220.org).

### OUR SYMPATHY TO:

The family and friends of Floyd Linnemann (Retired), who passed away recently.

### IBEW BABY:

Congratulations to SEAN and VANESSA BORING (both freelancers) on baby boy Matthew born March 9th, 9 lbs 5 ounces.

### PENSION APPLICATION GRANTED:

JAMES WALTERS (WGN TV) retiring May 21st.

### RETIRING

BOB KASTIGAR (WGN TV) Last day was May 1, 2009.

### HONORARY WITHDRAWAL GRANTED TO:

The following members have met the requirements for receiving this status: none this month

### FIRST READINGS:

Dan Nowak – Fox Sports  
Josh Wright – Visions unlimited  
Ramon Fausto - CBS

### NEW MEMBERS APPROVED:

JOHN PETER HIRSCHBERG JR—PROGRAM PROD.

### UNION SHIRTS AVAILABLE:

There are just a few IBEW Local 1220 shirts still available in the union office. For \$20.00 one could be yours.

Sizes and colors (Navy or White) are limited.

Call or email the Union office and let us know.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There is a lot of big news this month. First and foremost, this is election time. Ballots should have gone out by the time you read this. They are sent to the address on file at the union office. If you have been receiving recent newsletters, then you can be sure the address is correct. If you have not received a ballot and you think the mail has failed you, contact the election judge at 312-282-1788 or don1220vote-elexjudge@yahoo.com for the procedure to obtain another ballot. The ballots will be counted on Tuesday June 2 and the election judge will make his report at the June meeting. Please follow the instructions for returning your ballot including your name and return address on the outside envelope.

The IBEW Sixth District is monitoring this election. The International Representative assigned is the person responsible for training all election judges in this region. As such, the IBEW election procedures are being followed per his instructions and are checked by him in addition to the election judge. I have appointed several members, who are not running for office, to serve as the election judge and tellers. The tellers will assist the election judge in retrieving the ballots and in counting and tally duties on June 2nd.

You will see that there is no person running for the position of Recording Secretary when you receive your ballot. This is an important office in this local. The Secretary records the minutes of the regular union meeting each month and handles official messages for the local. This is not a time consuming job and requires the one night each month for the union meeting and an occasional stop at the union office. If you think you can commit your time, please let the office or the Executive Board know of your wishes so that you can be considered. The new Executive Board will make the selection per IBEW Constitution and our Local By-Laws.

WBBM has decided to eliminate the weekend morning news program and a fall out of that decision was the layoff of three Local 1220 technicians. WGN radio and TV are in or entering negotiations as you read this. WYCC is also in negotiations. As always, negotiation time is a stressful time for both the negotiators and the members at those stations. Please do not start rumors and don't pass them on. It is a frequent occurrence during negotiations to speculate what is taking place at the table. Be aware that occasionally, certain people leak information to other members to stir the pot. This method only becomes effective when you participate. Don't fall for this tactic.

Several stations have asked the union for help during this economic crisis. The Business Manager and stewards are meeting with those stations and members to discuss possible alternatives. At this time, nothing definitive has been decided, and nothing will without your vote to concur.

See you all next month for the election report at the next regular union meeting on Tuesday, June 2 at 7:00PM.

Fraternally,

*Alan J. Skierkiewicz*

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## WIN LABOR NEWS

About six corporations deliver most of your news...do you trust them to give you what you need to evaluate where we are politically, economically, and socially?

Do you know what the UAW has given up to Detroit auto corporations? How will Chicago Labor maximize the return on the American Recovery Reinvestment Act. Will the U.S and Canada renegotiate NAFTA? Will companies receiving subsidies continue to hire H1-B workers? Have you heard what is happening with the Screen Actors Guild negotiations?

If you want information on these issues check the Workers Independent News (WIN) at <http://www.laborradio.org/> or go to the 1220 web site and hit the WIN radio button.

WIN also has a cell phone number where you can hear the latest news wherever you are.  
Call 425-527-7001

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REACH US BY EMAIL???

INFO@IBEW1220.ORG

THE NEXT REGULAR UNION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 2ND AT 7:00 PM**  
AT THE UNION OFFICE  
8605 W BRYN MAWR AVE #309 CHICAGO  
*Election results for our Local Union this month*

PHONE (773) 714-1220

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

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