

May 2010

THE INFO CHANNEL

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1220

IN THIS ISSUE

Second Quarter Union Dues were due April 1st.

Proposed Bylaw Change 1

Business Manager Report 2

Presidents Message 3

You-nion News 4

Buy Union Made 5

Back Page - McPier Update

**See you at the union meeting
Tuesday June 1 at 7:00pm**

The Info Channel is published by IBEW Local 1220 in Chicago, IL.

Anything you might expect to read in a business letter or an email that pertains to this Local and your part in it will be communicated through this newsletter.

Consider this your dues invoice, your bylaws updates, your meeting notice and your call to participate.

If you would like to submit an idea or article for this newsletter, please contact the union office.

Theo, Editor Info Channel
IBEW Local 1220
8605 W Bryn Mawr #309
Chicago, IL 60631
773-714-1220 FAX 773-693-0009

BYLAW AMMENDMENT PROPOSAL ARTICLE III Officers—Elections—Duties

The Bylaw change goes to the Eboard for review and recommendation. Afterwards the recommendation goes to the June 1st Union meeting for a vote to accept or reject the Eboard's recommendation.

Depending on the outcome of the vote the proposal may die or be sent out for a full membership vote.

New Bylaw proposal:

Article X (10)

Section 5. The monthly dues shall be:

(a) "A" and "BA" Members Basic Dues of \$26.50, plus 1.5% of all base pay above \$1,500.00 per month.

When the General Fund reaches one and one quarter (1.25) years of budgeted operating expense or more, dues shall be reduced by 0.2% of all base pay (1.3%) over \$1,715.00 per month.

When the General Fund falls below one (1) year of budgeted operating expense additional dues of 0.2% of all base pay (1.7%) over \$1,200.00 per month will be dues from each member.

Dues adjustments will become effective in the quarter following the treasurer's quarterly report that shows an adjustment is necessary. Yearly budgets will be determined by February 1st and amended by August 1st if necessary.

Old Language:

Article X (10)

Section 5. The monthly dues shall be:

(a) "A" and "BA" Members Basic Dues of \$26.50, plus 1.4% of all base pay above \$1,715.00 per month.

When the General Fund reaches \$200,000.00 or more, dues shall be reduced by 0.4% of all base pay over \$2,400 per month.

When the General Fund falls below \$150,000.00 additional dues of 0.3% of all base pay over \$1,412.00 per month will be dues from each member.

Dues adjustments will become effective in the quarter following the treasurer's quarterly report that shows an adjustment is necessary.

Business Manager Report

Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this, I am recovering from my shoulder surgery. My surgery was on a Friday and I am back to work on Monday. Time marches on and schedules won't wait. There was a negotiation with WGN that was the pressing matter but the company had canceled. Instead we met downtown to have pre-Arbitration talks in the hopes of reaching an amicable settlement. Tuesday was a hearing with the IL Dept. of Labor. At the insistence of my wife and some staff, now that the pressing matters are handled, I must take time to heal. This should take a few days.

I say this to let the membership know that your Local Union is running at an optimal performance level. The staff has truly "pulled their weight" in the last few months while I was traveling for mandatory conferences, seminars, and meetings. Now that the traveling is dying down, we will be focusing on our negotiations.

Travel has been a big expense over the last few months. There is some good news on the horizon. Chicago will be the site for the next CBS "halfly" meeting. This will save us on travel and lodging and allow us more representation at the table. Depending on whether or not proposals are exchanged at the table, we intend on having the FOX quarterlies here in Chicago at the end of that week. This will maximize our savings and productivity.

Some new inroads are being made in sports. The sports section of our membership has been neglected for far too long and if we are to expect growth in our Union, sports will be a primary focus in the months to come. It is our goal to increase representation in the field and handle issues before they become problems.

Now for the 800 pound gorilla in the room. The dues and what the new bylaw proposal says and means. Back in September of 2009 I had put forward a proposal to "lock" the dues at 1.4%. At the following meeting, the former President had requested that a "Dues Committee" make a recommendation to the membership as to what the dues should be. The findings have come back. There were suggestions of dues on gross as well as 1.8% of net. (I'd like to thank the committee for the work that they had put in on this project) Other members have expressed concerns of changing something that everyone was used to and maybe we could just slide the thresholds. The 6th District even suggested an assessment.

One thing is certain, the dues structure that was written back in the 1990's, is a broken model that doesn't work for this Local. I have listened to the concerns and have slid the numbers appropriately to allow the Local to have at least 1 year of operating capital before the dues rate drops. Those percentages are higher than before, but that is what caused the problems in the first place.

Let me be very clear so that there is no misunderstanding and no spin. **The dues are not being raised.** They are at 1.7% and they will not go higher. The reasons for the change are simple, 20% drop in membership revenue, membership numbers are down approximately 100 members from 2008, legal and vendor costs are rising, negotiations, arbitrations, take your pick. This is not a popular decision. It is a decision that I will take a lot of heat about. It is not being made hastily or in a vacuum. But it is a decision that needs to be made and I will stand by it.

This decision is for the good of the Union so that you can be represented and defended. With a healthy treasury we will increase our numbers through organizing. We will send the message that we are strong and vital. We shall pursue better contracts and better standards of living for our members. We can't do this with coupons and IOU's. This is a fix we can all live with. I would encourage your attendance and input at our June 1st, meeting.

In Solidarity,

John Rizzo Business Manager

Presidents Message

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Good union members often report contract violations, safety issues, harassment of employees, and other important and relevant issues to their stewards or the union officers.

Unfortunately, many of the facts become lost prior to the actual transmission of information. As an example, "Sally the intern was using equipment that our union has exclusive jurisdiction of". They might add that they thought it happened "On Wednesday, either last week or the week prior, around lunch time".

It is important to hear about violations such as these, but we really need succinct information to proceed. While remaining out of the situation, or at least unnoticed, please gather as many of the answers to the following questions as possible:

- *Who? Who was involved?
- *What? What happened? What's the story?
- When? When did it happen?
- Where? Where did it happen?
- Why? Why did it happen?
- How? How did it happen?

These facts are necessary for effective enforcement of our contracts. None of these questions can be answered with a simple yes or no. The following is a helpful Kipling poem which will help you remember:

*I keep six honest serving-men
(They taught me all I knew);
Their names are What and Why and When
And How and Where and Who.*

As a delegate, I attended the Chicago Federation of Labor and Industrial Union Council meeting at the beginning of this month. New leadership will be sworn in at the next meeting. Both the outgoing and incoming leadership are truly people who make me so very proud to be a member of organized labor movement in Chicago. Our website has a link to their website, for important current information. Here is their web address: <http://www.chicagolabor.org/>

Please let the hall know if there are any issues with your Entertainment Industry Flex plan contributions from your employer. The Flex Plan Board of Directors now has given enhanced power to the Plan Managers for enforcement of the procedures for this important benefit.

I hope each and every one of you have a safe, prosperous, and enjoyable summer!

Fraternally, Glenn Hannigan, President

YOU – NION NEWS

NEXT REGULAR UNION MEETING: TUESDAY JUNE 1st AT 7:00PM

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

Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday May 19 at 8:15pm.

(Examining Board begins at 7:45pm)

For the time being, we still need two more members for EBD.

Anyone in good standing from any station (except WTTW—we already have two) may answer the call to participate.

WGN Shop members have been requesting a shop meeting to discuss current contract negotiations. BM Rizzo will have a **WGN meeting June 1st from 5:30pm to 7:00pm** (immediately prior to the union meeting)

NEW MEMBERS:

Thomas Korzeniowski-WGN-TV
Michael Lewis—CBS (lives in Kentucky)

FIRST READINGS:

David Roman-Program Production
Bradley Alan Piper-WGN Per Diem

HONORARY WITHDRAWAL:

Nathan Delack-was 403(g)
Gina Morri is working in security
Steve Lloyd—no longer with CBS
Kathryn Janicek—promoted

IN SYMPATHY:

To Brother Chris Sabia on the loss of his Father, Gerald Palm
To Brother Tremaine Williams on the loss of his Mother.

Local 1220 has bought two tickets to The Labor Education Center at DePaul University's Annual Fundraiser on June 2, 2010 from 2:00pm—6:00pm at Teamsters Local 705 at 1645 W. Jackson.

If you would like an education in Labor Studies, this is a great way to meet students and alumni of the program.

The Labor Education Center offers a three year course, with each semester meeting once weekly for 3 hours at DePaul University in downtown Chicago. Each semester gives an in-depth look into the issues that affect the labor movement. It begins with the history of unions and the laws that affect us. Each semester delves into such topics as organizing, negotiating, arbitration, economics, how to navigate a law library, etc.

.The \$60 ticket includes BBQ chicken, pork chops, salads, and beer and wine are included. **First two people to call the union office will get the tickets.** If you ever thought of pursuing Labor Law, here's a great introduction.

From the April Union meeting:

Offers that are available to our members, but are not directly endorsed by our Local:

Chestnut Health Cary Systems: They work closely with organizations, such as unions, to help individuals and families in need of substance abuse, mental heal and financial counseling. They offer a Chemical Dependency Program that can help both adults and adolescents with substance abuse issues. Individuals filing bankruptcy are ordered to complete court-approved bankruptcy counseling courses, which you can do in person, online or over the phone. Toll free # 1-888-924-3786 or visit them online at www.chestnut.org.

It's all available with a union label...**AE: Actors' Equity**

The union representing live stage actors and stage managers, for Broadway shows, touring companies and in theaters across the country. (www.actorsequity.org)



AGVA: American Guild of Variety Artists
Represents performers in variety shows, including Las Vegas shows, magicians, circus performers and performers in theme parks.

**AFTRA: Members of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists**

The actors and actresses in television entertainment, the disc jockeys and other voices on your radio, the journalists who present your television news, weather and sports. They make commercials, documentaries, narrate sporting events, appear on cable and digital video and audio presentations. They're union members and proud of it. (www.aftra.org)

**AFM: American Federation of Musicians**

Represents the full range of musical artistry—orchestras, bands, individuals, vocalists, back up singers and studio musicians. Every major music star is a member of the AFM. Concert orchestras in many U.S. cities are represented by AFM. (www.afm.org)

**IATSE: International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts**

From lighting experts and stage hands, craftpersons, artisans—animators, cartoonists, illustrators, camera operators, makeup artists—IATSE members do the heavy lifting and create the illusions that bring an entertainment experience to life. (www.iatse-intl.org)

**IBEW: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers**

Radio and television engineers, sound and light technicians and other broadcast personnel. (ibew.org)

**NABET: National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians (A Sector of Communications Workers of America)**

Broadcasting personnel who photograph, film, record, distribute, telecast, transmit for network, cable, public television stations and independent studios nationwide. NABET technicians work in studios and in the field as vital links in the broadcast chain. (www.nabetcwa.org)

**WGAE: Writer's Guild of America East**

Write stage and screen plays and creative works for the entertainment industry, including new media (digital presentations). (www.wgaeast.org)

**NFL PLAYERS
ASSOCIATION****Don't forget sports...****NFLPA: National Football League Players Association & the Federation of Professional Athletes**

Represents NFL players and other professional athletes.

Arts, entertainment and sports industries employ millions of union members, from catering and service personnel who serve refreshments to ushers, custodial and grounds workers in stadiums and arenas to performers in places such as Disney World and Disneyland. Next time you attend an event, tip your hat when you see the union button and let those workers know you appreciate what they do.

**You will find many of these listings on the
Union Label Website www.unionlabel.org**

Legislation to Reform McCormick Place

Please be aware that there are new rules at McCormick Place and Navy Pier. The Illinois General Assembly has passed these rules by an overwhelming bipartisan vote. The bill is at the following website:

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/96/SB/09600SB0028lv.htm>

Governor Quinn has NOT decided to sign the bill, yet. The next Union Meeting is June 1st. Please plan to attend if you wish to discuss what this means for our freelancers.

VI Exhibitor Rights: Establishes “House Rules” For Exhibitors And Labor

Booths - Any exhibitor on Authority premises shall be permitted to do the following:

Exhibitor and exhibitor's employees are permitted in a booth of any size, the use of a ladder and hand tools to (i) set up and dismantle exhibits on Authority premises; (ii) assemble and disassemble materials, machinery, or equipment; or (iii) install signs, props, ballots, other decorative items.

Exhibitor and exhibitor's employees are permitted in a booth of any size to (i) deliver, plug-in, connect, operate electrical equipment, computers, audio-visual devices; (ii) re-position or re-skid items in their booth; (iii) unload and load materials from a privately owned car with the use of a dolly or non-motorized hand cart.

Labor Costs - A contractor or show manager may only charge an exhibitor for labor services as follows:

Monday - Friday: Straight-time for consecutive 8-hour period between 6am-10pm, with straight-time and a half each hour after 8-hour period; double-time for work between midnight and 6am.

Saturday: Straight-time and a half for consecutive 8-hour period, with double straight-time for each hour after 8-hour period; double-time for work between midnight and 6am.

Sunday and State/Federal Holidays: Double straight-time for any hours worked.

“Reasonable markup” is allowed.

May only charge in 30 minute increments.

Electrical Services - Show managers may retain an electrical contractor of their choice, provided the entity is approved by the Authority. If show manager uses the Authority’s electrical contractor (FOCUS One or its successor) the Authority must offer the services at the rate not to exceed the costs of providing the service and exhibitors may bring in food or beverage for personal consumption.

Take a look at our website @ www.ibew1220.org

**THE NEXT REGULAR UNION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY JUNE 1, AT 7:00PM
(THE DAY AFTER MEMORIAL DAY)
AT THE UNION OFFICE
8605 W. BRYN MAWR AVE #309 CHICAGO**

2nd Quarter Dues were due April 1st
Please remember our dues are due, “quarterly in advance.”

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

TUESDAY JUNE 1, AT 7:00PM

(THE DAY AFTER MEMORIAL DAY)

AT THE UNION OFFICE

8605 W. BRYN MAWR AVE #309 CHICAGO

2nd Quarter Dues were due April 1st

Please remember our dues are due, "quarterly in advance."