

OCTOBER 2009

# THE INFO CHANNEL

**Inside this issue:**

Union Developments	1
Business Manager Report	2
Presidents Message	3
More <i>you</i> - NION News	4
The Official Stuff and other info	5
The back page	6

## UNION DEVELOPMENTS

- **WGN TV** is hiring. Please visit our website for details.
- **AFLAC ...** Members are now eligible for Union discounted supplemental insurance through AFLAC. AFLAC offers a wide range of insurance policies: accident, cancer, life, and short-term disability. This is additional insurance coverage is available on a completely voluntary basis. *"Aflac recognizes you need to protect your families in the case of an accident or illness. These benefits are paid directly to you in addition to all other insurance with no coordination of benefits and at considerable savings."*

For more information, please contact our representative directly at:  
Erin Brzozowski (570) 262-2231 or erin\_brzozowski@us.aflac.com

- **GOODYEAR GEMINI AUTO SERVICE** centers are offering union members the following specials: 5% off Tires; 10% off Service (including Sale Prices). To take advantage of these offers, print the coupon off the unionplus.org website and take it to your local company-owned Goodyear Gemini Auto Service Center (1-888-GDYR-STORES). This program supports United Steelworkers of America and UFCW members, who make many Goodyear tires. Offer good through 12/31/09.
- Spread the **HALLOWEEN** fun and support fellow union members. When ghosts and goblins ring your doorbell, make sure you have plenty of Union-made-in-America treats on hand. Download a shopping list of Union-made treats at the unionplus.org website. The candy products are made by members of the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union (BCTGM); snack foods by members of the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW); or fruit and nuts from the members of the United Farm Workers of America (UFW). Choices include candy products from: Hershey, Necco, Gimbals Fine Candies, Ghiradelli Chocolates, Jelly Belly Candy Co., Nestle, American Licorice, Frito-Lay, Orville Redenbacher, Kraft, Anabelles Candy Co. and Sconza Candies.

Union Plus is brought to you by Union Privilege, established by the AFL-CIO to provide consumer benefits to members and retirees of participating labor unions.



# Business Manager Report

Brothers and Sisters,

It has been a truly busy month since the last. Unfortunately the requirements of this position have taken me out of town more often than I would want. Mandatory meetings for the IO's Membership Development Conference, the 6th District Progress Meeting, the CBS Halfly meeting, and the upcoming BM school have, and will, require a substantial amount of time and energies. Time is a precious commodity these days and there never seems to be enough of it. What little time is left over is spent working on open contracts, negotiations, and grievances.

With mandatory conventions and meetings beginning to taper off in the fourth quarter, focus can now shift to the open contracts. Negotiations are progressing and we are encouraged by the forward progress. Video production contract talks will begin shortly and input is being requested. There are a few grievances out at the time of this newsletter that are still being addressed.

The CBS "Halfly" meeting had just concluded in Baltimore. Many of our members are asking what had happened. The Halfly meetings are off the record and there is sensitive information of a financial and strategic nature that the company shares with us to get our input on. This is the only reason why more information is not shared about what transpires at these meetings. What I can tell our members at CBS is that the meeting was very positive and we are looking forward to a long continuous relationship with the company. We will be moving forward and embracing new technologies and new ways of doing business. We will be training, growing, and evolving with the changing marketplace. The alternatives are not pleasant. In short, there were no bombshells only optimism.

Recently I have been seeing a push by management, at several different companies, to push the limits of members, contractual language, and safety. Due to deadlines, financial pressures, and unrealistic expectations, you may witness, hear about, or even be asked to perform actions which may be unsafe, unethical, or might even violate the contract. Members are strongly encouraged to bring this information to your local. Your information will be kept confidential to keep you safe and employed. Your Union wants to know. Your information will be kept confidential to keep you safe and employed.

I am very encouraged by the increase in attendance at our regular Union meetings. Member participation is up and more people are getting involved. The notion of a Union is becoming more appealing and the protections have never been more necessary. Members that have only looked out for themselves are vulnerable targets. We are a team. Moving forward, together, sends the right message: "We are Local 1220 and we are **ALL** in this together."

In Solidarity,

*John Rizzo*

# Presidents Message

I am sure that many of you have read or heard about behaviors that can risk your employment security. Unfortunately, we have been reminded through our contractors and employers recently of these behaviors. Please be aware of the following:

Starting with your employment interview, please do not tell your employer that you are willing to work on days or at times that you really will not be available. So many times, I have heard about our members stating to the interviewer about being available at practically anytime, for any type of work, only to *not* be available on holidays, weekends, overnights, early mornings, or positions that they do not care for or are not upgraded for performing...you get the idea.

Safety: If there are safety concerns, express them to your supervisor before you take an unnecessary chance. If you find the activity to be unsafe while performing it, stop and notify a supervisor or steward and resolve the situation properly. As an example, if you are using a ladder, which is underrated or sized improperly, request an appropriate one.

Avoid unnecessary telephone or internet use. Consider what you "blog", especially regarding the workplace and your personal information.

Please double or triple check your work; make sure it is ready or complete!

Be honest and do not ever lie to your supervisor or employer, it will not work. If you lie, the union will have a tremendously difficult task of defending you. If you were late or made a mistake, admit it if questioned, or mention it if it will cause a problem with the operation.

Do not distract your co-workers while traveling through the work area with any nonsense. They do not want to hear about your new automobile radiator hose or lawn item, trust me on this!

If one of your bosses tells you to "Find something to do", I suggest that you take appropriate action. If there are contractual issues, perform the work if safe, and file a grievance later. Use common sense on this and do not be insubordinate to those instructing you.

Do not argue, discuss retaliation, or create disagreements amongst your coworkers. If you have a problem that you are unable to resolve professionally, contact your steward or the union office. If you feel that violence in the workplace is inevitable, contact your supervisor. Call 911 if you believe anyone may be in danger. Do not carry weapons to work.

Assigned work is not social time. Keep your dating and personal schedule out of the workplace.

When you take a break, take it at the proper time, and get back without additional delay or distraction. Do not fall asleep while on the job, even on a break or on lunch, it is not permitted. You may be terminated from employment for sleeping.

Check your schedule frequently so that you are not a "no show". Make sure you, and/or your responsible party knows exactly how to contact your employer in case you are unable to make it to work; i.e. death in the family, emergency, medical situations, incarceration, etc. Be a prompt and dependable employee.

If you call in sick, do not accept work from any other employer or contribute to your "side or personal" business venture! If you are noticed on the way to a medical exam or the pharmacy, it may be questioned but at least you are in defendable position.

Wear only the approved dress code apparel to work. If safety items are appropriate or are required, use them. Do not wear "questionable clothing" which may expose more of you than expected or allowed in the workplace.

The union can better represent you when adhere to these suggestions.

Fraternally yours,

*Glenn Hannigan*

# YOU - NION NEWS

## **MEETING INFORMATION AVAILABLE**

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

## **NEW ARRIVALS**

## **SYMPATHY**

John A. Bobera Sr., 95, (WGN) retired. Father of John A Bobera Jr. (WGN-TV)  
Donald R Finlon, 82, loving father of Donna Finlon (WGN-TV)  
To the family of Clay Kappelman (freelance member – Lawrence, Kansas)

## **VACANCIES / OPEN POSITIONS**

**WYCC IS LOOKING FOR A FULL TIME MAINTENANCE ENGINEER** Call Mark Jahnke (773) 487-1322

2 vacancies - Executive Board positions

## **HONORARY WITHDRAWAL**

Cindy A. Klapp - Stay-at-home parent  
Robert Wiener - Retired

## **FIRST READINGS**

Michael Albertini - WTVO  
Jeffery DeVries - Lake Shore AV  
Kent Strauss - WGN-TV  
Carolyn Orban - WGN-TV,  
Michael Zale - WGN-TV  
Brian Allinson - WGN-TV  
Beverly Bluemal - WGN-TV,  
Adam Debacker - WGN-TV  
Jamaal Garner - WGN-TV  
Kenneth Brown - WGN-TV  
Thomas Kelly, Jr. - WGN-TV  
Roscoe Burks - WGN-TV  
Aline Cox - WGN-TV  
Nicholas Boyan - WGN-TV

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Adrienne Balow - WGN-TV  
Jonathan Ortiz - Event Engineering

## **OKAY, I SHREDDDED. NOW WHAT?**

Have you ever wondered how you can reuse or recycle your shredded paper?

Here are a few ideas to consider:

1. Use your shredded paper as a stuffing when shipping a package to protect the item inside.
2. Shred used gift wrap and then use it in place of tissue paper in gift bags.
3. Ever think about using your shredded paper as an odor eater? Stuff it into cut pantyhose or knee highs, tie a knot on the end and then put them into your kids' stinky sneakers.
4. Donate your shredded paper to a local pet shop. They often use shredded paper as bedding or floor coverings.
5. Kindling for a bonfire is another great way to reuse your shreds. Just be sure that you have enough, as it burns fast.
6. Compost it. Shredded paper adds a great source of carbon for those critters that break down your compost.
7. Use it for crafting— paper m<sup>â</sup>ch<sup>é</sup> can be fun for kids and adults alike.

# THE OFFICIAL STUFF

## **IBEW 1220 OFFICERS AND STAFF**

\*\*\*\*\*

Glenn Hannigan..... President  
 John Trautschold..... Vice President  
 Dan Rozkuszka.....Treasurer  
 Robert Kaiser (pending).... .Recording Secretary

Bruce Rehberger (Chairman) ..Executive Board  
 Alex Maric ..... Executive Board  
 Oswaldo Rangel ..... Executive Board  
 Jennifer Kastigar ..... Executive Board  
 Tom Siegel .....Executive Board  
 Michael Sullivan.....Executive Board  
 Will Watkins .....Executive Board

Marie Kowalski .....Administrative Assistant

Effective October 1, 2009, Union dues have increased from 1.0% to 1.4% of base earnings. Remember, the correct and timely payment of dues is your responsibility. Dues are to be submitted on the 1st of January, April, July and October.

## 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, Gina Morri,  
Peter Adrianopoli

### WYCC-TV

Andrew Freund

### WCIU-TV

Will Watkins

### WTVO-TV

Dave Seaton

### WGN RADIO

Ed Wilk

### WBBM RADIO

Steve Wright

### FREELANCE

Scott Jones  
Sean Mahan

### WCEV RADIO

Jeff Frizzle

### FREELANCE

Mike Sullivan

**Please take note of who your shop steward is and if you have any concerns on anything job related feel free to talk to them. That is what they are there for!**

### INFO CHANNEL OCTOBER 2009

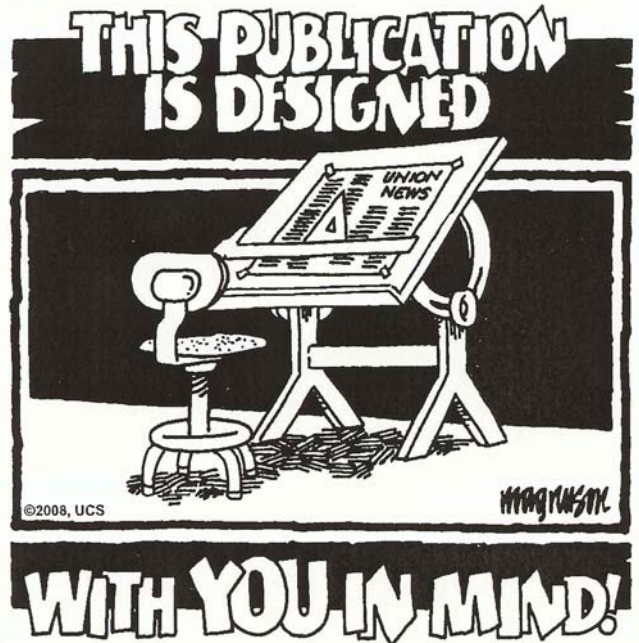
This Newsletter is published monthly by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 1220, Radio and Television Broadcast Engineers, of Chicago, Illinois.

**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](mailto:info@ibew1220.org) or [Theo@ibew1220.org](mailto:Theo@ibew1220.org)



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

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)

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, NOVEMBER 4TH 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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED