

THE INFO CHANNEL

RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCAST ENGINEERS NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 1220

SEPTEMBER 2008

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Sisters and Brothers:

At long last the negotiations with WTTW have come to an end. As I write this we have ratified the agreement reached August 1st, and are waiting for the documents to be signed. The Company has indicated that they will put the new terms into effect as of 8-15. Thank you to all who worked hard on this negotiating committee over the past year and a half: Al Skierkiewicz, Gina Morri, Bruce Rehberger, Tom Siegel and Jim Sterne.

The new Fox Sports Agreement has been ratified as well, with good terms and working conditions in place for 4 more years. Our participation in this National Agreement brings value to our members and allows us to operate nationwide as a cohesive team. Thanks to Don Cornelli for helping out at the table and to those of you who sent in suggestions and proposals before we negotiated.

In both cases—read your new contract and watch for company compliance with the new terms. We can't fix what we don't know is broken. :-)

I rarely touch on the political in this column, but I cannot let the opportunity pass to ask each of you to look very seriously at the positions of the candidates for national office this year. If an elected official cares about those of us who work for a living, his or her voting record will show that. Please take the time to look and see what that voting record is. We need to have a change in Washington. We need you to exercise your right to vote and let your voice be heard. If you are not registered, you should be. They no longer use the voters rolls to choose people to serve on a jury, they use driver's license records, so that's not an excuse. Please vote. It is so important.

Many of you work for our video production contractors, and as such have contract terms to follow that may change from time to time as we negotiate new agreements. One of the terms recently agreed to was a provision for a Union time keeper on EVERY job. That time keeper has a requirement to submit the hours to their employer AND to the Union within a strict time frame of two days. He or she gets paid a small stipend to do this. If this time frame is not honored, the contract has been violated and the Union must take action. Please watch to see when YOU are the time keeper and see that the hours worked on your job are reported to the company and the Union, as well as to your co-workers, within the required time limits.

Shortly we will be shutting down the web mail functions for members and contractors. The Local has been successful in getting personal and/or business email addresses for most of you, and the IBEW1220.org addresses have not been used for quite some time. In order to reduce spam, we are changing over to a new system and will no longer assign or support the web mail addresses. Anytime you wish to communicate with us quickly, please send an email. The general mail box for the office is info@ibew1220.org and mine is mmonaco@ibew1220.org.

In Solidarity,

Madeleine Monaco

Business Manager/Financial Secretary

NEXT MEETING DATE TUESDAY, October 7, 7:00 PM

At the Union office

8605 W Bryn Mawr Ave #309, Chicago

You are the Union!

Join in conducting the business of your Local. Your input is valuable.



INFO CHANNEL SEPTEMBER 2008

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:

Jim Sterne, Editor Info Channel
Radio + TV Broadcast Engineers
8605 W Bryn Mawr Suite 309
Chicago, IL 60631
FAX 773-693-0009
EMAIL jim@ibew1220.org

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

YOU UNION NEWS

PER CAPITA INCREASES 1-1-09

The per capita payment to the International Office goes up by \$1.00 as of the first of next year. Please make a note of that. BA (non-pension) members will pay \$12.00 per month, making the minimum dues before applying earnings to the formula, \$43.50/month (\$115.50 per quarter).

DUES RATE DECREASES 10-1-08

The Treasurer has announced that the balance in our Local Union accounts on June 30, 2008 was at the level which triggered a dues deduction. As of 10-1-08 dues will be calculated based on 1.4% of base pay, instead of 1.7% of base pay. Freelance and per diem dues minimums payable in advance will remain 112.50. (until 1-1-09—see above) When we calculate your dues on earnings in this quarter you will see the difference. Notices of the new dues rates are enclosed with each newsletter and sent via USPS this month.

SHIRTS AVAILABLE:

IBEW 1220 SHIRTS—Henley style, in either white or navy, are available at the Union office for \$20.00.

NEW SIZES ARE IN

Contact the office to order—we take credit cards—call 773-714-1220 or email info@ibew1220.org.

MEETING INFORMATION AVAILABLE

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

FIRST READINGS:

MARK ZERANG – WGN RADIO BENJAMIN EADS – WCIU
MICHAEL RAYNER – FOX BRENDAN TEGLIA – AA
SANDRA IMBROGNA – WGN TV

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

TO GENE HELLERMAN (WBBM RETIRED) ON HIS 90TH.

OUR SYMPATHY TO:

TOM NUGENT (WGN TV) on the loss of his mother last month.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO:

RICK MOSER—on his retirement from WBBM TV after 32 years in the IBEW Bargaining Unit.

RO WRATSCHKO—on his appointment by President Hill as Director of Broadcasting for the IBEW.



VIZRT WORKSHOP PLANS

Local 1220 is working with VIZRT to provide a training class for union members. 1220 knows that the best way to protect and grow our jurisdiction is to help members stay current in new or changing technology.

VIZRT is a Norwegian company that is demonstrating its products during September in Amsterdam at the IBC Convention. It is growing fast in Europe but it is used by CBS and ESPN, as well as NFL Network, ABC, SKY Italia, DIRECTV, CCTV, LaSexta (national station of Spain), and The Premiere Soccer League.

We think the best way to teach VIZRT would be to have each participant use their own workstation. If each participant had a laptop, the VIZRT software could be downloaded before class and ready to use when class begins. The VIZRT instructors would insert a dongle in your laptop that would unlock the program.

We are also looking into the possibility of running VIZRT in a restricted mode after downloading so participants would be familiar with the program before the class begins.

Your laptop memory, graphics, and processing minimums must be considered. We will know the specifications soon and we will share it with those who want to attend.

So...we need to know a few things about you to make this training successful. If you are interested in the VIZRT workshop, please answer a few questions in an email:

Do you have a laptop at your disposal that can be used for the VIZRT demo?

Do you want to attend even though you can not bring a laptop?

Have you used VIZRT?

Rate your proficiency with VIZRT: beginner, intermediate, or advanced.

Have you used DUET?

Rate your proficiency with DUET: beginner, intermediate, or advanced.

Send your email response to: jim@ibew1220.org.

TELL US WHAT OTHER EQUIPMENT YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE TRAINED ON. SEND US AN EMAIL REQUEST AND WE WILL WORK WITH THE MANUFACTURERS TO HAVE FREE OR LOW COST EDUCATION FOR OUR MEMBERS ADVANCEMENT.

Email info@ibew1220.org

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REACH US BY EMAIL???

INFO@IBEW1220.ORG

THE NEXT REGULAR UNION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH AT 7:00 PM
AT THE UNION OFFICE
8605 W BRYN MAWR AVE #309 CHICAGO

PHONE (773) 714-1220

FAX (773) 693-0009

www.ibew1220.org

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