

Fall 2011 - "F Y I" Update



- At the September 21 General Membership meeting, Debbie Cole (Citizen/RS&S) was elected as Local President for the balance of this term (to Dec. 31, 2011), replacing Lois Kirkup, who resigned. Debbie will serve as President and Treasurer for the balance of the year. At the same membership meeting, Rob Bostelaar (Citizen/Editorial) was elected as an At-Large executive member. The firm of Bouris Wilson was appointed to audit the 2010-2011 financial statements and the budget for 2011-12 was approved.
- The September meeting of the executive committee was held in the Guild office on September 21 and was attended by Debbie Cole, Gord Holder and Jeff Parks. Absent: Tony Cote, Blair Crawford, Jacquie Miller, Julie Oliver, David Reevely, Jonathan Rotondo, Delta and DLR reps.
- The October meeting of the executive committee was held in the Guild office on October 18 and was attended by Rob Bostelaar, Debbie Cole, Tony Cote, Gord Holder, Jacquie Miller, Julie Oliver, Jeff Parks, David Reevely, and observer Peter Bennet. Blair Crawford, Jonathan Rotondo, Delta and DLR reps did not attend. The executive committee appointed Jeff Parks (Citizen/Building Services) as Vice-President until the next membership meeting in December.
- The November meeting of the executive committee was held in the Guild office on November 15 and was attended by Rob Bostelaar, Debbie Cole, Tony Cote, Blair Crawford, Gord Holder, Jacquie Miller, Julie Oliver, Jeff Parks, David Reevely and Jonathan Rotondo. Delta and DLR reps did not attend.
- The next General Membership meeting of the ONG is the annual general meeting and is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 14, 2011**, 12 noon, in the Ottawa Citizen Conference Centre. Proposed items of business: presentation of audited financial statements for 2010-2011; executive elections for the 2012-2014 term for president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, five at-large positions and one retiree at-large position; executive honorariums for 2012; presentation of TNG 25-year pin. During the Citizen Unit portion of the meeting, elections will also be held for the Citizen Unit Leader and Citizen Unit Joint Health & Safety Committee representative and alternate.

The Guild executive meets once a month and membership meetings are held quarterly. All positions are paid an honorarium, based on the position, as well as attendance at meetings. Monthly meetings usually run about 2 hours. Other committee work can be volunteered for, e.g. Finance committee, Guild Awareness, Communications, etc.

Information outlining the duties of the various positions is contained in the ONG Bylaws and posted below. If you have any questions, please contact any current executive member or call the Guild office at 613-820-6545.

ONG Executive information (from Bylaws Articles 5 and 6)

Local Officers

There shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and other such officers as the general membership may determine by bylaw from time to time. One person may hold more than one office except the office of President and Vice-President.

President

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and members. The President shall supervise the affairs and operations of the ONG and have other powers and duties prescribed by the executive committee. The President shall be appointed ex-officio to all ONG committees and bargaining committees.

Vice-President

During the absence of the President, the President's duties or powers to act may be exercised by the Vice-President. The Vice-President shall appoint and give direction to shop stewards and chairs the Grievance committee. In the case of a vacancy in the office of Local President, the Local Vice-President shall immediately assume all responsibilities of that office until a successor Local President can be duly elected.

Secretary

The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Executive Committee and all general membership meetings to record minutes of those proceedings. The Secretary shall give all notices required. The Secretary is the custodian of all books, papers, records, correspondence and documents belonging to the ONG.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall keep full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements of the ONG and shall deposit all monies to the credit of the ONG in the bank. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the ONG under the direction of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall provide a financial report to the executive monthly, and to the membership at each general membership meeting. The Treasurer shall co-operate with the auditors of the ONG during any audit of the accounts of the ONG.

Other Officers...

Unit Officers

Unit officers shall be responsible for such functions of their unit as do not infringe on the authority of the ONG, the Guild or CWA.

Unit Leaders shall act as chief steward in their unit and shall perform other duties from time to time prescribed by the Executive Committee.

Shop Stewards

All shop stewards, under the direction of the Vice-President, will investigate grievances, see that the contract is complied with, keep members informed on Guild matters, and perform other duties from time to time prescribed by the Executive Committee.

➤ The following proposed Bylaws change is posted on the December 14 general membership meeting notice and will be presented at the membership meeting. ***(Changes in bold/italics)***

Article 5 - Section 5.06

All the Local Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer) shall be signing officers on Local accounts. The Executive Committee may designate ***ONE OTHER EXECUTIVE MEMBER AND*** one staff person to also hold signing authority. The Local Officers ***(DELETE)and(END DELETE), (ADD COMMA)*** any designated ***EXECUTIVE MEMBER AND*** staff person shall meet within two weeks of any change in the officers, ***DESIGNATED EXECUTIVE MEMBER*** or designated staff person to sign the requisite papers. All persons with signing authority shall be bonded in a sum to be set annually by the Executive Committee.

➤ ***CTV Ottawa***

- There have been a number of staff changes over the summer; one member was hired as a full-time reporter/editor/producer, creating an opening as a full-time editorial assistant. That position has been filled by a member who was in a contract position and has now been hired on a regular full-time basis. Another member was hired into a 6-month full-time contract position, covering the opening created by another member's LTD. A weekend co-ordinating producer had resigned and that vacancy has also been filled.
- A format change for a Saturday evening news show meant a regular part-time weekend day reporter position was no longer needed. Unit Chair Jonathan Rotondo and CWA/SCA Canada staff rep Dave Wilson drafted a letter of understanding to management covering the use of substitutes in the event of illness, etc.
- John Hua has expressed interest in assuming the role of Unit Co-chair with Jonathan Rotondo but an election meeting to make this official has yet to be scheduled. The ONG representative on the company's joint health and safety committee has stepped down and a replacement is needed for this position. Please speak with Jonathan Rotondo if you are interested.

➤ ***Ottawa Citizen***

- Editorial - Photographers grievance update: Job surveys using the pay equity assessment forms have been completed by two members, reviewed by the Guild, and handed in to HR for rating.
- Editorial - Assistant City Editor's position: The Guild has sent a letter to management asking for written commitment that all required job postings will be made in the future.
- Editorial - Temporary Full-time Employee: A letter of agreement was signed in August concerning a member who had been hired temporary full-time status as a leave-of-absence replacement and was still TFT after more than three years. The agreement was that the employee would become a regular full-time employee as soon as a non-buyout vacancy was created. The member was moved to regular full-time status in September.
- The Guild executive has also been dealing with the employer and a couple of members regarding sick leave and LTD issues for a number of months.

➤ ***Delta Reographics***

- In September, CWA/SCA Canada staff rep David Wilson met with Unit Chair Sam Chalati to talk about contract bargaining. David Wilson also met with a company representative on November 15 to discuss a number of issues.

➤ www.ottawanewsguild.ca

Check out the ONG website for contract information, minutes of meetings etc.

The latest national and international Guild news stories are available on the following web sites:

www.cwa-scacanada.ca www.newsguild.org www.cwa-union.org.

➤ ***“Congratulations” & “Condolences”***

- Basket to Brian Robinson (Citizen/Fin. Services) - retirement July 1/11.
- Fruit basket to Martin Cleary (Citizen/Editorial) - illness.
- Basket to Catherine Lawson (Citizen/Editorial) - surgery.
- Donation to WWOZ Radio Station, New Orleans, in memory of Connie Knox, former TNG International Chairperson.
- Fruit basket to Rob Cross (Citizen/Editorial) - illness.
- Basket to Kristy Nease (Citizen/Editorial) - broken wrist.

If you are aware of an ONG member in your workplace who should be acknowledged with Guild congratulations or condolences, please pass this information along to a member of the executive committee or contact the ONG office. Your assistance is appreciated.



Nov. 22, 2011