



REPORTER



Vol. 106, No. 1

January-April, 2012

Last Polish Daily Newspaper

Publishers Greed Puts Newspapers In Doubt

President's

Column

By Steven

D. Berman



On November 8th and 23rd, Union representatives, Composing Room Chairperson, Urszula Lewandowski, Editorial Department Chairperson, Anna Kowalczyk and your President met with Publisher representatives, Attorney Michael Rybicki, and General Manager, Emily Leszczynski. The Publisher representatives explained that the Polish Daily News had just two options, to close the paper or union economic concessions. Negotiations for new agreements began on March 22, 2010.

Publisher representatives presented the Union with two proposals, one for the Composing Room that in effect, reduced compensation by over fifty percent. The Editorial Department proposal would eliminate positions while permitting subcontracting and stringers to continue to be utilized. These proposals had not changed since March, 2010. At the November 23rd meeting, the Publisher's representatives told the Union that without agreement to the newspaper's initial proposals, the Polish Daily News would close. When Union representatives inquired about cost saving measures being taken in unorganized departments, the Company announced no reductions had taken place.

No. 16 views these Publisher proposals very seriously. The Union had made concessions in subcontracting and stringers over numerous earlier negotiations. The Union required in return and received employment security for those concessions and it is very unlikely these arrangements could be separated.

Students attending the first year of business school, learn that companies cutting employees in order to produce profits, will not work for any length of time. I also learned in my early days working for the Union, that the company had the right to mismanage their own company. Newspaper Committee Chairman, John A. Martin, pounded that lesson in me time and time again.

Although, I was convinced that Alliance Printers & Publishers had no intention of reaching an agreement, but rather finding a scape-goat for closing the paper, the Union made one more attempt to call out the Publisher on their demands.

Giving the Publisher the benefit of the doubt, Union negotiators produced a comprehensive proposal, giving the newspaper nearly all of their demands, including the right to use subcontracting, while members are voluntary laid off. The proposal was sent to the Polish Daily News on December 2nd and on December 7th by letter. The Publisher rejected the Union proposal, saying "the Employer does not consider the Union's latest proposals to offer a basis for sustaining the newspaper's operations in the near term."

Well, it did not take long to figure out just what the Publisher's real motive was and the Union will not be a scape-goat for Publisher Frank Spula. No. 16 has had collective bargaining agreements with the Polish Daily News since 1923.

A grievance has been filed against the Polish Daily News for their failure to bargain in good faith, as required under the Collective Bargaining Agreements.

Ring up sale number six for the Chicago Sun-Times, after being sold to an investor group in late December. In the fall of 2009, another investment group headed by Mesirow Financial Holdings, Inc. CEO James Tyree took the paper out of bankruptcy for five million in cash and the assumption of \$20 million in debt. As members will recall, No. 16 was the last Union to approve that deal in order to save the paper. Mr. Tyree passed away suddenly last March, leaving the paper with no clear direction.

Sun-Times CEO Jeremy Halbreich became chairman upon the death of Tyree. His direction for the paper was to layoff more employees, subcontract every work function where possible and sell off assets, while collecting a fat pay check. That came to an end with the sale of the paper. Over 450 Union workers lost their jobs at the Sun-Times just this last November.

A Chicago business publication reported the payoff. The Sun-Times purchase price to Wrapports LLC, was between \$32 million and \$35 million. Add that amount to the sale of \$25 million in assets, which comes to a \$60 million return in fourteen months for the Tyree investors.

In last month's Reporter I criticized Sun-Times management for stripping the

newspaper of valuable content. Now that the Tribune is printing the Sun-Times, the color pages are not registered and the paper looks like it came off a mimeograph machine. I only hope that the new management will reverse that failed strategy. We wish the new owners well.

Since Marshall Field III introduced the Chicago Sun in 1941, this will be the sixth sale of the paper. In 1984 the Field family sold the paper to Rupert Murdoch for an estimated \$90 million dollars. Murdoch was forced to sell the paper in 1986 when he purchased television station WFLD. The paper was sold to a group headed by Robert Page for a short period, then sold to the investment group of Adler & Shaykin for \$145 million. On March 31, 1994, the paper was sold once again to the American Publishing Co., a U.S. subsidiary of Vancouver based Hollinger, Inc.

The CWA Joe Beirne Foundation was established in October 1974, in memory of the founding President of the Communications Workers of America.

Every January, the local announces the kick off of applications for the fifteen (15) college scholarships of \$3,000 each to be used towards state colleges, universities, private institutions and community colleges. This is the only scholarship program offered where grandchildren of working and retired members are eligible. Please find instructions on page 3 of this Reporter.

On behalf of the Officers of No. 16, I want to thank those members that support the program through their contribution to the CWA Joe Beirne Foundation.

Next time you're in the store shopping, before you buy the product that is labeled "Made in China," ask yourself if you would still be willing to make the purchase if the label indicated "Made in Communist China." After all, that's where good paying American jobs are being exported, while destroying the middle class way of life.

Thank you No. 16, thank you for your vote of confidence in the last local election. Be assured we will continue the awesome responsibility of maintaining the highest degree of representation.

Wishing all our members and their families, a Happy Easter and Happy Passover.

*Fraternally,
Steven D. Berman, President*

Executive Committee Report

Monday, October 10, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Steven Berman. All members were present or teleconferenced, except President Berman. (All recommendations are unanimous unless otherwise indicated).

Recommendations:

1. Approval of the payment of all bills for the period ending September 30, 2011.
2. Approval of Regular Union Meeting Minutes for September 25, 2011.
3. Approval of \$100 donation to the Peggy Browning Fund.

Executive Committee Report

Monday, November 14, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Steven Berman. All members were present or teleconferenced. (All recommendations are unanimous unless otherwise indicated).

Recommendations:

1. Approval of the payment of all bills for the period ending October 31, 2011.

Executive Committee Report

Monday, December 12, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Steven D. Berman. All members were present or teleconferenced. (All recommendations are unanimous unless otherwise indicated).

Recommendations:

1. Approval of the payment of all bills for the period ending November 30, 2011.
2. Approval of Christmas gifts to service employees not to exceed \$75.

Executive Committee Report

Monday, January 3, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Steven D. Berman. All members were present or teleconferenced. (All recommendations are unanimous unless otherwise indicated).

Recommendations:

1. Approval of the payment of all bills for the period ending December 31, 2011.
2. Approval of 2012 Budget (Printed elsewhere in this Reporter).
3. Approval of Cook County Sheriff's Department Negotiated Contract.

Organization Meeting of the Executive Committee

1. Marcel Skonieczny was elected Secretary of the Committee
2. The following two members were elected to the subcommittee on Expenditures: Paul Lehrer and Norbert Bernauer.
3. The following two members were elected to the subcommittee on Membership: Norbert Bernauer and Michelle Tovo.
4. The following two members were elected to the subcommittee on Dues and Revenue: Steven Berman and Michelle Tovo.
5. Motion was adopted that past practice of recording as official minutes only formal actions adopted by the Executive Committee be reported.
6. Motion was adopted that the Executive Committee continue to receive all current publications.
7. Motion was adopted that meetings of the Executive Committee convene at 9:00 a.m.
8. Motion was adopted that Union meeting minutes record only motions, points of order, points of information, rulings and pertinent information to explain foregoing, if necessary.

*Secretary-
Treasurer's
Column
By Michelle
Tovo*



I have sent out some retiree letters with returned envelopes. I am still sending out letters, so please do not panic. If you do not get yours by the end of the month, please call my office at 219-345-2183. Please make checks payable to Chicago Typographical Union No. 16.

Members please note, it is very important if you have moved or made any changes in information we have on file let the Union know. Please call us and update that information.

Our website has a directory link. We do get phone calls from businesses looking for union shops. If you would like to have your email, fax or any details about what your shop interests are, please notify headquarters.

Due to the continued rising cost of postage, monthly Proprietor dues reminder will no longer be mailed out. Instead the monthly dues rates notices will appear in each *REPORTER* and should be maintained for future reference. Call 847-247-8855 if you have any questions.

Chapel Chairmen elections will be held in accordance with the Local Bylaws, adopted by the membership in attendance at the regular Union meeting held Sunday, June 29, 1980, which read as follows: "Sec.44. (a) Election of a chairman, to serve for a term of six months, shall be held in each Chapel within two weeks of

**NOTICE TO RETIREES
ANNUAL DUES TABLE**

Retirees—Less than 60 Years Membership—as CWA Members	
Local	\$ 20.40
CWA	24.00
Total	\$ 44.40
Retirees—Less than 60 Years Membership—Not CWA Members	
Local	\$ 20.40
Total	\$ 20.40
Retirees—More than 60 Years Membership—as CWA Members	
CWA	\$ 24.00
Total	\$ 24.00
Retirees—More than 60 Years Membership—Not CWA Members	
Local	\$ 12.00
Total	\$ 12.00

January 1 and July 1 of each year. Chapels may adopt regulations permitting the election of a chairman to an annual term, such election to be held within two weeks of January 1 of each year. Voting shall be by ballot. A majority shall be necessary to elect. Date for nominations and voting procedures shall be set by chapel action." All Chairmen should employ stringent security measures to protect Union funds. Chairmen will be reimbursed for stolen Union funds only if they adhere to all conditions contained in our insurance policy.

Whenever Union funds are not under direct control of the Chapel Chairmen, they must be kept in a locked safe. Our insurance policy will not accept liability for losses when funds are kept in a locked desk, cash box, locker or similar depository. Theft must be reported immediately to the police.

Fraternally, *Michelle Tovo*

CHICAGO TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION No. 16 ANNUAL BUDGET

General Fund	Expenditures	Budget
	2011	2012
Officers	\$120,057.00	100,000.00
Executive Committee	3,821.00	3,821.00
Board of Trustees	150.00	150.00
Recording Secretary	195.00	195.00
Employer's FICA	9,963.00	9,500.00
State Unemployment Taxes	816.00	800.00
Federal Unemployment Taxes	478.00	450.00
Health and Welfare	16,204.00	6,540.00
CWA/ITU Negotiated Pension Plan	6,279.00	6,100.00
Newspaper Scale Committee	279.00	400.00
Job Scale Committee	60.00	200.00
Organization	600.00	500.00
Rent and Maintenance	8,970.00	8,340.00
Postage-Reporter and Mailing	2,329.00	2,000.00
Printing-Reporter, Envelopes and Letterhead	4,600.00	4,000.00
Office Supplies, Computer Expense	1,635.00	1,500.00
Utilities	362.00	400.00
Telephone	2,907.00	2,900.00
Delegate to Conferences and Convention	2,701.00	—
Professional Services	17,275.00	13,000.00
Per Capital Tax	1,855.00	1,480.00
Donations	300.00	500.00
Other Committees	—	100.00
Election Expense	0.00	—
Miscellaneous	600.00	300.00
Insurance, Dishonesty Bond	1,884.00	1884.00
CWA Registration Fee	10.00	20.00
CWA Supplies	89.00	150.00
Total Expenditures.....	\$204,419.00	\$165,250.00

SCHOLARSHIPS

CWA Joe Beirne Foundation Scholarship Program— 2012-2013 School Year

The Communications Workers of America are ready once again to kick off the Joe Beirne Foundation Scholarship Program for the 2012-2013 school year.

The Foundation's Board of Directors has approved the following:

- Fifteen (15) partial college scholarships of up to \$3,000 each, and the winners also will receive second-year scholarships for the same amount, contingent upon satisfactory academic achievement.
- Eligible for scholarships are CWA members and their spouses, children and grandchildren, including the dependents of retired, laid off, or deceased members. Applicants must be high school graduates or high school students who will graduate during the year in which they apply. Undergraduate and graduate students returning to school may also apply.

Applications will be available **solely online** for completion and submission to the Foundations's website:

www.cwa-union.org/members/beirne

Applications will be accepted until March 31, 2012—the final deadline. Early submission of applications is encouraged. The winners will be chosen by lottery from those submitting the required essay. Additional information about the program can be found at the website.

William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship Awards

The Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO is pleased to announce that it will once again offer five students the chance to win a \$2,000 cash scholarship award.

Through the William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship, applicants can choose to compete for academic awards based on their grades, extra-curricular activities and college entrance exams, or be placed in a random drawing for scholarship prizes.

The rules governing the application process this year require that all students must graduate from a Chicago or surrounding suburban area high school in 2012. In addition, they must belong, or have one of their parents belong, to a CFL affiliated union (such as, the Chicago Typographical Union).

To apply, students must request an application by filling out the form on this page, or by making a copy of this form, and sending it to:

William A. Lee Memorial
Scholarship Committee
Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
130 East Randolph, Suite 2600
Chicago, Illinois 60601

No phone calls will be accepted for application requests. Also, each student must choose either the academic application or random drawing form. They will not receive both.

To be eligible for the scholarship awards, the completed application must be returned to the CFL office by March 1, 2012. Any application received by the CFL post-marked after this date or any incomplete applications, without exception, will be disqualified.

Please note that students must obtain the signature of either of the two top officers of the union they or their parents are represented by as verification of their union membership.

Good luck to the Class of 2012!

CFL SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST FOR APPLICATION

Mail to: William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship Committee,
Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
130 E. Randolph, Suite 2600, Chicago, IL 60601

APPLICANTS MUST SELECT ONLY ONE OF THESE CHOICES:

___ I wish to participate in the academic competition for the CFL William A. Lee Scholarship Program.

___ I wish to participate in the random drawing for the CFL William A. Lee Scholarship Program.

Name: _____

Union Affiliation (applicant or parent): _____

Home Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

NOTICE

Pursuant to the motion adopted unanimously during the September 25, 2011 Union meeting, the following three members were declared by the meeting as elected to the Election Board for a three-year term of office.

*Shane Anderson, David Rezendes,
Eugene Sefanski*

Pursuant to the motion adopted unanimously during the September 25, 2011 Union meeting, the following members were declared by the meeting as elected officers of the Union for a three-year term of office beginning January 1, 2012:

President: Steven D. Berman
Vice President: Dan Sommers
Secretary-Treasurer: Michelle Tovo
Executive Committee: Paul Lehrer, Marcel Skonieczny, Norbert Bernauer
Chairman Board of Trustees: Edward Shonk
Member, Board of Trustees: Robert Pacione
Delegates to Sector Conference/CWA Convention: Steven D. Berman, Michelle Tovo
Alternate Delegates: Dan Sommers, Marcel Skonieczny

Adopted Law Change Correction

The last Reporter, reported the President's weekly wages incorrectly. Following is the correct law change.

Article VII-Salaries

Section 1. (a) President shall receive \$1,354.85 weekly, \$270.97 daily, \$38.71 per hour, for hours worked during each week employed by the Union.

(b) Secretary-Treasurer shall receive \$1,354.85 weekly, including a paid vacation.

(c) Vice President shall receive \$987.35 weekly, \$197.47 daily, \$28.21 an hour, for hours worked during each week employed by the Union.

(d) An Executive Committee member shall receive for each meeting attended \$102.20 and the Secretary of the Executive Committee shall receive \$116.66 for each meeting attended.

Changes became effective January 1, 2012

The Reporter is the Official Publication of
Chicago Typographical Union

No. 16/CWA 14408
Organized 1852

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Michelle Tovo, Secretary-Treasurer, Editor

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OFFICERS

STEVEN D. BERMAN President
DAN SOMMERS Vice President
MICHELLE TOVO Secretary-Treasurer

Executive Committee—Paul Lehrer, Marcel Skonieczny, Norbert Bernauer.

Board of Trustees—Edward Shonk (Chairman); Robert Pacione.

Election Board—Lee Walsh (Chairman); Robert Pacione.

Internet home page: www.chicagotypographical.org
Send Your E-Mail to ChiTypo@sbcglobal.net

Death Roll

Pinzke, Arthur, Pensioner formerly LaSalle Crittenden, died August 18, 2011, aged 94. Initiated by CTU on February 23, 1947.

Kahle, Eugene, F., Pensioner formerly Commerce Clearing House, died August 25, 2011, aged 86. Initiated by CTU on December 15, 1952.

Bulfin, James, Pensioner formerly Chicago Sun-Times, died September 5, 2011, aged 71. Initiated by CTU on July 26, 1970.

Frueh, William, D., Pensioner formerly Ryder Types, died September 16, 2011, aged 67. Initiated by CTU on January 1, 1969.

Armbrust, John, W., Pensioner formerly Chicago Sun-Times, died September 21, 2011, aged 90. Initiated by CTU on October 29, 1950.

DUES

Months of January, February and April 2012 – 2.61%

MEMBERS working at the trade

CWA, .61% No. 16, 2%

PROPRIETOR Members at the Trade

CWA .61% \$16.60

No. 16 2% 61.40

Total \$78.00

**PROPRIETORS and Members
Not at Trade**

CWA \$10.00

No. 16 2% 56.33

Total \$66.33

DUES

Month March, 2012 – 2.61%

MEMBERS working at the trade

CWA, .61% No. 16, 2%

PROPRIETOR Members at the Trade

CWA .61% \$16.60

No. 16 2% 80.90

Total \$97.50

**PROPRIETORS and Members
Not at Trade**

CWA \$10.00

No. 16 2% 70.34

Total \$80.34

HOLIDAY CLOSING

Union Headquarters will be closed on Monday, February 20, 2012, the day legally observed as Presidents' Day, in accordance with action taken at the January, 1969 Regular Union meeting.

DONATIONS

On behalf of the Union, the undersigned acknowledges with sincere appreciation donations made by members and received during the month of November, 2011.

Michelle Tovo, Secretary-Treasurer

November, 2011

CTU No. 16 Donation

Michelle Malek (In memory of
Ron Heiser) \$ 25.00
\$ 25.00

UPH Donation

Edward Kusmider..... \$ 20.00
\$ 20.00

New Members

Brian Nast, Bill O'Brien, and Bob Smith, Advantage Sign & Graphics, were initiated on September 1, 2011.

Anthony Davis, DiShondra Strickland, and Sandtricia Strickland, Essential Creations, Inc., were initiated on October 1, 2011.

Sarah Allison, Joe Hernandez, and Paul Zittnan, Minuteman Press, Deerfield, were initiated on November 1, 2011.

New Shops

We welcome into the local, **Advantage Sign & Graphics**, 6223 Hohman Avenue, Hammond, Indiana. Allied Label No.143 has been awarded.

We welcome into the local, **Essential Creations, Inc.**, 809 East 82nd Street, Chicago, Illinois 60619. Allied Label No. 405 has been awarded.

We welcome into the local, **Minuteman Press Deerfield**, 20574 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Deerfield, Illinois 60015. Allied Label No. 200 has been awarded.

PROTECT YOUR BENEFITS

No. 16 spends a great deal of resources to negotiate improved wages and benefits. It is essential that every member police his or her contract and report violations as soon as possible.

**CHICAGO TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION NO. 16/CWA 14408
1580 S. MILWAUKEE AVENUE • SUITE 208
LIBERTYVILLE, ILLINOIS 60048**

REGULAR UNION MEETING

Sunday, Jan. 29, 2012
10:00 a.m.

Hilltop Executive Offices

1580 S. Milwaukee Avenue
2nd Floor, Room 210
Libertyville, Illinois

Calendar of Meetings

(At headquarters unless otherwise noted)

Executive Committee –

9:00 a.m., Monday, February 13, 2012

9:00 a.m., Monday, March 12, 2012

9:00 a.m., Monday, April 9, 2012

9:00 a.m., Monday, May 7, 2012

General Membership Meeting –

May 20, 2012, 10:00 a.m.

Reporter deadline – 12 noon, Wednesday, May 9, 2012.

Amos Jay Cummings Post

The Post meetings have moved to the Harold Washington Library, Van Buren and Wabash, 5th floor - room 5 south - section Government Publication, at 11:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of the month.

The next meetings of the Post are scheduled for February 1st, 2012, March 7th, 2012, April 4th 2012 and May 2nd 2012.

News and Comments

Congratulations to January 50-year **Robert Healy**; to February 60-year member **Charles Mason, Edwin Bisinger and Earl Butler**; 50-year members **Andrew Russell and George Kutilek**.

Our sincerest sympathies to **Donald Bachar** (Retiree), on the death of his wife.

(Pins and Certificates will be **MAILED** out to those who are receiving them)

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