



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

When I took over the AEEF Presidency in a tumultuous time at the Foundation, I was reluctant and didn't know what to expect. But I found that with a great team and hard work in support of the members, a contract could be accomplished and we could move on as a union. Although often challenging, the experience has been very satisfying.

As we continue the "experiment in trust" with the Foundation, it is vital that we stay the course to keep our voice. Therefore, I encourage every member to get active and to encourage your fellow members to be active. If you have an interest in running for office, now is the time to step up. If anyone you know is interested in becoming an officer, now is the time to nominate them. Together, we can stay the course, move forward, and remain a vital part of the Foundation.

Your President,

Charlie

2014 ELECTION UPDATE

2014 Election Schedule

Nominations November 3-10

Fall Meeting November 19

Balloting December 9-16

Election Committee

Dennis Bruno dennis_bruno@wgbh.org

Lynn Mason lynn_mason@wgbh.org

Please email a member of the Election Committee to nominate yourself or another member for a union office.

2014 Election Update – Nominations Now Open

If you're considering running for one of the four union officer positions, here's a quick primer on what they are.

The AEEF is governed by four officers, who are elected annually: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Typically, the AEEF officers function very much as a team. In consultation with Business Agent Joe Montagna (himself a former WGBH employee and AEEF president) and CWA International Representative Marian Needham, the officers meet regularly to discuss any pending union business or issues and develop plans for addressing members' needs and concerns.

The officers and the shop stewards form the Executive Board, which periodically meets to discuss matters affecting the union and recommend how best to advance the interests of AEEF members at WGBH. During contract negotiations, the officers form the core of the Union's Bargaining Committee and are responsible for the enforcement of any agreements reached with WGBH. When

necessary, the officers, either individually or together, represent the AEEF or individual members in meetings with management.

While the officers tend to govern as a team, each does have specific responsibilities that are often carried out with the assistance of the Business Agent, who works under their direction:

PRESIDENT

The President presides over meetings of the officers, Executive Board, and membership. He or she co-authorizes expenditures with the Treasurer, supervises and directs the Business Agent, and represents the Union in meetings with management. In addition, the President serves as a CWA Delegate to any international and/or district proceedings.

VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President assists the President as needed and assumes the President's powers and duties in the event of his or her absence. The Vice President also serves as a CWA Delegate to any international and/or district proceedings.

SECRETARY

The Secretary is responsible for maintaining meeting minutes, union correspondence in coordination with the Business Agent, and non-financial records. He or she also serves as an alternate CWA Delegate.

TREASURER

The Treasurer has custody of the union's funds and co-authorizes all expenditures with the President. He or she oversees the collection of dues, and is responsible for disbursement of monies with authorization of the Executive Board when necessary or prudent. He or she also serves as an alternate CWA Delegate.

From AEEF Officers, Past and Present

"As an officer, you are a trusted ally for your coworkers, doing good, hard work that helps makes WGBH a better place to build a career."

-Kate Becker, Senior Researcher for NOVA

(Secretary, 2012)

"Serving as an AEEF officer was a worthwhile experience. It provided a valuable inside look at the way things work and an appreciation for our negotiated terms of employment, which I, for one, will never take for granted. Each of us has the right to a voice in that process, and should be heard!"

-Olivia Wong, Senior Account Executive for Masterpiece

(Vice President, 2009-2012)

"Serving as an officer of AEEF, and then as President, was one of the most compelling experiences of my life. It is a real-world laboratory for learning about group dynamics, democratic processes, and leadership attributes. It will also clarify how a union actually functions, how it can bring together diverse interests for common goals, and how people can collaborate to achieve collective

dreams. If a challenge is what you want, there is no better.”

-Jordan Weinstein, Host and Producer for WGBH-FM/News

(President, 2008-2012)

“I really enjoyed my years as Treasurer of the AEEF because I got to know so many ‘GBHers across the Foundation. I found people’s skills, creativity and commitment to their projects to be a continuing source of inspiration. Of course there were challenges along the way, but the opportunity to make a difference in your workplace and the potential to improve the work experience of your colleagues is unique and rewarding.”

-Bryan Gould, Director of Accessible Learning and Assessment Technologies for NCAM

(Treasurer, 2006-2008)

“Any successful professional will confirm the value of networking when it comes to developing a career. With all of us busy with our own responsibilities under tight deadlines, we don’t have much of an opportunity to expand our networks beyond our small circles. In part, I became a steward, and then an officer, to get to know some of the many talented, creative people here. Working with the other officers and the New Directions team, we’ve instituted ways that we can all get to know one another better – our monthly Unwinder at the Lincoln pub, occasional bicycle excursions, and the recent cookout at Herter Park are a few examples. Establishing connections with each other, and becoming familiar with each other’s work and departments, help to build a strong union so that we are better able to advocate for what we deserve as hard-working, dedicated employees. As an officer, I’m proud to be part of the effort to make that happen. Anyone who joins the officer team will find a rich, rewarding experience shared with amazing co-workers.”

-Jan Stankus, Describer, MAG

(Secretary, 2008-2009, 2013-2014)

“Looking back at my decision to become an officer after being employed at WGBH for only a short time, I can honestly say it was an important choice. Not only did it allow me to meet fellow workers across the Foundation, it necessitated constant communication among them. I learned important negotiation skills while gaining a vital sense of self-empowerment. Most of all, it proved to me that one can have an effect on the environment that you live and work in, and that your input (no matter how small it may seem) is valuable and worthwhile. I feel that this is important not only for WGBH at this this time, but also for the world.”

-Eric Gulliver, Assistant Editor for WGBH Outpost

(Treasurer, 2012-2014)

“Becoming an AEEF officer was an extremely rewarding experience. I’ve learned so much more about the Foundation and the people who work here. It was an absolute honor to work with such positive and engaging folks. You’d be surprised how many people thank you for your time and effort. Although I will not be running again, having a couple years before our next bargaining makes this the perfect time for someone new to come in and focus on bringing our members together in a positive way.”

-Elias Mallette, TV Director

(Vice President, 2012-2014)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(If you have a personal, creative event or performance you’d like listed in an upcoming newsletter, email Business Agent Joe Montagna at joeyam@igc.org.)

Monday, November 3

AEEF Nominations OPEN

Thursday November 6

New Directions Think Tank

12:00 pm in Chamberlain/5W

Monday, November 10

AEEF Nominations CLOSE

Thursday, November 13

Executive Board meeting

12:00 pm in Chamberlain/5W

Thursday November 20

New Directions Committee

12:00 pm in Chamberlain/5W

Thursday, November 27

Happy Thanksgiving!

Tuesday, December 9 – December 16

2014 AEEF Officer Election

The AEEF News is published by the New Directions Committee of AEEF-CWA Local 1300. To write, edit, or help with production contact Marc Cohen at marc_cohen@wgbh.org (x5402) or Jan Stankus at janet_stankus@wgbh.org (x3499)

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