

f o r u n



Local 32035

Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild

Jan. 16, 2009

Front Page, Guild Service Awards Competition Deadline: Feb. 13

Once again, it's time to honor the best by the best ... through the Front Page Awards competition of the Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild.

These awards honor the best work of rank-and-file workers covered by a Guild contract. The work must have been published or publicly used in 2008, and any employee of one of our bargaining units is eligible to enter, as are at-large members. Also eligible are those who were Guild members last year but have since left their positions via buyouts, resignations, promotions, etc.

We also have Guild Service awards, honoring outstanding dedication to the workers and causes that the Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild stands for.

The Front Page Awards honor the best work done by members in our bargaining units for their employers. All entries are free, and as many as three works may be entered in a single category. *Two* copies of each entry must be submitted to the judges and while published clippings are preferred, electronic versions, such as PDFs, are permitted.

Judges have the right to move entries into different categories, and also have the discretion to not confer an award in every category.

The Front Page Awards are open to all WBNB members, including those who do not work under a Guild-negotiated agreement. Guild members who win in their respective categories are eligible for the Grand Prizes in writing, photography and design.

If you were bought out, laid off, promoted to an exempt spot, or even dismissed during calendar 2008, you may still be eligible to enter as long as your submitted work was performed while you were under the Guild contract. If you're still in touch with one-time Guild colleagues in this situation, let them know that they, too, can be winners.

But in order to win, you've got to enter.

If you are entering material for consideration in other awards forums, such as the Pulitzers, you really should also enter it in the Front Page Awards.

All entries must be received no later than the close of business on Friday, Feb. 13. You can deliver them in person, or mail them, to: Front Page Awards, Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild, 1100 15th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20005. The handy, printable entry form at the local's Web site, www.wbng.org, should be attached to each entry. Please specify the category in which your entry is being submitted.

The Awards

Writing: Morton Mintz Award for Investigative Reporting; Bernie Harrison Memorial Award for Commentary; Frank C. Porter Memorial Award for Labor and Business Reporting; Criticism; Feature Writing; Headline Writing; International News Reporting; Local News Reporting; National News Reporting; Non-Daily Specialized Technical Reporting; Public Service Reporting; Sports Reporting; (Labor) Unit Publication.

Photography: Feature Photography; Local News Photography; National News Photography; Picture Story; Portrait Photography; Sports Photography.

Art: Advertising Design; Editorial Cartooning; Illustration Design; Labor Promotional Campaign; Marketing and Promotion Design; News Graphics Design; Web-Site Design.

(A separate non-editorial Front Page Award is given for Customer Service Professional of the Year.)

Individual Grand Prize winners will be selected from among the winners of the individual Front Page Award categories. You do not have to submit separate entries for the: Bill Pryor Memorial Grand Prize for Writing; Bill Pryor Memorial Grand Prize for Photography; John Albano Memorial Grand Prize for Art.

The awards ceremony will be held in early Spring in Baltimore. If you have questions, contact Front Page Awards Committee Chair Mark Gruenberg (202-898-4825 or press_associates@yahoo.com). He's also looking for a co-chair (hint, hint).

Guild Service Awards

The Guild Service Awards honor the best work by members on behalf of their fellow Guild members in their units, the union, and the community.

Any Washington-Baltimore Guild member in good standing may be nominated for a Guild Service Award, and any member in good standing may write a nomination letter outlining the nominee's achievements. All Guild Service Award categories, as well as the

Customer Service Professional of the Year category in the Front Page Awards, need a nomination letter spelling out the nominee's activities. Those awards are: Dan de Souza Memorial Award for **Member of the Year**; Nadine Grinder Memorial Award for **Shop Steward of the Year**; **Unit Officer of the Year**; **Organizer of the Year**; **Bargaining Unit of the Year**; Herb Block Award for **Community Service**.

President's Perspective

So what comes after a career as a reporter?

For me, it's a new career as a creditor.

I took a buyout last March, after 39 years as a journalist. Given the state of the industry, my new gig, representing the Guild on the creditors' committee in the Tribune bankruptcy, seems somehow fitting.

It's a transition in my Guild involvement as well. My term as president of the local ends this month. (And congratulations and good luck to Mark Pattison, who becomes president Jan. 31, and to the other new and returning officers.) This transition, too, seems somehow fitting.

Sad as it is to realize, participation on the creditors' committee is an important way the Guild can serve and protect its members in 2009. The Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild is one of nine committee members, along with J.P. Morgan, Merrill Lynch, Warner Brothers, and the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation. The committee gets to review (and, eventually, support or raise objections) to Tribune's plans to reorganize itself and emerge from bankruptcy. We may not be happy with everything that transpires, but having a literal seat at the table – unusual for unions in a bankruptcy – gives us a better shot at protecting our pay, our benefits and other contractual rights.

While the state of the industry is depressing, I'm proud that the Guild and our parent union, the Communications Workers of America, are being proactive. Guild headquarters and CWA helped us rush a lawyer to Wilmington to protect our members. Beyond that, the Guild and other CWA media sectors met this past weekend to learn and plan for other responses to the state of the industry – alternative ownership models, training for our members in new media, and new ways to collaborate with management to allow journalism to survive and thrive.

In this climate, the Guild is not in a position to deliver on hefty raises and richer benefits. But it's more important than ever in protecting what we have. And it has to assume an aggressive new role in defending not just our pay scales and benefits, but quality journalism.

– *Bill Salganik*

OFFICIAL NOTICE

**Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild Membership Meeting
Jan. 31, 10 a.m., CWA Headquarters, 501 3rd St. NW, Washington D.C.**

**Agenda includes installation of 2009-10 Executive Council;
report from TNG-CWA Bernie Lunzer on the Jan. 10-12 media-sectors
jobs summit; and nominations for TNG and CWA gatherings in June.**

Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild
CWA Local 32035, AFL-CIO, CLC
1100 15th St. NW, Suite 350
Washington, D.C. 20005-1707

Address Correction Requested

G U I L D

forum

The **Guild Forum** is published by the Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild, 1100 15th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington, D.C. 20005-1707. Tel.: 202-785-3650
Web Site: www.wbng.org

WBNG is Local 35 of The Newspaper Guild; Local 32035 of the Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO, CLC. WBNG is solely responsible for **Guild Forum** content.

LOCAL 35 OFFICERS

President: Mark Pattison

mpattison@catholicnews.com

Vice President: J. Darlene Meyer

dmeyer@wbng.org

Secretary: Mark Gruenberg

press_associates@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Sheila Lindsay

slindsay@ana.org

WBNG STAFF

Cet Parks, Administrative Officer

cparks@wbng.org

Rick Ehrmann, Local Representative

rehrmann@wbng.org

Paul Reilly, Local Representative

preilly@wbng.org

Joe Kahraman, Local Rep./Organizer

jkahraman@wbng.org

Nancy Banks, Office Manager

nbanks@wbng.org

Elsie Thull, Bookkeeper

ethull@wbng.org