



May 20, 2010

Telling our Stories Project

This week marks the launch of the website where some of our co-workers laid off last spring recall their time at the paper. The projects run the gamut from a video profile of a current staff photographer to the painful recollection of the day an ex-critic was told to leave permanently.

The website was conceived and funded by the Writers Guild of America, East Foundation, which has a mission of perpetuating the art and craft of storytelling. Essentially, the organization wanted to give former Sun employees an outlet to discuss their time here through creative work. The fellows include reporters, editors, critics, copy editors, photographers, designers, advertising salespeople and marketing researchers. All were given creative license to tell their stories as they saw fit, and the experiences as a whole, are heartwarming.

The fellows were awarded a stipend for their work. The \$563 raised the night of The Guild's reception honoring the displaced workers last May added to the project. No Guild dues, however, were used for the project. A generous donor sponsored the project through the WGAE.

The Guild, though, is helping to promote the site, and the stories can be read here at <http://wbng.org/stories/index.html>.

Pay for Performance

By the end of next month, an arbitrator will likely rule whether The Sun miscalculated in its distribution of Pay For Performance money each year since 2005. In making the our case, we argued that the Sun must pay employees all the money from the annual PFP pools.

Garage Woes

The Guild has filed a grievance over the increase in parking garage fees, and the case is scheduled to go before an arbitrator in August. As with PFP, if the arbitrator rules in the Guild's favor, the Sun will have to back pay employees for the increase. As many of you can tell, work is being done now to repair the garage on the second floor. Sun management said the work will be complete this fall.

- Brent Jones