



CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

UPDATE #11

RELIEF OF UNION DUES (UPDATE 4-6-2020)

Dear Members,

We hope all of you and your loved ones are managing to stay healthy and finding ways to sustain hope for the inevitable end of this pandemic. We are indeed facing an unprecedented crisis, certainly unlike anything our union has ever had to endure. We are pleased many of you are fortunate enough to have transitioned to work at home and others remain on payroll from the generosity of some employers. Those of you still reporting to work sites, the employer must ensure your safety. Any concerns you have should be directed to our Field Representatives. We also recognize many of you lost work and, therefore, your incomes. As challenging as it has been, we are keenly aware this could get worse for many of our members before it gets better. Throughout these last few weeks, our Guild staff, our Board Members and Officers have continued to provide the membership with day-to-day information on available resources and support in addition to implementing new tools specific to the ramifications of this pandemic. But there is much still to be done to see us through, and, eventually, to rebounding as a society and as an industry.

We had a virtual Board of Directors meeting on Saturday, April 4. Among the many things discussed, the primary focus was assessing the needs of our membership under the current circumstances with a view toward the long-term. Income from member dues is the only source of revenue we can rely on to cover the Guild's day-to-day business operations. We do, of course, have an investment account set aside to provide a safety net. Our investment strategy has been conservative so we can endure the bear markets. Considering what is currently going on, we are doing better than many others, but this type of turbulence was never anticipated and the instability and uncertainty of duration causes us to be all the more cautious. We are, and will continue to, diligently weigh the funds necessary to provide continued support to our membership while maintaining the most prudent financial reserves. With all of this in mind, there was unanimous support of a motion to waive 50% of 2nd quarter 2020 dues and per capita for active members. In addition, if you pay by credit card, the Local 700 Board voted to absorb the usual \$7 processing fee. We will continue to evaluate the need for relief of union dues for future billing cycles.

The accounting staff will be reaching out individually to those of you who have fallen behind in paying your dues for more than one quarter to help facilitate continuing good standing. If you are current in your dues payments, but are in a particularly challenged situation, once you receive your quarterly dues bill later this week, you may of course reach out to our staff to discuss options.

We will closely monitor the financial impact the pandemic is having on our members and on Guild resources. We are prepared to make non-essential cost-cutting measures in spending and weigh utilizing some of our reserves if necessary.

Your health and welfare are our top priorities. We have come together as a union in the past, and have risen to the occasion. We will do that now, and we will all do whatever is necessary to help each other through this challenging time.

In solidarity,

Alan Heim, ACE
President

Cathy Repola
National Executive Director

Keep updated with information pertaining to the coronavirus: www.editorsguild.com/coronavirus-information

MOTION PICTURE EDITORS GUILD

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