

Jim Wilson, Executive Director

In short, the Executive Director is the Business Manager of the organization. August 2022 marked the beginning of my 22nd year in the position. My association with the organization goes back to 1982.



The longer version of my duties includes the following: I'm responsible for an office which communicates with chapters and members, provides promotional material, plans conventions, tries to recruit new chapters and organizes events. Legal and financial records as well as several databases are updated regularly. We file documents with the IRS, review options for the future national conventions, negotiate contracts, prepare reports, participate in conference calls (with organizational leaders and members), communicate with members and external publics (about 400 e-mails and 50 phone calls a week during the school year), conduct accounts billable and receivable operations, maintain an organizational database, and manage corporate banking and documentation.

For nine years, the national office was located in the basement of my home. (It picked up the nickname Intergalactic Global World Headquarters.) In April 2012, on the evening of the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic, water from a heavy rainstorm flooded the basement and forced a relocation to an office building in Chesterfield, Missouri. During the summer of 2016, my wife (Randi) and I moved to a new home in Chesterfield where half of our basement now serves as the new IGWHQ.

The national office also warehouses four shelves of promotional materials, four shelves of AV equipment (used for the national conventions), five filing cabinets of documentation, three six-foot bookcases with 150 three-ring binders, three computers, two printers, four supply cabinets, and pictures of my family. Unfortunately, another heavy rainstorm flooded this office in early August 2020. This time, most items were moved and stacked on the upper shelves of the "warehouse."

Many things are changing in the organization. Several years of declining financial returns and the impact of Covid-19 are forcing change now. However, we expect to adapt and better meet the needs of our members and potential members through new initiatives and new partnerships. We have to adapt to help our members adjust to the changing needs of our profession.

My workload this year will be heavy until mid-April. Periodically my response time on calls and e-mails may be somewhat delayed.

I enjoy my job and I am gratified to have the privilege to work with people in this organization. I especially enjoy the opportunity to help open doors for those who will become the future leaders of media and our country.