

Retired Members of Local Union #134, I.B.E.W.

Retiree's Newsletter

January 2021

The purpose of this organization shall be to carry out the spirit of our brotherhood. To aid and assist each other as necessary and to promote the social, economic, health and welfare of its members and their families.

Mail all correspondence to Retiree's Club, 2722 S. Dr. Martin Luther Dr., Chicago, IL. 60616-2908.

Email: www.Local134chicago.com

Covid-19

Due to the Covid`19 Pandemic the printing and mailing of our monthly newsletter has been halted until further notice.

From The Podium

First off the bat, if any of our existing Retiree Club members or new members have not paid their 2021 dues, please send in a check to our Retiree Club Treasurer Bernard Martin, 8706 N. Olcott Ave, Niles Illinois, 60714-2024 (\$20 yearly fee for existing members and \$20 yearly fee plus \$2 initiation fee for new members.)

I would like to thank our Retiree Club's Commentary & Press Secretary Sue Klecka for her tribute to our late Retiree Member and past officer Lou Rodriguez in the December 2020 issue of the IBEW "The Electrical Worker," as well as the nice accompanying photograph of Lou. He is missed. We would also like to send our condolences to any member's families who have lost loved ones to Covid. Let us quit screwing around and get the damned vaccines out there PDQ, the majority of the fatalities are those of us over the age of 65. It is also a good time to shed some weight, exercise when possible and try to not give this virus an opportune time to prey on co-morbidity.

Gangbox Lawyer

FYI: Opinions expressed in this column are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the Retiree Club, the Local, or the I.O.

We finally have a true union member from the construction sector being nominated for Secretary of Labor, Marty Walsh.

He was the recent mayor of Boston but more importantly was president of the Laborer's local union prior to his mayorship. He has got some baggage but hopefully not enough to stop his nomination.

Highest on the Labor agenda for this new administration is passing the "Protecting the Right to Organize Act" (PRO ACT) (see the January issue, page 6, of "The Electrical Worker") for a summation of this bill. Though it is not powerful as the failed Employee Free Choice Act (Card Check) legislation of 2009, it is better than nothing. Please write and/or call your government representatives to pass this bill. Joe Biden owes us this one and I will tell you why.

When the Obama administration came in 2008, it had control of the Executive, the House, and the Senate. Additionally, it had 60 vote majority (ten or more) in the Senate making it filibuster proof. Labor had committed over a half a billion dollars and an extreme field organization in its drive to get this Card Check legislation passed (SIEU laid off ten percent of staff to donate funds for this cause.)

I mentioned Joe Biden as owing Labor because in 2009 he was in charge as then Vice President of rounding up the necessary votes. From what I uncovered was that Labor pulled back the pressure on the Obama administration to give him some breathing room in the initial year, and the economy was weak.

Lo and behold, big business did not sit on its hands, It launched a fierce campaign led by Walmart, Tyson, and the Chamber of Commerce that targeted the two middle of the road Arkansas Democratic Senators, Blanche Lincoln (daddy

was a rich cotton farmer) and Mark Pryor (lawyer with Walmart ties.) They flipped and were eventually joined by a couple other Senators. Labor's dream of unfettered organizing went up in smoke and as we have previously reported our percentage of unionization of the American workforce has continually shrunk, oh what might have been.

I bring this up because Labor has continually provided treasure and troops to what we perceive as our friends in government only to be let down time and time again. Like the battered partner in a domestic relationship, we keep going back for more. Samuel Gompers said to reward your friends and punish your enemies, so when is our turn to be rewarded for our loyalty. In past issues when I wrote about the need for Card Check I did not mention Joe Biden's name in his role in the failed attempt to pass Card Check under the Obama administration so as not to throw shade at him before the recent election. But now he is in as President with majorities in the House and a tie in the Senate with the VP as tie breaker, let's get it done... C'mon man!

In brotherhood
Jim Jennings

IN MEMORIAM

Clarence R Allen
Donald E Banks
Raymond J Bernat
William R Booth
Nathaniel C Brown
Martin Bueler
Ernesto Burlini
Joseph J Champion
Patrick J Casey
Joseph E Catuara
***Edward M Celler**
Antonio Ceron
Richard F Christ
Daniel A Crivellone
Fred R Derosa
Richard D Egan
Curt M Eisenstaedt
Daniel G Elenz
James A Ferrill
Michael J Fosco
Eugene J Gill
James Gottmann

***Robert R Hass**
***Terry L Harmon**
Daniel A Harrity
Joseph C Iacullo
George Kraenzle
Harold C Larson
Lucious S Latimer
George Lopata
Michael M Mashni
Michael H McCray
Richard J Mudra
Dorde G Ocasic
William Oeffling
Patrick J Purol
William E Rochford
John P Ryan
Robert W Sheehy
***Thomas J Speck**
Ralph Squillacioti
Paul E Todd
Richard M Weber
***Thaddeus W Wegner**
Bernard T Whitehead

Our condolences to the families of Retiree's Club Members:

**Edward M Celler
Robert R Hass
Terry L Harmon
Thomas J Speck
Thaddeus W Wegner.**

COVID 19 Notice:

People 65 years old are eligible to get the Covid 19 vaccine.

Don't wait to get an appointment.

Sign up somewhere today!

If you are a veteran call the VA's Maywood facility 708-202-7000 and request an appointment to receive the Covid 19 vaccine

Call the county in which you live to register for the vaccine.

Call CVS, Walgreen, Osco or Meier's

Check with your doctor.... Take action today

Too many retirees have suffered and even died from this REAL disease!!!

Our club's motto is: "THINK POSITIVE...STAY NEGATIVE"

Tex-Mex Red Chili Pot Roast

(serves four)

Ingredients

3-4lbs beef pot roast
2 cloves of garlic, minced
2 ½ cups of red chili sauce
1tsp cumin
1Tbsp dried oregano
1 onion chopped
cold water

Day before: Wash and trim roast and place it in a deep baking dish, adding the sauce, oregano, cumin and onion. Add sufficient cold water to cover the meat. Stir the ingredients to mix them, then cover the baking dish and marinate the roast overnight in the refrigerator.

Serving day:

Remove the roast from the refrigerator and let it come to room temperature.

Place it in a 125 degree oven and roast for at least three hours until very tender. **Serve**

Dues Renewal Notice 2021

You can pay your 2021 club membership dues by filling in the form below and send it to Bernard Martin along with a check for \$20.00, made payable to the Retiree Club Local 134.

Note: Widows of deceased members of our club are considered associate members and DO NOT PAY DUES.

Please Print

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Please fill in all current information so we can update our records.

Mail to: Bernard Martin

8706 N. Olcott Ave

Niles, IL 60714

If you have a second address where you spend time for several months please notify us of that address and duration of your stay. We will gladly re-route your newsletter.