

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

Retiree's Newsletter



APRIL

2013

Newsletter, of the Retired Members of Local union number 134, I.B.E.W. - Send all correspondence to Retiree's Club, 600 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL 60661-2490 - The Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month except December at Boyle Temple, 600 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL - The purpose of this organization shall be to carry out the spirit of brotherhood, to aid and assist each other, and to further education, economic health and welfare of its members and their families and electrical apprentices. www.Local134chicago.com Written & Edited by Mario Coletta
Mailed by Irv Blaszyński and Bernie Martin

FROM THE PODIUM

I have said that I was not going to be an antagonist in this column, but I receive e-mails from some that cause me to really ask where the unions have failed. Some very good friends that have retired seem to fail to realize we have made a damn good living as Union electricians. Is it because we have ours that we believe that we can become unconcerned about the unions future.

In December 2012, Reuters reported that hunger and the homeless were growing in cities across the nation. Of those seeking emergency food, 51% were families and 37% were unemployed. Nearly 17% were elderly and 8.5% were unemployed. We probably know some of these folks.

In early January 2013, Gary Loveman, head of The Business Roundtable's "health and retirement committee" was interviewed said that "any efforts to address the countries fiscal problems *has to centerpiece reform of the entitlement programs*". He is also CEO of Caesars Entertainment Group.

Later in January Associated Press reported that labor unions suffered steep declines in membership in 2012, to a total of 11.3% and to 6.6% in the private sector. A professor of industrial relations at Clark University in Worcester, Mass. was quoted, "to employers, it's going to look like the labor movement is ready for a knockout punch". The AFL-CIO responded "the BLS numbers reflect the political and ideological assaults on workers' rights over the past two years. These attacks have resulted in membership losses, stagnant wages and increasing income inequality".

And finally, in February an article showed that the President's call to raise the minimum wage to \$9 is challenged as "too much" by some employers. The article also points out that the 1979 wage of \$2.90 makes the \$9 worth only \$2.85 in buying power. This is reflective in everyone's pay.

Also remember that President Obama had to make "recess appointments" to the labor board, just so they could meet. That was challenged in court and ruled that he could not do that. This is being appealed. Please remember that the DOL is really the only place that will represent any employee that has a grievance with an employer.

I have been taken to task for concerns I have regarding the State of Illinois' fiscal plight. I am also concerned about our federal debt but my personal belief is that we had a much stronger economy when we had a vibrant middle class that stuck together and cared about each other. I also believe that governing is done by those who have the desire to affect an outcome for *all!*

We, retirees, have put our time in but if we do not strive to help each other and continue to promote the **union way of life**. We certainly will be scratching for our benefits in the coming years.

Rich Sipple

DUES RENEWAL NOTICE

Please look at your Retired Members of Local 134 membership card, if it does not say 2013 or 2014 your dues are due. You can pay your 2013 dues by filling in the form below and sending it with a check for \$20.00 made payable to the Retired Members of Local 134, To the treasurer Bernard Martin at 8706 N. Olcott Ave. Niles, IL. 60714.

Here is my 2013 dues of \$20.00

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____

Cell Phone(_____) _____

E-Mail _____

Please include all information so that we can double check our records for the next mailing.

Make checks payable to the order of Retired Members of Local 134 IBEW and mail the check with this form filled in to Bernard Martin at 8706 N. Olcott Ave. Niles IL. 60714.

If you have a second address where you spend time for several month please let us know that address and the weeks or months you will be there on another sheet of paper, so that we can send the newsletter to that place when you are there.

NOTE! Widows of deceased members of the Retired Members of Local 134 IBEW club are Associate Members of the club and DO NOT PAY DUES.

RETIRED MEMBERS OF LOCAL 134, IBEW

I WANT TO HONOR THE FIFTY, FIFTY-FIVE
SIXTY, SIXTY-FIVE AND SEVENTY YEAR
MEMBERS AT THEIR NOON LUNCHEON ON
JUNE 12TH, 2013

WE ARE ALSO CELEBRATING THE 25TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE RETIREES CLUB

HERE IS MY DOLLAR FOR EACH PERSON

NAME: _____

GUEST: _____

SEND THIS FORM BEFORE JUNE 1ST TO:

BERNARD MARTIN
8706 N. OLCOTT
NILES, IL 60714

Make checks payable to: Retired Members of Local 134, IBEW

The widows of our deceased members only, are the Club's guests and need not send the dollar, but are asked to please send in this form with your name, so we know how many people are attending.

February 13th 2013 Speaker

Our scheduled speaker couldn't make our meeting and our program Director Gerry White was able to bring us a speaker from Energy Impact Illinois. His name is Robert Geltner Field Organizer. Energy Impact Illinois comes from the Federal Agency, The Department of Energy. Rob spoke of energy assessments that are made from contractors who are known and accepted by the agency. The homes that qualify are single family homes, 2 to 4 unit homes and fire walled Town Homes. The goals are to save money make the home more comfortable. This in turn increases the value of the home by 10%. It's like making the home Star Certified.

As much as 70% of the, up to \$1,750 will be rebated off the cost-effective and permanent home energy efficiency improvements consisting of air sealing and insulation. Energy Impact Illinois. A Department of Energy Better Buildings Neighborhood program, along with a local utility is providing rebates to help lower your energy bills, improve your comfort of your home, and enhance its value. To get involved contact Rob Geltner at 847 845 1900 for the north side of Chicago. Or rob@energyimpactillinois.org. Those who don't live north can call: 1-855-9-IMPACT or visit EnergyImpactIllinois.org. After the audit and the homeowner accepts the estimate the contractor completes the work and applies the rebate. Last years numbers on average was total cost of work \$2500 Department of energy rebate \$1750. Cost out of pocket for the homeowner \$750. Annual savings on energy bills \$500. The program pays for itself in a

year and a half. These rebates will end soon. It's a good idea to act quickly.

CALENDAR

Mar13-Dollar Luncheon & Regular Meeting noon, Election Meeting.
Apr 1-E-Board Meeting 10:30 am
Apr 10-Regular Meeting 1:00 pm
May 6-E-Board Meeting 10:30 am
May 8-Regular Meeting 1:00 pm
May 13-Branson Blast
Jun 3-E-Board Meeting
Jun 12-50,55,60 year Celebration Luncheon noon, Honor our Brothers Also we're celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Retirees Club

IN MEMORIAM FEBRUARY

Robert Benner	Thomas J Birt
Grady S Bowlin	Joel C Bradley
Robert P Brdar	Thomas H Brown
Anthony J Cimarusti	Robert A Clark
John D Curtin	Vincent DiCarlo
Edward J Dore	Dennis J Doyle
John A Ernest	Rudolph Euliano
Robert L Ferguson	Henry Garcia
David J Glodkowski	*Bernard E Hardy
Donald J Houston	Robert E Hutchins
Kenneth J Jurinek	Robert Krieger
Sean M Larman	Lindy L Malik
Arthur R March Jr	Arthur G Maxwell
Terrance A McGuire	
Donald T Meersman	Allan R Mohead
Anton J Olszewski	Michael H Perkins
Ronald S Peterson	James P Reardon
*Richard G Schumacher	
Robert J Simkiw	Fred Senne
Michael L Zito	

The Retirees Club wants to give our condolences to the family of Bernard E Hardy his wife Beulah and the family of Richard G Schumacher and his wife Carol.

Drury Lane Dinner Theatre Presents

“BOEING BOEING”
A Non- Stop Comedy

Our next play will be held on Thursday July 25th 2013 and lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Show to follow 1:30 pm at. the Drury Lane Playhouse in Oak Brook Terrace. Your ticket order must be in Bob Mersch’s hands by July 1st, 2013 with your check for \$45.00 per person. Make checks payable to: Retired Members of Local #134, IBEW. Bob Mersch will have your tickets at Drury Lane at the Matradee’s podium. Tickets will not be mailed to you.

The Meal:

First Course: Seasonal Fruit Plate

Entrees:

Salmon Filet _____

Lemon Tarragon Sauce

Or

Chicken Breast Marsala _____

Mushroom Marsala Wine Sauce

All- Entrees include Chef’s Selection of garden vegetables, potato, fresh baked bread, desert and choice of one non-alcoholic beverage.

Name _____

Guest _____

Send your order to:

Bob Mersch
5223 W. Madison Street
Skokie, IL 60077

BOEING, BOEING was revived in 2007 after an undeniably successful seven-year run in the West End. The Wall Street Journal hailed Boeing-Boeing as one of “the funniest plays to hit Broadway in ages” and the Daly Telegraph said it was “the funniest show on the London stage.” This charming revival focuses on Bernard, a jet setting architect living in Paris. He has been successfully juggling three flight attendant fiancés with the help of his reluctant housekeeper who keeps track of everyone’s comings and goings. Mayhem follows soon after the arrival of an old college pal as flights are delayed, schedules change and chaos ensues.

The Laughs come fast and furious when Bernard finds himself struggling to keep up with his overwhelming amorous lies. Audiences will have to fasten their seat belts for a roaring ride that will take them up and away.

RECIPE EXCHANGE

I made these Cheesecakes for my card group and they were a big hit, so I thought I would give the recipe to you.

JAM-TOPPED MINI CHEESECAKES

1 cup graham cracker crumbs
3 tbsp. butter, melted
1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
1/3 cup sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 egg lightly beaten
Assorted jams, warmed

In a small bowl, combine graham cracker crumbs and butter. Press gently into the bottom of 12 paper lined muffin cups. In another small bowl, beat the cream cheese, sugar and vanilla until smooth. Add egg; beat on low speed just until combined. Spoon over crusts. Bake at 350 degrees for 15-16 minutes or until centers are set. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack to cool completely. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Remove paper liners; top each cheesecake with 1 teaspoon jam. Yields 1 dozen.

APRIL 10th

Our speaker for this meeting is Michael Barrett

MAY 8th

We have invited a speaker from the Citizens Utility Board, to come to speak at this meeting. Bring your utility bills if you want to

find out if you are overpaying for your utilities.

JUNE 12th

We will be honoring the members who have been in the union for 50, 55, 60 etc. years. This is also the 25th anniversary of the start of our Retirees' Club. It is a luncheon meeting and you can sign up for the \$1.00 lunch by sending in your reservation form, which is attached to this newsletter. Mary Anne Riehl will be our entertainment during the luncheon. Remember to bring your spouse, this it is a good time to meet other members and renew former fellow workers.

JULY 10th

Our speaker for this meeting will be Brian Milich from the Cook County Sheriff's Department. It has been four years since he was at our meeting and is looking forward to coming back. Mr. Milich talks about safety in our homes and when we are out in public.

July 25th

Drury Lane Play "Boeing Boeing" Luncheon served at 11:30 am

STAYING FIT-DAY BY DAY

Moderate aerobic exercise can substantially lower blood pressure and may also raise levels of HDL (good cholesterol) that keeps LDL (bad cholesterol) from building up in the coronary arteries. Take a walk on the upcoming nice days of spring and summer.

If you are arriving by bus:

*Give this map to your driver to aid in directions.

*BUS DRIVERS...You may pull under the canopy to unload and load but PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR ENGINE WHILE UNDER THE CANOPY.

If you are arriving by car:

*Please copy this map and distribute to your guests.

*Free parking is available surrounding Drury Lane and Hilton Suites.

WHEN APPROACHING FROM THE NORTH OR SOUTH ON ROUTE 83: Exit at Roosevelt/Butterfield Road East (Roosevelt Road is Route 38). Follow the GREEN sign to DRURY LANE.

WHEN APPROACHING FROM THE EAST OR WEST ON ROOSEVELT ROAD: Exit Route 83 (Kingerly Hwy.) South to Roosevelt Road (Route 38) East and follow GREEN sign to DRURY LANE.

WHEN APPROACHING FROM DOWNTOWN CHICAGO: Take the Eisenhower Expressway (I-290) West to the East-West Tollway (I-88), Aurora exit. Immediately after paying the \$.40 toll at the Cermak Road/22nd Street tollbooth, exit Right and proceed North on Spring Road to DRURY LANE.

WHEN APPROACHING FROM THE WEST ON I-88: Exit at Midwest Road, turn Right, proceed North to Butterfield Road (Route 56). Turn right onto Butterfield Road, exit Roosevelt Road (Route 38) East to DRURY LANE.

WHEN APPROACHING FROM I-294 (TRI-STATE) TO I-88 (East-West Tollway) West, to Aurora exit. Immediately after paying \$.40 toll at Cermak Road/22nd Street tollbooth, exit Right and proceed North on Spring Road to DRURY LANE.

