

Retiree's Newsletter



MARCH

2012

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 Bob Smedberg and Mario Coletta
Mailed by Irv Blaszyński and Bernie Martin

FROM THE PODIUM

The March newsletter concludes my turn at the podium. With my presidency coming to a close I step aside for the next elected. My newsletter contributions may have been political in nature but we're immersed in politics. You can hang on the side or jump into the deep end. I still find it strange how good union electricians can lean to the side of those who want to rid the economy of collective bargaining. They may feel if the unions were to disappear they'd still be worth as much or more. It doesn't work that way. There's a race to the bottom and more and more of working class Americans are being forced to join those who are there already. That includes the skilled labor among them. Life isn't fair but that doesn't mean only the very few can succeed. There was a time when one income could support a family, no more. A time when you could work your way through college, pay your tuition, graduate in four years and not be up to your neck in debt, no more. As long as an act of kindness is treated as a weakness and a bullying is considered strength we've taken the wrong path, the shortcut to the bottom.

Mario Coletta

Our condolences to Nancy, wife of George M Hilger and family. To Patricia, wife of Gilbert Meschler and family, and to Mary Ann, wife of George Stathakes and family.

CALENDAR

Mar-14-Lunch and Election meeting noon.
Apr 2-E-board meeting 10:30 am
Apr 11-Regular meeting 1:00 pm
Apr 26-Drury Lane Play
"Hairspray" Lunch served 11:30 am
May 7-E-board meeting 10:30 am
May 9-Regular meeting 1:00 pm
Jun 4-E-board meeting 10:30 am
Jun 13-50,55,60 year Celebration
Lunch 11:30am Honor our Brothers
Jul 2-E-board meeting 10:30 am
Jul 4-Independence Day
Jul 11-Regular meeting 1:00 pm

IN MEMORIAM

Daniel J Andrews	Nick Antoszek
Joseph J Bialas	Albert Capizzi
	Norman R Calderwood
Bryant R Collins	Robert DeLapaz
Joseph R Fillion	George Graczyk
*GeorgeM Hilger	CharlesH Johnson
WilliamJ Klebba	GeorgeD Kotowski
Robert N Larry	* Gilbert Meschler
Leroy Mihigan	Robert P Olsen
David J Quirk	*George Stathakes
John Thome	MaryAlice Tosh

DUES RENEWAL NOTICE

Please look at your Retired Members of Local 134 membership card, if it does not say 2012 or 2013 your dues is due. You can pay your 2012 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 2012 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 mouths 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.

Drury Lane Dinner Theatre Presents

“HAIRSPRAY”
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Our next play will be held on Thursday April 26th 2012 and lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Show at 1:30 pm at the Drury Lane Playhouse in Oak Brook Terrace. We were given just 50 tickets. Your ticket order must be in Bob Mersch's hands by April 1st, 2012 with your check for \$42.00 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: Caesar Salad

Entrees:

Roast Sirloin _____

Sliced Sirloin Natural Jus

Or

Tilapia _____

Baked Filet served with a Lemon Beurre Blanc & garnished with Fresh Chives.

All- Entrees include Chef's Selection of garden vegetables, potato or rice, fresh baked bread, desert and choice of beverage.

Name _____

Guest _____

Send your order to:
Bob Mersch
5223 W. Madison Street
Skokie, IL 60077

“You Can't Stop the Beat” to this family friendly show that is piled bouffant-high with laughter and romance. Hairspray is an irresistible bebop musical that tells the fun, flouncing story of Tracy Turnblad, a large girl with big hair and a kind heart who only has one passion-to dance. Doing whatever it takes to fulfill her lifelong dream, she wins a spot on the popular TV dance program, “The Corny Collins Show” and is quickly transformed into a teen celebrity. She then successfully sets out to vanquish the program's reigning princess, win the heart of the super handsome Link Larkin, and racially integrate the television show. Songs include: “You Can't Stop the Beat”, “Good Morning Baltimore” and “Big, Blonde and Beautiful”.

Living Trust or Will - Our January Speaker

One of the items a lot of people put off is **estate planning**, which was the topic attorney Terry Gallagher covered at our meeting on the 12th. This is a difficult subject for many of us to discuss, we do not want to address the financial aspects of our lives but it is crucial for protection and peace of mind.

Mr. Gallagher explained the absolute need to have a **will** and the benefits of having a **living trust**. A living trust allows you to manage all of your financial affairs while naming alternate trustees who will then have the benefit upon the death or incapacity of the grantor. I will not go into the details that Mr. Gallagher did because I am sure to misquote or make errors. I will say however that I have seen the results of estates that had no provisions go to probate and also those where people have taken the time and properly prepared. It is much smoother and quicker if you consult an attorney who does this kind of work.

Mr. Gallagher is also a candidate for Judge in the Fourth Judicial Sub circuit in Cook County. He was a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy's Judge Advocate General Corps. After his discharge he returned to Chicago to practice law, in 1996 he started his own practice.

NEW MEMBERS 2011

Richard Berk
John E Borst
Tom Boyle
Kevin Calkins
Joseph Caputo
Nicholas V Caruso Sr
Robert A Corniglia
Jake Dowling
Joseph Drelicharz
Wayne Engelke
John M Federici
James M Garstka
Brian Glowen
George A Hitzman
John L Jin
Frank Kahr
James Klis Jr
John J Lake
Peter J Merkle
Terry L Morgan
John T Mullen
Philip Murphy
Thomas O'Neal
Stuart M Stevenson
William Suffield
Henry H Wagner
Michael L Wendling

CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR

LINCOLN PARK, OLD TOWN, WRIGLEYVILLE,
LAKEVIEW AND UPTOWN AREAS WITH
A STOP AT THE ELKS MEMORIAL BUILDING IN LINCOLN PARK

TUESDAY JUNE 5, 2012

10:00AM TO 2:00PM (LUNCH INCLUDED)
LUNCH WILL BE ORSO'S RESTAURANT IN OLD TOWN

MEETING PLACE: UNION HALL AT 9:45AM
600 W. WASHINGTON BLVD.
CHICAGO

(CUT OFF AND RETURN BOTTOM PORTION)

NAME _____

OF TICKETS _____ @ \$36.00 EACH _____ TOTAL

Send your check for \$36.00 per person made payable to the RETIREEES CLUB OF LOCAL 134,

IBEW to Gerry White,

237 W. Millers Rd., DesPlaines, IL 60016, before April 30. If you have any questions, call me at
847-635-5659.

Attention Seniors

I don't know Ruthelle Frank. But I do know that what is happening to her is enough to make my blood boil. Along with many other seniors, Ruthelle may lose the right to vote because she lacks a government-issued photo ID card. Over the past year, GOP-controlled state houses have been passing what are known as Voter ID laws. Proponents say it is to cut down on voter fraud. Opponents say fraud of this nature is quite rare and that the true intent is to keep certain voters at home. According to the [Brennan Center](#) for Justice at New York University, nationally about 18 percent of seniors and 25 percent of African-Americans do not have photo identification. According to the [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#), Ruthelle, of remote Brokaw WI (pop. 107), does not have a driver's license, and lacks a birth certificate needed to get a state identification card. She has a Social Security card, a Medicare card, and a baptism certificate. Even if she were to pay \$20 to get a birth certificate, her maiden name was misspelled by the attending physician at her home birth. To rectify this, she would need to petition the court and pay a \$200 fee. Ruthelle, an elected member of her Village Board since 1996, recently became a plaintiff in a law suit to block the new law, which was authored by Governor Scott Walker. Voting laws vary by state, so please check with your state or local elections office for more details. Election laws and procedures can be very complicated, but as retiree activists I believe we have a moral responsibility to defend and educate our fellow seniors on such an important issue. Our generation, like those who came before us, fought and died for the right to vote. We must never let

politicians take this away. By Barbara J Easterling.

Barbara J. Easterling is president of the Alliance for Retired Americans.

Citizens United

Two years ago today the Supreme Court declared with its ruling in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* that corporations are persons, entitled by the U.S. Constitution to buy elections and run our government. The effects of this ruling was immediate- 2010 saw outside groups spend almost \$300 million on the midterm elections, and the total spent in 2012 to buy our votes and further erode our democratic tradition promises to be many times that amount. **But there is a growing resistance movement building to challenge this unjust decision.** Shortly after the *Citizens United* the Liberty Tree Foundation teamed up with organizations around the country to found [Move to Amend](#), a grassroots campaign to change our constitution and firmly establish that money is not speech, and that human beings, not corporations, are persons entitled to constitutional rights.

Now, two years later, Move to Amend is working with dozens of other groups like Public Citizen, Code Pink, Green Peace to **Occupy the Courts in protest of Citizens United and in support of a constitutional amendment to reverse that decision.**

Actions are planned at numerous federal court houses in California, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Vermont, Oregon, Illinois, Washington, New York, and in dozens of other states throughout the country. A major action is also planned for the Supreme Court building itself in Washington D.C.

ELECTION DAY LUNCHEON MARCH 14, 2012

AT NOON

THERE IS A ONE DOLLAR CHARGE FOR EACH

MEMBER OR GUEST

MEMBER _____

GUEST _____

Make checks payable to Retired Members of Local Union # 134, IBEW

Mail to Bernard Martin,
8706 N. Olcott
Niles, IL 60714

RECIPE EXCHANGE

At this time of the year I always think a nice bowl of soup would hit the spot. I have made this soup and thought it was very tasty. To get rid of the fat in soups made with soup bones or beef ribs, put the finished soup in the refrigerator over night so the fat becomes solid on top. Then you can just spoon it off.

OLD FASHIONED VEGETABLE SOUP

2lbs. soup bones or 1 lb. beef short ribs

2 qts. water

1 tsp. salt

1 tsp. celery salt

1 small onion, chopped

1 cup diced carrots

½ cup diced celery

2 cups diced potatoes

1 (1-lb.) can whole kernel corn, not drained

1 (1-lb.) can tomatoes, cut up or diced

2 turnips, peeled and finely chopped

Place meat, water, salt, celery salt, onion, carrots, and celery in slow-cooking pot. Cover and cook on low 4 to 6 hours. Remove bones: chop meat and return to pot. Add the remaining ingredients. Cover and cook on high for 2 to 3 hours. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

MARCH 14th

At our luncheon meeting our speaker will be Terrance Sullivan to go over the State Driver's License driving rules. Since this is a luncheon meeting, be sure to sign up and pay for your \$1.00 lunch. The lunch is buffet style and includes rolls, salad, vegetables, and choice of

two meats, potatoes, noodles and dessert. We only charge \$1.00 so we know how many people will be attending. Remember to bring your spouse with you.

APRIL 11th

I have contacted Edward McElroy's office for a speaker and I have not heard as yet the topic of discussion.

APRIL 26th

We are going to see **HAIRSPRAY** at the Drury Lane Playhouse. The price includes lunch first and the play. We always have good seats thanks to Bob Mersch. See the sign up sheet enclosed in this newsletter.

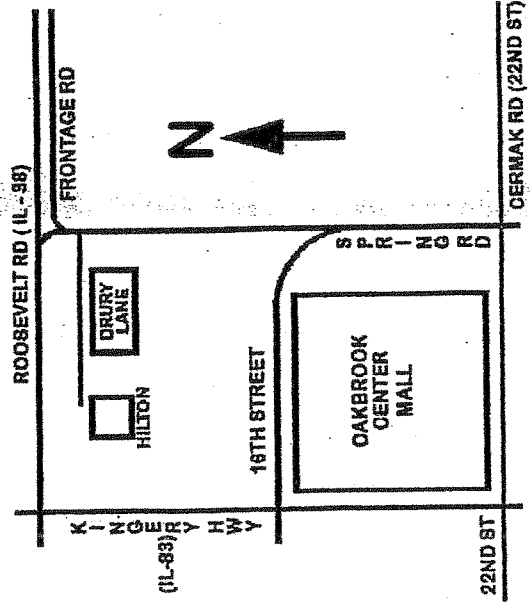
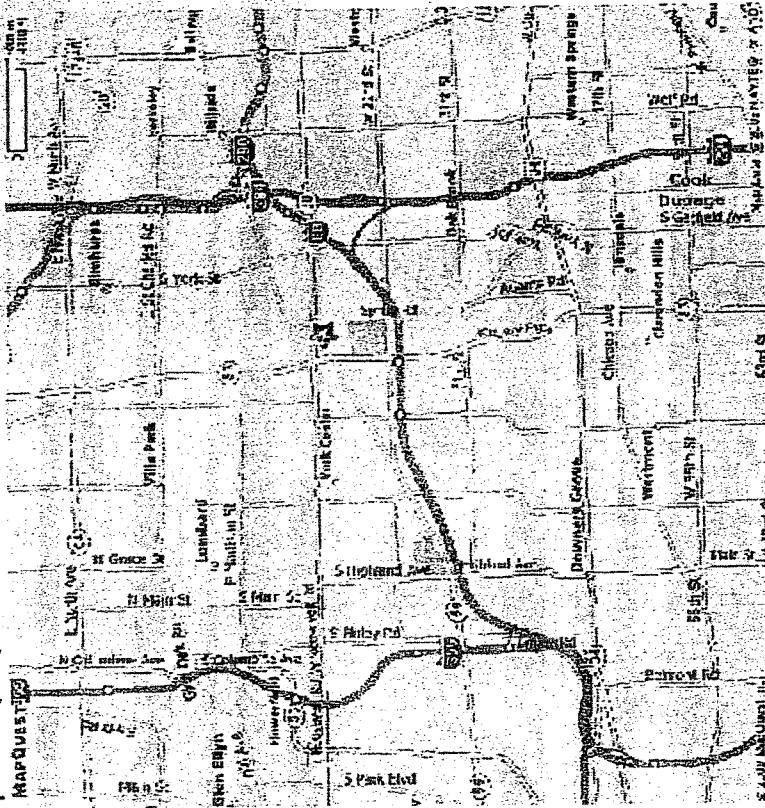
JUNE 5th

We are going on another CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR. This time we are going to Wrigleyville, Lakeview, Uptown, Old Town and Lincoln Park with a stop at the Elks Memorial Building in Lincoln Park. We will be stopping at Orso's Restaurant in Old Town for lunch. Lunch will be Bruschettas, Italian Salad, Chicken Parmesan, Tiramisu and coffee, tea or soft drinks. We will meet at the Union Hall, 600 W. Washington Blvd. no later than 9:45AM. The bus will pick us up there and we will return around 2:00PM. I have to know by April 30th, if we have enough people to go on this tour so, please let me know ASAP, if you are going. The cost is \$36.00 and you can invite friends or family to come with us on this tour. See attached sign up sheet.

DRURY LANE THEATRE - OAKBROOK

100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181-74614

Telephone: (630) 530-8300 Website: www.drurylaneoakbrook.com



DRIVING DIRECTIONS

FROM THE EAST (Downtown Chicago)

- ☐ Take I-290 WEST (Eisenhower Expressway)
- ☐ Keep LEFT to take I-88 WEST (Ronald Reagan Memorial Tollway) toward AURORA.
- ☐ Take the SPRING RD/CERMAK RD/22ND ST EXIT.
- ☐ Proceed STRAIGHT at stoplight crossing over CERMAK RD/22ND ST, (this will be SPRING RD)
- ☐ Follow SLIGHT RIGHT on SPRING RD. (Watch for Green Sign "Drury Lane/Hilton".)
- ☐ Turn LEFT onto DRURY LN.
- ☐ End at 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace.

FROM THE WEST

- ☐ Take I-88 EAST (Ronald Reagan Memorial Tollway) toward Chicago.
- ☐ Take the MIDWEST RD EXIT.
- ☐ Keep right at the fork to go on MIDWEST RD/CIR-15.
- ☐ Turn RIGHT onto BUTTERFIELD RD/IL-56
- ☐ Take the ROOSEVELT RD/IL-58 EAST ramp toward DRURY LN.
- ☐ Take the DRURY LN/SPRING RD ramp toward SOUTH
- ☐ Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto SPRING RD.
- ☐ Turn RIGHT onto DRURY LANE.
- ☐ End at 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace.

FROM THE SOUTH (ON IL-83/KINGERY HWY)

- ☐ Take IL-83/KINGERY HWY NORTH
- ☐ Merge onto IL-56/BUTTERFIELD RD EAST TOWARD IL-58 E/ROOSEVELT RD.
- ☐ Take the ROOSEVELT RD/IL-58 E ramp toward Drury Lane.
- ☐ Take the DRURY LN/SPRING RD ramp toward SOUTH
- ☐ Turn slight right onto SPRING RD.
- ☐ Turn RIGHT onto DRURY LN.
- ☐ End at 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace.

FROM THE SOUTH (ON I-294)

- ☐ Take I-294 NORTH toward WISCONSIN.
- ☐ Merge onto I-88 WEST (Ronald Reagan Memorial Tollway) toward AURORA.
- ☐ Take the SPRING RD/CERMAK RD/22ND ST EXIT.
- ☐ Proceed STRAIGHT at stoplight crossing over CERMAK RD/22ND ST, this will be SPRING RD.
- ☐ Follow SLIGHT RIGHT on SPRING RD. (Watch for Green Sign "Drury Lane/Hilton".)
- ☐ Turn LEFT onto DRURY LN.
- ☐ End at 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace.

FROM THE NORTH

- ☐ Take I-294 SOUTH toward INDIANA-O'HARE (Portions toll).
- ☐ Merge onto I-88 WEST (Ronald Reagan Memorial Tollway) toward AURORA.
- ☐ Take the exit toward IL-88 NORTH/CERMAK RD-22ND ST.
- ☐ Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto SPRING RD.
- ☐ Turn LEFT onto DRURY LN.
- ☐ End at 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace.