

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

Retiree's Newsletter



May

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

You will be perusing this newsletter in late April and the primary election hype is far behind us, but I would like to offer some of my observations as an election judge and an old curmudgeon.

The first is or was that people don't really seem to care about the election process. The turn out was abysmal even though we are offered all types of ways to cast a ballot. I understand, since childhood, that some people do not want to "declare" themselves, my parents hated to. But then, in the General Election, you have to decide on who others have chosen for you. This can be extremely damaging on your home turf, with your State rep or senator, as well as congressmen. I have always thought that we shoot ourselves by not casting a ballot in the *smallest elections*. I have seen this over and over in ballot ratification, union elections, and "home town" elections.

I will not criticize those who voted but if you don't vote you really can't complain. Believe me I think there is an awful lot to be *cranky* about.

The thing that I am really upset about are the *super pacs*. I don't care who they support because regardless they allow the very wealthiest to **dictate who** will run. I know cash is king but at least under the old rules a candidate had to do a lot of *grass roots* work to finance a campaign. Today checks written for hundreds of thousands of dollars are common. These donations are coming from some people that **really do not like unions**, and this is not good for anybody

that has benefited from a company or union provided pension or union paid health benefits. These as well as collectively bargained contracts are what the majority of these high rollers want to eliminate, those will be the candidates they will support.

We used to say that "**all boats should rise together**", but the difference today from the wealthy to the middle class is no longer a moat it is an ocean. Do some digging into these pacs and the people who write the checks, it will cause you to be *cranky* too.

Just a Thought!

Those who are too smart to engage in politics are punished by being governed by those who are dumber.

Plato Rich Sipple

CALENDAR

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
May 28-Memorial Day Remember
Jun 4-E-board meeting 10:30 am
Jun 5-Neighborhood Tour 9:45 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
Aug 6-E-board meeting 10:30 am
Aug 8-Regular meeting 1:00 pm

CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR

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

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 RETIREES 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.

RETIRED MEMBERS OF LOCAL 134, IBEW

I WANT TO HONOR THE FIFTY, FIFTY-FIVE
AND SIXTY YEAR MEMBERS AT THEIR
NOON LUNCHEON ON June 13, 2012

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.

RECIPE EXCHANGE

DUMP CAKE

1 cup crushed pineapple
1 cup cherry or apple pie filing
1 box yellow cake mix
1 ½ sticks of margarine or butter
1 cup chopped nuts
Grease a 9x13 pan. Add crushed pineapple.
Layer pie filling, add cake mix directly from
box over pineapple and pie filling. Slice butter
and place dots over the top. Sprinkle nuts on
top. Bake 350 degrees for 45-50 minutes.
Serve warm or cold with vanilla ice cream.

STRAWBERRY ANGEL FOOD DELITE

2 - 3 oz pkg. strawberry gelatin
2 ½ cups boiling water
2 -10 oz pkg. frozen sliced strawberries
2 tablespoons sugar
pinch of salt
10oz angel food cake torn in pieces
1 pt. whipping cream, whipped or cool whip
Dissolve gelatin in water. Stir in thawed
strawberries, sugar and salt. Refrigerate until
it begins to thicken (sauce consistency). Fold
in whipped cream. Cover bottom of a 9x13
pan with one-half of the torn cake. Pour
one-half of the strawberry mixture over the
cake; make another layer of cake and
strawberry mixture and refrigerate. Cut in
squares to serve.

MAY 9th

Our speaker for this meeting will be Mr.
Kenneth Stewart. Mr. Stewart recently retired
from the Social Security Administration. He
volunteers as a speaker informing seniors
about Medicare fraud.

JUNE 5th

This is the date of our next **CHICAGO
NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR**. We will be
going to the Uptown, Old Town, Wrigleyville,
Lakeview and Lincoln Park neighborhoods.
We will have our lunch at Orso's Restaurant in
Old Town. Lunch will be Bruschettas, Italian
Salad, Chicken Parmesan, Tirimisu and coffee,
tea or soft drink. The cost of the tour is
\$36.00 and you can invite friends or family to
come on this tour with us. We will meet at the
Union Hall at 600 W. Washington Blvd. at
9:45 AM and we will return about 2:00 PM.
Please use the sign up sheet attached to this
newsletter to sign up.

JUNE 13th

We will be honoring our 50, 55, 60 etc
members at this meeting. It is a luncheon
meeting and our entertainment will be
Mary Anne Riehl, from Nightclub in the
Afternoon. Please sign up for this luncheon
by sending your \$1.00 per person with the sign
up sheet to Bernie Martin. The sign up sheet
is attached to the newsletter.

SAFE DRIVING

We had our annual Driver's Safety presentation at our March 14th meeting. The presentation was given to us by Mr. Major Wells from the Secretary of State's office. We have found this program is not only a great way to prepare for a driver's test but it also updates us on new traffic laws and allows questions to clarify them.

We were all given handouts that cover many facets of the Secretary of States office. They included a review of "*Rules of The Road*" complete with test questions and answers, and also a helpful booklet of "*Services for Senior Citizens, Persons with Disabilities, and Veterans*."

We are grateful for the time and information provided by The Illinois Secretary of State's office for this annual event.

Also, club member **Tom Zordani**, gave us a presentation on "*The importance of sharing the road with motorcycles*"! Tom is an avid motorcyclist as well as an instructor with **A.B.A.T.E.**. This group promotes motorcycle safety training to the area high schools and has taught about 1000 area students the **proper training**.

Tom pointed out that the biggest impairment to auto/motorcycle accidents are the **blind spots** in our cars. A person on a motorcycle is obscured by the smallest obstruction. With the beautiful weather we have been experiencing as well as the upcoming spring and summer, many of our members as well as others **will** be on motorcycles. Let's remember they have the same "right of way" as autos. Be aware of **all traffic** and practice safe driving habits.

A REMINDER TO EVERYONE

ANY MEMBER WHO HAS MOVED, CHANGED AN E-MAIL ADDRESS AND OR A CELL PHONE NUMBER, please write the changes in a letter and send that information to Irv Blaszyński 7060 Monroe St. Niles IL 60714. Please also send corrections or additions. Look at your present roster book to make sure your information is correct.

WE WANT TO PRODUCE A PERFECT ROSTER BOOK FOR YOU.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO ACHIEVE THIS.

WE ARE COUNTING ON YOUR ASSISTANCE!