

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

# Retiree's Newsletter



OCTOBER

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](http://www.Local134chicago.com) Written & Edited by Mario Coletta  
Mailed by Irv Blaszyński and Bernie Martin

## FROM THE PODIUM

You will be reading this in October, closer to Halloween than Labor Day. That is my fault because I am really begging for some members to become more active in this club. To date I have heard from a widow who desperately wants us to continue and from a daughter-in-law with an address change so Mom can continue getting the newsletter. Maybe we would get more response if we just made it "The Widows of 134 Club". So much for the RANT!

The Labor Day that I remember was a day to reflect on working men and women, the sacrifices that were made and the gains that we had made. Not just union but all who toiled. Unfortunately, we don't really reflect on much today: Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, or Christmas Day. They have all become another party day. We have all become so wrapped up on a 24/7 basis that we forget why we are here and who we are.

We are all very fortunate to have been members of Local 134 IBEW. As retirees we have benefits that many people dream of. Some will argue that they could be better, but I will bet that many could be worse. I am certain that if unions become irrelevant we will see less benefits.

Some of the news regarding unions has been good, there has been improvement in organizing different groups of people and some unions have flexed their muscles and have improved their contracts. At the same time many have discovered that politicians do not always practice what they preach. We **must** hold them accountable. We **must be active participants.** Do not believe things will be okay because it always has been. We are becoming obsolete and we cannot allow that to happen! Unions have an important place in human rights and human dignity!

Richard Sipple

**REMINDER:** Anyone who has been a member of Local 134, any classification, can join the club. All "A,B,C" pari-mutuel, maintenance, manufacturing, and office & miscellaneous are eligible.

Drury Lane Dinner Theatre Presents

## “Hello, Dolly!”

Our next play will be held on Thursday November 21st 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 November 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:** Soup of the Day Chef’s Choice

**Entrees:**

**Traditional Roast Turkey** \_\_\_\_\_

Sliced Breast, Herb Stuffing, Cranberries and Turkey Gravy

Or

**Salmon Filet** \_\_\_\_\_

Lemon Tarragon 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

HELLO, DOLLY! Has become one of the most enduring musical theater hits, enjoying three Broadway revivals and international success that included being made into the film that was nominated for seven Academy Awards. HELLO, DOLLY! Played for 2844 performances on Broadway at the St. James Theater with Carol Channing in the title role. At the time it was the longest playing Broadway musical.. The show’s album was included into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 2002. HELLO, DOLLY! Tells the story of Dolly Levi, a brassy widow with a knack for matchmaking. Dolly takes a trip to New York to meet a millionaire. Mr. Vandergelder, whom has been courting another woman—but Dolly is soon to change that! “Hello, Dolly!” is the story of turn- of- the- century widowed matchmaker Dolly Gallagher Levi, who, after cunningly negotiating marriages for others through a series of comic romantic entanglements, ultimately finds her own match. “Hello, Dolly!” is a magical piece of musical theater filled with memorable songs such as ‘Put On Your Sunday Clothes,’ ‘Before the Parade Passes By’ and ‘It Only Takes A Moment.’ Show—stopping dance numbers like ‘Dancing’ and ‘The Waiter’s Gallop’ are combined with beautiful turn-of-the century costumes to create a musical the whole family will enjoy.

**APPLICATION TO RETIREES CLUB OF LOCAL 134**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

Speaker August 14<sup>th</sup> 2013

Dan O'Donnell of AARP was our guest speaker. The first subject was the history of AARP. In Illinois alone there are 1.6 million members 6 to 7 million nation wide. There focus is seniors 50 years of age and older. Ethel Percy Andrus the founder of AARP lived in Chicago. She was born in San Francisco and was a long time educator and high school principal in California. AARP started out as a national retirement teacher association. The association is a lobbying group with a collective purchase voice and purchasing power voice for Springfield Illinois and Washington DC. Their motto is "Real Possibilities have a say".

Dan then spoke of the things most important to seniors. Social Security to remain viable has to make changes. AARP has 12 suggestions to improve Social Security. 1. Raise the retirement age. 2. Longevity indexing. 3. Recalculate the COLA. 4. Increase the payroll tax cap. 5. Eliminate the payroll tax cap. 6. Reduce benefits for higher earners. 7. Improve benefits. 8. Increase the payroll tax rate. 9. Tax all salary reduction plans. 10. Cover all newly hired state and local government workers. 11. Increase the number of years used to calculate benefits. 12. Begin

means- testing social security benefits. Of course there are pros and cons to all these suggestions.

Social Security and Medicare are under attack. There is Medicare fraud by unscrupulous doctors. Preventing identity theft can curb the chance of fraudulent medication bills and improper billing. The Veterans Administration can negotiate prices for medication, Medicare cannot. Medical malpractice is another large cost to Medicare. Sharing medical information reduces medical expenses.

We want to thank Dan and those with him for a very informative afternoon.

**John Cummins Memorial  
Golf Outing**  
\$50 prizes

Lee Kowski	Jim Fliris
Rich DeAngelis	Tony Harmon
John Bomher	Bob Schuenemann
Ron Beasanski	Larry Wagner
Mark Rogers	Bob Taylor

They were fed Italian sausage sandwiches and someone was kind enough to donate chicken to the meal. Our thanks goes out to the local for their generous donation, to Goldberg Weisman and Cairo for the golf balls and hot cup holders. A special thanks to Hugh O'Connell for running the outing and to Bob Welko a member and a neighbor who's always there to give Hugh a hand.

THE RETIRED MEMBERS OF LOCAL UNION #134 IBEW INVITE YOU TO OUR  
ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY  
AT THE IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER  
4626 NORTH KNOX AVE.  
WILSON AND KNOX, CHICAGO  
AT NOON, DECEMBER 11, 2013

FOR CORNED BEEF DINNER \_\_\_\_\_

OR ROAST CHICKEN DINNER \_\_\_\_\_

BOTH MEALS WITH BOILED POTATOES, CABBAGE AND BEER

PIE FOR DESERT WITH COFFEE OR TEA

THERE WILL BE A CASH BAR

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST \_\_\_\_\_

The cost for members and their wives is \$32.50 per person  
Widows of our deceased members are free. Widows are asked to send in their  
reservation. Mail this reservation form to: Richard Sipple  
901 Pheasant Walk  
Schaumburg IL 60193

Make checks payable to the order of Retired Members of Local Union #134 IBEW  
Please allow enough time to mail your payment. We must know the total number of  
guests by December 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Keeping Congress Honest

There's good news about the bill banning insider trading in Congress.

On April 4<sup>th</sup> 2012 the President signed that bill into law, making members of Congress play by the same rules as everyone else when it comes to investing. Before this week, it was -- amazingly -- not against the law for members of Congress to profit off of the insider information they pick up on Capitol Hill.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans stepped up and played a role in passing the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act, better known as the STOCK Act. This was a long-lingering piece of legislation that shot to the top of the priority list after a "60 Minutes" investigation.

The President promised that he would work to change the old ways of Washington, and this is what that change looks like. There's still more that to do, obviously, but thanks to all who helped make a step in the right direction.

## CALENDAR

**Sept 26**-Drury Lane Play "Next To Normal" Luncheon served at 11:30 am  
**Oct 7**-E-Board Meeting 10:30 am  
**Oct 9**-Regular Meeting 1:00 pm  
**Oct 26**-Annual Local 134 Benefits Fair 8:00 am to 2:00 pm  
**Nov 4**-E-Board Meeting 10:30 am  
**Nov 13**-Regular Meeting at the Apprenticeship School 115<sup>th</sup> and Ridgeland Alsip. Park on the far east end Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Raffle. Noon till 1:00 pm Meet and Greet  
**Nov 21**-Drury Lane Play "Hello, Dolly!" Luncheon served at 11:30 am

## IN MEMORIAM

Terry A Ball	Roy Berglund
Kenneth R Bookwood	Vito A Bruno
Denson Burge	Robert L Cain
Gene J Center	Alan R Denton
Dennis Derbyshire	James R Donham
Kenneth E Fetzner	Frank J Filippello Jr
Leon Gebhart	Sally J Giannopoulos
William J Hillebold	Carl H Holzinger Jr
Patrick M Hopkins	Herald Johnson
James R Lauzon	*Ramond J McJohn Jr
Robert A Miller	Norman E Miller
Eugene B Rowell	Joseph Rozwalka
Harold Sandler	Bruce A Stickel
John J Theobald	Charles Toppel
Joseph P Turilli	*George A Tzinares
Erma M Wade	*Gerald Warchol
James J Ward	Edward G Williams
Kim W Wroblewski	

We want to give our condolences to the families of Ramond J McJohn Jr, George A Tzinares and Gerald Wolchol

## **America's 50 Worst Charities**

1. Kids Wish Network
2. Cancer Fund of America
3. Children's Wish Foundation International
4. American Breast Cancer Foundation
5. Firefighters Charitable Foundation
6. Breast Cancer Relief Foundation
7. International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO
8. National Veterans Service Fund
9. American Association of State Troopers
10. Children's Cancer Fund of America
11. Children's Cancer Recovery Foundation
12. Youth Development Fund
13. Committee For Missing Children
14. Association for Firefighters and Paramedics
15. Project Cure (Bradenton, FL)
16. National Caregiving Foundation
17. Operation Lookout National Center for Missing Youth
18. United States Deputy Sheriffs' Association
19. Vietnow National Headquarters
20. Police Protective Fund
21. National Cancer Coalition
22. Woman To Woman Breast Cancer Foundation
23. American Foundation For Disabled Children
24. The Veterans Fund
25. Heart Support of America
26. Veterans Assistance Foundation
27. Children's Charity Fund
28. Wishing Well Foundation USA
29. Defeat Diabetes Found
30. Disabled Police Officers of America Inc
31. National Police Defense Foundation
32. American Association of the Deaf & Blin
33. Reserve Police Officers Association
34. Optimal Medical Foundation
35. Disabled Police and Sheriffs Foundation
36. Disabled Police Officers Counseling Center
37. Children's Leukemia Research Association
38. United Breast Cancer Foundation
39. Shiloh International Ministries
40. Circle of Friends For American Veterans
41. Find the Children
42. Survivors and Victims Empowered
43. Firefighters Assistance Fund
44. Caring for Our Children Foundation
45. National Narcotic Officers Associations Coalition
46. American Foundation for Children With AIDS
47. Our American Veterans
48. Roger Wyburn-Mason & Jack M Blount Foundation For Eradication of Rheumatoid Disease
49. Firefighters Burn Fund
50. Hope Cancer Fund

Beware the very patriotic named

## RECIPE EXCHANGE

### ZUCCHINI PIZZA CASSEROLE

4 c. shredded unpeeled zucchini

½ teas. salt

2 Eggs, slightly beaten

½ C grated Parmesan cheese

2 c. (8 oz) shredded mozzarella cheese

1 c. (4 oz) shredded cheddar cheese

1 lb. ground beef

½ c. chopped onion

1 15 oz can Italian tomato sauce

1 medium green pepper, chopped

Place zucchini in strainer; sprinkle with salt.

Let stand for 10 minutes. Squeeze out moisture.

Combine zucchini with eggs, Parmesan and half of the mozzarella and cheddar cheeses.

Press into greased 13 x9 in baking dish.

Bake, uncovered, at 400 degrees for 20 minutes. Meanwhile, cook beef and onion over medium heat until meat is no longer pink; drain. Add tomato sauce and then spoon over zucchini mixture.

Sprinkle with remaining cheeses; add green pepper. Bake 20 minutes longer or until heated through. I did not add the green pepper and it was good. Cut in half if there are just two of you so you can try it.

### SEPTEMBER 26TH

Don't forget, our next date for the lunch and the play at Drury Lane Theatre is this Thursday the 26th. The Broadway

phenomenon and Pulitzer Prize winning play is "NEXT TO NORMAL."

### OCTOBER 9th

Our guess speaker will be Irv Capital, from the Better Business Bureau.

### OCTOBER 26th

This is the date for the annual Local 134 Benefit Fair. It will be held at the Union Hall at 600 W. Washington, in Chicago. 8:00am to 2:00pm It is a good way to meet old friends and fellow workers. Again this year, the retirees will have their own booth. Please stop by and introduce yourself. We will have members staff the booth with any questions or suggestions you may have for the continuation of the Retirees' Club.

### NOVEMBER 13th

I can't believe it is that time again for our annual visit to the apprentice school at 115th and Ridgeland. If you never went to that location, you should think about coming on that date. Not only do we have a turkey raffle but maybe like last year they will show us all the new equipment and requirements that are approved by OSHA. My husband and I were amazed at the safety equipment and clothing needed for electricians.

### DECEMBER 11th

This is the date of the annual Holiday Party at the Irish Heritage Center. Keep it open.



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 (Kingery 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.

