FROM THE PODIUM

Random Thoughts

It has always amazed me how the avid sports fan can quote game highlights and statistics almost at will. They can tell you yards gained, batting averages, three-point percentages and the salary of any player’s sport. These same fans will tell you who is overpaid and who deserves a contract extension. They will find fault with the salaries of their favorite players, and begrudge the contract amounts with, “Nobody is worth that kind of money to play a children’s game.” Hell, I can bat 200. Pay me that kind money. (Well, there was a time I could.)

You’re probably asking yourself where I’m going with this. I’ll explain. I count myself among these people, and I enjoy criticizing these very same things. I can tell you who earned what and how much his or her team is under the salary cap because I take the time to research the Internet. While I was considering this article, it dawned on me that I should use the Internet to research some of today’s more pressing issues.

The presidential primaries are complete and the presumptive candidates have been declared. I’d like to pass on some of the information I found while surfing the net. One of the issues where the candidates differ greatly is the minimum wage. One believes that the wage should be less, or if not less, it should be left up to the individual states. The other believes the federal government should raise it incrementally over the next few years to $12 per hour.

I personally believe it should be raised to a living wage and then tied to the cost of living allowance (COLA), then raised or lowered accordingly. This is assuming that the COLA is derived fairly and in a non-partisan manner. The CEOs at the companies listed here earn an astonishing amount of money per hour, yet some of our politicians, federal, state and local, believe the American worker makes too much. Following is the 2015 CEO hourly wage calculated assuming a 40-hour work week. I repeat, the amounts shown are hourly. FYI Source USA Today, April 18, 2016

• Larry Merlo, CVS Health, earns $13,915 per hr.
• Leslie Wexner, L Brands, earns $13,062 per hr.
• Howard Schultz, Starbucks, earns $9,659 per hr.
• Douglas McMillon, Wal-Mart, earns $9,323 per hr.
• Steven Ells, Chipotle, earns $6,520 per hr.
• Robert Niblock, Lowes, earns $6,325 per hr.
• Hubert Joly, Best Buy, earns $6,220 per hr.

Jim Fliris
AUGUST 18TH, 2016

We are going to the races on Thursday August 18th. If you are interested in joining us, please complete the bottom portion of this page and return it to me by August 8th.

Your fee of $28.00 includes a BOX SEAT, RACING GUIDE AND A GRAB’N GO LUNCH. The Grab’n go lunch is a choice of:

• **CHICKEN PHILLY SANDWICH**-roasted chicken, grilled peppers and onions, signature cheese sauce served on a Kaiser roll

• **HOUSE SMOKED BBQ PORK**-Arkansas style sauce on a Kaiser roll

• **BLACK BEAN BURGER**-whole grain bun with assorted toppings

The sides include **KETTLE CHIPS, MACARONI SALAD, SWEET AND SOUR SLAW** and **CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES**.

THE PARK OPENS AT 12 NOON
GRAB’N GO LUNCH FROM 12:30 UNTIL 2:30 PM
POST TIME 1:15 PM
I WILL TRY TO MAIL YOUR TICKETS TO YOU BY AUGUST 12TH

The parking is free or if you want to take the Metro there is a train station at the park. There is a fee if you want to use the valet parking. You can bring friends or relatives to this and any other event that we have outside of the meetings.

(cut and return bottom portion)

NAME________________________________________________________

ADDRESS____________________________________________________

# OF TICKETS ________________________________ AT $28.00 EACH ________________ TOTAL

Send your check for $28.00 per person make payable to the RETIRED MEMBERS OF LOCAL #134, IBEW to GERRY WHITE, 237 W. MILLERS RD., DES PLAINES, IL. 60016, before AUGUST 8TH. If you have any questions, call me at 847-635-5659.
RETIRED MEMBERS OF LOCAL # 134 LUNCHEON

SEPTEMBER 14TH 2016 AT BOYLE
AUDITORIUM 600 W WASHINGTON BLVD

OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED DOLLAR LUNCHEON
WILL BE HELD AT NOON ON THAT DAY

Name __________________________________________

Guest _________________________________________

Please print your name and guest’s name

Make checks payable to: Retired Members of Local #134 IBEW
Send in Registration by September 1st

Mail this reservation form and your dollar per person to:

Bernie Martin
8706 N Olcott
Niles, IL 60714
Retired Members of Local #134 IBEW

Annual John Cummins Memorial Golf Outing

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Old Oak Country Club "Golf Digest - 4 Stars"

14200 S. Parker Rd.
Homer Glen, IL 60491

18 Holes of Golf with a cart for each golf team

Cost Per Person $65.00
Continental Breakfast at 8:00 AM
(Driving Range available prior to tee time)

Shotgun Start at 9:00 AM
Buffet Lunch and Prizes after Golf

Contact
Kevin Gibbons
630.877.7340
117 Pepperwood Dr, Bolingbrook, IL 60440
kgibbons101@comcast.net

RSVP by August 30, 2016
Note: We must provide Old Oak CC a headcount prior to our outing.

Mail advance payments / or due the morning of the golf outing.
Make checks payable to: The Retirees Club of Local 134 IBEW
Drury Lane Dinner Theatre Presents:
CRAZY FOR YOU

Music by: George Gershwin, Lyrics by: Ira Gershwin, Book by: Ken Ludwig

Our next play will be held on Thursday November 17th, 2016 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 Walter Felde’s hands by October 30th, 2016 with your check for $53.00 per person.** Make checks payable to: Retired Members of Local #134, IBEW. Walter Felde will have your tickets at Drury Lane at the Matradee’s podium. Tickets will not be mailed to you. **We are allowed only 40 tickets and they will be sold first come first served.**

**The Meal:**

**First Course: SOUP OF THE DAY**
Chef’s Choice

**Entrees:**

**Traditional Roast Turkey** or
Sliced Breast / Herb Stuffing / Cranberry Sauce / Turkey Gravy

**Lemon Sole**
Baked / Lemon Dill Sauce

All Entrees served with dinner rolls, choice of one non alcoholic beverage and chef’s selection of potato, vegetable and dessert.

Name

Guest

Send your order to:

Walter Felde
6543 N Oshkosh
Chicago IL 60631

Cozy up this winter with *Crazy For You.* This romantic Gershwin musical comedy follows Bobby Child, a New York banker with a craving for show business, who is sent to foreclose on a theatre in a small mining town. After falling in love with a local girl, he vows to put on a show to save the failing theatre. *Crazy For You* takes memorable Gershwin tunes like “I Can’t Be Bothered Now,” “I Got Rhythm,” “Nice Work If You Can Get It,” and “Someone To Watch Over Me,” and brings new life into them. *Crazy For You* is a vivacious night filled with mistaken identity, plot twists, and fabulous dance numbers that are perfect for the whole family.

**WINNER OF THREE TONY AWARDS INCLUDING BEST MUSICAL!**

*Crazy For You* is suitable for audiences 5+

100 Drury Lane* Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
Guest Speaker July 13th 2016
Carolyn Roberts from Senior Corps was our speaker. She told us of the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program RSVP. With her was volunteer Karen Zmral who spoke of what it was like to be a senior volunteer. It’s good for the community and for those who volunteer. The program is a national and community service. RSVP represents one of the three nationally funded programs. A sister organization to AmeriCorps, sponsored by Hands On Suburban Chicago. There are 13,000 with Senior Corps in Illinois. Anyone 55 years of age or older is eligible to volunteer. Partner Stations are there to report the hours volunteered and what benefits are gained. No one can serve as a Senior Corps RSVP member in a political or religious capacity. There are 44 communities in northern Cook and DuPage Counties receiving these benefits. They consist of Healthy Futures Education, Economic Opportunities, Veterans Services, Disaster Preparedness and Capacity Building. Among the services are home delivered meals, transportation for medical applications, friendly visitor and wellness visits, companions, working the food pantry, tutoring elementary school students, classroom helper in an elementary school, middle school tutoring, adult education in literacy and any other skill based volunteer. We were given information on what we can do, and applications for anyone who wanted to volunteer for as little or as much that would be our decision. For more information call 847-228-1320 or www.HandsOnSuburbanChicago.org

Correction: In last months newsletter Gary Stefan’s name was omitted on the list of honored 50 year members.

IN MEMORIAM
Hector J Badillo Charles C Baldwin
Bernard H Bredar Jr Lamarsha Brown
Howard E Bucholz Edward F Buettner
Johnny Calloway Kenneth L Grayczyk
Gus Giannakopoulos
Nicholas Katzenbach Jr
*Ted R Kelly Theodore F Koral
Norbert J Knilling Donald A Kuthe
Thomas M Luby Paul Marquez
Frederick A Mattes Alfred A Oelkers
Eugene F Napolitano Richard E Olson
Gintautas V Ramanauskas
Robert L Ramsey Patrick J Rauen
Robert Smola Kenneth A Stanko
William E Thiemer Michael Troiani

CALENDAR
Aug 10-Regular Meeting 1:00 pm at the Apprentice School 115th and Ridgeland Alsip IL. Meet and greet 12 noon.
Aug 18-A Day At The Races, Arlington Park, Lunch 12:30 Post Time 1:15 pm
Aug 29-E-Board Meeting 10:30 am.
Sept 14-Luncheon and Regular Meeting noon at Boyle Auditorium.
Sept 21-Annual John Cummins Memorial Golf Outing. Breakfast 8:00 am, Shotgun Start 9:00 am.
Sept 26-E-Board Meeting 10:30 am.
Oct 12-Regular Meeting 1:00 pm at the Apprentice School 115th and Ridgeland Alsip IL. Meet and Greet 12 noon.
Oct 31-E-Board Meeting 10:30 am

ROSTER BOOK
By now all members should have received their new 2016-2017 Roster Book. Each year when we makeup a new book we try to make it mistake free. We know that there are some mistakes in this year’s book. If you see that there is a mistake in your information, Name Missing, Misspelled Name, Wrong Spouse's Name, Wrong phone or cell number or incorrect E-Mail address. Please send me a note with corrections, please print with capital letters to Bernie Martin 8706 Olcott Ave. Niles IL 60714 or call me at 847-965 8270.
Springfield Illinois Stopgap

On June 30th the Illinois General Assembly approved a bipartisan stopgap budget that is now law to provide funding for operational expenses, higher education, human services and road projects. The legislation guarantees that schools will open in the fall by providing funding for Pre school to 12th grade and additional funds that offer support for Chicago Public Schools as it faces a financial crisis.

While this is a step in the right direction, there is still a lot of work ahead to negotiate a full budget. The efforts to compromise have delivered some relief to the most vulnerable populations throughout our state.

Education Funding

The legislation increases General State Aid funding by $331 million, and includes a $250 million equity grant that would be distributed based on the amount of the poverty grant each district received last year. Early Childhood Education also receives a $75 million increase. This funding guarantees schools will open on time and with the means to operate the entire school year.

Human Services

Grants and programs for human services will receive over $670 million in resources. Included in the bill is funding for Medicaid clients served through the Community Care Program, addiction treatment program and for individuals receiving mental health services. Also included in the legislation is funding for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening program, AIDS/HIV services, Adult and Juvenile Redeploy, senior services, homeless services, youth programs, funeral and burial services, immigration services, minority family commissions and more.

Higher Education

The bill provides $1 billion in funding for universities, community colleges, MAP grants, adult education programs, career and technical education programs, IMSA operations and other higher education related grants and programs. This funding ensures that our universities continue functioning and low-income students have the support they need to continue their education.

Capital Projects

The bill includes the full IDOT capital program for road and transit, funding for park districts, water and sewer projects and school construction.

Again, the work will not be done until a comprehensive budget is implemented. Our representatives were able to come together in the face of a crisis and reach an agreement to keep vital services going and have moved closer to a solution.
RECIPE EXCHANGE

This recipe is a twist on chicken divan but is quick and satisfying and I considered it as comfort food.

**Broccoli Chicken Casserole**
1 Pkg (6 oz) chicken stuffing mix  
2 cups cubed cooked chicken  
1 cup frozen broccoli florets thawed  
1 10-3/4 can condensed broccoli cheese soup, undiluted  
1 cup (4 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare stuffing mix according to package directions, using 1-1/2 cups water. In large bowl, combine chicken, broccoli and soup and transfer to a greased 11x7 inch baking dish. Top with stuffing and sprinkle with cheese. Bake covered, 20 minutes. Uncover and bake 10-15 minutes longer or until heated through.

Keep these ingredients in your home and they might come in handy when unexpected company drops in.

**AUGUST 18th**
This is the day for the Arlington Racetrack Outing. Hope you signed up.

**AUGUST 28th**
Again I hope you signed up for an afternoon at the White Sox Park.

**SEPTEMBER 14th**
We asked the Illinois Secretary of State's office for a speaker to go over the RULES OF THE ROAD. If you have to go for a renewal of your driver's license this will be a very good meeting for you to attend. It is also a luncheon meeting and will be held at the Union Hall at 600 West Washington. Lunch is only $1.00 so sign-up with the registration sheet attached to this newsletter and send it to Bernie Martin. It is a nice way to socialize with the retirees and their spouses at this meeting.

**SEPTEMBER 21st**
The annual John Cummins Memorial Golf outing at the Old Oak Country Club will be held on this day. If you have not signed up you should and sent you form into Kevin Gibbons. The sign-up sheet is also attached to this newsletter.

**OCTOBER 12th**
One of our member, Mike Fedanzo, asked if he could come to this meeting and speak. We are looking forward to hearing what he has to say.

I CHANGED MY PASSWORD TO “INCORRECT” SO WHENEVER I FORGET IT THE COMPUTER WILL SAY, “YOUR PASSWORD IS INCORRECT”
Please copy this map and distribute to your guests.

If you are arriving by car:

Please turn off your engine while under the canopy.

Bus drivers: You may pull under the canopy to unload and load but give the map to your driver to add in directions.

If you are arriving by bus:

Free parking is available in the Drury Lane and Hilton Suites.
Retired Members
Of Local 134, I.B.E.W.
600 West Washington Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60661-2490
Meets the 2nd Wednesday, Monthly, at 1:00 p.m.

Application for Membership
(Please type or print legibly)

Today’s Date: ___________________________________________

Name: ___________________________ Spouse: ___________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: _______________ Zip: __________

Phone: ____________________________________________________________________

E-mail: ___________________________ Cell Phone: ___________________________

Date of Birth: ___________________________ I.B.E.W. Card #: ____________

Please make all checks payable to: RETIRED MEMBERS L.U. 134, I.B.E.W. and mail to:

BERNARD MARTIN
8706 OLCCOTT
NILES, IL 60714

Dues Schedule (paid dues entitles you to a lapel pin, Roster book and monthly Newsletter)

Initiation Fee (one time only)--------------------------------- $2.00
If you join between January 1st & June 30th---------- $20.00 + $2.00
If you join after July 1st---------------------------------- $10.00 + $2.00
If you join after October 1st--------------------------- $20.00 + $2.00*
* All dues monies will be applied to next year

NOTE: YOUR SPOUSE WILL BE AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER PER SECTION 3.01 OF OUR BY-LAWS.

IF ASKED, WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO WORK ON A COMMITTEE:  YES _____ NO _____

Recruited by: ____________________________________________