

# Retiree's Newsletter

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



**April**

**2020**

The club meets on the second Wednesday of each month, 12pm:  
March, June, September and December at the 134 union hall  
located at: 2722 S Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, Chicago, IL  
All other months the club will meet at the IBEW-NECA  
Technical Inst located at: 6201 West 115<sup>th</sup> Street, Alsip, IL  
(enter on the east side)

*The purpose of this organization shall be to carry out the spirit  
of our brotherhood. To aid and assist each other as necessary,  
to promote the social, economic, health and welfare of its  
members and their families.*

**Written & Edited by: Mario Coletta ,James Jennings  
and Kevin Gibbons**

**Printed & Mailed by: TBD**

**Mail all correspondence to: Retiree's Club,  
2722 S. Martin King Drive, Chicago, IL 60616-2908**

## **From the Podium**

Hi, I am Jim Jennings your newly elected President of the Local 134 IBEW Retiree Club. I want to thank the members of the E-Board for their confidence in selecting and electing me to this position. I also want to thank my predecessor President Kevin Gibbons for his past two years of service, Board member Walter Felde and Tom Bohn for their service. In addition, I welcome Keith Berls as the new Vice President and Charles Chathas as an E-Board member.

## **GANGBOX ABOGADO**

As part of my monthly From The Podium spiel, I will end with a section dedicated to my own opinions and musings that reflect only my point of view and not necessarily that of the Retiree Club or the Local Union.

I urge our Retirees, their elderly family and friends to strongly advocate for themselves with doctors, nurses, and healthcare facilities for their own healthcare and needs in regards to this Coronavirus. Since medical devices such as respirators and other necessary medical devices because of the unprecedented demand may be in short supply, do not roll over. Ask your doctor and and medical facility what is their protocol with medical priorities in regard to the aged and infirmed. Put them

on notice! Demand equal treatment as the younger patients may be getting. If you think you have Coronavirus symptoms, demand to be tested. If it's good enough for the rich and famous, celebrities and young hardy pro basketball players to be tested, it's good enough for us. Just the other day, an 85 year old Chicago area resident went to the hospital sick and with Coronavirus symptoms and they sent him home the next day without testing. Subsequently, he had to be readmitted to intensive care where they properly diagnosed him as being infected with the Virus. He now lays in intensive care as well as infecting members of his family. Not to be harsh, but there are no victims just volunteers.

In Brotherhood,

Jim Jennings

### **COVID-19 Up-Date**

Following the Federal and State orders to isolate, ALL meetings and events have been cancelled or put on hold.

The Newsletter will NOT be printed but rather sent via email to our member with email addresses.

Spread the word to our fellow retirees that do not have an email address.

Our monthly Newsletter is always posted on the Local 134 website. On the home page click on the box **ABOUT US** for the Retiree Newsletters

## **March 11, 2020... Luncheon Election Results**

In the shadow of the Coronavirus crisis we followed through with having our luncheon this past month. We had a total of 85 members in attendance.

As I mentioned in previous newsletters we sent out an email blast to our membership reminding our members about this luncheon. If you did not receive this notice via an email please review your email address and ensure we have it correct in our latest Roster Book with a yellow cover 2018-2019.

As stated this was an important meeting for a couple of reasons. The first was our election of new officers and executive board members. Secondly, due to the virus our gatherings will most definitely be curtailed. Stay isolated and safe as possible.

Kevin Gibbons

### **The results of the election are:**

President:	James Jennings*
Vice-President:	Keith Berls*
Recording Secretary:	Alan Sindelar
Treasurer:	Bernard Martin

### **Executive Board Members:**

Charles Chathas*	James Fliris
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Mario Coletta  
Richard Connolly

James Martin  
Donald Mahoney  
Hector Rivera\*

**\*New position**

## **IN MEMORIUM**

Gus Agelonidis  
Andrew S Bailye  
Donald L Ballinger  
Donna L Balow  
Raymond E Bardach  
Michael P Cassin  
Art B Chlebicki  
James L Coyne  
Mark A Groen  
Raymond S Kowalewski  
Richard J Larocco  
Hershel B Livingston  
Eugene A Taylor

**\*Eugene F Lewaniak**  
Robert A Martinec  
Shaun T McGinnis  
Joan A Nedza  
James O'Donnell  
**\*William M Palcek**  
Stefan Pirvu  
Allen Raff  
Charles D Schroeder Jr  
**\*Fred Seidel**  
Harry S Smol Jr  
Ernest D Sroor  
John A Storcel

**Our condolences to the families of the Retiree Club members:**

**Eugene F Lewaniak**  
**William M Palcek**  
**Fred Seidel**

## **CALENDAR...Subject to change due to COVID-19**

**May 13-Regular Meeting 1:00 pm**  
Meet & Greet 12:00 noon.  
IBEW-NECA Technical Inst, Alsip.

**May 18- E-Board Meeting 10:30 am.**  
IBEW-NECA Technical Inst, Alsip.

**June 10-Annual Honoree Luncheon 12:00 noon.**  
Honoring our 50,55,60,65 and 70 year members.  
Regular Meeting 1:00 pm.

**June 22-E-Board Meeting 10:30 am.**  
IBEW-NECA Technical Inst, Alsip.

## **March 11, 2020 Speaker**

At the election meeting our speaker was Tracy Sohst from the Electrical Insurance Trustees. Her topic of discussion was the coronavirus, Covid-19. She explained what it is, the symptoms, who's at a higher risk and what to do if you think you have it. At this time there is no vaccine but good habits can keep us healthy. She told us what Medicare is doing, what CVS Caremark is doing and what the Electrical Insurance Trustees are doing. We won't need prior authorization, no copay or deductible for testing to diagnose Covid-19. As of March 9<sup>th</sup> more than 116,000 people have been infected in more than 80 countries. Globally there have been 3,800 deaths with 3,000 deaths in mainland China. Of those affected there are 62,000 people who have recovered. We don't know how dangerous the new coronavirus is, and we won't know until more data comes in. Previously there have been other viruses. In 2002 Sars spread virtually unchecked to 37 countries infecting more than 8,000 people with 750 deaths. Mers was less easily passed from human to human but had greater lethality. Deaths were 35% of about 2,500 people who were infected. Tracy also assured us that our health insurance is one of the best and not to be swayed by some of the ads on tv. She took questions from our members and stayed after she spoke to answer individual questions. You can speak to Tracy Sohst at 312 782-5442 ext 241 online at [tsohst@fundoffice.org](mailto:tsohst@fundoffice.org).

Mario Coletta

RETIRED MEMBERS OF LOCAL 134, IBEW

WANT TO HONOR THE FIFTY, FIFTY-FIVE, SIXTY,  
SIXTY-FIVE AND SEVENTY YEAR MEMBERS AT  
OUR NOON LUNCHEON ON

JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2020... *Subject to change*

Luncheon will be held at Memorial Hall  
2722 S. Martin Luther King Drive

HERE IS MY DOLLAR FOR EACH PERSON

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print name of guest

SEND THIS FORM BEFORE JUNE 3rd 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,

## “Evita”

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Evita is the story of Eva Peron's rags to riches life as she goes from poor provincial child to the First Lady of Argentina. Songs include Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Weber's iconic “Don't cry for me Argentina”

**Date:** June ?, TBD

**Cost:** \$65.00 per person\*

**Time:** Lunch will be served at 11:30 am  
Play to follow at 1:30 pm

**Place:** The Drury Lane Playhouse  
100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181  
630-530-8300 [www.drurylanetheatre.com](http://www.drurylanetheatre.com)

**Check must be in Jim Martin's possession by May 11, 2020.**

40 tickets available

## “Evita”

First Course: **Mixed Green Salad**

*Mixed greens, Tomato, Cucumber, Carrot, Radish, Herb  
Croutons w/ Ranch Dressing*

Choose your lunch entrée:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Grilled Chicken Breast** *in lemon thyme jus*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Pork Medallions** w/Chimichurri sauce

\_\_\_\_\_ **Vegetable Kebob** w/ zucchini, yellow squash,  
**peppers, tomatoes, onions & mushrooms.**

*Served with wild rice and a Balsamic sauce*

Desert: **Peach Melba**

Send your order & check to: Jim Martin  
633 N Harvey Ave  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302

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

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Make check payable to: Local 134 Retiree Club.

**Save the Date: 2020 Play Schedule**

**Evita – June ? TBD , 2020**

**Last Day to RSVP May 11, 2020**

**Forever Plaid – September 24, 2020**

**Last Day to RSVP August 31, 2020**

**Holiday Inn – December 17, 2020**

**Last Day to RSVP November 23, 2020**

**The King and I – February 25, 2021**

**Last Day to RSVP February 1, 2021**

**Place for all shows:**

**Drury Lane Playhouse**

**100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, IL**

**630-530-8300**

**All Plays:**

**Cost is \$65 per Person**

**Lunch is served at 11:30 AM,**

**Play starts at 1:30 PM**