

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

# Retiree's Newsletter

August

2022

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 the auditorium 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: Keith Berls, Kevin Gibbons and Mario Coletta

Printed & Mailed by: Keith Berls, Hale Landes , Bob Pitlock, Hector Rivera, Jim Martin.

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

## **From the Podium**

Hi everyone, I hope all is well this summer. I would like to thank business agent Bob Casto for an insightful talk he gave at our July 13, regular meeting.

At our August 10th meeting we have Kelly Gage. She is an animal rescuer and she will talk to us about animals and shelters and what we can do to help out with that cause. Also, if u can spare any towels or dog/can food it would be appreciated.

A new report from Patients For Affordable Drugs revealed accelerating price gouging from pharmaceutical corporations, with 1,186 price increases and a median price increase of five percent already recorded this year. And while only half of Americans can afford to cover a \$1,000 expense, many are already spending their entire paychecks on drugs they depend on. New drugs now carry a median annual cost of \$180,000, a monumental leap from \$2,000 in 2008. Pfizer increased the price of 23 drugs, more than any other corporation.

The findings were released after a previous report found that almost 110,000 people died in the past decade while awaiting a benefits appeal decision. About 48,000 people filed for bankruptcy while waiting for a decision from 2014 to 2019.

Is there a major reason why medicare for all should be on our top priority as retirees to get the care that we need.

Also please don't listen to some fools that think they know what they're talking about at restaurants and bars with our retiree funds, if you want to hear the facts come to the Union meeting and ask the people that administer it.

**Keith Berls**

## **IN MEMORIM**

William H Ballik  
Keith L Bordes  
Michael S Brogan  
Richard A Bryan  
John Byerly  
Brian J Casey  
David De Marte  
**\*Edward J Dewbray**  
John R Dooley  
Ronald B Gavin  
Arthur G Heim  
Edward T Kasper  
Bill D Katsaros  
John F Kerrigan  
Rodney E Larson  
Edward R Mack  
Donald Malone  
James S Palmer  
Matthew R Pender  
Bruce W Poland Jr  
Peter C Russo  
James F Schuster  
Thomas E Sherry  
James J Tognarelli  
Edward F Vascik

**Our condolences to the family of Retiree's Club Member  
Edward J Dewbray.**

## **June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Speaker**

Our speaker today was Patrick S Sullivan from the Frankfort Law Group. He spoke to us about estate planning, focusing on wills and trusts. Wills can end up in probate and can take several months and some expense before heirs can collect. Living Trusts can eliminate probate. He explained how to designate the power of attorney to make medical decisions as well as financial and property decisions for us, when we can't. Illinois has a Healthcare Surgery Act allowing you to choose who will make a life or death decisions when you can't. You can reach Sullivan at Frankfort Law Group located at 10075 W Lincoln Hwy Frankfort IL at phone 708-349-9333 or [frankfortlawgroup.com](http://frankfortlawgroup.com)

Mario Coletta

## **July 13, 2022, Speaker**

Our speaker this month was Bob Casto Local #134 Business Representative, He represents those who work for the Chicago Transit Authority. The Local has 5 stand alone agreements with the CTA. They are 1. Local: electricians, engineers, escalator, sub station, communications tech. They are located in Skokie and South Shops totaling approximately 235 members. 2. Control Center (CTA's) 911 center approximately 80 members. 3. Road masters: supervision of the trackmen approximately 20 members. 4. Yardmasters: supervision of the trains to be put on the route. 5. Rail Janitor Coordinators: Supervision of rail janitors approximately 20 members.

The Chicago Transit Authority was established October 1<sup>st</sup> 1947. It has about 1800 buses that follow 140 routes covering 2200 miles. There are 12,000 bus stops that serve approximately 1 million passengers daily. These numbers were before Covid 19. Bob Casto represents Local #134 B maintenance electricians who work in the facilities maintenance that service and maintain the bus garages.

The rail rolling stock consists of 1,450 train cars in service. There are 8 routes color coded Red Line, Blue Line, Brown Line, Green Line, Orange Line, Purple Line, Pink Line and Yellow Line, these total 222 miles of track and 145 stations. We want to thank Business Representative Bob Casto for his informative visit.

Mario Coletta

## Summary of coming events:

**August 10, 2022...** Regular Meeting / Alsip, IL  
12:00 noon Meet & Greet / 1:00 pm meeting  
*Guest Speaker: Kelly Gage... Dog rescue & adoption*

**August 22, 2022** Executive Board meeting / 10:30 / Alsip

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**September 14, 2022...** \$1 Luncheon at 134 Union Hall  
11:00 Meet & Greet / 12:00 Noon Lunch is served  
2:00 Meeting begins.  
*Guest Speaker: Kelly Gage... Dog rescue & adoption*

**September 21, 2022....** Golf Outing / Old Oaks CC

**September 22, 2022...** Drury Lane Play: 11:00 Lunch  
**Murder on the Orient Express**

**Sept 26, 2022...** Executive Board meeting / 10:30 / Alsip

*If you have NOT paid your dues, please mail today.*

# **Annual John Cummins Memorial Golf Outing**

**Old Oak Country Club**

**14200 S. Parker Rd.  
Homer Glen, IL 60491**



**September 21, 2022**

**18 Holes of Golf with a cart for each golfers  
Continental Breakfast at 8:00 AM  
Shotgun Start at 9:00 AM**

**Buffet Lunch and Prizes after Golf**

***Cost for Golf and Lunch \$68.00 each***

**Buffet only \$25.00....2:00-3:00 PM**

**Send a check payable to the Retiree Members Club Local 134**

**Attn: Kevin Gibbons  
117 Pepperwood Drive  
Bolingbrook, IL 60440**

# Join Our Golf Outing



**Please submit your name or your foresome names prior to September 14, 2022.**

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**Attn: Kevin Gibbons  
117 Pepperwood Drive  
Bolingbrook, IL 60440**



# **Murder on the Orient Express**

Murder on the Orient Express is the story of an American Tycoon that was found in his compartment on the Orient Express stabbed a dozen times, his door was locked from the inside. The passengers rely on famed detective Hercule Poirot to identify the murderer before they strike again. A witty adaptation of Agatha Christie's timeless murder mystery.

Date: September 22, 2022

Cost: \$70 dollars per person

Time: Lunch served at 11:30 AM  
Play follows at 1:30 PM

Place: Drury Lane Playhouse  
100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181  
630-530-8300

Information: James Martin  
Telephone: 708-848-1833  
Cell Phone: 312-213-6380

# **Murder on the Orient Express**

## **Menu**

First Course: Garden Salad

Entrees (choice of one):

\_\_\_\_\_ Grilled Chicken Kabob

\_\_\_\_\_ Grilled Vegetable Cavatappi, with Pesto

Desert: Chocolate Éclair with Berries and Chocolate Sauce

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

The check should be made payable to:

“Retired Members of Local Union #134 IBEW”

August 30,2022 is the last day for checks and reservation

forms to be received by: Jim Martin

633 N Harvey Ave

Oak Park, Illinois 60302

# SEPTEMBER \$1 LUNCHEON

September 8, 2022 at 12 Noon  
Luncheon will be held at Memorial Hall  
2722 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.  
Chicago, IL

Send this form and your check or cash for \$1 per person to the  
Treasurer before SEPTEMBER!

Make checks payable to Retired Members of Local 134 IBEW

## **Please Print**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guest \_\_\_\_\_

To: Bernard Martin  
8706 Olcott Ave.  
Niles, IL 60714

Widows of deceased members of the Retired Members Club are  
the guests of the club and need not send in the dollar but are  
asked to send in this form with your name so we know how  
many people will be attending.

## **2022 DUES**

**The retired members organization dues were due on January 1, 2022. Many members have not paid their dues for the current year. Please look at your Retired Members membership card, if it does not have 2022 or 2023 on it your 2022 dues is passed due. To become current with your dues please fill in the dues renewal application in this newsletter and mail it with a check for \$20.00. Made your check payable to the Retired Members of Local 134 IBEW Mail to the Treasurer.**

**Bernard Martin  
8706 N. Olcott Ave.  
Niles, IL 60714-2024**