

I.B.E.W. RETIRED MEMBERS CLUB NO. 617

(December 2008)

Here's Joe

Our next club activity will be the annual Christmas Lunch on Friday, December 12, 2008. For all the members and friends planning to attend, the directions to the Basque Cultural Center at 599 Railroad Ave., South San Francisco are as follows:

If you are on 280, take 380 to 101 North, turn off at Grand Ave. exit, turn left on Grand Ave. through downtown and turn left on Magnolia, travel 2 blocks to the parking lot at Railroad Ave.

Coming from the north on 101 take the Grand Ave. exit and follow the above directions.

Once again the health plan administrator sent a long letter out regarding the Medicare Prescription Plan. As usual this caused some confusion for some retirees. Our health plan has prescription benefits and you don't have to do anything. Hopefully future letters that are sent out to satisfy a government requirement will express that the letter is only a notice.

A look back at 2008 brings back great memories regarding our Local Union. Many festive events like Old Timer's Night in April, the old fashioned Union Picnic at Flood Park in June and best of all the grand 100 Year Celebration in August were enjoyed by the retirees. Rosa and the office staff at 617 supported our club and helped the retirees throughout the year and deserve a big "THANK YOU". Some of our club members such as Grethe Moller, our Treasurer who handles our membership and the \$\$\$, Jim and Mary Gallagher who made all the arrangements for our "Occasional Lunches", Wendy Hogan for our Annual Picnic at the Winery and other events and Ruby Valdez and her Birthday Committee (Pat Davey, Audrey Dent, Nancy Braccini, Claire Bradshaw, Marie Yoschak, Grethe Moller and Liz Cellilo) who provide those great diet busting refreshments every 3 months to celebrate our members' birthdays and John Valdez and Aage Moller for all their help with the newsletters and monthly drawings.

The holiday season has begun and the economy is in a downturn. The construction industry and union members are looking at hard times. The San Mateo Labor Council has a food and toy drive to benefit union members. This year try to help the union families during the holidays. Local 617 will match any cash contributions that you can make and this is a tax deductible contribution to charity. Make your check payable to S.M.C.U.C.A. Food Drive and send to Local 617, 1701 Leslie St., San Mateo, CA. 94402 (mark it "Food Drive") . Your less fortunate brothers and sisters need your help!

To get the early-bird deal on dues of 10 Bucks send it in by year end. The new amount will be 12 dollars on January one.

Have a great Christmas and a happy New Year. Safe Travels (No Hurries No Worries)

My mind works like lightning. One brilliant flash and it's gone.

Joe