



## President's Comments

You are no doubt aware that we will be electing new members to your **Board of Directors** at the upcoming **Holiday Party and Dinner Meeting** on December 11th. This is always a significant time for your club. Decisions made by the **Board** can have a significant impact on the club's future health. Some of our board members, including myself, are approaching eight years of service and have expressed a strong desire to retire from the Board. Their departure will leave a very real "leadership vacuum" unless there are new members ready to fill their positions.

Jerry Frederick is now, or will soon be, assembling a slate of candidates for the upcoming election. If our club is to continue as an active and informative group we must have a constant stream of members willing to do their part. **We can't let the club "fold" for lack of effort.** That wouldn't be fair to our existing and future retirees. Please step up!!! Help Jerry Frederick assemble the best slate of **Board Member** candidates possible.

Al Maes, Board President

## Holiday Party & Dinner Meeting

You've made your reservations and you are ready for a fun evening at Chapin's East right? It happens on Thursday December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. You can arrive as early as 5:30 PM to register and receive your "returned" checks. You can also pay those 2015 club dues at the **Membership Table**.

There will be entertainment and lots of food.



You will be electing some new board members from the slate of candidates that Jerry Frederick has prepared. By the way, there will be a box to receive socks you wish to donate to Operation Care Package.

Let's have a great party!!!

## Alaska or Bust

There is an Alaskan Adventure brewing. On August 23<sup>rd</sup> of 2015 some 25-30 club members and guests will arrive at the Fairbanks Hotel. The next day they will begin a four day bus and rail tour of the Fairbanks area and Denali National Park, as well as several other lesser known attractions along the way. The land portion of the tour will end in Seward where our travelers will board Royal Caribbean's ship **Radiance of the Seas** on



August 28<sup>th</sup>. **Ports of Call** will include Hubbard Glacier, Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan. The cruise will conclude in Vancouver, British Columbia on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Sounds exciting doesn't it? Call Addie Blomquist if you want to learn more about this big event.

## Branson Bus Tour

Speaking of fun outings, several of our members and guests have recently returned from a five day bus tour of Branson, Missouri. They have given the trip an unanimous "thumbs up" review. They saw a lot of shows, ate a lot of food, and bought a few souvenirs. There were some "after hours" card games played. Ron Tucker was the big winner on Wednesday night. He won the first of two **Farkel** games in a "runaway", and won the second game with a dramatic come from behind finish. By the way, do you want to try those **Pretzel Snacks** that we all enjoyed? Mix 1 package dry Italian dressing, 8 oz of vegetable oil, and a tablespoon of Lemon Pepper Seasoning. Stir and pour the mixture over the pretzels (1 bag) in a sealed container. Shake occasionally. Serve and enjoy after 3 days.



As always, a big thanks goes out to Addie Blomquist and her elves for this great outing.





### Annual Membership Dues

It is that time again! Our membership dues should be paid by year-end. The amount is unchanged, Ten dollars for Regular Members and \$35 for Associate members. There are two easy ways to pay. **Simply send your check to the club, in the pre-addressed envelope enclosed with this newsletter**, or you can pay at the gate when you arrive at the **Annual Holiday Party & Dinner Meeting** referenced in the above newsletter article. It is so important to have all those dues paid by the end of the year so we can "close the books". Your help will be truly appreciated.

### Operation Care Package

Operation Care Package is nearing full swing, and they can always use volunteer help. They are busy assembling those packages of food, clothing, and toiletries for shipment to our overseas service personnel. Be a part of this **worthy effort** by arriving on Wednesdays at the Will County Farm Bureau, located at 100 Manhattan Rd in Joliet. Work hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call Tim Rice to learn more about this volunteer opportunity.



Happy

Holidays

One and All!!!

### Recent Events

Club members enjoyed a fun and informative afternoon at the annual **Fall Potluck** on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The food was great as always. A representative from the Joliet Alzheimer's Association gave an interesting and informative presentation.

Several of our club members, and guests, had a fun time at our **Annual Golf Outing**. The event was held at the Morris Country Club on October 7<sup>th</sup>. All of our participants played badly but ate quite well. Harold Holsinger was the "prime mover" behind this annual event. Thanks Harold!!!

### Coming Events

In addition to the Alaskan Adventure, discussed above, the **Activities Committee** continues to explore more travel adventures. They are currently looking investigating bus tours in the U.S. and Canada. Two of the frontrunners are a **Boston** tour and a **Savannah** tour. They are still in the exploratory phase however. Stay tuned!!!

Are you all aware of the **Joliet Refinery Holiday Party** to be held on December 20<sup>th</sup> at the Field Museum in Chicago? It will, no doubt, be an elegant evening. Your invitation includes an RSVP card for you to designate your acceptance and transportation preference. That card must be returned by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

