MERLE GUILD AMERICAN LEGION POST 208
AUGUST / SEPTEMBER, 2021 NEWSLETTER

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Happy New Year! Yes, we have just begun the 2021-2022 American Legion year and I'd like everyone to join me in congratulating the newly elected officers of our Legion family; Post, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. The annual Joint Installation of Officers will be held on Sunday, August 8th with a social hour at 1:00 and ceremony 2:00. All members are invited to attend but please see the flyer in this newsletter with the information for signing up for this annual event that, because of Covid-19, hasn't been held for a couple of years. The deadline for signing up is WEDNESDAY, JULY 28th.

I'd like to thank our members for their support and belief in me and electing me as your new Commander. I have spent a lot of time at our Post with my jobs as well as on a variety of projects, and honestly never thought about being your Commander. I look forward to working with the Post officers, the Auxiliary and the S.A.L. as we serve our veterans, their families, and our community. Now that the Covid-19 pandemic seems to be under control, we can start to get back to normal with planning events and activities such as Bingo, which is starting up again on July 23rd. If you have a suggestion of something you'd like to see or be improved at the Post, feel free to discuss it with me. I'm here to make sure you, as a veteran, are able to enjoy ***your*** Post. If you know of a veteran who is not yet a member, ask them to consider joining one of the greatest American Legion's – our very own Post 208!

On behalf of all the members of Post 208, I'd like to thank outgoing Commander Joe DeCaluwe for his time, dedication, and leadership over the past three years. We know how the last few years have had challenges due to Covid-19, equipment failures, installation of a new roof, as well as the day to day issues that arise, but you managed to help with Pull Tabs and display new military pictures and paraphernalia around the Post.

To our members, friends, family, and neighbors, thank you for your efforts in supporting our Post during the Carnival Jamboree organized by the Frontier Days Festival Committee. As many of you are aware, the annual Frontier Days Festival was not held because of Covid-19, but the Committee wanted to give the community a way to celebrate the Fourth of July and on a short notice, put together the Carnival Jamboree. While attendance may have been drastically reduced because concerts were eliminated, the carnival still provided family fun for the community while Post 208 was able to extend our usual friendly hospitality and offer great food. Again, THANK YOU to all of our volunteers for another successful Fourth of July Celebration. It just goes to show how much can be accomplished, even on a short notice, when the Post, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. come together for a common cause.

In closing, keep an eye on our webpage, facebook page, and your mailbox for future issues of the Newsletter. A great year of events are being planned and there'll be something for everyone to enjoy!

Yours in service,

Jerry Ziobrowski, Commander

Auxiliary President

Hope everyone is having a great summer, it sure is flying by. I'm so excited for the new year ahead and hope you will join us in our mission to serve our veterans and military. Hopefully we will be back in full swing this year and will see you at our general meetings. We are working on ways to improve our meetings and hope to have some fun projects too. Our Bingo is back and we will be planning other fundraisers throughout the year. Stay tuned for some fun events this year.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday August 8, Installation of 2021-2022 Officers
Tuesday August 10 – Auxiliary Board meeting, 7:00 pm
Friday August 13 and 27 – Bingo – 7:30 pm
Sunday September 12 – Juniors General Meeting, 11:30 am
Tuesday September 14, Auxiliary General Meeting, 7:00 pm
After the meeting, please join us to sign Christmas cards for our Troops Overseas. If you have extra Christmas cards at home, please bring them to the meeting.

I'd like to give a BIG SHOUT OUT to all the volunteers that helped out during the Post's Festival Days over the 4th of July weekend. We had 26 Auxiliary members volunteer to help with the kitchen, ice cream/popcorn, selling tickets, pouring beer, security and more. It was truly a Legion Family Event.

AS AUXILIARY MEMBERS WE STRIVE TO LIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE NOT SELF.

IT'S NOT FOR THE MONEY, IT'S NOT FOR THE FAME
IT'S NOT FOR PERSONAL GAIN
IT'S JUST FOR THE LOVE OF OUR FELLOWMAN
IT'S JUST TO LEND A HELPING HAND
IT'S JUST TO GIVE A LITTLE SELF
THAT'S SOMETHING YOU CAN'T BUY WITH WEALTH
IT'S NOT FOR MEDALS, WORN WITH PRIDE
IT'S JUST FOR THE FEELING DEEP INSIDE
IT'S THAT REWARD DEEP IN YOUR HEART
IT'S THE FEELING THAT YOU'VE BEEN A PART
OF HELPING OTHERS FAR AND NEAR
THAT MAKES YOU A VOLUNTEER
VOLUNTEERS GIVE TIME TODAY TO MAKE LIFE BETTER TOMORROW.

In a world where you can be anything, be kind.

Cindy Hall
Auxiliary Unit 208 President

A Note from the Sr. Vice Commander . . .

In June, the book was closed for 2021 membership. We reached 94% renewal short of our goal of 100%. Let's hope we do better this year.

WARNING, WARNING, WARNING, WARNING, WARNING: The National Office sent out an **INCORRECT** renewal notice. It shows $40.00, which is **INCORRECT**!!! See the next paragraph below for the **CORRECT** information!

You should have received your renewal notice for 2022 membership by now and if not, keep an eye out for it, you should receive it very shortly but as mentioned above, there was a pricing error. The sooner you renew, the less annoying renewal notices we have to send. **The dues for 2022 are $45.00 this year and will increase to $50 if not paid by December 31st 2021.**

You can mail your dues to the post or renew online. If mailing a check, please make your check payable to American Legion Post 208 and send it to:

Post 208 membership
121 N. Douglas Ave.
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Visit www.legion.org if you wish to pay your dues on-line.

AS A REMINDER, IMPORTANT INFO ABOUT 2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues paid by Dec 31,2021deadline.	$45.00
Dues paid AFTER Dec 31,2021 deadline.	$50.00
Dues paid online same as above	

Joe DeCaluwe
Senior Vice Commander

Chaplain's Corner

As of this writing, I have to sadly report the passing of several Post members and the happy return of several Post activities/ceremonies including Poppy Days, Memorial salutes to our past veterans on Memorial Day weekend, and the Post Everlasting and Flag Day Ceremonies.

Please keep in your prayers, the families of these Legionnaires who have passed away: Ed Duda on 5/28, Bill Burt on 6/3, Joe Hurley on 6/20, Rich McNulty on 6/28, Bill Lumpp on 7/2, and John Smith on 7/4. Also, Dale Berg also lost his wife, Sharon on 6/23.

Regarding the Poppies, a small turnout of members still accepted $3,277 that we will use support veterans. Our Color Guard and volunteers put flags on over 300 veterans' graves at Wheeling township Cemetery on May 29, followed by a ceremony of prayers, a rifle salute, and taps with about 30 volunteers in attendance. The annual Memorial Day Parade was cancelled, but a drive-by parade around the Veteran park was held. On flag day we had a service to transfer 33 post members (who passed away in the last 2 years) to Post Everlasting, followed by a rifle salute, blowing of taps, replacing the flags flying over the post with new ones, and retiring worn-out flags in a burning service. Surviving family members, Post members and Scouts assisted in the services.

Please let me know if you hear of any members passing away or of becoming ill so that I can let others know. For God and Country,

Jack Schwar, Post Chaplain 630-542-3528 jack.schwar@gmail.com

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The Auxiliary would like to extend its condolences to the family of Sherry Montemayor; to Evelyn Lumpp on the passing of her husband, William; and to Dale Berg on the passing of his wife, Sharon.

May the Lord hold these families in the palm of His hand and comfort them in their time of sorrow.

Lois Kurowski, Outgoing Auxiliary Chaplain

The October / November Newsletter deadline is
Tuesday, September 14, 2021
E-Mail Your Articles
(in Microsoft WORD FORMAT and flyers in PDF FORMAT please)

to the Newsletter E-Mail Address

NEWSLETTERFORPOST208@YAHOO.COM

A MESSAGE FROM THE V.A. SECRETARY - Toxic Exposures

An announcement was made regarding two very important decisions that will affect millions of Veterans who served in the Vietnam War and in Southwest Asia, Afghanistan and Uzbekistan during the Persian Gulf War and after September 11, 2001. It is important to note that the process by which these decisions were made is just the first step; this will be an iterative, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)-driven process to identify potential presumptions of service connection.

Many of our Nation's Veterans have waited a long time for changes to presumptions of service connection for benefits, and I look forward to working with the VA Toxic Exposure team to implement changes such as the following as swiftly as possible.

The first decision concerns the addition of bladder cancer, hypothyroidism and Parkinsonism to the list of those conditions presumptively associated with exposure to Agent Orange. This implements provisions of the William M. Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (P.L. 116-283), and VA will apply the provisions of court orders related to *Nehmer v. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs,* which may result in an earlier date for entitlement to benefits for Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam era. Vietnam era Veterans and their survivors, who previously filed and were denied benefits for one of these three new presumptive conditions, will have their cases automatically reviewed without the need to refile a claim and will receive a letter from VA on the status of their claim.

The second decision involves Veterans who served in Southwest Asia, Afghanistan and Uzbekistan during the Persian Gulf War and after September 11, 2001. After a thorough review of the scientific evidence around toxic exposures, including the report from the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine, I am directing initiation of rulemaking to consider creating presumptions of service connection for chronic respiratory conditions associated with exposure to airborne hazards during military service in Southwest Asia, Afghanistan and Uzbekistan during the covered periods of conflict, which may include asthma, sinusitis and rhinitis. Our approach to this process will be holistic, and we will base our decision on science, in fulfilling our responsibility to Veterans who may have suffered disability due to their service.

These decisions will affect millions of Veterans and families, and I encourage everyone in VA to always keep in mind the tremendous impact that we will be making in their health and quality of life as we go through these processes. I look forward to working with you as we further our goal of improving the lives of all Veterans. For more information, please go here: Airborne Hazards and Burn Pit Exposures - Public Health (va.gov).

Denis McDonough, United States Secretary of Veteran Affairs

Carnival Jubilee 2021

Another job well done!

THANK YOU!!!

AMERICAN LEGION POST #208
CHARTERS CUB SCOUT PACK 269

Pack 269

•Who? - Cub Scouts grades 1-5 from Patton Elementary and Greenbrier Elementary
•What? - The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.
•Where? - The Pack usually meets in the Patton School commons each month, but will likely have more presence at the American Legion Post thanks to our new partnership

Scout Oath

•On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

•A Scout is: Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, Reverent

Fostering a New Partnership

Flag Day's "Flag Retirement Ceremony" hosted by the American Legion Post #208 was the first of many events that the scouts of Pack 269 and their families will be able to participate in thanks to the new partnership between the two organizations. The ceremony taught the scouts about the significance of Flag Day, how veterans celebrate it, how to properly retire an American flag, and even showed them a 21-gun salute. We look forward to the '21/'22 school year!

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL

MERLE GUILD AMERICAN LEGION
POST NO. 208

JOINT INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

2021 – 2022

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2021

Installation: 2:00 p.m.

Dinner to follow

SPACE IS LIMITED
PLEASE SIGN UP NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

847-253-6632

Arlington Heights American Legion
121 N. Douglas Avenue
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Bingo

IS BACK .....

UPCOMING DATES:

July 23rd

August 13th & 27th

September 10th & 24th

7:30 p.m.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Regular Bingo Games / Special Bingo Games

PROGRESSIVE SPLIT THE POT GAME

American Legion Post 208
121 N. Douglas Avenue
Arlington Heights
847/253-6632
www.arlingtonheightsamericanlegion.org

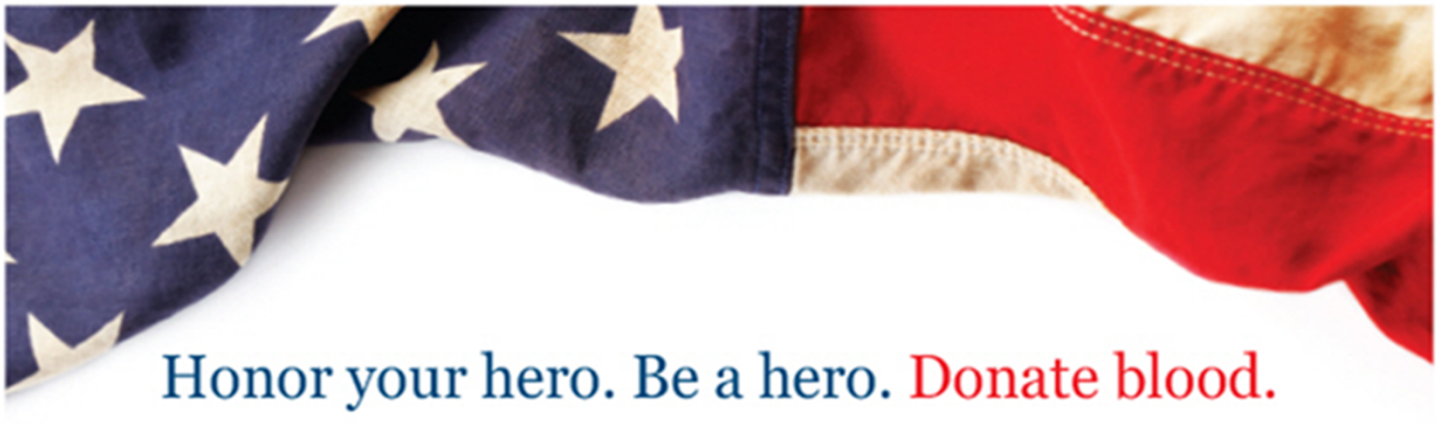
PROCEEDS BENEFIT OUR LOCAL VETERANS & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

QUEEN OF HEARTS

WINNER RECEIVES 40% OF THE JACKPOT

DRAWINGS HELD at 7:00pm on THURSDAY'S
(EXCEPT HOLIDAYS)
TICKET SALES END at 6:45pm

SEE THE BARTENDER OR QUEEN OF HEARTS TICKET SALESPERSON TO PURCHASE TICKETS AND TO REVIEW THE RULES



Honor your hero. Be a hero. Donate blood.

American Red Cross

American Legion Post 208 Blood Drive

Main Hall
121 N Douglas Ave
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Tuesday, September 28, 2021
9:00 a.m. to 2:00p.m.

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org

You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit redcrossblood.org/RapidPass for more information.

Bring a photo ID or your blood donor card, or two other forms of ID.
Site/building: none

Special offer from our partners at Amazon: To thank you for coming to give June 14-30, we'll send you a $5 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. Restrictions apply, see amazon.com/gc-legal. Terms and conditions apply; visit rcblood.org/together.

redcrossblood.org | 1-800 RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 Download the Blood Donor App today!

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CELEBRATE

August

1	Tony Balzan
1	Bernell Christiansen
2	Martin Zell
3	Joan Martin
4	Susan Kennedy-Sullivan
5	Dolores Tabert
6	Jim Zarno
7	Candice Ramirez
8	Gary Kremholz
10	Sarah Heyman
18	Sheila Strickler
20	Maribeth Kaspari
21	Christine Jones
21	Del Amato
22	Robert Knauber
22	Wendy Quezada
23	Lauri Grzelak
25	Ruth Foglestad
26	Bev Leistico
27	Maureen Blankfield
28	Patricia Metcalf
30	Melvin Markson
30	Karen Else
30	Brianne McBrayer
31	Nicole Boven
31	Dawn Fritz

September

2	Mike McIntyre
3	Debbie Nelson
3	John Nicosia
5	Lois Kurowski
6	Todd Earl
11	Isabella McDonnell
13	EdLandow
13	Conrad DeLatour
13	Cindy Hall
151	Kevin Ziobrowski
7	Linda Caldwell
17	Daniel Kelly
18	Elaine Izewski
19	Delores Cosentino
19	Kelly Dean
22	Alisa Pontarelli
23	Corinne Gerstmayer
25	Sheila Hall
29	Tom Ewald

Please send Birthday and Anniversary additions and corrections to:

NEWSLETTERFORPOST208@YAHOO.COM

August

2	Edward & Star Kucic
3	Steve & Barbara Doerner
5	Conrad & Joyce DeLatour
6	Brian & Christine Jones
11	Mike & Cindy McIntyre
29	Jack & Patricia Metcalf
30	Ken & Rose Maschek
30	Walt & Kathy Parus
31	Seth & Margie Ali

September

1	Joe & Janice Kapcheck
1	Jim & Phyllis Haslem
7	Herb & Irene Cohan
7	Chuck & Dian Davis
11	Martin & Lauren Zell
12	Tony & Irene Balzan
12	Gregg & Jennifer Vesely
24	Martin & Irene Boder

Congratulations everyone!
Here's to many more years of wedded bliss!

Are you interested in receiving a ***FULL COLOR*** version of the Post Newsletter? If so, send an email to the following: NEWSLETTERFORPOST208@YAHOO.COM

We'll send you a digital copy, in PDF format. We will also send you the link for you to download Adobe Reader if needed.

By receiving a digital copy, not only will you be saving trees, you'll also be saving your Post money.

Questions, call Donna Locher at 847-502-1002

Congratulations & Good Luck to the Post 208 Family of Officers for 2021-2022

Best of luck to you in the coming year.

Commander, Jerry Ziobrowski
Sr. Vice Cmdr, Joe DeCaluwe
Jr. Vice Cmdr,
Finance Officer, Glen Johnson
Chaplain, Jack Schwar
Sgt-At-Arms, Nick Paglia
Adjutant, Bob Choporis
Historian, Jim Zarno
Judge Advocate, Walt Parus
Service Officer, Bill Ford

Squadron Cmdr, Gary Crigler
Sr. Vice Cmdr, Tom McKevitt
Jr. Vice Cmdr, Doug Hunter
Adjutant, Dave Lipp
Finance Officer, John Walter
Chaplain, Jack Schwar
Sgt-At-Arms, John Peterson

President, Cindy Hall
1st Vice Pres, Pat Sienkiewicz
2nd Vice Pres, Sue Roberts
Secretary, Lois Kurowski
Treasurer, Donna Locher
Historian, Sue Fitzpatrick
Chaplain, Ernie Pasternak
Sgt-At-Arms, Jo Ellen Dobrow

Honorary Jr. President, Hailey Sullivan
Honorary Jr. 1st Vice Pres, Amanda Stephens
Honorary Jr. Secretary, Ashley Sullivan
Honorary Jr. Treasurer, Kendall Hunter
Honorary Jr. Historian, Carley Rebelleo
Honorary Jr. Chaplain, Bailey Ramirez
Honorary Jr. Sgt-At-Arms, Mia Ramirez

A Note from the Newsletter Editor

Greetings everyone, just a reminder, hand written articles for the Newsletter are no longer being accepted. All Newsletter Articles must be in a digital format, preferably Microsoft Word.

Newsletter Flyers must be created in either Microsoft Word, Powerpoint or PDF format. **JPEG format WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED**. I can assist you if required.

Just a reminder, your **next Newsletter Articles and/or Flyers are due no later than September 14, 2021**. Please send your Newsletter Articles and/or Flyers to **NEWSLETTERFORPOST208@YAHOO.COM**.

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS!! THIS IS FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS ONLY.

Donna Locher, Newsletter Editor
847-502-1002
NEWSLETTERFORPOST208@YAHOO.COM

A Note from the Website & Facebook Editor

Greetings everyone, if you have something of value that you'd like posted on the Post Website and/or Facebook page, please feel free to send them to me.

If you need assistance creating a flyer, get with me when I'm at the Legion and I'll assist you in getting it created.

If you've created a flyer, please make sure it has a ½ inch bleed (blank) space all around the outer edge.

Please send your Articles and/or Flyers for the Post Website and/or Facebook Page to post208news@yahoo.com.

Best Regards,

Glen Johnson, Website & Facebook Editor
847-253-7419 – Mobile
post208news@yahoo.com

Congratulations to our Summer Golden Bucks Winners

JUNE

Irene Balzan
John Morrow

JULY

Donald Zbylut
John Walter

Your Golden Bucks raffle prize is being sent to you via U.S. Mail. **Congratulations!**
Many thanks to everyone who participated in this fundraising effort as the raffle supports your Post and who knows…..you may just be our next lucky winner!
GOOD LUCK!

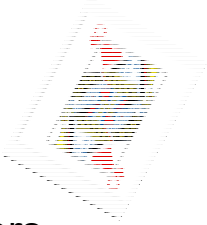
AUGUST, 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 AA 7:15-9:15	**2** USMC 7pm (CR)	**3** P.O.C. 6 p.m. Exec Board 7 p.m.	**4** VFW 981 7pm VH	**5** **Q.O.H.**	**6** **Karaoke**	**7** Rental Noon -5pm
8 AA 7:15-9:15	**9**	**10** Post 208 Mtg Aux Board Mtg 7:00 p.m.	**11** SAL Mtg 7:00 pm	**12** **Q.O.H.**	**13** **Bingo** **Karaoke**	**14**
15 AA 7:15-9:15	**16**	**17**	**18** USMC 7:30 VH	**19** **Q.O.H.**	**20** **Karaoke**	**21** **9th District Installation 11-3pm**
22 AA 7:15-9:15	**23**	**24**	**25** VFW 981 7pm VH	**26** **Q.O.H.**	**27** **Bingo** **Karaoke**	**28**
29 AA 7:15-9:15	**30**	**31**				

SEPTEMBER, 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 VFW 981 7pm VH	**2** **QOH**	**3** **KARAOKE**	**4** Rental VH 1 - 6 pm
5 AA 7:15-9:15	**6 LABOR DAY** USMC 7:00 CR	**7** P.O.C. 6 p.m. Exec Board 7 p.m.	**8** SAL Mtg 7:00 pm	**9** **QOH**	**10** **BINGO** **KARAOKE**	**11**
12 AA 7:15-9:15 **Jr Mtg** **11:00-2:00**	**13**	**14** Post / Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 p.m.	**15** USMC 7pm	**16** **QOH**	**17** **KARAOKE**	**18**
19 AA 7:15-9:15	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23** **QOH**	**24** **BINGO** **KARAOKE**	**25**
26 AA 7:15-9:15	**27**	**28** Red Cross Blood Drive 9:00 - 2:00	**29** VFW 981 7pm VH	**30** **QOH**		

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS



AUGUST

3 POC Meeting / Exec Board Meeting
5 Queen of Hearts
6 Karaoke
8 Merle Guild Joint Installation of Officers
10 Post Meeting / Auxiliary Board Meeting
11 S.A.L. Meeting
12 Queen of Hearts
13 Bingo / Karaoke
19 Queen of Hearts
20 Karaoke
21 9th District Installation
26 Queen of Hearts
27 Bingo / Karoake

SEPTEMBER

2 Queen of Hearts
3 Karoake
6 Labor Day
7 POC Meeting / Exec Board Meeting
9 S.A.L. Meeting
10 Queen of Hearts
12 Bingo / Karaoke
14 Junior Meeting
15 Post Meeting / Auxiliary Meetin
16 Queen of Hearts
17 Karaoke
23 Queen of Hearts
24 Bingo / Karaoke
28 Red Cross Blood Drive
30 Queen of Hearts

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121 N. Douglas Avenue
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

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