



The 21 Club



Named after Illinois' introduction to the union as the 21st state, our mission is to re-energize the abundant talent we already have in our professional and personal networks through exposure to leaders and elected officials, education about processes and pressing issues, and experiences shared among our friends and colleagues in social settings.

Message from The 21 Club Executive Committee

Welcome to the 21 Club. Welcome to a place where people are excited about the political process, where individuals can get involved in making a difference in Illinois, and where fun events around the city have already brought well over one hundred interesting, diverse young professionals together in an engaging atmosphere.

The 21 Club was established as a group to bring informed and inquisitive minds together to discuss national and local issues in multiple forums on a consistent basis. We are in the midst of planning events that range from breakfasts, featuring prominent Illinois leaders and elected officials, to happy hours around the city, where you can have one-on-one contact with legislators who are making big changes throughout Illinois.

We're proud to say that word of the group has gotten around to elected officials, party leaders, and influential types around Illinois, all of whom have responded with great excitement about the possibilities of this group.

Thanks for your interest in local politics. Your involvement is crucial now, as 2008 looks to be one of the most important political elections in the history of the United States. Not only do we want to hear your ideas, the state needs your passion and energy. Please read through this newsletter, attend one of our events, or reach out to other organizations and campaigns on page three that can really use your help.

Let's make a difference in this state together.

The 21 Club Executive Committee

Our Upcoming Events

- **March Leadership Breakfast**
with Special Guest
Congressman Mark Kirk

Join us for a continental breakfast and discussion by distinguished Congressman, Mark Kirk.

Please see attached flyer for details (last page)

- **April Happy Hour**

Date: Wednesday, April 9th

Time: 6-9pm

Location: The Grand Central
950 W Wrightwood Ave

Special: \$25, open bar

- **Next Issue**

Stay tuned for additional information on Spring and Summer events in the next edition.

** Contributions to the Illinois Republican Party are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.*

The 21 Club Kickoff Event



State Senate Republican Leader, Frank Watson addresses a crowd of over 150 professionals. All of the IL campaign chairpersons for the major presidential candidates attended, including Rep. Jim Durkin (left, McCain) and Sen. Dan Rutherford (Romney, right).

Contact Information

For further information or questions, please contact the following members of The 21 Club Executive Committee:

Mark J. Masson 814-880-2040

[Email Mark Masson](#)

Gerald Graunke 847-650-0172

[Email Jerry Graunke](#)



Meet Your Candidate: Dan Duffy



Dan Duffy, State Senate Candidate, 26th District

Message from Dan:

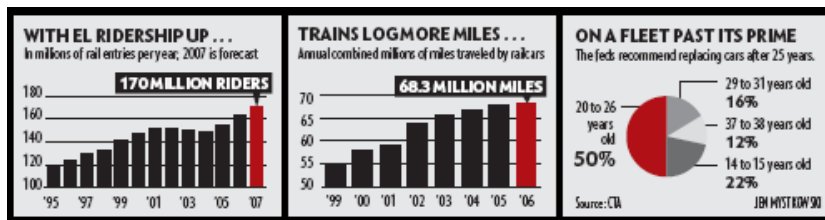
I grew up on the south side of Chicago, the youngest of eleven children. I went to school at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois and moved to the northwest suburbs after graduation. I married my college sweetheart, had five wonderful children, and started a computer consulting company out of our tiny apartment. Our company, Effective Data, is now the top EDI consulting firm in the Chicagoland area.

It was through my involvement as a small business owner that I decided to run for the Senate. Illinois has slipped to 45 out of 50 in job growth since this Governor has been in office and that is unacceptable. The focus in state government should be to encourage economic development in our state, NOT discourage it!

If elected, one of my top priorities will be to recruit the next generation of Republican leaders. As a party I believe it is imperative that we focus on the next generation - not just the next election. Once in office I will focus on future "farm team" players that have the passion and determination needed to turn the tide in Springfield. However before I can do anything, I must get elected. If you're interested in being a part of the Duffy team, please drop me an email (Dan@ElectDanDuffy.com) or give me a call at 847-381-8082. I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Spotlight on the Issues: What is the real story behind the CTA difficulties?

- Crain's Chicago Business recently investigated the [Chicago's CTA difficulties](#):
 - CTA states that ~ \$5.8B would be required to bring the system into a 'state of good repair'
 - Cost overruns on the Brown line expansion have been more than 150% (\$298M to \$780M)
 - "We are now standing, waiting for signal clearance ahead..." The highest-value project is said to be replacing mechanical switches with electronic ones so you hear this statement less often. This project would cost \$727M.



- The CTA's new chief executive has made a [Pledge to Customers](#)
- [Federal Matching Funds](#) require State procurement of non-federal funds

SAFETEA-LU will provide a total of \$286.4 billion nationwide through 2009. Of that, \$52.6 billion is earmarked for capital transit projects. For the period 2004 – 2009, Illinois is authorized to receive \$2.6 billion in transit formula funds and CTA will receive ~ \$1.3 billion of that amount. In order to secure the federal funding under SAFETEA-LU, CTA must secure 20 % in matching funds from non-federal sources. Securing CTA's formula funds for 2006 - 2009 will require more than \$200 million in matching funds. From 2000 - 2004, the region's matching funds came from Illinois FIRST legislation (expired on June 30, 2004), leaving transit agencies in Illinois without a source of non-federal matching funds.
- Not for the faint of heart – The [Proposed FY2009 Illinois State Budget](#) (Transportation section 10-45 through 10-53)

In the future, we will feature comments on past issues highlighted here from 21Club members, elected officials, or community leaders. Please send constructive comments and innovative ideas to the editors for inclusion. Only comments with a name attached will be printed.

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|----------------|--------------|--|
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Information From Other Organizations

Congressman Mark Kirk (IL-10)

Northbrook Office
707 Skokie Boulevard, Suite 350
Northbrook, IL 60062
Phone: 847-940-0202
www.kirkforcongress.com

Congressman Kirk continues to be a stalwart of the Illinois delegation and understands what it means to rise through the ranks of the party through diligence and hard work. Support a true leader.

Dan Duffy Campaign

PO Box 272
Barrington, IL 60011-0272
847-381-8082
Dan@ElectDanDuffy.com
www.ElectDanDuffy.com

Support one of our rising stars. Dan's enthusiasm for core Republican values and nurturing the future of the party is critical to our current and long-term success.

Candidate for U.S. Senate

Dr. Steve Sauerberg

Campaign Headquarters
1919 S. Highland Avenue
Suite D-127
Lombard, IL 60148
630-424-3490
<http://www.sauerbergforussenate.com/>

Chicago Republican Womens' Network (CRWN)

Contact: Kathy Thomas
President
www.crwn.org

Our mission is to promote political awareness among Republican women in the Chicagoland area. CRWN will further the interest of the Republican Party through the education of its members and will increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government through active political participation.

42nd Ward GOP

River North, Gold Coast, North Loop, and surroundings
Committeewoman Eloise Gerson
208 S LaSalle St
Suite 1721
Chicago, IL 60604
www.42ndwardgop.com

Join the most dynamic ward organization in Chicago, having more than doubled voter turnout in the recent primary! Contact Eloise to get involved and make a difference.

Chicago YRs

Happy Hour
Sidebar Grille
221 N LaSalle St
Wednesday, March 19th
Open to all

<http://www.chicagoyrs.com/Joomla/>

Contact the executive committee members listed at the bottom of the page to have your event or organization listed in this section. Your notice must be formatted similar to the ones you see on this page and should be geared towards the constituency of this newsletter (20-40yr old professionals, in or around the city of Chicago, who have solid networks and are potential future leaders)

Useful Links

IL State Legislature

www.ilga.gov

IL Republican Party Website

www.weareillinois.org

IL State Board of Elections

www.elections.il.gov

Learn who is in office or running for office in your area and their record

www.votesmart.org

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Leadership Breakfast with Special Guest Congressman Mark Kirk

Date/Time: Friday, March 28th, 8:00 am
Cost: \$25 (check, cash, or credit at door)
RSVP: The21Club@gmail.com, by March 20th
Location: The Metropolitan Club
Sears Tower, 67th Floor
Illinois Room
233 S. Wacker Drive
**Business Dress*

The 21 Club welcomes Congressman Mark Kirk



Mark Kirk represents the 10th Congressional District of Illinois located in the suburbs north of Chicago. Now in his fourth term, Congressman Kirk is a member of the powerful House Appropriations Committee and serves on two of its subcommittees: State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs, and Financial Services.

Congressman Kirk is co-chairman of the Tuesday Group, the caucus of mainstream Republican Members of Congress. In that capacity, Mr. Kirk works to advance a suburban agenda that is pro-defense, pro-personal responsibility, pro-environment, and pro-science. Congressman Kirk wrote a number of provisions which became law, including funding for commuter rail, improving veteran's health care, ensuring military voting, and boosting aviation security. Congressional Quarterly named

Congressman Kirk as one of the "28 Emerging Leaders in Congress."

Kirk began his career on the staff of his predecessor, Congressman John Porter. He later served in the World Bank, the State Department, the law firm of Baker & McKenzie, and the U.S. House International Relations Committee. Congressman Kirk is a Naval Reserve intelligence officer who served during conflicts with Iraq, Haiti, and Bosnia. He served four tours at sea and three in Panama. The U.S. Navy named Kirk 'Intelligence Officer of the Year' in 1999 for his combat service in Kosovo. Kirk flew on missions over Iraq and continues to serve one weekend a month in the Pentagon. Kirk is the only member of Congress to serve stateside during Operation Iraqi Freedom and was an air crewman over Iraq during Operation Northern Watch.

Representative Kirk graduated from New Trier High School and attended the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico before earning a B.A. from Cornell. He holds a Masters Degree from the London School of Economics and a law degree from Georgetown. Congressman Kirk and his wife, Kimberly, live in Highland Park, Illinois.

Funds received at 21 Club events will be deposited into the Illinois Republican Party's federal account unless otherwise prohibited. Contributions from foreign nationals are prohibited. A copy of our report filed with the State Board of Elections is (or will be) available for purchase from the State Board of Elections, Springfield, Illinois.

Contributions to the Illinois Republican Party are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

Paid for by the Illinois Republican Party. www.weareillinois.org.

Not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee.

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