

Badger Lodge News



Newsletter for United Lodge 66, Machinists Union, AFL-CIO
Chartered: November 30, 1895



Vol. 15 No. 9

www.unitedlodge66.org & www.youtube.com/badgerlodge

December 2013

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

December 10, 2013

7:00 PM

2609 W. Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53215
414-671-3800

*ALL Lodge Members are
Encouraged to attend.*

- **DAYTIME OFFICE HOURS - Tuesday thru Friday, 8AM to 4:30PM.**
- The deadline for articles for the January 2014 edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is December 25.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. *See last page.*
- **Membership Meetings NOW 2nd Tuesday** of each month.

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dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio



UNITED LODGE 66 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY



It's that time of year for the United Lodge 66 Christmas Party
to be held **December 14, 2013.**

There will be a Children's Party from **10am to 1pm.**

There are different guidelines for the children's party this year.

- Your children or grandchildren must be pre-registered with the Lodge this year. Call the Lodge 414-671-3800 with your name, the attending child's name, age and the company name where the member works.

The deadline for signing up is November 29, 2013.

- We must restrict the children to be accompanied by only 2 adults.
The Children's Party is for the children.



The Adult Christmas Party will be held the evening of **December 14, 2013 from 6pm 'til 10 pm.**

There will be refreshments and a buffet set up by the Executive Board.

Door prizes will be awarded every hour.

Come and celebrate the Holidays with fellow Union brothers and sisters.

See you there.



Here is a real Christmas present for all members to read.

Go to: www.unitedlodge66.org and click on the below link to read online or download.

[IAWAW 125 years of Making History,](#)

"The Power of OUR Union is Directly Related to YOUR Level of Activism in OUR Union."



Because of those purest Conservative, Tea Party, Reactionary Republicans we went through 16 days of a shutdown of our federal government.

BUT prior to that on September 12 the Republican House of Representatives voted for the 42nd time to derail the Affordable Care Act. That is 42 more times than they have voted on raising the minimum wage, increasing federal investments in our roads or highways or helping local school districts get the hundreds of thousands of teachers whose jobs were lost when the Great Recession cut local tax revenue back into our children's classrooms.

Will the Republicans do what is necessary for America?

IAMUNION

Machinists Union Membership Service

By Ivan Collins

United Lodge 66 Secretary Treasurer

There have been some questions about Membership Service with the Machinists Union.

The first thing to note that the Membership Service with the Machinists Union is based on continuous membership. That means your service with the union isn't broken at any time. The ways that continuous membership can be broken are withdrawal card or lapsing. This usually happens with a layoff or change of jobs. If you get a layoff and you take a Withdrawal Card that stops your continuous membership. If you pay \$2.00 per month while you are laid off and not working your membership continues. If you don't pay \$2.00 per month while laid off and not working after 2 months of no dues payment you lapse your membership. This also causes a break in membership.

If you lapse your membership with Lodge 66 the Reinstatement Fee is four (4) times the current monthly dues of the shop you want to reinstate to. If you reinstate your Membership with the Machinists Union starts from the date of reinstatement. Reinstatement with a Withdrawal Card also is the date your Continuous Membership starts with the union. Hopefully this will help with questions.

It is important to keep in mind company benefit situations are covered in your contracts and are addressed there.

In Solidarity,

Ivan,

414-671-3800 and
lodge66@gmail.com



There has always been a group or political philosophy which did not support Social Security ... the did not support Medicare.

But both of these programs have served working families better than expected.

One brought retirees out of poverty to give some base line of income and as a retiree a very good baseline.

The other has prevented retirees from going bankrupt from medical expenses and has kept us alive.

These same political forces would not have:

- Ended child labor
- Given an 8 hour work day
- Provided a safe work environment
- Given a defined benefit plan
- Health insurance while working
- Vacations



'EVER'

Activities for You and Your Family

- Milwaukee Area Labor Council delegate meeting: **December 4** at **6:30pm**.
- United Lodge 66 Christmas Party, **December 14, 2013**
- Machinists Union William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center class schedule for 2013 is available online (<http://winpisinger.iamaw.org/courselist>) or at your Union office. Or come to any Union meeting and just ask. This center is open to all members, you just need to be active and want to be the future leader at your worksite or at United Lodge 66.

Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans

For some retirement is right around the corner and for others they think it will never happen. Well it will happen for all and you need to think how you are going to protect your retirement and what you should do?

Joining the Wisconsin ARA is one small step to help protect your retirement so it will be respectful and to keep yourself informed. Here is some contact information or your Lodge or the editor can provide you with information.

- Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans, 6333 W. Bluemound Road, Milwaukee, WI 53213
- 414-771-9511
- wiara@att.net
- www.wisconsinara.org, state chapter website.
- www.retiredamericans.org, national website.

The Alliance for Retired Americans was founded in 2001, with over 3 million members; and our state chapter was founded in 2005 with now has 108,000 members.

The Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans is a voice for retirees and older Americans. Our goal is to educate, energize and mobilize Wisconsin seniors to make a difference through activism. We work to ensure social and economic justice for all citizens so that they may enjoy dignity, personal fulfillment and family security as senior citizens.

A primary objective of the Alliance is to enroll and mobilize retirees, seniors and community activists into a nationwide grassroots movement advocating an agenda that respects work and strengthens families. The long-term goal of the Alliance is to become the voice for all older Americans. By engaging in important political battles to protect and preserve programs vital to the health and economic security of older Americans, the Alliance will gain recognition as the country's leading grassroots senior organization.

The Wisconsin Alliance fights for:

- A strong Social Security system that provides guaranteed benefits & protects families for life.
- Health care seniors can depend on through Medicare
- Affordable and accessible prescription drugs
- Strengthen Pension laws
- Affordable and accessible long term care
- Continuation of the Wisconsin SeniorCare Prescription Drug program

If you are retired you do have the time to get involved to protect what you have worked on you life for and what others did by passing the Social Security Act in 1932 and Medicare in 1965. We do not have to allow the other side keep chipping away so you will not be able to live your 'golden years' in dignity.

The Fox News/Entertainment channel does not tell you the truth but is the mouth-piece of those wanting you to work until you die and/or suffer bankruptcy because of medical bills.

Join the alliance online: <http://wisconsinara.org/about/join-the-alliance> or we can send you an application to be done by mail.



A Unionists is

someone who self sacrifices their individual need for those of their brothers and sisters.



*Doug Curler, Dave Spengler and Tom Gadowski at
18th Annual Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans
Senior Power Lunch, October 14, 2013*

2013 Retirees Conference, Machinists Union

November 19 to 21, 2013 at Bally's Hotel, Los Vegas

by Doug Curler

I was very fortunate to be able to attend this conference with three days full of good information, informative speakers which ended with a dinner and music featuring the group, 'UnionNation.'

While a direct lost to the daily functions with our Machinists Union Retiree Department Charlie Micallef, PH.D, will be retiring as of 12/31/2013. He may be missed there but I am quite sure he will be pushing all retirees to be true Unionists. A part of his past is leading the Retiree Department from 2010; from 1988 to 2010, being one of the best Educational Representatives at our WWW Education and Technology Center at Placid Harbor; and from 1980 to 1988 being a tentured Assistant Professor at Ohio State University. We will all miss his presence.

The conference probably had some 400 retirees from throughout the USA and Canada. From this group about thirty came from out Midwest Territory and ten from Wisconsin.



The conference included these presentations:

A. Report regarding the work of the Retiree Department and introducing the Young Machinists and Retiree Mentor Program.

B. Presentation by Mark McDermott, a Unionist and Human/Labor Rights Activists on Retirees and Labor Movement Today.

(www.markmcdermott.com)
C. Rich Fiesta, Executive Director of the Alliance for Retired Americans spoke on the ARA, what it is doing and the involvement of our Union.

- D. The 2012 Election Experience of IAM Retirees in Florida and Ohio and the 2014 Plans for Mobilization.
- E. An introduction of the Machinists Union Executive Council and the IAM Leadership in 2013.
- F. An History of Leadership in Troubled Times and Honoring Past International President George Kourpias and Current International President Tom Buffenbarger.
- G. About our Retiree History and Local Lodge Program by Traci Drummond, Director Southern Labor Archives and Rachel Bernstein, Historian New York University. (<http://library.gsu.edu/147.html>) or Machinists Union (<http://research.library.gsu.edu/content.php?pid=278769&sid=2627223>)
- H. Building Retiree Power, the Minnesota Experience.
- I. A Intergenerational workshop and panel headed by Lavonne Ritter and Kevin Hawkins, both commissioners from Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services.
- J. Territorial Breakout Sessions to talk over issues affecting members.
- K. A Mentorship Report from the Young Machinists (those under age 35) and retiree mentors.
- L. FINRA Investor Education Foundation report by Susan Arthur, Associate Director on the information available to education consumers on investments. (www.saveandinvest.org)
- M. A political issues report on what is going on and needs to be done by Machinists Union Rick De La Fuente, Political Director.
- N. **Taking Back America our 2014 Mobilization.**

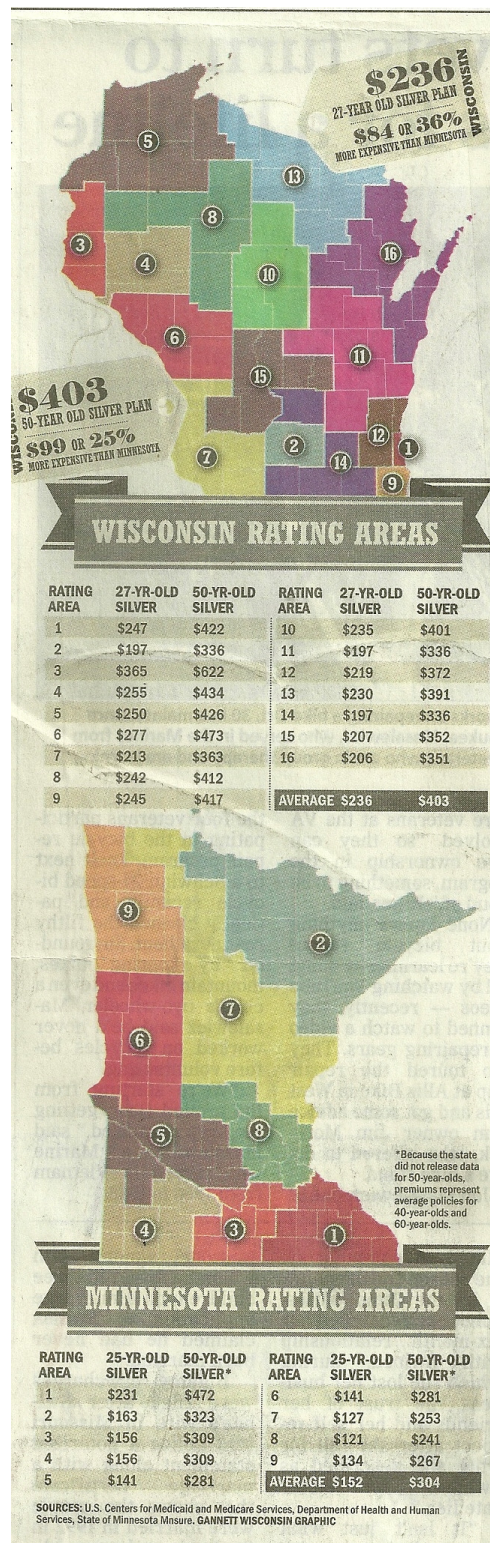
Affordable Care Act

Do any of us know what is the truth?

One thing for sure is that if you are one of the 26 republican governors, like Scott Walker, you will certainly not try to make it work.

The following piece from the Wausau Herald, shows a Democratic state with a state insurance exchange has premiums for similar ages but at 30% less.

Why? Maybe they tried!





The Alliance brought a populace protest to Wisconsin Republican Representative Ribble to highlight the Republican agenda to put seniors back prior to Social Security and Medicare.

In October, Fox Valley Residents delivered to Ribble: “Stop Betraying Our Veterans,” and Deliver 120,000+ Petitions Against Chained CPI

The chained CPI will harm Wisconsin veterans and seniors.

Outside Congressman Reid Ribble’s Appleton office, veterans joined area residents, state and national organizations in delivering over 120,000 petition signatures and sending a strong message: “No chained CPI benefit cuts.” Click here for photos from today’s event.

Area residents joined with the Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans, Social Security Works, the Wisconsin AFL-CIO, the AFL-CIO Union Veterans Council, the Northeast Labor Retiree Club, Marinette Central Labor Council, Fox Valley Labor Council, Progressives United, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, and others outside Ribble’s office pointed to a new report on how the chained CPI will harm Wisconsin Veterans and Social Security beneficiaries.



Citizens in Appleton Fighting for All Seniors and Against the Republican Agenda



Bernie Faust

Rep. Rib-

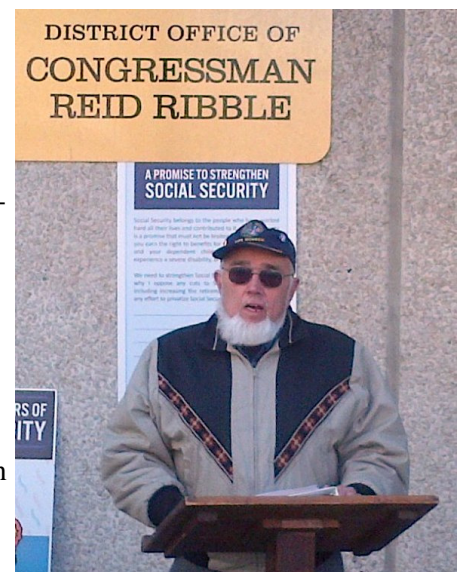
ble recently authored a letter, signed by 50 Republican Representatives, urging House Speaker Boehner to include Social Security cuts in current fiscal discussions regardless of the fact Social Security does not contribute to the federal deficit. Ribble is an outspoken advocate for raising the retirement age, adjusting the cost-of-living adjustment formula, means-testing Social Security benefits and other benefit cuts.

The stingier cost of living adjustment (COLA) formula, known as the chained CPI, would significantly cut the benefits of all current and future Social Security beneficiaries, four in ten are retired and disabled veterans. Veterans would be hurt most of all, given that other benefits veterans receive – in addition to their Social Security benefits – would also be cut by the chained CPI.

Bernie Faust, Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans Board Member and Tin Can Sailors Vice President said, “As a Korean War Veteran I am concerned that Congressman Ribble would even consider depriving a veteran of any benefit when they sacrificed so much defending our country.”

Tony Vanderbloemen, President of the Northeast Labor Retiree Club and a Vietnam War Veteran said, “Veterans fought to defend our country. Congressman Reid Ribble is fighting to cut our Social Security and other earned benefit programs. We must not balance

the budget on the backs of American soldiers who already sacrificed for us in Iraq, Afghanistan and countless other wars, nor the widows, widowers and children who have lost their family members.”



Tony Vanderbloemen

Attn: High School Students

Labor History Essay Contest

Win cash prizes up to \$500

For essays of about 750 words on the topic:

"Unions have been important to my family and my community because . . ."

The Wisconsin Labor History Society announces its High School Essay Contest for the 2013-2014 School Year. Wisconsin high school students (grades 9-12) are eligible to participate.

Students are urged to interview family members, neighbors, friends or others for their stories about work and unions. Teachers are urged to assist students in their efforts.

Read winning essay from 2012-13 contest! Go to:
<http://wisconsinlaborhistory.org/contests/high-school-essays>

TOP PRIZES!

- First Prize: \$500
- Second Prize: \$300
- Third Prize: \$200
- Honorable Mention: \$100
(Up to five awarded)



Wisconsin Labor History Society

6333 W. Blue Mound Rd.
Milwaukee WI 53213

Phone: 414-771-0700 x20

E-mail:

info@wisconsinlaborhistory.org

Rules: Essays should be approximately 750 words in length. They will be judged on understanding, evidence of original research, writing style and significance. Essays must be typed, double-spaced, on white paper. Two copies must be submitted (One may be a photocopy.) Please be sure to provide the following information on the cover sheet: Your name, address, home telephone number, your grade in school, name and address of your school, and, if you were encouraged or assisted by a teacher, the teacher's name. (Also, list your family's union membership, if applicable.) If you have any questions, contact: Harvey J. Kaye (920-465-2355 or kayeh@uwgb.edu). **Submissions must be post-**

marked Feb. 14, 2014 or before.

Send completed essays to:
Prof. Harvey J. Kaye
Center for History and Social Change
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Green Bay WI 54311

Leadership I - 2013

at Machinists Union WWW Education and Technology Center

by *Jim Robertson*

First off, I'd like to thank Local Lodge 66 for affording me the opportunity to attend this class. To say it was rough would be an understatement, (especially if you haven't been in school for a while). Classes all day, homework, then Labor history movies at night. As hard as it was, (a 3 - credit college course), it was just as interesting. The teachers are excellent and all come from the trenches, (stewards, committeemen, etc.). I learned a lot! I have been in the Union a long time and thought I knew a lot - Boy, was I wrong!

Along with classes at the Machinists Union William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center, we got to go to the International Association of Machinists Headquarters. The building is impressive. But, even more impressive are the people that work there.

The dedication and conviction is amazing! Plus there is a wealth of knowledge and resources that is unsurpassed by any Union anywhere!

I came away from this experience with new found hope and pride for what our Union stands for. In a manufacturing area, such as ours, that has been decimated by job loss, it was inspiring to see our union leadership at work! To see the magnitude of power & respect that the I.A.M. has, not just here, but internationally! And with other unions! I am looking forward to next year and Leadership -II. Thank - you again!



Jim Robertson

November 12, 2013 Business & Membership Mtg.



Secretary Ron Simmelink. (Certified Hunter Safety Instructor) Gave the membership an update on the new gun laws and hunting law changes for the 2013 hunting season.



Retired Brother Dave Spengler won the Union Sportsmen's Alliance gun raffle.

Seniors Corner

Update on Budget Negotiations: Talks Center on Sequestration

The federal budget deal that was reached in October created a budget conference to iron out the differences between the House and Senate budget resolutions. Because Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security would most likely come into play in a "grand bargain" scenario - which, to many, seems elusive at the moment - a main focus in the negotiations right now is on replacing sequestration cuts. According to the Center for American Progress, there are four factors making next year's sequestration cuts even more damaging than this year's. First, the sequester makes larger cuts in 2014 than it did in 2013. Second, many of the cuts that were legally made this year have not actually been implemented yet. More at <http://tinyurl.com/ly6m2c4>.

"Last month, Sen. Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and Democrats were united. They did not give up anything," said Mr. Burks. "We need to keep the pressure on lawmakers not to cut seniors' earned benefits, so that dynamic does not change," he continued. Pledge now to make a call on December 12th to tell your elected leaders to end the sequester, close tax loopholes, and raise the revenues needed for vital services. Click on the Alliance's pledge, created with several coalition partners including AFSCME and Social Security Works, at <http://tinyurl.com/n2rbz7c>.

Join the Wisconsin ARA Chapter
6333 W. Bluemound Road
Milwaukee, WI 53213
414-771-9511

<http://www.wisconsinara.org>

Alliance for Retired Americans
888-16th Street, NW Suite 250
Washington, DC 20006
202-974-8222 or 888-373-6497
Fax 202-974-8256

www.retiredamericans.org

Car Pooling

From Kenosha: Want to car-pool to Union Meeting? Contact Bob Paar for how it can be done: 262-605-0436 or bpaaroskenosha@yahoo.com



From Sheboygan: from Sheboygan or picking members up in Port Washington call: Ron Simmelink, 920-627-0325, from Kiefer & Company in Sheboygan.

Walker Campaign Investigated, again!

In mid-November, the conservative editorial page of the *Wall Street Journal* reported 30 conservative groups contributing to and defending Walker during the recall have been subpoenaed and three of these targets had their homes raided.

This is the 2nd John Doe Investigation surrounding Walker and his aides.



Stay tuned.



United Lodge 66 Hall & Union Office is **SMOKE FREE**.

United Lodge 66 Machinists Union
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414-671-3800

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2013

Officers, LL66 Machinists Union

President Mike Pietrzykowski
Vice President Larry Morrow
Recording Secretary . . . Ron Simmelink
Secretary Treasurer Ivan Collins
Conductor Sentinel Pepe Oulahan

Trustees: Tim Schwartz,
Bunny Browning, Dave Russell
Communicator Doug Curler
Educator Pepe Oulahan
Editor Doug Curler

The views and opinions expressed by various writers in this publication are their own and not necessarily those of the Editor, Executive Board or the LL66 membership. The Editor reserves the right to publish, edit, or exclude publication of any article submitted to "*Badger Lodge News*". Any member may contribute articles for publication; send to United Lodge 66, 2611 W. Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53215-4438. Phone and fax is 414-671-3800 or lodge66@gmail.com

<http://www.unitedlodge66.org>

<http://www.youtube.com/badgerlodge>

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**Business/Membership Meetings are
- 2nd Tuesday, 7PM each month.**

District 10 Office Directory

1650 S. 38th Street, Milwaukee, 53215;
dial 414-643-4334, then extension for
your Business Agent:

Russ Krings	13
Don Griffin	20
Ben Elizondo	19
Patrick O'Connor	17
Scott Parr	16
Greg Pursell	24
Alex Hoekstra	26
John Rolbiecki	25
Larry Morrow (Organizer)	15