

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 15 No. 4

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

July 2013

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

*****July 9, 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 August 2013 edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is July 23.
- 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 Hall
and
Union Office
is
SMOKE FREE.

IAM Legislative Conference

By Mike Pietrzykowski

I recently had the honor to represent Local Lodge 66 at the 2013 I.A.M. Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. Myself along with six other delegates from District 10 took the opportunity to visit a few of our elected officials to express our thoughts and concerns on upcoming legislation.

Issues brought to their attention were the Trans-Pacific Partnership "Free Trade" Agreement (TPP). This trade agreement on the surface appears to be more damaging to the American Worker than NAFTA. TPP which includes eight Pacific Rim nations, including Vietnam, Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Brunei, and Chili were the primary countries; but now TPP has been expanded to include NAFTA countries of Canada and Mexico, as well as Japan. This Bill is looking more like an invitation to U.S. corporations to move even more jobs off shore. To add insult to injury, this Bill is on the fast track, which means it does not get the full attention of congress because they surrender their constitutional responsibility over trade agreements. The fast track procedure only allows a yes or no vote with no modifications. This Bill is bad for ALL American workers.

Next is our need to preserve Social Security and Medicare which is essential to all of the American workers. We also need to preserve the multiemployer pensions such as our IAM Pension.

While congress refuses to negotiate a new budget, several Defense projects are in jeopardy of cancelation which would affect many IAM members. A few of these contracts are F-35 Joint Fighter with the U.S. projected to purchase 2,400 F-35s and another 700 in foreign sales. This could generate 22,000 direct U.S. jobs. Another is the F-18 Hornet, a \$6 billion project with tens of thousands of jobs and suppliers in 48 states. Next would be U.S. shipbuilding projected to build four destroyers and the Virginia-class submarine program. The IAM supports a fully funded NASA program. These projects are American made with many good IAM jobs and a boost to any local economy. Of course any and all job creation or training programs were supported.

It was pretty clear on where the political parties stood. Democrats like Tammy Baldwin, Gwyn Moore, Mark Pocan, and Ron Kind side of the working person. Republicans like Paul Ryan, Jim Sensenbrenner, Ron Johnson, and Tom Petri back corporate money. Republicans say they are trying to balance the budget. Their voting record says something else. The following bills were either blocked or defeated by Republicans: The Jobs bill (Sept. 2011), Wall Street Reform, Fair Pay Act, The Dream Act, Anti-Rape Amendment, Small Business Jobs Act, Benefits for Homeless Veterans, Health Care for 9/11 First Responders, Tax on companies that ship jobs overseas, and unemployment extension bill HR-4213.

The next election cycle is right around the corner. Learn the facts and voting record and let's vote for the working people of the USA.



Mike & Gwyn

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

Wisconsin Legislative/Budget Process

The legislative process has been completed with the Republican Controlled Joint Finance Committee reporting out their legislative ideas for Wisconsin Citizens for the next two years. This bill was sent to the Republican Controlled State Senate for their stamp of approval. After this it is sent to our Republican Governor Walker, where he can and will modify, strike out anything in the budget by his veto power. During this whole process there was no compromise for differing opinions. Simply my way or the plank.

Some of the items affecting Wisconsinites:

- **Tax cuts**; which may seem nice but the higher got a bigger reduction to continue the trickle down philosophy of providing jobs vs putting more money in all of our pockets to create the jobs.
- **Unemployment Insurance**; was cut for those unemployed and any suggestions from the Unemployment Insurance Advisory Council (includes both management and labor) was not allowed. This is a first time of not going along with the recommendations of this council.
- **Badger Care** allocation was decreased; which is a major provider for certain longer term health care for seniors as well as the funding of the meals on wheels for low income seniors. (*Which this editor does volunteer in Antigo with the Aging, Disability and Resource center for the meals, But some of the money is being cut, which means a decrease in service for seniors.*)
- **A private bail bond system**; which would turn the money over to the bail bondmen where right now the victims of a crime can get some compensation. Victims of crime would not get this compensation but would have to sue the criminals going to jail???



WWW.Labornotes.org

Labor Notes is a media and organizing project that has been the voice of union activists who want to put the movement back in the labor movement since 1979.

Through their magazine, website, books, conferences and workshops, they promote organizing, aggressive strategies to fight concessions, alliances with workers' centers, and unions that are run by their members.

Labor Notes is also a network of rank-and-file members, local union leaders, and labor activists who know the labor movement is worth fighting for. We encourage connections between workers in different unions, workers centers, communities, industries, and countries to strengthen the movement—from the bottom up.

That movement is needed because workers are being hit hard by their employers. We have lower real wages, less job security, and smaller, weaker unions than our mothers and fathers did.



Learn What Is Wrong With The TPP

All the information **in bold** in the last paragraph is available through links on the home page of our website at:

www.unitedlodge66.org.

Just ask your lodge to send the information to you if you have received a hard copy of this newsletter and do not have access to the internet..

If we thought NAFTA in 1994 coming from President Clinton was bad, this will complete the corporate global initiative pushing American workers to the bottom.

The **Trans-Pacific Partnership (toolkit)** explains this bad trade policy proposal. Individual members need to **Plan their own collective Day of Action** against the Trans-Pacific Partnership. We must **not allow a Fast Track** of this Bad Public Policy. Read the material, mobilized your friends and agitate Your elected representatives.



Activities for You and Your Family

- **Milwaukee Area Labor Council: July 3, at 6:30pm.**
- **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.

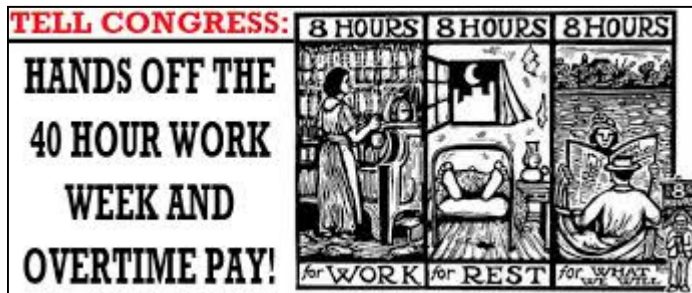


To find out who is your representative then go to: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/pages/waml.aspx>.

Once on this page you can search in two ways.

1. By Street Address
2. Using District Maps

After entering your street address, your state senator and assemblyperson will be shown. Right under them will be some links to your members of congress in Washington DC, both in the house and senate. *Now write to them.*



5th Annual Benefit for Guide Dogs of America July 20, 2013

Rain date: July 27, 2013

All makes and models of motorcycles are welcome!

IAM DL 10
1650 S. 38th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53215

*Motorcycle
Poker Run*



Registration at 8am ... Drive/Rider meeting at 8:30am ...
Poker run 9pm SHARP

For information about these events and/or vendor/sponsorship option,
contact Steve Galloway @ 630-548-2450 or 651-231-3605
email: sgalloway@iamaw.org

Sponsored by the
IAM Midwest Territory
www.spiritofthemidwest.org

Guide Dogs of America
Delivering the Gift of Freedom
for Over Fifty Years
www.guidedogsofamerica.org



The House Republican Study Committee's budget would have cut Social Security by switching to the chained CPI and increasing the normal retirement age to 70. It would have ended Medicare as we know it by moving it to a premium-support (voucher) program. This budget did fail on March 20, 2013 by a roll call. There were 132 votes against and 171 votes 'present.' No Democrats voted for it.

One of the 104 votes in favor came from Wisconsin Republican, James Sensenbrenner of the 5th Congressional District.

While voting is a private matter, any senior or Union member, who does live in his district and may have even thought of voting for him *should re-evaluate how and for whom they do vote.*

Historic 1941 Almanac Singers Tour

Thursday, May 18, 2013 at 7PM
Milwaukee Turners Hall
1034 N. 4th Street, Milwaukee
Admission is \$10.00

By Rik Palieri & George Mann,
Musicians and folksingers

Hear famous union songs of Woody Guthrie & Pete Seeger, plus original music.

The musical group, "The Almanac Singers," in summer of 1941 climbed into a midnight blue Buick and blazed a trail across the USA, spreading the gospel of Unionism and bringing folk music back to the people. One of their stops was to visit the UAW Local 248 pickets at Allis-Chalmers.

They played in Union Halls, on picket lines, theaters and radio shows, planting seeds wherever they went.

Sponsored by: Wisconsin Labor History Society (more info: 414-687-6954 or info@wisconsinlaborhistory.org)

Veterans Badge Night at United Lodge 66

June 8, 2013



Mike,
giving
out
50 Year
Mem-
bership
pins.



Members getting their 50 Year Pins: Howard Britten, David Milosch, Richard Willer & Clarence Slagowski.

Baldwin trumps Johnson on Senior Issues

By Leon Burzynski, President Emeritus Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans

The release of the 2012 voting record on 10 key issues affecting current and future retirees by the Alliance for Retired Americans speaks volumes about the ideology and political differences between Senator Tammy Baldwin and Senator Ron Johnson.

The issues considered include Social Security, Medicare, prescription drugs, taxes and other senior programs. Although Baldwin served in the House during 2012 and Johnson in the Senate, it is not difficult to make the comparison of where she and Johnson are on senior and retiree issues. Baldwin's record stood at 100% favorable on senior issues, while Johnson was at 0% favorable. Their lifetime percentages are the same.

Baldwin voted against the privatization of Medicare, realizing a voucher system would lead to significantly higher out of pocket costs for seniors. Johnson, in the Senate version, voted for the voucher scheme and has spoke in favor of it during public comments. During a hearing of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, Baldwin explained, "Medicare has served my family and millions of others well for decades. It has kept Americans secure that when they reach their older years, guaranteed health care coverage will be there for them."

Ron Johnson - Republican,
running for Senate in Wisconsin
in 2010,
says Social Security
is a Ponzi Scheme.

The future of Social Security is another area where Baldwin and Johnson's views are diametrically opposed. Initially, Johnson claimed Social Security was unsustainable, a 'Ponzi Scheme,' and should be eliminated. He continues to claim there is no Social Security Trust Fund, in spite of the fact that the 2013 Social Security Annual Report indicates a balance in excess of \$2.6 trillion, all held in interest bearing U.S. Treasury bonds. The trust fund will continue growing until 2020.

Prescription drugs issues further illustrate the political divide between Baldwin and Johnson. Baldwin supports requiring Medicare to negotiate the prices of drugs as a part of the Medicare Part D prescription plan. She has supported legislation to allow prescription drugs reimportation for individual consumers from Canadian pharmacies. Johnson opposed both the reimportation and the negotiated prices for Medicare Part D.

The Affordable Care Act contains several pro-retiree provisions. Baldwin supported the ACA, which strengthened Medicare for Wisconsin Seniors and extended the life of the Medicare Trust Fund by eight years. Seniors now have access to free preventive care and will pay less out of pocket for prescription drugs. In 2011, almost 650,000 seniors in Wisconsin received a preventive service under Medicare with no out of pocket costs.

Johnson made it clear from the first day of his campaign, and in almost every public uttering since, that his No. 1 goal is to repeal the ACA. He apparently does not care about the millions who already receive coverage as a result of the act, the millions more who will get coverage, or the millions on Medicare who will have increased medical costs if the ACA is repealed.

The differences between Baldwin and Johnson should be no surprise. Baldwin's life experiences definitely give her an advantage when considering political issues important to seniors. Baldwin was raised by her grandparents. She witnessed firsthand the importance of government programs for seniors. She understands that retirement security is a key concern of not only retirees, but also those hoping to retire. Johnson, with his wealth, has no concerns about retirement.



Seniors Corner

Medicare Must Retain Crucial Protections against "Balance Billing"

"Balance billing" is a practice that occurs when health care providers, such as physicians or hospitals, feel that they have not been paid enough by a patient's health care plan, and they make up the difference by levying charges on the patient. Currently, Medicare includes protections that make this practice illegal for all approved Medicare services. However, a Medicare reform bill recently **proposed by House Republicans** does not include the balance billing protections. To learn more about balance billing and how to protect yourself, go to <http://tinyurl.com/qcm636l>. To read a letter from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) defending the protections, go to <http://tinyurl.com/k7uu5me>. "Removing Medicare's protections against balance billing would leave seniors vulnerable to unfair and unexpected charges," said Mr. Coyle. "We are staunchly opposed to any legislation that would remove these protections."

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.

Guide Dogs of America



Finding The Way Together

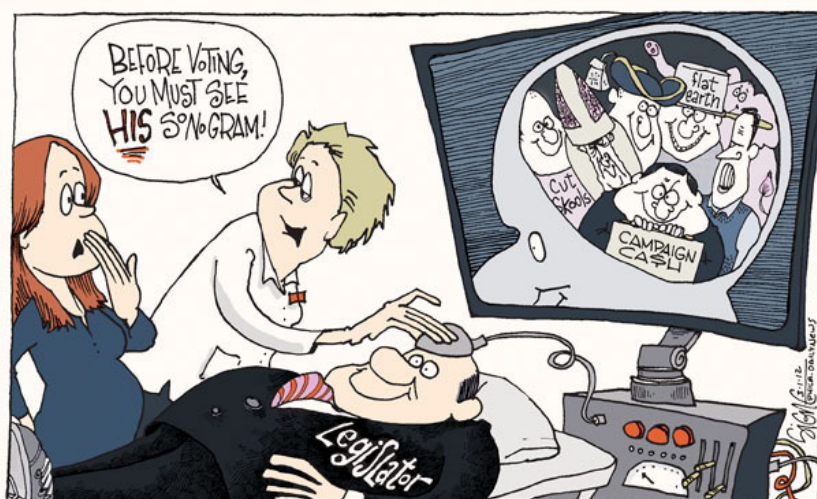


July 20, 2013 Poker Run Info:

If you want more information for yourself or to post contact United Lodge 66 for the following info:

- Motorcycle Poker Run Flyer
- Motorcycle Poker Run Letter
- Pledge Form
- Poker Run Registration Form

Also all are online at: www.unitedlodge66.org



Officers, LL66 Machinists Union

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Vice President Larry Morrow
Recording Secretary . . . Ron Simmelink
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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>
dwc/amawll66, afl-cio

**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

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