

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 16 No. 3

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

March 2014

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

March 11, 2014

7:00 PM

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

*ALL Lodge Members are
Encouraged to attend.*

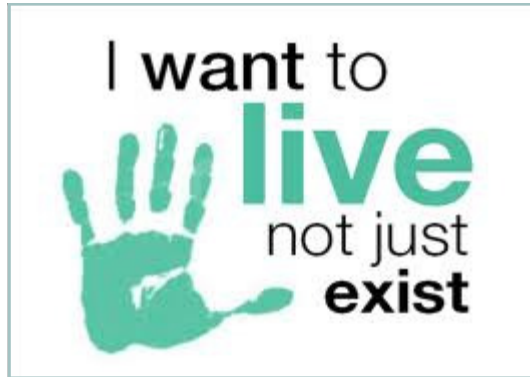
- **DAYTIME OFFICE HOURS - Tuesday thru Friday, 8AM to 4:30PM.**
- The deadline for articles for the April 2014 edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is March 20.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. *See last page.*
- **Membership Meetings NOW 2nd Tuesday** of each month.

CONTENTS:

District 10 Installation	Pg. 2
Profiles in Courage	Pg. 2
Activities for YOU	Pg. 2
Should You Wait to Claim Social Security	Pg. 3
Milwaukee Area Labor Council Send Your Story	Pg. 3
Milwaukee Area Labor Council Survery	Pg. 4
Batshit Crazy	Pg. 4
Senior Corner	Pg. 5

dwc/iamaawll66, afl-cio

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



Article by Pepe Oulahan

On February 6, 2014 Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance that means pay raises for approximately 8000 workers by requiring entities contracting with the Milwaukee County to pay their employees a minimum wage of \$11.33 per hour. This wage would bring the workers affected to 100 percent of poverty level for the area.

This "Living Wage Ordinance" is the product of the work of a coalition of over 40 labor, community and faith based groups including IAMAW District 10. Stating early last spring coalition partners knocked on doors, made phone calls and otherwise reached out to eventually garner the support of 12 Milwaukee County Supervisors. This level of support was necessary to override the promised attempt to veto the ordinance by Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele.

In a statement issued after the vote the lead organization in the drive Jobs Now stated: "This victory represents the truly amazing things that can happen when grassroots and workplace organizing efforts come to fruition".

Detractors of the ordinance have claimed the cost of the ordinance will create a burden on taxpayers. However, County Supervisor David Bowen, who championed the bill counters that "allowing workers to make poverty wages with government funds is not only wrong, it is a drag on the local economy as those workers are forced to rely on the County's social services to pay their bills. When you provide workers with a living wage, it puts more money in their pockets and lifts the economy", stated Bowen.

In addition, representatives of both Dane County and the City of Madison have stated that similar ordinances that have been in effect in their areas for 15 years have not hindered the economy but have helped those areas to thrive.

The coalition is now focusing their efforts on overriding County Executive Chris Abele's promised veto of the ordinance.

"For Abele to do this (veto) now after seeking labor support in his election is very disappointing. We won't forget it," said one coalition member.

State Attempts to Thwart Effort

Shortly after passage of the Milwaukee County Living Wage Ordinance State Representative Chris Kapenga from Delafield introduced a State Assembly Bill that would out law the passage of local minimum wage laws in municipalities in Wisconsin when they involve state or federal funds.

While that bill has passed the Assembly Committee it has since been met with mixed reactions from other state legislators.

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



by doug curler

When you see this phrase you think of one of our great presidents but in this case it is for Tim Schwartz, a member of United Lodge 66. His courage is shown from stepping forward and running for the Cudahy School Board. He did make it through the February 18 primary and will fight it out in the April 2014 Spring election.

Tim is a 15 year member of Machinists Union Lodge 66 as well as the shop chair at Lakeside Manufacturing. Currently he is a trustee on the executive board at Lodge 66. Tim has always volunteered in the activities at the Lodge to help spread out the work load.



Tim

As a family man he and his spouse have raised five girls all who have attended the Cudahy school system and he is a 1980 graduate.

After graduating Tim did spend a tour in the U.S. Army.

District 10, Machinists Union Joint Installation Dinner

The district held its 53rd Annual Joint Installation Dinner on February 15, 2014. It not only served as the installation for the district officers and those of affiliated local lodges but to also honor the retirement of Grand Lodge Representative Richard Michalski. He is a Milwaukee native coming out of the GE facility; holding many local and district positions and finally that at our International Headquarters.



Larry Morrow, LL66 Vice President;
Richard Michalski;
Mike Pietrzykowski, LL66 President.



Larry, Mike;
Tom Buffenbarger,
International President Machinists Union ;
Phil Neuenfeldt, President Wisconsin AFL-CIO

What is a Unionist?

A Unionist is one who puts aside their individual needs and individual self interest for that of the membership.

An Unionist forgoes their personal agenda for that of their fellow members.

An Unionist is not an:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elitist | <input type="checkbox"/> Racist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexist | <input type="checkbox"/> Classist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homophobic | <input type="checkbox"/> Xenophobic |

He also likes his up north activities to catch a few fish and spend time hunting, as well as participating in the past events in Madison on the recall of our corrupt, now governor walker ... or his antics which he does not recall ... as Milwaukee County Executive.

If you see Tim at work, at the Lodge or out in public, simply thank him for stepping forward ... which seems natural for him.

Activities for You and Your Family

- Milwaukee Area Labor Council delegate meeting: **March 5, 2014 at 6:30pm**, new location at Juneau Complex, in auditorium, 6415 W. Mount Vernon.
- Christmas Videos are at www.youtube.com/badgerlodge.
- 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.

Should You Wait to Claim Social Security?

Contributed by: Brian Goode, Financial Representative from the Union Financial Team. Brian is a dues paying member of IAM Local Lodge 66. Brian is available for a no cost financial / retirement planning for all Lodge 873 members Ph.262-835-9111 email: goode.brian@princor.com



Brian

Many people file for Social Security as soon as they stop working and/or become eligible for benefits. Full retirement age is 66 for most baby boomers and 67 for those born in 1960 or later, but Americans can claim early worker benefits starting at age 62.

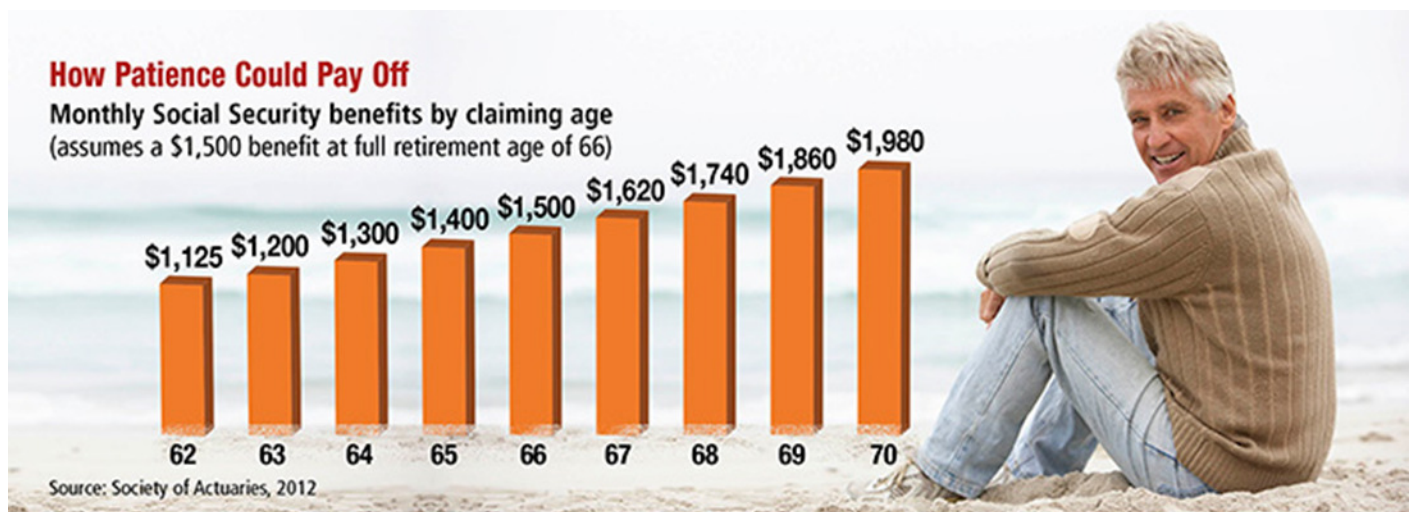
The monthly benefit increases with claiming age by up to 8% a year, so filing early could cause you to lose out on thousands of dollars in benefits, especially if you enjoy a long life.

Consider this hypothetical example: Paul could receive an annual benefit of about \$15,400 if he files at age 62, \$20,500 if he files at age 66 (full retirement age), or \$27,100 if he waits until age 70. If Paul waits until age 70 to file for Social Security and lives to age 95, he could receive about \$677,000 in cumulative benefits (in today's dollars). This compares with roughly \$500,000 if he files early at age 62.

If you are relatively healthy and have other savings to draw upon in retirement, it may be in your best interests to delay claiming benefits. Married couples may also be able to increase their total benefits by coordinating when and how they file for Social Security.

In general, you should weigh your financial resources, potential taxes, health, life expectancy, and other factors when making this important decision. For more information, visit the Social Security Administration website at www.ssa.gov.

Source: CNNMoney, July 31, 2013



The information in this article is not intended as tax or legal advice, and it may not be relied on for the purpose of avoiding any federal tax penalties. You are encouraged to seek tax or legal advice from an independent professional advisor. The content is derived from sources believed to be accurate. Neither the information presented nor any opinion expressed constitutes a solicitation for the purchase or sale of any security



The Milwaukee Area Labor Council is looking for you to **'SHARE YOUR STORIES'** and help us **'TELL OUR STORY'**

We're asking you to tell your story by sharing examples of how being in a union has affected you!

Sharing your story is easy to do. Click on the link at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GXSM23J> and answer a few questions. It takes only 10 – 20 minutes. The deadline for responses is February 26, 2014.

Upon completion of the questionnaire, your name will be entered in a drawing to win a \$25.00 gift card from Pick N Save. Follow the directions on the questionnaire to be sure your name is properly entered in the drawing. Winners will be announced at the March 5, 2014 delegate meeting.

In Solidarity and thank you for taking the time to share your stories and for your continued support of the Milwaukee Area Labor Council.



SURVEY



We Need Your Feedback! The Milwaukee Area Labor Council is asking for your opinions and help as we work to create new strategies to communicate with our members, affiliates and supporters. The survey takes only 5 minutes to complete. Click on the link at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MBBNZXB> to answer a few brief questions.

Upon completion of the survey, your name will be entered in a drawing to win a \$25.00 gift card from Pick N Save. Follow the directions on the survey to be sure your name is properly entered in the drawing. Winners will be announced at the March 5, 2014 delegate meeting.

In Solidarity and thank you for taking the time from your busy day to complete the survey and for your continued support of the Milwaukee Area Labor Council.



With less than 24 hours' notice, **Republican leaders in Madison** called a last-minute Labor Committee to discuss multiple bills that will have a big impact on working people in the State of Wisconsin.

These bills are expected to go to the State Assembly and Senate shortly.

Click here to contact your legislator in

opposition of the following legislation: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/pages/waml.aspx>, this is the legislature website. *Simply insert your address to find out your state representative or state senator; or call your Union office at 414-671-3800 and we will help.*

Assembly Bill 611 relates to the provision of compensatory time off in lieu of overtime compensation by non-Union private sector employers. This bill destroys long-fought for overtime protections for workers. Instead of fairly compensating an employee for overtime hours worked by paying the employee time and a half in wages, employers will be allowed to substitute comp time off. The employer will have final say over when a worker can take the comp time. This is a destruction of long-standing wage and hour laws that protect workers from overtime abuses by employers.

Assembly Bill 667, the 7-day work week bill, would remove the 24-hour required rest period in a 7-day work week. This bill is a dangerous attack on worker safety and workplace rights. Human beings are not machines. People need rest for their physical and emotional well-being. Workers have earned the right to time off-the-clock to spend with family, friends and to take part in community activities. Removing the required rest period leads to intimidation in the workplace and to an environment where bosses can pressure workers into working every single day of every single month without needed rest.

Assembly Bill 750 would preempt local living wage ordinances that apply to employees whose work is partially or wholly funded by the State treasury. This bill would weaken efforts by local communities to improve wages for working families. In particular, this bill would have a devastating impact on home care workers. The Assembly Labor Committee voted along party lines to approve AB 750 yesterday, February 13, 2014.

Together, these bills pose a frightening and stark reminder that workers' rights are constantly under attack in Wisconsin by GOP lawmakers who care more about scoring political points with big-business allies and campaign contributors than doing right by working people. Please contact your legislator today and urge them to vote NO on these anti-worker, anti-family bills.



Send Your Thoughts,

To those who should be working for you!

President Obama

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500
www.whitehouse.gov

Senator Ron Johnson, Republican

386 Senate Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-5323
www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact

Senator Tammy Baldwin, Democrat

1 Russell Courtyard
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-5653
www.baldwin.senate.gov/contact.cfm

Representative Paul Ryan, 1st District, Republican

1233 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-3031
www.paulryan.house.gov

Representative Gwen Moore, 4th District, Democrat

2245 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-4572
www.gwenmoore.house.gov

Representative Jim Sensenbrenner, 5th District, Republican

2449 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-5101
www.sensenbrenner.house.gov

Representative Tom Petri, 6th District, Republican

2462 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20215
202-225-2476
www.petri.house.gov

Representative Sean Duffy, 7th District, Republican

1208 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-3365
<https://duffy.house.gov>

Governor Scott Walker, Republican

115 East Capitol
Madison, WI 53707
608-266-1212

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

Seniors Corner

February 21, 2014, President Obama Takes the Chained CPI out of his Fiscal 2015 Budget

In a great victory for the Alliance, White House staff has announced that President Obama's Fiscal 2015 budget will not include a switch to the chained CPI formula that would limit cost-of-living increases in Social Security and other programs. Alliance members who had worked diligently for months in the hope that the change would not be implemented - and that earned benefits would not be cut - celebrated the news jubilantly. Especially relieved and excited were the thousands of Alliance members who had joined hands at dozens of "Human Chain" events held nationally last July (<http://tinyurl.com/kocng72>).

"We are thrilled with reports that President Obama heard Alliance members from across the country and removed the chained CPI cut to Social Security and other programs from his 2015 budget," said Richard Fiesta, Executive Director of the Alliance.

Mr. Fiesta continued, "Now that the pesky chained CPI is out of the way, we can focus on the real task at hand, articulated well by members of Congress like Senators Tom Harkin (D-IA), Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), as well as Rep. Linda Sanchez (D-CA), which is to expand Social Security so that it fits the retirement security needs of today."

Mr. Fiesta added, "The Alliance for Retired Americans made eliminating the chained CPI our top priority of the past year. We held dozens of 'Human Chain' events with thousands of Alliance members all across the country, and are elated that they paid off." To see the complete Alliance press release, go to <http://tinyurl.com/kzpcclw>.

Deficit hawks said Obama's move to shelve chained CPI likely kills any chance of a grand bargain for the rest of his term. In an effort to save \$230 billion over 10 years, the President had proposed adopting a new way of calculating benefit increases that assumes consumers don't always pay higher prices for products but rather substitute with cheaper alternatives. The net result is a lower inflation rate than measured by the conventional consumer price index. For additional coverage, including a Miami Herald article mentioning the Alliance, go to <http://tinyurl.com/m2medu5>.

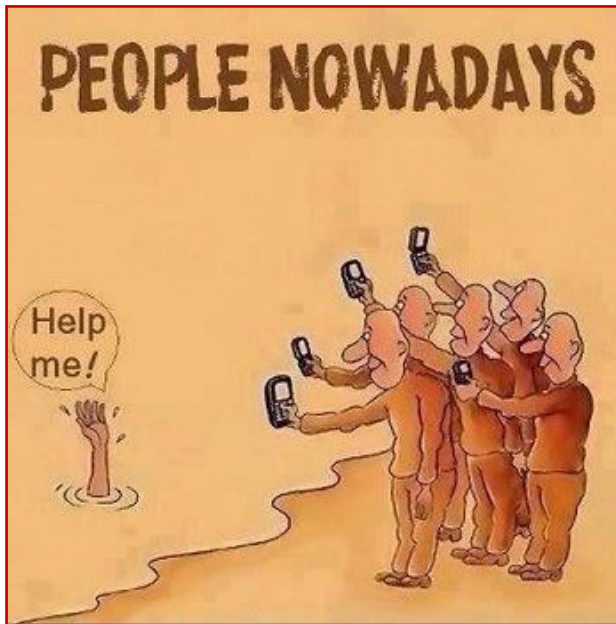
Just prior to the President's announcement, 117 Members of the U.S. House, led by Rep. Allyson Schwartz (D-PA), had signed a letter (<http://tinyurl.com/mmhbowc>) urging him not to include the chained CPI in his 2015 budget, and 16 Senators had signed a letter, spearheaded by Sen. Sanders, urging him not to cut Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid (<http://tinyurl.com/l4xjdlu>)

Join the Wisconsin ARA Chapter

6333 W. Bluemound Road
Milwaukee, WI 53213
414-771-9511

<http://www.wisconsinara.org>

Hopefully,
this
is
not
your
involvement?



John Boehner

Republican Speaker John Boehner has indicated they do no plan on passing any more legislation until after the November 2014 elections ... then they should give up their paychecks?

Unless you support the Republicans do nothing until November, please go online to support this petition:

<http://pac.petitions.moveon.org/sign/tell-congress-no-work>



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>

dwc/tamawll66, 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

United Lodge 66 Machinists Union
2611 W. Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53215-4438
414-671-3800

www.unitedlodge66.org

www.youtube.com/badgerlodge

dwc/tamawll66, afl-cio