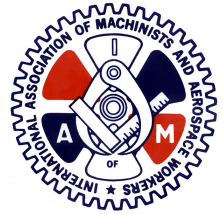


Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 17 No. 5

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

May 2015

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

May 12, 2015

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 June 2015 edition of the “Badger Lodge News”, is May 20.
- Contract Issues **MUST be settled** by your Business Agent at District 10. *See last page.*

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Triangle Fire of 1911

by doug curler

Two years after the Triangle Fire, New York implemented safety measures but it took **148 burnt young girls and women** to give up their lives for a better workplace. *(53 jumped to their death, 19 jumped down the elevator shaft, 22 died on the fire escape stairs as it pulled away from the building, 54 burnt to death on the 8th floor worksite)*

In 1991 the Hamlet chicken processing plant fire in Hamlet, North Carolina, at the Imperial Foods processing plant, resulting from a failure in a hydraulic line. 25 workers were killed and 55 injured in the fire, trapped behind locked fire doors.

In 2012 at the Tazreen Fashions factory in Bangladesh 112 workers died in a fire because some managers ordered the employees to ignore a fire alarm and continue to work. Smoke and fire spread throughout the building, many workers were trapped, unable to descend the smoke-filled staircases, and they were blocked from escape by iron grilles on many windows. *(then about 6 months later at the same location the building did collapse and 1200 perished)*

Whether 1911, 1991, 2012 or anytime in between or in the future workers need to realize the employers do not always have their best interest. **Corporations only exist for the simple reason ... to make money.**

Now back to the one hour movie on the Triangle Fire which was more than the fire in 1911. It started out a bit earlier in 1909 and garment industry in New York City. There were some 500 different manufacturers employing more than 20,000, mostly women and young girls, who immigrated from Europe and become a part of the American dream.

The workers, as now, were considered an asset, an exploitable resource, and the free market took place of any safety standards. These immigrant workers were managed by their immigrant owners who felt entitled to pay their workers what they wanted how they wanted and the owners deserved the wealth created by their workers.

But 1909 was a time of unrest and the workers did want more. There was a strong movement to Unionize the shops, for a shorter workday, for more pay and a safe work environment. As in earlier times the Union Leadership did not support a general strike but one of the Union Organizers, who had been beaten by the police, stood up at a mass meeting and her presentation carried the vote.

Some 20,000 workers went to work the next day but at one single action they stood up at their machines and walked out the door. A city wide general strike was on. Within short time 70 of the manufacturers gave in and accepted a Union shop. Triangle did not and its owners, Mike Blank and Isaac Harris, formed a manufacturers group. This group had their private guards beat the strikers, had the police arrest the strikers and had the judges fine and imprison the strikers.

continued on page 2



In 1909 there was no labor legislation and no safety laws.



- The 20th Annual Senior Power Luncheon will be on October 12, 2015 at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee.
- There are 16 applicants for the new Executive Director of the WisARA. The committee will meet soon to discuss those who have applied.
- We have endorsed and hope our state legislators move forward with a state sponsored long term care investment savings program to support future long-term care needs and receive tax credits for doing so. The name of the program is InvestaCare and complete information is available at: <http://bit.ly/1Ez9ztZ>.

The Wisconsin ARA Board met in April 13, 2015. The finances and future of the alliance was discussed.

- The March 2015 Convention in Madison was a success with 135 delegates from across the state with 15 exhibitors.

IAM Retiree Conference Call

April 15, 2015
by doug curler

The call was short with a reminder of the upcoming Retiree Conference to be from November 15 to 20.

Also that with passage of the TPP, prescription drug prices will most likely increase.

Also, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Union has developed and established guidelines in the event of a natural disaster, flood, hurricane, tornado, etc., affecting the lives of our members and their families. Any members affected need to first contact their Local Lodge with the information to be forwarded to the International.



continued of Triangle Fire of 1911

There was hope for a while when a wealthy heiress, Ann Morgan (father was JP Morgan) marched with the strikers. She also had other 'wealthy' women form their own committee to give support to the strikers. As the strike wore on Ann Morgan continued to give her support for increasing pay but she came out strongly against the request of having a Union shop. She finally stopped giving support.

By early 1910 most of the workers were back and the employers agreed to a Union shop. The Union shop meant more than just wages but the right to challenge workplace issues and safety. Triangle was one of the employers who did agree to improvements but **would not agree** to a Union shop.

The manufacturing for the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory was located on the eighth (8th) floor and the ninth (9th) floor. The owners were located on the tenth (10th) or top floor. There was one freight elevator and one passenger elevator. Saturday, March 25, 1911 was to be a short 8 hour day but suddenly smoke developed on the 8th floor from a discarded cigarette. The flames spread fast and no-one alerted the 200 workers on the 9th floor.

It should not surprise any worker but Mike Blank and Isaac Harris escaped from the 10th floor by crossing over the roof top to the next building!

As the 9th floor filled with smoke the only fire prevention were six buckets filled water but workers could not find them. The fire department came within 20 minutes but their ladders only got to the 6th floor.

Some of the workers did use the fire escape ladders but the weight was too much and the fire escape ladders pulled away from the buildings and the workers fell to their death.

On the last run of the freight elevator workers jumped down the shaft trying to hold on to the cables falling to their death. Burning bodies fell to the street and it was reported to be 3 and 4 deep. The safety nets held by the firefighters broke from the weight of falling bodies. It was reported the same police who had beaten the strikers in the previous year just wept.

The owners were acquitted of manslaughter because it could not be proven that they knew the doors and windows were locked. As a matter of fact they did collect \$60,000 more insurance money than the cost of their factory. They even went on to develop another factory! (capitalism at its best)

What the Triangle Women of 1911 realized they could not look to the laws or the government and that they had to do it themselves.

Are today's workers forgetting that we should be able to go to work and not be killed?





What is ALEC?

ALEC is not a lobby; it is not a front group. It is much more powerful than that. Through the secretive meetings of the American Legislative Exchange Council, corporate lobbyists and state legislators vote as equals on 'model bills' to change our rights that often benefit the corporations' bottom line at public expense. ALEC is a pay-to-play operation where corporations buy a seat and a vote on 'task forces' to advance their legislative wish lists and can get a tax break for donations, effectively passing these lobbying costs on to taxpayers.

Along with legislators, corporations have membership in ALEC. Corporations sit on ALEC task forces and vote with legislators to approve "model" bills. They have their own corporate governing board which meets jointly with the legislative board. (ALEC says that corporations do not vote on the board.) Corporations fund almost all of ALEC's operations.

Participating legislators, overwhelmingly conservative Republicans, then bring those proposals home and introduce them in statehouses across the land as their own brilliant ideas and important public policy innovations—without disclosing that corporations crafted and voted on the bills.

ALEC boasts that it has over 1,000 of these bills introduced by legislative members every year, with one in every five of them enacted into law. ALEC describes itself as a "unique," "unparalleled" and "unmatched" organization. We agree. It is as if a state legislature had been reconstituted, yet corporations had pushed the people out the door.

ALEC

We will be doing a new series over the next months on ALEC.

For some this is old and for many this is new.

But ALEC is controlling the legislative agenda throughout America.

Most of the material is from The Center for Media and Democracy, ALEC Exposed.

On March 25, 2015, former editor of the Waukesha Freeman Pete Kennedy published an opinion piece in the paper urging Wisconsin conservatives to not only **reject Scott Walker**, but to **hold him accountable** for the damage he has done to the state.



[Download
Spring
Issue](http://unionsportsmen.org/site/assets/downloads/usa-magazine/usa-magazine-spring-2015.pdf)

<http://unionsportsmen.org/site/assets/downloads/usa-magazine/usa-magazine-spring-2015.pdf>

Activities for You and Your Family

- **Milwaukee Area Labor Council** delegate meeting: **May 6, 2015** at **6:30pm**, new location at Juneau Complex, in auditorium, 6415 W. Mount Vernon.
- Join us at 3 p.m., Sunday, May 3, for the 129th Anniversary Commemoration of the Bay View Tragedy to be held at the Bay View Rolling Mills Historical Marker site at S. Superior St. and E. Russell Ave. near Milwaukee's lakefront.
- Videos are at www.youtube.com/badgerlodge.
- **Machinists Union William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center** class schedule for 2015 is available (<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.



Boeing - Charleston, SC. We are voting yes campaign.

April 8-20. District 19 DBR Russ Krings, BR Greg Purcell and Organizer Larry Morrow. There were over 100 IAMAW volunteers from across the country participating. The Vote Date is scheduled for April 22nd.

District 10 also sent Darrel Schepp to Moline, IL to participate in a "We are voting yes" campaign. His name is Darrel Schepp out of LL 873.

The vote date is April 15th.



Recent Changes to Certain Multiemployer Pension Funds

The Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014 allows certain multiemployer plans to apply to the Department of the Treasury for a reduction of benefit payments. These Plans must be in "critical and declining" status, which means they are projected to run out of money in less than 20 years. Then, plans must apply to the Department of the Treasury for approval, and notify all Plan Participants and Beneficiaries of the application process. If approved, the reduction of benefits application is brought before the Plan's Participants and Beneficiaries for a vote. If rejected by the Plan's members, the reduction of benefits may only be overturned if the Plan is considered a "large plan," meaning it will require federal funding assistance valued at more than \$1 billion. Only in these cases can the Department of the Treasury override the vote of the Plan Participants and Beneficiaries. The Act also specifies that no reduction of benefits may occur for Participants aged 80 or older, or for benefits based on disability. Limitations on how to calculate the reduction of benefits are based on Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) guarantees.

The Previant Law firm represents the Wisconsin AFL-CIO and your Machinists Union.

IN WISCONSIN



PREVAILING WAGE WORKS

PREVAILING WAGE is the wage set for workers on publicly-funded construction projects.

PREVAILING WAGE serves as a wage floor and ensures a level playing field for workers and Wisconsin contractors alike.

PREVAILING WAGE works for Wisconsin; it makes sure construction projects are top-quality by using highly-skilled, well-trained workers to complete projects on time and on budget.

PREVAILING WAGE creates value through good wages for workers, stability for contractors and safe buildings for citizens. Protecting prevailing wage laws are essential for safe communities and strong families.

VALUE: Prevailing wage means the best value for taxpayers by delivering high-quality construction in the safest and most efficient manner possible.

QUALITY: Prevailing wage laws ensure that public investment in development results in high-quality workmanship.

SAFETY: Wage laws support a system of reliable infrastructure that we can count on for safe roads, bridges and buildings for the public. Prevailing wage helps keep workers safe on the job by preventing needless injuries.

TRAINING: The prevailing wage law structure supports a strong system of training and apprenticeship programs, supplying a robust pipeline of skilled labor to the state. The system works. Wisconsin workers are amongst the most skilled, efficient and well-trained in the country.

WAGES: Prevailing wage laws ensure that the competitive bidding process is not used to undermine community wage levels and living standards. By setting wage rates, contractors compete fairly and win bids based on merit.

COMMUNITY: Prevailing wage means projects hire local workers from our communities, ensuring your neighbor and not someone from out-of-state gets the job. Good wages mean workers can spend more at local businesses and boost the local economy.

STRONG FAMILIES: Proud, skilled labor equals strong investment in our communities, our families and our future.

YOUR UNION IS FIGHTING TO SAFEGUARD PREVAILING WAGE

PW0415

129th Anniversary Commemoration

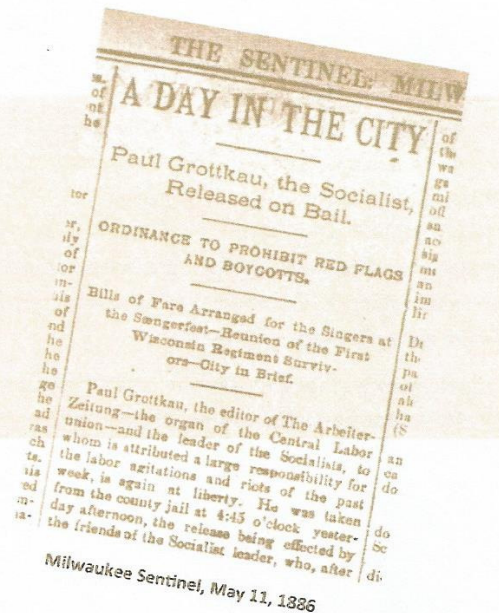
Bay View Tragedy

3 p.m., Sunday, May 3, 2015

**Bay View Rolling Mills Historical Marker
Site**

S. Superior St. and East Russell Ave., Milwaukee

Public Welcome - FREE



***This year's event will link the struggles of workers in 2015
to those seven who were killed during 8-hour day march
in the 1886 Bay View Tragedy!***

PROGRAM

Jennifer Epps-Addison, Executive Director, Wisconsin Jobs Now

A Tribute to Larry Penn, Wisconsin's Labor Troubadour

Featuring Craig Siemsen, AFT member and Milwaukee folksinger

Re-enactment of 1886 incident

Milwaukee Public Theatre and Milwaukee Puppet and Mask Theatre

Laying of Commemorative Wreath / Remembrance

Anita Zeidler

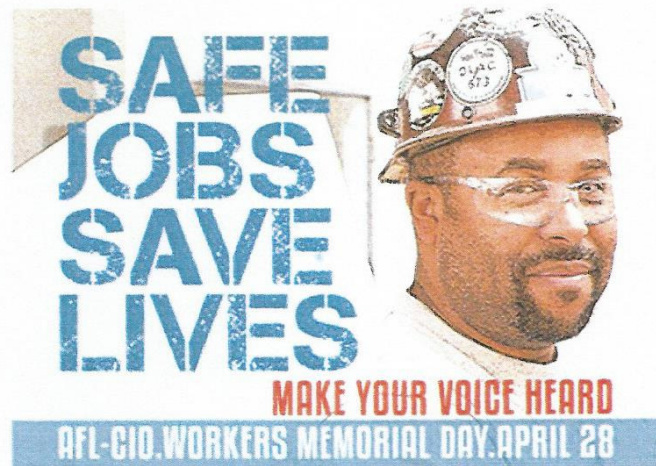
Music, Tributes



Sponsored by the Wisconsin Labor History Society

6333 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee WI 53213. 414-771-0700 x20—email: info@wisconsinlaborhistory.org

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY



Every year on April 28, the unions of the AFL-CIO observe Workers Memorial Day to remember those who have suffered and died on the job and to renew our efforts for safe workplaces. This year the struggle continues to create good jobs in this country that are safe and healthy and to ensure the freedom of workers to form unions and, through their unions, to speak out and bargain for respect and a better future. It's time for our country to fulfill the promise of safe jobs for all.

**On TUESDAY, APRIL 28 at
5:00 pm JOIN the Milwaukee &
Waukesha Labor Council's at our
ceremony commemorating Workers
Memorial Day. We will gather at Zeidler
Union Square Park (4th & Michigan) and
remember our brothers & sisters who
have been injured or killed on the job. A
dinner and program will be held at the
Postal Workers Hall (417 N. 3rd St.)
following the event at the park. For more
information on the dinner please contact
Jim Schultz at 414-933-2338**

Milwaukee & Waukesha Area Labor Council's 26th Annual

HEALTH & HYGIENE DRIVE



Nearly two dozen Milwaukee & Waukesha homeless shelters are in need of health and hygiene products. Help by collecting items, running workplace drives and asking others to donate.

COLLECTION DATES

April 6 - June 5

DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

- **Milwaukee Area Labor Council**
633 South Hawley Road, Ste. 110
- **Waukesha County Labor Council**
1726 South West Avenue
- **Milwaukee & Waukesha Fire Department Stations**
- **United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County**
225 West Vine Street

*Monetary donations are also accepted.
Please make checks payable to Labor Community@Work.*

QUESTIONS?

Jay Reinke
AFL-CIO Community Services Liaison
414.771.7070 ext. 16
jay@milwaukeeelabor.org

NEEDED:

- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Non-alcohol mouthwash
- Razors & shaving cream
- Combs, brushes & hair picks
- Hair care products
- Spray deodorant
- Lip balm
- Baby products
- Feminine products
- Paper products
- Laundry supplies
- First aid supplies

Sponsored by:
Milwaukee Area Labor Council
AFL-CIO and the AFL-CIO Community
Services Committee



AFL-CIO
COMMUNITY SERVICES

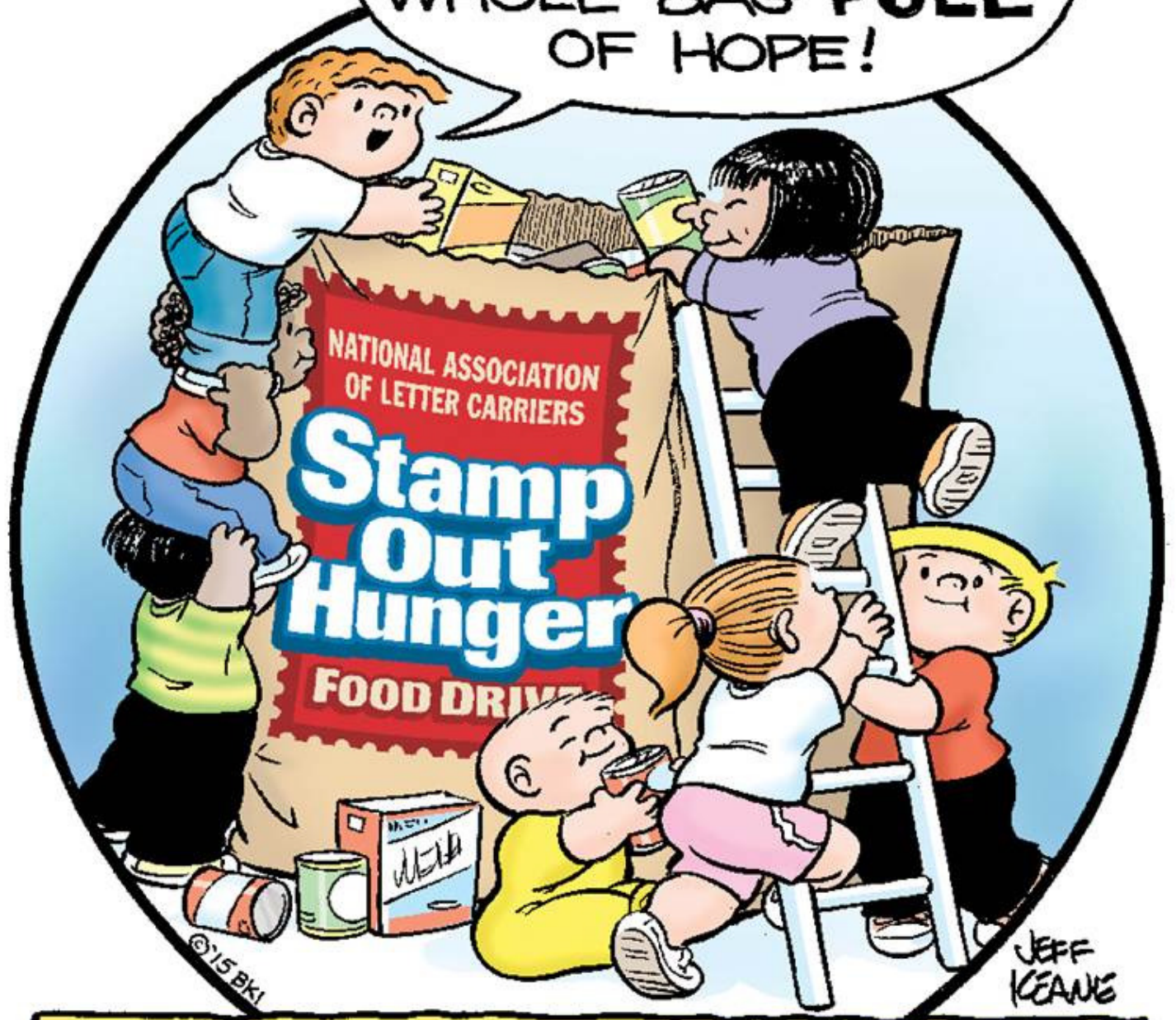
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MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

United Way
Greater Milwaukee
& Waukesha County

IF WE ALL
WORK TOGETHER
WE CAN DELIVER A
WHOLE BAG FULL
OF HOPE!



LETTER CARRIERS'

FOOD DRIVE

SAT., MAY 9, 2015



Monday - May 25, 2015
Parade Steps Off At 2pm

Milwaukee's 150th Anniversary Memorial Day Parade

Saluting Milwaukee County Veteran Of The Year - Gary G. Wetzel CMOH

This years parade will feature:
Color Guards, Marching Units, Bands, Military Vehicles, Motorcycles, & much more.

Parade starts at 4th Wisconsin Ave. Goes East to the War Memorial Center.

Wreath Laying - POW/MIA Ceremony
Sponsored by the Memorial Day Parade Committee
Takes place immediately following the end of the parade.
Held at the Reflecting Pool on Fitch Plaza (2nd Level)
The Metropolitan Community Band will perform.

Since 1865, the Memorial Day Parade, has been a Milwaukee tradition.

The Memorial Day Parade is presented by:
Volunteers of the General Memorial Day Committee.
It is funded entirely on private contributions.

Please Support The Milwaukee Memorial Day Parade

Contributions can be sent to:
General Memorial Day Committee
C/O War Memorial Center
750 North Lincoln Memorial Drive
Milwaukee, WI. 53202

Milwaukee Memorial Day Parade
www.war-veterans.org/Parade.htm

President Obama Smacks Down Republican Attack on Union Elections

from April 2, 2015 IMail

A streamlined and simpler election process for workers seeking a union will stand after President Obama vetoed a Republican measure that would have blocked the common sense rule changes.

The National Labor Relations Board's (NLRB) new election rule, due to take effect on April 14, is designed to modernize the union certification process and stop companies from unnecessarily delaying union elections. Anti-union consultants often encourage companies to use litigation to slow down representation elections.

"Workers need a strong voice in the workplace and the economy to protect and grow our nation's middle class," said Obama. "Unions have played a vital role in giving workers that voice, allowing workers to organize together for higher wages, better working conditions, and the benefits and protections that most workers take for granted today. Workers deserve a level playing field that lets them freely choose to make their voices heard, and this requires fair and streamlined procedures for determining whether to have unions as their bargaining representative."

The new rule provides for electronic filing of election petitions; ensures employees, employers and unions receive timely information; cuts down on unnecessary litigation and adopts best practices across all NLRB regions.

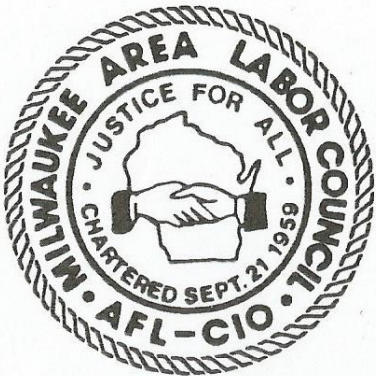
"President Obama is right in his commitment to vetoing this harmful legislation, and Congressional Republicans should focus their efforts on lifting workers up instead of shutting them out," said AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka.

[Click here](https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/03/31/remarks-president-signing-memorandum-disapproval-regarding-sj-res8) (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/03/31/remarks-president-signing-memorandum-disapproval-regarding-sj-res8>) for President Obama's remarks about vetoing Congress' resolution against fair union election rules.

[Click here](http://www.c-span.org/video/?325105-2/president-obama-signs-memorandum-disapproval-regarding-sj-res-8) (<http://www.c-span.org/video/?325105-2/president-obama-signs-memorandum-disapproval-regarding-sj-res-8>) for video remarks from President Obama.

Opinion

- While not all Democrats do the right thing and we disagree with President Obama on his trade proposals.
- It is fair to say that **99.9% of Republicans are not our friends** and like Governor Walker they believe the minimum wage of **\$7.75** is a living wage!
- So if you vote Republican you will get what they believe.



Our 6th Annual Awards Event is approaching fast. We would like our partners and friends to save the date as we celebrate our 56th year as the
Milwaukee Area Labor Council

Save The Date

Saturday, June 27, 2015

Hilton Milwaukee City Center

rl/opei9 afl-cio

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 Ron Kind, 3rd District, Democrat

1502 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-5506
<https://kindforms.house.gov/contact>

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 Glen Grothman 6th District, Republican

501 Cannon Office Building
Washington, DC 20215
202-225-2476
<https://grothman.house.gov/contact/email>

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

Seniors Corner

Fiesta: Prescription Drug Costs May Increase Under Trans-Pacific Partnership

Senior lawmakers reached agreement on Thursday on a trade promotion authority bill to negotiate the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Two Republicans — Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI) — negotiated for months on the “fast track” trade legislation with Sen. Ron Wyden, an Oregon Democrat who has faced intense pressure from labor and progressive groups to walk away from the talks. Under fast-track legislation, the final deal cannot be amended by the Senate and would be subject only to an up or down vote.

Labor and retiree organizations have been lining up to oppose this “fast-track” bill and broader portions of the coming TPP. The deal would place barriers on the government’s ability to regulate drug prices and impede access to generic drugs. If passed, this deal could significantly increase the price of many medications for seniors.

In a press statement, Alliance Executive Director Richard Fiesta said, “Retirees are deeply concerned about the TPP and the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) legislation. Unfortunately, the fast track procedures of TPA would enable changes to prescription drug prices to occur without open and full debate.”

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

If you can delude yourself

REPUBLICAN FAMILY VALUES



Vote Republican

Officers, LL66 Machinists Union

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

Trustees: Tim Schwartz,

Bunny Browning, James Cobb
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/amawll66, afl-cio

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

What is an Unionist?

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

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

An Unionists is not an:

Elitist

Sexist

Homophobic

Racists

Classist

Xenophobic

District 10 Office Directory

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

Russ Krings	13
Ben Elizondo	20
Patrick O'Connor	17
Scott Parr	16
Greg Pursell	24
Alex Hoekstra	26
John Rolbiecki	25
Joe Terlisner	19
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/amawll66, afl-cio