Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 15 No. 7

www.unitedlodge66.org

& www.youtube.com/badgerlodge

October 2013

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

October 8, 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 November 2013 edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is October 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/iam	awll66, afl-ci

Power Corrupts: Absolute Power Corrupts Absolutely

The State of Wisconsin and a lot of the other states having one party in complete control gives proof to this old saying.

We first had Act 10 negating most collective bargaining rights of most public employees and putting undue burdens on those public employee Unions that are left. Along with this came a decrease in state revenues to city and county governments, as well as public schools; causing a decrease in services in localities.

Then for sportspersons we have AB194 to include the use of crossbow in the normal archery hunting season. At every April spring hearings of the Wisconsin Conservation Alliance and DNR in all 72 counties this idea has always been voted down by the sportspersons in attendance. Along came the crossbow industry and the NRA and pushed through AB194.

Then there is the Gogebic mining site in Northern Wisconsin and a bill proposed by Republican Tiffany to close off 4000 public areas of land covered under the state managed forest land law. Such tax supported land is always open to the general public for recreational purposes and helps develop our timber land. This program was created in 1985, it has 30,000 other land owners in it but Tiffany has refused to look at any other alternatives. Tiffany did not have enough votes in September but he will be bringing it back in October.

Then into the Republican Wisconsin State budget was inserted a \$500,000 state grant, all tax payer money, to promote hunting, fishing and trapping. The only problem with the wording was only one group, United Sportsmen of Wisconsin, is the only group that could qualify. Because of the wording from Republican Assembly-

person Scott Suder. United Sportsmen of Wisconsin has strong ties to GOP lawmakers (and Terry Kohler) and a record lobbying for pro-mining, pro-cross bow but no outdoor training record. Besides this group misstated their tax-exempt status and its president illegally shoot a bear in 2005. Much worse if this would have went through, Wisconsin would have lost \$28 million in federal funding for conservation efforts. Only after a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel investigation exposing all this and the possible loss of federal funds, did Walker come to any sense and video this Republican Budget Scandal.

"Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

~John Emerich Edward Dalberg, Lord Acton (1834–1902)



Members need to keep the flame lite

For the truth about corrupt government not working for the people.



New Wisconsin Health Coverage Option Report

Report documents consumer choices and competition on new health insurance marketplace for every region of Wisconsin. Statewide: On a media call Thursday August 22nd, Citizen Action of Wisconsin released "The Wisconsin Health Coverage Option Report" (audio here). The full report tracks the number of insurance companies competing for consumers' business in all 72 counties. The report reveals the number of health insurance choices for consumers in each Wisconsin county in the new marketplace created by the Affordable Care Act. Enrollment begins October 1. The full report can be downloaded here.

The Wisconsin Office of the Insurance Commissioner released a list of insurance providers that will participate in the new marketplace earlier this month, but did not release information on the geographic reach of each plan. This report fills this gap, making it possible to evaluate the amount of choice consumers will have in every region of Wisconsin.

This report finds a wide selection of insurers available for the vast majority of the Wisconsin public, which has positive ramifications for cost, access and availability. 100% of Wisconsin citizens will have access to at least 2 insurance companies to choose from on the competitive health marketplace, and multiple plan options. 98.9% of Wisconsin citizens will have 3 or more insurance companies to choose from, and 68.6% of Wisconsin citizens will have 4 or more insurer choices available.

Additionally, the amount of plans to choose from will be wide. Every Wisconsin citizen will have a minimum of 4 options on the competitive health marketplace, 98.9% having at least 6 options available. These options are characterized as "Silver" or "Gold" plans, and do not even include "Bronze" plans, "Platinum" plans, Catastrophic plans or multiple plans from an insurer of the same precious metal. Meaning additional plans are highly likely.

"The array of options for the vast majority of Wisconsin citizens is good news for those concerned about quality affordable healthcare for all," said Kevin Kane, Healthcare Organizer and report author. "The results show we as a democracy can step in and fix a broken insurance market. We can provide greater opportunity, freedom and choice to our citizens; as well as offer protections to consumers from the threat of pre-existing condition discrimination and other insurance abuses."

Kev Findings:

- 100% of all Wisconsin citizens will have at least 2 insurance company options available to them on the individual health marketplace, as determined by county breakdown of insurance company service area.
- 98.9% of all Wisconsin citizens will have 3 or more insurance company options available to them on the individual health marketplace to choose from.
- 68.6% of all Wisconsin citizens will have 4 or more insurance company options available to them on the individual health marketplace to choose from.

This level of market competition is achieved even without United Healthcare and Humana, both companies who declined to participate in the new marketplace in 2014 but have both announced intention to join in 2015. If these companies join the marketplace, the new results would be 99.6% of Wisconsin residents having 3 or more options, 94.2% of Wisconsin residents having 4 or more options.

Options in front of consumers are numerous. 98.9% of Wisconsin consumers will have at minimum 6 insurance plans to choose from.

Of the major metro areas of Wisconsin, Madison and Fond du Lac have the most insurers competing on the health marketplace (6 insurers), followed by Manitowoc, Janesville, Appleton and Green Bay tied with 5 insurers. Tied for least insurers competing on the marketplace are the metro regions of Superior, La Crosse, Milwaukee and Rhinelander with 3 insurers.

WI Metro Areas Ranked By Number Of Insurers:

•	Madison	6 insurers	Minimum 12 options on Marketplace
•	Fond du Lac	6 insurers	Minimum 12 options on Marketplace
•	Janesville	5 insurers	Minimum 10 options on Marketplace
•	Appleton	5 insurers	Minimum 10 options on Marketplace
•	Manitowoc	5 insurers	Minimum 10 options on Marketplace
•	Green Bay	5 insurers	Minimum 10 options on Marketplace
•	Waukesha	4 insurers	Minimum 8 options on Marketplace
•	Racine	4 insurers	Minimum 8 options on Marketplace
•	Kenosha	4 insurers	Minimum 8 options on Marketplace
•	Sheboygan	4 insurers	Minimum 8 options on Marketplace
•	Eau Claire	4 insurers	Minimum 8 options on Marketplace
•	Wausau	4 insurers	Minimum 8 options on Marketplace
•	Superior	3 insurers	Minimum 6 options on Marketplace
•	Milwaukee	3 insurers	Minimum 6 options on Marketplace
•	La Crosse	3 insurers	Minimum 6 options on Marketplace
•	Rhinelander	3 insurers	Minimum 6 options on Marketplace

Starting on October 1st the federal government will launch a new competitive health insurance marketplace for the individual and small group markets under the terms of the Affordable Care Act. The report finds that every Wisconsin citizen will be able to (continued on page 3)

Seniors and The Affordable Care Act (ACA)

ACA Benefits for Medicare Beneficiaries in 2013

Free Medical Check Ups under Medicare

Prior to passage of the ACA, Medicare allowed for a one-time free check-up when seniors joined the Medicare program. In 2011, this benefit became available on a yearly basis.

Free Preventive Screenings

Beneficiaries no longer have to pay any cost-sharing for Medicare covered preventive services that are recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and rated A or B. The law also waives the Medicare deductible for colorectal cancer screening tests.



Prescription Drug Discounts and Subsidies

In 2013, the Medicare Part D drug benefit doughnut hole is from \$2970 to \$7720. Prior to the passage of PPACA, when beneficiaries fell into doughnut hole, they had to pay 100% of the costs of their prescription medications. The new health care law provides drugs discounts and subsidies to help fill in the doughnut hole. In 2013 Medicare beneficiaries who fall in the Part D drug benefit doughnut hole will receive a 50% discount on the price of their brand name drugs. Beneficiaries who fall in the doughnut hole will also receive 21% government subsidy toward the cost of generic drugs and 2.5% subsidy for brand name drugs. Thus, the total out of pocket costs (includes what beneficiaries pay - deductible and co-payments) is \$4750. The doughnut hole will be closed by 2020.

Expands "Bundling" Pilot Program to Coordinate and Improve Care

There is a national pilot program encouraging hospitals, doctors and other providers to work together and coordinate care. Under "bundling," hospitals, doctors and providers are paid a flat fee for each episode of care, instead of the current system that pays for each service or test separately. This provides an incentives for providers to work together, become more efficient and provide better quality care.

Increase Payments to Primary Care Providers

Primary care providers under Medicaid will be paid at 100% the Medicare payment rate. This provision is fully paid for by the federal government.

(Health Care Report - continued from page 2)

choose from multiple options on this marketplace, and the vast majority of citizens will have a wide range of insurance options to choose from.

Bob DeVita, the CEO of Common Ground Healthcare Cooperative, one of the new options on the health marketplace, also joined the call. "The need for an informed public to make critical health care and insurance decisions in the new market can be helped by information developed through public and private organizations such as the State agency, the Office of the Insurance Commissioner and the private organization, Citizen Action for Wisconsin. Many Wisconsin citizens will benefit from this type of information as they decide their next steps in the health insurance marketplace."

[editor: this report is about the Health Care Exchanges under the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and regardless whether the governor wants to accept the reality.]

From the Desk of:

Ivan Collins, Secretary Treasurer

A reminder about things that will be coming up. The hourly wage request for the 2013 year has been sent to the com-



van

panies. This information is used to calculate the dues for next year.

Shop chairs and committee persons need to make sure new member application forms have to be filled out in full with all the pertaining boxes for membership and check-off marked. The original white form goes to Local 66 (they can't be faxed) the yellow form goes to the company and the pink form is for the member to keep. We have withdrawal forms and Retirement forms. Out of work dues are \$2.00 per month when less than half the hours in a month are worked (this includes vacation and holidays as work days).

At the November Lodge Meeting we will be drawing for a gun in support of The Union

Sportsmen's Alliance. Every member of IAM



United Lodge 66 and is a member of The Union Sportsmen's Alliance is eligible to win. It doesn't cost you to become a member. The IAM is a charter member of the Alliance. **You do however** have to sign up to be a member of the Union Sportsmen's Alliance. You can sign up on their website

www.unionsportsmen.org. The Lodge can also mail an application to you. Just send a request to the Lodge. There will be extra tickets available at the lodge meeting for sale if you wish to purchase extra tickets for the gun.

United Way drives are coming up and the IAM is asking you to support this activity. It is important to all communities. Remember WI State AFL-CIO LETC and WRTP are eligible for United Way Donations and the workers are

Lodge 66 Members.

The Christmas Holiday Party is around the corner it will be here before we know it.



Health & Safety Conference

By Tim Schwartz

Recently I attended a Health and Safe-

ty Conference at the Machinists Union William W.

Winpinsinger Education and Technology Center in Placid Harbor, Maryland. Once



Tim

again my expectations were met with a very informational week with lots of knowledge passed along.

More often than not, we as employees, are trying to meet our over loaded schedules at work and we fail to recognize potential safety hazards or future health problems. The true Bottom Line should be our own or collective health and safety.

If we have an accident at work and the company investigates the accident, more likely the finger will be pointed at the employee, who was involved, stating they were working unsafely which did result in the accident and deserves to be disciplined.

Instead, we need to identify any safety hazards and report them to management for prompt corrective action.

We need to create the safer work environment. After you report a safety hazard and nothing is being done, then take it to the next level until corrective action is completed.

WE as brothers and sisters have to keep each other safe in the work place. Remember ... Safety is No Accident.



NATIONAL DO NOT CALL REGISTRY

This something you can do but if someone calls you giving you the opportunity to sign up ... it is a scam.

There are two ways to do it:

- 1. By phone and calling 888-382-1222 from the phone you want to register.
- 2. Online at https://
 www.donotcall.gov/ to list all
 phone you want to put on the list.

Once you have registered a phone number on the do not call list **it is a permanent** due to the Do-Not-Call Improvement Act of 2007.

After 31 days on the do not call list you can file a complaint against a telemarker at the above website.

Social Security Estimator

Each year you should be getting from the Social Security Administration an estimate of the retirement amount.

If you have lost or misplaced this figure then

you can go to:



<u>www.ssa.gov/estimator</u> and get your estimated retirement benefit.

School for Workers EDUCATION FOR A DEMOCRATIC WORKPLACE

University of Wisconsin-Extension

Steward Training

Wednesday's, October 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2013 from 5:30PM to 8:30PM

Location: Brewery Workers Hall 9618 W. Greenfield, West Allis

Registration fee is \$75: BUT United Lodge 66 will reimburse ANY Lodge 66 member who takes the class. At the end turn in your receipt showing paid and the completion certificate.

For complete details and content contact your Lodge at 414-671-3800 or get the flyer off our website at **www.unitedlodge66.org.**



Activities for You and Your Family

- Milwaukee Area Labor Council delegate meeting: October 2, at 6:30pm.
- Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans **Senior Power Luncheon** on **October 14, 2013** from 11am to 1pm at Italian Community Center.
- Union Sportsmen's Alliance Conservation Dinner on October 15, 2013.
- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement conference, October 25-26, 2013.
- Machinists Union William W. Winpinsinger 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.

LCLAA Milwaukee to Hold Second Latino Labor Conference

By Joe Oulahan

On October 25 and 26 the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement - LCLAA Milwaukee - will hold it's second state wide conference entitled "Making Connections".

The two-day conference, cosponsored by the University of Wisconsin Extension School for Workers will take place at Labors Local 113 – 6310 West Appleton Avenue in Milwaukee is dedicated to exploring ways for unions to better connect with their Latino members, and encouraging Latino union members and nonmembers alike to understand the value in joining and participating in a union.

The conference will include plenary sessions, panel discussions and workshops featuring experts, rank and file workers and leaders who have experience in dealing with the barriers Latino workers face in trying to participate in their union and the Labor Movement in general.

"Now more than ever we in the labor movement must be sure we reach out to all our members and all groups of workers," said LCLAA Milwaukee Recording Secretary and IAMAW Lodge 66 member Joe Oulahan. "Only through understanding communication and commitment to action can we hope to rebuild our movement. I am certain that just like our last conference, this conference will take a major step in helping to build our movement."

For more information on how to register for one or both days of the conference, see the registration form included with this article, or call 414-736-7287.

Registration Forms On Next Two Pages



USA's Madison Area Conservation Dinner

Tuesday, October 15, 2013
Doors Open at 5:00PM

Alliant Energy Center of Dane County 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way Madison, WI 53713

Cost is \$75 per person which will include a dinner gift set (knife & flashlight)

Reserve a seat today or become a table sponsor and help support USA's mission to unite the Union community to expand and improve hunting and fishing access and wildlife habitat throughout North America. All while sharing an evening of camaraderie and fun with your Union brothers and Sisters.

Guns, knives, gear and more up for grabs in various raffles and auctions!

RSVP: Dave Branson, 608-256-3161 Email: btrades@sbcglobal.net

Please make checks payable to: Union Sportsmen's Alliance

Payment: Mail to:

BCTC of South Central WI c/o Dave Branson

1602 S. Park Street, Room 204

Madison, WI 53715

Seniors Corner

Rate Shock Hysteria a Lie?

Kaiser Family Foundation looked at individual policy prices in 17 states and found that Americans' insurance premiums, under Obamacare, will be 'lower than expected.' Many Americans will pay even less than the top-line rates after factoring in government subsidies for their health coverage, with some paying nothing at all for crucial medical coverage.

Plans purchased through the Obamacare marketplace will be significantly more robust than current individual policies, which often skimp on essential coverage to bring down their prices and have been dismissed by consumer advocates as 'junk insurance.'

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

2013 Wisconsin Latino Labor Conference

"Making Connections"

Laborers Local 113

6310 West Appleton Avenue

Milwaukee WI

Friday – Saturday

October 25-26, 2013

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Sponsored by

Milwaukee LCLAA -- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement
University of Wisconsin Extension School for Workers

With support from union organizations including: Wisconsin Federation of Nurses and Health Care Professionals, United Electrical Workers (UE) Western Region, Laborers Local 113, and IBEW Local 494

Two days of exploration and learning about how Latino workers can improve their work lives through Union power and ways for Unions to connect with, involve, and develop Latino workers

Friday-- Focus on Union strategies for connecting with Latino workers

Saturday -- Focus on Latino workers connecting with Unions

Presentations by labor and community leaders and activists Workshops on topics important to building Union strength among Latino workers

Welcoming undocumented immigrant workers as they "come out of the shadows"

Methods for Dealing with the Language Barrier

Building an Effective Labor and Latino Electoral Coalition

Fighting Wage Theft

Organizing Campaigns and Unorganized Latino Workers

Dealing with Issues of Immigration Status Affecting Union Members

OSHA and Worker Compensation Rights for Latino Workers

Rights to Engage in Concerted Action under the National Labor Relations Act

Developing Latinos for Union Leadership

Conference Registration Form					
Name				Phone	
Ad-					
dress				Email	
City				Zip Code	
Union				Local #	
			_		
	Registration Fee:	Friday \$20	Saturday \$10	Friday and Saturday Combined \$30	
The registration fee includes lunch, coffee, and refreshments.					
Return t	nis form to: Milw	aukee LCLAA PO Box	c 64052, Milwaukee WI 53204	Make check payable to: Milwaukee LCLAA	
If you need assistance to attend the conference, please request a free ticket provided					
by a sponsoring union. To make this arrangement, call 414.460.5656.					
All sessions of the conference will be conducted bilingually through simultaneous interpretation.					
	For more information: (A1A) A60, 5656				

2013 Wisconsin Congreso Laboral Latino

"Haciendo Conexiones"

Laborers Local 113

6310 West Appleton Avenue

Milwaukee WI

viernes – sábado

25-26 de octubre del 2013 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Patrocinado por

El Consejo Sindical para el Avance del Trabajador Latinoamericano Milwaukee LCLAA -- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement La UW Extensión Escuela para Trabajadores

Con respaldo de organizaciones sindicales, incluyendo: Wisconsin Federaton of Nurses and Health Care Professionals, United Electrical Workers (UE) Western Region, Laboreres Local 113, ;and IBEW Local 494

Dos días de exploración y aprendizaje de cómo los latinos pueden ejercer sus derechos y mejorar sus vidas a través del poder sindical y cómo los sindicatos pueden conectar, involucrarse, y desarrollar a los latinos

Viernes -- Enfoque sobre estrategias sindicales para conectar con los trabajadores latinos Sábado -- Enfoque sobre el uso del poder potencial de la participación latina en los sindicatos

Presentaciones por activistas y líderes sindicales y comunitarios. Talleres sobre temas de los derechos de los latinos en el trabajo

Acogiendo a los trabajadores indocumentados al ir éstos "saliendo de las sombras"

Formas de manejar la barrera del idioma

Asuntos migratorios que afectan a los trabajadores y cómo evitar serios problemas innecesarios

Combatiendo el robo de sueldos

Derechos bajo la ley de OSHA sobre salud y seguridad en el trabajo

Derechos bajo la Ley de Compensación al Trabajador

Protección para actividades concertadas de trabajadores por la Ley Nacional de Relaciones del Trabajo

Protecciones para actividades concertadas bajo la Ley Nacional de Relaciones del Trabajo

Preparando a los latinos para el liderazgo sindical

Formulario de inscripción al congreso				
Nombre		Teléfono		
Dirección		Correo electrónico		
Ciudad/Estado		Código Postal		
Sindicato	Sindicato Local #			
Honorario de	Inscripción:	Viernes \$20 El hono	Sábado \$10 orario incluye almuerzo, café, y pan du	Viernes y sábado combinación \$30
		Milwaukee LCLAA	PO Box 64052 Milwaukee WI 53204	Haga su cheque pagable a: Milwaukee LCLAA
Si usted necesita ayuda para asistir, se puede pedir un boleto gratuito provisto por un sindicato apoyador. Llame al 414.460.5656 para hacer este arreglo.				
Se conducirán todas las sesiones del congreso de manera bilingüe por interpretación simultánea. Para más información llame al (414) 460-5656				

Car Pooling

From Kenosha: Want to carpool to Union Meeting? Contact Bob Paar for how it can be done: 262-605-0436 or **bpaaroscke**nosha@vahoo.com



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



Shame on Republicans and **Their Lemmings!**

Republican Speaker John Boehner Talks about Using Debt Limit to Go After Social Security

Boehner speaking about cutting Social Security benefits at a recent Republican fundraiser in Idaho said, "We're going to have one whale of a fight." Boehner went on to say, "I've made it clear that we're not going to increase the debt limit without cuts and reforms that are greater than the increase in the debt limit." According to the Idaho Statesman, Boehner also said that getting the Republican Controlled House to agree to raise the U.S. debt ceiling will only come with a bipartisan deal to make cost-sharing changes to Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, farm programs and government pensions. More at: http://tinyurl.com/nmy9z9m.

[Editor: What is hard to believe for anyone (dues paying member or not) wanting to retire and wanting to enjoy retirement with a decent income to support any Republican (politician) who wants to decrease Social Security. The point is simple, Social Security has not added one cent to our National Debt. Right now the inflows and outflows will pay 100% of the Social Security check for the next 20 years. After this date it will pay 77% of the amount. ALL THE TIME no adding one cent to the National Debt.

If the federal tax cap of \$117,000 on paying the Social Security tax was removed; Social Security could pay out at the 100% amount for the next 75 years.

What has caused the debt are two unfunded (no tax increase) wars; Part D of Medicare and the two federal tax decreases for the very wealthy.]

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/iamawll66, 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