

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 15 No. 2

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

February 2012

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting February 10, 2012

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;** business can be done at the Business or Education Evening Meetings or by mail. **CHECK** the answering machine for hours open, 414-671-3800.
- The deadline for articles for the March 2012 edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is February 24.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. **See last page.**
- **Education Evening is on February 16, starting at 7PM**
Topic: Concerns About Social Security.....Pg 4

CONTENTS:

- "A Customer Service Call".....Pg 2
- IAM Scholarship Competition.... Pg 3
- New Lodge OfficersPg 3
- New Voter Photo I D LawPg 4
- USA Gunners Story.....Pg 5



United Lodge 66
Hall and
Union Office
is
SMOKE FREE.

If We Told You Once We Told You a Million Times... Recall Walker!

On January 17, 2011 the citizens of Wisconsin delivered to the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board petitions containing over 1 million signatures calling for the recall of current Governor Scott Walker.

The million signatures, collected during a 60-day grass roots canvassing campaign that spanned the entire state, far surpass the 540,208 necessary to trigger a recall election and make national history as the most signatures ever collected in the recall of a state Governor.

"The collection of more than one million signatures represents a crystal clear indication of how strong the appetite is to stop the damage and turmoil that Scott Walker has brought to Wisconsin," said Ryan Lawler, Vice Chairman of Wisconsin United, the lead organization involved in the signature collection effort.

Recall organizers also turned in 845,000 signatures calling for the recall of Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch.

Saying that he was too busy for interviews Tuesday, Mr. Walker declined to comment to Wisconsin media, preferring to address national right wing media sources such as Rush Limbaugh instead.

A major part of Mr. Walker's busy schedule on the 17th involved his attendance at a fundraising event in New York City hosted by American International Group (AIG) founder Maurice Greenberg. AIG was one of the major players in the greed-driven economic crisis of 2008. Mr. Greenberg left AIG in 2005 over charges of overseeing



fraudulent accounting practices

Walker recall supporters commented that Walker's attendance at the AIG fundraiser is more clear evidence that Mr. Walker is driving a national money-soaked corporate agenda that has nothing to do with the values of working people in Wisconsin.

Signatures calling for the recall of the following four Republican state senators were also filed on Tuesday: Pam Galloway – Wausau: 20,600; Terry Moulton – Chippewa: 21,000; Van Wanggard – Racine: 24,000 and Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald: 20,600.

By Educator Pepe Oulahan



Nominations for Delegates

The 38th Grand Lodge Convention is coming up later this year and nominations for delegates will be **April 13th 2012** at the lodge 66 meeting, starting at 7pm.

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

A Customer Service Call...

"Good evening. This is United States Of America Customer Support. I'm Kevin. How may I help you?"

"Hello?"

"This is Kevin. May I help you?"

"Hello?"

"This is Customer Support. Can I help you, sir?"

"I've got a problem."

"How may I help you?"

"The income distributor isn't working right."

"Let me get some basic information, and I can make a diagnosis for you, sir."

"I know what's wrong. I just want to know how to fix it."

"What's it doing?"

"It's running too rich."

"Again, that's something we determine on this end, sir. What are your symptoms?"

"There's not enough coming in."

"Insufficient income?"

"That's what I'd call it. Small business performance is in the crapper, unemployment stinks, and there's not enough money left in the economy to keep a hedge funder alive."

"Have you attempted to adjust any of the dials or alter any of the settings?"

"No, but the indicator on the top stays pegged at one percent. I'm getting nothing."

"When did this start, sir?"

"Ever since we had that disaster of a general manager in there--"

"I mean your current problem, please."

"About three years now."

"Please hold a moment while I check that for you..."

"I bet you're getting a lot of calls on this."

"Not really... Uhh... Sir?"

"Yes?"

"The income distributor is working perfectly."

"What?"

"It has been determined that The United States runs best at a ninety-nine-to-one income mix--"

"According to who?!"

"Whom, sir. The stockholders, board of directors, and the general manager--"

"See here, Kevin--"

"Have you considered upgrading your service level, sir?"

"That takes money!"

"Free markets and free enterprise at work."

"This is a violation of the warranty!"

"Sir?"

"Life! Liberty! Pursuit of happiness! It's right there in black-and-white!"

"You're confusing the warranty with the mission statment."

"What?"

"We have no control over dissatisfaction with the mission statement, sir. It doesn't carry the force of law, and it wasn't really written with the customer in mind. That "Top One Percent Thing" isn't really new, you know. Your warranty is enumerated in the Bill Of Rights--"

"That's another thing! I haven't seen my *habeus corpus* rights since that son-of-a-bitch Bush--"

"There's no need for foul language, sir."

"The hell there isn't! You just said it's part of the warranty! I protest!"

"Free speech resources are limited at the moment, sir--"

"You can't do that!"

"Management has determined that reasonable controls can be placed on your rights of free speech and assembly in order to serve the common good. Other service providers are even worse."

"I don't care about other providers! I want the level of government I had when this country was dreaming big things and making them come true!"

"We don't provide that service any more, sir. The board of directors has determined that it is too costly to continue. They've chosen to cash out and leave those functions to others."

"So the majority of us are left out in the cold?!"

"I'm not allowed to divulge that information, sir."

"I have a right to know!"

"We're still experiencing the interruption of taxpayer prerogatives brought about by that big denial of service attack ten years ago."

"When will you be turning my rights back on?"

"That's up to management, sir."

"I'm not happy with this, Kevin!"

"I'm sorry, but there's nothing more I can do for you, sir."

"Well, connect me with someone who can--"

"Sir--"

"Right now, Kevin. Please!"

"Yes, sir. First, I'd like to inform you that these calls are recorded along with your contact information for quality control purposes--"

"What?"

"Also, second tier service is being offered by another provider. Please respond to the survey at the end of this call--"

"You bet your ass, I will!"

"--So that we can better serve you. Finally--on behalf of USA, INC.,--I'd like to thank you for calling."

"Kevin--"

"I'll connect you now, sir. Have a good evening."

"But--"

--Click-- "Good afternoon, sir. This is Zhao speaking. How may I help you..."

2012 Scholarship Competition Through the International Machinist Union

The scholarship competition is open each year to members of the IAM and their children throughout the United States and Canada procedures and rules of eligibility.

Scholarships are determined by a special Selection Committee who judge each applicants entry. These scholarships make it possible to attain a Bachelor's degree or a two year vocational/ technical certification.

Awards to members are \$2,000 per academic year. They are granted for a specific period from one to four years to enable the member to earn a degree.

Awards to Children of Members are: College -\$1,000 per academic year. All awards are renewed each year until a bachelor's degree is obtained up to a maximum of four years. Vocational/ Technical School- \$2,000 per year until certification is reached up to a maximum of two years.

An Eligible Applicant Must Be Either:

- An IAM member or,
- The son, daughter, stepchild or legally adopted child of an IAM member.

A Member Applicant:

- Must have two years of continuous good standing membership through the closing date of the competition which is February 24, 2012. May apply either when entering college or vocational/ technical school as a freshman or at a higher level with some college credits already completed.
- May apply as a full-time or part-time student; and
- If not a winner, may apply again the following year.

**This is a brief
summary.**

You can click for the
online version at:

www.goiam.org

The deadline is

February 24, 2012



Alternate Scholarship Resources

Union Plus Credit card Scholarships

www.unionplus.org/scholarships

send a post card with your name, return address, telephone number and union to:

Union Plus Scholarship Program

P. O. Box 34800

Wash. DC 20043-4800

or download the application from the Union Privilege web site in early September.

AFL-CIO's Scholarship Guide.

www.aflcio.org

This web site has links to all unions and Federally-funded scholarship programs.



Union Sportsman Alliance Membership Drive

is going on this month from
February 1st thru 29th 2012
Start your instant membership by
going online to

www.UnionSportsmen.org

When registering chose the
“Free Charter Partner Membership” option.
United Lodge 66 is a Chartered Member
of Union Sportsman Alliance

You must be a member to participate in the
raffle in March.

Lodge 66

Elects New Officers for 2012

In November and December of 2011 Lodge 66 members elected a new United Lodge 66 Executive Board to serve a three-year term starting on January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2014.

The new board is as follows:

President: Mike Pietrzykowski

Vice President: Larry Morrow

Recording Secretary: Ron Simmelink

Secretary Treasurer: Ivan Collins

Conductor Sentinel: Joe “Pepe” Oulahan

Trustee: Dave Russell

Trustee: Bunny Browning

Trustee: Tim Schwartz

Watch your Badger Lodge Newsletter for future issues profiling our new board members. Congratulations to our new board and those members who took the time to participate in these important elections.

Vocational- Technical Information

www.trade-schools.net

or www.accsct.org

this site will have information on Voc-tech schools in the U.S.

Federal Student Aid Information Center

For a free copy of “ The Student Guide.” call 1-800-433-3243

or go to web site: www.StudentAid.ed.gov go to publications or

www.fafsa.ed.gov

Concerned About Your Social Security?

Don't Miss Education Night
February 16, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

On February 16th Janet Witt of the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, will give a presentation at our Lodge's Education Night meeting. She will discuss the recent attacks on Social Security and Medicare benefits and more importantly - what can be done to stop them.

As part of the ongoing attempt to destroy the middle class, and accelerated by the budget plan proposed by our own Wisconsin Congressman Paul Ryan, there is currently a very active movement in our nation to eliminate our Social Security and Medicare benefits as we know them. Ms. Witt's presentation will provide information on exactly what is happening and how to connect with those who are organizing against it. The leadership of Lodge 66 strongly encourages your attendance at this important meeting!

The New Voter Photo ID Law

Are you ready for the new voter photo ID Law?

Starting February 1, 2012, Wisconsin voters will be required to show photo ID before being allowed to receive a ballot for any election.

Those voters 18 years old and older without a Wisconsin Drivers license with a **correct address** can request a **Free ID** for voting, but you'll need a birth certificate and other documents get the Department of Transportation ID.

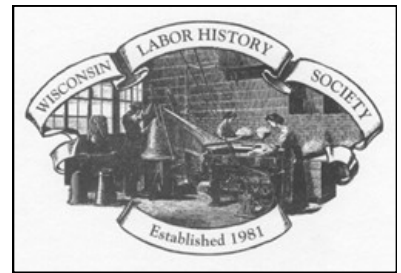
This free ID process should be started early to clear all the hurdles to get your ID before the election time.

If you have a computer follow the link, <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/publications/act/2011/act023-ab007.pdf>

Or visit the Government Accountability Board website <http://gab.wi.gov>

And you can call **1-866-VOTE-WIS** or **TTY 1-800-94473529**

Wisconsin Labor History Society



A Unique

Essay Contest!

The WLHS High School Essay Contest for the 2011 to 2012 school year has a postmark deadline of February 17, 2012 for submissions

The essays should be approximately 750 words in length following the theme: **"Unions have been important to my family and my community because . . ."**

The cash prizes will be **awarded in April 2012**, Include:

- \$500 First Place
- \$300 Second Place
- \$200 third Place
- \$100 Honorable Mention (Up to 5 awarded)

Send completed essays to:

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

Complete information is available at:
www.wisconsinlaborhistory.org

What is a Union?

An organization of workers joined together for a common purpose, for mutual aid and protection, to engage in concerted activity and collective bargaining, to elevate their conditions of life and labor; an organization by which ordinary people do extraordinary things.

Activities for You and Your Family

- **Delegates to Milwaukee Area Labor Council: February 1, 2012.** All meetings start at **6:30PM.**
- **United Lodge 66 Business Meeting** is Friday, **February 10, 2012 at 7PM.**
- **Delegates to District 10: February 13, 2012.** All meetings start at **7:30PM.**
- **United Lodge 66 Education Night :** Thursday, **February 16, 2012** will start at **7PM.**
- **Topic for Education Night:** Concerned About Your Social Security?
- The class schedule for all leadership training at the **Machinists Union William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center** is available from your Union office and can be viewed at any of the meetings.



Union Sportsmen's Alliance: Mission Accomplished

The Union Sportsmen's Alliance is a pretty cool organization. Just ask 13 year old Gunnar Paar.

The group's mission is to unite the Union community of hunters, fishermen and outdoorsmen to promote conservation, hunter safety, young hunter education, preserve wildlife habitat and improve hunting and fishing access. IAM Lodge 66 is a charter member of this organization.

The Alliance is holding a gun raffle at our March meeting. The raffle is open to union members of the organization, and the membership is free to join.

Last year's winner, Bob Paar, talked about the event.

"My son Gunnar asked me what I was buying tickets for and I explained the Union Sportsmen's Alliance to him. I promised him that if I won, I'd use the voucher to buy him a bow so that he could go bow-hunting in the fall."

Bob's ticket was the winning ticket and he kept his word. The winner receives a voucher, and he and his son used it on a bow for Gunnar. After working hard to develop the strength to use the bow and completing the Hunter Safety Course, Gunnar went bow hunting for the first time last fall.

Although he didn't get a deer, he saw

Honorary Withdrawal Card

**There is a \$1.00 Fee
It Is Not Free**

There has always been a fee for the withdrawal card. All too often a member sends in the application for the card and expects one at no cost.

Withdrawal cards are allowed if:

- Left the trade because of illness
- Obtained employment outside the trade or industry.
- Furthering education.
- Obtained a supervisory position above the rank of working foreman.
- Because of circumstances over which I have no control, am compelled, as a condition of employment, to join another labor organization.

In order to get the withdrawal card a member must obtain such within two months of paying dues.

plenty of them. He loved the time he spent in the woods with his dad and uncle. From their perch in the deer blind, he and his uncle heard a bear, and Gunnar is eager to go out again next fall.

Bob and Gunnar Paar are grateful for the USA offering the raffle and for the Lodge's support of the USA's effort to expand hunting experiences to Union members and their families.

You can learn more about the Union Sportsman's Alliance at <http://www.unionsportsmen.org>

Organizing Incentives

Worth \$800.00 to you

The Organizing Lead sheet is available from your Union office or can be downloaded from the home page at www.unitedlodge66.org. They are simple to fill in. Just talk to your friends and find out if they want to have a voice at work and stop being an Employee at Will.

We can only do it with your help.

Lodge 66 Wants All Members To be Informed

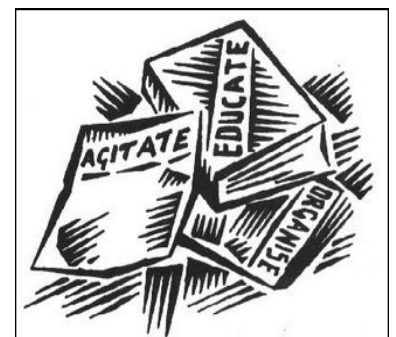
The Lodge 66 Executive Board wants all members to be informed about Lodge business as well as current events and how they impact our Union. With the cost of printing and postage going up, the easiest way to stay informed and the least costly is to use email. We will be sending two emails a month. The Lodge does not share or sell your email address with anyone. If you would like to get your Lodge information by email, please contact us

at lodge66@gmail.com with your correct email address.

For those members who don't have internet access or a computer, we do send hard copies of the Newsletter once a month. If you are not on our mailing list, or have changed your mailing address, contact the Lodge at 414-671-3800. **If you would like to be a distributor of the newsletter at your work site let us know.**

The lodge has a website which will soon be updated and should be checked twice a month

www.unitedlodge66.org



United Lodge 66 Machinists Union
 2611 W. Oklahoma Avenue
 Milwaukee, WI 53215-4438
 414-671-3800
www.unitedlodge66.org
www.youtube.com/badgerlodge



LL66 Machinists Union Officers

President Mike Pietrzykowski
 Vice President. . . . Larry Morrow
 Recording Secretary . . Ron Simmelink
 Secretary Treasurer . . Ivan Collins
 Conductor Sentinel . . . Pepe Oulahan
 Trustees: Bunny Browning,
 Dave Russell, Tim Schwartz
 Communicator James Cobb
 Educator Pepe Oulahan
 Editor James Cobb

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>

Directory for District 10 Office,

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
Janice DeSmidt (Organizer)	15

Car Pooling

From Kenosha:

Want to carpool to Union Meeting?
 Contact Vice President Bob Paar for
 how it can be done: 262-605-0436
 or
bpaarosckenosha@yahoo.com



From Sheboygan:

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