

# Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 14 No. 6

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

June 2011

## United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

**July 8, 2011**

**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 July 2011 edition of the "**Badger Lodge News**", is June 26.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. **See last page.**
- July 2011 there will be no **Education Evening**

### CONTENTS:

Three Sides to the Triangle	Pg 2
Doug Curler Still Busy	Pg 3
Buffenbarger Speaks at Tool and Die Conference	Pg 4
Activities for YOU & Family	Pg 4



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

## Scott Walker Does A Job On Wisconsin

*By Anne Chase*

Governor Scott Walker was elected on the promise that he would create jobs in Wisconsin. So far, his job creation efforts have shown his outside-the-box thinking in innovative ways.

1. Walker started his gubernatorial term by declaring war on Unions. He particularly set his sights on Teacher's Unions. This shows incredible foresightedness. By ending collective bargaining for teachers, the profession will attract poorer quality teachers. We won't see the impact of this just yet, but in a few years we'll have less educated teens and young adults. We'll need a bigger police force! And all those poorly educated young people will provide a larger pool of workers for minimum wage jobs, the kind Walker is sure to create with his emphasis on quality in our state.
  2. Keeping his sights on schools, Walker also wants to increase the School Choice voucher program. Putting more money into the pockets of private schools means less funding for public schools. Property taxes will rise to keep public schools afloat, and people will have to get second jobs to pay their taxes. (Although kids in Voucher programs don't test any better than kids in public schools, there's a feel-good factor at work here: knowing public dollars are being funneled into religious schools who don't pay taxes makes me feel downright altruistic.)
  3. If you've ever been sick or in the hospital, you know how comforting it is to have the presence of a loved one at your side. But in a remarkable stroke of job-creating
- Continued on page 2

## Social Security at 76 Years Old

There's a government program that has a surplus of \$2.6 trillion, that doesn't contribute to the federal deficit, and it's fully funded through the year 2037.

If it ain't broke, why are Republicans trying to "fix it?"

Every dime that you and your employer contribute to Social Security goes into a protected Trust Fund. Just as you can't use the money in an IRA to fix your car, or your roof, or pay for your kid's braces, the federal government can't use the money in Social Security to pay down the national debt.

Back in 1939, amendments to the Social Security program put legislation in place to make sure the funds would be protected.

With the aging Baby Boomer population, and with so many Americans out of work, and not paying into the Social Security program, the available revenue is not growing as fast as it could. But changing the rules is not the way to fix the situation, according to AFL-CIO president Richard Trumka.

**"Weak economic growth and lackluster job creation are the overwhelming reasons why finances for Social Security and Medicare worsened this year. We can expect Republicans to jump on these numbers to justify their proposals to gut Medicare and cut Social Security benefits, but their reckless and unpopular proposals will do nothing to create jobs or jump start the economy,"** Trumka said in a statement May 13. **"Creating good jobs is the key to rebuilding the economy and in turn the key to improving the long term financial health of Social Security, Medicare and our entire safety net."**

Continued on page 2

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

genius, Walker has decided to stop upholding a Wisconsin Law that allows non-married couples the right to visit and care for hospitalized partners. And of course, while this has the unfortunate impact of putting a burden on men and women who love one another, the real job-creating focus of this law is keeping gays out of the hospital rooms of their partners.

We'll need to hire more security guards to keep gay people away from their loved ones.

Lonely convalescents, denied the company of their loved ones, will need more drugs - add pharmacy staff! and maybe some counseling for the depression and sadness of being kept isolated. Having unhappy domestic partners is clearly a fast track for job creation!

4. Limiting or closing the State's Badger Care Plus program, which extends state-funded healthcare for low-income adults without kids, is a great idea. If you aren't cranking out babies, you don't deserve healthcare. Your lack of healthcare can lead to an early death, which will create jobs for funeral service workers.

5. Of course, who could forget Walker's war on mass transit? One of his first acts in office was to turn down money earmarked for high speed rail development and expansion in our state. We scoffed at first, noticing that we were losing jobs: track repair and expansion cut from the budget, a proposed rail car factory moved out of state, and so on. But again Scott showed us his foresightedness.

More folks driving cars where a train ride could suffice leads to a need for more car salesmen, garages and mechanics. Businesspeople who could have ridden the train to their job, and gotten paperwork done while riding, will have to spend extra hours at the office doing their paperwork. And let's not forget all those convenience store clerks for all those gas stations they'll need en route! Minimum wage jobs, to be sure, but isn't that better than no jobs?

Best of all, Walker has provided Wisconsin with an upgraded image that will keep comedians like Jay Leno and David Letterman and their staff working overtime. We have stopped being a Progressive state and are now the nation's laughingstock. And that's money in the bank!

#### Social Security continued from page 1

The GOP has long wanted to remove Social Security funds from protected Federal Trust accounts and privatize the money. They want everyone to have control over their own Social Security funds, investing the money into approved growth accounts. But anyone who remembers the stock market crash of the dot-com era, or the financial ruin of banks during the real estate bubble knows that not everyone makes wise decisions. Financial disaster could be a real risk, if individual accounts are put at the whim of the stock market.

Moreover, transitioning from a government-administered pool of funds to individual retirement accounts, including accounts for survivor benefits and disability benefits would cost a lot of money - \$1 trillion by some estimates.

The way to strengthen Social Security is not to change a system that has worked well for 76 years, but to get more people back into the workforce and paying into the system.

For more information, visit [www.strengthensocialsecurity.org](http://www.strengthensocialsecurity.org) on the web.

## Three Sides to the Triangle: Fact, Film and Fiction

By Anne Chase

Whether you know your Labor history or not, the chances are good that you have heard of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory and the fire that blazed through the Asch building on March 25, 1911. 146 people, primarily women and young girls, lost their lives in the disaster, which stood as the deadliest disaster to happen in New York City for 90 years, until the World Trade Center attacks in 2001.

Outrage at the sweatshop working conditions led to public support for Trade Unions, and led to a boost for the fledgling International Ladies' Garment Worker's Union.

Beyond its impact on Labor issues, the fire led to the creation of the American Society of Safety Engineers and highlighted the need for better fire prevention and firefighting techniques. During the blaze, firefighters were unable to control the flames effectively, as their ladders and water pumping equipment were unable to reach beyond the sixth floor. The fire escape for the building was rusted and unsafe, and ultimately collapsed under the weight of those trying to descend from the ten-story structure.

The tale of the Triangle is a compelling piece of American history, and the story has been retold several times.

*Triangle: The Fire That Changed America* by David von Drehle (Grove Press, 2003) is a book that gives an in-depth historical picture of early 1900's New York. The political, economic and social climate of the day are explored, but von Drehle tempers the scholarly flavor of his book with interesting and respectful portraits of both the victims and the villains of the tragedy.

For a visual narrative view of history, you can't beat PBS documentaries. The PBS program *American Experience* released the program *Triangle* about the fire and the events leading up to it. Full of fascinating footage of the New York of the day, the film brings the people and events to life in grim detail. If you missed the showing of the film at the Lodge 66 Education night, you can watch it online at [www.video.PBS.org](http://www.video.PBS.org).

And if fiction is your thing, the novel *Triangle*, by Katharine Weber (Picador, 2007) tells the story of the fire through the eyes of a survivor, Esther, as she nears the end of her life in a retirement home in 2001. Her memories, woven into the tale of the fire and the difficulties of life in pre-Union America, tell a vivid and intricate story. The impact on Esther and her granddaughter, the deaths of her sister and her friends and coworkers, and a family secret round out the story into a satisfying and intriguing novel. The title, while naming the factory, also alludes to a love triangle within the story.

## IAMAW UNITED LODGE 66

Invites you, your family and friends to

### Labor / Community Solidarity Night II

As the current historic battle for the working middle class in Wisconsin and our nation continues, it is important that we gather in mutual support and remind ourselves of the fundamental reasons for which we must keep up the fight. And, if we have some fun in the process... **SO BE IT!**

**June 21, 2011**

**2611 West Oklahoma Avenue**

**Milwaukee, WI 53215**

**6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

**Food - Refreshments - Live Music - Street Theater**

Important information on:

- **New voter ID legislation in Wisconsin** (how it applies to the recall elections this summer and beyond)  
**Recall election updates and sign up opportunities**

**Labor / Community Solidarity Night II will also feature a showing of:**

### AT THE RIVER I STAND

One hour documentary film depicting the heroic struggle of sanitation workers in Memphis Tennessee to organize a union and the assassination of civil rights icon **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**

*For more information, please call: (414) 736-7287*

## Doug Curler Still Busy

Lodge 66's retired Secretary Treasurer Doug Curler is still at work even while retired. One of Doug's passions is archery, and while living in Langlade he was able to attend the Wisconsin Traditional Archers Banquet (WTA) and sat in on the annual meeting. During the meeting a WTA member made a pitch for the Langlade 4H Archery Class. This class had been suspended until several WTA archers stepped up and got involved. They are asking for more volunteers as well as receiving some financial help from the WTA. Doug was also able to help with the 4H archery classes.

The Langlade 4H archery members will be shooting in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fair Shoot at the Langlade County Fair on July 24, 2011. Participants will be able to participate at other shooting events around the State. For more information on those events go to, <http://4h.uwex.edu/onlinproshooting/2011CompetitiveShoots.cfm>

The 4H Archery program is also involved in two fundraisers.

They are selling squares on two 100 square boards for a Turkey Fan Mount donated by Dave Koles and a Horn Mount also donated by Dave Koles. Both will be awarded at the Fair Shoot.

For more information on this program, as well as chances for the Turkey Fan or the Horn Mount contact: Stephanie and Richard at 715-623-4869 or Holly and Chad at 715-623-3110.

While still being involved in the Ojibwa Bow Hunters Club in New Berlin, Doug has taken up with the Antigo Bow Club to help maintain their outdoor range located South of Antigo and east on County Road G. It does not have all the Rinehart 3D Targets but offers interesting shooting at the old bales and carboard targets. If you miss the target/bale the arrow most likely is lost, since there are no back berms, but it is an interesting course.

Besides taking time to relax with archery, Doug is also working to fight the recall of Democratic State Senator Jim Holperin. Senator Holperin is one of the Wisconsin 14 Heroes who left Wisconsin for several weeks, giving its citizens time to read the Walker Budget Repair Bill. Now he is helping defend one of our heroes.

Doug posed for a photo shoot for campaign literature, took part in the Antigo Memorial Day Parade, and also volunteers for a phone bank in Antigo. Retirement has been good, he says, but he has not really retired, as he is still active in his community. Doug is grateful for our IAM pension and for our social contract for seniors, [Social Security and Medicare](#). Because of it he is able to contribute to the community through his volunteer work.



photo by Doug curler



# Buffenbarger Speaks at Tool and Die Conference

By Mike Pietrzykowski

I recently had the privilege of attending the 2011 Tool & Die Conference held in Cincinnati, Ohio. Tool & Die President Jim Brown, along with Vice President Phil Gruber, directed the conference. We heard from many interesting speakers. Some insights about labor were given by Thomas Buffenbarger, International President of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

In the nine years since the last Tool & Die conference, 682,000 manufacturing jobs have disappeared and many of the same problems that plague the workingman continue to this day, due to NAFTA and other trade agreements. The Korean Trade Agreement, which has not been ratified yet, would allow South Korea to increase its export capacity of 35,000 cars per month to the US while the US will be exporting only 8000 cars per year to Korea.

The Peru Fair Trade Agreement will send jobs from Caterpillar Tractor in the US to Peru, and then the US will re-import those goods back to the U.S. duty free. In return, Peru will let us export broccoli to Peru, duty free.

President Buffenbarger then went on to discuss the political madness going on in our country, with a special mention of Wisconsin and how other politicians from other states are watching and waiting to see the outcome of the Wisconsin recall movement. Maybe the American Worker has woken up and has had enough, said Buffenbarger, and while we heard that the last elections were among the most important elections of our time, the next elections will also be as important, for what is at stake for the American worker and the middle class is everything. The elections will not just be about guns, abortion, and concealed carry laws, but about the exporting of jobs, the erosion of worker's rights, and meaningful employment for people.

We must all think past our own wedge issues, and envision the end result of our voting choices. I join with President Buffenbarger in urging you to donate even just \$5 to this fight. The money will be going to fight those who would export jobs and deny workers their rights. The money will go to help organizations like the state AFL/CIO in their efforts to stop politicians

from running roughshod over American workers. Campaigns, rallies, demonstrations, handbills, posters and other forms of getting the word out cost money, and through these contributions we can help.

President Buffenbarger also urged us to take this message to all our fellow workers and spread it among the other members of our organization. Show up at rallies. Fight for our American way of life. Don't be intimidated. This country did not become great by standing by and letting others fight. We are all in this together and we all need to stand up for what is right.

During a round table discussion among delegates, a common concern was heard: there are not enough trained Tool & Die workers, Tool Makers, Pattern Makers or Machinists to fill the vacancies of the baby boomers that are about to retire throughout the country. Companies say that they cannot find trained workers, yet are still unwilling to start training or apprenticeship programs. The need for skilled workers is real and at the same time many of our schools are shying away from the skills and opting to train for white collar jobs so that their graduates can work in the service, food, or medical industry.

Even popular TV shows don't show people working in the skilled trades. There are bankers, police, medical workers, and media people.

At the end of our conference, delegates voted with unanimous recommendation to ask all seated delegates to urge their local lodges to send an apprentice to the conference as well as a delegate so that an interest in the Skilled Trades may be encouraged.



## Activities for You and Your Family

- **Delegates to Milwaukee Area Labor Council: July 6, 2011.** All meetings start at 6:30PM.
- **United Lodge 66 Business Meeting** is Friday, **July 8, 2011 at 7PM.**
- **Delegates to District 10: July 11, 2011.** All meetings start at 7:30 PM
- **United Lodge 66 Education Evening** cancelled until **September 15, 2011.**
- **Machinists Union leaders wanted** for the nomination and election of officers and executive board members for United Lodge 66 covering the years of 2012 through 2014. There will be several openings at your Union. The nominations are in November 2011 and **election of officers in December 2011.**
- 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.

## Retirees, You Have a Blog

Since retiring, have you ever wanted to get your opinion out on a subject? Maybe one that you have strong feelings about, or a point of view you have wanted to share.

Well now you can! There is an interactive website where you can post your opinions. So come join in the discussions going on at <http://iamretireebloggers.blogspot.com/>

## Reimbursement of Lost Time for Committee Person

While you will be reimbursed for lost time it may not be as fast as you would like if proper procedure is not followed. Please be aware reimbursement will only be done as stated in the letter from District 10 to Financial Officers dated January 23, 2009.

This must happen or be on file at the Lodge office:

- W4 must be completed by you and on file at the LL66 office. This needs be done only once.
- Properly complete the Lodge 66 Reimbursement Form.
- Lost time must be approved by your business agent at District 10.

Since October 2006 all lost time is paid by ADP payroll. Payroll is done only twice a month. If you miss one payroll date then it will have to wait until the next. Lost time reimbursement forms must be into the LL66 office before the Monday of a payroll date.

**Payroll dates are listed on the Calendar Page of our Lodge website at:** [www.unitedlodge66.org](http://www.unitedlodge66.org).

## Deceased Members

Our request is for shop chairs to immediately inform the Lodge when a member passes away.

The Lodge does offer a bible to the family of a deceased member but we need to know their faith.



## 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.

## New Members Application:

Shop Committees should have updated [Membership Forms for Initiation & Reinstatement](#). The only [Initiation & Reinstatement](#) forms acceptable are the multi page forms. Please indicate on the form if it is an initiation or reinstatement. Payment of initiation or reinstatement should accompany the form. If the fee is being paid through dues check off please indicate that on the form.

The pink copy goes to the member, yellow copy for the company, and front page to Local Lodge 66.

Other forms that are available are [Retirement](#), [Withdrawal application](#), and [Armed Forces Withdrawal Application](#).

If forms are needed contact Ivan Collins at the Lodge 66 Office phone [414-671-3800](tel:414-671-3800), or Email at [ivan.collins74@gmail.com](mailto:ivan.collins74@gmail.com).

## Initiation Fee

Per the Lodge 66 Bylaws: **“The Initiation fee will be the applicable monthly dues for the respective shop of employment for all members.”**

This was changed in 2001 and remember this is a fee not a due.

## 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.

## 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](http://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.**

## Union Pride

Machinist Union T-shirts and caps are available at the United Lodge 66 office.

All shirts have a pocket and over the pocket is **“Lodge 66”**. The T-shirts come in blue or gray.

- \$10.00 for medium, large or X-large
- \$11.50 for XX-large or XXX-large
- \$4.00 for mesh cap
- \$11.00 for Denim/Black/Blue cap
- \$11.00 for Khaki cap
- \$15.00 for **Camouflage** cap
- \$4.25 Acrylic Mug, A Woman's Place Is In Her Union
- \$.10 IAM Logo Temporary Tattoo's

There are two types of shirts: (1) with **‘Fighting Machinist’** on the back or (2) with a plain back.

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



## LL66 Machinists Union Officers

President . . . . . Patricia Elizondo  
Vice President . . . . . Bob Paar  
Recording Secretary . . . . Mike  
Pietrzykowski

Secretary Treasurer . . Ivan Collins  
Conductor Sentinel . Bunny Browning  
Trustees: Dave Spengler, Darrell Rasch,  
Dave Russell

Communicator . . . . . James Cobb  
Educator . . . . . Patricia Elizondo  
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](mailto: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](mailto: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.