

Badger Lodge News



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

Vol. 20 No. 9

www.unitedlodge66.org

September 2018

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting September 11, 2018

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 October 2018 edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is September 19.
- Contract Issues **MUST be settled** by your Business Agent at District 10. *See last page.*

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dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio

by Doug Curler

A Union House in the northwoods and now an Union home. My Union membership started in October 1972 with Johnson Controls. It was a good job until they closed in 1997 and moved to Mexico. We were also an average shop and loved when the power house shops settled their contracts so we knew the area benefits and pay we would end



More Pic's page 5 & 6

up with. In those days the bigger shops were Briggs and Stratton, Square D and A. O. Smith. During my 25 years at Johnson I was a committeeperson or shop chair for 22 years. Times were good and it was during this time, in 1980, we bought the house, my home, in Langlade County, on Neva Lake. Through out the years the job was stable, with good pay and excellent benefits, especially health insurance. Over the years and divorce I was able to keep what has not become my retirement home.

What really made the difference was from 1997 to February 2011, I was the full time secretary treasurer for United Lodge 66. It was during this time I was able to, while not getting what would be big pay increases or any pay increases; I was able to increase my defined benefit plan, my pension. This has made all the difference in retirement with two defined benefit plans and a very good social security to live better than most in my retirement county.

I remembered when I first started at the Lodge I asked for the same cents per hour pension contribution as at Johnson Controls. This did not seem much as compared to other shops in the Lodge, at the time, but the dollar amount in retirement pay was twice as much. When members came in and complained about paying Union dues I used my example of why our Union gives a better return than any employer.

The other time is very vivid when a new member from Badger Meter came in and again, like always, complained on why he had to pay Union Dues and what am I getting for it. For more that 30 minutes we went back and forth on every benefit he had at Badger Meter but I finally said very simply, 'if paying the dues is so bad then why do you not go back to your Non-Union shop is Muskego. Go back and because I may not like you, do not like the colorful clothes you care wearing; I will fire you BUT I do not have to give you a reason. You will be gone since as a Non-Union worker you have no rights and are an at will employee.' **Would you believe at that time he stated that is why he went to Badger Meter.** I laughed quite a bit and said, 'see you do have those rights and the company must give just cause and if I, a Union representative, do not do my job you can come after me.' Case closed and he left.

So as an worker with years to go there will be or should be a good retirement in you future BUT you need to practice that thing called Solidarity. If you think you are better than the collective good you will lose and you are wrong.

In solidarity and still active in my northwoods. **Are you active???**

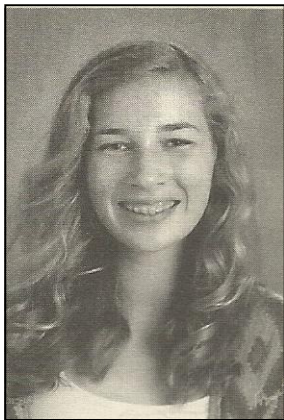


<https://www.facebook.com/United-Lodge-66-793718930726922/>

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

2017-18 Labor History Essay Winner

Third Place (Tie)
Gabby Goode
9th Grade
The Prairie School -
Racine
Father -
I.A.M. Lodge 66
Mother -
Kenosha Education
Association



www.wisconsinlaborhistory.org

Unions have been important to my family and my community because it is the core of our history as a nation, the core of my parents' work, and the core of what my family values are.

History shows that Unions impacted families since the 1800's. In 1827 the Mechanics' Union of Trade Associations in Philadelphia formed as a result of workers concerned with their low wages, long hours, and the growing power of employers organized to fight for what they believed to be the true ideals of the republic.

In 1843 Female textile workers in Lowell, Massachusetts formed the Lowell Female Labor Reform Association (LFLRA). Led by organizer Sarah Bagley, they testified before the Massachusetts legislature about workplace risks to health and safety, and petition for a 10 hour workday.

In 1857 the National Education Association (NEA) is founded in Philadelphia by 43 educators. The new Union focused on raising teacher salaries, child labor laws, educating emancipated slaves and how the forced assimilation of Native Americans affected their education.

The Knights of Labor was a Union formed in 1869. The Knights pressed for the eight hour work day for laborers. The Knights also sought to end child labor and convict labor. African Americans and women were also welcome as members.

On May 5, 1888, Thomas W. Talbot, a railroad machinist in Atlanta, Georgia, founded the Order of United Machinists and Mechanical Engineers. Talbot and 18 others had been members in the Knights of Labor. Talbot believed that a Union needed to be formed for railroad machinists that would resist wage cuts. He wanted to provide insurance against unemployment, illness, and accidents but also wanted railroad machinists to be recognized for their craft skill.

The movement that started 191 years ago to make our world a better place for workers still affects my family as my mother is a special education teacher, my father works for Union Financial and is a member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. My grandfather was a truck driver and a member of the Teamsters Union.

My father remembers well what Union solidarity represents for as a child his father went on strike for a whole summer to support change. This meant that his family lived with no income and struggled to get by. My dad told me, "we drank powdered milk and block cheese for that summer. I knew then that to be part of a Union meant you were not alone, and to create change, you had to stand together to fight for what was fair." A retired worker from John Deere, David Margelofsky, IAM Local 873, who had been a Union member for 47 years, met my dad in 2009 and talks about what a Union has meant to him, "Without a strong Union you don't have a voice, workers will only get the crumbs. Unions are there to make sure members get due process, are treated fairly, get a better standard of living and integrity for the work they produce daily." He goes on to discuss that my father's work with the Union members "helps people in need, get through tough times, and gives them a plan for life that is life changing." This shows that without a Union he would not be where he is today, doing what he is doing.

My mother being a teacher has seen many changes in the education field and still is part of a Union as she knows the importance the Union has been for educators. "Watching the effect of Act 10 has been detrimental to my field. The cuts to teachers' pay and benefits were enormous. I watched teachers that loved their job be forced to retire as they would never get back what they worked so hard for. I have watched the decline in teachers staying in the profession as the pay and benefits don't match the job demands. I have watched teachers take on 2nd jobs to support the income they lost. The change not only affects the educators, it has a lasting impact on the children and school community as well."

Unions represent the values of my family as we believe that all people deserve a voice, equality and fairness, unity. That hard

*Unions are there to make
sure members get fair
treatment and better
standards of living.*

Continued on page 3

Page 2

Guaranteeing Our Fundamental Dignity

In the half century since Medicare and Medicaid were signed into law, countless Americans have been guaranteed the health care and fundamental dignity that we deserve.



Yet, corporate-backed members of Congress are pushing to gut these transformational programs, proposing to:

- Cut Medicare by \$537 billion to create a privatized system of health insurance plans.
- Cut Medicaid by \$1.5 trillion, imposing new benefit caps.

These proposals are only more outrageous in the wake of a \$1.5 trillion corporate tax giveaway. Working people aren't going to stand for such blatant mistreatment from politicians. That's why we're mobilizing across the country and preparing to make our voices heard on Election Day.


Kitchen Table Economics

28: States where it is legal to fire a worker for being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender.



I cannot tell a lie.

- George Washington



I cannot tell the truth.

- Richard Nixon



I cannot tell the difference.

- Donald Trump

From page 2

work should not go unnoticed, that women, men should be treated equally. Unions gave my mother an opportunity to do what she loves to teach all children, give children a voice and opportunity to be what the best they can be. Unions give the opportunity for my father to help people be financially stable and independent and makes life-long impact. These factors install a strong belief that Unions are part of the core of my history, life and community.

John McCain's full letter:

"My fellow Americans, whom I have gratefully served for sixty years, and especially my fellow Arizonans,

"Thank you for the privilege of serving you and for the rewarding life that service in uniform and in public office has allowed me to lead. I have tried to serve our country honorably. I have made mistakes, but I hope my love for America will be weighed favorably against them.

"I have often observed that I am the luckiest person on earth. I feel that way even now as I prepare for the end of my life. I have loved my life, all of it. I have had experiences, adventures and friendships enough for ten satisfying lives, and I am so thankful. Like most people, I have regrets. But I would not trade a day of my life, in good or bad times, for the best day of anyone else's.

"I owe that satisfaction to the love of my family. No man ever had a more loving wife or children he was prouder of than I am of mine. And I owe it to America. To be connected to America's causes – liberty, equal justice, respect for the dignity of all people – brings happiness more sublime than life's fleeting pleasures. Our identities and sense of worth are not circumscribed but enlarged by serving good causes bigger than ourselves.

"Fellow Americans' – that association has meant more to me than any other. I lived and died a proud American. We are citizens of the world's greatest republic, a nation of ideals, not blood and soil. We are blessed and are a blessing to humanity when we uphold and advance those ideals at home and in the world. We have helped liberate more people from tyranny and poverty than ever before in history. We have acquired great wealth and power in the process.

"We weaken our greatness when we confuse our patriotism with tribal rivalries that have sown resentment and hatred and violence in all the corners of the globe. We weaken it when we hide behind walls, rather than tear them down, when we doubt the power of our ideals, rather than trust them to be the great force for change they have always been.

"We are three-hundred-and-twenty-five million opinionated, vociferous individuals. We argue and compete and sometimes even vilify each other in our raucous public debates. But we have always had so much more in common with each other than in disagreement. If only we remember that and give each other the benefit of the presumption that we all love our country we will get through these challenging times. We will come through them stronger than before. We always do.

"Ten years ago, I had the privilege to concede defeat in the election for president. I want to end my farewell to you with the heartfelt faith in Americans that I felt so powerfully that evening. I feel it powerfully still.

"Do not despair of our present difficulties but believe always in the promise and greatness of America, because nothing is inevitable here. Americans never quit. We never surrender. We never hide from history. We make history.

"Farewell, fellow Americans. God bless you, and God bless America."

In the beginning

In the beginning was the Plan.

And then came the Assumptions.

And the Assumptions were without form.

And the Plan was completely without substance.

And the Darkness was upon the face of the Workers.

And they spoke among themselves, saying:

"It is a crock of shit, and it stinketh."

And the Workers went unto their Supervisors, and sayeth:

"It is a pail of dung, and none can abide the odor thereof."

And the Supervisors went unto their Managers and sayeth unto them:

"It is a container of excrement, and it is very strong such that none can abide by it."

And the Managers went unto the Directors and sayeth:

"It is a vessel of fertilizer, and none can abide its strength."

And the Directors spoke amongst themselves, saying to one another:

"It contains that which aids plant growth and is very strong."

And the Directors went unto the Vice Presidents, and sayeth unto them:

"It promises growth, and is very powerful."

And the Vice Presidents went unto the President, and sayeth unto him:

"This new plan will actively promote the growth and efficiency of this company, and certain areas in particular."

And the President looked upon the Plan.

And saw that it was good.

And the Plan became Policy.

And this is how shit happens.



Lodge 66 to Begin Legal Clinic

Starting in September of this year Lodge 66 will be offering on-going Legal Clinic sessions twice a month at the union hall, 2609 West Oklahoma Avenue 53215.

These sessions are open to members, their families, friends and anyone else in the community that is interested in having a private one on one consultation with a lawyer from Previant Law Firm regarding workers compensation or other workplace and/or related legal issues.

The scheduled sessions to date are as follows:

- September 12 and 26 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- October 10 and 24 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins will also be welcome.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call: (414) 736-7287 and leave a message.



Privacy



In case I really want to get away.

Sen. Casey Shows How Kavanaugh Confirmation Would Harm Retirees

Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA), ranking member of the United States Senate Special Committee on Aging, has released a fact sheet detailing Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh's disastrous record on issues relating to aging, disability, retirement, and health care.

The sheet highlights numerous cases that Kavanaugh argued or decided that raise alarm. Perhaps most concerning is Kavanaugh's repeated attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) through the courts. President Trump promised to only appoint justices who would overturn the ACA, and Kavanaugh's record shows he falls into line. Kavanaugh has disagreed at least twice with rulings upholding the law's constitutionality. If the ACA is overturned, millions of older Americans with pre-existing conditions could lose their coverage.

Kavanaugh has a particularly worrisome record concerning people with disabilities. He ruled against disabled patients' ability to make decisions about their own lives, taking away the right of self-determination and allowing the government to make medical decisions for them without first learning their wishes. He also sided with employers in numerous disability discrimination and retaliation cases.

As an attorney Kavanaugh argued that age discrimination protections in place for older workers should not apply in some situations, and as a judge he ruled that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) was unconstitutional. If the CFPB were dissolved, older Americans would lose a key source of unbiased information regarding retirement planning, financial resources, and how to protect themselves from fraud.

"Brett Kavanaugh's record proves that he will not protect retirees' interests," said Alliance Secretary-Treasurer Joseph Peters, Jr. "Confirming him to serve on the United States Supreme Court would be a catastrophe for older Americans who rely on the court system to look out for their health care and economic rights."

Administration Nominates a Social Security Privatizer as a Trustee

The administration announced the nomination of James Lockhart to be one of the two public trustees for the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds. If confirmed by the Senate, he would serve for four years.

Lockhart served as the Deputy Commissioner of the Social Security Administration under President George W. Bush. During that time, he advocated for privatizing Social Security benefits into personal accounts, and suggested investing Social Security in the stock market during a congressional hearing. He also served as the Executive Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) under President Ronald Reagan.

In addition to his long history of support for privatization of earned benefits, Lockhart has also proposed raising the retirement age and making cuts by slowing the growth of benefits. He is now co-chair of the Bipartisan Policy Center, which promoted "back door privatization" in the form of benefit cuts and expanding subsidies for private savings. The commission's latest report suggests creating retirement savings accounts through a third-party for employers who don't want to offer pension plans, raising the age of eligibility for receiving benefits, and shifting responsibility from the government and employers to individuals.

"It is crucial that we fight to protect Social Security and its beneficiaries," said Joseph Peters Jr., Secretary-Treasurer of the Alliance. "James Lockhart's nomination is another step in the misguided strategy by many of our leaders to raise the Social Security retirement age, privatize it and take away earned benefits for which retirees worked their entire lives."

Send Your Thoughts,

To those who should be working for you!

President trump

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
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202-225-3365
<https://duffy.house.gov>

Governor Scott Walker,
Republican
115 East Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

Seniors Corner

Rep. Steve Stivers: GOP Campaign Chair Says to Cut Social Security and Medicare to Pay for Tax Scam

To reduce the ballooning national debt caused by the GOP tax cut scam, House Republican Campaign Chair Steve Stivers of Ohio is calling for cuts to earned Social Security and Medicare benefits. The national deficit is poised to surpass \$1 trillion by 2020 due the tax bill passed last year, and Rep. Stivers said in a recent interview that Congress must “deal with some of our spending” in order to address it.

Stivers also said he agrees with House Speaker Paul Ryan (WI) that Social Security and Medicare represent “the biggest spending issues.” He went on to complain about too many people qualifying for Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, and he refused to rule out raising the retirement age. He also called “premium support” for Medicare - vouchers that only cover a fraction of what patients are actually charged - “a way forward.”

“The GOP leadership is stating clearly that they are coming for our earned Social Security and Medicare benefits,” said Richard Fiesta, Executive Director of the Alliance. “We knew when that tax bill was passed, they would move to cut our Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid next. We must vote in November and elect candidates who will protect and expand earned benefits, not cut them.”

Join the Wisconsin ARA Chapter

1602 South Park Street, #220
Madison, WI 53715
608-556-9521

<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



Can not see the lake but they can not see me

Activities for You and Your Family

- **Milwaukee Area Labor Council** delegate meeting: is **September 5, 2018**, is at 633 S. Hawley Road, Milwaukee.
- **Machinists Union William W. Winpinger Education and Technology Center** class schedule is available (<http://winpinger.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.

www.milwaukeeelabor.org

VOTE...11/06/2018 All 435 seats in the United States House of Representatives and 35 of the 100 seats in the United States Senate will be contested. 39 state and territorial governorships and numerous other state and local elections will also be contested.

Officers, LL66 Machinists Union

President Tim Schwartz
Vice President Hunter Scott
Recording Secretary . . . Michael Oettel
Secretary Treasurer Ivan Collins
Conductor Sentinel Pepe Oulahan
Trustees: Doug Stanichewski,
Joe Dosemagen, 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/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:

Alex Hoekstra	113
Ben Elizondo	120
Scott Parr	125
Greg Pursell	124
Joe Terlisner	119
Di Ann Fechter	117
Jeremy Terlisner	118

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www.unitedlodge66.org
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