

# Badger Lodge News

Newsletter for United Lodge 66, Machinists Union, AFL-CIO

Chartered: November 30th, 1895

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www.unitedlodge66.org

November 2019

**United Lodge 66**

**Business Meeting**

**November 12th at 7:00 PM**

**1650 S 38th Street**

**Milwaukee, WI 53215**

**414-671-3800**

**All lodge members are  
encouraged to attend**

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## **Office Hours:**

**Tuesday Through Friday**

**8AM to 4:30PM**

**All Contract issues must be  
settled by your Business Rep  
at District 10. See Last Page**

## **Lodge 66 Badge Night 2019**

The Lodge held it's annual badge Night on October 5th this year. It's an event designed to honor our members that have reached significant service milestones in their careers. Beginning with 15 years of service and every 5th year after that up to 50 years we recognized the 2019 honorees with a pin signifying the anniversary being commemorated along with some Local Lodge 66 swag this year.

The night kicked off with a dinner put on by the Executive Board with a nice spread of food and refreshments. Once everyone had settled in after eating President Tim Schwartz begun the program by calling up those in attendance who had reached their significant milestones this year. To close out the evening Vice President Hunter Scott thanked those in attendance for their years of service and remarked "Without your years of service and dedication to our Union we would not be here today."

In total we had 14 members in attendance with a collective total of 455 years of service being commemorated that night. Special thanks to the Lodge 66 Executive Board and volunteers for putting the event together and extra special thanks to those in attendance that were honored for sharing stories of your careers with us. The 2019 Lodge 66 Badge Night was a great event filled with amazing fellowship and recognition of the dedication of our honorees. *More photos from Badge Night on page 3*



**45 Years of service: Susan Elliuff and Francis Trudeau.**

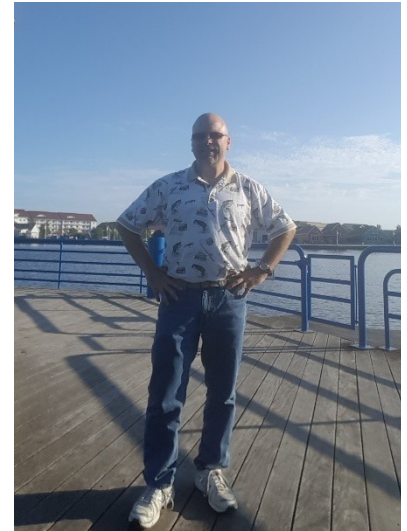
**Not Pictured: Luis Berrones**

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## **IAM Free College Experience: Ron Simmelink**

We are continuing our monthly series highlighting Local Lodge 66 members that are taking part in the IAM Free College Program. This month we caught up with Ron Simmelink and asked him to tell us about his experience. In sharing his story, along with the other stories we have highlighted here in The Badger Lodge news we hope it will inspire you to enroll, or to enroll any of your immediate family members in the IAM Free College Program. Ron has worked at Kieffer/Starlite for the past 21 years. 14 of those years Ron has served as shop chairperson and he also served as the Recording Secretary for 3 years here at Lodge 66. When asked what type of work he does, he replied “I am an assembler which means I wire and assemble signs for a living. I also serve as the primary back-up to our receiving department. Other skills I have include: forklift driver, overhead crane operator, I have fabrication experience and vinyl application skills to be used in our graphics department. Over the years I have learned a great amount of skills and can be of service in most of the departments in our shop.” We asked him what were some factors he considered when signing up for the IAM Free College Program and he said “To be honest, the price was right... FREE! I figured an Associate’s Degree could only help me moving forward in my work life. You never know what the future holds, so the more education the better. My current place of employment has no guarantees long-term.”



***Ron Simmelink former LL66 Recording Secretary, Shop Chairperson and IAM Free College Participant***

Ron had a larger gap without any kind of formal schooling than those we’ve previously interviewed saying “I graduated High School in 1988, immediately followed up with 4 years of enlisting in the U.S. Army as an Air Traffic Controller, I finished my term in 1992 so it has been over 25 years without formal training.” Ron is majoring in Business Management with a focus on Human Resources. We asked him if the schooling he has received has helped him within our union his reply was “Yes, I have gotten much better at PowerPoint and have utilized that tool with our Local Lodge.” We asked him what his favorite courses were so far and he told us “Probably my Management classes. I have had MGT 201, and MGT 211. I appreciated learning about different managing styles and team building. What motivates different individuals and how different personality traits can factor into team building, etc...”

Ron was candid when we asked him how the IAM Free College Program has impacted his work/life balance “I feel the time I have spent on these courses has factored in on the fact that my wife of 20 years is seeking a divorce. The time I have devoted to my studies in addition to my full-time job, along with the responsibilities of being a father, husband, and homeowner have taken its toll. There is little to no free-time depending on the class. Please don’t get me wrong, I am sure more has factored into my situation, but the time and attention I had available to devote to my wife and children was greatly reduced.” When asked about his plans to use his education in the future he replied “I think right now it’s more of an insurance policy. Something which I can use to help me get a different job if things go south with my current employer.”

Participating in The IAM Free College Program on a part time basis since October 2017 Ron said “I am just finishing up my Marketing class so that will give me 27 credits out of the 60 needed for my Associates Degree. If I’m being honest, probably another 3 years to go as I can only manage taking one class at a time because of my busy chaotic lifestyle.” To date he has saved \$6960 in tuition and \$2090 in fees for a total of \$9050. We asked Ron if he would recommend the IAM Free College Program to anyone ***Continued on page 4***



# Lodge 66 Badge Night 2019 *Continued from page X*

**Congratulations to all of our members who have achieved a significant service anniversary in 2019!**



**40 years of service: Julie Feldman, Cherie Pekrul and Eduardo Villanueva**



**35 years of service: Thomas Guy and Mark Jaeger**



**30 years of service: Gene Plennes Jr. and Mary Chopp**



**20 years of service: Jeffrey Mc Curty and Christopher Brady**



***More photos from Badge Night on page 4***

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***IAM Free College: Ron Simmelink from page 2***

and he replied; “Yes, definitely. But let me add that it certainly isn’t for everyone. I consider myself to be a fairly strong person in regards to academics and organizational skills. I am currently fortunate to be achieving a 4.0 GPA, but it is honestly a large amount of work. It takes commitment and self-discipline, along with a great deal of personal sacrifice in regards to my social life. If a person can devote the time needed to obtaining one’s degree, then why not take advantage of the opportunity our Union provides? If a person isn’t able to focus long-term, then perhaps it isn’t for them. When potential employers are looking at two individuals with similar skills and backgrounds but one person has a little more schooling than the other, many times it’s the person with the greater amount of education that gets the opportunity first. In today’s tough competitive working environment, every bit of an advantage a person gets over another is certainly a benefit.”

Continue keeping an eye out for more IAM Free College Experience coverage here in the Badger Lodge News as we share more stories of our members taking advantage of this great benefit.

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**Lodge 66 Badge Night 2019**

*continued from page 3*



***Lodge 66 Badge Night attendees enjoy the meal prepared by the Executive Board***



***15 years of service: Dan Doberstein and Lynn Pawelski***



***All of this years Badge Night honorees and their guests with the Lodge Executive Board and volunteers***



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## **Leadership II at the William W. Winpisinger Center**

*By Jon Zancanaro*

The week of October 13th I had the privilege of attending the Leadership II class at the William W. Winpisinger Center and I would like to thank the membership here at local lodge 66 for sending me for the week. Every trip to the W3 Center is full of the best training and if you have ever considered signing up for the Leadership program I highly recommend it.



*The view from Placid Harbor before a day full of learning*

The week was jam packed with 5 different classes consisting of Labor History, Lobbying, Advanced Stewards, Collective Bargaining and Organizing. All 5 classes covered a lot of material and the instructors were extremely knowledgeable and personable, taking the time to answer any and all questions as well as sharing personal experiences with the class pertaining to the topics being covered.

The highlight of my week came on Wednesday as the class headed to Washington D.C. to meet with our representatives to discuss some of the bills in Congress that directly impact us here in the IAM. I was able to work with 3 of our brothers and sisters from LL 1947 at Mercury Marine to cold knock 5 different offices including those for Gwen Moore, Mike Gallagher, Glen Grothman, Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson. While we didn't have a lot of success cold knocking (our instructor informed us that day was go-

ing to be very busy with congress just returning from a 2 week recess) it was a great experience walking into the offices of our reps, who work for us by the way and share some of our thoughts with their aides. By chance we were able to talk with Wisconsin State District 6 Representative Glen Grothman as he was on our plane from Baltimore to Milwaukee. He was kind enough to give us around 15 or 20 minutes of his time as well as wait for us to get off the plane to exchange business cards. He wasn't able to pledge us his support for the excise tax bill or the PRO act but he listened to why they would be beneficial to the 3,000 members the Machinists Union represent in his district at Mercury Marine.



*Wisconsin Participants in Washington D.C. left to right: Paul Berres, Lisa Zarecki, Ben Decker and Jon Zancanaro*

Overall my trip was a pleasant as they always are to the harbor. The staff there is second to none. The grounds looked fabulous, the rooms were clean and welcoming and the kitchen staff made sure we were fed well all week long. If you or any of your coworkers are considering taking a class or two at the W3 Center I could not encourage you more than to sign up and go see what our union can do for us and the knowledge they can empower us with, you will not be disappointed!

# Lodge 66 2019 Children's Christmas Party

Saturday, December 7th from  
10am to 1pm at Local Lodge 66:

1650 S. 38th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53215

RSVP by November 12th at the  
Monthly Meeting or by calling  
414-671-3800. Please leave your  
name, the attending children(s)  
name(s), age(s) and the compa-  
ny you work for.



**Your children or grandchildren  
(12 years old and Under)  
Must be pre-registered and we  
ask that the children be  
accompanied by no more than  
2 adults per child**







You are cordially invited to:

**The United Lodge 66 Christmas party!**

Saturday December 7th, 2019

From 6 PM to 10 PM

Join us for an evening of food, fellowship,  
refreshments and raffles

Christmas cash raffle will begin at  
8:30 pm with a chance to win one or  
more of the 4 \$500 and 27 \$100 cash  
prizes!!!

**Ticket purchase is required to win and  
you need not be present to win**

**1650 S. 38th St. Milwaukee, WI 53214**

# **Seniors Corner:**

## **2019 WIARA Power Luncheon**

The Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans held their annual Power Lunch on October 14th this year at the Tripoli Shriners Taj Mahal Temple. This years key note speaker was Ben Wikler, the newly elected Chairperson for the Wisconsin Democratic Party. The event brought together members from all over the state and included a few LL 66 members including a special honor for our own Tom Gadowski who received the WIARA Activist Hero Award for his dedication to our union and his activism throughout his career. For more information, visit the [Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans](http://www.wisconsinallianceforretiredamericans.org) page to find upcoming events and membership benefits and informstion.



**Congratulations to Tom Gadowski on receiving one of the WIARA Activist Hero Awards at this years Power Luncheon from all of us here at LL 66. Tom is pictured above with his family, fellow LL66 member Danny Bell and Wiisconsin Afl-CIO President Stephanie Bloomingdale. Photo courtesy of Stephanie Bloomingdale**



***Panoramic view of the 2019 WIARA Power Luncheon at the Tripoli Shriners Taj Mahal Temple.***

***Photo courtesy of James Cobb***

### **Upcoming events and important dates**

<p><b>Milwaukee Area Labor Council Delegate Meeting</b>  <b>Wednesday, December 4th</b>  <b>at 6:30 PM</b>  <b>Milwaukee Labor Temple</b>  <b>633 S. Hawley Rd.</b>  <b>Milwaukee, WI</b></p>	<p><b>Organizing Committee Meeting</b>  <b>Tuesday, December 3rd</b>  <b>at 7 PM</b>  <b>Local Lodge 66</b>  <b>1650 S. 38th Street</b>  <b>Milwaukee, WI</b></p>	<p><b>District 10 Business Meeting</b>  <b>Monday, December 9th</b>  <b>at 7 PM</b>  <b>Satellite Meeting @ Lodge 66</b>  <b>1650 S. 38th Street</b>  <b>Milwaukee, WI</b></p>	<p><b>Lodge 66 Business Meeting</b>  <b>Tuesday, December 10th</b>  <b>at 7 PM</b>  <b>Local Lodge 66</b>  <b>1650 S. 38th Street</b>  <b>Milwaukee, WI</b></p>
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**District 10 Office Directory:**

107 Warren St. Suite 2 Beaver Dam,  
WI 53916

Call 920-219-4919 followed by the ex-  
tension for you Business Rep

- Alex Hoekstra ..... 1
- Scott Parr ..... 2
- Di Ann Fechter ..... 3
- Jeremy Terlisner ..... 6
- Todd Humleker ..... 5
- Joe Terlisner ..... 7
- Greg Pursell ..... 8
- Brandon Mortenson ..... 9

**Officers of Local Lodge 66**

**Machinists Union**

- President ..... Tim Schwartz
- Vice President ..... Hunter Scott
- Recording Secretary ... Michael Oettel
- Secretary/Treasurer ..... Ivan Collins
- Conductor/Sentinel .... Pepe Oulahan
- Trustees: Joe Dosemagen, James Cobb  
and Doug Staniszewski
- Communicator ..... Jon Zancanaro
- Educator ..... Pepe Oulahan
- Editor ..... Jon Zancanaro

The views and opinions expressed by  
the various writers in this publication  
are their own and not necessarily those  
of the editor, Lodge 66 Executive Board  
or the Membership of Lodge 66. The  
Editor reserves the right to publish,  
edit or exclude publication of any arti-  
cle submitted to the Badger Lodge  
News. Any member may contribute  
articles for publication by sending them  
to United Lodge 66, 1650 S. 38th Street,  
Milwaukee, WI 53215 or via e-mail to  
lodge66@gmail.com.

Visit us on the web:

www.unitedlodge66.org

www.YouTube.com/badgerlodge

**Do you have any concerns, complaints or congratulations you would like to  
bring up to those representing you in Government? Give them a call or send  
them a note and let your voice be heard**

**President Donald Trump (R)**

1600 Pennsylvania Ave  
Washington D.C. 20510  
202-224-5323

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>

**Senator Ron Johnson (R)**

328 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510  
202-224-5323

[https://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/  
public/index.cfm/email-the-senator](https://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/email-the-senator)

**State Rep. Bryan Steil (R)**

1st District of Wisconsin  
1408 Longworth HOB  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-3031

<https://steil.house.gov/contact>

**State Rep. Gwen Moore (D)**

Wisconsin State District 4  
2252 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-4572

[https://gwenmoore.house.gov/  
contact/](https://gwenmoore.house.gov/contact/)

**State Rep. Glen Grothman (R)**

Wisconsin State District 6  
1427 Longworth H.O.B.  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-2476

<https://grothman.house.gov/contact/>

**Governor Tony Evers (D)**

115 East Capitol  
Madison, WI 53707  
608-266-1212

[https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/  
Governor/contact](https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/Governor/contact)

**Senator Tammy Baldwin (D)**

709 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510  
202-224-5653

[https://www.baldwin.senate.gov/  
feedback](https://www.baldwin.senate.gov/feedback)

**State Rep. Ron Kind (D)**

Wisconsin State District 3  
1502 Longworth H.O.B.  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-5506

<https://kind.house.gov/contact>

**State Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner (R)**

Wisconsin State District 5  
2449 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-5101

[https://sensenbrenner.house.gov/  
contact](https://sensenbrenner.house.gov/contact)

**State Rep. Sean Duffy (R)**

Wisconsin State District 7  
1714 Longworth H.O.B.  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-3365

<https://duffy.house.gov/contact>

Submit articles for the Badger Lodge News by email: lodge66@gmail.com  
Deadline to submit articles for the next Badger Lodge News is Nov. 22nd