

# Badger Lodge News

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

Chartered: November 30th, 1895

Vol. 25 No. 6

www.unitedlodge66.org

June 2023

**United Lodge 66**

**Business Meeting**

**June 13th 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:**

**By appointment only. Call  
414-671-3800 or email  
lodge66@gmail.com**

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

## **Pride at Work**

*By Warren Enstrom*

In 1987, in Twinsburg, Ohio, Martha Grevatt was hired as a tool-and-die maker for the Chrysler Corporation. Unfortunately, within months of being hired, she faced homophobic remarks about a woman doing a “man’s job” and was frequently harassed at work. In 1987 Ohio, this harassment and discrimination on the job was completely legal. Grevatt had no recourse.

But United Auto Workers Local 122 helped her receive compensation when her personal belongings were damaged and stolen on the job. They won backpay for a disciplinary layoff ostensibly for “careless workmanship,” but which was actually due to the constant harassment Grevatt faced for her sexuality. But it took until 1993 for the union to agree to ask to include sexual orientation in the contract’s nondiscrimination clause, and until 1999 for the company to accept the demand.

What changed? Between 1993 and 1999, Pride at Work was founded. [Pride at Work](#) (PAW) is a constituency group of the AFL-CIO, which means that it advocates for social groups that benefit from labor protections. In PAW’s case, it advocates for LGBTQ+ workers and their rights. PAW was founded in 1994 and unanimously accepted into the AFL-CIO constituency network in 1997, but how did we get here?

Before PAW, many LGBTQ+ union members founded their own caucuses.



A caucus is a subgroup founded around a smaller identity, group, or constituency of a larger organization. These caucuses, as well as city-based LGBTQ+ labor groups, developed in the 1970s after the Stonewall Riots and continued to grow through the 80s and 90s under the fight against HIV/AIDS and the push for marriage equality. **See ‘Pride’ on page 3**

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# **The IAM Promotes** **Equality**

Therefore we cannot be a  
unionist if we are:

- . A racist
- . An elitist
- . Sexist
- . Classist
- . Homophobic
- . Xenophobic

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# PRIDE AT WORK

## *‘Pride’ from page 1*

As the struggles around civil rights for LGBTQ+ people coalesced in the 80s and 90s, these caucuses and labor groups came together to form Pride at Work.

Nowadays, Pride at Work is the leading force in the AFL-CIO pushing for contract language that protects LGBTQ+ people on the job. Our contract at the Milwaukee Art Museum has at least one part of our contract that comes straight from Pride at Work: our Nondiscrimination clause, which bans discrimination based on sexuality and gender expression and identity (among other things). LGBTQ+ labor activists fought long and hard for these protections – many of which aren’t even fully represented in state or federal law.

Though it is important to codify civil rights into law to prevent their loss as we have seen in recent Supreme Court decisions, we can win significant gains at work through our contract and the things we fight for. Now that we’ve won our contract, the tireless work of activists at Pride at Work and those who have come before help us rest easy knowing that our employer can’t fire us for who we are.

For more information on Milwaukee’s Pride at Work chapter, check out the Milwaukee Area Labor Council’s website [here](#)! For more information on other AFL-CIO constituency groups, check out the full list of constituency at AFL-CIO’s website [here](#).

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## **Attention IAM Members! Register Now to Vote in the IAM’s U.S. Presidential Endorsement Election**

The time has come again for our members to express your voice in who our union endorses for U.S. president. Your IAM Executive Council recently met and strongly supported continuing this process and ensuring that the IAM’s endorsement represents the will of the membership.

Beginning now, all U.S. IAM members in good standing can register to vote in the IAM’s U.S. presidential endorsement election at [iamvoting.org](http://iamvoting.org).

After the registration process, every IAM member who registered will be given an opportunity to vote online for who should receive the union’s endorsement for president, regardless of political party. The IAM’s State Council Presidents will then vote between the top vote-getting candidates chosen by the membership from each party after the membership voting concludes.

Our great union represents working people from all walks of life, and our endorsement process reflects that diversity. Our endorsement process guarantees that all IAM members have a voice.

This work will help ensure that the candidate we endorse is committed to fighting for the interests of our members. I am also pleased that this process focuses on the most important issues facing our members, such as passing the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act, Buy American, transportation, fair trade, defense funding, retirement security, healthcare, prescription drug costs and more.

So, please make sure your voice is heard and register to vote in the IAM’s endorsement process at [iamvoting.org](http://iamvoting.org).

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## **Seniors Corner: Nearly 80% of Americans Don't Want The Retirement Age Raised**

*from finance.yahoo.com*

There's a reason that Social Security is called "the third rail of American politics" – as in, touch it and die. Most Americans – especially seniors – are fiercely protective when it comes to their retirement benefits.

That sentiment is reflected in a Quinnipiac University national poll of adults that found 78% of respondents are opposed to proposals that would raise the full retirement age for Social Security benefits from 67 to 70. Opposition remained firm even

when respondents were asked whether they would support raising the full retirement age if it meant benefits would last longer, with 30% in favor and 62% against the move.



### **The State of Social Security**

While the system isn't in any danger of becoming bankrupt, the trustees who oversee Social Security and Medicare have reported that the surplus in the trust fund that's used to pay out a portion of benefits will run out sometime in 2034. Once the surplus is gone the payroll taxes that support Social Security would continue to bring in revenue for benefit payments, but those collections would come up about 20% short of the total amount needed. At that point, Congress would have to find other revenue or adjust the benefit rules and payroll tax schedules.


### **Poll Reveals Deep Anxiety**

The amount of anxiety surrounding financial security in retirement was reflected throughout the Quinnipiac poll.

For instance, the top personal financial concern for respondents between ages 50 to 64 was saving for retirement, with 25% saying it was their biggest worry. That also was the top concern for respondents 65 and older, with 26% saying they were anxious about saving enough for retirement.

"When it comes to the golden years, Americans young, old and in-between share the same worry," said Osman Kilic, a Quinnipiac professor of finance and business. "There's a cloud of doubt hanging over the quality of life they'll have when they retire, especially among those between 35 and 64 years of age."

*See 'Seniors Corner' on page 6*



GET TO KNOW YOUR UNION

# UNITED LODGE 66 GROWTH AND UNITY COOKOUT

JUNE 10TH, 2023, 11AM  
LODGE 66 HALL, 1650 S. 38TH ST.  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53215

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF SOLIDARITY,  
FELLOWSHIP AND TO SEE WHAT YOUR  
UNION IS ALL ABOUT



### ***'Seniors Corner' from page 4***

The poll surveyed nearly 1,800 adults from across the political spectrum. While 29% of respondents identified themselves as Democrats, 27% were Republicans. Another 29% said they were independents while the remaining 15% of participants said they belong to another political party or simply don't know.

Among all respondents, 22% reported that inflation, higher interest rates and other elements of the current economy have prompted them to reconsider when they'll be able to retire. Among respondents between 50 and 64 years old, 32% said they've already delayed their retirement plan.

More broadly, 52% of the respondents said they'd find it either very difficult (25%) or somewhat difficult (27%) to come up with \$1,000 in cash to handle an unexpected expense, while 42% reported having less in savings than they did a year ago.

When it came to the question of being able to afford to retire, nearly seven in 10 (68%) said they are either very concerned (33%) or somewhat concerned (35%) that they will not have enough money to live comfortably during retirement.

#### **Bottom Line**

The majority of Americans are strongly opposed to raising the full retirement age for Social Security, a move that's been suggested by senators on Capitol Hill. A Quinnipiac University poll found that 78% are against hiking the full retirement age to 70, while nearly seven out of 10 people are concerned about simply having enough saved for retirement.



## **Upcoming Events and Important Dates:**

<b>Milwaukee Area Labor Council Delegate Meeting</b>  <b>Wednesday, June 7th</b> <b>at 6:30 PM</b>  <b>Milwaukee Labor Temple</b> <b>633 S. Hawley Rd.</b> <b>Milwaukee, WI</b>	<b>District 10 Business Meeting</b>  <b>Monday, June 12th</b>  <b>At 7 PM</b>  <b>Satellite Meeting @ Lodge 66</b> <b>1650 S. 38th Street</b> <b>Milwaukee, WI</b>	<b>Lodge 66 Business Meeting</b>  <b>Tuesday, June 13th</b>  <b>at 7 PM</b>  <b>Local Lodge 66</b> <b>1650 S. 38th Street</b> <b>Milwaukee, WI</b>	<b>Deadline to submit articles for the next</b>  <b>Badger Lodge News is</b>  <b>June 23rd</b>  <b>Submit articles by email:</b> <b><a href="mailto:lodge66@gmail.com">lodge66@gmail.com</a></b>
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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  
Di Ann Fechter ..... 3  
Jeremy Terlisner ..... 6  
Todd Humleker ..... 5  
Joe Terlisner ..... 7  
Hunter Scott ..... 8  
Justin Bader ..... 9  
Anne Wiberg, Organizer: 414-305-8486  
or [annewiberg@gmail.com](mailto:annewiberg@gmail.com)

**Officers of Local Lodge 66****Machinists Union**

President ..... Frank Riedijk  
Vice President ..... Mike Stark  
Recording Secretary .. Jon Zancanaro  
Secretary/Treasurer ... Michael Oettel  
Conductor/Sentinel .....  
Adam Duedenhofer  
Trustees: Don Aiello, Doug  
Staniszewski and Kenny Mullan  
Communicator ..... Jon Zancanaro  
Educator ..... Mike Stark  
Editor ..... Jon Zancanaro

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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](mailto:lodge66@gmail.com).

Visit us on the web:

[www.unitedlodge66.org](http://www.unitedlodge66.org)

[www.YouTube.com/badgerlodge](http://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 Joe Biden (D)**

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

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**Governor Tony Evers (D)**

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

[https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/  
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**Senator Tammy Baldwin (D)**

709 Hart Senate Office Building  
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<https://vanorden.house.gov/>

**State Rep. Scott Fitzgerald (R)**

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**State Rep. Tom Tiffany (R)**

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