

# Badger Lodge News

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

Chartered: November 30th, 1895

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May 2025

United Lodge 66  
Business Meeting  
May 13th at 7:00 PM  
1650 S 38th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53215  
414-671-3800  
All lodge members are  
encouraged to attend

## 2025 Wisconsin AFL-CIO Community Services Conference

by Adam Dudenhoefer

On March 27th & 28th, the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO held its annual Community Services Conference, which seeks to educate and motivate unionists while highlighting the undertakings of local committees, union members, and our allies.

Among the speakers on the first day of the conference was Wisconsin AFL-CIO President Stephanie Bloomingdale, who delivered her thoughts on “Solidarity in Action,” illustrating the broad scope of issues that impact working people throughout our state, past and likely future challenges, and emphasizing that our greatest asset is one another.

This was soon followed by a presentation from Julissa Velazquez of LCLAA and David Ortiz Whittingham of Worker Justice Wisconsin addressing the legal issues surrounding current Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids. They spoke at length about the agency’s use of administrative warrants as opposed to judicial warrants, informing attendees that an administrative warrant does not have the equal standing, and does not allow law enforcement to enter private areas without consent. They also emphasized that a proper judicial warrant should specify who it is ICE agents are looking for, and that those who are not the subject of the warrant are not obligated to provide personal information to agents.

Wisconsin Labor History Society Executive Director Jaclyn Kelly also addressed the conference that day, telling the story of the Bay View Massacre, part of the national struggle for an 8 hour workday in 1886, a movement that would not see widespread success until decades later.

The afternoon concluded with a presentation from Community Services Liaison Rebecca Klebsch regarding using 211 as a resource for dislocated and laid off workers. She emphasized the widespread availability of the service, which is a project made possible the United Way. *See ‘Conference’ on pg. 4*

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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*

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## **Past Sacrifices, Future Victories: Shoemakers Union Arrests of 1805**

In this month's installment we are going to go back to one of the first recorded labor strikes over wage increases in United States history. It was orchestrated by the Federal Society of Journeymen Cordwainers who had organized in Philadelphia in 1794. They had gone on strike in 1799 when the shoe maker masters threatened to reduce wages. That strike was successful and their wages were not reduced.

In just 5 or 6 years though they found themselves in a similar position. In the fall of 1804 the cordwainer's needed change in their wage structure. Wages were based on shoe quality and numbers produced and whether or not they were custom orders or made for retail shops. They demanded equal wages for all work as well as a wage increase. This was met with resistance by the shoemaker companies, as they had come to stand together to thwart the unions efforts. The shoemakers brought in scabs which led to numerous street fights between the striking workers and the scabs. Ultimately the strike failed and the union went back to work.

Even though the Master shoemakers essentially won the dispute they did not stop there. The following spring they were successful in bringing charges against the journeyman cordwainers and had 8 elected officials arrested on May 25th, 1805 for conspiracy to raise wages. The trial lasted 3 days and all 8 were found guilty of conspiracy to raise wages. They were ordered to each pay \$8.00 and the total expenses of the suit. This was a major setback for organized labor and goes to show the lengths employers will go to keep their employees from raising wages.

This would become a temporary setback though, with the decision in the case of *Commonwealth v. Hunt* in 1842, which coincidentally involved shoe makers. Massachusetts Chief Justice Lemuel Shaw ruled that labor combinations were legal provided that they were organized for a legal purpose and used legal means to achieve their goals.



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# **Get ready for summer!!! We're getting together with Locals 78, 510 and 1916 to hold our first joint summer cookout and Brewers game outing!**

Sign-up Form QR



Link to Sign up Form

<https://forms.gle/BFpDr98vXxm2aQ8D7>

**Sign-ups Close May 15, 2025**



## **1st Annual IAM Union Cookout and Brewers Outing**

**Open to Dues paying members of Milwaukee  
Locals 66, 78, 510 & 1916**

**When: Saturday June 28th, 2025**

**What Time: Cookout to begin @11:00AM**

**Brewer Game First Pitch 3:10PM**



**Free Food and beverages at the Union Hall will be provided  
by the locals. There will be cash raffles and door prizes.**

**Game Tickets and Parking can be purchased through the  
Local at a discounted price.**

**Follow the Link or scan the QR code to choose online registration  
& Pay options or choose the printable registration form to pay by  
Cash or Check:**

### **Location:**

**Local 66 Hall: 1650 South 38th Street Milwaukee, WI 53215**

**Phone: Local 66 @ (414) 671-3800, Local 78 @ (414) 382-1820**

**Email: Local 66: [lodge66@gmail.com](mailto:lodge66@gmail.com),**

**Local 78: [toolanddielodge78@gmail.com](mailto:toolanddielodge78@gmail.com)**





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### *‘Conference’ from pg. 1*

Cindy Odden of USW Local 904L was presented with the 2025 Ralph A. Jirikowic Award for her work as the Women of Steel coordinator for Southern Wisconsin.

The 2025 Community Services Project Award was presented to the Milwaukee Area Labor Council’s Civil Rights Committee for their efforts to coordinate volunteers for community clean-up projects and sandwich making at the Guest House.

The second day of the conference began with a panel discussion addressing women in leadership within our unions. It was followed by a two-part presentation on mental health awareness within our organizations, the first from IUPAT DC7 Director of Training Adam Holmes, and the second from Douglas Edwards, Business Manager of Steamfitters Local 601, and KB Amador of the Steamfitters Training School.

After lunch, three attorneys from the Previant Law Firm each took time to speak on relevant legal issues. The first was Jill Hartley, who addressed FMLA. Second was Jake Rozema, who spoke about Worker’s Compensation. And lastly, Angela Altier gave an overview of recent changes to Labor Law, NLRB decisions, and developments within the government impacting the board.

Trustee, Liam Maltz and I, Conductor Sentinel, Adam Dudenhoefer, are both extremely grateful to the membership of Local 66 who sent us to better understand and more fully appreciate the range of activity the AFL-CIO engages in, not only in supporting members, but our communities overall.



## District 10



# ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025**

The Golf Club At Camelot  
W192 Highway 67  
Lomira, WI

**Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.  
Shotgun start at 10:00 a.m.  
\$380.00 per team of 4**

**Deadline for registration is  
Monday, August 4, 2025**

For more information  
contact the District Office  
at (920)219-4919

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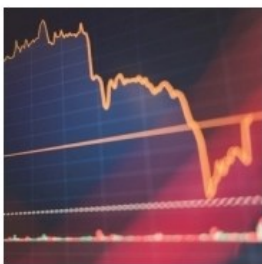


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## New Tariffs Drive Market Volatility



*There is an adage that the market doesn't like surprises, and part of the market reaction was due to the unusual approach.*

At 4:00 p.m. on April 2, 2025, President Trump announced sweeping tariffs on imported goods that were significantly larger and different in structure than expected. The announcement was carefully timed to coincide with the close of the New York Stock Exchange to avoid immediate market volatility. But over the next two days, the S&P 500 — generally considered representative of the U.S. stock market — plunged by 10.5%. The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 9.3%, and the tech-heavy NASDAQ index dropped 11.4%.<sup>1</sup> The two-day rout erased \$6.6 trillion in market value, the largest two-day shareholder loss in U.S. history.<sup>2</sup>

Market volatility continued on Monday, April 7, with prices swinging widely throughout the day, but the final results were more moderate. The S&P 500 dropped slightly by 0.23%, the NASDAQ was up slightly by 0.10%, and the Dow fell 0.91%.<sup>3</sup>

Obviously, a quick market drop is cause for concern, but it's important not to overreact and to maintain a steady eye on long-term goals. It may be helpful to consider the causes of the current market volatility along with a longer-term view of market trends.

### A surprising approach

The tariffs announced on April 2 were promised as a program of "reciprocal tariffs," which are traditionally defined as matching the tariffs other countries levy on U.S. goods and theoretically leveling the playing field. Determining reciprocal tariffs typically requires exhaustive analysis of a complex web of global trade rules on tens of thousands of products. Investors hoped for a moderate, measured program, and it's notable that the S&P 500 actually rose steadily in the three trading days before the announcement.<sup>4</sup>

The tariffs the president announced took investors by surprise. They were not reciprocal tariffs by the traditional definition but rather based on the trade deficit in goods between the United States and a given country. Trade in services, in which the United States often has a surplus, was not considered.

Specifically, the tariff was calculated based on the ratio of the country's 2024 goods trade deficit with the United States to the total value of its goods exports to the United States, multiplied by one half. Thus, if Country A sold \$200 billion in goods to the United States and bought \$100 billion in U.S. goods, the deficit was \$100 billion, and the tariff was calculated as  $\$100B/\$200B = 50\% \times \frac{1}{2} = 25\%$  tariff. Nearly all countries were assessed a minimum 10% tariff, regardless of the balance of trade, but Canada and Mexico, which already have substantial tariffs due to previous actions, are exempt from the new round. Other exceptions include Russia and North Korea, which are under trade sanctions.<sup>5</sup>

The Trump administration maintains that this calculation will close trade deficits, but most economists believe that such deficits are not necessarily bad or the result of unfair trading practices — and the calculation resulted in unexpectedly high new tariffs.<sup>6</sup> The European Union, which provides almost one-fifth of U.S. imports, was assessed a 20% tariff, while China was assessed 34% on top of the recent 20% boost and other tariffs already in place. Other important sources of imports with high new tariffs include Vietnam (46%), Taiwan (32%), India (27%), South Korea (26%), and Japan (24%).<sup>7</sup> Tariffs on most countries are now higher than the tariffs they charge for U.S. goods, and even countries that buy more U.S. goods than they sell, such as Australia and Argentina, will still pay the 10% minimum tariff.<sup>8-9</sup>

### Concerns and potential revenue

There is an adage that the market doesn't like surprises, and part of the market reaction was due to the unusual approach, with an untried calculation, higher-than-expected tariffs on many trading partners, and a





minimum tariff on nearly every country of the world. But there is also a fundamental concern that these tariffs, on top of previously levied tariffs, will increase consumer prices to a level that seriously slows consumer spending, the driving force of the U.S. economic engine. Higher import prices can also hurt U.S. companies that depend on imported materials and parts, while retaliatory tariffs and other economic sanctions could hurt U.S. companies that export goods and/or do business abroad.

On the other hand, the Trump administration's stated goals are to stimulate U.S. manufacturing, address unfairness in international trade, and increase U.S. revenue, which could be used to decrease other taxes. Trump economic advisor Peter Navarro estimated that the tariffs could raise more than \$6 trillion over ten years. This estimate is likely on the high end, because it assumes that tariffs, trade, and consumer behavior will not change. But revenue approaching that level could pay for extending the 2017 tax cuts, which are scheduled to expire at the end of 2025 and could decrease revenue by about \$4.5 trillion over the next ten years if extended.<sup>10</sup>

Moreover, the tariffs as announced may be intended in part as a starting point for negotiations. President Trump and Vietnam's leader, To Lam, have already begun discussions, with Lam offering to reduce his country's tariffs on U.S. goods to 0% in return for reduction of the U.S. tariffs. It's likely that there will be negotiations with many key U.S. trading partners as the tariff program evolves.<sup>11</sup>

### Investing for the long term

Although it is impossible to predict the market, you can probably expect volatility for some time. The NASDAQ Index officially entered a bear market — a loss of at least 20% from a previous high — at the end of trading on April 4, while the S&P 500 Index — down more than 17% from its recent high — is approaching bear territory.<sup>12–13</sup> While any substantial decline can be worrisome for investors, it's important to remember that markets are cyclical. Regardless of the reasons for a downturn, the market has always bounced back. Here are some other considerations that may help provide perspective:

- After a down year in 2022, the S&P 500 gained 24.23% in 2023 and 23.31% in 2024, the largest two-year increase since 1998.<sup>14–15</sup> Although 2025 has been rocky, the index set an all-time record on February 19, 2025, after the initial round of tariffs was announced.<sup>16</sup> So the current market turmoil is coming after a period of unusual strength. While it may be disturbing to watch the value of your investments decline, the current drop is from a high level, and the current value of your portfolio might be similar to what it was at a time when the value seemed satisfying.
- The losses you see in your investment account are only paper losses until you sell. Panic selling locks in those losses. Historically, some of the best days of stock market performance have followed some of the worst days. No one can predict market direction, and pulling out of the market due to an emotional reaction can lead to missing gains on the way back up.
- A down market can offer buying opportunities, but no one knows when the market has reached bottom, so — as with selling — purchasing decisions should be made rationally based on a long-term strategy.
- Since 1928, the S&P 500 Index (including an earlier version) has returned an annual average of about 10%, but annual returns have varied widely.<sup>17</sup> Over 97 years, there have been 65 positive years, 30 negative years, and two flat years.<sup>18</sup>
- During this same period, there have been 24 S&P 500 bull markets (not counting the current bull) and 23 bear markets. The average bull market lasted 1,102 days and had a positive return of 121.4%. The average bear market lasted 340 days and had a negative return of -36.8%.<sup>19</sup> Put simply, bulls have lasted longer than bears, and bull gains have substantially eclipsed bear losses.

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results, but the clear message in these statistics is that it pays to be patient and stick to your long-term strategy. This is true during any period of market volatility, but the current situation — primarily driven by the reciprocal tariff regimen — is still so new and subject to change, it may be unwise to place too much emphasis on the initial market reaction. Even if the president maintains the current trade policy, the U.S. economy and the U.S. stock market have proven time and time again to be resilient and adaptable to changing economic conditions.

*All investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal, and there is no guarantee that any investment strategy will be successful. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged group of securities that is considered to be representative of the U.S. stock market in general. The performance of an unmanaged index is not indicative of the performance of any specific investment. Individuals cannot invest directly in an index. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Actual results will vary.*

1, 3–4, 13, 16) Yahoo Finance, April 7, 2025

2) Morningstar, April 4, 2025

5, 7, 9) *The New York Times*, April 4, 2025

6, 8) *The Wall Street Journal*, April 7, 2025



- 10) CNBC, April 2, 2025
  - 11) *The New York Times*, April 6, 2025
  - 12) Reuters, April 4, 2025
  - 14) S&P Global Indices, 2025
  - 15) MarketWatch, December 31, 2024
  - 17) Investopedia, December 26, 2024
  - 18) [www.macrotrends.net](http://www.macrotrends.net), 2025
  - 19) Yardeni Research, January 21, 2024
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## **Seniors Corner: US Appeals Court Will Not Allow DOGE to Access Social Security Data**

*from reuters.com*

A divided federal appeals court rejected the Trump administration's bid to lift an order blocking the U.S. Social Security Administration from giving the Elon Musk-spearheaded Department of Government Efficiency unfettered access to the data of millions of Americans.

The Richmond, Virginia-based 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on a 9-6 vote declined, opens new tab to put on hold an injunction issued by a judge in Maryland who concluded the agency likely violated a federal privacy law by providing DOGE unlimited access to records.

Republican President Donald Trump's administration could potentially now ask the U.S. Supreme Court to intervene. White House spokesperson Liz Huston in a statement said Trump "will continue to seek all legal remedies available to ensure the will of the American people is executed." DOGE has swept through federal agencies as part of an effort by Trump and billionaire ally Musk to root out wasteful spending, slash jobs and dramatically overhaul the federal government.

The injunction at issue was secured by two labor unions and an advocacy group that sued SSA, Musk, DOGE and others in February, seeking to stop DOGE members from accessing some of the agency's most

sensitive data systems. The SSA, which sends checks to 73 million retired and disabled Americans each month, is seen as a crucial provider of benefits.

Musk has falsely claimed that millions of deceased Americans are still receiving Social Security checks and that the system is rife with fraud. Trump, who has repeatedly pledged not to cut Social Security benefits, has also said it is beset with fraud.

U.S. Circuit Judge Robert King in a concurring opinion on Wednesday said "this highly sensitive personal information has long been handed over to SSA by the American people with every reason to believe that the information would be fiercely protected." King, who like the other judges who voted against staying the injunction was appointed by a Democratic president, said that principle "has been flouted by the sudden grant to DOGE of unfettered access to SSA systems of record."

He said evidence cited by Baltimore-based U.S. District Judge Ellen Lipton Hollander in her April 17 decision showed that DOGE had no need for such access, which exceeded that allowed to all but a few experienced and trusted SSA employees.

Six Republican appointees dissented, including U.S. Circuit Judge Julius Richardson, who said the case should have been treated the same as one in which a 2-1 panel of the court allowed DOGE to access data at the U.S. Treasury and Education Departments and the Office of Personnel Management.

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

<b>Milwaukee Area Labor Council Delegate Meeting</b>  <b>Wednesday, May 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, May 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, May 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>May 24th</b>  <b>Submit articles by email:</b>  <b>lodge66@gmail.com</b>
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