



International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
District Lodge 66
1307 Market Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Union Herald Article from the desk of:

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POLITICS 2014

2014 will be a big year in politics and a year that Wisconsin voters will decide what kind of State we really want Wisconsin to be. Since being elected Governor, Scott Walker has turned Wisconsin's progressive history upside down. Of course, he didn't do this alone and unfortunately the table was set for him by prior Democratic Leadership, or more specifically a lack thereof. It has been a long time since any real progressive leadership has been at the helm of this great State or for that matter, this country. We should work together to turn this around.

The men and women who make up the "99 percent" in our little corner of the world need to put aside our differences to work for the betterment of all. The challenge is to find the candidates we need to support at all levels of government who will actually represent the majority in the middle.

We can do no greater service to our country than to stand together to defeat Governor Walker in 2014, denying him a victory that he will use to propel himself to a bid for the Presidency. But standing together to defeat requires us to stand together in support of a candidate who represents our values, someone who will re-establish Wisconsin as a Progressive State in Labor and Civil Rights while at the same time respecting our time honored outdoor traditions and history of responsible gun ownership. For this candidate to step forward we need to demonstrate our ability to work together, providing the kind of support necessary to defeat a well financed incumbent who in reality represents only a select few. We must find a way to come together, putting aside the single issue positions that divide us to work for the greater good.

So now it begins. Governor Walker is proposing a tax reduction to demonstrate he is on your side, a typical election year ploy that can unfortunately be expected from either party. While our education system is fractured, our roads and bridges deteriorate, and with a built in structural deficit of over One BILLION dollars, can they really not think of anything better to do with the money than to attempt to buy your vote for 12 bucks a month? We have got to be better than that and demand better from those we elect, regardless of their political party. Let's stand together and demand candidates who will work for all of us. Then let's work together to get them elected to the office they seek. And finally, let's hold their feet to the fire to assure they do what they promise to do. Together, we can make Wisconsin Progressive again.

TPP: CONTACT REPRESENTATIVE RON KIND

I urge all of our members to contact Congressman Ron Kind and ask him to join with the majority of Democrats in the Senate and House to stand against the Fast Track of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement. Free Trade is not Fair Trade. These agreements do not serve the interests of the majority of working men and women in this country. Congressman Kind can be reached my mail to his local office, 205 5th Ave. S in La Crosse WI, 54601; by Fax to 608-782-4588 and 202-225-5739; and

By email THROUGH HIS WEBSITE AT www.kind.house.gov

DEADLINE MARCH 1: DISTRICT LODGE 66 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Once again, it is time for the District's Annual Scholarship Program as approved by your Delegates to District Lodge 66. It is open to all High School Seniors that are children of any IAMAW Lodge that is affiliated with District Lodge No. 66. This includes Lodges 21, 1030, 1115, 1771 and 2191.

There are Two (2) \$750 scholarships annually, one for a female student and one for a male student. If we do not have one of each, then it will be given to two female or male students. Only seniors in High School that are the children of Machinist Union members and those that are seeking post high school education are eligible.

An essay must be written and must be based on how Unions have been important to your family and your community to be considered for the Scholarship. Information should be gathered from your parents or relatives and the struggles they may have faced in their jobs. The essays must be at least 500 words in length. Please note: Essays copied directly from Labor History Books, encyclopedias, etc., or essays where the material is mostly plagiarized will NOT BE ACCEPTED. After a review of the competency of each essay, a selection process will follow and the winner will be the essay that best meets the requirements stated above.

The scholarship must be used beginning in the year of the award and in consecutive semesters. The first half of the scholarship will be paid directly to the school in the first semester and the second half will also be paid directly to the school in the next consecutive semester. Selections of essay winners will take place no later than the April

Meeting of the District Lodge. **The essays must be in at the District Lodge 66 office 1307 Market St., La Crosse WI by Saturday, March 1, 2014.** Scholarships not used in consecutive semesters beginning in the year of the award will be forfeited.

See our full ad with all of the Competition rules elsewhere in this month's Union Herald.

2014 MACHINISTS UNION SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

All of our Locals have received the 2014 Scholarship Competition Announcement that covers the rules and regulations for IAM members and children of IAM members. In order to be able to inform members of the opportunities for themselves and their children, lodge officers are urged to read and discuss the announcement thoroughly. Please note that we now have a vocational-technical two-year scholarship available to both children of members and members. Also, at the 2004 Grand Lodge convention, the delegates voted unanimously to name one of the scholarships after Roman A. Mayfield, a 55-year member of D.L. 751, now deceased. This will be given to one of the scholarship recipients who best represent the spirit of volunteerism and the strong sense of service to their community that was a hallmark of Brother Mayfield. I thought it was important that while we advise you of the competition, I also bring you up-to-date on the financial condition of our Scholarship Program.

To keep with current times we have made our Scholarship Program fully accessible from the web. We will now announce Scholarship Winners in the IMAIL and will also be available to view at www.goiam.org, under the Scholarship Department. 2013 Scholarship winners were announced in the i-Mail dated June 27, 2013. Also, for the third year, you can now download and print the 3 different Scholarship Applications online:

1. IAM Child of a Member applying for College
2. IAM Child of a Member applying for Vocational/Technical School
3. IAM Member applying for College

At the [goiam.org](http://www.goiam.org) website:

(<http://www.goiam.org/index.php/headquarters/departments/scholarship>) or you can call the Scholarship Department, 301-967-4708 and request an application packet to be mailed. Also, the application packets for the 3 different scholarships were sent to the local and district lodges.

DISTRICT LODGE 66 DELEGATES MEETING: GUIDE DOGS OF AMERICA

The District Lodge Delegates attended the regular monthly meeting on Monday January 20. The delegates took action on a number of issues brought before them. One item of particular interest to our members will be action taken concerning the **Midwest Ride for Guides Motorcycle Poker Run**. As some may recall from my past articles, District Lodge 66 will be co-sponsoring this event along with Districts 10 and W-3. This is the

Sixth Annual Spirit of the Midwest Rides for Guide event that has raised over \$227,000.00 in support of Guide Dogs of America. The following is a bit of the history of our involvement...We Invite You to Join the Partnership!

As wonderful as modern technology is, no invention comes close to the incredible accomplishments of a bright, willing, well-trained guide dog. Since its founding **through donations by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Union in 1948**, [Guide Dogs of America](http://www.guidedogsofamerica.org) in Sylmar, California has helped blind men and women recover their ability to move freely and regain independence through partnership with these remarkable animals.

Joseph W. Jones, Sr., was refused a guide dog because of his age – he was fifty seven – but he would not accept defeat. He researched the Guide Dog Movement and with the help of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, established his own school, one that would provide guide dogs free of charge to visually impaired people regardless of their age. Due to the fact that our services are free of charge to the blind community, we depend solely on voluntary donations, bequests, fund raising events, clubs and organizations to support our program. Your donation or bequest to Guide Dogs of America helps continue this legacy to provide the gift of freedom, mobility and independence through the use of these loving and loyal dogs. To breed, raise and train a fully-qualified guide dog and provide instruction in the use of these special dogs for safe mobility costs approximately \$38,000. Because of the continued support we receive from our donors, GDA has succeeded in providing all its services - guide dogs, specially designed harness, individualized in-residence training and lifetime follow-up, at no cost, to more than 2,500 blind recipients. Visit our website at www.guidedogsofamerica.org

District Lodge 66, by previous action of your Delegates, is a co-sponsor of the event this year and would like to encourage our members to make the ride to District 10 in Milwaukee in support of this worthy cause. By action of the Delegates, the District will be paying the \$35.00 registration fee (for each rider) for the first 40 that sign up to attend. **Please note this is a major fund raiser; each bike is required to raise or pledge a minimum of \$50.00 in donations** in addition to the registration fee. Poker hands will be sold for \$5.00 per hand or 3 for \$10.00 with no limit on the number purchased. The run will be on Saturday July 26 beginning at District Lodge 10 Machinists Hall in Milwaukee. Lunch and Dinner will be included with the entry fee, along with a T-Shirt and GDA pin.

Full information and instructions will be posted in each shop in the near future!

Until next month...