



International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
District Lodge 66
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Union Herald Article from the desk of:



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2016 Machinists Union Scholarship Competition

It is time once again for the IAM Scholarship Competition. All of our Local Lodges should have received their 2016 Scholarship Competition Announcement that will have the rules and regulations for IAM members and children of IAM members. The District Lodge has received this information as well.

Amount of the Awards

Awards to members are \$2,000 per academic year. They are granted for a specific period from one to four years to enable the member to earn a Bachelor's degree or a two-year vocational/technical certification.

Awards to Children of Members are: College — \$1,000 per academic year. All awards are renewed each year until a Bachelor's degree is obtained up to a maximum of four years. Vocational/Technical School — \$2,000 per year until certification is reached up to a maximum of two years.

This Competition is available to IAM members, and children of IAM members with eligibility requirements spelled out along with all other information at:

<http://www.goiam.org/index.php/headquarters/departments/scholarship>

On that web page is also information on former winners, and links to apply online for the scholarship. You can also receive this information from your Local Lodge President, or Recording Secretary.

Walker Drops out of Presidential Bid!!!

The entertainment of the Republican Primary continues. For some reason, Donald Trump is leading polls in several states despite being rude, crude, and insulting to anyone he comes across. One might think Triumph, the Insult Comic Dog, may have just as good a chance at this point in these primaries as anyone with the same tactics. Whatever this circus side show may provide for entertainment, it has led to the Wisconsin Governor dropping out of his bid for the job.

Walker's attempt to put his anti-union policies on the national stage and wage a war on the working class has fallen short. Perhaps he will realize that even his right wing base see him as way too extreme, and he will cool his anti-worker jets upon his return to Wisconsin. After all, what other damage to working Wisconsin can this guy do, right?

Back in 2011 when Walker first started his tirade of stripping collective bargaining rights away from the working class of Wisconsin, he made a promise to the people of Wisconsin. While stripping the Collective Bargaining Rights away from state employees, and further ultimately turning the state into a "Right to Work" FOR LESS state, he assured all that the Civil Service would be left alone. His ultimate goal was to divide and conquer.

After his bid for the presidential nomination failed, he came back to Wisconsin, and has already started his efforts to make changes to the Civil Service system. Who would have thought that this guy would fail to keep to his word? After all, this is the same guy that called Right to Work a distraction, leading those that didn't know better to think that he would not entertain this type of legislation. SURPRISE. Once again, to distract from the lack of budgetary prowess, Walker is attacking workers again.

The proposal would, among other things:

Centralize hiring decisions with the state Department of Administration, taking sole discretion away from the state agencies filling vacancies.

Eliminate the state's civil service exams in favor of a resume system

Extend a probationary period for new hires from six months to two years.

Opponents of this bill worry that these changes would allow for political appointments (the Department of Administration is basically an outgrowth of the Governor's office), rather than seek the most qualified and competent candidate for a given job. The law as it

sits while I type this was intended over 100 years ago to prevent these political appointments from happening.

Also, extending the probationary period out to two years would put employees in a situation where they would have to work for as much as two years and still have to worry about getting fired for no good reason.

Unfortunately the residents of Wisconsin have another three years to go until someone can be voted in to replace this Governor. Fortunately, it would seem that the Koch brothers have gotten all they care to get from Walker, and with any luck, won't finance another run. This would hopefully ultimately allow this Governorship to fizzle out as the bid for the Presidential did.

In the meantime....

Missouri Defeats 'Right-to-Work (for-Less)'

In a vote that will hearten workers in Missouri, state lawmakers rejected an effort to make Missouri the 26th right-to-work state. "Today's bipartisan action by the legislature to uphold my veto of this divisive, anti-worker bill is a victory for workers, families and businesses here in Missouri and across the country," said Missouri Governor Jay Nixon (D).

The IAM has been fighting the influences of big corporate special interests to cut wages and weaken the middle-class across the country. The bipartisan vote exposes a weakening grip in Republican-held state houses where those deep pockets have been successful in passing anti-worker legislation.

"This is a big win for working Americans. We, the middle class, are the economic engine in this country," said IAM Midwest Territory General Vice President Phil Gruber. "When people can negotiate fair wages and have the security of good benefits such as health care and a pension, they will be able to spend money to fuel our economy."

The push for right-to-work laws has nothing to do giving workers freedom to choose. It is about taking away the tools unions have to defend the rights of those workers. The Missouri bill's failure is a setback for those who thought that the state would be another notch on their anti-union belt. But the battle is far from over.

Improved Offer Ends Strike at Ingersoll Rand in New York

Members of IAM Local 330 who have been on strike at Ingersoll Rand in Cheektawoga, NY ratified an improved offer from the company this week. Workers at Ingersoll rejected an earlier offer after initially voting to strike early last month over a company proposed two-tier wage scale and an employee health insurance scheme that could potentially create dramatic increases to employee costs.

“The IAM Negotiating Committee and the company agreed to meet Tuesday to clarify several issues,” said District 65 Business Representative Pete Cooney. “We were successful in doing so, not only removing the two-tier wage system and benefits scheme, but also making positive changes to the mandatory overtime provision proposed by the company alleviating a major obstacle in settling the standoff. This was a tough one, but our members will go back to work, and continue to build quality products.”

The workers will return to work at midnight Sunday, September 21.

“Congratulations to District 65 DBR Jim Johnston, BR Pete Cooney and the Negotiating Committee,” said IAM Eastern Territory General Vice President Lynn D. Tucker, Jr. “The Local 330 Members can be proud of the brave stand they took for all workers across the state of New York. Their solidarity was the difference in the successful outcome in these negotiations.”

District Lodge 66

Our Delegates had a meeting on September 21, 2015 to do the regular business of the district. A motion was made, seconded and passed to request expenditure to a Lodge 21 member who recently had his house catch fire. A motion was made seconded and passed to pay per diem, lost time, hotel, and mileage expenses for the DBR and all Local Lodge Presidents who would like to attend District Lodge 10 DBR, Russ Kring’s retirement dinner held in Milwaukee in October. Another motion was made, seconded and passed to buy for the district a half page add in the 2016 IAMAW Grand Lodge Convention book. A motion was made, seconded and passed to send a memorial to Gerald Grossbach, the father of our Administrative Assistant at District Lodge 66 Carla Easterday whose mother passed. Our condolences go out to the family.