

873 NEWS

"Justice on the job and service to the community"

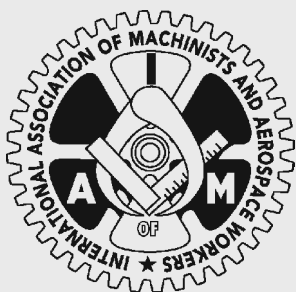
LODGE NO. 873
258 Barstow Street, Horicon,
WI 53032
Phone -920-485-2631
Fax—920-485-4941

Website
www.powerweb.net/local873

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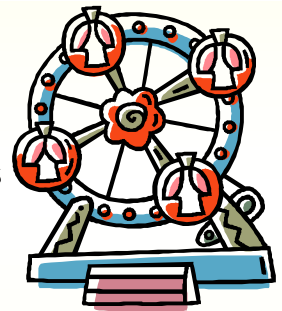


August 2009

UNION MEETING DATE CHANGE August meeting—Aug 13

Dodge County Fair

The South Central Federation of Labor (Dodge County Chapter) is setting up a booth at the Dodge County Fair, which is August 19th-23rd. This is an effort to promote our Labor Council, and all the Unions in our Dodge County Chapter. I am asking for support from our union members at LL873. There are still time slots available to work in the booth. The Fair hours are 10:00am-10:pm. Please let me know if you could volunteer your time. You will be given a pass to enter the fair. I can be reached (920-387-2891) or by email at: pillsburyyolanda@johndeere.com.



Thank you, and hope to see you at the fair!
Yolanda Pillsbury

UNION MEETING

The monthly meeting for August will be held on Thursday, August 13, 2009. The meeting will start at 12:00 noon for the night shift.

The meeting for the day shift will begin at 3:30 PM. Lunch and refreshments will be served after the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP DRAWING

Kelly Kreitzman name was drawn at the July meeting. His name was not in the register. This month's drawing is worth \$360.00. Plan now to attend. Remember it does not cost to attend the monthly meeting. It Pays!!!

President's Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to start out this month's report by thanking all those who have continued to support the efforts of your union to get the Employee Free Choice Act signed into law. It is because of your solidarity on this issue that we are making as much progress as we are. There have been some discussions taking place about a few possible changes to the bill. Namely, dropping the card check provision of the bill, this was intended to act accordingly: when a majority of workers signed authorization cards, the formation of a union would begin. Critics of the bill (big \$ business) argued that it would take away the democratic rights of workers. And we all know how democratic workplaces are... But, in striking a compromise, there are possible additions to the bill for dropping the card check authorization. Some of those possibilities have included: mandating that elections take place within 5-15 days after a union presents authorization cards from at least 30% of the workers (a change from current law of 40-45 days). Benefit for workers: There would be a lot less time for companies to hold "captive audience" meetings. Captive audience meetings are meetings where attendance is mandatory and the employer may do one or all of the following things: 1) tell you how disappointed they are about the workers even considering a union after all the company has done for them 2) tell you "we" don't need a "3rd" party coming between "us" (not reminding the workers that the "3rd party" union is made from and directed by the themselves) 3) tell you some "facts" about unions – obviously this would be a one sided conversation so the workers would not be getting both sides of the story and deciding for themselves. 4) Ask the workers for another chance to make things better. At these meetings companies attempt to be very appealing to their employee's so the workers don't vote in a union. Another possibility for change in the bill is to require employers to allow the union into the workplace to talk to the employees. In most places now, employers can prohibit any outside organization from entering facilities. Benefit for workers: the workers would get to hear both sides and make their own decisions. And one possible provision: prohibiting employers from holding mandatory meetings (captive audience meetings). Benefit for workers: employers would be greatly limited in their ability to provide workers "the companies" opinion about workers being able to collectively bargain for their wages and benefits.

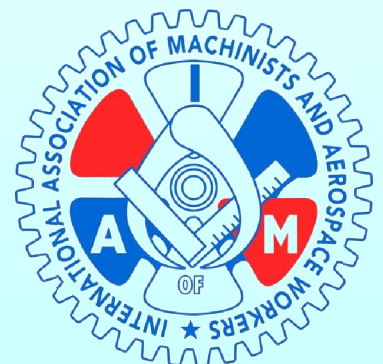
Your union is behind this bill for the following reasons. America's working people are stretched as never before. Pressure is on the workers from all sides, wage and benefit cuts, jobs moving overseas, health care costs are skyrocketing, and pensions have almost all disappeared. All while watching the rich get richer off the backs of the working people and global corporations dispersing the wealth of the middle class that our previous generations fought so hard to pass on to us. For the first time in generations, workers are worried that our children may be worse off than we are. Getting the Employee Free Choice Act passed is essential to bringing the middle class back up to where it should be. Employers know that there will be major labor law reform passed this year. They have already begun "coaching" their management on employee relations and how to keep their employees "happy" and their workplace union free. That tells me that companies admit they have not treated their workers like they deserved to be treated and are now scared that workers might form a union to get their voices heard and bargain collectively to get paid the wages and benefits they deserve. This in the end, should benefit all of the working class.

Another important issue affecting us all that's currently being debated in Congress is health care. When we voted last fall, this was one of the big issues. Health care costs are up, the number of uninsured is rapidly climbing and there's no end in sight unless we reform our health care system now. America's Affordable Health Care Choices Act contains the following key provisions: coverage and choice, affordability, shared responsibility, cost controls, prevention and wellness and workforce investments. Its goal is to provide quality affordable health care for all Americans and control health care cost growth. This item is a big ticket item during negotiations, so do your part to help fix our health care system by calling your reps and asking that they support this bill.

For those of you who are off on vacation over shut down, be safe and enjoy your time off.

In Solidarity,

Brian Brath



Financial Officers Hours For August 2009

Fri. July 24 - 11:00am to 3:00pm
Fri. Aug. 7 - 11:00am to 4:00pm
Thurs. Aug. 13 - 11:00am to 9:30pm
Fri. Aug. 14 - 11:00am to 4:00pm
Fri. Aug. 21 - 11:00am to 4:00pm
Fri. Aug. 28 - 11:00am to 3:00pm

Sale on Women's T- Shirt's!!!!

I have some long sleeve women's t-shirts and some regular t-shirts on sale till gone. Price on them is \$3.00 each.

We also have a variety of other items that we sell. The list of them is:

Red or blue mugs - \$3.00 each
Golf Towels - \$2.50 each
Deck of Cards - \$2.50 each
Belt Buckles - \$7.50 each
Black & Blue Beanies - \$10.00 each
Blue Jackets - \$20.00 each
Black Jackets - \$27.00 to \$55.00
Newer Blue Jackets - \$45.00 each
Regular T-Shirts Red, Blue or Black Colored are \$10.00 to \$15.00 each

So stop on in and check out what you like & want.

Attention!!!!

All employees who want to retire or are going to retire.

I have been asked to let you know what happens when you are going to retire.

When you decide to retire, the union will give you a choice of a watch or ring and a jacket.

If you decide to get a ring, the union will pay for a silver ring but if you want to get a gold ring, you will have to pay the difference. You must attend a union meeting to receive your retirement gift or you will not receive one. That is mandatory.

If you have 30 years of continuous service, you will get an exempt card. There is no cost to you or the local. If you have less then 30 years of continuous service, you will get a retirement card which the local pays the \$10.00 fee.

After you retire, you have the opportunity to join the Local lodge #873 - Spitfire Retiree's Club. Dave Przekurat is President. If you want more information, you can give Dave a call at 920-622-4884. They meet the second Tuesday each month at the IAM 873 Union Hall in Horicon.

All retirees need to keep there addresses currant with the local. At least once a year you need to let the local know if there is any change in your address status. The reason being is, when you are eligible for one of the 5 year increments awards up to the 50 year status, we need to be able to have the correct address to mail them to you.

Raffle Tickets!!!

Harley Raffle tickets I still have **4 - SALE.**
\$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

Remember look for the union label when you go shopping.

**Hope all you have a great July,
August Shutdown Vacation!!**

A reminder that if you change address, phone number or get married and change your name, let me know because John Deere does not let me know. You can call 920-485-2631 ext. 23.

David Berezinski/Secretary/Treasurer





RED FLAG

Signs of Domestic Abuse

Domestic Abuse is not just about physical violence. It is about power a person exerts over another to maintain control in a relationship.

The following are six signs that mean you could possibly be in an abusive relationship.

Is your partner:

1. Extremely Jealous and Possessive? – always checking on you, accuses you of cheating, interrogates you, acts like they own you, insists on giving you permission before you can do anything, cuts you off from friends and family, controls who you can and cannot see?
2. In Denial? – claiming nothing is ever their fault; blames you, others or an addiction for their behavior; refuses to compromise or acknowledge when a relationship may be over.
3. Verbally Abusive? – criticizes and belittles you, calls you names, tries to embarrass you and makes you feel stupid.
4. Behaving Unpredictably? – exhibits extreme mood swings, quick temper, hypersensitive to criticism, threatens self harm when backed into a corner
5. Expressing Unrealistic Expectations? – expects you to meet their every need, insists upon sexual contact when they want it, insisting on your obedience, hard lined with gender roles.
6. Using Threats? – threatens physical violence, reporting you to authorities, withholding medication or inducing drugs or alcohol when their control is compromised.

It's Not Love – Stalking is a Crime

According to the National Center for Victims of Crime, 1 in 12 women and 1 in 45 men will be stalked in their lifetime. You can be a victim of stalking if:

1. You are constantly being followed
2. You receive unwanted gifts
3. You receive numerous phone calls, texts or emails
4. You notice someone repeatedly driving past your home

Survivors of stalking report feeling isolated, fearful and depressed. Stalking is not only a form of power and control – it is a crime in 50 states. If you, or someone you know is a victim of stalking, please seek help! Keep a journal of the incidents to help demonstrate the repeated conduct by an abuser. Stalking often escalates and can become lethal. Don't sit back and do nothing if you feel you are being stalked. Call your local or county law enforcement to report the incidents.





AMERICA'S AFFORDABLE HEALTH CHOICES ACT

QUALITY AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

Health Care Reform is closer than ever.

- President Obama talks health care every day.
- House Bill 3200, which takes a giant step toward guaranteed, high quality, affordable health care for all, was voted into Committee last week.
- The Senate HELP Committee voted out a pretty good bill.

But we still have a very big fight on our hands.

- The Republicans are trying to kill health care by slowing it down.
- Many Blue Dog and New Democrats are wavering.
- Fox News and the Chamber of Commerce are attacking us every day.

Labor needs to step up to make health care reform happen.

- We need health care reform, and health care reform needs us.
- Congress has to hear from union members that Health Care Can't Wait.

July 28th is a National Health Care Call-In Day.

- The AFL-CIO and our partners in HCAN are working together on it.

It's easy to do. You can call both Senators and your House of Representatives member in a few minutes.

National Health Care Call-In Day Instructions -- 4 Easy Steps

1. Call: 877-264-4226
2. Once connected:
Press 1 to be connected to your Senators
Press 2 to be connected to your Representative.
3. Then you will be asked for your 5 digit zip code.
In the case of the Senators, you will pick which one you want to be connected to
4. Leave your message. If you get a live person, say it loud and proud. If you get a voice mail, say it just as loud and proud. Your opinion will be counted.

That's it. It takes a couple of minutes. You have to make three calls if you want to get both Senators and your Rep, but all three calls take less than 10 minutes.

Here is a sample script:

"This is _____. I am a union member from (your town). We need health care reform now. All working families are counting on the Senator (or Representative.)"

[For Reps:] I urge Rep _____ to support HR3200.

[For Senators:] Health Care Can't Wait. We need action on the health care reform bills.