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Athletic journalists at New York Times
seek recognition as part of newsroom union
Times Guild leaders send statement to Times management
showing their full support for the Athletic organizing.

Read more about worker organizing at The Athletic

NEW YORK – Editorial staff at The Athletic announced
Monday that they have organized with The NewsGuild of New
York and are asking The New York Times to recognize them as
part of the newsroom union, The Times Guild.

The Athletic’s organizing committee sent an email on behalf
of about 200 Athletic U.S.-based editorial staff to Times
Publisher AG Sulzberger and CEO Meredith Kopit Levien,
requesting that they recognize them as part of the Times Guild.

“We are proud of all that The Athletic and The New York
Times as a whole has accomplished since our 2022 acquisition,
and we know that our inclusion in the Times Guild will only
further strengthen our work,” the letter says.

The Times acquired The Athletic, an online sports news
outlet, in 2022. Despite management’s assertions that The
Athletic’s operations would be separate, they have been
integrated into the newsroom.

On Sept. 18, 2023, Times management closed the award-
winning New York Times Sports Desk and the work was shifted
to Times staff assigned to The Athletic.

Leadership of The Times Guild, which represents nearly
1,500 workers in the newsroom as well as business and support
staff, sent a statement to Times management on Thursday to
express their full support of their coworkers at The Athletic.

“We urge the company to recognize what has been true since
the company began publishing The Athletic’s work under the
banner of The New York Times: We are one newsroom, and our
colleagues at The Athletic are Times Guild members,” they
wrote.

Katie Strang, a senior investigative writer for The Athletic,
is among those urging Times management to include them in
the bargaining unit.

“Over the past several months, we have organized around

(Continued on page 2)

Women's History Month

https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/

The 2025 National Women’s History Theme

“Moving Forward Together!

Women Educating & Inspiring Generations.”

This theme celebrates the collective strength and influence of
women who have dedicated their lives to education, mentorship,
and leadership. Through their efforts, they have served as an
inspiration for all generations — both past and present.

Throughout history, the process of information sharing has
been a powerful catalyst for change. An honest, open
examination of new insights and knowledge can create a
framework for collaboration. This, in turn, promotes the well-
being of groups, businesses, communities, and society as a
whole. From classrooms to boardrooms, and from grassroots
movements to global initiatives, women educators and leaders
have played a pivotal role in nurturing minds and inspiring
transformative action. Our 2025 theme spotlights the
contributions women have made to the American educational
system, the free marketplace of ideas, and the very fabric of our
democracy.

On Feb. 28, 1980, President Jimmy Carter signs the
document proclaiming March 2-8 National Women’s History
Week

Diane Nash - Wikipedia Please read the full bio on this link.

Diane Nash - May 15, 1938

A fearless leader of the Civil Rights Movement, Diane Nash
played a critical role in organizing pivotal actions like the
Freedom Riders and the Selma Voting Rights Campaign. As
a co-founder of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating
Committee (SNCC), her commitment to nonviolent resistance

(Continued on page 2)

Wisconsin Elections 2025

“We do not have government by the majority. We have
government by the majority who participate.”

Thomas Jefferson

Representatives get elected whether you vote or not!

Decisions are made and legislation becomes law. Legislative
and judicial representatives make decisions that affect us all.

Take your responsibility seriously and exercise diligence in
thoroughly investigating to find the facts and the truth!

Spring General Election

Tuesday April 1, 2025

On the Ballot:

Wisconsin Supreme Court

Wisconsin Court of Appeals Judges Districts II, III & IV
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Depending upon where you live, there may be Primary Elections
in your area that include County and Municipal Offices: County
Executive, County Supervisor, County Comptroller Municipal
Offices: Mayor, Alderperson, Town and Village Board Member,
Municipal Clerk, Treasurer, Municipal Judge, School Board and
Multi-Jurisdictional Municipal Judges.

Candidates running for the above Municipal and County
offices may be on your Spring General Election ballot!

More Information available at:

My Vote Wisconsin

(Continued from page 1 - Athletic Journalists)

the principle of preserving what makes The Athletic great — our staff, our work and our loyal readership,” Strang said. “The work we do is union work and we believe we should be afforded the same benefits and protections as the Times Guild members under their current contract.”

Should the Times choose not to recognize The Athletic’s request to be part of the Times Guild, The NewsGuild of New York will pursue other legal pathways.

“The Times must recognize these workers as part of the Times Guild.” said Susan DeCarava, president of The NewsGuild of New York. “We will not support a two-tier system that disenfranchises workers and undermines our members, nor will we accept management’s charade that The Athletic is a separate entity.”

The NewsGuild of New York, Local 31003 of the Communications Workers of America, is a labor union representing nearly 6,000 media professionals and other employees at New York area news organizations, including The New York Times, Condé Nast, The New Yorker, Thomson Reuters, The Atlantic, The Nation, PEOPLE, and The Daily Beast. The NewsGuild of New York advocates for journalists to have a voice in the newsroom, for press freedom, for inclusive and diverse workplaces, and for just cause, no exceptions, for all media professionals.

(Continued from page 1 - Women's History Month)

inspired a generation.

Nash’s strategic leadership and courage in the face of adversity helped dismantle segregation and advance voting rights for African Americans, leaving a lasting legacy of activism and justice.

Growing up in Chicago, Nash had little experience with racial segregation. That changed while attending college in Nashville, TN.

“Every time I obeyed a segregation rule, I felt like I was somehow agreeing I was too inferior to go through the front door or to use the facility that the ordinary public would use.”

In 1959 she began attending workshops led by civil rights activist James Lawson, who taught nonviolent resistance.

At Fisk, Nash searched for a way to challenge segregation. Nash began attending nonviolent civil disobedience workshops led by James Lawson. While in India, Lawson had studied Mahatma Gandhi’s techniques of nonviolent direct action and passive resistance used in his political movement. By the end of her first semester at Fisk, Nash had become one of Lawson’s most devoted disciples. Although originally a reluctant participant in nonviolence, Nash emerged as a leader due to her well-spoken, composed manner when speaking to the authorities and to the press. In 1960 at age 22, she became the leader of the Nashville sit-ins, which lasted from February to May. Lawson’s workshops included simulations in order to prepare the students to handle verbal and physical harassment that they would ultimately face during the sit-ins. In preparation, the students would venture out to segregated stores and restaurants, doing nothing more than speaking with the manager when they were refused service. Their interactions were graded from each simulation and sit-in, reminding them to have love and compassion for their harassers. This movement was unique for the time in that it was led by and composed

primarily of college students and young people. The Nashville sit-ins from the early 1960’s spread to 69 cities across the U. S.

Though protests continued in Nashville and across the South. Nash and three others were first successfully served at the Post House Restaurant on March 17, 1960. Students continued the sit-ins at segregated lunch counters for months, accepting arrest in line with nonviolent principles. Nash, with [John Lewis](#), led the protesters in a policy of refusing to pay bail. In February 1961, Nash served jail time in solidarity with the ["Rock Hill Nine"](#) — nine students imprisoned after a lunch counter sit-in. They were all sentenced to pay a \$50 fine for sitting at a whites-only lunch counter. **Chosen as spokesperson, Nash said to the judge;**

“We feel that if we pay these fines we would be contributing to and supporting the injustice and immoral practices that have been performed in the arrest and conviction of the defendants.”

When Nash asked Nashville’s mayor, [Ben West](#), on the steps of City Hall, **“Do you feel it is wrong to discriminate against a person solely on the basis of their race or color?”**, the mayor **admitted that he did**. Three weeks later, the lunch counters of Nashville were serving blacks. Reflecting on this event, Nash said, “I have a lot of respect for the way he responded. He didn’t have to respond the way he did. He said that he felt it was wrong for citizens of Nashville to be discriminated against at the lunch counters solely on the basis of the color of their skin. That was the turning point. That day was very important.”

Nash later returned to Chicago where she became a public school teacher. Her activism continued in the late 60’s participating in protests against the Vietnam War, and worked to strengthen women’s issues. She also continued to social issues to address poverty, improve equality and strengthen both equal and voting rights.

Making Sense of the National Debt

This material is reprinted from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Please visit the link below to read the full article.

[Making Sense of the National Debt | St. Louis Fed](#)

We live in a world of scarcity—which means that our wants exceed the resources required to fulfill them. For many of us, a household budget constrains how many goods and services we can buy. But, what if we want to consume more goods and services than our budget allows? We can borrow against future income to fulfill our wants now. This type of spending—when your spending exceeds your income—is called deficit spending. The downside of borrowing money, of course, is that you must repay it with interest, so you will have less money to buy goods and services in the future.

Governments face the same dilemma. They too can run a deficit, or borrow against future income, to fulfill more of their citizens’ wants now. For a variety of reasons, governments may borrow rather than fund spending with current taxes. Deficit spending can be used to invest in infrastructure, education, research and development, and other programs intended to boost future productivity. Because this type of investment can increase productive capacity, it can also increase national income over time. And deficit spending can be used to create demand for goods and services during recessions.

For the U.S. government, deficit spending has become the norm. In the past 90 years, it has run 76 annual deficits and only 14 annual surpluses. In the past 50 years, it has run only 4 annual surpluses. The accumulation of past deficits and

surpluses is the current national debt: Deficits add to the debt, while surpluses subtract from the debt.

At the end of the first quarter of 2019, the total national debt, also called total U.S. federal public debt, was \$22 trillion and growing. This circumstance raises important questions: How much debt can an economy sustain? What are the long-term risks of high debt levels?

Who "Owns" the National Debt?

While individuals borrow money from financial institutions, the U.S. federal government borrows by selling U.S. Treasury securities (bills, notes, and bonds) to "the public." For example, when investors purchase newly issued U.S. Treasury securities, they are lending their money to the U.S. government. The purchaser may receive periodic payments and/or a final payment, known as the face value, at the end of the term. You or someone close to you likely holds U.S. Treasury securities either directly in an investment portfolio or indirectly through a mutual fund or pension account. As such, you, or they, own U.S. government debt.

But, as a taxpayer, you are also beholden to pay part of that debt. A majority of the national debt is held by "the public," which includes individuals, corporations, state or local governments, Federal Reserve banks, and foreign governments. In other words, debt held by the public includes U.S. government debt held by any entity except the U.S. federal government itself.

The largest public holders of U.S. government debt are:

- international investors (40 percent)
- domestic private investors (38 percent)
- Federal Reserve Banks (15 percent)
- state and local governments (6 percent)

Conclusion

The national debt is high by historical standards—and rising. People often assume that governments must pay off their debts in the same way that individuals do. However, there are important differences: Governments (and their economies) do not retire, and governments do not die (or don't intend to). As long as their debt payments remain sustainable, governments can finance their debt indefinitely. And if a government prints money to solve its debt problem, history warns that hyperinflation and financial ruin will likely result. While debt in itself is not a bad thing, it can become dangerous if it becomes unsustainable.

The above material is only a partial sample which is available on-line at: [Making Sense of the National Debt | St. Louis Fed](#)

Please take the time to visit and review the full article!

For the Record - 2024 Election

63.88% of Eligible Voters

31.78% voted for Trump

30.84% voted for Harris

1.06% voted third party

36.22% Didn't VOTE

Americans that didn't vote was the biggest voice

Was this election;

A landslide? (True or False)

A mandate? (True or False)

2025 Wisconsin Supreme Court Election

Summary Reprinted from [Wisconsin Watch.org](#)

- The April 1 state Supreme Court election is expected to pit liberal Dane County Judge Susan Crawford against conservative Waukesha County Judge Brad Schimel.
- If liberals win, they will retain control of the court through at least 2028. If conservatives win, it will re-empower Justice Brian Hagedorn as the critical swing vote on the court.
- Under the first year of liberal control of the court, the justices decided only 14 cases, a significant drop from previous terms. Only four of those cases were split 4-3 along ideological lines.
- In the previous four years since Hagedorn was elected, there were 61 4-3 decisions, and the conservative swing justice was in the majority in 50 of those cases, far more than any other justice.

Read the full article at [Wisconsin Watch.org](#) - Another pivotal Wisconsin Supreme Court election

Trump Administration Fires 18 Inspector Generals

On January 24, 2025, the Trump Administration announced the termination of 18 Inspector Generals.

The following Tuesday, Senate Judiciary Chair Senator Charles Grassley joined Ranking Member Senator Dick Durbin in sending a letter to President Trump demanding an explanation for the terminations.

Transcription of letter from the Senate Judiciary Chair:

[Grassley, Durbin Seek Presidential Expla... | United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary](#)

"We write to you today concerning the reported firing of Inspectors General (IGs) from 18 offices. Congress was not provided the legally required 30-day notice and case-specific reasons for removal, as required by law. Accordingly, we request that you provide that information immediately.

On December 23, 2022, the "James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023" was signed into law and included provision from the Securing Inspector General Independence Act, which was introduced by a bipartisan group of members. Those provisions require that the President "shall" communicate to Congress in writing 30 days before removing or transferring an IG from office the

(Continued on page 5)

Quote - [Hannah Arendt](#)

Origins of Totalitarianism - 1951

"[In an ever-changing, incomprehensible world](#) the masses had reached the point where they would, at the same time, believe everything and nothing, think that everything was possible and nothing was true... The totalitarian mass leaders based their propaganda on the correct psychological assumption that, under such conditions, one could make people believe the most fantastic statements one day, and trust that if the next day they were given irrefutable proof of their falsehood, they would take refuge in cynicism; instead of deserting the leaders who had lied to them, they would protest that they had known all along that the statement was a lie and would admire the leaders for their superior tactical cleverness."



UNION CALENDAR

March

- 11 **Executive Board Mtg.**
6:30 pm
Union Office
- 19 **Membership Mtg.**
7:00 pm
Pallas Restaurant
1657 S. 108th St.
West Allis, WI 53214

April

- 8 **Executive Board Mtg.**
6:30 pm
Union Office
- 16 **Membership Mtg.**
7:00 pm
Pallas Restaurant
1657 S. 108th St.
West Allis, WI 53214

Please be safe!
For information and updates, please visit the CWA 4603 web page at:

cwa4603.org

To learn more about the Communications Workers of America, we recommend a visit to:

<https://cwa-union.org/about/cwa-history>

This link and others can be found on the cwa4603.org webpage!

CWA Local 4603 LAS SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

1. \$1,000.00 scholarship will be awarded one time only to an individual.
2. Must be a child, stepchild or grandchild of a member (active or RMO members only).
3. The member must be in good standing with CWA 4603 for a minimum of one year.
4. Acceptance into an accredited college, university, community college or technical or trade school at the time of the award. (First 4 years of college only—graduate students are not eligible.)
5. Awards must be for the following fall school year tuition (2025-2026).
6. **Applications must be received by April 25, 2025.**
7. All requirements must be met and information on the application must be completed to be considered.
8. Applications can be hand written; the essay must be typed.
9. *A letter of reference from a teacher on school letterhead must be included as well as an essay of a maximum of 500 words entitled "What impact has the union had on my life?"*

You can request an application by contacting your CWA union steward, the CWA 4603 union office at 414-258-4010 or print a form by visiting:

CWA4603.org

Applications should be mailed to:

**Kwami Barnes
CWA 4603
6511 W. Blue Mound Rd.
Milwaukee, WI 53213**

THE CWA WIRETAP

**MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA
LOCAL 4603
6511 WEST BLUE MOUND ROAD
MILWAUKEE, WI 53213**

**PRESIDENT Greg Tennyson
EXEC. VICE PRESIDENT Adam Schelske
SECRETARY/TREASURER Kwami Barnes**

Wiretap Staff

**Rich Hinderholtz, Editor
Gary Kierzek, Columnist**

Proud member of the Midwest Labor Press Association

Submissions Always Welcome

If you are interested in submitting an article, cartoon or photograph for the newsletter, please forward it to the CWA 4603 Union Office or e-mail it to: rhinderholtz@yahoo.com

Please include Wiretap in your email subject line!

To contact the RMO Report

**Write c/o RMO Report
6511 West Bluemound Rd.
Milwaukee, WI 53213
414-258-4010**

(Continued from page 3)

“substantive rationale, including detailed and case-specific reasons” for the removal or transfer. The law also prohibits an IG from being placed on non-duty status during the 30-day period preceding the date of removal or transfer unless the continued presence of the Inspector General in the workplace poses a threat as described by requirements in the Administrative Leave Act and the President submits a report to Congress.

While IGs aren't immune from committing acts requiring their removal, and they can be removed by the president, the law must be followed. The communications to Congress must contain more than just broad and vague statements, rather it must include sufficient facts and details to assure Congress and the public that the termination is due to real concerns about the Inspector General's ability to carry out their mission.

This is a matter of public and congressional accountability and ensuring the public's confidence in the Inspector General community, a sentiment shared more broadly by other Members of Congress. IGs are critical to rooting out waste, fraud, abuse, and misconduct within the Executive Branch bureaucracy, which you have publicly made clear you are also intent on doing.

Accordingly, we request that you provide Congress with a written communication that contains the “substantive rationale, including detailed and case-specific reasons” for each of the IGs removed. Further, we request the name of each official that will serve in an acting capacity and that you work quickly to nominate qualified and non-partisan individuals to serve in these open positions."

Trump Fires the NLRB Chair

The last week in January in only his second week in office, Trump fired National Labor Relations Board Chair Gwynne Wilcox. The unprecedented move was issued shortly after he had fired NLRB General Counsel Jennifer Abruzzo who has been a longstanding supporter and enforcer of workers rights.

The following material is reprinted from [Wikipedia NLRB](#)

The NLRB is an independent federal agency created by the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) passed by congress and signed into law by President Roosevelt in 1935.

The NLRA is the foundational statute of [United States labor law](#) which guarantees the right of most private sector employees to organize into [trade unions](#), to engage in group efforts to improve their wages and working conditions, to determine whether to have unions as their bargaining representative, to engage in [collective bargaining](#), and take [collective action](#) such as [strikes](#).

The National Labor Relations Act seeks to correct the "[inequality of bargaining power](#)" between employers and employees by promoting collective bargaining between trade unions and employers. The law established the [National Labor Relations Board](#) to prosecute violations of labor law and to oversee the process by which employees decide whether to be represented by a labor organization. It also established various rules concerning collective bargaining and defined a series of banned [unfair labor practices](#), including interference with the formation or organization of labor unions by employers. The act does not apply to certain workers, including supervisors, agricultural employees, domestic workers, government employees, and independent contractors.

The NLRA was strongly opposed by conservatives and members of the [Republican Party](#). The law was upheld in the [Supreme Court](#) case of [NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel](#)

[Corp.](#), decided April 12, 1937.

The [Taft-Hartley Act](#) was passed in 1947 was also supported by conservatives and members of the Republican Party.

Taft-Hartley added new restrictions on union actions and designated new union-specific [unfair labor practices](#). Among the practices prohibited by the Taft-Hartley act are [jurisdictional strikes](#), [wildcat strikes](#), [solidarity or political strikes](#), [secondary boycotts](#), secondary and mass [picketing](#), [closed shops](#), and monetary donations by unions to federal political campaigns. The amendments also allowed states to enact [right-to-work laws](#) banning [union shops](#). Enacted during the early stages of the [Cold War](#), the law also required union officers to sign non-communist affidavits with the government.

Secure Your Future

Not planning for your future is a sure recipe for failure! Build your knowledge and a plan.

Manage your personal finances by saving money, living below your means, staying out of debt, and investing early with an eye on retirement. The right financial steps throughout your career will help ensure future financial security.

Work toward accumulating money in your Roth IRA and 401(k). Keep your expenses low, stay out of debt. Be sure when the time comes your Social Security and distributions from your retirement accounts can pay for all your expenses.

Learn on-line at: [Investor.gov](#)

There's a simple (plug in the numbers) compound interest calculator for projecting your retirement savings growth.

Brought to you by the SEC's Office of Investor Education and Advocacy,

The Kierzek Chronicles

I have been watching NFL football ever since grade school and became a Green Bay Packer fan right from the beginning, especially right after watching Super Bowl One, when the Packers beat the Kansas City Chiefs. We had Bart Starr back then as quarterback, but I don't remember who the Chief's quarterback was. I'm glad Patrick Mahomes wasn't their quarterback back then or the outcome may have been different.

Anyway, I noticed that over the last couple of years, kickers have been making longer field goals than ever before. Today it is not uncommon for a kicker to attempt and make a sixty-yard field goal. I think that I have uncovered the reason why. It is my belief that the NFL is either filling the football with helium or making the inner liner with flubber instead of rubber. Just a thought.

So, getting back to business, I just looked at the calendar and as of February 1st, I have now been retired for 14 years. Looking back, I never thought I would be around this long but here I am. In my article last month I kind of beat up AT&T a little bit, because of some issues regarding my telephone service. After talking to my friend Jim Spiess, who also had a long career with AT&T, he said in spite of the issues I had with the company, you probably really enjoyed your time working there. Jim was right, it was a good place to work and earn a living, thanks to our union, CWA negotiating good contracts over the years with AT&T.

So, I apologize to Ma Bell, but I am glad I changed to Spectrum voice, internet, and mobile.

Paul A. Anderson Scholarship

The Paul A. Anderson Scholarship has been established by Paul A. Anderson, Former Local 4603 President of the Communications Workers of America (CWA). The scholarship will provide up to five (5) one-year scholarships of up to \$5,000 to dependent children or stepchildren of a Local 4603 member in good standing who meet the specific criteria below as they pursue their postsecondary education. Students will be randomly selected.

ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

- A dependent child or stepchild of a Local 4603 Member in good standing
- Attend a public community college, college, or university in the state where the Local 4603 Member resides
- Be a freshman, sophomore, or junior in college when submitting the scholarship application
- Have a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA
- Additionally, the Local 4603 Member must have been a Local Member with at least one year of service as of January 1, 2025

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- To apply for this scholarship, you will need:
 - Most recent transcript
 - Essay/Personal Statement (maximum 200 words) stating why you wish to further your education and how this scholarship will help you achieve this goal

For further details and to apply:

<https://cngc.org/2025PaulAndersonApplication>



**Application
Deadline
April 2, 2025
7:00 PM EDT**

For questions, contact:

Senior Scholarship and Financial Aid Coordinator
Carolyn Rodriguez
at: 216.635.0120 or crodriguez@collegenowgc.org

About College Now Greater Cleveland Inc.

For more than 50 years College Now Greater Cleveland has served 33,000 students and adults in pursuing postsecondary educational opportunities that empower them to embark on rewarding careers and strengthen our community. For more information, visit collegenowgc.org

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CWA Joe Beirne Foundation Scholarship

About the Scholarship: Sixteen partial college scholarships of \$4,000 each are being offered for the 2025-2026 school year. Winners, selected in a lottery drawing, also will receive second-year scholarships of the same amount contingent upon satisfactory academic accomplishment. Part-time students, less than 12 credits, will receive half of the scholarship monies.

Eligibility: CWA members, their spouses, children and grandchildren (including dependents of laid-off, retired or deceased CWA members) may apply. Applicants must be high school graduates or at least high school students who will graduate during the year in which they apply. Undergraduate and graduate students returning to schooling may also apply. Prior winners may not reapply.

Applications are accepted during the months of November through April. Final deadline for the 2025-2026 school year is at 11:59 p.m. April 30, 2025.

Study Requirements

No specific studies are required. Scholarship winners may pursue whatever courses they wish.

Funding

The CWA Joe Beirne Foundation has been built up by voluntary contributions and is self-perpetuating. Contributions and pledges are received from CWA Locals, members and officers.

Applications

Applications should only be submitted through the **online application form**. You can find this form online at:

https://cwa-union.org/pages/beirne_scholarship_application

From the Economic Policy Institute

Read the full report:

[Busting the union busters: The need to improve transparency around union-busting activity | Economic Policy Institute](#)

Worker organizing has surged in recent years amid the highest levels of support for unions in decades. Petitions for union representation elections are up 27% at the National Labor Relations Board and have more than doubled since 2021 (NLRB 2024b). Workers are winning a higher share of elections than they have in years. Union membership has increased in each of the last two years (BLS 2024; Shierholz et al. 2024). Research shows that nearly half of nonunion workers would vote for a union at their workplace if given the opportunity (Shierholz et al. 2024). This conservatively translates into 60 million workers who would like union representation—a huge increase from the 14 million workers who are currently union members.

Great Moments from Bob Uecker

Uecker was announcing a baseball game with Howard Cosell when Uecker made an outrageous comment. Cosell responded "you don't need to be so truculent", thinking that Uecker wouldn't know what truculent meant. Uecker replied, "Sure, I do, Howie. If you had a truck and I borrowed it, that would be a truck you lent."

A sports announcer asked Uecker, "what's the best way to catch teammate Phil Niekro's knuckleball pitches?" Uecker replied "The easiest way to catch a knuckleball was to wait until it stopped rolling and just pick it up."



**4603 Retired Members
Organization**

President

George Walls
262-377-7744

Vice President

Jim Courchane
262-893-3068

Secretary/Treasurer

Rich Hinderholtz
262-886-9408

March 2025 RMO Report

From RMO Secretary/Treasurer Rich Hinderholtz:

Our next RMO luncheon will be held on March 19, 2025 at Meyer's Restaurant and Bar, 4260 S 76th, Greenfield, WI.

RMO business meeting begins at 11am

Lunch scheduled to be served at 12:15

Lunch is \$15.00 per person. Please send a check payable to CWA 4603 RMO

Mail checks to: CWA 4603 RMO - 6511 W Bluemound, Milwaukee, WI 53213

Please mail payments by March 4, 2024 OR SOONER!

They need to be received by the March 12, 2024 deadline!

RMO 2024 Membership Meeting & Luncheon Dates

March 19, 2025 May 21, 2025 September 17, 2025 November 19, 2025

Shake Up In Washington

The current administration has been pursuing an unprecedented shake-up of our federal government since January. Seniors, lower income individuals and families rely heavily on federal funding for Social Security and Medicare. Those with lower incomes rely on the funding support for food, housing, education, job training, health care, child care, counseling support, day care for children, treatment for substance use disorders, support and treatment for vulnerable adults, and at risk youth. This is not a comprehensive list of federal government support

subsidies. A top priorities for the republicans in 2025 is to extend the 2017 tax cuts which will further reduce revenues that support essential federal services and support programs. **Please follow the link below to read the complete www.cbpp.org report.**

[The 2017 Trump Tax Law Was Skewed to the Rich, Expensive, and Failed to Deliver on Its Promises | Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](http://www.cbpp.org)

"This material was created by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (www.cbpp.org)."

A high-stakes tax policy debate will accelerate this year through 2025 over the pending expiration of the individual income and estate tax provisions of the 2017 Trump tax law. Policymakers should use this opportunity to work toward a tax code that raises more revenues, is more progressive and equitable, and supports investments that make the economy work for everyone. As this debate unfolds, policymakers and the public should understand that the 2017 Trump tax law:

[Was skewed to the rich.](#) Households with incomes in the top 1 percent will receive an average tax cut of more than \$60,000 in 2025, compared to an average tax cut of less than \$500 for households in the bottom 60 percent, according to the Tax Policy Center (TPC).^[1] As a share of after-tax income, tax cuts at the top — for both households in the top 1 percent and the top 5 percent — are more than *triple* the total value of the tax cuts received for people with incomes in the bottom 60 percent.^[2]

The Future of Social Security - [Making Sense of the National Debt | St. Louis Fed](#)

In addition to owing money to "the public," the U.S. government also owes money to departments within the U.S. government. For example, the Social Security system has run surpluses for many years (the amount collected through the Social Security tax was greater than the benefits paid out) and placed the money in a trust fund.⁵ These surpluses were used to purchase U.S. Treasury securities.

Forecasts suggest that as the population ages and demographics change, the amount paid in Social Security benefits will exceed the revenues collected through the Social Security tax and the money saved in the trust fund will be needed to fill the gap. In short, some of the \$22 trillion in total debt is intragovernmental holdings—money the government owes itself. Of the total national debt, \$5.8 trillion is intragovernmental holdings and the remaining \$16.2 trillion is debt held by the public.⁶ Because debt held by the public represents debt payments external to the government, many economists feel it is a better measure of the debt burden.

**Join the CWA Local 4603
Community Services Committee and**



**Ronald McDonald House Charities'
of Eastern Wisconsin**

**For the 2025 Pop Tab Collection
All pop tabs will be donated to the
Ronald McDonald House**

**They recycle them and use the proceeds to help the Children
undergoing treatment at local hospitals.**

**You can drop your pop tabs off at the Local Office at
6511 W. Bluemound Rd.**

**You can also bring your collected tabs to the Membership
Meetings or just bring them to the Union Steward in your
work area. We will be collecting Pop Tabs year round!**

Retiree Benefit Issues

**Benefit Specialists are unable to help with
Medicare Supplemental Issues.**

All other issues: First call your company's Benefits Office.
If your issue is not resolved, then refer all problems to the
appropriate CWA Benefit Representative:

AT&T Legacy Midwest SBC

Carrie Dercola - Local 4603 Office 258-4010

Alcatel-Lucent-Nokia

Brian Sawyer - 984-389-7610

bsawyer@cwa-union.org

[Legacy] AT&T

Kim Wilburn - 614-868-2215

kwilburn@ems.att.com

**RMO Dues: \$100 for Lifetime. Checks payable to: CWA Local 4603 RMO.
Mail to CWA Local 4603 RMO, 6511 West Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53213**

6511 West Blue Mound Road
Milwaukee, WI 53213

Office 414-258-4010
Fax 414-258-8542

cwa4603.org

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Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Permit No. 1293

What Difference

Does a Union Make?

We sometimes take for granted the difference CWA makes in how we're compensated for our work and how we're treated on the job. It's worth reminding ourselves what things would be like without our union.

With a Union

Your wages, benefits and working conditions are protected by a legal contract.
.....

The contract spells out how much every one earns.
.....

The union negotiates raises for everyone. The members vote on the settlement. If they think that it is not a fair settlement, they can vote it down.
.....

If you are disciplined for something you didn't do, the union will defend you.
.....

If you are the most senior qualified worker who bids on a promotion you will get it.
.....

Vacations, shifts, layoffs are based on seniority.
.....

If you don't like something at work you can work through the Union and together with other workers make changes.

Without a Union

Management can change wages, benefits, working conditions whenever they want.
.....

No one knows how much anyone else earns. Management tells you not to tell the other workers what you're paid.
.....

If you want a raise you have to beg for it or kiss up to the boss.
.....

If you are disciplined for something you didn't do, you are on your own.
.....

Promotions can be handed out on any basis by whatever the boss determines friendship, loyalty, etc.
.....

Vacations, shifts, layoffs can be based on the bosses' desires.
.....

If you don't like something at work you can quit.