



JOIN

WI
AFL-CIO

FIGHT

WIN

TOGETHER

**The Wisconsin State AFL-CIO
30th Biennial Convention**

September 24th - 26th, 2018

Hyatt Regency Milwaukee

togetherwisconsin.org



Stephanie Bloomingdale Elected First Female President of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO

Stephanie Bloomingdale was unanimously elected by delegates of the 30th biennial convention as the next President of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO. Bloomingdale will be the first woman elected to lead the state federation.

Bloomingdale has served as Secretary-Treasurer since October of 2010.

"The past struggles we have faced together have shown that we may not win every round, but as I stand here today, my promise to you is that we will never, ever leave the ring until the fight is over," said President Bloomingdale. "We must engage more workers, both those in unions and those not in unions, in our collective fight for economic justice. Our job going forward is to make sure there is a place in our movement for every working American, and a clearly-lit path to our door."

Bloomingdale heartfully thanked Neuenfeldt for his tireless work leading the Wisconsin AFL-CIO.

"Thank you, Phil, for all that you've done for working people in Wisconsin, and for our friendship," continued President Bloomingdale. "We may have reached a bend in the road, but your journey with your union brothers and sisters is not over."

Join, Fight, Win Together

The 30th Biennial Convention of the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO

Kicked off Monday, September 24, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency in Milwaukee. Delegates elected new federation officers and Executive Board members, set the agenda of the organization and strategized innovative ways to lead the Wisconsin labor movement forward.

Delegates heard from thought and policy leaders, organizers, union leaders and politicians, including Gubernatorial candidate Tony Evers and Lieutenant Governor candidate Mandela Barnes, U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, Rep. Gwen Moore, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka, American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten, Missouri AFL-CIO President Mike Louis, AFL-CIO's Julie Greene and Celeste Drake, Rep. Jennifer Shilling, Rep. Dianne Hesselbein, Attorney General candidate Josh Kaul, Congressional candidate Dan Kohl, COWS Associate Director Laura Dresser, President and CEO of WRTP-BIG STEP Kessenich, economist Gordon Lafer, Center for Media and Democracy's Mary Bottari and more.

Opening Ceremonies

Phil Neuenfeldt called the Convention to Order. Mahlon Mitchell, President of the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin, and the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin Honor Guard proceeded with opening ceremonies with the Presentation of the Colors. Pastor Teresa Thomas-Boyd provided the Invocation. Pam Fendt, President of the Milwaukee Area Labor Council welcomed delegates.

IronStache for Congress

Union Ironworker Local 8 member Randy Bryce, also known as the "Iron Stache" joined his union brothers and sisters for a campaign address Monday morning. Bryce is a candidate for Wisconsin's 1st Congressional District.

Bryce delivered an energetic address to union members, promoting solidarity, and the rights of working families across Wisconsin. Bryce called on workers to let their voices be heard by voting in the November elections, making it clear that the time was now to take back Wisconsin from anti-union politicians. The lively reception given to Bryce by convention attendees, proved that Wisconsin is ready for a congress person that represents workers and the issues we care about.





**JOIN FIGHT WIN
TOGETHER**

WI AFL-CIO 2018 Convention

WI
AFL-CIO





Neuenfeldt Passes the Gavel:

We Did it All, Together

Phil Neuenfeldt addressed the convention floor and gave his last speech as President of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO. "When I look out on this room on this day, at my last Convention with the Wisconsin AFL-CIO, in my hometown of Milwaukee, all I can think and feel in my bones is one word: Together. We did it together. We will move forward, in a new way, together."

"From Madison to Manitowoc, Superior to Racine...and all the great towns in Wisconsin, we've negotiated and bargained and created better outcomes for workers, together," continued Neuenfeldt. "As I step down as President and hang up my gavel, I do so with pride, appreciation and respect for the movement we have built. For the movement we have kept alive despite political attacks from every corner. Equally important are the friendships we've forged along the way. In Stephanie and Dennis, you have elected strong, capable leaders that can take the WI AFL-CIO to the next level."

A Moving Tribute to Phil Neuenfeldt

The crowd was moved by a touching tribute to Phil Neuenfeldt that included a photo slideshow of Phil with friends, family and union brothers and sisters over the years. The slideshow was set to Tom Morello's "Union Town" inspired by 2010 Wisconsin protests. Neuenfeldt was presented with Proclamations throughout the day for his service to working families from Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, Congresswoman Gwen Moore and U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin. Friends, family and former colleagues honored Phil by sharing workplace memories and stories. Longtime friend and Machinist Rich Michalski traveled in from Los Angeles to pay tribute to Phil.

The first day of the convention wound down with a "Toast and Roast" of outgoing President Phil Neuenfeldt. The laugh-out-loud Roast was held at Vue on the 21st floor of the Hyatt Hotel. Over drinks and Phil's favorite mash potato bar, delegates told stories and shared fond memories of Phil's time in the labor movement. It is clear that many friendships have been forged with union members, union leaders and elected officials across the state during Phil's tenure.

Evers, Barnes for Wisconsin

Working people in Wisconsin are united to defeat Scott Walker. Wisconsin AFL-CIO endorsed gubernatorial candidate Tony Evers detailed his plans to get Wisconsin back on track by investing in schools, repairing our infrastructure, raising wages and growing good jobs by supporting union rights.

Evers knows that unions are critical to the well-being of families throughout our state, providing living wages, quality health care, safe working conditions and job security. As governor, he will work hard to reverse the effects of Scott Walker's anti-labor agenda.

His running partner Lieutenant Governor candidate Mandela Barnes addressed candidates on Monday morning. Barnes grew up in a proud union family. He understands the importance of having strong unions in order to grow our middle class.

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin:

Going On the Offense for Worker Rights

Senator Baldwin painted a clear contrast between the candidates on the ballot for U.S. Senate this fall and outlined a pathway forward for union rights. "We can't just play defense on worker rights," continued Sen. Baldwin. "We need to go on offense. When it comes to strengthening unions and worker rights we have to take action now. That means passing my Workplace Democracy Act so every American worker can exercise our basic rights to collective action and form a union through card check."

Dennis Delie Elected Secretary-Treasurer

Dennis Delie was elected Secretary-Treasurer. Delie is a United Steelworker having served as President, Treasurer, Bargaining Committee Representative and shop steward of USW Local 2-213. Delie is an expert workplace safety trainer having assessed training requirements and developed and delivered training methods to match the needs of workers throughout the state and nation.

Delie is a strong voice for labor and understands that a strong labor movement is the underpinning of a strong middle class. Dennis lives in Green Bay with his wife of 42 years, Cindy. He has 3 adult children, Angela (Aaron) Wallender, Benjamin (Alisha), and Eric. They have been blessed with 5 grandchildren.





AFL-CIO's Trumka Has Message for Scott Walker

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka joined delegates Tuesday afternoon laying out the national Labor 2018 campaign strategy. Trumka energized delegates to get involved in member to member political activities in order to take back Wisconsin for the people. Trumka urged a vote for Tony Evers to restore worker freedoms lost under Gov. Scott Walker and get our economy back on track.

"I have a message for Scott Walker," said President Trumka. "Union isn't a dirty word. Unions are the women and men who've bravely responded to the recent wave of flooding and tornadoes here in Wisconsin. Unions are the teachers who educate our kids and the nurses who care for our aging parents. Unions are the electrical workers who help light up Lambeau Field and the housekeepers and bartenders serving us here at the Hyatt."



Gordon Lafer, PhD:

The One Percent Solution

Gordon Lafer, of the University of Oregon, outlined the growing political and economic dominance of a small segment of our country, the wealthiest 1%. His address answered the question of what exactly the wealthy and powerful are using their influence for. His research finds that the wealthiest one percent are using their power to lower wages, eliminate paid sick leave and cut essential public services.



Organizing Into the Future!

The 2018 Wisconsin State AFL-CIO Organizing Award was awarded to Joshua Stern of IBEW Local 159. Josh is an integral part in internal organizing of IBEW's young workers. He is the co-founder of RENEW -- Reach out and Engage Nextgen Electrical Workers. Josh has helped build the young worker movement within IBEW from recruitment to involvement to union meeting attendance -- all while completing his apprenticeship, balancing volunteer work for his Local, attending training classes, working full time and playing in a band! The award was presented by IBEW Local 159 Business Manager Mike Grassy. Congratulations and thank you Josh for organizing into the future.

Swearing In of New Officers

On Wednesday, September 26, 2018, President Stephanie Bloomingdale and Secretary-Treasurer Dennis Delie were sworn into office by the Honorable Judge Pedro Colón. Bloomingdale will be the 9th President of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO. Delie will be the 12th Secretary-Treasurer.

AFT President Randi Weingarten All in to Defeat Scott Walker

Randi Weingarten, President of AFT, opened her speech by proclaiming, "there's no place like Wisconsin! You've elected a kickass leader, a political mobilizer in Stephanie Bloomingdale. She has the energy, dedication to stop Scott Walker."

"Your fight back set the stage for fightbacks in other states. Who do you think teachers in Oklahoma and Arizona learned from? They learned from your fight that you need a human shield at the state capitol to call out politicians. Let's make this moment into a transformation."

Mary Bottari The Web of Dark Special Interests

Mary Bottari, Center for Media and Democracy, gave a presentation on the right-wing coordinated attack on unions. She detailed stink tanks and the ALEC agenda, exposing a deep and well-funded network of union-busting special interests.

Union Issues Are Veterans Issues

Combat veteran Will Attig, Executive Director of the Unions Veterans Council, UA Local 160 member, joined delegates to highlight how unions make a difference in the lives of veterans. "When veterans come home, we come home to a system that's rigged against the working class, to a system that's rigged to keep wages low. Unions make the difference for veterans and our families by providing training, family-supporting jobs and lifetime careers post service."

Trade Update

Celeste Drake, AFL-CIO Trade and Global Policy Specialist, and David Newby, President Emeritus of Wisconsin AFL-CIO, provided a trade update and NAFTA overview.

WI
AFL-CIO

**JOIN FIGHT WIN
TOGETHER**

WI AFL-CIO 2018 Convention

2018 Wisconsin AFL-CIO Resolutions

Adopted by Delegates at the 30th Biennial Convention in Milwaukee

- No. 1:** Restore All Labor Rights
- No. 2:** Workers' Bill of Rights
- No. 3:** Rebuild and Revive Our Communities by Putting Thousands to Work
Rebuilding Wisconsin
- No. 4:** In Support of Public Education
- No. 5:** Fully Fund the UW System
- No. 6:** Ensure Healthcare Quality
- No. 7:** Keep the USPS a Governmental Agency
- No. 8:** Support AT&T Workers Fighting for a Fair Contract
- No. 9:** Worker Safety
- No. 10:** In Support of Apprenticeships
- No. 11:** Buy WI
- No. 12:** I Am 2018
- No. 13:** Supporting a New North American Economy
- No. 14:** Support Postal Financial Services and Postal Banking
- No. 15:** Freedom to Spend Time With Family
- No. 16:** Support for Federal Call Center Legislation
- No. 17:** Organizing to Win
- No. 18:** In Support of Paper Manufacturing
- No. 19:** Vote At Home
- No. 20:** An Independent Political Voice
- No. 21:** Building an Inclusive Pro-Voter Democracy to Move a Winning Agenda for
Working People
- No. 22:** Responding to the Opioid Crisis
- No. 23:** Labor 2018
- No. 24:** President Emeritus Status for Phil Neuenfeldt
- No. 25:** Reaffirms Past Convention Action on Legislative Issues

