



Volume 1 | Issue 3

23 August, 2023

# MN GUILD NEWSLETTER

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## Union Wins BIG Raises at FairVote

In July, we filed 3 notices to the grievance and arbitration procedure related to wrongful termination and skipping steps in the grievance procedure. While we hope the employers will come to their senses, it is quite possible that at least one of them will go all the way to arbitration.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

08  
24

### Labor Solidarity Supper

**6:00AM-8:00PM | Tuesday, August 24th**

*East Side Freedom Library, St. Paul*

Free food and drink, live music, updates local labor, and sewing. [Learn More](#)

09  
04

### Duluth Central Labor Day Picnic

**12:00-4:00PM | Monday, September 4th**

*Bay Front Festival Park, Duluth*

At risk of cancelation due to lack of funds. [Here](#) for the latest!

09  
27

### MN Guild Membership Meeting

**6:00PM-7:00 PM | Wednesday, September 27th** *Virtual*

Tentative Agenda: budget-setting, executive board nominations, and unit updates. [Request Zoom Link](#)

**NEWSLETTERS ARE A COLLABORATIVE  
EFFORT. CONTRIBUTORS WANTED!**

Are you willing to write a unit update, submit art, draw a comic, or have other ideas for content? Quieres este boletín en español? The more members that participate, the more this is a project by-and-for the people.



# TNG AND CWA CONVENTION UPDATE

By Nick Woltman, *Local President; Pioneer Press*

It was a pleasure to represent our local last month at the 2023 TNG and CWA conventions in St. Louis with our executive officer Candace Lund and executive committee member Larry Nelson.

We spent a busy few days connecting with our union siblings from across the country, many of whom I had only met over Zoom. Among the highlights were the elections of CWA's first Black president and secretary-treasurer, Claude Cummings and Ameenah Salaam, respectively.

Although our executive committee endorsed News Guild alum Sara Steffens for president, I am thrilled to have Claude leading our union and I know he'll be a passionate advocate for our members.



MN Newspaper & Communications Guild at the TNG convention. Pictured: Candace Lund (Local Executive Officer), Jon Schleuss (TNG President), Nick Woltman (Local President, Pioneer Press), and Larry Nelson (Nonprofit Executive Committee member, FairVote MN).

CWA members also unanimously approved another \$300,000 in funding to support our striking members in Pittsburgh, following several impassioned speeches from TNG folks.

## MEETING MOTHER JONES

By Larry Nelson, *Nonprofit Executive Committee Member, FairVote MN*

While attending the TNG-CWA convention, we took a side trip to the Mother Jones Museum and Memorial - located about 45 miles outside of St. Louis. The small museum and its passionate volunteers were in Mt. Olive City Hall, only a few blocks from the Mother Jones Memorial in Union Miners Cemetery. Mother Jones was a famous organizer and a cofounder of the IWW. She helped striking coal mine workers and was considered "the most dangerous woman in America." The cemetery was dedicated to those killed in 1898, fighting strike breakers of the Virden Mining Company in the Battle of Virden.

At her request, Mother Jones was buried with the coal miners that she helped organize. The monument, made with Minnesota granite, had a pile of union pins which visitors left at its base. The biggest highlight was when the Mother Jones impersonator gave a very impassioned speech. She drove a half hour on a Sunday afternoon to make sure we would have the chance to "meet Mother Jones."

If you are ever near Mt Olive, IL, I highly recommend a stop at the Mother Jones Museum and Memorial.





## GUILD-MADE RECIPES

### JALEPEÑO CORN MUFFINS

By Arthi Subramaniam, *Star Tribune*

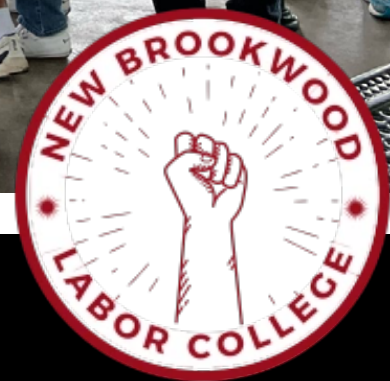
- ☐ 1 cup cornmeal  
*Note: If you don't have cornmeal, polenta or semolina can be used.*
- ☐ 1 (8.5-ounce) can whole kernel corn
- ☐ 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ☐ 1 teaspoon salt
- ☐ 1 tablespoon jalapeño pepper, seeded and chopped finely
- ☐ 3 eggs, slightly beaten
- ☐ 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese, divided
- ☐ 1/2 cup milk
- ☐ 1/3 cup oil
- ☐ 12 pickled jalapeño rings (optional)

#### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 °F. Grease a 12-cup muffin pan.
2. In a large bowl, combine cornmeal, corn kernels, baking powder, salt, and jalapeño pepper with a spatula.
3. Add eggs, 3/4 cup cheddar cheese, milk and oil.
4. Combine all the ingredients together well.
5. Divide corn mixture among the muffin cups. Top each muffin with the remaining 1/4 cup cheese. Place a pickled jalapeño on top of each muffin, if using.
6. Bake for about 20 to 25 minutes, until a tester inserted into the center of the muffins comes out clean.



COMING UP NEXT:  
**MN GUILD SUMMER  
PICNIC!**  
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## NEW BROOKWOOD LABOR COLLEGE

### FALL CLASS SCHEDULE

The executive director of the only labor college in the US is our very own Robyn Gulley (MN AFL-CIO). Fall registration is now open!

[Paid year-long Fellowship Opportunity:](#) Fellows will learn about the labor movement, get organizer training in the services sector, and assist in labor organizing campaigns with partners across Minnesota. Fellows will receive a monthly stipend and a sign-on bonus. Must have high school diploma.

### VIRTUAL CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

- *Economics As If Workers Mattered* Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 pm
- *Labor in Film*: Wednesdays 6:30-9:00 pm
- *Public Speaking for Unions* Sep. 18th & Oct. 2nd 6:30-8:30
- *Contract Costing* Oct. 16th 6:30-8:30

### IN-PERSON WORKSHOP (ST PAUL, MN)

- *Leadership Communication* Nov. 11th 1:00-5:00

[Tuition Questions](#) & further [Class Information & Registration](#)





We had a blast at our first ever Guild-wide picnic! Shout out to the Planning Committee and everyone else who helped with all the logistics before, during, and after the event. Attendees were offered Guild T-shirts, TNG lanyards and pins, AFL-CIO song books, “Proud Union Home” yard signs, and ‘87 + ‘91 Star Tribune Homer Hankies. Raffle winners went home with RLM Arts stationery, gift cards for Minnesota union-made beer/spirits, Minnesota union-made snacks, a floral bouquet, or a TNG hoodie.

Inclusion was front-and-center in our planning for this picnic. Below are some things we considered or offered to make this event as accessible as possible:

- Outdoor venue—to promote nature and reduce the spread of disease.
- Easy access to bike paths and Metro Transit lines
- Accessibility parking and bathrooms; ramps and curb cuts
- Cigarette, E-cig, and alcohol-free city park
- Gender-neutral “family” restrooms
- Nametags—for imperfect memories and pronouns
- Gluten-free, vegan, and nut-free main-course options.
- Allergy information cards for potluck offerings.
- Cleaned grill with separate, meat-free utensils.
- Spanish-language flier
- Way-finding signage and carpool-matching
- Child activities for various ages and abilities. Engaged members to let parents take a break, too.
- Musician—for a sensory break from active socializing

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**Is there something we missed?  
We’re always open to feedback to  
make future events even better!**

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*Clockwise From Top: 1) The Big Rope-Pull Face Off! 2) Team pep-talk with Chris Serres (Star Tribune) before the rope-pull. 3) Randy Furst (Star Tribune) and other members share a meal together out of the rain. 4) Union Carpenter, Emmett Doyle, sings labor songs with his Irish bouzouki; Allana Olson (Guild) and Erick Biard (HHS) listening. 5) Annie (champion of Henry Jaen, HHS) and Sarah (champion of Michael Moore, Union Advocate), push their luck over a mound of flour.*

