

# The Debs Foundation Newsletter

P.O. BOX 9454, TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA 47808-9454



SPRING 2013

## The 50th Anniversary Year *A Review of the Celebration*

This issue looks back on the events in 2012 which featured our 50th anniversary. It started with a newsletter essay on “Fifty Fruitful Years.” The newsletter had highlighted our 25th anniversary in 1980 and also the 40th in 2002. Then the spring 2012 newsletter, to chronicle our 50th, dealt mainly with the last decade, taking us up to 50 fruitful years. Now, this issue looks back on what was done banquet day 2012 to commemorate the 50th anniversary.

Banquet Day was September 29. Events began at 1:30 P.M. with a wreath-laying ceremony at Debs’ gravesite. The weather was nice and there was good attendance for this event, and also for the later activities at the Debs Home memorial garden. There first was the cutting of an anniversary cake, accompanied with appropriate remarks, and the opportunity to enjoy refreshments of cake and punch.

Then came the unveiling of a plaque for the garden wall honoring Jack Sheinkman. Appropriate remarks were given both by Vice President Noel Beasley and by 2012 Debs Award recipient Clayola Brown. Both Beasley and Brown worked for ACTWU when Jack Sheinkman was first President of that newly merged amalgamated union. It was observed that Jack was known in union circles as “Mr. Amalgamated” for his efforts in forming the newly merged union. Mentioned also was his role in mentoring a host of young union leaders such as Beasley and Brown, and also



*Clayola Brown receives the Debs Award  
from Regina Taylor*

former Debs Award recipients Joyce Miller and Gloria Johnson.

As was mentioned before in the [Newsletter](#), Jack Sheinkman is worthy of a plaque on the memorial wall. This brings to fourteen the total number of memorial wall plaques.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a pictorial essay of 50th anniversary day events.

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### **SPRING BUSINESS MEETING**

Saturday, April 27,  
at 1:00 pm, Debs Home

## Regarding the Financial Statement

Three items in our 2012 expenditures stand out as unusual. One is nearly \$1,000 spent on 50th Anniversary expenses, including \$525.91 to National Pen for commemorative silver or burgundy pens to honor the 50th. These sold for \$5.00 each at the banquet, and those remaining are available for \$1.00 per pen as supplies last.

Another non-routine expenditure—a large one—was \$24,200 to Paitson Brothers Roofing for new supports and an entirely new roof for the porch. The roof had been repaired or replaced in the early 1980s, but had been attached to the main structure in a faulty manner, allowing water to seep in and rot the supporting rafters and perimeter timbers. The new porch roof should last many years.

We also spent more than usual on posters--\$974, so that we now have a good supply on hand.

On the income side, it is apparent that even after noting the unusual expenditures, we did not take in enough money, causing us to withdraw \$40,000 from the endowment fund. It is too early to project costs for 2013, although we naturally hope for no large unexpected expenses. We do know that we will be using a new

## DEBS FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2013

Published by

The Eugene V. Debs Foundation

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Michael Sullivan, *President*

Noel Beasley, *Executive Vice President*

Charles King, *Secretary*

Mick Love, *Treasurer*

The *Debs Foundation Newsletter* is published twice yearly for distribution to members and friends of the Foundation. The Eugene V. Debs Foundation is a non-profit, private organization which maintains the home of Eugene and Kate Debs as a museum and shrine to labor, and carries on educational and informational programs which aim to honor and promote the goals for which Debs struggled: industrial unionism, social justice, and peace. For those wishing to become members, an application form is provided elsewhere in this issue.

banquet facility starting this year which will reduce somewhat the cost of food service and hall rental. So there are positive signs ahead, but nothing would be better than for dues and contributions to increase. That is where you come in!

## 2012 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### Eugene V. Debs Foundation

Mick Love, Treasurer

#### Expenditures:

##### Utilities

Duke Energy .....	2029.86
Indiana American Water .....	733.39
Vectren .....	1386.72
Frontier .....	1690.74
Verizon (King's Cell) .....	480.00

##### Museum Director

Salary .....	16,756.01
Indiana Dept. of Revenue .....	1339.56
Internal Revenue Service .....	4895.52
Workman's Comp. Ins .....	331.00

##### Banquet

Hall Rental .....	944.00
Edibles Catering .....	6245.13
Printing: Tickets and Program .....	1539.08
Anne Feeney Honorarium .....	1000.00
Indiana Statesman Ad .....	255.00
Meier Johan-Wengler .....	544.08
Raven Smith (essay and plaque).....	535.86
Champion Awards .....	35.86

##### 50th Anniversary

Complete Outdoor Rental .....	202.00
Cake, Drinks, Service .....	250.00
Gravesite Wreath .....	24.49
GFC Marketplace .....	17.09
National Pen (500) .....	525.91

##### Other Expenses

Jewett Printing (newsletters, etc.) .....	1948.03
Wabash Valley Visions & Voices .....	175.00

Galloway Photo .....	358.80
Debra Liechty (posters) .....	974.00
Paitson Roofing Co .....	24,200.00
Safe Auto Ins (house) .....	2390.00
ADT Security Svc .....	977.48
American Welding (fire extinguisher) .....	42.50
Springhill Heating .....	347.75
ISU Human Rights Day .....	100.00
Assoc. of Indiana Museums .....	35.00
Terminix .....	49.20
USPS Annual Box Permit .....	90.00
Bulk Mail Acct .....	300.00
USPS postage .....	623.69
Office Max .....	73.89
Complete Outdoor Rental .....	72.37
House and Grounds (plants, etc.) .....	762.80
ISU Agency Acct. (Includes Ricoh) .....	1200.00
TOTAL EXPENSES .....	\$82,930.28

#### Income

Dues & Contributions .....	23,793.94
Memorabilia .....	545.40
Tickets.....	7190.00
Program Ads .....	9819.00
Vanguard.....	40,000.00
Anniversary Pens Sales .....	168.00
Door Locks .....	83.95
TOTAL INCOME .....	\$81,600.29

*50th Anniversary  
Celebration  
in Photos*



*Group at Gravesite*



*Culver and Beasley*



*Noel with Sheinkman's Plaque*



*Anniversary Cakes*



*Group at Reception*



*Clayola Brown and Regina Taylor with  
Charles King in the background*



*Charles King with Essay Winner*

## A Recent Passing

From time to time we receive news of the death of a foundation member who had been a major contributor to the lives of those around him or her.

We found space in this issue for a brief commentary on the passing of one such Debsian: Kay Meyers of Chicago. Following are excerpts from her obituary sent us by David Johnson.

Kay Meyers died at age 97, just two months short of her 98th birthday. The descendant of German emigrants, her father was employed as a flagman for the CNW railroad crossing in Crystal Lake., Illinois. She was married twice, to the late Fred Fields and the late Larry Simons. Both were short lived, without children and ended in divorce. She was self-effacing and possessed with great humor; often signing greeting cards "As ever, your Socialist, Pacifist, sometimes vegetarian Aunt Kathlyn."

Kay was always proud to point out that she and her parents were longtime Democratic Socialists and early supporters of leader Eugene V. Debs. She joined the Socialist Party of Wisconsin in 1938, and in 1968 she was nominated to be the Socialist candidate for Mayor of Chicago, but never made the ballot. Kay was always cheerful, always

giving, never complaining, always concerned about others, especially the poor, minorities, the disenfranchised, the elderly and the weak. Clearly, the progressive-liberal movement lost a saint in the passing of Kathlyn Meyers.

## Look For It

Hopefully by the end of April we will have a list of the early Debs Award Banquets which we have had transferred digitally to disc. This will enable you to see all that is available. Maybe you would like copies of one or a few banquets, or just maybe you would like to purchase all of them. We will try to keep the prices reasonable, although we would like to make some money in the process.

The list will include what is available and cost including shipping. We have had these recordings for a long time, always with the thought of not only preserving them but also of making them available to interested parties. The foundation is fortunate to have among its members Gail Malmgreen, who spent a career at Tamiment Library at New York University doing this kind of work. Just now retired, she still has New York contacts who do the kind of preservation/restoration work needed for this project. Look for information on this project in the next mailing.

### EUGENE V. DEBS FOUNDATION

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Terre Haute, Indiana 47808

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### Membership Dues: The Eugene V. Debs Foundation

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Student/Limited Income \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00 Sustaining Member

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Regular Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$250.00 Life Members

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 Supporting Member \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Enclose remittance. Make checks payable to the Debs Foundation.

The Debs Foundation • P.O. Box 9454 • Terre Haute, IN 47808-0843

We are a not-for-profit organization, so your dues and contributions are tax deductible. The Foundation owns and maintains the Debs Home and offers several educational and cultural programs.