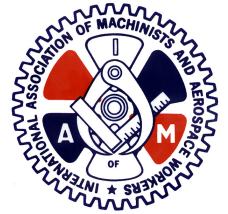


Badger Lodge News



Newsletter for United Lodge 66, Machinists Union, AFL-CIO
Chartered: November 30, 1895



Vol. 13 No. 4

www.unitedlodge66.org or www.youtube.com/badgerlodge

April 2010

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

April 9, 2010

7:00 PM

2609 W. Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53215
414-671-3800

*ALL Lodge Members are
Encouraged to attend.*

- **DAYTIME OFFICE HOURS - Tuesday thru Friday, 8AM to 4:30PM;** business can be done at the Business or Education Evening Meetings or by mail. **CHECK** the answering machine for hours open, 414-671-3800.
- The deadline for articles for the May 2010 edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is April 17.
- **Education Evening** is April 15, 2010 at 7:00PM with the topic of **Our Bay View Tragedy.**
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. *See last page.*

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President's Direct Line

Members can leave messages on my direct line at United Lodge 66. My phone number is 414-671-6980. I will try to be timely in answering.

Patricia Elizondo

Community Services Project Award



Photo by James Cobb

United Lodge 66 shared this years Community Services Project Award with several other organizations for our efforts helping the workers at Patrick Cudahy after the fire at their worksite. Other members in this collaboration were: Hunger Task Force, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, Laborer's Local 113, Milwaukee Area Labor

Council, United Way, UFCW 1473, Voces de la Frontera. The award was given at this years Community Services Conference.



"The Power of OUR Union is Directly Related to YOUR Level of Activism in OUR Union."

H. R. 3012 Official Name is: Trade Reform, Accountability, Development and Employment Act

Who you vote for is important. Citizens need our elected representatives to work for us and propose laws to benefit us. During the previous eight years there never was a trade bill that Bush did not like and most did not benefit working families. This also goes back to when President Clinton signed the NAFTA agreement.

Now HR3012 is being proposed and already has 137 sponsors in the House of Representatives.

Here is what the **TRADE Act** includes:

Review: Requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a comprehensive review of existing major trade pacts by June 10, 2010, including economic outcomes in the U.S. and abroad and various security, human rights, social and environmental indicators.

What Must and Must not be in All Agreements: Sets forth the food and product safety, environmental and labor standards; federalism protection; agriculture rules; national security exceptions; and currency anti-manipulation and trade remedy rules that must be in all American trade pacts. And, because WTO-NAFTA model trade agreements extend far beyond traditional trade matters, this section also lists what cannot be included in future American trade agreements, including service sector privatization and deregulation requirements; bans on Buy American and anti-sweat shop or environmental procurement policies; new rights and privileges for foreign investors to promote offshoring and expose domestic health and environmental laws to attacks in foreign tribunals; and special protections for Big Pharma to limit affordable access of generic medicines.

What each member must do is contact these representatives who are not supporting the TRADE Act which is good for American working families. **An information sheet was sent to all shop chairs** and we can send the information sheet to you. Contact these representatives:

- Senator Kohl, Hart Senate Office Building, 2nd & C Street, NE, SH-330, Washington, DC 20515
- Representative Ryan, Longworth House Office Building, Independence & New Jersey Avenue, SE, 1113 LHOB, Washington, DC 20515
- Representative Sensenbrenner, Jr., Rayburn House Office Building, Independence Avenue & S. Capitol Street, SW, 2449 RHOB, Washington, DC 20515



Activities for You and Your Family

- **April 6, 2010**, is **Spring Elections**; get out and vote or do not complain!
- **Delegate to Milwaukee Area Labor Council:** April 7, May 5, June 2 in 2010. All meetings start at 6:30PM.
- **Union Veterans Committee** meets, **March 10, 2010, at 4:00PM** to discuss our participation in the Memorial Day Parade as well as other activities taking place this year. We need to do more than wave a flag for our returning veterans.
- **Education Evening** on **April 15, 2010, 7:00PM** will be on **Our Bay View Tragedy**.
- **Workers Memorial Day, Wednesday, April 28, 2010, 5:00PM** at Zeidler Union Square Park, 4th & Michigan Streets, Milwaukee. On this date 46 years ago the Occupational Safety and Health Act was passed and we remember those workers who have lost their life the previous year due to worksite accidents or illness.
- On **Sunday, May 2, 2010, 3:00PM**, the Wisconsin Labor History Society will hold the **124th Anniversary Commemoration of the Bay View Tragedy**. This is at the Bay View Rolling Mills Historical Marker Site, at South Superior Street and East Russell Avenue, where the Wisconsin State Militia open fired and killed workers and one child who were promoting the eight hour day.
- United Lodge 66 **Veterans Badge Night** will be held on **Saturday, June 5, 2010**. This is by invitation only from a list received from our International Machinists Union. It is recognition for years of continuous membership and is in five year increments and includes an evening of food, refreshments and awards right here at our hall. The invitations will be going out in late April.
- Members need to enter photos of their worksite by June 2010 for the Machinists Union Photography. **All types of work and job assignments** in your daily routine should be considered.
- **Car Show on June 26, 2010** at Scotty's Bar & Pizza with Masonic Lodge at 3921 S. Clement Avenue, Milwaukee. George and Bonnie Dietsche, from Kieffer and Company in Sheboygan and one of our worksites, plan on entering their classic. This is a fund raiser for Children's Hospital.
- The class schedules for all leadership training at the **Machinists Union William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center** is available from your Union office or can viewed at any of the meetings. The schedule is also on the website: www.goiam.org. A copy of the Lodge Education guidelines, which were printed in last months newsletter, will be sent to all shop chairs.



Moving to the Next Level of Recovery

Now that healthcare is on its way to becoming a reality for Americans, it's time to focus on healing the ravages of the recession. With plenty of people still unemployed, those who have dollars are trying to stretch them further.

Even in tough times, Americans do what we can to help our friends and neighbors. Tough economic times didn't stop people from donating to Haitian relief after the devastating earthquake. People are still filling Hunger Task Force barrels at events where food items are collected. Unemployed businessmen and women are joining mentoring programs, planting community gardens, and stitching up knitted blankets for soldiers in Afghanistan's chilly hill country. And just last week, Date-line NBC focused on a community that came together to donate home renovations for a needy family in Grafton.

The government has some programs in the works. There's still plenty of TARP money earmarked for economic stimulus. Bank of America is back on the rails and plans to repay the bailout funds we loaned them. Communities across the nation are planning to invest in infrastructure, from road and bridge repairs to an ambitious high speed rail system.

But the government can't do it all. The rest of us need to get involved and help things move along.

Here's some things we can all do to get this country working again.



1. Contact your congressperson. Lowering costs for small businesses is key to getting businesses to hire again. Programs that offer tax incentives for businesses that hire permanent employees are in the works. The HIRE act passed the Senate, and a similar Local Jobs For America Act is now in the House. Let your reps know that you support this type of legislation.
2. Network. Come to Union meetings. Join U-Cubed. Learn what is happening and what initiatives are on the table. If being in a Union has taught us anything, it's that there is strength in numbers. Educating and informing our members and standing together on the issues is necessary for our success.
3. Get educated. If your only source of news is Fox News, you're only getting one side of the story. If your only news source is the Huffington Post, you're still only getting one side. Listen to different viewpoints and make up your own mind. Fear has been used to sway public opinion for far too long.
4. Buy American. From blue jeans to garden tools, a wide selection of goods are still produced in the United States. Shopping at Wal-mart might save you a few dollars, but the cost of shopping there is jobs lost to China and your hard-earned dollars going overseas. Learn what US companies are making and where to find their products at AmericansWorking.com.

*By James Cobb
Lodge Communicator*

Hello Out There!

Patricia Elizondo, Lodge President, and I (Doug) are willing to meet with all shop committees or to attend your shop meetings to discuss procedures of the Lodge and the Grand Lodge Constitution. **This can not be done if you fail to ask!**

We just ask for advance notice at a time and place of your convenience.
Let us introduce ourselves and what opportunities exist for members.



Decisions and Choices

January 7, 2010 in [UCubed Resources](#)
by [Kiley Hernandez](#)

[Decisions and Choices](#)

The IAM's Employee Services Department manual for laid off employees, an in-depth survival guide.

[Resume Resources for Laid Off Workers](#)

A quick presentation for activists providing resume guidance. Using the most current resources for the jobless.

[Top-Rated Nonprofits That Help People Get Jobs](#)

A list of over 40 nonprofits that provide job training or placement for the unemployed. Browse the list by ratings and location, and read user-reviews.

[Working America's Unemployment Lifeline](#)

Unemployment LifeLine is a one-stop guide that links workers to the resources in their area: from unemployment offices to veterans' services to child care.

[Job Matching – JobFox.com](#)

Launched in 2005, Jobfox is now the fastest growing job site on the Internet. We provide what no other job site can – Introductions between highly matched job seeking professionals and employers.

[Job Matching – QuietAgent](#)

QuietAgent is the pioneer of automated high-quality job-to-candidate matching; the single lifetime 'resume profile' and the anonymous two-way matching process, a key element as it removes all the 'resume gaming'; multiple candidate 'personalities' and 'advert-resumes' so common with job boards and social / professional networks.

[Job Matching – Bintro.com](#)

Bintro is a free matchmaking service for everything. All you need to do is describe what you're looking for and Bintro will take care of the rest. It works around the clock and immediately updates you when it finds something that fits your exact needs. If it sounds simple, that's because it is.

Retirement Planning: Ask the Right Questions.

(Contributed by Brian Goode IAM Member LL66 – Union Financial, Inc.
Ph: 262-930-5050)

How much can you count on Social Security or an employer pension plan for financial support during retirement? The answer lies in your individual circumstances and in your ability to ask the right questions.

Social Security

To determine the approximate amount you'll receive from Social Security, submit a Request for Earnings and Benefits Estimate Statement (available from your financial professional, or through your local Social Security office). You'll receive a benefit estimate based on your normal retirement age. Keep in mind that while 65 is the typical retirement age for those born before 1959, it may be higher for those born later.

If you're considering early retirement, determine when you can receive Social Security benefits, and how this will affect your future benefits. For instance, partial benefits may be available as early as age 62. However, this may mean a permanent reduction in benefits.

Pension Plans

Your employer pension plan also affects your retirement picture. Be sure to ask these questions:

- Will benefits be adjusted for inflation?
- If I die, will my spouse receive benefits?
- Are benefits based on years of service or on earnings?
- When are my benefits fully or partially vested?

For help in gathering answers to these questions, ask for a copy of the Summary Plan Description (SPD) to assist you. Many questions need to be asked before you can determine if you're on the way to a successful retirement. Be sure you're asking the right ones.

For more information about this and other financial topics, contact Brian Goode @ Union Financial, Inc. (IAM member LL66) 262-930-5059.

www.unionplanning.com

IAMUNION

Car Pooling

From Kenosha: Want to car-pool to Union Meeting? Contact Vice President Bob Paar for how it can be done: 262-914-1777 or bpaarosckenosha@yahoo.com



From Sheboygan: from Sheboygan or picking members up in Port Washington call either: Ron Simmelink, 920-627-0325 or George Dietsche, 920-946-6723. Both are from Kieffer & Company in Sheboygan.

JOIN: Union Veteran's Committee

If you want to be involved in future events contact Mile Balistriere at 414-771-9829 or mikeaflcio@sbcglobal.net. We hold monthly meetings or when necessary.

Future events for you and your family:

- May 31, in the Veterans Memorial Day Parade.
- May 21 to 23 for the LZ Lambeau where at Lambeau field in Green Bay there will be along deserved welcome home for Wisconsin's Vietnam War Veterans. Visit: LZLambeau.org.
- June 11, the Wounded Warrior Project for those of the Afghanistan and Iraq war. There be various rides and activities, visit: <http://SR.WoundedWarriorProject.org>.
- Date to be determined, a Take a Vet Fishing Day, from the VA Center in Milwaukee to Port Washington.

Special Extra Earnings for Military Service

Since 1957, if you had military service earnings for active duty (including active duty for training), you paid Social Security taxes on those earnings. Since 1988, inactive duty service in the Armed Forces reserves (such as weekend drills) has also been covered by Social Security. (contact Social Security)

Under certain circumstances, special extra earnings for your military service from 1957 through 2001 can be credited to your record for Social Security purposes. These extra earnings credits may help you qualify for Social Security or increase the amount of your Social Security benefit.

Special extra earnings credits are granted for periods of active duty or active duty for training. Special extra earnings credits are **not** granted for inactive duty training.

If your active military service occurred **From 1957 through 1967**, we will add the extra credits to your record when you apply for Social Security benefits.

From 1968 through 2001, you do not need to do anything to receive these extra credits. The credits were automatically added to your record.

After 2001, none.

Reimbursement of Lost Time for Committee Person

While you will be reimbursed for lost time it may not be as fast as you would like if proper procedure is not followed. Please be aware reimbursement will only be done as stated in the letter from District 10 to Financial Officers dated January 23, 2009.

This must happen or be on file at the Lodge office:

- W4 must be completed by you and on file at the LL66 office. This needs be done only once.
- Properly complete the Lodge 66 Reimbursement Form.
- Lost time must be approved by your business agent at District 10.

Since October 2006 all lost time is paid by ADP payroll. Payroll is done only twice a month. If you miss one payroll date then it will have to wait until the next. Lost time reimbursement forms must be into the LL66 office before the Monday of a payroll date.

Payroll dates are listed on the Calendar Page of our Lodge website at:
www.unitedlodge66.org.

dwc

Applications for new members

It is the responsibility of each shop chair to make sure new employees fill out the Machinists Union Membership Application. This needs to be done before the Union Security clause date and then: (a) one copy is kept by the new member; (b) one copy goes to your payroll department; (c.) one copy is sent to United Lodge 66.

We do provide all shop chairs with the new member application and self addressed stamped envelopes. Before your worksite runs out of either you need to contact this office and more will be sent.

dwc

Initiation Fee

Per the Lodge 66 Bylaws: **“The Initiation fee will be the applicable monthly dues for the respective shop of employment for all members.”**

This was changed in 2001 and remember this is a fee not a due.

dwc

Honorary Withdrawal Card

There is a \$1.00 Fee - It Is Not Free

There has always been a fee for the withdrawal card. All too often a member sends in the application for the card and expects one at no cost.

Withdrawal cards are allowed if:

- Left the trade because of illness
- Obtained employment outside the trade or industry.
- Furthering education.
- Obtained a supervisory position above the rank of working foreman.
- Because of circumstances over which I have no control, am compelled, as a condition of employment, to join another labor organization.

In order to get the withdrawal card a member must obtain such within two months of paying dues.

dwc

Organizing Incentives

Worth \$800.00 to you

The Organizing Lead sheet is available from your Union office or can be downloaded from the home page at www.unitedlodge66.org. They are simple to fill in. Just talk to your friends and find out if they want to have a voice at work and stop being an Employee at Will.

We can only do it with your help.



Seniors Corner

House Passes Historic Health Care Bill, Obama Signs It Into Law

Alliance Executive Director Edward Coyle was with the President as he signed the bill into law. “This landmark act will help current and future retirees in several specific ways,” said Mr. Coyle. He listed:

- Closing the Medicare “doughnut hole” coverage gap so seniors will no longer have to cut dangerous corners on their medications;
- Eliminating co-pays for preventive screenings to help older Americans more quickly and affordably identify and treat diseases such as cancer and diabetes.
- Reducing costly health problems by assisting pre-Medicare retirees with insurance costs and banning discrimination based on pre-existing conditions.

Many provisions go into effect quickly:

- A \$250 rebate for Medicare beneficiaries who fall into the doughnut hole gap.
- A 50% discount on drugs in 2011 for individuals in the doughnut hole;
- By 2011, free annual check-ups for seniors in Medicare, without having to make a copayment for mammograms, colonoscopies and other preventive screenings;
- A prohibition on insurers from placing lifetime limits on coverage; and
- A prohibition on “rescission” or dropping coverage when individuals become sick.

Join the Wisconsin ARA Chapter

6333 W. Bluemound Road
Milwaukee, WI 53213
414-771-9511

<http://www.wisconsinara.org>

Alliance for Retired Americans

888-16th Street, NW Suite 250
Washington, DC 20006
202-974-8222 or 888-373-6497
Fax 202-974-8256

www.retiredamericans.org

Union Pride

Machinist Union T-shirts and caps are available at the United Lodge 66 office.

All shirts have a pocket and over the pocket is **"Lodge 66"**. The T-shirts come in blue or gray.

- \$10.00 for medium, large or X-large
- \$11.50 for XX-large or XXX-large
- \$4.00 for mesh cap
- \$11.00 for Denim/Black/Blue cap
- \$11.00 for Khaki cap
- \$15.00 for **Camouflage** cap
- \$4.25 Acrylic Mug, A Woman's Place Is In Her Union
- \$.10 IAM Logo Temporary Tattoo's

There are two types of shirts: (1) with **'Fighting Machinist'** on the back or (2) with a plain back.



Copyright by Matt Wuerker.

United Lodge 66 Machinists Union

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414-671-3800

www.unitedlodge66.org

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The views and opinions expressed by various writers in this publication are their own and not necessarily those of the Editor, Executive Board or the LL66 membership. The Editor reserves the right to publish, edit, or exclude publication of any article submitted to "Badger Lodge News". Any member may contribute articles for publication; send to United Lodge 66, 2611 W. Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53215-4438.

Phone and fax is 414-671-3800 or lodge66@gmail.com

<http://www.unitedlodge66.org>

<http://www.youtube.com/badgerlodge>

dwc/iamawill66, afl-cio

Directory for District 10 Office,

1650 S. 38th Street, Milwaukee, 53215;

dial 414-643-4334, then extension for

your Business Agent:

Bill Christianson 24

Russ Krings 13

Don Griffin 20

Ben Elizondo 19

Patrick O'Connor 17

Scott Parr 16

Janice DeSmidt (Organizer) 15



On April 6, 2010