

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 14 No. 4

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

April 2011

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

May 13, 2011

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 2011 edition of the "Badger Lodge News", Is April 22.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. **See last page.**
- May 2011 there will be no **Education Evening**

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United Lodge 66
Hall and
Union Office
is
SMOKE FREE.

Workers Memorial Day April 28

Workers Memorial Day is on Thursday this year. The ceremony will start at 5pm in Zeidler Union Park, which is located on Michigan St. between 3rd and 4th St. in Milwaukee.

The theme this year is
"Good Jobs.....Safe Jobs.....It's Time".

After the Memorial there will be a march to the American Postal Workers Union Hall at 417 N. 3rd St. in Milwaukee.

They will have a Fund Raiser Dinner from 6 PM to 7:30PM.

Workers Memorial Day first started in Canada in 1984. It is now recognized in nineteen countries.

Starting in 1989 the Trade Unions in the United States, United Kingdom, Europe, Africa, and Asia have celebrated it on April the 28th.

The Anniversary of the Occupational Health and Safety Act in the United States is April the 28th and this is the reason that Workers Memorial Day is held on the same day, this date also has a similar importance in Canada.

Although we honor the people who have fought for safer working conditions, there are still a great number of workplace accidents and toxic exposures on our jobs and worksites.



Letter From Brother Bob Paar

Brothers and Sisters,

I wanted to let you know about my trip to our State capital, where I joined other Wisconsin citizens demonstrating in support of the collective bargaining rights of Public Employees and Teachers.

On February 22, 2011, I had the honor of taking my children (21 year old daughter and 12 year old son) to Madison to show them the power of the people and what peaceful protesting is about. That morning I kept my son home from school. I let his teachers know that I was taking him on a Labor History field trip to our Capital. I met my daughter and her boyfriend at the I-94/Hy-11 park and ride where we boarded a Kobussen coach bus and started our journey.

I have been to the capital many times before as a voting Legislative conference member for our lodge, but this time it was different. I was going there to support the rights of others to collectively bargain, something that the state's Republican Governor, and the Republican-controlled Assembly and Senate, want desperately to repeal. When we arrived we walked with many union members from other unions, AFSME, IAM, SEIU, IBEW, TCU, Teamsters, Firefighters, and Laborers just to name a few, to the capital a few blocks away. The closer we got to the capital, we noticed the crowd growing. The crowd surged together for the march into the

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



Meet the Secretary Treasurer of Lodge 66

Ivan Collins is the new Secretary Treasurer of Lodge 66, taking over from Doug Curler, who retired in January.

Ivan started his career as a machinist in 1974. He worked for Gilman Engineering and Manufacturing. He is well qualified for the position, having had experience working in our field as well as having gone through the layoff and recall process. He was also a member of the Steel Workers Union for a short time in 1987. In June 1987 Ivan was recalled back to Gilman's and reinstated in the IAMAW where he has been a continuing member.

Being a Delegate to many Grand Lodge and AFL-CIO Conventions and Conferences over the years is a small part of his background. Ivan has held several elective positions with the Union, such as Shop Steward, Committeeman, Vice-President, President, and Secretary Treasurer.

Currently, Ivan is the President of Rock County Central Labor Council as well as Secretary Treasurer and Building Manager of the Union Labor Temple in Janesville. He also holds the position of Secretary Treasurer of District 10.

Ivan and his significant other Joyce have four daughters and two sons. They are also blessed with two granddaughters.

While looking forward to carrying on the work that Doug Curler did for Lodge 66, Ivan recognized Doug's contribution to our organization and said "Doug is a true unionist."

capital.

At 10 a.m. we made our way around to the open entrance of the capital and entered. Security was in abundance, with law enforcement from every area of the state. As we entered the capital, we thanked the officers there for their service because they were doing their job, outside their respective municipalities, even though it wasn't necessary.

This action by Governor Walker will definitely cost those cities a lot in unplanned costs for overtime pay, mileage, and possibly per diem, that the cities never anticipated when they planned their respective budgets.

Upon entering the capital, you could hear the echoing thunder of democracy in action!! In the Rotunda we picked our spot, listening to the many people that approached the megaphone, to make their appeals known to the Legislators on what they felt about this all-out attack on unions and public sector employees. By 10:45a.m., the large groups that were assembling their members outside began their march into the capital.

At this point my children and I went to the second level of the Rotunda, where we continued to participate in our right to peacefully assemble. We took pictures to share with people that haven't been there, so that they can appreciate the magnitude of the power of the people, and what a little gesture of support can do.

As each union entered the Rotunda they



chanted a different chant: "Kill the Bill!" "Hey hey, ho ho, Scott Walker has got to go!" "What's disgusting... Union busting!" and "Tell me what democracy looks like... *This* is what democracy looks like!" The most impressive sight was when the firefighters brought the United States & Wisconsin state flags into the Rotunda. The place erupted with cheers echoing off the inside of the dome and rocketing throughout the building. (On the news later that night, it was reported that we could be heard inside the assembly where Representatives were meeting on a bill for Voter ID requirements (**more "big government" that the Republicans are constantly stating they are against, yet**

they want this bill, another way of trying to drive our respected citizens that vote away from the polls) and causing pauses in the debate.

More of the overflow from the first floor began moving to the second floor, so we went as planned to go see our representatives from our district. That was halted, because state troopers and police that were mentioned earlier were stationed at each inside wing entrance preventing people from getting to their reps. I asked them to deliver a letter I wrote to Senator Wirsch, but they refused. However, they did offer to get one of his staffers to come out to personally take it from me.

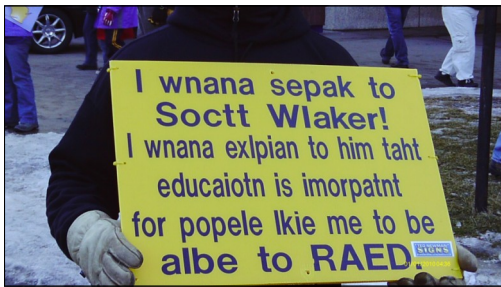
Paula McGuire, Senator Wirsch's staffer, came out and apologized for the inconvenience and asked us to come behind the roped-off area and follow her to our Senators office. She was very welcoming and does a fabulous job. She and the other staffers in the office were busy taking and returning calls. They offered us a snack, and some water, and stated that if it got to the point where we couldn't get where we needed to go, that we should call her and she would assist in helping us get to where we need to be. We never needed to take her up on that, being that I have been there many times before, (never while it was this full,) but the offer was nice.

Prior to leaving the office we thanked her, and asked her to report our support of the Democrat caucus, and let them know that we supported their continuing to work out of state as long as need be, until the Republicans decide to sit down in good faith and negotiate a bill that is not only in the best interest to the state, its citizens, public workers, and the unions that work in this state.

Paula also told us that we would see boxes of food throughout the capital, such as pizza in different areas, and to help ourselves, as this food was being paid for by 10 European countries and many groups across the United States who are supportive of our fight to retain labor rights in our state. The sub sandwich supplier was Milio's, on University Avenue, and I believe the pizza was from Ian's on State Street. The money donated by these other countries was to purchase food to feed those supporting the cause. There were also donations of water, and even Propel flavored water, fruit, cookies, and crackers set up in easily accessible places both inside and outside the capital.

Reading the many signs also kept us busy. Knowing that other people had signs that said what we were thinking was impressive. My 12 year old son even made a sign by himself at the information station in the capital that stated "Even I know it's wrong, and I'm a kid!" He got many thumbs up from the teachers that were there.

My son wanted to take a look at the museums we passed on our walk around the capital square, so I took him thru the Veterans



museum and explained to him that veterans have done what we had been doing that entire day. Veterans fought to prevent the oppression of people by other governments, so that freedom and democracy may prevail. All day we had been fighting in a peaceful manner to let our state government know that we don't appreciate their oppression of public union workers and teachers, and believe that the government shouldn't take away our rights to be a part of a union, or put restrictive laws in place to prevent employees from joining unions.

We then marched around the capital some more, and then finished the day by visiting the Wisconsin Historical Museum prior to being at the bus pick up point at 3:30pm. On the 4th floor of the museum the kids had taken some of the best pictures of capital square. These photos show the massive amount of people there protesting against Governor Walker's Union Busting legislation.

On the bus back home, my kids and I talked about the entire day. The next day my



daughter surprised me by telling me that she and her boyfriend had already uploaded all the photos and videos that they had taken on their cell phones. They had put them on their Facebook pages. Already they were spreading the word via the Internet to do their part in furthering the cause of protecting the right of collective bargaining!

Members out there, if you haven't been to the capital lately, now is the time! Help us help others, get the word out that we're not going to take this anti-union agenda!!!

The word **UNION** begins with you and I (**UNI**) and goes **ON** from there!!!



In solidarity:
Bob Paar
Vice President
Local Lodge 66

The Bay View Tragedy

“Remember when teachers, public employees, Planned Parenthood, NPR and PBS crashed the stock market, wiped out half of our 401Ks, took trillions in TARP money, spilled oil in the Gulf of Mexico, gave themselves billions in bonuses, and paid no taxes?

“Yeah, me neither.”

This spring’s remembrance of the 125th Anniversary of the Bay View Massacre will be particularly poignant for those who honor the sacrifice made by laborers in 1886 who stood up and demanded a fair wage and an eight hour work day.

Prior to 1888, it was common for workers to work 10, 12 or even 16 hours in one day, six days a week. Life was cheap, and the quality of life that resulted from such grueling hours was of no concern to employers, who would arbitrarily cut wages or demand longer hours from their employees. A steady influx of poor immigrants seeking work filled the places of workers who were unable to keep up the backbreaking pace of physically demanding work in factories, rolling mills and rail yards in Milwaukee and other industrialized cities across the country.

On May 1, 1886, a new law took effect in Milwaukee that limited the work day to eight hours, but there were no penalties for breaking the law, and many factories ignored the regulation. Strikes and demonstrations, organized by early Trades Unions and worker’s rights activists, began, and on May 3 police in Chicago fired upon demonstrators, killing

four people. On May 4, someone retaliated by throwing a bomb into police ranks.

In Milwaukee, strikes started on the 1st of May and continued through the 4th when rocks were thrown at the militia. Mill owners refused to implement an eight hour day and tensions were very high.

On May 5, striking workers approached the Bay View Rolling Mill and were fired on by the Militia. Seven people were killed, and many more were wounded. Among the dead was a 13 year old child and a retired man who was hit by a stray bullet.

Despite the sacrifice of lives, the eight hour work day did not come in to being as a standard for two more years. However, public sympathy lay with the workers and in the 1888 elections, socialist candidates were swept into office, leading to reforms in labor laws.

As we take a moment to reflect on the rich history of labor in Wisconsin and in our nation, we should think about the similarities and differences of the Madison protests of 2011 with the demonstrations of 1886. One important difference is that the Police

Education Night for Lodge 66

The Topic for Education Night will be the film

“Triangle ”

And a discussion afterwards.

This Documentary Portrays the events leading up to the **Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire** . This shocked the nation and contributed to the fierce push for labor and Collective Bargaining Rights. Bring your friends and family members. This film is somewhat graphic.

who guard our capital and who kept our protests safe are Public Union members. The teachers that educate our children are Union members. We are not standing up for an eight hour workday, but for the right to bargain for fair wages, safe workplaces, and job protection.

Any time we enter a voting booth and look at the candidates, we should be aware of whether they have a sense of entitlement or a sense of fairness, and vote accordingly. To do anything less would be to dishonor every person who stood up before the guns of the Militia in 1886 and laid down his life for a better life for his fellow man.

Activities for You and Your Family

- **Delegates to Milwaukee Area Labor Council: May 4, 2011.** All meetings start at 6:30PM.
- **United Lodge 66 Business Meeting** is Friday, **May 13, 2011 at 7PM.**
- **Delegates to District 10: May 9, 2011.** All meetings start at 7:30PM
- **United Lodge 66 Education Evening** cancelled until **September 15, 2011.**
- **Workers Memorial Day** is **April 28, 2011 at 5:00PM** . At Zeidler Union Square Park (on Michigan St. between 3rd and 4th St)
- **125th Anniversary of Bay View Tragedy** is **May 1, 2011 at 4:00PM.** At the State Historical Marker (S. Superior St. and E. Russell Ave.)
- **Machinists Union leaders wanted** for the nomination and election of officers and executive board members for United Lodge 66 covering the years of 2012 through 2014. There will be several openings at your Union. The nominations are in November 2011 and **election of officers in December 2011.**
- The class schedule for all leadership training at the **Machinists Union William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center** is available from your Union office and can be viewed at any of the meetings.

IAMAW UNITED LODGE 66 LABOR / COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY NIGHT

You, your family and friends are invited to join us for an evening of solidarity, food, music, and a short movie at our first Labor / Community Solidarity Night to be held:

**April 26, 2011
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
IAMAW United Lodge 66
2611 West Oklahoma Avenue**

This event will include a showing of the 2007 documentary film:

MOTHER JONES “AMERICA’S MOST DANGEROUS WOMAN”

For more information please call: (414) 736-7287

Proud to be An American?

By Anne Chase

Lee Greenwood’s stirring song, God Bless the USA, is played at sporting events, fireworks displays, high school graduations and political events from both sides of the aisle. It became an instant hit in 1984 and got a lot of airplay after September 11, 2001.

The song mentions four major American cities: New York, LA, Detroit and Houston. Greenwood wanted to include Detroit and Houston for their place in the American economy – Houston for the oil industry and Detroit for Motown.

But it’s a sad fact that most of us who gladly sing along with the song go home to houses furnished with goods purchased overseas.

In our everyday lives, we need to remember to buy American when possible. Defending our country doesn’t just mean putting a yellow ribbon sticker on your car. Support your country and your fellow Americans by keeping jobs right here at home.

Keeping your dollars here in our country is wise policy environmentally and socially as well. Overseas manufactures often rely on sweat shops for labor, and carry lax pollution standards as well.

Research your purchases and defend your country with the power of your dollars.

Web sites such as

www.buyamerican.com,
www.madeinusa.org, and
www.madeinusaforever.com

will give you comprehensive lists of American-made goods from clothing to caskets, cosmetics to chocolate. And

Then proudly throw your head back and sing:

*And I gladly stand up
Next to you, and defend her still
today.
‘Cause there ain’t no doubt I love
this land.
God bless the USA*

(Lyrics by Lee Greenwood, all rights reserved.)



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.

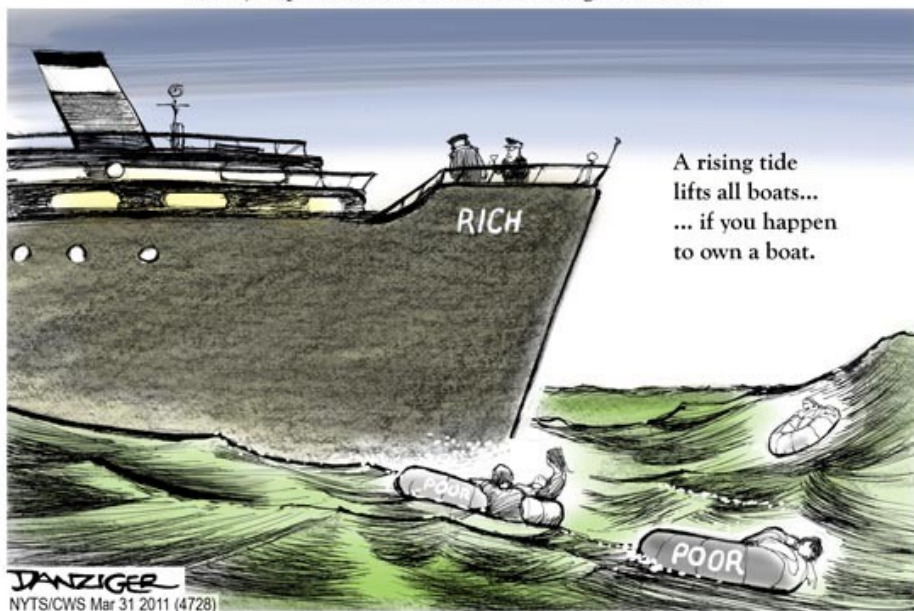


Applications for new members

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.

United Lodge 66 Machinists Union
2611 W. Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53215-4438
414-671-3800
www.unitedlodge66.org
www.youtube.com/badgerlodge

In US, Gap Between Rich and Poor Larger than Ever



LL66 Machinists Union Officers

President Patricia Elizondo

Vice President Bob Paar

Recording Secretary Mike
Pietrzykowski

Secretary Treasurer . . Ivan Collins

Conductor Sentinel . Bunny Browning
Trustees: Dave Spengler, Darrell Rasch,
Dave Russell

Communicator James Cobb

Educator Patricia Elizondo

Editor James Cobb

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>

Directory for District 10 Office,

1650 S. 38th Street, Milwaukee, 53215;
dial 414-643-4334, then extension for
your Business Agent:

Russ Krings	13
Don Griffin	20
Ben Elizondo	19
Patrick O'Connor	17
Scott Parr	16
Greg Pursell	24
Janice DeSmidt (Organizer)	15

Car Pooling

From Kenosha:

Want to carpool to Union Meeting?
Contact Vice President Bob Paar for
how it can be done: 262-605-0436
or
bpaarosckenosha@yahoo.com



From Sheboygan:

From Sheboygan or picking members
up in Port Washington call: Ron
Simmelink, 920-627-0325, from
Kieffer & Company in
Sheboygan.