

Badger Lodge News



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

Vol. 15 No. 4

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

April 2012

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

May 11, 2012

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
- **June 2012** edition of the "*Badger Lodge News*", is **May 25.**
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. *See last page.*
- **Education Evening is on May 17, starting at 7PM**
Topic: Hunters Safety

CONTENTS:

- Demonstrating for the Helpless . Pg 2
- Lodge 66 Badge Night Pg 3
- Steward Training Pg 3
- Fair Trade Crawl Pg 3



United Lodge 66
Hall and
Union Office
is
SMOKE FREE.

Family Competition for the Veterans

Back in November, we told you about Alexis Goodwin. The eight year old girl made it her mission to ask all her adult relatives and friends to save beer tabs and caps from Miller products. Miller-Coors is donating ten cents to the IAVA for each beer token collected. The Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) is this country's first and largest nonprofit and nonpartisan organization for veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Not long ago, Alexis brought in a large plastic bag full of aluminum tabs. These were donated through Tom Gadowski, a past Lodge 66 President and a veteran, to Miller-Coors for the veterans and the High Life Experience for returning vets from Iraq and Afghanistan.

This past lodge meeting Gunner Paar brought in a large plastic container close to full of aluminum tabs, and very comfortably out did his niece Alexis. As you can see from the attached picture of Gunner and Tom there may be some good-natured competition going on in this family.

Miller-Coors Brewing is running the High Life Experience promotion again this year. The money will fund a variety of experiences for Veterans, from tickets to Major League ball games and NASCAR races to concerts and fishing trips. So lets have one for the veterans. Remember drink responsibly, and save those caps and tabs.



Bay View Tragedy

A ceremony to honor the 126th anniversary of the Bay View Massacre will be held on Sunday May 6th, 2012 at 3 PM, by the Rolling Mills Historical Site Marker, located on the corner of South Superior St. and East Russell Ave.

On that date in 1886, seven people lost their lives in what was considered one of the bloodiest battles for the 8 hour day. Striking workers and bystanders were fired on by state militia, who were given orders from Governor Jeremiah Rusk.

There will be a re-enactment of the 1886 incident, and remarks by speaker Stephanie Bloomingdale, Secretary-Treasurer of the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO. Folk singer Larry Penn will perform.

There will be an open discussion at 4PM at Club Garibaldi featuring John Gurda, Milwaukee Historian, moderating.

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

Demonstrating For The Helpless

by Elaine Bergstrom

"My father would be turning over in his grave if he knew I was participating in a union rally," a friend confessed to me as we stood on a street corner last year holding up our Recall Walker signs.

"But," she added, "if he knew what was at stake, he would be standing right alongside me."

She wasn't referring to the passage of a sweeping variant of the so-called right to work laws, but rather the deep cuts to education and services the Walker administration had made. She's a teacher, and even in a private school, education means a lot to her.

My reasons were also complex. I've never belonged to a union and my family's one experience with them -- a prolonged strike at GE that ended in deep union concessions -- was not a good one. Still, I understand the need for balance in our workplace and Walker's no-negotiating stance on collective bargaining made me furious.

But I was standing there for a far more personal reason, one which made me change my politics from libertarian to liberal years ago -- I have a Down Syndrome child, and Kriista relies on state support and services for her workplace and her social life.

The social aspect of her life is directly affected by Milwaukee County, and Scott Walker fired the first salvo some years ago with an ill-advised program to cut bus service to the airport. Cutting that route meant cutting off Transit Plus service to Goodwill's Vogel Avenue site for work and training, and to the handicapped services at Holler Park. At the same time, Walker, then County Executive, wanted the Transit Plus program to be limited to residents who were not within walking distance of a city bus. Sitting in front of Moose Lodge at 13th and Grange one snowy winter night, I watched handicapped adults in wheelchairs getting wheeled by their drivers from the Transit Plus buses into their Friday night dance. I thought of how these people would not be at these events were it not for handicapped transportation and how unaware Walker and his administration were of the needs of some of the most vulnerable handicapped citizens.

The idea of major cuts to Transit Plus services generated a lot of citizen backlash and was later dropped, but increases in

the cost of rides has been ongoing.

But from my daughter's standpoint, the biggest effect of the Walker administration was on the cost and scope of recreational services in Milwaukee County. Since Kriista first began attending the Easter Seals recreation program in 1990, the cost has tripled. This is understandable, but the programs have also been cut. There used to be 16 dances in the Easter Seals spring program, 4 of these with an added hour to accommodate a meal (40 dances and 9 meals or so for the entire year). Every year under our former County Exec, there were less. This spring, there are 9 dances -- none of them with a meal. These dances are the only social outlet for many of the handicapped participants so this cut in services is especially hard on them.*

When asked why I support the Walker recall, I usually say, "Because the man had a healthy majority of the vote and then proceeded to behave like a schoolyard bully rather than a politician. He's divided a usually progressive state into warring factions, and he will never see the error of his ways." But really, I am thinking of those kids in wheelchairs, and my daughter -- the victims of this ongoing war against the needy. *Easter seals has declined to comment on funding cuts. An average of 60% of their revenue in the past few years has come from the County.

Elaine Bergstrom is a novelist and blogger. Her political comments are at elainebergstromblog.wordpress.com



Raffle Winner

Lady luck smiled on Tom Gadowski. The Lodge 66 / United Sportsman's Alliance Raffle was held in March, and Tom was the lucky winner. Tom will have his choice from a list of prizes offered by the Sportsmen's Alliance.

Last year's winner, Bob Paar, used his prize voucher to get his son Gunnar a hunting bow.

IAMAW is a charter member of United Sportsman's Alliance, an organization whose mission is to unite Union hunters, fishermen and outdoorsmen into a community to promote hunter safety, improve conservation efforts and wildlife habitat, and have fun while doing it.

Congratulations to Tom.

Activities for You and Your Family

- **Delegates to Milwaukee Area Labor Council: May 2, 2012.** All meetings start at **6:30PM.**
- **United Lodge 66 Business Meeting** is Friday, **May 11, 2012 at 7PM.**
- **Delegates to District 10: May 14, 2012.** All meetings start at **7:30PM.**
- **United Lodge 66 Education Night** : Thursday, **May 17, 2012** will start at **7PM.**
Topic : Hunters Safety, Larry Morrow Lodge 66 Vice President will be the speaker.
- **126th Anniversary of the Bay View Tragedy** will be held **May 6, 2012** starting at **3PM** at the Bay View Rolling Mills Historical Marker Site, South Superior St. and East Russell Ave., Milwaukee
- **Get out and Vote Tuesday May 8, 2012**
- 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.

Lodge 66 Badge Night

United Lodge 66 Badge Night will be held on June 9th 2012. Acknowledgements for service will be sent out soon to those receiving badges this year. This is an invitation only event. Honorees are selected from a list received from the International Machinist Union. We start with members with 15 years of continuous membership and moving up the years in 5year increments up to 50 years or more. When you receive your notification please RSVP to the Lodge by mailing the RSVP card back to:

**United Lodge 66
2611 W. Oklahoma Ave
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215**

The Executive Board and volunteers who put on the event are proud to recognize those Union members and their years of service. RSVP early so we can make this night memorable for all who attend.

Last year we had 4 members who had 50 years of Union Membership.



STEWARD TRAINING

Saturday May 19th 2012

9 am to 4 pm

All Shop Chairs, Committee Persons, Stewards (newly elected or seasoned) are encouraged to attend. This is a great training for both new and seasoned people. This training will provide the knowledge and tools needed by Shop Stewards to represent the members in their Bargaining Units.

Steward Training is hosted by United Lodge 66. Ed Manhart from the IAM Midwest Territories will be presenting the class information.

**Training will be held at the
United Lodge 66 Hall**

2609 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee, WI

Lodge 66 will provide lunch, refreshments and will pay mileage from your shop to the Hall.

Please notify your members of this training and RSVP the lodge office at 414 -671-3800 with the number of members attending as soon as possible, so we will have sufficient training materials on hand.

The last day to RSVP is May 14th 2012

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.

2012 Fair Trade Crawl

On May 12th Milwaukee will once again join other cities worldwide to celebrate [World Fair Trade Day](#).

This is a day on which we should remember the working conditions of the people who make the products and foods we use every day. By supporting Fair Trade Day throughout the year, we are helping to fight modern day slavery and human trafficking.

The Fair Trade Coalition will host Milwaukee's **5th annual Fair Trade Crawl** which runs in conjunction with **World Fair Trade Day**. The crawl is supported by over 20 locally owned stores and shops in the Milwaukee area.

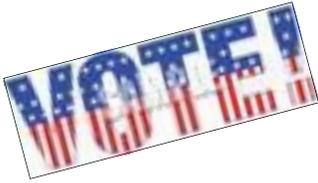
Crawlers go from shop to shop, learning about Fair Trade Day and seeing featured items in each shop. Many of the businesses will have specials on that day, and many of the shops will have samples.

Crawl hours are 10am to 5pm.

The crawl and the World Fair Trade Day are the day before Mothers Day. It will give you a perfect opportunity to find that perfect, unique gift for Mom this year for her day while learning about and supporting the rights of workers around the world.

To find a list of the shops and their locations, visit <http://www.milwaukeefairtradecoalition.org>

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Machinists Union LL66 Officers

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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>

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 Brother 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: Brother Ron Simmelink, 920-627-0325, from Kieffer & Company in Sheboygan.