

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 12 No. 8

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

August 2009

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

August 14, 2009

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 September edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is August 17.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. **See last page.**
- Education Evening for August is suspended.

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dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio

Fight for the Unborn Take Care of the Elderly Anyone in Between -

You Are On Your Own

This should not be the American Way. We are the only industrial nation on this planet to let its citizens go into bankruptcy because of medical care. Lose your job and see how your family is taken care of. Watch more jobs leave this country or go into the non-Union sector and see how your employer expects workers to pay more and get less coverage.

There was no health care for workers or families until the Union Movement fought for health care during the World War II era. The employer based health care worked for the previous 50 years, but due to rising costs and decreasing benefits it can no longer work in the future. The countries where foreign products are made, which Americans buy, have some type of universal health care. With universal health care the costs are fixed and employers can add this into the product. The cost is lower since the burden is spread over the entire population of a country. In American we still have the John Wayne mentality of going it alone.

Workers need to ask Paul Ryan, what kind of health insurance do you have? Who is paying for your health care? What type of retirement health care do you have? Who will be paying for your retiree health care? Ryan wants his family to have the best but not you. This is wrong and he is wrong as well, as is any other politician who is living off the tax payer. **What is good for our elected representatives is good for the tax payer.**

dwc

Changing Worker Class

"You could see people going from being labor people to being Democrats to being Republicans. Benefits that came from organized labor and higher wages produced a class of people that thought themselves above the labor class."

Milwaukee Mayor
Frank Zeidler,
1948 to 1960



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

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



Members of United Lodge 66 who are members of the Union Sportsmen's Alliance will be able to participate in a gun raffle at our September 11, 2009 meeting. We will be raffling off: (a) Made in USA Beretta 3901- 12 gauge semi automatic shotgun; (b) Union Made in the USA Remington 770 rifle with scope, 30.06 caliber. The winner will be responsible for a processing fee and must be willing to have a photo taken.

Gun Raffle

The USA is a one of a kind, hunting and fishing association of the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP) and its trade Union partners. It is exclusively for conservation minded Union members, retirees and their families that hunt, fish and appreciate the outdoors.

Join the USA for an annual fee of just \$25 and enjoy the following:

- Personalized USA membership card
- USA Logo Buck Knife
- Money-saving discounts on outdoor gear and services
- 1-Year subscription to a top outdoor magazine (\$31.92 value)
- \$25 gift certificate from Beretta field gear
- Chances to win exceptional prizes and trips
- Full access to MyTopo.com (\$29.95 value)
- Access to the "Members-Only" section of the USA website
- Free membership in the TRCP

That's a value of more than \$117, plus extra savings with deals and discounts!

All members of Lodge 66 and Union Sportsmen's Alliance are automatically entered into the **Gun Raffle on 9/11/2009.**

Only USA members of Lodge 66 can take part in the **Gun Raffle on 9/11/2009.**

Members of Lodge 66 and USA members can purchase additional raffle tickets at the door at a price of \$5.00 for the **Gun Raffle on 9/11/2009.**

Make sure when you join USA that you put down **IAM and Lodge 66.** Some members have put down Lodge 1430, 34, 437 or 1493. These Lodges no longer exist and you would not be in the Lodge 66 **Gun Raffle on 9/11/2009.**

All members of Lodge 66 who have joined USA must let us know that you did join so no one will be left out of the **Gun Raffle on 9/11/2009.**

Activities for You and Your Family

- **Delegate to Milwaukee Area Labor Council:** August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4 and December 2. All meetings start at 6:30PM.
- Laborfest is Monday, **September 7, 2009** from 9AM to 5PM. This is open to all members and their families. Be part of working families in the Labor Day Parade and enjoy the Summerfest Grounds.
- Union Sportsmen's Alliance and United Lodge 66 **GUN RAFFLE** is **September 11, 2009** at your Lodge Business Meeting. You must belong to USA and be a member of United Lodge 66. The two guns are: (a) Made in USA Beretta 3901- 12 gauge semi automatic shotgun; (b) Union Made in the USA Remington 770 rifle with scope, 30.06 caliber. USA applications are available from your shop chair or from the Lodge.

IAMUNION

Train the Trainer

by Dave Russell

I would like to thank LL66 members for sending me to the Train the Trainer class, which is the 4th and last class for Leadership Training. When I first got there I thought what did I get myself into after hearing that this class is all about public speaking which most of us do not like to do. After the first day of class we had to give a 2 minute talk on a topic you pulled out of a hat. You did not know what it would be or if you knew anything about it. As it turned out we all did it and saw it was not so bad after all, but then we were told our assignment for the next day was to give a 10 minute talk on a subject of your choice. Now you had time to prepare your info. That night we were done with our homework about 7:30PM. At the end of the second day we were given an assignment for Thursday morning and that was a 30 minute training talk, with help from our Union brothers and sisters and instructors. We had two nights to study and get ready. Everyone in class did this assignment and it showed us all that it was easier to do the 30 minute talk than it was to do the 2 minute talk that you were not prepared for. I would like to say anyone going to the leadership school needs to follow through to the end. Again I would like to say thanks and I wish there were more classes to go to and maybe someday there will be.



Health Care Reform

by James Cobb

Over the last century Healthcare Reformers and the American Health Association have not always been in agreement and the majority of the time, they disagree on healthcare for the citizens of America.

- 1901, The American Medical Association (AMA) becomes a national organization.
- Early 1900's, railroads are the leaders in developing employee medical programs.
- 1910, members in the AMA have grown to 70,000 doctors.
- 1912, American Association for Labor Legislation (AALL) begins to study compulsory health insurance.
- 1915, AALL produces a health care bill and allies with other organizations to lobby legislators.
- 1917, AMA actively opposes health care legislation. US entry into WWI derails the health care bill.
- 1920, health care reform hopes end when a bill before the New York State assembly is voted down.
- 1921, the League of Women Voters and other women's groups lobby to pass the Sheppard-Towner Act allowing the Federal government to assist states to fund maternity and child health programs.
- 1920's, doctors cultural influence increases.
- 1927, AMA lobbies against the Sheppard-Towner Act and it is not renewed.
- 1930's, the Journal for American Medical Association article "equates health insurance with socialism, communism, inciting to revolution."
- 1935, President Franklin Roosevelt signs Social Security Act but without a healthcare program.
- 1935, Blue Cross begins selling health insurance to the public.
- 1940's, competing for workers, more employers begin offering health care coverage.
- 1942, health insurance premiums become deductible to employers but not to individuals.
- 1949, President Truman proposes a national health plan for all Americans. The AMA calls this communism.
- 1950's, Welfare services, inadequate and restrictive, are used for the poor. Private insurance has become the standard for the middle class and the wealthy. Many other systems are proposed but with no support from the AMA.
- 1960's, a record is distributed: "Ronald Reagan Speaks Out Against Socialized Medicine."
- 1962, President Kennedy tries to extend Social Security to include health insurance for the elderly.
- 1965, Medicare is created but with limited oversight and restrictions leading to higher costs.
- 1973, President Nixon creates and Congress passes the HMO Act which effectively eliminated affordable individual insurance.
- 1980's, hospitals and other medical facilities are increasingly run by for-profit corporations.
- 1992, Hilary Clinton proposed a reform package which is vigorously opposed by AMA lobbyists.
- 2007, Michael Moore's film, Sicko, wins 7 Oscars and outlines the debate over Health Care reform and shocks the public with the story that terrorists at Guantanamo Bay received better health care than 9/11 rescue workers.
- 2008, Barack Obama is elected President and promises to tackle health care reform.
- 2009, in a speech to the AMA, President Obama emphasizes rewarding quality of care rather than quantity of care.
- 2009, The AMA releases a statement supporting reform and outlining it's commitment "to affordable, high quality health care coverage for all Americans."

There are a lot of folks on the far right talking about healthcare these days.

Some of the things they are saying: Healthcare reform will cost too much. Government bureaucrats will be the decision makes between the patient and the doctor. A single payer system will penalize small business. Government sponsored health-care would put people out of work.

Let us look at some the these issues.

Currently, healthcare costs too much right now. Anyone who's had a medical procedure can tell you even a simple test can run into hundreds if not thousands of dollars. Even working families with insurance are usually asked to share the costs with their employer, paying anywhere from \$175 and up per month, depending on their age, the number of dependants who are on their plan and the quality of the policy. Add, co-pays and deductibles, and healthcare is not cheap for even the insured. In fact, 67% of our nation's bankruptcies can be directly traced to health care costs.

Who pays for the millions of uninsured working families who need healthcare? We all do in one form or another. Just as the high cost of oil and gas impacts food prices at the grocery store, as the costs of harvesting and transportation rise, so do the hospitals and medical clinics raise prices to subsidize the cost of treating the uninsured.

Furthermore the people who are the least likely to have insurance are those in low paying jobs and they are the least likely to stay home when they are sick. They share their illness with all of us: wait staff, store clerks, day care workers and day labor workers.

Government bureaucrats making health care decisions? Who has not heard the horror stories of cancer treatments denied or people discharged from hospitals too soon after major surgery because a health insurance bureaucrat decided that their bottom line was more important than the care a doctor had determined was necessary?

(continue page 5)

UNEMPLOYMENT LIFELINE

Many working families are struggling in these uncertain times. This website may be helpful, <http://www.unemploymentlifeline.com>. It is a one stop guide that links workers to the resources available in our area, from unemployment offices to veteran's services to child care. It also offers the opportunity to talk to others and share support and lessons learned.

If members do not have internet access then there is the public library or they can come into their Union Office. Just call us in advance.

<http://www.unemploymentlifeline.com>

Opportunity.gov

Visit this site for possible education aid for laid off workers. The President recently announced that unemployed workers receiving unemployment benefits may qualify for a special hand in paying for education and training. Aid can be significant: In particular, the Federal Pell Grant program can provide up to \$5350 for education costs at community colleges, colleges and universities and many trade and technical schools.

<http://federalstudentaid.ed.gov/opportunity/index.html>

ACCESS

Your Connection to Health and Nutrition Benefits

Wisconsin's internet tool, access.wisconsin.gov, for getting and managing your low or no-cost health and nutrition benefits.

- Find out which low or no-cost health, nutrition or other programs you may be able to get.
- Apply online for FoodShare, Medicaid/Badger Care and the Family Planning Waiver Program.
- Get up-to-date information about your benefits.
- Report some changes online.

<http://access.wisconsin.gov>

March in the September 7, 2009 Milwaukee Laborfest Parade. You need to pre-register to get a shirt from LL66. The parade starts at 11AM and the activities end at 5PM.

A day of music, refreshments and free entertainment for your family at the Summerfest Grounds.



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.



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.

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Get Connected and Get Answers

Simply dial "2-1-1" for help with a variety of basic life needs and personal issues.

Free and confidential, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

Call for help with:

- **Healthcare** - referrals to clinics for people who are uninsured or cannot afford to pay for healthcare.
- **Alcohol & other drug abuse** - direct connections to certified professionals.
- **Food** - locate pantries, meal sites, summer youth meal sites.
- **Shelter** - locate emergency shelter, day shelter, domestic violence shelters.

2-1-1 @ Impact can answer your questions about:

- **BadgerCare Plus:** Health care coverage for uninsured families.
- **FoodShare:** helps low income families and individuals buy nutritious food.
- **Wisconsin Family Planning Waiver:** is a Wisconsin Medicaid program which offers low income women free, confidential reproductive health care.
- **iCare:** medical, dental, behavioral health, vision, prescription drugs, and social services benefits.
- **IDAP:** Interim Disability Assistance Program.
- **Medicaid:** A state/federal assistance program that helps certain needy and low income people pay their medical bills.
- **SSI:** Supplemental Security Income.
- **W-2:** Wisconsin Works
- **WIC:** Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children.
- ... and More

By cell phone use 1-866-211-3380.

Old Cars and Zucchini Soup?

George and Bonnie both work at Kieffer Sign and spend a portion of their summer at car shows and bringing home a few trophies as well as sharing one of their favorite recipes.

Zucchini Soup

- 1 lb Jimmy Dean pork sausage
- 2 cups diced celery
- 2 lbs zucchini diced (6 cups)
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 cans tomatoes (28 oz)
- 2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1/2 tsp basil
- 1 tsp Italian seasoning
- 1 tsp oregano
- 1/4 cup garlic powder

Brown meat, drain the liquid from the meat and add celery. Cook for 10 minutes.

Now add all the other ingredients and cook.

Enjoy.



Bonnie and George with one of their trophies

(continued Health Care Reform)

The reality is under Medicaid administration costs are about \$.03 from every dollar while under private pay insurance they are about \$.35 for every dollar. As Barack Obama said recently in his address to the AMA, “you (doctors) entered this profession to be healers and that is what our health care system should let you be.”

A single payer system will ease the burden on small businesses despite what those on the far right will tell you. According to John Conyers (D-MI) the current cost of ensuring an employee with a family for is around \$11,500 with the employer paying 74% of that cost and the employee paying the balance. Under the proposed single payer system the business would pay around \$2700 for the year.

Under Conyer’s plan the total out of pocket healthcare cost for a family of our with a median income of \$56,200 would drop from a current national average of \$4225 to \$2700. Furthermore insurance and other healthcare industry workers displaced by the transition to the new plan would be given first consideration for jobs within the new system and be given retraining and in necessary extended unemployment benefits.

I urge you to look at the Conyers plan, HR 676, and make your own decision. His website is <http://conyers.house.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Issues.Home>.

Then when you hear someone talking about healthcare, speak up.

Who Are You???

Since the November 2008 election, the Union office has received mail from several members regarding information that is sent out to shop committees. These members are objecting to having flyers sent to them promoting President Obama’s agenda and have asked to be taken off the Local’s mailing list. The members do not always identify themselves and until they do they will continue to get postings and information from the Local.

If these requests are coming from shop committee chairs or members of shop committees, it is your responsibility to see that members of your shop are notified of ANY communications you receive from Local Lodge 66 whether you agree with the position taken by the IAMAW or not. If you cannot fulfill this responsibility, I strongly suggest you turn in your resignation to the District 10 business agent representing your shop and let someone willing to keep members informed be elected or appointed to your position.

We will not remove entire shops from the mailing list. If members do not want information or do not want to be contacted by the Lodge, they need to do so in writing to the Local on an individual basis. To take entire shops off the mailing list at the request of one member (who doesn’t have the courage to identify him or herself) is a disservice to anyone who may want the information.

Patricia Elizondo

Seniors Corner

Join the Wisconsin ARA Chapter,
6333 W. Bluemound Road, Milwaukee, 53213. (414-771-9511) Yearly dues are \$10.00.

[http:// www.wisconsinara.org](http://www.wisconsinara.org)

Alliance for Retired Americans
888-16th Street, NW Suite 520
Washington, DC 20006
202-974-8222 or 888-373-6497
Fax 202-974-8256

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
- \$10.00 for large
- \$10.00 for X-large
- \$11.50 for XX-large
- \$11.50 for 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.

Directory for District 10 Office,

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

Bill Christianson	24
Mike Hornby	13
Russ Krings	19
Don Griffin	20
Ben Elizondo	23
Patrick O'Connor	17
Scott Parr	18
Keith Smith	16

Fee for Service Health Care

Has built in increasing health care costs

And decreasing coverage and services

To continue just expect more of the same

HIRE Center

Help In Re-Employment
816 W. National Avenue, 2nd Floor
Milwaukee, WI
414-385-6920

'Dislocated Worker Program'

Daytime Office Hours 8AM to 4:30PM

or business can be done by mail;
dropped in the mail slot at 2611 W.
Oklahoma Avenue; or on the nights of
our Business Meeting or
Education Evening

Officers, LL66 Machinists Union

President Patricia Elizondo
Vice President Bob Paar
Recording Secretary Mike Pietrzykowski
Secretary Treasurer . . Doug Curler
Conductor Sentinel . Bunny Browning
Trustees: Dave Spengler, Darrell Rasch, Dave Russell
Communicator James Cobb
Educator Patricia Elizondo
Editor Doug Curler
Notary Public Doug Curler

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>

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Car Pooling from Kenosha

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

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**WE DESERVE
THE SAME
HEALTH INSURANCE
AS OUR
ELECTED
REPRESENTATIVES**

**STOP
INSURANCE
INFLATION**