

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 13 No. 8

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

August 2010

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting September 10, 2010 (August Cancelled)

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 2010 edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is August 17.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. **See last page.**
- August Business Meeting is cancelled.

CONTENTS:

Activities for You	Pg 2
Our National Deficit	Pg 2
Laborfest	Pg 3
Labor 2010	Pg 4
Big Government	Pg 4
Seniors Corner	Pg 5
<u>JOBS NOW!</u>	Pg 6

dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio



**United Lodge 66
and its members** are again partners with the USA group to offer the chance to

win a firearm or \$350.00 gift certificate, from one of our local sporting goods stores, for those members who do not want a gun.

We will be **holding a drawing for these prizes at our September 10, 2010 Lodge Business Meeting.** You need not be present to win but you must be a United Lodge 66 Union member in good standing and be a paid up USA member.

USA is an affiliation of several International Unions, Local Unions and also have a close relationship with the Teddy Roosevelt Conservation Partnership. These organizations work together to give Union hunters and anglers a voice in national conservation policy. USA's mission is to improve and expand hunting and fishing access.

"USA offers Union members the chance to organize, sustain and defend a uniquely American way of life, outdoor heritage both for themselves and for their children and grandchildren to enjoy," said AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka.



USA 1st Annual Sportsmen's Night

When: September 27, 2010 7PM until end of game.

Location: Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, 2040 Airport Drive Green Bay, WI 53413

This event will be held in conjunction with the Wisconsin AFL-CIO convention. The Packers vs Bears will be on jumbo screens and will be a night of food, beverages, prizes and gun giveaways. More information will follow.



United Lodge 66
Hall and
Union Office
is
SMOKE FREE.

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

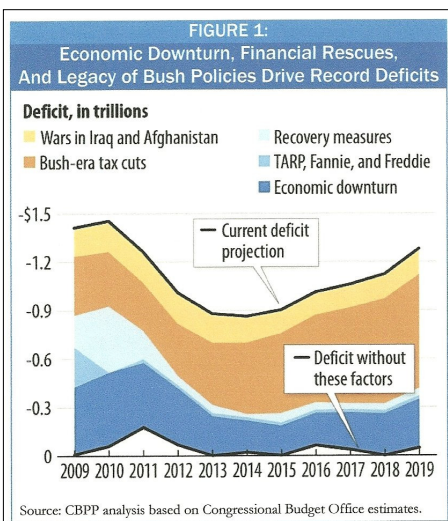
Here is a local, with state wide affiliations, *of working women* seeking to promote good family supporting jobs. Get involved with this group to make your worklife and family life more fulfilling. The Wisconsin Chapter has a website at: www.womenintradewi.org for more information with your contact information.

Study Reveals Top Three Deficit Causes

Critics who bash Congress and the Obama administration's stimulus and jobs programs as the cause of the nation's high deficits ignore the main sources of the wave of red ink: the Bush-era tax cuts, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the economic downturn.

A new study by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities shows that "Just two policies dating from the Bush Administration – tax cuts and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan – accounted for over \$500 billion of the deficit in 2009 and will account for almost \$7 trillion in deficits in 2009 through 2019 ... These impacts easily dwarf the stimulus and financial rescues."

The Bush tax cuts, where most of the benefits went to the wealthiest Americans, the war in Iraq, which the Bush Administration predicted would be paid for with oil revenues from Iraq, and the war in Afghanistan were adding billions to government



spending when the recession began in 2007. As the recession deepened into the Great Recession, the Congressional Budget Office issued a report in January 2009, two weeks before President Obama was sworn in, that the 2009 deficit would be "well over \$1 trillion."

The spending on economic stimulus and job creation programs are a small part of the deficit and will decrease over time, while the Bush tax cuts, if extended, will widen the deficit in future years. The Obama Administration has proposed keeping the tax cuts for middle-class families intact while letting the tax cuts for wealthy Americans expire.

Source: Imai, July 28, 2010)

Milwaukee Company has the Write Stuff

Every time the President signs a bill into law, he's endorsing a Union Made product.

With two factories, one in West Allis and another in North Carolina, SkilCraft Pens supplies the U.S. government with 4 millions of their pens each year. The company also makes cleaning supplies, including brooms and mops, and the government is a major client.

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel recently spotlighted the company. The 160 employees at the West Allis facility mentioned in the Journal Sentinel article work for SkilCraft under the control of Industries for the Blind, Inc., and are members of IAM Local Lodge 66.

These workers can be proud of producing a quality product. Their pens have been in use in our nation's capital, on military bases, in the Post Office, and in U.S. embassies around the world since 1970. Retired military personnel still remember "those black pens" that even wrote in the rain.

The Wagner-O'Day Act of 1938 mandated federal agencies to buy supplies made by disabled workers. Out of this grew an industry that employs disabled Americans and keeps our government using American-made products. Now that's something to write home about!

JEC/LL66 communicator

Activities for You and Your Family

- **Delegate to Milwaukee Area Labor Council: August 4** in 2010. All meetings start at 6:30PM.
- **September 6, 2010 from 9:00AM to 5:00PM** is Laborfest.
- **Wisconsin State Fair Union Labor Booth, August 5 to August 15, 2010.** The Milwaukee Area Labor Council and Wisconsin AFL-CIO have a booth to profile our jobs and activities in the community. If you want to volunteer a few hours to staff the booth and get free admission to the fair then call Robin at the Labor Council at 414-771-7070.
- 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.
- The August Friday Night Business Meeting has been cancelled by a vote of the membership.
- **Gun drawing or gift certificate** for USA and United Lodge 66 members is on **September 10, 2010.**
- Union Sportsmen's Alliance **1st Annual Sportsmen's Night** is **September 27, 2010** in Green Bay, Wisconsin
- The United Lodge 66 building is **smoke free.**
- **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.**



Senate Breaks GOP Stall on Unemployment Extension

By a 60 to 40 vote, the Senate voted, on July 20, 2010, for cloture on the unemployment extension bill, clearing the way for 2.5 million people to receive retroactive benefits. A final vote did happen on July 25 to increase the extension..

For months, Republican leaders have been blocking legislation to extend jobless benefits citing concerns over the \$34 billion add to the budget deficit. However, in the same breath, GOP lawmakers have called for \$3 trillion worth of extensions on Bush tax cuts for the wealthy – without any offsets.

“After years of championing policies that turned a record surplus into a massive deficit, the same people who didn’t have any problem spending hundreds of billions of dollars on tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans are now saying we shouldn’t offer relief to middle-class Americans,” said President Obama in an address on the economy Monday. “It’s time to stop holding workers laid off in this recession hostage to Washington politics. It’s time to do what’s right – not for the next election but for the middle class.”

The House is expected to take up the measure after the Senate. However, thanks to the Republican stalemate, the bill in its current form is a far cry from its original version introduced last month. While the legislation extends benefits to November, unlike Congress’ previous series of 30-day extensions, it does not extend a 65 percent COBRA subsidy. It does not create an additional fifth tier of benefits for individuals out of work longer than 99 weeks. It does not include an extension of an additional \$25 per week in benefits, as provided by last year’s stimulus package. And, it does not include funds to keep teachers and other state employees on the job.

On July 18, 2010, President Obama stated, “Republicans have no problem spending money on tax breaks for folks at the top who don’t need them and didn’t even ask for them; but they object to helping folks laid off in this recession who really do need help.” (source: McClatchy News Service)



Labor 2010

The Labor 2010 Member to Member Walk is being held:

**Saturday, August 7, 2010
9AM to 1PM**

**Milwaukee Area Labor Council
633 S. Hawley Road
Milwaukee, WI 53214**

**Additional walks to be held
August 21st and 28th,
locations to be determined.**

This year’s elections for Governor and Senate will provide a stark contrast between candidates who will stand up for working families and support policies that create jobs, and candidates who will support Wall Street and maintain the large tax breaks for the wealthy.

Join in the door to door to talk with working families about our endorsed candidates. Following the walk with be lunch and refreshment.

Bring yourself and family members.

For more information or to sign up call Wisconsin AFLCIO Service Area Organizer Jenisse Volpintesta at 414-771-7070 or email jvolpintesta@wisafclcio.org.

United Lodge 66 members participating in the walk will receive a Machinists Union T-shirt and cap.

Laborfest 2010

September 6, 2010 from 9AM to 5PM will be our time to celebrate and relax among thousands of Union members and friends at the Summerfest Grounds. It begins with a parade from Zeidler Union Square at 4th and Michigan Avenue, Milwaukee at 11:00AM. We march to the Summerfest grounds for five hours of entertainment, good food and some refreshments. There will be free games and drawings for children as well as the 5:00PM drawing for a 2010 Harley Davidson Motorcycle.

Those members from United Lodge 66 who march in the parade will receive a free T-Shirt. **You need to pre-register at the Lodge for the shirt. We need your name and size.** Taking care of the shirts and tickets will be Dave Russell, shop chair at Badger Meter and Lodge Trustee.



Let your children and grandchildren enjoy a day on the Summerfest grounds

Online version: Click on the picture and see what you missed in 2009.

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.



dwc

Big Government

Good or Bad?

By James Cobb, LL66 communicator

The Tea Party may be onto something: big government is a bad idea.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission recently determined that high levels of cadmium were found in Shrek-themed giveaway glasses from McDonalds, and forced a recall. Just another instance of the government meddling in our lives.

You may remember the CPSC from other intrusions into our lives; in the past they've told us that we can't give our children toys with unsafe levels of lead in the paint, or use cribs that pose a hazard to small children who can stick their heads between the rails and strangle. Dammit, if red-blooded American children want to harm themselves, the government shouldn't stop them.

It's not just the CPSC that provides governmental interference; the Food and Drug administration stopped the sale of salmonella-tainted peanut products just this February, and has recently been responsible for meddling in our medicine cabinets to tell us we can't give our children such medications as Pedialyte and Ciproflaxin, which were found to be in violation of production and packaging standards.

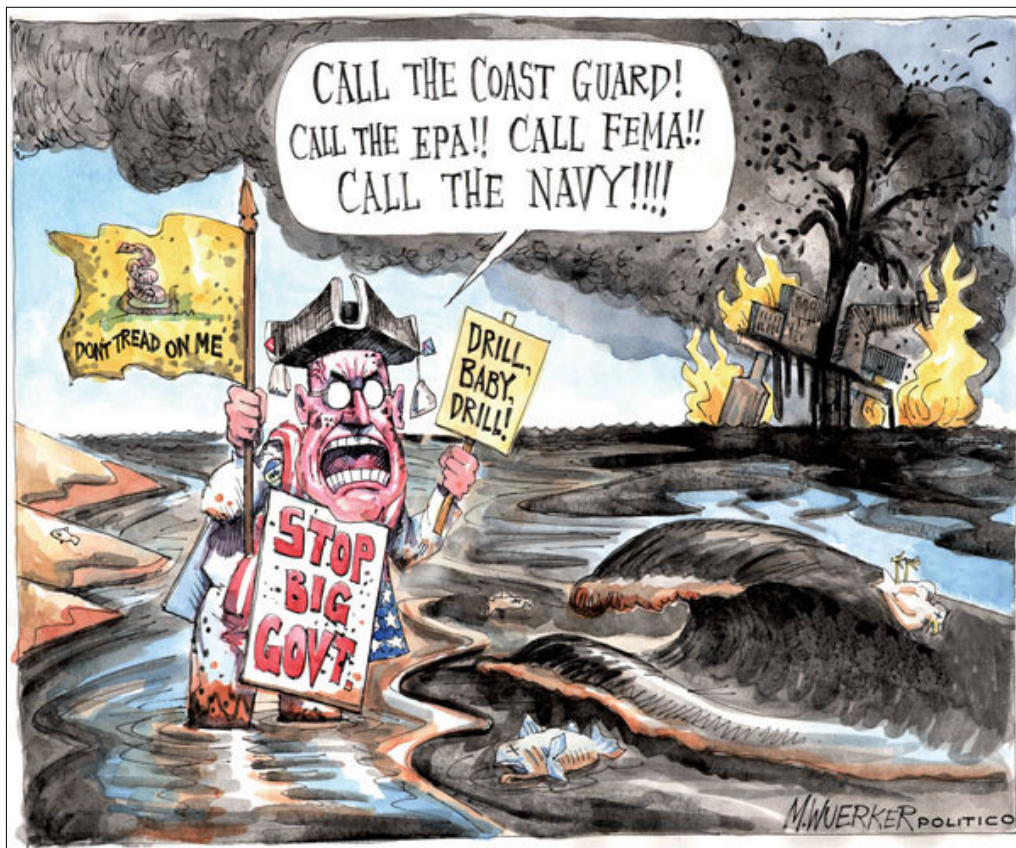
The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is another one of those regulatory agencies that interferes with everyday Americans. They want to interfere with certain people's rights to possess guns and explosives – people like violent criminals, felons and the like. They also want to make sure that the beer, wine and alcohol we drink is safely produced and, of course, has proper tax stamps on it. That tax revenue goes to – you guessed it – funding more government interference in our lives.

More examples of government meddling include the funding of public libraries, infrastructure – a blanket term for things like freeway maintenance, power grids and sewage disposal.

And don't get me started on the EPA – the governmental agency devoted to keeping pollutants out of our drinking water and not allowing factories to vent toxic gases into our atmosphere.

Sign me up for the Tea Party. Make sure my tea is brewed with water laden with as much e. coli and cryptosporidium and arsenic as it is my right to have. And if I do get sick, whatever you do, don't give me none of that there Obamacare.

Damn big government, anyway.



Deceased Members

Our request is for shop chairs to immediately inform the Lodge when a member passes away.

The Lodge does offer a bible to the family of a deceased member but we need to know their faith.



dwc

Union Members and Veterans



Memorial Day Parade with Union members and Veterans

The Union Veterans Committee is asking for Union Members and Veterans to join in the Laborfest Parade to have **Union Veterans** march behind the color guard. If you want to be a part then of this or future events, **contact Mike Balistriere at 414-771-9829 or mikeaflcio@sbcglobal.net.**

Shirts with the logo "I serve my Country and my Union" will be available for those who march.

dwc

Machinists Union Apparel

Your Union office has a complete list of all the Machinists Union clothing available from our Internationals Stockroom. Recently we did receive a colored page showing Women's Merchandise. Stop in at your office or at the Union Meeting to look it over and order the merchandise you need at your convenience.

Visit www.iamstore.org and order right from your home.

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

Comments from Fiscal Commissioners, New Study Concern Seniors

On Sunday, the co-chairmen of President **Barack Obama's** fiscal commission offered an ominous assessment of the nation's economic future, calling current budgetary trends a "cancer" that will destroy the country from within unless checked by tough actions in Washington. The two leaders - **Alan Simpson** and **Ersine Bowles** - singled out Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, saying that the three programs fully consume federal revenue. The commission looks to reduce the deficit primarily through spending cuts and additional revenue. Separately, a new study by the Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR) finds that if the Social Security benefit cuts and retirement age increases that have been widely suggested were adopted, they would have a substantially negative impact on low- and middle-income families. The report, "The Impact of Social Security Cuts on Retiree Income," is available at <http://bit.ly/dplKBb>. "Social Security and Medicare have helped generations of seniors stay healthy and out of poverty," Alliance Executive Director **Edward F. Coyle** argued. **"Balancing the budget on the backs of seniors is absolutely not the solution."**

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

Car Pooling

From Kenosha: Want to car-pool 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 either: Ron Simmelink, 920-627-0325, from Kieffer & Company in Sheboygan.



Demand Your Representative Support the Local Jobs for America Act

- After more than a year since the launch of the IAM's JOBS Now! Campaign, legislation to quickly reverse the high unemployment by hiring the unemployed to work in the public sector has finally been introduced.
- The Local Jobs for America Act, introduced by Rep. George Mill, Chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, aims to invest \$75 billion for local communities to hire vital staff. The legislation provides for on-the-job training in the private sector in order to help local businesses put people back to work, as well.
- Miller estimates the bill will create a million full time public and private jobs this year.
- Show your support for this first real step towards economic recovery. [Send a letter to you Congressperson and urge them to co-sponsor Re. Miller's Local Jobs for America Act today.](#) (for online versions of the newsletter click on the short cut; or we will send the information to members getting the newsletter by hard copy.)

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

dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio

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>

dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio

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

