

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 10 No. 8

August 2007

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

August 10, 2007

7:00 PM

at:

2611 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.**

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Dual Endorsement by Machinists Union

For two days in late August Democratic and Republican presidential candidates will be invited to appear at a Machinists Union National Staff Conference.

After which the attendees **will endorse a primary candidate from both parties.**

Once the primaries are done the Machinists Union will make its customary recommendation.

YouTube.com

<http://www.youtube.com/BadgerLodge> is our site with videos about United Lodge 66. This was just started and we would like members to ask their employer if we may come into your location and show off our workplaces. Ask them and get back to us. As of now we have two videos: one about Ocean Spray; the other from our Veterans/Badge night.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/FranticHarbor> is the main site for Machinists Union Lodges to display their videos. All Machinists Union members need to be hooked into our communications. Our headquarters puts out a few videos each week to keep us informed. **If you are not on their list then you definitely are not informed!**



Mad Magazine

(review is from online Buzzflash)

"George W. Bush might be the worst thing to happen to America, but he's been the best thing to happen to MAD Magazine. MAD's been around for over 50 years, but the last time I remember it being funny was when I was 12. (And it's probably a good idea to take even that with a grain of salt—that was back when I thought Adam Sandler was the funniest man on the planet.) Settling into a lazy, familiar routine of spoofing blockbusters and regurgitating Spy vs. Spy, MAD ceased having any relevance or bite long ago.

That is, until George W. Bush got elected. Sure, MAD has made fun of previous presidents, but never before has a president offered so much to parody and mock—and never before has MAD gone after one with as much angry vehemence and surprisingly sharp wit. Sure, everyone from The Daily Show to The Onion has benefited from Bush's xxxxups, but MAD's topped them all with intensity and nerve; some of the funniest, meanest comedy to result from Bush's presidency has been hidden in a magazine that no one reads anymore."



Election day is November 10, 2008

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

Labor Unions

Under Saddam Hussein, past Iraqi president, labor Unions were outlawed.

In July 2007 the Republicans blocked the passage of the Employee Free Choice Act which would have allowed the formation of Unions without the threats of retaliation by firing activists or the closing of operations.

When you vote and who you vote for does matter.



Winpisinger Center Welcomes New Instructor

Anne Walsh a member of Lodge 66 joined the center in July 2007 and brings a long history of helping Union members. Her position in Milwaukee, at the HIRE Center, was to assist laid off workers. Then she became an apprentice organizer, fluent in Spanish, was quickly sweep up by the Organizing Department.

She has lived in the Dominican Republic; helped out at Voces de la Frontera, a immigrant workers center in Milwaukee; and participated in Labor in the Pulpits.

We are all proud of her.

Tips for Handling Telemarketers

(from Andy Rooney, CBS Newsmen, received as an email from a member)

Three little words that work.

- (1) **The three little words** are: "Hold on, Please . . ." "Saying this, while putting down your phone and walking off (instead of hanging up immediately) would make each telemarketing call so much more time consuming that boiler room sales would grind to a halt. When you eventually hear the phone company's "beep, beep, beep" tone, you know it is time to go back and hang up your handset, which has efficiently completed its task. These three little words will eliminate telephone soliciting.
- (2) **Do you get those annoying phone calls with no one on the other end?** This is a telemarketing technique where a machine makes phone calls and records the time of day when a person answers the phone. This technique is used to determine the best time of day for a "real" sales person to call back and get someone at home. What you do after answering, if you notice there is no one there, is to immediately start **hitting your # button on the phone 6 or 7 times, as quickly as possible.** This confuses the machine that dialed the call and it kicks your number out of their system.
- (3) **Junk Mail Help:** When you get "ads" enclosed with your phone or utility bill, return these "ads" with your payment. Let the sending companies throw their own junk mail away. When you get those "pre-approved" letters in the mail for everything from credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar type junk, do not throw away the return envelope. Most of these come with postage-paid return envelopes, right? It costs them more than the regular \$.41 postage "if" and when they receive them back. It costs them nothing if you throw them away! The postage was around \$.50 before the last increase and it is according to the weight. In that case, why not get rid of some of your other junk mail and put it in these cool little, postage paid return envelopes. Send an ad for your local chimney cleaner to American Express or a pizza coupon to Citibank. Just make sure your name is not on anything you send back. You could even send the envelope back empty to keep them guessing and it still cost them money.

Let us know if you have had any success.

Activities for You and Family

- **Laborfest is September 3, 2007.** T-shirts as well as food and refreshment tickets will be available to members who march as well as there family. **BUT** you must preregister at your Union Office, 414-671-3800 or email to smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net. **We will not have shirts for those who do not march or pre-register!**
- **Machinists Union training at Placid Harbor.** Your lost time is now paid for by United Lodge 66 from the first class attended but you need to be active in your Lodge. Attend a Lodge meeting or make an arrangement to talk to the Executive Board members what you want to do and what we need done.
- **"What Women Need to Know About Retirement,"** is a 78 page E-book available on the *Lodge News* page at www.unitedlodge66.org. It is also available at www.womensretirement.org or you can attend a Lodge Meeting and we will print one out on the spot.
- Our first fall **Education Evening** is Thursday, **September, 20, 2007** at 7:00PM. As always guests are welcome.
- **WE NEED ORGANIZING LEADS FROM YOU!**



Logo on the back of our Laborfest shirts (shirts are grey)

Messages Left on Answering Machine

Your communications are very important but when leaving messages on the Lodge answering machine **members need to speak slowly, even spell your last name and leave a phone number.**

At times we can only guess who has called and at other times it is impossible to figure out who it was.

For this reason do not blame us for not getting back.

It is the policy of this office to get back to a member within one day. This was how it was with the business agent who serviced my shop and I follow his lead.

The only reason we would not get back within the one day is if we are out of town or a member does not have an answering machine or voice mail. In this case we would send a post card to that member.

Thanks for your cooperation and spread the word.

Doug Curler, Secretary Treasurer

Initiation Fee

In 2001 we did have a bylaws change to the initiation fee. The amount was changed to the amount of the dues at a respective shop.

Even though we have made this change known there are still issues. Some perspective members send in an higher amount. **When this is received the extra money is credited to the new members account.**

dwc

Coffee Klatch

We will continue the offer to get together with any shop committee at a location and time of your choice in order to explain procedures followed by this Lodge in respect to the collecting of dues. Just let us know.

You are allowed to ask questions but this should not simply be a time for members to complain but to expand a understanding.

New Member Applications

Since January 2007 we have been sending the new applications to all shop chairs. They are a three page, 8" x 11" application. Each page is clearly marked: (a) one gets forwarded, with the initiation fee to United Lodge 66; (b) one is for the new member; (c.) and one is for the payroll department at your location.

Shop chairs are not doing their job if all three copies are sent to the Lodge. Failure to give the employer a copy means the person will not get on the dues checkoff.

We have asked shop chairs to dispose of and not to use any old style applications. These may be the post card size applications on hard paper or the three page applications of only 8" x 5". We ask for you to work with us. The Lodge will send as many copies as you need and we do send along self addressed/stamped envelopes for your convenience.

If you have a person being re-employed, a new application form must be sent to the Lodge so the Lodge has current information on this person.

Lost Time Reimbursement

- You must have a W4 on file
- You must submit Member Reimbursement form: (a) select one of the five categories, schedule 15 to 19; (b) sign by applicants signature required. Business Agent Approved.

If you do not then the form will be returned until complete.



Seniors Corner

- **Medicare** is the nation's largest and most successful health insurance system, serving the health needs of 40 million senior and disabled beneficiaries. Yet, the 2003 Medicare law undermines the program and opens the door to privatization. Learn more about how the new law dismantles Medicare and what you can do to restore the promise of Medicare.
- **Prescription Drugs** and drug therapies have extended and enhanced the quality of life for many Americans, but remain too costly and out of the reach of millions. Prescription drug costs cause financial hardship and impair the health and well being of millions of older Americans. Despite passage of the 2003 Medicare law, which includes a modest drug benefit, too many seniors cannot afford the medicines they need to live. Learn more about prescription drugs and what the Alliance is doing to get a comprehensive, affordable, universal and voluntary benefit under Medicare.
- **Medicaid** provides health care coverage to 47 million low income Americans, including six million Medicare beneficiaries who receive Medicaid assistance for certain services that are not covered by Medicare, such as prescription drugs, nursing home care, eyeglasses and other medical services. The Alliance supports the expansion of Medicaid services to help the neediest among us.

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
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
- \$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.



License Plate frames are: \$1.50



Union Made In America clothing & MORE;
call 262-373-0777. Located at N35 W21100
Capitol Drive, Pewaukee, WI

YOUR Email

The lack of communications regarding opportunities for you and your family is not the result of us not trying. You can pick and choose from the events, at least you are informed, or you can pass on the activities to your friends at work.

Email: smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net

Some activities in our Labor Community, may be in our newsletter, but events happen too fast. **To be up to date sign up for the Lodge 66 Activists Email List.**

The choice is yours!

In Solidarity,

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

Officers, LL66 Machinists Union

President Patricia Elizondo
Vice President Bob Paar
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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
smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net

<http://www.unitedlodge66.org>

Daytime Office Hours on Tuesday thru Friday, 8AM to 4:30PM

or business can be done:

- by mail;
- or dropped in the mail slot;
- or on the night of a Lodge Business Meeting or Education Evening Meeting.

United Lodge 66 Machinists Union
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Milwaukee, WI 53215-4438
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www.unitedlodge66.org

dwo/iamawll66, all-cio

