

Badger Lodge News



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

Vol. 13 No. 12

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

December 2010

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

December 3, 2010

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 January 2011 edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is December 17.
- Contract Issues **MUST be settled** by your Business Agent at District 10. *See last page.*
- January 2011 **Education Evening** is January 20 at 7:00PM. Topic is: **Your 2010 Taxes!**
- **Closed for Christmas and New Years Eve, December 20 thru 24 and December 30 & 31.**



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Our Common Purpose

By Doug Curler

As a last literary good-bye from what has been a good ride. From the first time paying dues in October 1972 and asking to run for our shop committee. Not knowing with only six months in the IAM, that if I would have won, I would have been ineligible to hold the position. During my 27 years at Johnson Controls I was on the shop committee for 21 years, 9 as shop chair and 12 as committeeperson. I remember developing our own shop newsletter to get the word out to all members. It was putting items discussed between the company and the shop committee and then distributing during my lunch hour. During this time the company had no right to stop such communications, as long as you did not interrupt work. Shop committees should develop such. Communicate to your members and educate them on the purpose of Unions, to get them involved. **Our Common Purpose is not to fear activists but only the lack!**

Johnson Controls is one of many Milwaukee Manufacturers taking advantage of low wages and exploiting the workers in Mexico as it moved its operations over the border. To my benefit it provided the opportunity to move on and take on new challenges within United Lodge 66. It started as secretary treasurer for this great United Lodge 66, originally called Badger Lodge 66, in 1993 as part time and full time in 1997. We are the best and have been here longer than any Local Lodge in Wisconsin, even our District came after us. We have survived where others failed. As I told the executive board and the members at our November 12 business meeting my best efforts were to make sure *we are solvent*. We have modified our bylaws after seeing the failing of other local lodges.

Our lodge communications changed when I proposed a newsletter and as I recall then President Tom Gadowski stated, "If you start it you better be able to continue." That I have done for the last 14 years. From this simple beginning came our website and youtube site and with it a few awards.

The picture represents my other life at Ojibwa Bow Hunters, in New Berlin. The plaque is about a moment, on April 9, 2004, in the Iraq War and the events involving my son as part of the Wisconsin National Guard, 32nd Military Police and the patrol they were on that night. For those 'patriots' who supported Bush and do not know what took place that night, shame on you!

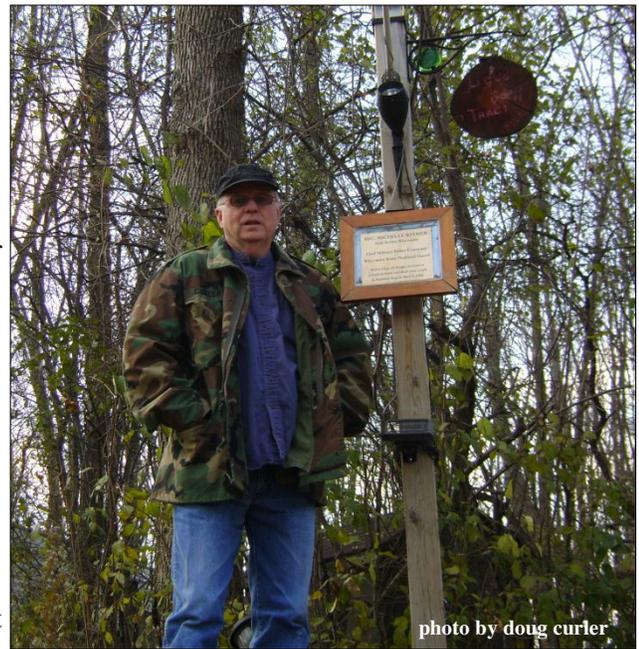


photo by doug curler



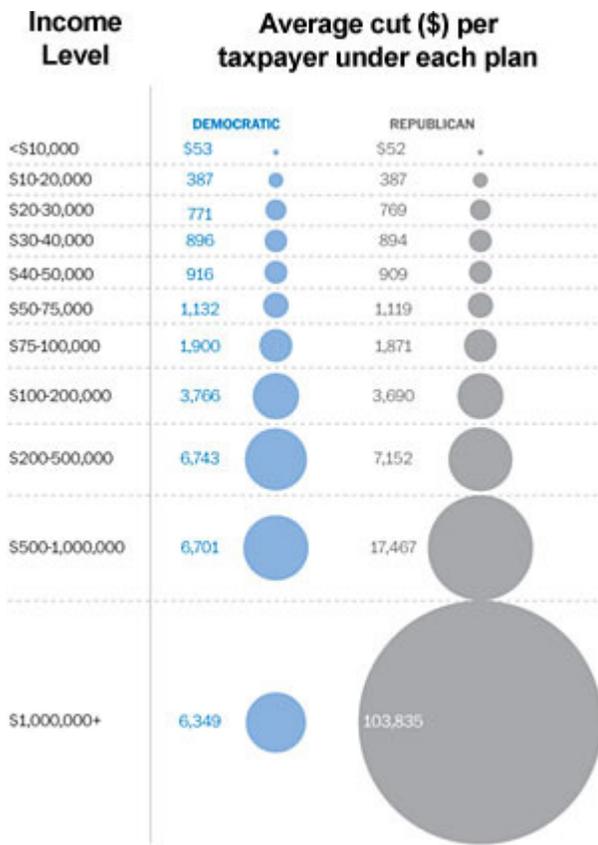
United Lodge 66
Hall and
Union Office
is
SMOKE FREE.

(continue on Page 2)

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

'Absolute Insanity' to Keep Bush Tax Cuts for Wealthy

By James Parks, AFLCIO Now Blog



Republicans on Capitol Hill want to extend the Bush-era tax cuts for the rich, which are set to expire at the end of the year.

President Obama and congressional Democrats want to extend the cuts for middle- and lower-income families, but not for persons making \$250,000 or more.

The Bush tax cuts never came close to living up to the promise that they would create jobs—we actually *lost* private-sector jobs under the Bush administration. Extending the tax breaks for the wealthy also would add billions to the national deficit.

In a statement today, AFL-CIO President **Richard Trumka said** it is “absolutely insane” that in these tough economic times some people want to continue the “tax give-aways to millionaires while working families are losing their

jobs, their benefits and their homes.”

We need to focus on creating jobs by giving tax breaks only to middle-class families and investing in rebuilding our crumbling infrastructure and green technologies. Millionaires and Wall Street already had their party, which tanked our economy and left Main Street stuck paying the bill.

He urged the lame-duck session of Congress not to compromise on this issue.

The election is over and now it’s time for politicians to show courage and stand and fight on these issues for working families. Let the millionaires fend for themselves for a change.

(continue of: Our Common Purpose)

Once this country decided to send our citizens into harms way we all needed to support them. This we did and Bush got this country to spend more than a TRILLION DOLLARS on his war. What Bush failed to do is show the respect and properly continue to fund the Veterans Administration. Bush did not get it right.

Along came the 2008 elections with hopes of better times and if nothing else President Obama did propose and got largest increase in funding for the Veterans Administration. **President Obama did not forget.** There is more than just the fighting.

I hope that all Americans who supported the TRILLIONS DOLLARS in the spending for the war in Iraq and now Afghanistan and especially those ‘patriots,’ to now support and demand another TRILLION DOLLARS for the medical and psychological care, whatever care, that will be needed for all those veterans. For too long our federal government refused to admit to Agent Orange for Vietnam veterans. We must not forget, for one day, to support our veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan with the new injuries called PTS and TBI. Those ‘patriots’ supporting Bush in his boondoggle and not knowing these abbreviations, again shame on you.

Our Common Purpose is to support and not forget.

Human Rights Seminar

By Theresa Román

I want to thank the executive board for sending me to the Human Rights Seminar at the Machinists Union William W. Winpisinger Center Education and Technology Center. The classes were informative and I learned a lot. I look forward to putting the knowledge I have obtained to good use by working together with the executive board, the Human Rights Co-Chair, and people who are dedicated to improving the human condition to establish a functioning Human Rights Committee.

I have learned from the classes that human rights issues don’t affect only one group or person. Human rights issues affect people globally. I also learned life standards can be improved by the efforts of many working together for justice, dignity and well being of the people. Today, our society has many human rights provisions that were attained for us by courageous men and women of history who worked with others to make the world a better place. It is through a united front they succeeded and it is through a united front that we are going to sustain the human rights they and others have attained for us. And united we as a people will be able to continue making the world a better place for all humanity.

As I embark on this journey, I realize human rights are multi-faced with many issues and shades of gray. I also realize human rights are not solely the responsibility of a committee(s) to uphold. It is the responsibility of all people, Union member and non-Union member.

I look forward to serving you in the near future.

Union Veterans Committee

Get involved in 2011 by contacting Mike Balistriere, 414-771-9829 or mikeaflcio@sbcglobal.net. He is heading the committee for the Milwaukee Area Labor Council



Scott Walkers Bold New Job Plan

By James Cobb LL66 communicator

He's not even sworn in yet, but Scott Walker is hitting the ground running to fulfill his campaign promises of job creation in Wisconsin. Walker has promised to create 250,000 new jobs in the state over the next four years.

Walker has also promised to bring the high speed rail project to a screeching halt. The rail program, which would facilitate travel along the Milwaukee-Madison corridor, was to be funded by an \$810 million Federal grant, and would have resulted in nearly 10,000 permanent jobs, to say nothing of construction jobs while the rail line and stations were being built.

Other states, such as New York and Illinois, are vying for the Federal money that Wisconsin is about to turn down.

Spanish train car manufacturer Talgo, which was planning to renovate the old Tower Automotive factory in Milwaukee and open a plant here, is considering locating the proposed factory in Illinois instead, if the rail service is nixed in Wisconsin. Talgo would have created about 125 permanent jobs in their plant.

Money has already been spent by the City of Milwaukee toward the start of this project.

Walker has a history of shortsightedness. In the 2011 Milwaukee County budget, he vetoed a study that would have examined the structure and water quality of South Shore beach. The beach, a jewel of Milwaukee's beautiful shoreline, is often closed in summer due to e. coli, and an Army Corps of Engineers study was proposed to determine how to restructure the shoreline to improve water quality. The study would have been 50% paid for by Army Corps matching funds, would not have put the County over budget, and the resulting improvements would have brought larger revenue to the state in usage fees such as marina fees and fishing licenses, as well as cleaner and safer water for wading and swimming.

Not counting the construction jobs on the rail line and those created by renovating the Tower facility, Walker has already cost the state approximately 10,125 jobs, and he's not even in office yet.

Good start on the 250,000, Scott.

How Long Will It Take to Double My Money?

Contributed by Brian Goode, LL 66 member and Retirement Specialist with Union Financial, Inc.

Before making any investment decision, one of the key elements you face is working out the real rate of return on your investment.

Compound interest is critical to investment growth. Whether your financial portfolio consists solely of a deposit account at your local bank or a series of highly leveraged investments, your rate of return is dramatically improved by the compounding factor.

With simple interest, interest is paid just on the principal. With compound interest, the return that you receive on your initial investment is automatically reinvested. In other words, you receive interest on the interest.

But just how quickly does your money grow? The easiest way to work that out is by using what's known as the "Rule of 72."1 Quite simply, the "Rule of 72" enables you to determine how long it will take for the money you've invested on a compound interest basis to double. You divide 72 by the interest rate to get the answer.

For example, if you invest \$10,000 at 10 percent compound interest, then the "Rule of 72" states that in 7.2 years you will have \$20,000. You divide 72 by 10 percent to get the time it takes for your money to double. The "Rule of 72" is a rule of thumb that gives approximate results. It is most accurate for hypothetical rates between 5 and 20 percent.

While compound interest is a great ally to an investor, inflation is one of the greatest enemies. The "Rule of 72" can also highlight the damage that inflation can do to your money.

Let's say you decide not to invest your \$10,000 but hide it under your mattress instead. Assuming an inflation rate of 4.5 percent, in 16 years your \$10,000 will have lost half of its value.

The real rate of return is the key to how quickly the value of your investment will grow. If you are receiving 10 percent interest on an investment but inflation is running at 4 percent, then your real rate of return is 6 percent. In such a scenario, it will take your money 12 years to double in value.

The "Rule of 72" is a quick and easy way to determine the value of compound interest over time. By taking the real rate of return into consideration (nominal interest less inflation), you can see how soon a particular investment will double the value of your money.

Brian is a member of lodge 66 and can be reached for free Financial & Retirement planning for Lodge 66 members @ 262-898-1440 or email: brian.goode@ufinc.net website: www.unionplanning.com



Photo by Doug Currier

Phil Neuenfeldt, President Wisconsin AFLCIO, speaks at November 15 news conference requesting Governor Elect Walker do what is right to save JOBS!

2011 Scholarship Competition

by our International Machinists Union

(online version, click on the above title)

This scholarship competition is open each year to members of the IAM and their children throughout the United States and Canada under procedures and rules of eligibility.

Scholarships make possible the attainment of a Bachelor's degree or a two year vocational/technical certification are determined in competition among eligible applicants that is judged by a special Selection Committee.

Awards to members are \$2,000 per academic year. They are granted for a specific period from one to four years to enable the member to earn a Bachelor's degree or a two year vocational/technical certification.

Awards to Children of Members are: College - \$1000 per academic year. All rewards are renewed each year until a Bachelor's degree is obtained up to a maximum of four years. Vocational/Technical School - \$2000 per year until certification is reached up to a maximum of two years.

An Eligible Applicant Must Be Either:

- An IAM member or;
- The son, daughter, stepchild or legally adopted child of an IAM member.

A Member Applicant:

- Must have two years of continuous good standing membership through the closing of the competition which is February 25, 2011;
- May apply either when entering college or vocational/technical school as a freshman or at a higher level with some college credits already completed;
- May apply as a full time or part time student; and
- If not a winner, may apply again the following year.

This is a brief summary. The pamphlet of all the information can be sent to any member or you can [click for the online version at www.goiam.org](http://www.goiam.org).

The deadline is February 25, 2011.



Essay Contest

Wisconsin Labor History Society

The WLHS High School Essay Contest for the 2010 to 2011 school year is going with a deadline for submission of February 15, 2011.

The essay needs to be in about 750 words following the theme, "Unions have been important to my family and my community because . . . ". Have your children talk to other family members, friends, neighbors about their Unions and their working life.

The cash prizes are and will be awarded in April 2011 include:

- \$500 First Place
- \$300 Second Place
- \$200 Third Place
- \$100 Honorable Mention, up to five awarded

Send completed essays to: Professor Harvey J. Kaye, Center for History and Social Change, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Green Bay, WI 53411.

Complete information can be sent from the Lodge or available at www.wisconsinlaborhistory.org

Children's Christmas Party

December 11, 2010 from 10am to 1pm

Members need to register if you plan on bring your children or grandchildren to this party. **The deadline is Friday, December 3, 2010.**

There will be games, food, refreshments and most likely a guest appearance from Santa.



Members Celebration

December 11, 2010 from 6pm until ???



Snacks & Buffet

We will follow the same format as last year and look for the flyers posted at your worksite.



Refreshments

Location of both events are at
2609 W. Oklahoma Avenue,
Milwaukee, WI 53215

Activities for You and Your Family

- **Delegate to Milwaukee Area Labor Council: December 1** in 2010. All meetings start at 6:30PM.
- United Lodge 66 **Business Meeting** is Friday, **December 3, 2010 at 7PM.**
- **Christmas Party is December 11, 2010**
- The **Union Office is CLOSED** from December 20 through 24 as well as December 30 and 31.
- **United Lodge 66 Business Meeting** is **January 14, 2011 at 7:00PM**
- **United Lodge 66 Education Evening** for **January 20, 2011 at 7:00PM** will be on Your 2010 Taxes by Joanne Reuss.
- **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.**



What's Wrong With This Picture?

- The war in Afghanistan costs 2 Billion dollars a week .
- The tax breaks for the rich will cost over \$700 Billion dollars.
- Unemployment extension would cost only \$12 Billion and provide income for some 3 Million Americans.

Or this picture?

- The 400 richest people in America have a net worth of more than **\$ 1.4 TRILLION**
- Bill Gates of Microsoft net worth is \$ 54 Billion and he is 55 years old, if he worked a standard 40 hour week from age 25 to present he made \$897,435.90 PER HOUR!
- The owners of Wal-Mart (7 people) net worth is over \$ 91 Billion (and these are the folks that cut hours and wages in Wisconsin so their employees fell under the poverty level and qualified for BadgerCare)
- The owners of Microsoft (3 people) net worth is nearly \$ 80 Billion
- The 2 Koch brothers (founders of the Tea Party) net worth is \$ 43 Billion and their "small business*" (*as currently defined by the government) employs some 77,000 people
- The hedge fund owners on the list net worth come to over \$ 147 Billion
- The owners (2 people) of Fidelity Investments (*another small business) net worth is over \$ 18 Billion

Numbers.....

- If you earned \$1 per second (or \$3600 per hour) and were paid every second of the year it would take you over 44,788 YEARS to earn the equivalent worth of the Forbes 400
- If you earned \$1 per second (or \$3600 per hour) and were paid every second of the year it would take you over 1,711 YEARS to earn the equivalent worth of Bill Gates
- American business made the biggest profit in history the 3rd quarter of 2010 (over \$1.16 Trillion July, August, September this year) but Obama is hated by business

(source: Bunny Browning via Frank Johnson, LETC members)

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.



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.

dwc

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.



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



Once again I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to not only be the financial official for our Lodge but to develop and keep going our website, newsletter and Lodge communications. We are the oldest Lodge in our state and I am glad to say we have done our best to make sure we are financially stable. I have truly enjoyed the communications aspect: keeping our website current; and keeping our newsletter going for 14 years. *This is my last as editor and I wish by successor the best.*

Doug Curler

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dwc/iama-wll66, afl-cio

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Vice President Bob Paar
Recording Secretary Mike Pietrzykowski
Secretary Treasurer Doug Curler
Conductor Sentinel Bunny Browning
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Communicator James Cobb
Educator Patricia Elizondo
Editor Doug Curler
Notary Public Doug Curler

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<http://www.unitedlodge66.org>
<http://www.youtube.com/badgerlodge>
dwc/iama-wll66, 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

