

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 11 No 12

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

December 2008

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

December 5, 2008

7:00 PM

2609 W. Oklahoma Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53215

414-671-3800

*All Lodge Members are
Encouraged to attend.*

- **DAYTIME OFFICE HOURS** are Tuesday thru Friday, **8AM to 4:30PM**. Business can be done at the Business or
- **CHECK** the answering machine for hours, 414-671-3800.
- The deadline for articles to January edition of the "*Badger Lodge News*", is December 17.
- **Christmas Party** is **December 13, 2008** at 6:00PM

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dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio

Employee Free Choice Act

By Bob Paar

We are on the verge of great things to come, not just for us, but for all of those that do not get the fair treatment by their employers. Barack Obama Stated " if you will walk for me, if you will make calls for me, if you knock on doors for me, we can win." Well, we did it! I'd like to thank everyone that worked tirelessly making calls, walking neighborhoods knocking on doors, and doing leaf drops for the labors cause.

It doesn't end here though. During our Grand Lodge Convention, Senator Obama stated to all the delegates there that if elected president, when the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) gets to his desk, he will sign it into law. Now is the time, we must collect even more signatures in support of this important piece of legislation.

What is the EFCA? It is legislation that would allow employees to organize and get collective bargaining by a process of 50%+1 person. Rather than the current process, where employees that want to organize must apply for a vote, which could take up to 45 days to get one scheduled, where employers use that time to fire, intimidate, and control the employees through fear to keep the union out. This legislation would provide that if 50% +1 person desire to form a union, all they need to do is say we want to join a union and begin the process without the fear and intimidation and tell the company to recognize the employees union of choice.

What will this legislation do, you may ask? It will do what we could not do, organize people, without fear of losing this jobs, it will get sustainable wages and benefits for employees who's employers feel they don't need to give them. It will help correct the Wal-Mart's of this country that don't offer jobs with sustainable wages and benefits. These same businesses also utilize the states to finance employee health through the heavy public assistance roles.

So let's get started, remind everyone your vote did count and Obama will remember that. Let's take employee free choice act signup sheets to our shops, churches, family get together, parties, public places of gathering, or wherever you may be. If you go get your hair cut, talk to the hairdresser, let them know of the benefits that wait them, and ask them to sign up for support. Lets call our legislators and urge them to support and co-sign EFCA legislation. Let's do what we can to help our children and grand children, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, nieces' and nephews, husband or wife, friends and neighbors that work for non Union employers, that they may be able to organize without fear and intimidation, and finally live free from want and fear.

In solidarity,



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

UNION OFFICE IS CLOSED:

December 24 thru January 1, 2009.

"The Power of OUR Union is Directly Related to Y O U R Level of Activism in OUR Union."

Union Leadership Education

United Lodge 66 wants the best educated leaders in each shop and to do that we partner with our William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center. This Lodge has been a leader by sending members to this training. All it takes is those who want to move forward just a bit more. There is no cost to any member. Between the Lodge paying a members lost time and the International providing the school and the air fare all you give up is one week away from home and away from work.

The 2009 class schedule is available online at: <http://www.winpisinger.com/courselist/>

If you do not have internet access you need to attend a Lodge meeting and let us know.



WWW Center, Placid Harbor, dorms and classrooms

United Lodge 66 Nominations

The nominations for Lodge officers standing committee and delegates were held on November 14, 2008. These are for a three year term and there were no contested positions.

For the next three years:

- Patricia Elizondo, President
- Robert Paar, Vice President
- Mike Pietrzykowski, Recording Secretary
- Douglas Curler, Secretary Treasurer
- Dave Spengler, Trustee
- Darrell Rasch, Trustee
- Dave Russell, Trustee
- Walter Berger, Auditor
- Dave Konrad, Auditor
- Lyn Gunther, Auditor

Delegates to the Wisconsin State Council of Machinists and Wisconsin AFL-CIO: Mike Pietrzykowski and Patricia Elizondo.

Delegates to Milwaukee Area Labor Council: Walter Berger, Dave Russell, Patricia Elizondo, James Cobb, Don Burmester, Doug Curler, Dave Spengler, Dan Pallen and Bunny Browning.

Delegates to District 10: Carmen Del Valle, Don Burmester, Nick Ellioff, Ivan Collins, Bruce Larson, Patricia Elizondo, Doug Curler, Joseph, Bunny Browning, Dan Pallen, James Cobb, Tom Gadowski, Dave Russell.

Milwaukee's History of Working-Class Struggle

Milwaukee Labor Trail



Visit this website to learn about Milwaukee's Labor History at www.milwaukeeelabortrail.org.

Activities for You and Family

- **Proposed changes to the Bylaws of United Lodge 66** second reading, discussion and the voting on the proposed changes will take place during the normal business meeting of **December 5, 2008**.
- **Christmas Party** for United Lodge 66 will be on **December 13, 2008**. There will be a children's party during the day and in the evening we will follow the same open house format as last year.
- **Milwaukee Area Labor Council Holiday Open House**, **Friday, December 19, 2008**, 12:00PM to 4:00PM, 633 S. Hawley Road, Milwaukee, Yatchak Hall.



UNION PLUS—Looking out for your legal interests!

Legal Question?

FREE and discounted legal services
now available through your union!

When you'd like to talk to a lawyer about a personal matter, your union benefits makes it easy, affordable—and often FREE! Just a phone call or mouse click away, Union Plus Legal Services can point you to **more than 2,000 law offices in all 50 states** that offer discounted legal services to union families. Just contact the attorney of your choice, mention the Union Plus Legal Service, and take advantage of these valuable benefits!

FREE initial consultation.

Get up to 30 minutes of advice about almost any personal legal concern in person or over the phone.

FREE follow-up services.

If the attorney thinks making a phone call or writing letter will resolve your problem, it will be done for free.

FREE simple document review and explanation.

Gain the added protection of a "legal look" at your leases, insurance policies, contracts and other personal papers.

SAVE 30% on more complex matters that require additional service beyond the free initial consultation.

Immigration legal services. Get reliable answers to all your questions on procedures, requirements, forms, documentation and more.

No enrollment fees.

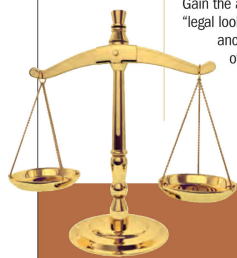
Similar services can cost up to \$150 a year. But the Union Plus Legal Service has no enrollment charge or annual fee.

Upfront written agreement.

To further protect you and prevent any surprises, participating lawyers will provide an upfront agreement specifying any fees or charges.

Completely confidential.

All matters are handled between you and your lawyer on a strictly confidential basis. Only your lawyer will know you are using the service.



To find an attorney near you, call toll-free **1-888-993-8886**
or visit **www.UnionPlus.org/Legal**

WEB Legal Ad 2/07

Abraham Lincoln

True to his Republican beliefs

"All that harms labor is treason to America. No line can be drawn between these two. If any man tells you he loves America, yet he hates labor, he is a liar. If a man tells you he trusts America, yet fears labor, he is a fool."

The strongest bond of human sympathy, outside of the family relation, should be on uniting all working people of all nations, tongues and kindred's"

(editors note: this thought received from Nick Ellioff, shop chair at Stroh)

Machinists Union 2009 Scholarship Competition

This scholarship competition is open each year to members of the IAM and their children throughout the United States and Canada. The IAM Scholarship Fund was established in 1960.

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.

The deadline is February 27, 2009.

Your Lodge has more information which will be provided in later months or ask us to send it to you right now.

Lodge Christmas Celebration

Saturday
December 13, 2008
2609 W. Oklahoma Avenue,
Milwaukee

Children's' party will be at
11:00AM.

**RESERVATIONS
REQUIRED**

Open house event will
start at 6:00PM in the
evening.

More details to follow
and if you want to help
out call 414-671-3800
and leave your name
and place of employment.



dwc

Shop Meeting

Members of the Executive Board of United Lodge 66 are willing to attend your shop meetings. We would be bringing information, showing some videos and willing to answer your questions. **ASK US.**

Organizing Incentives

Leads: United Lodge 66 T-Shirt and \$25.00

A lead is considered a sit down face to face meeting with a worker from a potential organizing target.

1st Inside Shop Committee Team Meeting - \$25.00

A meeting with two or more workers from a target shop with organizing team (D10).

Organizing Drive - \$100.00

To the member if the lead progresses to an Organizing Blitz.

Election - \$350.00

If the Organizing Blitz leads to an election.



Unions

What Have They Ever Done For Me?

8 - hour day
Paid Sick Leave
Higher Wages
Health Insurance
Overtime Pay
Pensions
Safer Working Conditions
Paid Holidays
Job Security
Severance Pay
Paid Vacations

These were are brought to you by the men and women of the Unions of the AFL-CIO who won these benefits at the bargaining table and set the standards for all of America's workers. All too often workers have forgotten this fact and believe employers freely gave them.
Employers never freely gave a worker any benefit or pay.

In many instances we are losing our negotiated benefits because workers continuously do vote against their economic interest and
we need to increase Union density.

**Your call is to give us those leads,
In Solidarity**

United Lodge 66, 414-671-3800 or lodge66@gmail

Employment Law

Tuesdays on January 27 to February 24, 2009 from 5:30PM to 8:30PM.

This class is a course for workers, Union representatives, local officers/activities and community activists interested in:

- Family medical leave (FMLA) Federal and Wisconsin
- Disability Law and Employment rights
- Wisconsin Worker's Compensation Law
- Occupational Health and Safety

An overview will be provided for each area of law including coverage, eligibility, major benefits and rights of workers, and a brief description of procedures for using the law. In addition we will examine some of the problem areas under each law including recent court rulings.

This class is done by the School for Workers, University of Wisconsin Extension at MATC, West Allis Campus, 1200 S. 71st Street Room 117.

There is a registration fee of \$52.69 but the Lodge will reimburse **all members** who complete this class and submit to the Union Office their completion certificate and proof of payment.

The deadline for this class is January 19, 2009. To enroll call 608-265-2391 or your Union Office does have the registration forms and your shop should have been posted by your shop chair. Payment only needs to be made on the first night of the class and the check should be made out to MATC.

Steward Training

Wednesdays on March 4 to April 1, 2009 from 5:30PM to 8:30PM.

This class will cover the duties, rights and responsibilities of stewards as well as techniques for investigating grievances and presenting them to management.

- What does a Union do?
- The role of the steward
- Rights and responsibilities of the steward
- The grievance procedure and the contract
- Grievance investigation
- Effective writing and presentation
- Union's legal right to info from the employer
- Union's legal duty of fair representation
- Discipline cases - 7 Tests of Just Cause
- Handling issues outside the grievance procedure.

This class is done by the School for Workers, University of Wisconsin Extension at Wisconsin Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals Hall, 9620 W. Greenfield Avenue, West Allis.

There is a registration is to be determined but the Lodge will reimburse **all members** who complete this class and submit to the Union Office their completion certificate and proof of payment.

The deadline for this class is not set yet. To enroll call 608-265-2112 or your Union Office does have the registration forms and your shop should have been posted by your shop chair. Payment only needs to be made on the first night of the class and the check should be made out to MATC.



ANY DUES PAYING MEMBER CAN TAKE THIS CLASS AND WILL BE REIMBURSED.

Seniors Corner

Health Insurance Coverage for Hip Surgery - in India!

Some WellPoint group members in Wisconsin will soon have the option to travel to India for non-emergency surgeries. According to *The Indianapolis Star*, this pilot program, set to begin in January, will allow patients and a companion to travel to India for procedures like joint-replacements, with no responsibility for travel or other expenses. Well-Point says this program meets the medical tourism standards of the American Medical Association and patients would go to Joint-Commission International-accredited hospitals in New Delhi or Bangalore. **Razia Hashmi**, chief medical officer of Anthem National Accounts for WellPoint, said a knee replacement surgery and follow-up care in the United States costs between \$60,000 and \$70,000. In India, the same procedure is less than \$10,000.

Join the Wisconsin ARA Chapter

6333 W. Bluemound Road,
Milwaukee, WI 53213
414-771-9511
dues are \$10/year

<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
- \$3.50 for mesh cap
- \$11.00 for Denim/Black/Blue cap
- \$11.00 for Khaki cap
- \$12.00 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.

Car Pooling from Kenosha

Want to carpool? Then, contact Vice President Bob Paar for more information: 262-914-1777 or bpaarosckenosha@yahoo.com

YOUR Email

Get it done by getting your email to United Lodge 66. You can pick and choose from the events, you be informed, and you can pass on the activities to your friends at work.

Email: lodge66@gmail.com

Some activities in our Labor Community, may be in our newsletter, but events happen too fast. **The only way is to visit the "Lodge 66 News" Page or better to be on 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

HIRE CENTER

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

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

Video: www.youtube.com/badgerlodge

Website: www.unitedlodge66.org

dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio

Daytime Office Hours are 8AM to 4:30PM

or Business can be done by mail;
or dropped in the mail slot; or the
night of a Lodge or
Education Evening Meeting.

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Milwaukee, WI 53215-4438
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At United Lodge 66,
December 13, 2008