Badger Lodge News





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

Vol. 11 No. 2

www.unitedlodge66.org

February 2008

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

February 8, 2007 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 Education Evening Meetings or by mail.
- **CHECK** the answering machine for hours, 414-671-3800.
- Education Night Evening is February 21 at 7PM. And the topic is Free Trade agreements.
- The deadline for articles to March edition of the "*Badger Lodge News*", is February 17.

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President's Direct Line

All 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

Lakeside Manufacturing

By James Cobb

Ever eaten at a buffet restaurant? Have you taken a chilled plate from a dispenser and filled it at the salad bar? Ever perused the pastry cart at a fancy restaurant? How about visiting a friend in the hospital or having an exam at a doctor's office? Have you ever used a heavy duty steel cart to roll a heavy piece of equipment or stack of materials from one side of your shop floor to the other? Well, then the chances are good that you've seen and used products made by Lakeside Manufacturing.

Started in 1946, with a line of wooden outdoor barbeque carts (an idea far ahead of its time) Lakeside has grown over the years to claim its position as one of the premier suppliers of specialized utility carts and other storage equipment, primarily for the medical, restaurant and industrial markets. (You can visit them online at <u>www.elakeside.com</u>)

Lakeside is a family owned business, but both its owners and its employees take pride in the unique place they have developed in their industry. Recently I sat down with Tim Schwartz and Laurel DeGrand from Lakeside's Union committee. Kevin Haselow is the third member of the union committee.

"Our service is customer focused," said Tim. The company has built a solid reputation on accommodating their customer's unique specialized needs. Some of the medical product lines they have developed include locking narcotics storage cabinets, mobile storage cabinets that can be rolled from bedside to bedside, such as in

Emergency Rooms, where space is limited, and IV hangers.

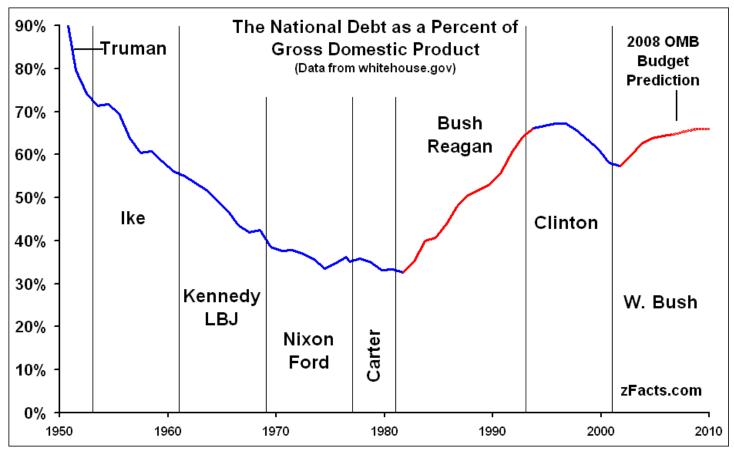
Lakeside also makes restaurant equipment, both for the kitchen and the serving areas. A specialized wooden cart product line, Geneva, focuses on combining esthetics with functionality to lend an extra touch of class to any restaurant dining room.

(Lakeside, continued on page 2)



Kevin, Tim and Laurel

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



(Lakeside continued from page 1)

Rolling tray holders (I like to imagine them stacked with pies) and other specialized food prep stations are some of the behind-the-scenes products Lakeside has developed that are used by restaurants nationwide. Adapting to its customer's changing needs and special requests has kept Lakeside's product line dynamic and its customers loyal.

The pride that Tim, Laurel and Kevin take in their company is evident when they talk about their jobs.

"We have the fastest lead time in the industry, and the highest quality," said Laurel. Lakeside does lean manufacturing, preferring to make orders as they are received rather than stockpiling supplies. A quick turnaround time and attention to excellence ensure that customer satisfaction is the first order of business.

"Our management has an open door policy," states Laurel, and the Union committee is proactive in utilizing that policy, ensuring a good working relationship between management and employees.

Although Rubbermaid and other companies that make similar products in plastic bit into Lakeside's market share, stainless steel remains a material of choice, both for its strength, durability and ease of cleaning. New technologies such as laser manufacturing for items made with heavy gauge steel have resulted in streamlining the available jobs, but Laurel notes with pride that because Lakeside has a policy of cross training its employees, layoffs have been few and for the most part voluntary and short term.

Tim, Laurel and Kevin have pride in their union. All three of them have strong union backgrounds.

Laurel's mom worked for United Brands, makers of Dolly Madison products, and was union member herself. Tim comes from a Union family as well. His dad was a Union Steward with the Blacksmith and Boilermakers Union. And Kevin has been on the committee from its first endowment in March of 2001. Kevin himself was with the Ironworkers Union before joining the Lakeside Manufacturing team, his mother worked for Lakeside Manufacturing before it became organized and his father worked for Louis Allis.

Both Kevin and Tim are glad that Laurel is part of the committee. "Having Laurel on our committee has been a big help with empowering our female members, letting them know they have someone they can relate to." From the beginning this Union is working toward a goal of inclusion and open dialogue.

In March Lakeside will have a new contract. Since becoming a Union Shop this will be the third contract. It included a new Union security clause bringing the number of dues paying members to 70.

Tim, Laurel and Kevin are looking forward to their first year as a fully Unionized Shop. Among their goals is a healthcare package that is affordable and fair for all. They are looking ahead to the challenge and achievements that the new contract will bring and are glad that a good relationship is already in place with management.

Lodge 66 is proud to have the Lakeside Committee and all the workers in the IAM.



Unions, What Have They Even Done For Me?

Labor 2008 is our political and educational program to **educate**, **agitate and motivate** (*hopefully*) our membership to be involved in the political process. There has been a failure on our part for 30 years with working families voting against their economic interest. The blame is voting in representatives who support the top 1% income level. We need to know our friends and if they do not work for us, vote them out, and vote in those who do.

Labor 2008 is asking all members to, at a minimum, volunteer their time and efforts on three separate occasions.

Labor 2008 is an 8 point program. Check it out.

- Recruit local Union and worksite coordinators.
- Recruit volunteers to: phone members, walk and engage targeted neighborhoods.
- Improve list: by collecting emails and phone numbers.
- Leaflet worksites.
- Mail and email members.
- Reach members through Union publication and websites (let others know about ours)
- Register to vote; vote early; and vote by mail.
- Conduct massive GOTV (Get Out The Vote).

Interested, Call Patricia Elizondo at 414-671-6980. 8 - hour day Paid Sick Leave Higher Wages Health Insurance Overtime Pay Pensions Safer Working Conditions Paid Holidays Job Security Severance Pay Paid Vacations Maternity Leave

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.

In many instances we are losing our negotiated benefits because workers continuously do vote against their economic interest at the



(ballot box)

You need to be involved in Labor 2008.

Activities for You and Family

- February 21, 2008, Education Evening, 2609 W. Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, is at 7:00PM and is open to your family. Learn how the "free trade" agreements have affected or will affect your job and security.
- William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center is open to all members. The complete schedule of classes was sent to all committeepersons and we will send it to any member. The Lodge does pick up your lost time. The air fare and accommodations is from our International. Take advantage of this educational opportunity and make our Union even better. To learn more about our center visit: <u>http://winpisinger.iamaw.org/</u> and then talk to us. *Basic Human Rights class is scheduled from May 4 to 9 at our Winpisinger Center*.
- **Bay View Tragedy is on May 4, 2008, 4:00PM** to commemorate our struggle for the 8 hour day. In 1886, Wisconsin's Militia, under order of Governor Rusk open fired on the strikers killing seven and one child.



What is a Union?

An organization of workers joined together for a common purpose, for mutual aid and protection, to engage in concerted activity and collective bargaining, to elevate conditions of life and labor, an organization by which ordinary people do extraordinary things.

What is a Unionist?

A Unionist is one who puts aside their individual needs and individual self interest for that of the membership.

A Unionist forgoes their personal agenda for that of their sisters and brothers.

A Unionist is not an:

- Elitist
- Racist
- Sexist
- Classist
- Homophobic
- Xenophobic

United Lodge 66 Bylaws

We are asking all shop committees to make sure the 2008 Shop Committee members are in as soon as possible. As per our bylaws, Article VI, Section 2. "It shall be the duty of each Shop Chairperson to notify the Secretary Treasurer and District No. 10 of all committee members elected each year, not later than December 31." This needs to be done for proper compensation and to prevent delays of such compensation.

Remember you must have a W4 on file for any compensation payment. This needs to be done only once.

All compensation needs to be approved by your business agent before it is paid.

Any compensation is done twice a month through ADP. Check out our calendar page for the dates. If it is missed on one date it will be done on the next pay period.

Organizing Committee

The next United Lodge 66 Organizing Committee meeting is Thursday, February 21, 2008 at 5:30PM at 2609 W. Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee. Members are encourage to get involved and attend. If you have conflicts with this date leave a message for Bunny Browning at 414-671-3800. Together we need to stop the slide of our standard of living.



Seniors Corner

The following statement was issued today by George J. Kourpias, President of the Alliance for Retired Americans, in response to President Bush's final State of the Union address.

Retired Americans, in a time of great economic anxiety, were looking to President Bush for a sign that he would use his last year in office to address the deepening divide in our economy and in our society. In that context, we were sorely disappointed in his speech. We worry not only about our retirement, but also what the future holds in store for our children and grandchildren.

Medicare Drug Bargaining

Last year the House of Representatives passed a bill that required Medicare to bargain for lower prescription drug prices. The Senate watered down its version of the bill to only permit Medicare to bargain. However 43 Senators blocked a fair up or down vote on this issue. Who is elected is important for your future.

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

dwc

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 Tshirts 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.



We deserve better than what our elected officials are doing in Madison. Learn more about

healthy Wisconsin at: <u>http://</u> <u>healthywisconsin.net/</u>. Then contact your elected representative.

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

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: smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net 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:

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 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 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.

