

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 10 No. 2

February 2007

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

February 9, 2007

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;** 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 March edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is February 17.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. *See last page.*
- Education Evening is February 15, 2007 at 7:00PM

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Renew & Save Yourself . . .

We want all members to renew and commit themselves to our Labor Movement. Union density is what gave us our benefits. Union density gave us our strength. **We need to get back that Union density.** We need your help on organizing leads. Those leads could come from anyone. Your neighbors, your friends; anytime you hear someone speak about their workplace and they may not be happy. Your Lodge has an Organizing Committee and we would like you to be a part of it and to send your leads to it.

How do you document an lead? **All shop committees have a copy of the organizing lead form.** One is available off our website. You can call, or write or email your Lodge and one will be sent to you. Your Lodge Organizing Committee is willing to sit down and talk to all members if there is any confusion what they should be doing. Just give us a call.

In one area, health insurance, the labor movement brought coverage to workers where there was none. Today we find that benefit under attack and financially a burden. It is only a burden because of those employers who do not offer health insurance or a poor quality. Those bad employers make it hard for those good employers offering health insurance. The labor movement continuously tries to bring improvements in health insurance or negotiate coverage for those with none. A few weeks ago we heard the opposite from the President of these United States. Mr. Bush's proposal is to tax those workers with good insurance coverage and then give this tax money to those with no insurance to help pay for some type of health savings account! **Instead of taking away good health insurance from working families, Mr. Bush should try a novel idea of giving all citizens good health insurance!** We all know that because of Bush's public service he will always enjoy the best of health coverage. Why not you? Health care should be a right or all workers and is a good organizing tool how we make a better day for the un-represented worker.

Organize, organize and organize.

dwc



Who You Vote For Does Count!

No one can tell you how to vote but here is what can and did happen.

- After the 2004 elections, on January 1/1/2005, Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels, Republican, with both houses in control of this party did eliminate collective bargaining for state employees. On his first day in office!
- After the 2006 elections, the Indiana House Employment and Labor Committee, voted on party lines (7 to 4 in support) to support the collective bargaining for state employees. The house is now in control of Democrats while the state senate is still in control by Republicans.

As our president has stated numerous times, you are either with us or against us. **Why would anyone vote for politicians who take away their bargaining rights????**

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

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

Machinists Non Partisan League (MNPL)

We would like to thank those 93 members who were sponsoring members in the MNPL in 2006. This is a 21% increase from 2005. In 2007 we hope to again increase this total by 20%.

Actually we would like to have every member a sponsoring member. Every member of the shop committees should be willing to become a sponsoring member at only \$10.00 a year.

The MNPL is the only way your Union does contribute money to any political candidate. This money is voluntary donations. **Any individual who says your dues dollar goes to a political candidate is a liar.** None of your dues dollar ever goes to a candidate. Shame on them and most likely they need to have their sins forgiven!

The envelopes for your **voluntary contribution to MNPL** can be obtained at any Union meeting or mailed to you. Please ask us.



dwc

IAMUNION

Veterans or Badge Night at United Lodge 66

Your night will be on June 2, 2007. At this event a members continuous years of membership in the Machinists Union will be honored. It starts out at 15 years and in five year increments up to 50 years of membership. This year will be bigger than ever with the merger of three other Lodges. Our list for this year is for just under 1200 members of which 105 will be receiving their 50 year pins and gold cards.

The list is based on continuous membership prior to June 1, 2007. The list is provided by the Grand Lodge. Members on this list will be receiving an invitation. **More than ever the RSVP is necessary to plan this event and make it successful.**

The event includes a buffet meal and numerous door prizes. This is done by members of your Executive Board, who volunteer their time. Any member can volunteer. If so interested let us know now!

dwc



Shop Chairs, Remember Your Shop Meetings To The Membership

Shop Committees should be planning their 2007 meetings for their shops to allow the membership a time to speak out.

Shop Committees should get together and discuss issues. The Hall is available and simply needs a little advance planning and a phone call for a date and time. Service, communications and involvement is what **we are responsible for to the membership.**

Please, whenever there is a **change in your shop committee** contact Lodge 66. **If you do not who will?**

If you have a **shop meeting** else where, let us know. **We would like to attend and get a picture** to be used on our *Badger Lodge News* or on the website

Call 414-671-3800 for a date.

Activities for You and Family

- **Education Evening is February 15, 2007.** This evening is open to all members, their family and bring your neighbor.
- **Placid Harbor Leadership Classes** and you can take your family and share the Union learning experience. These are open to all members but you need to apply through Lodge 66.
- **Bay View Massacre** event will be held on **Sunday, May 6, 2007 at 3:00PM.** At the corner of Russell and Superior Streets, Milwaukee. Save the date. More information to follow. See video at meeting.



Trade Unions & the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

The TRCP (<http://trcp.org>) is a non-profit organization made up of leaders from many of the country's top hunting, fishing and conservation groups. The focus is on access and conservation issues affecting hunting and angling.

In an effort to significantly expand the TRCP's grassroots participation in our nation's policymaking processes concerning fish and wildlife, their habitat and the conservation of these resources, the TRCP has embarked upon a new, but potentially unparalleled opportunity to activate a large segment of America's unaffiliated hunters and anglers. TRCP's affiliated trade unions have over three million members and they estimate that more than, 60% or perhaps as many as 2 million of their members hunt, fish and recreate regularly in the outdoors.

The TRCP, through these affiliated relationships is providing conservation, hunting and fishing information to union members via union trade journals, other publications and websites. Furthermore the unions are encouraging their members to join the TRCP and become active in the TRCP grassroots program. In just a few short months the TRCP has recruited thousands of new partners through the building trades and is reaching over 1.5 million union households each month with our conservation message.

Listed below are TRCP's affiliated unions with links to their websites.



- [International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers \(IBEW\)](http://www.ibew.org) 780,000 members, www.ibew.org
- [International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers \(IAMAW\)](http://www.goiam.org) 760,000 members, www.goiam.org
- [United Association of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters \(UA\)](http://www.ua.org) 300,000 members, www.ua.org
- [International Association of Fire Fighters \(IAFF\)](http://www.iaff.org) 267,000 members, www.iaff.org
- [Sheet Metal Workers International Association \(SMWIA\)](http://www.smwia.org) 150,000 members, www.smwia.org
- [International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers](http://www.ironworkers.org) 127,000 members, www.ironworkers.org
- [Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union \(BCTGM\)](http://www.bctgm.org) 120,000 members, www.bctgm.org
- [International Union of Painters and Allied Trades \(IUPAT\)](http://www.iupat.org) 115,000 members, www.iupat.org
- [Transportation Communications International Union \(TCU\)](http://www.tcunion.org) 100,000 members, www.tcunion.org
- [International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers \(BAC\)](http://www.bacweb.org) 100,000 members, www.bacweb.org
- [International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers](http://www.boilermakers.org) 75,000 members, www.boilermakers.org
- [Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons International Association \(OPCMIA\)](http://www.opcmia.org) 40,000 members, www.opcmia.org
- [International Union of Elevator Constructors \(IUEC\)](http://www.iuec.org) 26,000 members, www.iuec.org
- [International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators & Asbestos Workers](http://www.insulators.org) 20,000 members, www.insulators.org
- [Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL-CIO](http://www.bctd.org) n/a, www.bctd.org

Seniors Corner

Many Not Impressed by President's State of the Union Address

Bush's proposed tax deduction for health insurance appears to be a tough sell in Congress. This proposal would encourage employers to stop providing health insurance. Bush's plan would allow each family to deduction \$15,000 a year from its taxable income to offset the cost of health insurance. Those who file as individuals would be allowed \$7,500. To pay for this tax break, the value of employer provided health insurance exceeding the deductions would be taxed as income. The conservative Tax Foundation said 53% of Americans without health insurance pay nothing in federal income taxes and would get nothing from a break on such taxes. "The President's health care proposal with skewed tax credits disproportionately affects retirees and health plans with older workforces. This misguided proposal could hasten the dropping of health care coverage for retirees," said George Kourpias, President of ARA.

Bipartisan Re-Importation Legislation Introduced in the Senate and House

A bipartisan group of representatives introduced bills S242 and HR380 with a high chance of passing under the new leadership. These bills would establish regulatory framework for pharmacies and wholesalers to re-import Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved prescription drugs. Neither bill's would allow imports from nations other than Canada.

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.



Caps available from Lodge 66 for \$11.00 each.

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. **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

Officers, LL66 Machinists Union

President Patricia Elizondo
Vice President Bob Paar
Recording Secretary

Mike Pietrzykowski

Secretary Treasurer . . Doug Curler
Conductor Sentinel . . .

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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

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
414-671-3800

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dwc/iama1166, all-cio

