

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 12 No. 7

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

July 2009

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

July 10, 2009

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 August edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is July 17.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. **See last page.**
- Education Evening for July and August are suspended.

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dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio

The 411 on 2-1-1

By James Cobb

Get Connected.
Get Answers.

"If your sweetie done left you, or you're bummin' out on LSD, just get yourself to a telephone, and call 271-3123. It's the Underground, the Underground Switchboard. Call 'em up anytime at all. They're going to ease your mind, and all you have to do is call 271-3123." *

The 1960s were a time of change for much of America. Relaxed attitudes towards sex and drug use became more prevalent, but along with those came pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, addiction, overdose and other crises. Across the country, civic minded people began to establish phone support for people with problems and questions. In Milwaukee, the Underground Switchboard was the place to call. This one-stop and judgement-free resource for everything from the location of the nearest soup kitchen to STD testing to family planning services served Milwaukee starting in 1969 and evolved with the city into new forms that still exist today.

Many local psychologists, psychiatrists and counselors got invaluable experience manning the phones at the Underground Switchboard. It was used as a model to start a Women's Crisis Line in 1973, providing referral to resources such as family planning, domestic abuse prevention, food pantries, child abuse prevention and rape counseling. Within the first four years, the Women's Crisis line went from a little over 100 calls a month to 1500 calls a month. The Crisis line later evolved into the Task Force on Battered Women, and sexual assault and domestic violence hotlines were established to help victims find treatment and shelter.

Nowadays, of course, we have 911, but that's used to get fire and police and ambulance services, not information. Not everyone is lucky enough to have access to the World Wide Web, and the few public phones still around rarely have phone books available to look up the Poison Control Hotline, or the Sexually Transmitted Disease clinic. 411 can give you that, but no friendly and understanding person to talk to for a little human kindness, given free of charge with the resources you need. That's where 211 comes in.

In 2008, over 14 million Americans dialed these three simple digits and were directed to homeless shelters, soup kitchens, job training, addiction counseling, elder care, support groups and so much more. Under the auspices of the United Way and the Alliance for Information and Referral, 211 can be accessed in 46 states, along with Puerto Rico and parts of Canada. Best of all, it's a free call, just like 911, from both cellphones and payphones. In areas where 211 is not available, you can dial 1-866-211-3380, toll free.

With our current economic crisis, mortgage failures, job losses and lack of healthcare, information on BadgerCare Plus and ICare, food pantries, food stamps and heating assistance, the Wisconsin Family planning waiver, the Interim Disability Assistance Program, Medicaid, SSI, W2 and WIC are needed by more people than ever, and 211 stands ready to help people find exactly the resources they need.

People helping people. It's a wonderful thing. Now, aren't you glad you donated to United Way?

* Jingle aired on local radio stations in the 1970s advertising the Underground Switchboard.

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

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



For members of United Lodge 66 who are members of the Union Sportsmen's Alliance we will be holding a gun raffle at our September 11, 2009 meeting. To be raffled off will be a: (a) Made in USA Beretta 3901- 12 gauge semi automatic shotgun; (b) Union Made in the USA Remington 770 rifle with scope, 30.06 caliber. The winner will responsible for a processing fee and must be willing to have a lone photo of the winner or a ceremonial hand off photo taken.

Gun Raffle

The USA is one of a kind, hunting and fishing association of the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP) and its trade Union partners, exclusively for conservation minded Union members, retirees and their families that hunt, fish and appreciate the outdoors.

USA for an annual fee of just \$25 and enjoy the following:

- Personalized USA membership card
- USA Logo Buck Knife
- Money-saving discounts on outdoor gear and services
- 1-Year subscription to a top outdoor magazine (\$31.92 value)
- \$25 gift certificate from Beretta field gear
- Chances to win exceptional prizes and trips
- Full access to MyTopo.com (\$29.95 value)
- Access to the "Members-Only" section of the USA website
- Free membership in the TRCP

That's a value of more than \$117, plus extra savings with deals and discounts!

All members of Lodge 66 and Union Sportsmen's Alliance are automatically entered into the **Gun Raffle on 9/11/2009**.

Only USA members of Lodge 66 can take part in the **Gun Raffle on 9/11/2009**.

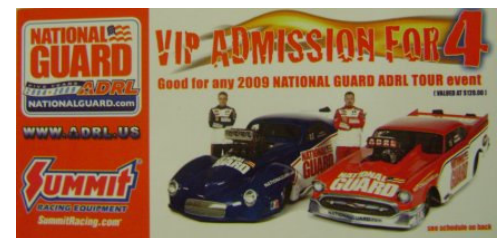
Members of Lodge 66 and USA members can purchase additional raffle tickets at the door at a price of \$5.00 for the **Gun Raffle on 9/11/2009**.

Make sure when you join USA that you put down **IAM and Lodge 66**. Some members have put down Lodge 1430, 34, 437 or 1493. These Lodges no longer exist and you would not be in the Lodge 66 **Gun Raffle on 9/11/2009** if not caught.

All members of Lodge 66 who have joined USA must let us know that you did join so no one will be left out of the **Gun Raffle on 9/11/2009**.

Activities for You and Family

- **Delegate to Milwaukee Area Labor Council:** July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4 and December 2. All meetings start at 6:30PM.
- Laborfest is Monday, **September 7, 2009** from 9AM to 5PM. This is open to all members and their family. Be part of working families in the Labor Day Parade and enjoy the Summerfest Grounds.
- Union Sportsmen's Alliance and United Lodge 66 **GUN RAFFLE** is **September 11, 2009** at your Lodge Business Meeting. You must belong to USA and be a member of United Lodge 66. The two guns are: (a) Made in USA Beretta 3901- 12 gauge semi automatic shotgun; (b) Union Made in the USA Remington 770 rifle with scope, 30.06 caliber. USA applications are available from your shop chair or from the Lodge.
- **Free Raffle of VIP Admission for 4** (valued at \$120.00) to any of the 2009 National Guard ADRL Tour Events will be held at our July Business Meetings. If no member in attendance is interested and you want to be entered, as a alternate, then send in your name to your Union office.



Employee Free Choice Act allows secret ballot

Since the 1935 National Labors Relations Act (Wagner Act) was passed activists judges and an unfriendly congress did modify the law giving corporations an unilateral rejection in recognizing a Union and force 42 days of intimidation, threats and firing before an election can be held. Originally "left the decision whether to organize entirely to employees." A corporation had no say.

The Employee Free Choice Act does allow card check recognition **or a secret ballot election** (if 30% of the workers so petition). This will put the power back to workers not corporations.

Deadline Is July 31, 2009

Scholarship Program of United Lodge 66

This program is meant to assist two high school seniors that are children of a United Lodge 66 member. Listed below are the criteria for the Scholarship Selection:

1. Two (2) \$500 scholarship annually.
2. Only seniors in High School that are children of Machinists Union United Lodge 66 Members and those that are seeking post High School Education are eligible.
3. An essay must be written and **must be based on how Unions have been important to your family and community** to be considered for the Scholarship. Information should be gathered from your parents or relatives and the struggles they may have faced in their jobs. The essays must be at least 500 words in length. **Please note, "Essays written from Labor History Books, encyclopedias, etc., will NOT BE ACCEPTED."**
4. Essays must be sent to: United Lodge 66, 2611 W. Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53215. Essays will be given to the Scholarship Committee to review.
5. After a review of the competency of each essay, a selection process will follow and the winner will be the essay that best meets the requirements stated above.
6. One half of the Scholarship will be paid directly to the school in the first semester (fall 2009) in which the individual is enrolled. The second half will be paid during the second semester (spring 2010) and also sent directly to the school. Selections of essay winners will take place at the September Lodge Meeting. **The essays must be in at United Lodge 66 office by July 31, 2009 or postmarked July 31, 2009 Absolute, no entries will be accepted past this date.**
7. Notification of availability of Scholarship will be published in the *Badger Lodge News*, our Website, and posted in all worksites.

The selection committee will be executive board members. We urge all Union parents in United Lodge 66, with High School Seniors in their family, to encourage their children to enter this contest for consideration of a Scholarship. All entries become the property of United Lodge 66 and winning or any entries will or may be published in the *Badger Lodge News*, our Website.



Milwaukee a City of Immigrants!

"In 1900 over half of Milwaukee's population of 285,000 had been born in Germany or was of German parentage. German Newspapers had a substantially larger circulation than English ones. Up until World War I, many children attended German language schools. Of the German social, political and cultural organizations that flourished in Milwaukee, the most important to Victor Berger were the fraternal Turnverein and the Socialist political organizations."



(source: *The Labor Movement in Wisconsin*, by Robert Ozanne)

Read our Lodge History Pages. We even had a brewery machinists contract in German for the benefit of our members!

IAMUNION

Health Care Reform *Git - it - Dun*

All of our elected representatives have health care provided by the tax payers. We can afford to cover all citizens.

What is being proposed is not socialized medicine but a health care system for all so the cost is paid by all on a more equal basis. This would be similar to the Wisconsin Healthy Plan which was proposed in our state. Those neo-con's calling a public health system as socialized medicine are once again lying to the public. Remember if lies are repeated enough they seem to be the truth.

With a larger pool in the health care system, those 47 million without health care, the cost of health care is reduced. Look at your individual worksite and how it may be individually rated. A small worksite means a higher cost. The reason you are charged so much. This would change with a national plan.

A public plan would also not be profit driven. Again look at our non-profit hospitals which are always increasing their rates to make a 'profit.' Just try to get some free health care within our present hospital/health care system!

The Lewin Group, nonpartisan health care consultants, did a report in our state and predicted if we had a public option the family group premiums would decrease by 33% and single premiums would decrease by 27%. **A public option will create competition** and force insurance carriers to offer insurance coverage and not just layers of bureaucracy to figure out how to deny you the coverage you deserve and pay for.



For what we are paying, we all deserve better.

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UNEMPLOYMENT LIFELINE

Many working families are struggling in these uncertain times. This website may be helpful, <http://www.unemploymentlifeline.com>. It is a one stop guide that links workers to the resources available in our area, from unemployment offices to veteran's services to child care. It also offers the opportunity to talk to others and share support and lessons learned.

If members do not have internet access then there is the public library or they can come into their Union Office. Just call us in advance.

<http://www.unemploymentlifeline.com>

[Opportunity.gov](http://www.opportunity.gov)

Visit this site for possible education aid for laid off workers. The President recently announced that unemployed workers receiving unemployment benefits may qualify for a special hand in paying for education and training. And aid can be significant: In particular, the Federal Pell Grant program can provide up to \$5350 for education costs at community colleges, colleges and universities and many trade and technical schools.

<http://federalstudentaid.ed.gov/opportunity/index.html>

Veterans: Get the Benefits You Have Earned!

The supermarket of Veterans Benefits held in conjunction with Operation Freedom will be held on Sunday, July 5, 2009 from 9AM to 4PM at the Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 W. Bluemound Road, Milwaukee.

At this free, "one-stop-shop" for benefits, veterans can:

- Establish eligibility for state veteran's benefits.
- Apply for state and federal benefits.
- Receive information about loans, education benefits and employment opportunities.
- Get assistance in obtaining military medals and records.
- Obtain information about nursing home card.
- Pre-register for burial in state veterans' cemeteries.
- Learn about the wide range of benefits available including health care, loans, compensation and pension, education, job training, aging services, funeral honors, and more!



Wristbands are required for free entrance to the Zoo and *were available* from our County Veterans Service office from May 4 through June 19.

For more information call the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-800-WIS-VETS (1-800-947-8387), www.WisVets.com or the Milwaukee County Veterans Service Office, 414-382-1753.

Senator Herb Kohl can be contacted at:
kohl.senate.gov or at 1-800-247-5645.



211

Get Connected and Get Answers

Simply dial "2-1-1" for help with a variety of basic life needs and personal issues.

Free and confidential, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

Call for help with:

- **Healthcare** - referrals to clinics for people who are uninsured or cannot afford to pay for healthcare.
- **Alcohol & other drug abuse** - direct connections to certified professionals.
- **Food** - locate pantries, meal site, summer youth meal sites.
- **Shelter** - locate emergency shelter, day shelter, domestic violence shelters.

2-1-1 @ Impact can answer your questions about:

- **BadgerCare Plus:** Health care coverage for uninsured families.
- **FoodShare:** helps low income families and individuals buy nutritious food.
- **Wisconsin Family Planning Waiver:** is a Wisconsin Medicaid program which offers low income women free, confidential reproductive health care.
- **iCare:** medical, dental, behavioral health, vision, prescription drugs, and social services benefits.
- **IDAP:** Interim Disability Assistance Program.
- **Medicaid:** A state/federal assistance program that helps certain needy and low income people pay their medical bills.
- **SSI:** Supplemental Security Income.
- **W-2:** Wisconsin Works
- **WIC:** Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children.
- ... and More

By cell phone use 1-866-211-3380.

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.

We do provide all shop chairs with the new member application and self addressed stamped envelopes. Before your worksite runs out of either you need to contact this office and more will be sent.

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Two Way Learning

Patricia Elizondo, Lodge President, and I are willing to meet with all shop committees or to attend your shop meetings to discuss procedures of the Lodge and the Grand Lodge Constitution.

This can not be done if you fail to ask!

We just ask for advance notice at a time and place of your convenience.



Member Reimbursement Form for Lost Time

All members must use this form to be reimbursed any lost time from United Lodge 66. The form needs to be complete. The member does need to have a W4 form on file at the Lodge. This only needs to be done once and we keep it forever. The W4 only needs to be updated if you change your dependents.

Your business agent needs to sign this form before there is any payment.

There is also a place, "Applicants Signature." The member needs to sign this. Why? By signing you stipulate that the Lodge is reimbursing you for lost time and not your employer. If a member is caught double dipping they will have to repay the money and they will be forbidden from holding any representative position in the Machinists Union. (*per Grand Lodge*)

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.

Application for Withdrawal Card

This card will or may save members money but they need to take action and in a timely manner. The card is available 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.

Also the current month dues along with the \$1.00 fee must be presented to the Lodge.

Once a member does lapse their membership they are not entitled to take out a withdrawal card.

Members need to do something, contact us, within two months of last paying dues. The Lodge does mail the appropriate information to members and why shop chairs need to communicate to all members what are their alternatives.

Seniors Corner

Senate HELP Committee Releases Health Care Bill Containing A Public Plan

This committee filed a 651 page health care reform bill during the first week in June. The bill contains a public health plan, an employer mandate, and a guaranteed issue of policy, thereby disallowing the refusal of coverage for pre-existing conditions. On retiree issues, there is a Medicare buy-in for 55-64 year olds. The Community Living Assistance Services and Supports Act of 2009 (CLASS Act) is included in the HELP bill, creating a long term insurance program for adults who become functionally disabled. "We have waited a long time for this day," said Edward R. Coyle, Executive Director of the Alliance. "Now we need to see health care reform through to the end."

House Releases Its Own Health Care Bill Containing a Public Plan

Two committees unanimously agreed that a public option plan is necessary in providing all citizens with affordable and efficient health care. The bill proposes a Health Insurance Exchange that would include a new public option, as well as current private options. Employers would be able to choose between providing coverage to workers or contributing funds on behalf of their uncovered workers. Like the Senate bill, the House bill prohibits insurers from excluding patients based on pre-existing conditions.

Join the Wisconsin ARA Chapter,
6333 W. Bluemound Road, Milwaukee, 53213. (414-771-9511) Yearly dues are \$10.00.

<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

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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.

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

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

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

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Officers, LL66 Machinists Union

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Vice President Bob Paar
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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 lodge66@gmail.com

<http://www.unitedlodge66.org>

<http://www.youtube.com/badgerlodge>

dwc/iamawill66, afl-cio

HIRE Center

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

'Dislocated Worker Program'

Daytime Office Hours 8AM to 4:30PM

or business can be done by mail;
dropped in the mail slot at 2611 W.
Oklahoma Avenue; or on the nights of
our Business Meeting or
Education Evening

Car Pooling from Kenosha

Want to carpool to Union Meeting?
Contact Vice President Bob Paar for
how it can be done: 262-914-1777 or
bpaarosckenosha@yahoo.com

Union Made In America

clothing &
MORE; call 262-
373-0777. Located
at N35 W21100
Capitol Drive,



Unlike Stock Market,
Social Security has worked
over the long term.