

Badger Lodge News



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



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www.unitedlodge66.org

June 2006

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

June 9, 2006

7:00 PM

2609 W. Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53215
414-671-3800

*All Lodge Members are
Encouraged to attend.*

- There are **NO DAYTIME OFFICE HOURS**. Business can be done at the Business or Education Night Meetings or by mail.
- **CHECK** the answering machine for hours, 414-671-3800.
- **Education Night Evening** for June, July and August are cancelled
- The deadline for articles to July edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is June 17.

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Wisconsin State Council of Machinists Conference (April 20 to 20, 2006)



*Jim Brown, IAM Midwest
General Vice President and Mike Hornby,
D10 Directing Business Representative*

Brother Brown gave his report on the status of Machinists Union membership in the Midwest and Wisconsin. The downward trend needs to be reversed and we believe the IAM organizing conference held in October 2005 will do that. **Union density needs to be increased** in order to maintain our contractual benefits. Each Local Lodge is to have two valid organizing leads to be developed by our District and our District is required to have valid organizing blitz's. Neither will be accomplished without the participation of members. **(Members = You)** In was reported

that between 2001 to 2005 774,00 manufacturing jobs was lost in America and 382,300 lost in the Midwest.

Governor Doyle talked about organized labor's value in supporting and working on issues affecting all workers such as getting the minimum wage raised. This was accomplished, besides majority opposition in the state legislature. He talked about his programs for health care for all children through Badger Care, regardless of income. He wants to change the rules so seniors can get medical care in their homes therefore they will not have to spend down their money and move into a health care facility.

Attorney General Lautenschlager spoke about the accomplishments of her Department of Justice by suing employers who go bankrupt. **"We have collected \$10 million in wages for workers for what they were owed,"** she stated. Her department has also sued the pharmaceuticals for setting the prices of medications and not allowing competition. She has also worked with the Wisconsin AFL-CIO and farmers and will hold a conference next month on the world trade laws and treaties which do not have to conform to Wisconsin laws. They are above our laws and adversely affect our standard of living.



Attorney General Peg Lautenschlager



Governor Jim Doyle

dwc

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

Activities for You and Family

- Laborfest is September 4, 2006 from 10:00AM to 5:00PM. Lodge 66 will provide T-shirts for all Lodge 66 members (and family) who march and tickets to supplement the cost of refreshments and food at the Summerfest Grounds. Entrance to the grounds is free. There will be music, games for children, free drawings for children's, an Union show, car show and more. ***You must pre-register yourself or family for the T-shirt, by size and name, before the cutoff date.***



"Some older Americans spend much of their Social Security checks just on their medications. Some cut down on the dosage to make a bottle of pills last longer. Elderly Americans should not have to live with those kinds of fears and hard choices. This new law will ease the burden on seniors and will give them the extra help they need. [Source: White House Web site]" 12/8/2003

"[U]nder the new plan, seniors in the middle-income quintile will pay an average of \$1,650 a year in out-of-pocket expenses for prescription drugs in 2006. This figure is nearly 60% more than they paid in 2000, even after adjusting for inflation. Expenses are projected to continue to rise so that by 2013 middle-income seniors will be paying more than two and a half times as much for prescription drugs (adjusting for inflation) as they did in 2000. - CEPR Report, 12/3/03"

dwc



W-4 is Needed!

Each member must have on file at the Lodge 66 office a W4 form before any reimbursement of lost time or committee person compensation can be made. We have mailed this form to each committee person and have made them available at the Lodge Business and Education Evening Meeting. **It is up to you to complete and return the W4 to the Union office.**

"The Conservative Nanny State"

How the Wealthy Use the Government to Stay Rich and Get Richer

A free e-book by Dean Baker



This book takes issue with the prevailing political metaphor in our politics that liberals want the government to promote fairness and equity, while the conservatives want to leave the outcome to the market. The book argues that **conservatives support a wide range of government interventions** that have the effect of distributing income upward.

Nanny State are words used to deride the idea of a government that endeavors to take care of its citizens. The basic thrust being: if you are not good enough to flourish in the free market, then the hell with you. Poor people deserve to be poor. Can not afford health insurance? Too Bad, the quicker you die off, the quicker the rest of us get to stop being annoyed by you. The macho strut factor cannot be ignored - ***John Wayne did not need a nanny to take care of him and if you do that is because you are weak and pathetic.***

Click on the picture to go to the site and read. If you want a copy ask your Lodge to send you one.

THE FACTS BEHIND "KICK THE OIL HABIT"

Fact: America uses 25 percent of the world's oil.

Source: National Resources Defense Council

[<http://www.nrdc.org/air/energy/fensec.asp>]

Fact: America has 3 percent of the world's oil reserves.

Source: National Resources Defense Council

[<http://www.nrdc.org/air/energy/fensec.asp>]

Fact: 92 percent of conventional oil reserves are in unstable nations.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

[<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/international/reserves.html>]

Excludes: North America, Western Europe, Eastern Europe (minus Russia and Kazakhstan), Brazil, Australia, India

Fact: The nations with the largest conventional oil reserves are Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Iraq.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

[<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/international/reserves.html>]

Fact: Average national gas price when President Bush took office: \$1.46

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

[<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/ftparea/wogirs/xls/pswrgvwreg.xls>]

Fact: Average national gas price now: \$2.95.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/wrgp/mogas_home_page.html]

Fact: Exxon CEO Lee Raymond's 2005 compensation amounted to \$191,000 per day.

Source: Wall Street Journal

[http://online.wsj.com/article_print/SB114488872297424662.html]

Fact: Median American income is \$122 per day.

Source: Center for Budget and Policy Priorities

[<http://www.cbpp.org/incometables.pdf>]

Fact: Exxon CEO Lee Raymond's retirement package was \$400,000,000.

Source: ABC News

[<http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/story?id=1841989&page=1&gma=true&gma=true>]

Graph: U.S. oil imports (2001-2005).

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

[<http://tse.export.gov/NTDMap.aspx>]

Fact: Oil is the largest component of the U.S. trade deficit.

Source: American Association of Petroleum Geologists

[<http://dpa.aapg.org/gac/papers/energysupply.cfm>]

Graph: U.S. trade deficit (2001-2005).

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

[<http://tse.export.gov/NTDMap.aspx>]

Fact: Cumulative U.S. trade deficit under President Bush is \$2,835,000,000,000.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

[<http://tse.export.gov/NTDMap.aspx>]

Graph: U.S. debt (2001-2005, 2006 debt limit).

Source: White House Office of Management and Budget (2001-2005)

[<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2007/pdf/hist.pdf>]

Federal government debt limit raised (2006)

[<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=10000103&sid=aV04.D.whRXc&refer=us>]

Fact: 2005 was the hottest year in history.

Source: NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/10/12/AR2005101202498.html>]

Fact: Projected sea level rise this century: 19 inches. Worst case scenario: 200 feet.

Source: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (19 inches)

[http://www.grida.no/climate/ipcc_tar/wg1/index.htm]

Science (200 feet)

[http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2002-03/osu-akt032502.php]



Will the Devastation of American Communities Ever End?

Notes from the Educator

By Patricia Elizondo

(Article taken from www.goiam.org)

IAM Slams Whirlpool's Closure of Maytag Plant in Illinois

Washington, D.C., May 10, 2006 - The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) reacted sharply to Whirlpool's announcement it was closing its Maytag washer and dryer facility in Herrin, IL and moving the work to its Whirlpool facilities in Clyde and Marion, OH. The IAM represents about 800 production workers at the Herrin, IL facility.

"This closure is the direct result of the Bush Administration's abdication of its oversight responsibility when it allowed the merger of two companies that would end up with almost 80 percent of the U.S. market share for washer and dryer manufacturing. It also underscores this Administration's opposition to a meaningful industrial policy to protect America's manufacturing sector," said IAM President R. Thomas Buffenbarger.

Whirlpool acquired Maytag in March 2006 after outbidding Ripplewood Holdings, a private equity firm, and Chinese appliance manufacturer Haier in a takeover battle that started in May 2005. The Bush Administration ignored the IAM's and other groups' objections to Whirlpool's bid on grounds the new company's giant market share would cost jobs and harm consumers. The Justice Department's Anti-Trust Division approved Whirlpool's bid in March 2006, even though the new company would produce almost 80 percent, or three out of every four, of washers and dryers made in the U.S.



Patricia



The photo is of the May 1, 2006, Day With No Latino march. Participants are heading down to the lake front. There were groups representing the Irish and German immigrant who also came to America and not always through Ellis Island.

"I am proud that my great-great-grandfather was an illegal alien (immigrant)," stated Alexander Jacobs. His is one of many stories of our country and our foundation. His relative came to America at 16. He fled his homeland because of the clan he belonged. He came to America without any papers. But he was different from the dialogue in America today. He was a white, he was a man and he knew English. He fled Scotland. His relative was quickly accepted and apprenticed to a stonemason and eventually became a master stonemason. We have to accept, with no illusion, that race and gender and language is at the center of the debate over today's immigration policy!

(Jacobs is a Milwaukee area pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and his story appeared in the Shepherd Express.)

"Lousy trade policies and a complete lack of enforcement of anti-trust and other measures to protect jobs and consumers are leaving American communities devastated as family-wage manufacturing jobs are sent overseas or consolidated by multinational companies," said IAM Midwest Territory General Vice President James Brown. "Congress must act to stop the stampede of jobs to Mexico and other nations and enact an industrial policy that encourages manufacturers to keep good jobs in the United States. Manufacturing jobs are the key to a strong middle class, stable families and vibrant communities. We cannot afford to lose them.

"We will immediately begin meetings with our federal, state and local leaders to pressure Whirlpool to reverse its misguided decision," said Brown. "We will also demand meaningful steps to protect U.S. manufacturing jobs, including an end to millions of dollars in bonuses to top executives for flushing good American jobs down the toilet."

The IAM is one of the largest industrial trade unions in North America, representing nearly 720,000 active and retired members in the U.S. and Canada. For more information about the IAM visit the website at www.goiam.org.

Workers Memorial Day



On April 28 we remember the more than 50000 workers killed on the job each year or who die of work related illnesses. In 2005 approximated 125 workers in Wisconsin never made it home from their job. Also read off were the names of those Wisconsin workers killed in Iraq each year. The above person is one of the many wounded soldiers from Iraq and he volunteered to read the names.

dwc

(Gas, continued from page 3)

Fact: Bush backed bill with up to \$80 billion in handouts to oil companies.

Source: Government Accountability Office

[<http://select.nytimes.com/search/restricted/article?res=F30615FF3E540C7A8EDDAA0894DE404482>]

Fact: Bush administration backed \$87,000 tax deduction for buying a Hummer.

Source: CBS News

[<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2003/01/23/opinion/meyer/main537649.shtml>]

Fact: Average fuel economy of U.S. auto and light truck fleet was 26 mpg in 1987, 25 mpg in 2004.

Source: U.S. Center for Transportation Analysis

[http://www.cta.ornl.gov/data/tedb24/Spreadsheets/Table4_18.xls]

Fact: Oil and gas interests spent \$420,000,000 in Washington.

Source: Center for Public Integrity

[<http://www.publicintegrity.org/oil/report.aspx?aid=345&sid=100>]

Graph: Gas costs for average U.S. family.

Sources: Consumer Federation of America (2001-2005 data)

[http://www.consumerfed.org/pdfs/CFA_REPORT_The_Impact_of_Rising_Prices_on_Household%20Gasoline_Expenditures.pdf]

Republican National Committee (2006 estimate)

[<http://www.gop.com/News/Read.aspx?ID=6282>]

Quote: "There is no such thing as being too closely aligned to the oil business..." -- George W. Bush, 1978

Source: Time magazine

[<http://www.cnn.com/ALLPOLITICS/time/2000/06/26/pump.html>]

Seniors Corner

Disabled and Seniors Start to Confront Medicare's Hole

Mildred Lindley is stuck in a hole, the doughnut hole, "right in the middle of it," she says, that comes with Medicare's new prescription drug benefit.

Just four months into the program, Lindley has hit the point in her coverage where she has to pick up, at least for a few months, the full cost of the medication she takes to keep her bone marrow cancer in remission. As a result, here two month supply of Thalomid shot up from \$40 to a whopping \$1,300.00.

"If I can not get it, I guess I am here until the Lord takes me out. That is all I can do, because there is no way I can afford it," said Lindley, an 80 year old from Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Under the standard drug benefit, the government subsidizes the drug costs for seniors and the disabled. But after costs reach, \$2,250, the subsidy stops until a beneficiary has paid out \$3,600 of their own money. Then the government will start picking up 95% of each purchase.

The Republican Congress designed the drug benefit to give people some help with their initial drug costs, plus help those who have massive expenses. The doughnut hole was designed to reduce the overall cost of the program and still allow the federal government to meet these two goals.

(from an AP story in the April 27, 2006 Antigo Journal)

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.

AFL-CIO Community Services & Field Mobilization

633 S. Hawley Street, #106,
Milwaukee, WI 53214

Mike, 414-771-9829
Annie, 414-771-9830
Doug, 414-771-9828

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
Steve Nickel	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 Ben Elizondo
Vice President .. Patricia Elizondo
Recording Secretary
Mike Pietrzykowski
Secretary Treasurer. . . Doug Curler
Conductor Sentinel . . .
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Phone and fax is 414-671-3800 or
smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.unitedlodge66.org>
dwc@iamawll66, afl-cio

THERE ARE NO Daytime Office Hours

All Business must be done by mail; or drop in the mail slot; or the night of a Lodge or Education Evening Meeting.

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