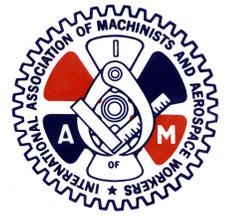


Badger Lodge News



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

Vol. 10 No. 5

May 2007

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

May 11, 2007

7:00 PM

@ **KENOSHA UNION
CENTER**

3030 - 39th Avenue, Kenosha

Lodge office is at:

2611 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 June edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is May 17.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. *See last page.*
- **Education Evening is May 17, 2007** at 7:00PM

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OFFICE CLOSED

The week of

May 14 through 18, 2007

@ *IAM Communications Conference*

NO MESSAGES

Will be returned

Until

May 22, 2007

Bob Paar, Vice President United Lodge 66

I would like to present myself to the members of United Lodge 66. I have been a life long resident of Kenosha and graduating from Mary D. Grandford High School in 1985. Immediately after graduation I did a four year active duty tour in the Army. My basic training was at Fort Bliss, Texas and as a member of the 25th Infantry Division, Bravo Battery, 1st - 62nd Air Defense Unit was a E4 was a Stinger Anti-Air Defense Missile System Gunner and Team Chief. Some temporary duty took me to Osan Air Force Base in Korea; Hokiado, Japan; Darwin, Australia; and Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines.

In April 1989 I started at Ocean Spray in Kenosha and a member of Lodge 34. I am a support technician; first as a steward; then in 1999 I was elected as a bargaining unit Shop Committee member. Since that time I have been reelected and got the opportunity to attend the Machinists Union Leadership I class in Placid Harbor Maryland. This training was exceptional and members should get involved and attend such classes.

May 2006 brought the news that Lodge 34 in Kenosha as well as the Racine Lodge was being merged in Lodge 66. **After attending several of the Lodge 66 meetings I realized this Lodge had a lot to offer** and I have welcomed the move. Lodge 66 has a dedicated group of retirees who attend their meeting and I thank them for that. Seeing all I did I decided to run for the vacant position of vice president and got elected. I did volunteer for the Lodge Organizing Committee and did submit an organizing lead even though it was for another Lodge and another District because of my firm belief these workers do need Union representation.

I look forward to meeting members at our Lodge meeting and encourage all to attend. Our Veterans Badge Night on June 2, 2007 will be a great event to share our experiences but you need to RSVP to attend.

In the end a members obligation to our Union does not end with the dues checkoff. We need to look inside ourselves and take the positive approach in our shops and in our lodge. Your job depended on the dedication of Unionism from those who proceeded us. I have heard members say, "what is my Union doing for me?" But I never hear them say what they have done for their Union. **The last thing anyone should want to become is an "employee at will."** All members need to support their Union and a giant thank you to those who continue to do so.



Bob

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

Security Anyone!

Remember the request by the hotel to turn in your hotel card when you leave? What information do you think is on it? Is it just to open the door to your room?

There could be a lot more than you think! Like all the information you gave the hotel in order to reserve the room: including your address, credit card number and expiration date, etc.

I would much rather destroy mine. How about you?

Bush Opposes Bill to Give Shareholders 'say on pay'

In light that the average CEO pay has increased from 20 times (in 1974) to 400 times (in 2006) the average worker; the House Democrats want to pass a bill giving shareholders at public companies a formal say on CEO's compensation packages. But of course Bush opposes this democratic process.

(AP 4/20/2007)

Activities for You and Family

- **Education Evening is May 17, 2007.** This is being planned as an evening so bring your children and grandchildren. The piece will be presented by a future Union Member.
- **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. *On May 5, 1886 our state militia killed 8 citizens marching for the 8 hour day.*
- **Machinists Union training at Placid Harbor.** Your lost time is now paid for by United Lodge 66 from the first class attended but you need to be active in your Lodge. Attend a meeting or make an arrangement to talk to the Executive Board members what you want to do and what we need done. **WE NEED ORGANIZING LEADS FROM YOU!**

LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOUR ORGANIZATION CAN SPONSOR THE PROJECT

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Your lodge can send you the information on this site, if you do not have internet access.

OR you can come into your office and use the internet connection. Info on: automotive, books, art, music, building materials, business, office, clothing, accessories, computers, telephones, entertainment, sports, financial, food, beverage, hardware, tools, heating & ac, house & garden, personal, pets, printing, publishing, broadcast, sporting goods, toys, games, gifts, travel & vacation.

Workers Memorial Day

Remembering the Ones Left Behind

submitted by Bunny Browning

On April 28, 2007 we again had a national day of mourning, we read the names of those who lost their lives, remember those who are maimed by their employers and once again bowed our heads and pray that next year will have no names to read.

What we do not seem to mention or mourn is the battered and bruised bodies and souls facing plant closings or mass layoff!

We see the small articles in the local newspaper, we have to dig deep through the pages, after all, it is our obituary. When the closing is highly publicized we see pictures of workers, the shocked look on their faces, and the sadness in their eyes.

What we are not privy to is the silent screams in their heads questioning, "what am I going to do?" How can I support my kids? How long can I survive? Does not anyone care? Where is the outrage?

The American worker is left behind like dirty laundry, trying to understand the rationality of a corporate decision, asking themselves the ultimate question, "what did we do wrong?" Maybe we could have worked harder, maybe we did not need to spend time with our families . . . maybe, maybe, maybe.

Corporate America has their agenda. It has been the same agenda throughout their existence. It is green. It is their god! No longer will we see the good corporate citizen, they have become extinct. I am not sure if we can ever regain our worth in their eyes. I do know that alone we can not. I am a firm believer that our fellow citizens have no real sense of the devastation, they hear, or read about these events one at a time. What would happen if we showed up in one place at one time, raising our banners over our heads? Telling them the numbers of worker that lost their jobs. The thoughts from Biggs & Stratton, the hundreds from Delphi, Ringier, Pabst, Siemens, Louis Allis, Moebus, Quebecor, Doyne Hospital, Allen Bradley, Milwaukee County, Johnson Controls, and the hundred of other employers (or past employers).

The list does go on and on. I can only imagine the streets filled with discarded workers. It is only a thought. Until we do something collectively the slaughter will continue. So ladies and gentlemen, **pull down your veils and slap on your black arm bands we are going to the funeral of the American Worker!**



Veterans/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!

Seniors Corner

Senate Blocks Effort to Lower Medicare Costs

On April 18 the US Senate blocked consideration of a bill, S3, to remove the prohibition on Medicare negotiating price discounts with the pharmaceutical companies. It would also have forced drug plan providers to reveal currently secret pricing data to government watchdogs. Senators allied with the drug industry launched a filibuster to block the bill and the vote of 55 to 42 fell short of the 60 votes needed under Senate rules to moved to a full debate on the bill. Six Republicans joined Senate Democrats in supporting the message. Earlier in the week the Bush announced he would veto the bill if it passed. **"Those Senators even blocked a full and public debate over the sweetheart deal the drug companies won in the 2003 Medicare law," said Alliance executive director Edward Coyle.**

"Medicare for All" Bill introduced Senator Kennedy and Representative Dingell introduced companion bills (S1218 & HR2034) that would allow US Residents younger than age 65 to enroll in Medicare. Residents would be eligible to enroll in Medicare or any health insurance plan offered through the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program or keep their private plan. "The legislation is based on the premise that Medicare is a successful program that has saved countless lives and could help younger Americans in addition to seniors. The logic makes a lot of sense," stated Ruben Parks, ARA Secretary Treasurer. "This is an intelligent idea."

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.



License Plate frame are: \$1.50



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

IAMUNION

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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
2611 W. Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53215-4438
414-671-3800
www.unitedlodge66.org

dwo/famaw1166, a8-cio

“Intelligent discontent is the mainspring of civilization. Progress is born of agitation. It is agitation or stagnation,” Eugene Debs.