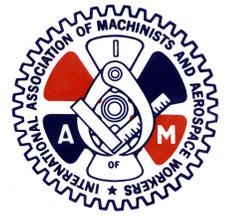


Badger Lodge News



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

Vol. 12 No. 11

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

November 2009

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

November 13, 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 December edition of the “*Badger Lodge News*”, is November 17.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. *See last page.*
- November 19 Education Evening is at 7:00PM.
- **UNION OFFICE CLOSED,** November 20 through November 27.



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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

Nobel Winner & True American

President Obama was in office only a few weeks and yet nominated for the Nobel Peace prize. He brought out a feeling of hope. Felt not only by America but the rest of the citizens of our planet. A true rejection of the perception and truth coming from America the previous eight years that if you are not with me, you are against me. That was never the American way. Our country was always able to talk to others and try to compromise. To do such is not a sign of weakness but maturity. The ability to work through problems. Any person or country can shoot first but then what?



The only two sitting U.S. Presidents to win this award were President Theodore Roosevelt in 1906 and President Woodrow Wilson in 1919. President Jimmy Carter won his award in 2002 after leaving office in 1981.

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 their 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 Unionists is not an:

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

(source: training manual William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center)

(editors note: the words imply workers are involved and have not relegated actions to leaders!!!)



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

Education Committee Guidelines

1. Prepare agenda for Education Night meetings. This would include videos, guest speakers, introduction of speakers on Education Night, etc., etc.
2. All subject matter is subject to approval of the Executive Board prior to presentation or when scheduling guests.
3. Conduct interviews for interested members for Leadership training or other training at Winpisinger Center if necessary.
4. Present results of interviews to recording secretary to be recorded in minutes of Executive Board reports.
5. Maintain a file and keep records of candidates that are screened.

Criteria for Placid Harbor Leadership Training Programs

1. Member must have attended 50% of Union/Education Night meetings (10 of 20 scheduled meetings for the year) in the year prior to requesting consideration for Placid Harbor training. There are 12 monthly Union meetings and 8 monthly Education Night meetings. (Education Night is not held in June, July, August and December.) Members working second shift may be waived from the meeting requirement if they can verify involvement with Local Lodge functions, committees or labor sponsored community events held outside of their shifts.
2. The Local will pay for lost time the first time a member requests a training program, but future requests for training at the William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center and requests for lost time will be based on the involvement of the member in Local Lodge functions, committees and labor sponsored events and activities.
3. Member must actively demonstrate willingness to participate in Local Lodge functions and committees. These could include but are not limited to:

Classification Committee
Labor Council Delegate
District 10 Delegates
Women's Committee
Education Committee
Human Rights Committee
By Law Committee
Organizing Committee



4. Member sent to training must report to membership on training experience and submit an article for the *Badger Lodge News* which may or may not be added to the Local's website.
5. Meet qualifications and standards set by IAM.

Criteria for Other Training Programs at Winpisinger Center, Conferences and Conventions

1. Other training programs at W3 will be recommended on a case by case basis after a member submits, in writing, why he/she wants to attend the training, conference or convention and how they believe their attendance of a particular training program, conference or convention will benefit members of Local Lodge 66 and/or the community labor movement.
2. Attending conferences and non-elected positions at conventions will also be based on Union involvement and how the conference or convention relates to a members Union position and/or committee membership.
3. Criteria for Leadership Training will also apply when sending members to special training programs, conferences and conventions whether those events are conferences/conventions for the IAM or affiliated labor organizations. (This criterion also applies to retirees of Local Lodge 66.)
4. Requests for conference/convention costs, lodging and travel costs need to be submitted to the Executive Board in a timely manner so that it allows for membership approval prior to the event-taking place.

Activities for You and Your Family

- **Delegate to Milwaukee Area Labor Council:** November 4 and December 2. All meetings start at 6:30PM.
- *Education Evening* is **November 19, 2009** at 7:00PM. The topic is on **Human Rights** for you at your worksite.
- **Christmas Party** will be Saturday, December 12, 2009. This will be at your Union Hall, 2609 W. Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee. There will be something during the day for children of Machinists Union members of United Lodge 66 and then an Open House Event in the evening with numerous door prizes. (*more information to follow*)
- *Education Evening* on **January 21, 2010** will be on **Your 2009 Taxes** and the changes in federal and state by Joanne Reuss.



The New Cutting Edge

This was the title for the Machinists Union Communications Conference held from September 27 to 30, 2009. The conference title meant getting away from printed material and a typical website to the social networking communications.

There were the normal workshops to attend for learning as well as speakers to enlighten.

Want to stay in touch? Then develop your own Facebook account and hook into the **Machinists Union Facebook network**.

dwc

Health Care Reform? We Do Not Need It! *Stay The Course*

Take the example of Bill Caudle from the Madison area who lost his job as a raw materials coordinator at Polyone in Sussex, Wisconsin.

Before Bill lost his job, Michelle, his spouse was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Her medical care was covered by his employer based health insurance. For a while the health insurance continued under his severance package. Then the cost of the insurance jumped to \$497.00. As of January 2010 they would have had to pay \$1370.00.

No job, many of resumes sent out with an unemployment rate of 10% what were Bill's chances of getting another job? His spouse with the medical treatment for cancer, how was it going to be paid? **Do the insurance companies care?**

Bill was lucky! The federal government, in 2005, did raise the age for enlisting into the Army to 42 and he was only 39. So he enlisted for a four year tour of duty to provide health insurance for his cancer stricken spouse.

On October 7, 2009, Bill left for his Army basic training in South Carolina, leaving his cancer stricken spouse and their three children, ages 14, 18 and 21.

Should this continue to be the American way? Better not lose your job.

dwc

Embracing the Future

By James Cobb Communicator LL66

in collaboration with Anne Chase former IBEW member

Do you use a home computer? Do you see it as a place to check email, pay bills, play solitaire, and read the day's headlines, or do you see it as a giant paperweight your kids use to play video games?

The way we communicate in this world has changed radically over the last twenty years, and as Union members, we can't afford to be left behind.

Stop and think for a moment about what our Unions have accomplished in the last century. Trade unions, with their roots in 16th and 17th century tradesman's guilds, grew in strength and power during the latter part of the 1800s and into the 1900s. Despite political opposition and economic oppression, they managed to accomplish huge gains: a 40 hour work week, 8 hour work day, overtime compensation, workmen's compensation structures, collective bargaining models, workplace safety, child labor laws, and unemployment insurance. We are the grateful recipients of their legacy today. And they did all this despite a widespread lack of education and slow mechanisms for disseminating news and information.

Now think about what we can accomplish when we embrace new technology. As Union members, in the here and now, we have at our fingertips amazing resources that those early labor fighters would never have dreamed of. Internet puts so much information in front of us at the click of a mouse. Email and cell phones enable us to communicate globally cheaply and immediately. Union members can connect with one another through online newsletters and communities like Facebook. Photo groups on Flickr share images and even repressive governments cannot stop their citizens from posting video and other communications on sites like Twitter and YouTube.

At the Communicator Conference 2009 I attended in Vancouver this September, we saw the launch of the new website for IAMAW, www.goiam.org. Union members from across the globe can connect with one another, learn from each other, discuss strategies for educating and reaching out to other members, and forge friendships that can only strengthen us. Given all that we have proved we can accomplish when we work together in the past, think how far we can go when we learn to use these new tools to share information and ideas with one another.



If you are a computer user, I urge you to reach out to your coworkers and friends to help them to learn and feel comfortable with the new technologies. If you are not, don't be afraid to ask for help from friends and family. And remember that community centers, local libraries, and other places often offer affordable and friendly classes for the computer challenged.

There is a war of misinformation out there, and our best defense is to educate ourselves and learn to effectively use the tools we have to learn everything we can to advance the causes of our Union and our worker's rights.

I will write more about the new www.goiam.org website in the coming issues of the newsletters, but I urge you to get online and check it out for yourself.

2010 Scholarship Competition

This competition is run by our International and made possible by the dues paying members with our organization. The deadline for the scholarships are February 26, 2010. A brochure explaining the competition is available from your Union office or simply write to our International for the information. It would be fastest to directly contact them:

IAM Scholarship Program
9000 Machinists Place, Room 117
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-2687

Human Rights

by Pat Elizondo

The week of October 5th through the 9th I attended the Human Rights training class at the William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center in Hollywood, Maryland. As President of Local Lodge 66, I receive many concerns about different types of discrimination in the workplace and, what members feel, are violations of their human rights. Unfortunately, Local Lodge 66 does not have a Human Rights Committee that could assist in addressing some of these concerns, nor do we have a policy or procedure in place as to how we can assist members when they feel their rights have been violated.

In the past, I have referred these concerns to the District 10 Business Representatives responsible for the shop involved, but I feel there is more we should be doing for these members when they have a complaint. Members need to know and feel that there are brothers and sisters that care about their issues and can advocate for them when incidents occur.

We also need to show concern for members that are unjustly accused of violating someone's rights as this can lead to someone's reputation being put up for scrutiny and causing mistrust among coworkers.

I will be doing a presentation on November 19th, 2009 for our Education Night on starting a Human Rights Committee for the Lodge and encourage any one interested in being on the committee to attend.

Veteran's Committee

The Milwaukee Area Labor Council and AFL-CIO has developed (still is) a Veteran's Committee for current or past military personnel. If you would like to get involved or initially be informed let us know.

There is not obligation. Call/email/write to us: 414-671-3800 or lodge66@gmail.com



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United Lodge 66
Union Plus Benefits
Savings. Service. Solidarity.

As a current or retired Union member, you and your family are automatically eligible to start using your Union's Plus benefits.

You may be eligible for other benefits from your Union. Check www.goiam.org for Union Plus benefits updates, visit www.unionplus.org. Take advantage of these benefits today.

Union Plus benefits from Union Privilege are the only consumer benefits endorsed by the AFL-CIO and your Machinists Union.

Member Benefits

On the job, you get the protection of a contract and more strength in the workplace. Off the job, the Union Plus programs, using the collective purchasing power of millions of Union members, offer you a wide range of high quality benefits with great value. Union Plus programs deliver the quality, service and savings that your family deserve.

Member and Consumer Advocacy

The Union Plus Member Advocacy Program will assist you if you have questions or concerns about any of the Union Plus programs. Full-time Union member advocates are devoted solely to providing you immediate help. Union Plus provides a wealth of consumer information to help you improve the quality of your life every day.

Delivering Savings and Unique Benefits

With the Union Plus programs, you and your family will receive Union member-only rates, discounts and special features like skip payments and financial assistance in the event of disability or layoff. The Union Plus programs are designed specifically for Union members and their families. That is why you won't find the savings and benefits associated with the Union Plus programs anywhere else.

Take advantage of the Savings

Take a look at all the money-saving benefits available to you as a Union member. Then contact the programs that can help you and your family today.



Machinists Union Apparel

Your Union office has a complete list of all the Machinists Union clothing available from our Internationals Stockroom. Recently we did receive a colored page showing Women's Merchandise. Stop in at your office or at the Union Meeting to look it over and order the merchandise you need at your convenience.

Visit www.iamstore.org and order right from your home.

Union Label & Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

On this site, www.unionlabel.org, you can find all the Union Made Products and services for your every day use and gift giving.

Reimbursement of Lost Time for Committee Person

While you will be reimbursed for lost time it may not be as fast as you would like if proper procedure is not followed. Foremost, reimbursement will only be done as stated in the letter from District 10 to Financial Officers dated January 23, 2009.

This must happen or be on file at the Lodge office:

- W4 must be completed by you and on file at the LL66 office. This needs be done only once.
- Properly complete the Lodge 66 Reimbursement Form.
- Lost time must be approved by your business agent at District 10.

Since October 2006 all lost time is paid by ADP payroll. Payroll is done only twice a month. If you miss one payroll date then it will have to wait until the next. Lost time reimbursement forms must be into the LL66 office before the Monday of a payroll date.

Payroll dates are listed on the Calendar Page of our Lodge website at: www.unitedlodge66.org.

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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.

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 bpaaroskenosha@yahoo.com

Initiation Fee

Per the Lodge 66 Bylaws: **“The Initiation fee will be the applicable monthly dues for the respective shop of employment for all members.”**

This was changed in 2001 and remember this is a fee not a due.

dwc

Honorary Withdrawal Card

There is a \$1.00 Fee - It Is Not Free

There has always been a fee for the withdrawal card. All too often a member sends in the application for the card and expects one at no cost.

Withdrawal cards are allowed 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.

In order to get the withdrawal card a member must obtain such within two months of paying dues.

dwc



Hello Out There!

Patricia Elizondo,
Lodge President, and I (Doug) 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.

Seniors Corner

Medicare doesn't pay all of your medical expenses.

Here is a way to cut your out of pocket costs.

The Problem

Medicare is an essential part of every senior's health planning, but it was never intended to provide for all your health care needs. Escalating health care costs leave many expenses and physicians' bills, to name a few.

Unless you have supplemental insurance coverage, these expenses come out of your pocket.

The Solution

The Alliance for Retired Americans was created by the AFL-CIO to promote the interests and welfare of retired workers. With this in mind, the Alliance is offering members affordable Retiree Health insurance coverage to supplement Medicare. Depending on the plan you select, coverage's pay various Medicare deductible, coinsurance and medical/doctor expenses not covered by Medicare.

(editors note: source from <http://www.araretireehealth.com> and on this site is a request form to receive your Free Retiree Health Information Kit.)

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

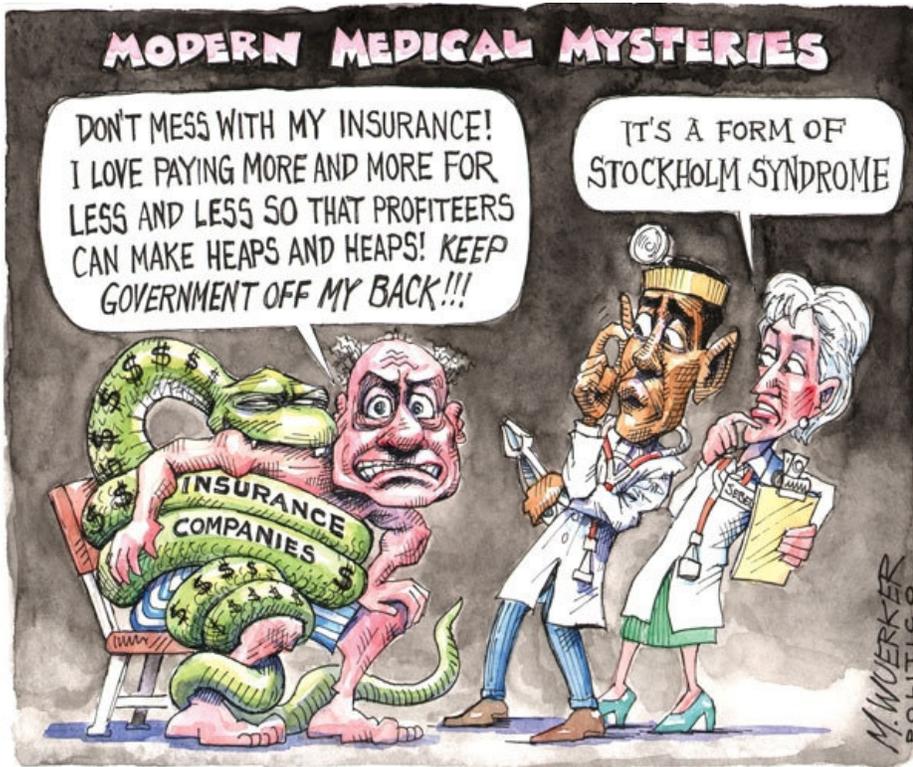
Union Pride

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, large or X-large
- \$11.50 for XX-large or 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.



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

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

dwc/iama1166, afl-cio

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
Editor Doug Curler
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 lodge66@gmail.com

<http://www.unitedlodge66.org>

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

dwc/iama1166, afl-cio

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



United Lodge 66
Christmas Celebration
December 12, 2009