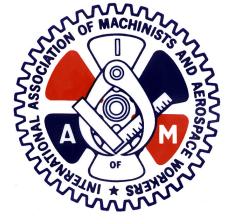


# Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 9 No. 11

[www.unitedlodge66.org](http://www.unitedlodge66.org)

November 2006

## United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

November 10, 2006

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.
- **Education Night Evening** is Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 7:00PM.
- 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 D10. See last page.
- Christmas Party is December 15, 2006 at 6:00PM

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November 7, 2006

## We All Can Make A Difference

*By Mike Pietrzykowski, Recording Secretary for Lodge 66*

This September at the Machinists Union Wisconsin State Council of Machinists Conference and at the Wisconsin AFL-CIO Convention the agenda was politics. While a few candidates gave speeches, the underlying message was political education. We are not talking about how the system works but on how and for whom the politicians work for. Knowledge of what a candidate is really saying and their stance on all the issues is critical to the voter. All too many times we are misled by the cries of sanctity and morality on wedge issues that are really personal choices and do not even belong in the hands of the government, while the real issues of jobs, health care, fair trade, education, corporate stealing of our pension money, social security, real homeland security and a laundry list of others are overlooked for the sake of the wedge issue. You have to look at their record when they say education is important and then cut \$15 billion. **What are they really saying?** When the federal trade agreements trump state laws and 50% of our military munitions are made in China. **What are they really saying?** Then we have Dubai Ports, Medicare Drug Plan, votes against raising the minimum wage for nine years; yet they vote themselves raises (our elected politicians and remember who is in power). There are record trade deficits, record corporate profits, large tax cuts for the top 10% of incomes and crumbs for the rest. **What are they really saying?** Do not worry they will keep us busy debating the wedge issues while they are stealing the American Dream and a way of life from us and have us believe the race to the bottom is the only way.

The Machinists Union along with the AFL-CIO are the watch dogs for the working person/family. They bring important issues into the open. Those which are important and relevant to the majority of working Americans. While we may not always agree with them, their decisions and recommendations on candidates always have the working person in mind. Extensive research, thought and at times interviews on the real issues is the way to evaluate a candidate.

I would like to remind everyone that through VOTING we can make a difference and **please consider the recommendations of your Union and the AFL-CIO.** They are looking out for the American Worker.



Mike

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



The MNPL is the political arm of the Machinists Union (IAM & AW) workers. It was created in

1947 to allow IAM members to gather individual contributions, coordinate political activity, and elect candidates who support IAM members and their families.

The candidates we support know that the MNPL stands for economic justice, security in the workplace and equality for every member. They do not take us for granted.

The MNPL scrutinizes each candidate thoroughly. We ask tough questions such as their positions on trade, labor law, economic conversion, transportation policies, and enhancement of the US manufacturing base.

To achieve the financial numbers to support the political candidates supporting working families we ask all members to be a sponsoring member in MNPL by voluntarily contributing \$10.00 per year. Collectively we can win.

Your shop chair has an MNPL voluntary contribution envelope or one can be mailed to you.

**IAMUNION**

### Lies and Deception

**It is against federal law for any portion of your dues dollar to go directly to any political candidate. Only through the voluntary contribution by Machinists Union members do we have any money to support political candidates.**

**Those who say else - are liars by deception.**



"We have created a new department of government to defend our homeland, focused the FBI on preventing terrorism,...improved border security, and trained more than a half million first responders." [Source: White House Web site]"  
Bush, George – President, 2/2/2005

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/02/20050202-11.html>

## Your Vote is a Personal Choice

It is a fact that in Wisconsin one political party controlled the governorship, state senate and state assembly for the 16 years previous to 2002. What did you get? **A \$3.2 billion deficit.**

**In the last four years:** (a) signed into law was a job creation package of regulatory reforms for businesses wanting to expand or move to Wisconsin; (b) there was no increase in the sales tax, as proposed by the state assembly and senate; (c.) our state income tax was not raised; (d) more low income, elderly and disabled are being helped by Medicaid; (d) state aid to schools has increased; (e) the spending on our roads has increased 14.3%; (f) ethanol production is promoted and there have been regulatory reforms to speed up company expansions.

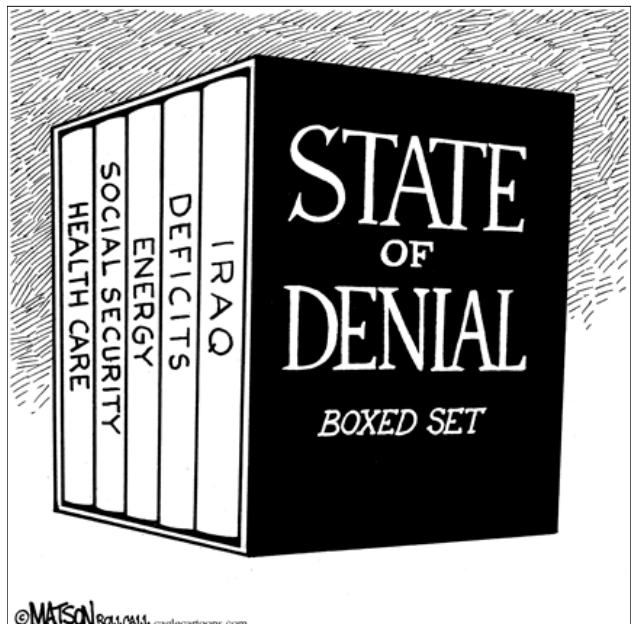
(source, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel)

"As its leadership changes for the first time, the Department of Homeland Security remains hampered by personality conflicts, bureaucratic bottlenecks and an atmosphere of demoralization, undermining its ability to protect the nation against terrorist attack, according to current and former administration officials and independent experts." - Washington Post, 2/2/05  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn/A55552-2005Feb1?language=printer>

At least two-thirds of the nation's fire departments are understaffed...Some, including New York, have had to close fire stations; others, such as Houston, have had temporary closures. In many cities, response times are slower, and trucks go out with too few firefighters. - USA Today, 11/28/04 "

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2004-11-28-police-shortages-cover\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2004-11-28-police-shortages-cover_x.htm)

[Reference](#) [Reference](#) [Reference](#)



# From Your President

By Patricia Elizondo

Since taking office in August, I have been contacted by several members and asked to address their concerns. I'm sure that the issues brought to my attention are on the minds of many more members, so I will use this newsletter to get things "out in the open".

Members that work second and third shift are asking why the Lodge Christmas Party is held on a Friday evening. Unless they take time off from work, most are unable to attend. Members on third shift can attend, but I've worked third shift and know I would not want to go into work after having a good time with my Union brothers and sisters at a holiday party.

The Executive Board did attempt to address this issue earlier this year. The party has always been held at the Union hall and we decided that there was no reason we could not have it at the hall on a Saturday. It would be easier on those that take vacation time to shop for the food, cook, decorate and clean up the hall. For members that don't know, the party is organized and setup by the Executive Board, Brother Bruce Larson and his wife Sue, several retirees and their spouses. We were concerned about increased attendance, but thought we would give it a try.

In April and May, an additional 1200-1400 members were merged into Lodge 66. At that time we realized our hall would not be large enough and decided to have the party at another facility. We looked into several options. We contacted several businesses with banquet halls, the Milwaukee County Parks Department and a few American Legion posts. All had limitations on bringing in our own food and beverages. Some would have been costly to members and not fiscally responsible on the part of the Board.

We did reserve the hall at Paulo's Italian Restaurant on 51<sup>st</sup> and Howard, but because we wanted to provide the food, we had to have the hall on a Friday night. If we wanted Saturday, we were obligated to use their catering service, which would have been a big expense to the Lodge.

Some of our members from the Kenosha and Racine area requested that we have an additional party at the Kenosha Labor Hall for members living in that area. We will consider this request for next year if we have enough interest and volunteers to organize the event.

I have also received some comments on our Friday evening membership meetings. About six years ago, we did a mailing around the November elections and included a survey for members asking them what day of the week and what time of the day or evening they would like to have membership meetings. The mailing was sent to approximately 1800 members. I received 24 responses, most of which wanted the meeting day and time to remain the same. We have had 2400+ members since May and the attendance at our monthly meeting remains about the same as it was prior to the merger. Unless we see an increase in the involvement of our members, both new and long time, the Executive Board will find it hard to justify a change to the members that are involved. I was asked if we could have quarterly meetings for our members in Racine and Kenosha. Again, if there is interest of more than a few people, this is something we will consider for the future.

Our Board would appreciate comments and suggestions from merged members as to how their Local Lodge meetings were held in the past in regards to accommodating all three shifts, along with preferred dates and times. We would also like to hear from any members willing to volunteer to arrange a Christmas party for second and third shift workers next year if we cannot find a suitable facility for a Saturday. **(Members should read the newsletter and visit our website for Union activities that will allow them to get involved in events and education opportunities schedule before or after their work hours.)**



Patricia

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## Activities for You and Family

- **Christmas Party is December 15, 2006, at 6:00PM.** The location is change to Paulo's at 5121 W. Howard Avenue, Milwaukee. The change is due to the anticipated increase in attendance. This also the night of our raffle drawing and numerous door prizes. ***Please RSVP your participation.***
- **Education . . . YOUR CHOICE: Collective Bargaining Class,** November 18 and December 2, 9AM to 4PM, Saturdays by the University of Wisconsin-Extension - School for Workers. Lodge 66 will reimburse you the \$37.06 registration fee after you have completed the class. At MATC West Allis Campus, room 117, 1200 S. 71st Street.
- **Placid Harbor Leadership Classes** and you can take your family and share the Union learning experience.



## Machinists Union William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center

This Machinists Union Educational facility is open to all members. You do need to apply through the Lodge Education Committee and you need to be active in Lodge 66.

Since 1981 more than 46,354 members have attended this facility. It is a commitment from our leadership to us for the best trained Union representatives. On our website there is a complete list of dates for all classes. In most instances there is room for members to bring their families so all can experience our facility.

There are **leadership classes**: Leadership I, II, III and Advanced Leadership; Train the Trainer; Spanish and French Leadership classes. There are **communication classes**: Advanced Editors; Basic and Advanced Web development; Basic Newsletter development; Communicators Course. There are **staff programs**: advanced collective bargaining; arbitration; first contract; pension fundamentals.

Besides this there are opportunities to get a labor degree through the National Labor College.

*Labor education to have the best trained. It is up to . . . guess who? YOU.*



*Placid Harbor, dorms and classrooms*

## Christmas Party

Friday, **December 15, 2006**

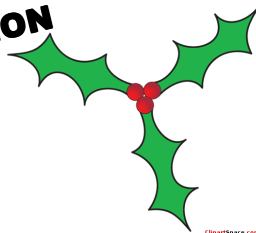
6:00PM to ??

**Paulo's Pizza at 5101 W. Howard Avenue, Milwaukee.** There will be a meal provided by Lodge 66, by your executive board; along with beer and soda (*cash bar for other drinks*).

This is night of our raffle drawing for 31 - \$100.00 prizes. If you win once your ticket goes back into the drum. There will be other door prizes.

We would appreciate an RSVP for your planned attendance so there will be enough food for all. **Call 414-671-3800 or email [smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net](mailto:smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net).**

**Same Great Party - DIFFERENT LOCATION**



## Essay Contest of Wisconsin Labor History Society

This yearly contest is open to high school students in grades 9 to 12. Talk to your family members, friends and neighbors about their Unions and their working life. Search out other resources. In about 750 words write on the following them: **“Unions have been important to my family and my community because . . .”**

The cash prizes to be awarded in May 2007 include:

- \$500 First Place
- \$300 Second Place
- \$200 Third Place
- \$100 Honorable Mention (up to five awarded)

**The rules:** Essay will be judged on understanding, evidence of original research, writing style and significance. Essays must be typed, double-spaced, on white paper. Two copies must be submitted (one may be a photocopy). Please be sure to provide the following information on the cover sheet. Your name, address, home telephone number, your grade in school, name and address of your school and if your were encouraged or assisted by a teacher the teacher's name. Also list your family's Union membership, if applicable.

Send the completed essays to: Professor Harvey Kaye, Center for History and Social Change, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Green Bay, WI 54311

**Submissions must be postmarked February 14, 2007 or before.**

## Union Office Closed

**From November 17 thru 26,**

**NO PHONE MESSAGES WILL BE RETURNED - BUT EMAIL WILL BE CHECKED.**



## 2007 Scholarship Competition

of *YOUR Machinists Union*  
(IAM)

The scholarship competition is open each year to members of the IAM and their children. This yearly competition was developed in 1960 and all money is from a separate fund.

Awards to members are \$2,000 per academic year. They are granted for a specific period from one to four years to enable the member to earn a Bachelor's degree or a two year vocational/technical certification.

Awards to children of members are for college at \$1,000 per academic year. All awards are renewed each year until a Bachelor's degree is obtained or for a maximum of four years, whichever occurs first. Vocational/technical school is \$2,000 per year until certification is attained or for a maximum of two years, whichever occurs first.

To obtain an application send request to:

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

**Application packet information must be postmarked no later than February 23, 2007.**

### Check Your Credit

Last year a law was passed allowing all consumers to receive a free copy of their credit report. Checking your report annually helps you catch mistakes and become aware of attempted identity theft. For a free report go to [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call 877-322-8228.

## Union Plus Guide to Scholarship

& college planning

Do you or your children need help paying for college? Affordable loans and consolidation loans are a click away.

To speak directly with a Union Plus Financial Aid Counselor, call 1-877-881-102. All calls are answered by Union members in the U.S. because the Union Plus Education Services provider American Education Services (AES) is Unionized through AFSCME Local 1224.

### Union Plus Scholarship Program

Since 1992, the Union Plus Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$2 million to students of working families who want to begin or continue their secondary education. Over 1,300 families have benefited from our commitment to higher education. The Union Plus Scholarship Program is offered through the Union Plus Education Foundation.

<http://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/scholarships/up.cfm>

## Seniors Corner

### Bush's Social Security Privatization Remarks Dismay Some in Own Party

More than a year after Social Security reform faded from the political radar screen, the debate erupted again on November 17, as Democrats seized on news that President Bush hopes to revive his proposal to privatize Social Security. According to *The Washington Post*, Bush in recent days has said Social Security remains one of the "big items" he wants to tackle next year. Given the disapproval of private accounts during this campaign season, many Republicans were perplexed by Bush's timing. Representative Tom Davis (R-VA) was among those trying to explain the strategy behind the president's remarks.

### 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](http://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
- \$15.00 for Denim/Black/Blue cap
- \$15.00 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.

## Orange or Green @



**Lodge 66 for \$15.00 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

## 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 . . . . . Patricia Elizondo

Vice President . . . . . **VACANT**

Recording Secretary . . . . .

Mike Pietrzykowski

Secretary Treasurer . . Doug Curler

Conductor Sentinel . . . Bunny

Browning

Trustees:

Dave Spengler, Darrell Rasch,

Dave Russell

Communicator . . Don Burmester

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

smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net

**http://www.unitedlodge66.org**

dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio

## 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 or Education Evening Meeting.

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

**www.unitedlodge66.org**

dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio

*"Democracy cannot succeed if only the rich and powerful have and use the votes."*  
George Meany, 1978