

Badger Lodge News



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



Vol. 12 No. 10

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

October 2009

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

October 9, 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 November edition of the "*Badger Lodge News*", is October 17.
- Contract Issues **MUST be settled** by your Business Agent at District 10. **See last page.**
- October 15 Education Evening is at 7:00PM.

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dwc/iamawll66, afl-cio

No Respect

By James Cobb, Communicator LL 66

Rodney Dangerfield was right. There's no respect anymore. The problem is, it's missing in some of the most important places - in our civic discourse, on our airwaves and even in the halls of our Congress.

Common sense, it seems, has gone missing as well.

Lyndon LaRouche is one of the people comparing President Obama to Adolf Hitler. LaRouche, whose political philosophies can be politely described as outlandish, once sued NBC for a commentator labeling him a "small-time Hitler."

Kevin Brady (R-Texas), recently complained to the Washington, D.C. Metro system that it did not provide enough trains to enable him and his fellow Tea Party members to attend a march on the Capital for an anti-Obama "9/12" rally. Brady, of course is on record voting against a stimulus package that granted millions of dollars for improving the D.C. Metro system.

There are many voices complaining that a government-run public option in healthcare is an earmark of socialism. These are the same people who want to make sure that Medicare and Medicaid are protected. Medicare and Medicaid are government-run health services.

Some of these same voices are saying that a nationalized health plan will put government bureaucrats in charge of health care decisions, rather than doctors. They want to keep the status quo, which allows insurance company bean counters to be in charge of decisions, rather than doctors.

Many of these folks believe that the government should stay out of people's private lives and their private healthcare decisions. These are the same folks that believe that the government should regulate and restrict family planning, birth control and abortion. They also believe that the wishes of patients and their families are private matters to be held in confidence between patient, doctor, and family, and that government has no place in those discussions and choices. Of course, these same people applauded when George Bush cut short his vacation to return to Washington when the husband of Terry Schaivo chose to follow his wife's wishes and removed her from life support after she was determined to be brain dead.

The Healthcare Plan, the last I understood, was suppose to be a Bi-Partisan effort. With both Republicans and Democrats putting ideas and thoughts forth to make this plan functional. But there seems to be members of the Senate sitting on their hands at this most important time in history of the United States.



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

(continued on page 4)

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

Gun Raffle Winners

At our September 11, 2009 Business Meeting we held our first United Lodge 66 and Union Sportsmen's Alliance Gun Raffle. Two of our members found out why it pays to belong to USA. They are in the process of getting their respective guns which are both Made in the USA: (a) a Beretta 3901 - 12 gauge shotgun; (b) a Remington 770, 30-06 with scope.



Lloyd and Darrell our two winners.

Labor Department Gets Its Groove Back

After decades of non-enforcement, U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Hilda Solis has begun hiring new investigators to begin cracking down on employers who use illegal labor tactics.

The Wall Street Journal reports Secretary Solis will be adding 670 investigators to the rolls, including 150 in the Wage and Hour Division, 75 in the Employee Benefits Security Administration and 100 more to ensure contractor compliance on stimulus projects.

In addition, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has formed a new task force to combat severe violators of workplace safety regulations.

The latest announcement comes just months after President Obama reversed and delayed a series of pro-business, anti-worker policies put in place by the Bush administration. One such rule, which inundated labor Unions with tedious and unnecessary financial disclosures, is currently under review.

(source: August 28, 2009 Email)

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

Education Evening

September 17, 2009



Hunter Safety was the topic for this month's Education Evening. Ron Simmelink, shop chair at Kieffer and DNR Hunter Safety Instructor, has the son of Bob Paar demonstrate how easily a gun barrel can get obstructed and possibly cause a deadly injury.

Activities for You and Your Family

- **Delegate to Milwaukee Area Labor Council:** October 7, November 4 and December 2. All meetings start at 6:30PM.
- **Education Evening is October 15, 2009** at 7:00PM. The topic is on **Safety and Health** for you at your worksite.
- **Collective Bargaining Class** is being held by the University of Wisconsin - Extension, School for workers. The class runs on Thursday evenings from 5:30PM to 8:30PM on October 8, 15, 22, 29 and November 5. It is being held at MATC West Allis Campus, 1200 S. 71st Street, Room 117 and the cost is \$60.40. The registration fee will be reimbursed to all members to complete the class. For more information on what you must do call the office at 414-671-3800.

Wisconsin State Council of Machinists Conference

September 10 to 12, 2009

The fall conference for Machinists Union Locals met to discuss and be educated on issues and the financial officers were updated on how they should be performing on applying dues and making sure all reports are done on time.

Midwest Territory Grand Lodge Representative Steve Nickel gave a detailed and not always good report on the organizing efforts within our Union.

Marianne Robbins talked about Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 bankruptcy and members need to check out any rumors about their employer. If your employer does go bankrupt then members or the Union need to file 'proofs of claims' to make sure the employer is held accountable.

Our Grand Lodge Auditor talked about what a difference a change in administration has done for the Department of Labor. Under the reactionary Bush Regime the DOL did nothing but attack and try to put Unions out of business. Now the funding has reverting back where the DOL is transferring agents to go after wage and hour issues, or looking into how employers do their business. If there are issues of dues not coming into locals in a timely manner he will get involved in such issues.

Representative Ron Kind, 3rd District in western Wisconsin, spoke to the delegates. While he represents a mostly rural and conservative district he stated there must be health care reform. The costs of our present health care system is out of control and will only get worse. If left alone more Wisconsin-ites will be without any health care. Any health care reform must not deny coverage to any citizen based on pre-existing conditions.

Also, 'we need to look for sustainable growth and not go from bubble to bubble as we are now,' he stated. Jobs in new technology are needed.

He spoke of the despicable actions of Mercury Marine pitting two groups of workers, two cities and two states against each other. This is why he supports the Employee Free Choice Act to create a more balanced playing field. The workers took it on the chin for poor management.

dwc



*Representative Ron Kind and District 10
Directing Business Representative
Mike Hornby*

Leadership II

*By Tim Schwartz,
Shop Chair at Lakeside Manufacturing*

After attending Leadership I last year and having such a wonderfully positive experience, I could not wait to attend Leadership II. Well, my anticipation paid off. I was able to go to Leadership II and it was well worth the wait. Anyone who has attended the William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center at Placid Harbor knows what I was excited about, the Positive Atmosphere. It is something that I have never experienced until I attended the center. With the economy the way it is and all the bad news everyday and the uncertainty of not knowing what lies ahead can bring just about anybody down, including myself. But to be honest anytime anyone has the opportunity to learn in such a positive way can bring you right out of the worst of times and with the education you receive at the center you can spread that education to other Union brothers and sisters to help them out. There is a wealth of information in such a short time but it is a wealth of information that I will carry and spread for my lifetime.

Some of the classes were collective bargaining, issues and lobbying, technology and change, advanced steward training and one of my favorites, Union ethics. I have to give so much credit to the instructors Henry Bagwell, Mary McHugh, Dave Miskolzi, Gregg Murray, Annie Wiberg and Charlie Micallef.

I was fortunate to attend with my Union brother Joe Dosemagen, a member of the Lodge 66 Ocean Spray Shop Committee. A few other Wisconsinites were: Brian Brath, President of Local 873 at John Deere; Craig Dakins, from Local 655; Shawn Gubine, from Local 873 and Jay Kinney, from Local 1502.

I really enjoyed this and gained a lot of experience and I thank the Local for allowing me to get this positive experience.



Laborfest and some of our members

IAMUNION

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

(No Respect - continued from page 1)

Hawaii became a state in 1959, which means that Barack Obama, who was born there in 1961, is not a U.S. Citizen, apparently because his middle name is Hussein.

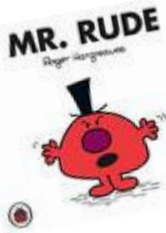
This, of course, is the tip of the iceberg. Like someone trying to communicate with a person who doesn't speak their language, these folks think that **talking**

LOUDER makes their words make more sense. Joe Wilson called the President of the United States a liar, shouting his epithet from the very floor of the seat of democracy. Of course, it was televised around the world, which means America's enemies got to see the kind of respect a portion of our Congress people hold for our President.

When President Obama wanted to address school children, ask them to stay in school and remind them that they have a stake in America's future, many people on the far right refused to let their children hear the speech. Why? Because, you know, that whole Democrat thing, need I say more.

Some folks will always tend to get hysterical about change. Sadly, that hysteria is being used as a distraction to prevent change. Respect has been replaced by rhetoric; discussion has been replaced by shouting; facts and reasoned discussion has been replaced by fabrications and ridiculous distortions.

It's a shame that instead of seeing Al Qaeda as the enemy, some folks have taken them as a role model.



Safety and Health Class

By Robert Paar, Committeeperson at Ocean Spray

In August I attended the William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center with some 70 other members at the Health and Safety Class. On the first day we learned about looking at the workplace inspections and setting up a joint labor and management safety and health committee. The rest of the week we will continue to learn more about these issues as well as employee soft tissue injury and awareness..

The material covered has been developed by the Machinists Union Corporation for Re-Employment and Safety Training (CREST), in cooperation with the School for Workers-University of Wisconsin Extension, Workers Health and Safety Centre, Hamilton, Ontario; and the Workplace Health Fund, labors own Research and Educational Development Institute, sponsored by the Industrial Union Department of the AFL-CIO; ICWUC Center for Workers Health and Safety; Great Lakes Regional OTI Education Center, Eastern Michigan University OSHA Training Institute, University of Cincinnati; University of Minnesota and the OSHA office of training and education.

As you can see this is the best of the best teaching our members how to insure that our brothers and sisters work safely across the country. While this training is very helpful our members are still subjected to workplace injuries and fatalities. In 2009 at the WWW Center there were seven members who had a memorial brick dedicated at the Member Worker Memorial Lighthouse on the grounds.

On Tuesday we did continue with the training modules on Employee Soft Tissue Injury and Illness Awareness, Body and Workplace Occupational Stress, and Permit Required Confined Space.

On Wednesday our modules included: Accident/Incident and Near Miss Investigation, Toxicology Awareness with the Workplace, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). In the PPE module we learned the different types of protective equipment that is needed to keep ourselves safe. We also learned from the OSHA the specific limitations of the said PPE. We need to take care of each other. If you notice someone that may not want to wear their PPE it would be wrong to allow them to continue without encouraging them to wear the proper equipment. Their family will also appreciate that their loved ones come home or not develop a workplace illness.

On Thursday our learning module was on Job Safety Analysis and working on our class presentation on Looking at Workplace Area Inspections. There was also a presentation by Machinists Union Grand Lodge General Vice President Richard Michalski.

On Friday we gave our presentation and received our completion certificates.



Our Memorial for members killed on the job.

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.

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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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.

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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.

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Seniors Corner

President Obama Health Care Speech Clears the Air of Myths and Falsehoods

In a rare speech to a joint session of Congress President Obama made an impassioned plea to provide health insurance for those currently without it. The President also disputed myths and lies that his proposal would create “death panels,” finance abortions or provide government funded care to illegal immigrants. According to the publication The Hill, President Obama “excoriated” critics of his efforts, warning that while his “door is always open” to members of either party who want to offer constructive suggestions, he “will not waste time with those who have made the calculation that it’s better politics to kill this plan than to approve it.” The President said that he would not accept the status quo as a solution. “I will not back down on the basic principle that if an American can’t find affordable coverage, we will provide you with a choice,” the President declared.

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

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.



Ron Simmelink, shop chair at Kieffer, with his son at Laborfest

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.

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

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

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

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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>

dwe/amawll66, afl-cio



HIRE Center

Help In Re-Employment

816 W. National Avenue, 2nd Floor
Milwaukee, WI
414-385-6920

'Dislocated Worker Program'

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

www.unitedlodge66.org

www.youtube.com/badgerlodge

dwe/amawll66, afl-cio



*Has the radical right
lost its ability
to intelligently discuss issues?*