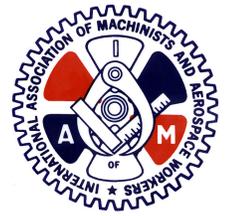


Badger Lodge News



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

Vol. 10 No. 9

September 2007

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting September 14, 2007 7:00 PM

at:

2611 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 October edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is September 17.
- Lodge Education Evening is Thursday, September 20 at 7:00PM.
- Contract Issues **MUST** be settled by your Business Agent at District 10. **See last page.**

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Office is Closed

On September 13 and 14 the office is closed to allow attendance at the Wisconsin State Council of Machinists Conference. Any messages will not be returned until Tuesday, September 18.



Liderazgo I en Español

Por Carmen Del Valle

El día de Julio al 13, se hizo historia en el centro educacional Winpisinger de IAM. Esa semana fue la primera de iniciar clases en Hollywood, Maryland para los miembros y comites de nuestra unión. Al tener por primera vez en su historia una clase en español, otra clase en ingles y otra en francés de Liderazgo I. Siendo los pioneros, estas flases fueron todo un evento. Ahí todos somos hermanos y familia al convivir y conocernos todas las diferentes etnias raciales. Las clases son muy intensas y se aprende mucho quo no teníamos idea de nuestra unión. Se interesa por el bienestar de todos. Nos dan hospedaje de primera calidad, comidas y hasta refresco de 8:30PM. En delante siempre viendo que podemos asistir a clase, es un lugar hermoso y muy tranquilo. Se les hace la invitación a todos los comites que no dejemos morir esta obra. Es para todos y es una bonita experiencia enriquecedora en aprendizaje infórmense en su distrito sobre estas clases para poder seguir adelante y adquirir el poder de saber.



Carmen,
Committeeperson at Milwaukee Resistor

Leadership I in English

by Carmen Del Valle

On July 7 through the 13, history was made at the Winpisinger Education Center of IAM in Hollywood, Maryland. That week was the first to initiate classes of leadership for the members and committees of our union. It was the first time in history that there was a class in Spanish, English and French of Leadership I. Being the pioneers, these classes were all an event. There we were all family living together and getting to know all the different racial ethnicities. The classes are very intense and there is a lot to learn about our union that we had no idea. It is interested in the well being of all of us. We were given lodging of first class quality, food and even refreshments from 8:30PM to 11:00PM. Always knowing we can go to class it is a beautiful and tranquil place. It is open to all the committees so we do not let this work die. This is for every member and is a wonderful and enriching experience of informative learning to keep moving forward and acquire the power of knowing.

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

Volunteers for Committees

By Patricia Elizondo

With a membership of well over 2,000 brothers and sisters, there is no reason why Local Lodge 66 cannot have several more active committees. The active committees we currently have are organizing, by-law, audit, entertainment, education, legislative and political action. The majority of members on these seven committees are members of the Executive Board. The remaining members consist of one or two retirees and one or two rank and file. We still need to establish an active women's, human rights, classification, health & safety and retiree committee for our lodge. In addition, it would be beneficial to have a committee to assist and deal with issues for our Spanish speaking members.

Along with being on the above mentioned active committees, the majority of members on the Executive Board are delegates to District 10 and the Milwaukee County Labor Council along with one or two rank and file members and retirees. Because of our dedication to the Labor movement, members of the Executive Board accept the responsibilities and are required to attend a mandatory 57 meetings per year. Along with that, the E Board sponsors our annual Badge Night and the Christmas party. We do this work because we are committed to

representing and educating our members, but we need your help. I am asking members to come forward and volunteer to accept the responsibility of being members of Local Lodge 66 committees. The request for help was made at the August membership meeting and several members have come forward.

Our International and the Midwest Territory have many resources and staff to provide assistance, information and guidance for members who may be hesitant to volunteer because they think they don't know enough to be on a committee. Rest assured, most of us did not know much about what we were supposed to do when we started. It's a "learn as you go" process and we all help each other. When I first took the office of President I had no idea how demanding and time consuming the position was. I have been fortunate to have the continued support and encouragement of all of the other elected and appointed Union officials in the IAMAW along with support from people involved in the Wisconsin labor movement.

We all have families, outside interests and responsibilities that demand our time, but we need to have a commitment to survive as a strong and viable Union and we are asking for and need your help. **If you have questions, concerns, comments or want to volunteer, please contact the Union office at (414) 671-3800 or email to smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net.**

Christmas Celebration Changes

By Patricia Elizondo

Please be advised that the Local Lodge 66 Christmas celebration will be changing this year. Due to several factors, we will not be having the traditional sit down dinner as we have had in the past. Last year's party had over 300 guests and it is extremely difficult to find a facility on a Saturday to hold more people without having to purchase catering services. Even if we did have a hall that could accommodate 300-500 people without catering, we are never certain how many members will attend so planning food for a large group is hard for the handful of members that volunteer to do the shopping and preparation.

Members have inquired about a Christmas party for children, having the party on a Saturday, holding the event at a different location, etc. The Executive Board has discussed different options and, although final plans have not yet been made, it looks like we will be having a Christmas party for children during the day on Saturday, December 15th with an open house for members later in the day along with the annual raffle drawing in the evening. Please watch for further information in the newsletter and on our website. **Volunteers are needed and welcome!**

Activities for You and Family

- **Laborfest is September 3, 2007.** T-shirts as well as food and refreshment tickets will be available to members who march as well as their family. **BUT** you must preregister at your Union Office, 414-671-3800 or email to smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net. **We will not have shirts for those who do not march or pre-register!**
- **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 Lodge meeting or make an arrangement to talk to the Executive Board members what you want to do and what we need done.
- **Collective Bargaining Class,** a five week class held on Tuesdays, from **October 16 to November 13, 2007, 5:30PM to 8:30PM.** This is run by the University of Wisconsin - Extension, School for Workers at 9620 W. Greenfield Avenue, West Allis. The registration fee is \$49.05 but the Lodge will reimburse any United Lodge 66 member this fee once you have completed the class. Registration form and information is available from your Union Office, just call or write.



Logo on the back of our Laborfest shirts (shirts are grey)

Keep Your Records

All too often members are involved in financial situations in their work life but they fail to keep good records. Then many years later they try to collect or prove their position and have nothing. This is also a job for shop committees to make sure all information is given to members. You never know when we may quit our present employer or the employer shuts down. When this happens it is too late.

Here are two recent examples and they are from employers who did close and from recently merged Lodges:

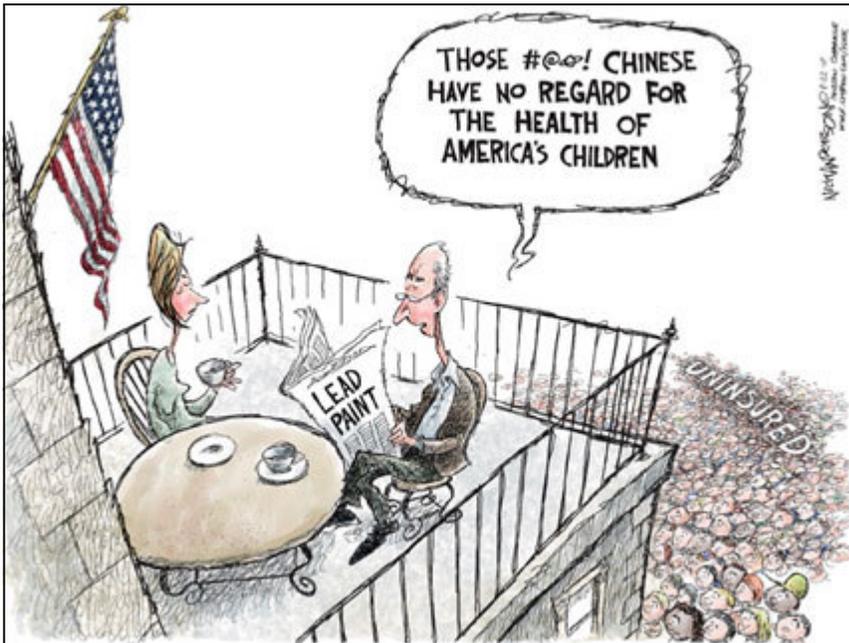
- Pension: In this case the company was sold to another; then closed; and now the member came into the office to find out how they can collect their pension? They had kept nothing from their first employer.
- Workers compensation settlement and tax liability: In this case the member had an agreement to settle a workers compensation case with a company who had closed down. The spouse thought the old lodge kept the records of the settlement and we had those records. After checking, nothing could be found. With something as important as this the member should have had their own file. Now the IRS wants to collect some \$8000.00 in taxes.

Members may collect old magazines, fishing lures, etc but when it comes to our economic interests all too often we assume someone else will have the records.

Members need to start this very moment to keep all financial records or settlements in a safe place. Get one of those plastic totes or filing cabinets. Get some manila folders to keep something that is really precious to your financial stability in a reasonable order.



dwc



Affordable health insurance should be guaranteed for all citizens, not just for those we elect to represent us in Madison or Washington, DC.

Keep this belief when you evaluate those individuals asking for your vote. Then follow through by electing only those who will help out you and your family.

Visit: <http://www.youtube.com/badgerlodge>
for the latest video from your Union.

Seniors Corner

U.S. is only 42nd in Life Expectancy

Americans are living longer than ever, but not as long as people in 41 other countries, the Associated Press reported on August 12. For decades the United States has been slipping in international rankings of life expectancy, as other countries improve health care, nutrition and lifestyles. This is down from 11th two decades ago. Countries that surpass the U.S. include Japan and most of Europe, as well as Jordan and the Cayman Islands. Researchers said several factors have contributed to the U.S. falling behind other industrialized nations. A major one is that 45 million Americans lack health insurance. Among the other factors, adults in the U.S. have one of the highest obesity rates in the world. Racial disparities are also a factor: black Americans on average live five years shorter than white Americans. "Many Americans would definitely be living longer if everyone had health insurance," said George Kourpias, President of the Alliance. **"It is a disgrace that the U.S. is spending so much on health care, but only ranks 42nd."**

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

'It is every man, women and child for yourself,' Bush

Bush did threaten to veto the re-authorization of funds for the 10 year old State Children's Health Insurance Program, passed by the Senate (68-31) and House (255-199).

This shows his compassionate conservative philosophy for America's future.

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 frames are: \$1.50



Union Made In America clothing & MORE; call 262-373-0777. Located at N35 W21100 Capitol Drive, Pewaukee, WI

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. **To be up to date sign up for 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

Officers, LL66 Machinists Union

President Patricia Elizondo
Vice President Bob Paar
Recording Secretary
Mike Pietrzykowski
Secretary Treasurer . . Doug Curler
Conductor Sentinel . . .
Bunny Browning
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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 smjzer6471@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.unitedlodge66.org>

Daytime Office Hours on Tuesday thru Friday, 8AM to 4:30PM

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

