

Badger Lodge News



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

Vol. 11 No. 9

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

September 2008

United Lodge 66 Business Meeting

September 5, 2008

7:00 PM

2609 W. Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53215
414-671-3800

*All Lodge Members are
Encouraged to attend.*

- **DAYTIME OFFICE HOURS** are Tuesday thru Friday, **8AM to 4:30PM**. Business can be done at the Business or
- **CHECK** the answering machine for hours, 414-671-3800.
- The deadline for articles to October edition of the "Badger Lodge News", is September 17.
- **Education Evening** is **September 18, 2008** at 7:00PM
- **VOTE 9/9/2008 Fall Primary**

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dwciamawll66, afl-cio

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

UNION OFFICE IS CLOSED:

September 8 to 12, 18, 19, 23.

Brother Henry Darnosz

He had it all together . . .

He is at peace.

This letter is to inform you of the death of my father, Henry Darnosz. He was a former employee of Milwaukee Gear Company and loyal Union member during his working years. My mother and his wife of 60 years passed away 5 1/2 months after his death. It has been a very tough time.

My parents came from Europe after World War II to the USA after being in forced labor camps under the Nazi regime. My father spent 5 years in the camps, the last one being Dachau. My father credited his survival in the camps to his knowledge of the German language. Born in Poland, he was forced to study German by the nuns. One day at school, my dad protested to the teacher that he was Polish and should not waste his time learning German. His instructor replied that one never knows what happens in life and knowing the German language may save his life. His teacher was right. When the Nazis invaded Poland and rounded up the people in his neighborhood, he overheard one of the soldiers say they needed skilled laborers to run the machinery in the camps. Those that did not qualify were to be disposed of. When interrogated by the Germans in his own native tongue, he lied and said he was a student studying machining engineering. He never let the Germans know he understood German and that is how he became a machinist in the labor camps of Krup and Messerschmidt. Essentially, that is how he survived the camps in addition to saving other fellow prisoners. He always was one step ahead of the enemy.

My dad was always proud of his profession and would often talk about the particular assignments given to him at work. On day (when I was a child) at supper my dad was proud to announce that he was machining certain parts for the Apollo spacecraft. The owner of the company came up to my dad and said that the parts had to be perfect and only Henry was capable of the challenge. My dad was humbled by the compliment.

I also remember during my childhood the tough times when my dad went on strike. The Union's support and supplemental paychecks helped the employees immensely. During one of the strikes, my mother came home one day after work to find her Singer sewing machine gone. My dad told her that he gave it away to one of his fellow co-workers who had five kids. Their sewing machine broke down and there was not enough money for a new one. My mother was boiling mad but my dad calmed her down saying, "we have only one child, they have 5. I will buy you a new machine, a better one, after the strike." That is how my father was. Always there to help out with a kind and generous heart.

The last eight years of his life were spent in unending nerve pain that wore him down. No Doctor could help him. I thought I would write you a little glimpse into one of your former Union members' lives. I hope you did not mind. My dad loved reading your publications and would share them with me.

(continued on page 3)

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

Worst of Times, Best of Times

By David Newby, President Wisconsin AFL-CIO

Charles Dickens' classic novel "A Tale of Two Cities" was written nearly 150 years ago. It is about the time of great turmoil and immense change in Europe. Its opening lines are:

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness . . . It was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us . . .

What could better describe our situation on Labor Day 2008?

The worst of times? Certainly since the Depression of the 1930's. Consider the following:

- We are losing half a million family supporting manufacturing jobs every year, over 3 million since George Bush became President!
- Wisconsin has lost over 100,000 manufacturing jobs since 2000, over 40,00 of them to China.
- Wisconsin has lost over 25,000 manufacturing jobs since 1993 due to NAFTA (North American Free Trade Act) alone (the US has lost over a million).
- Our trade deficit is now \$711 billion a year; \$256 billion of that trade deficit is with China.
- Median household income, adjusted for inflation, is not increasing, it is falling! In fact it fell about 2%, or \$1000, between 2000 and 2006.
- The number of Americans without health insurance was 38 million when George Bush took office; today 47 million have no health insurance and the cost of health insurance for those of us who have it has doubled.

The list of statistics which illustrate the decline in living standard for 90% of the American people goes on and on.

So how could these also be the best of times?

Because more of us understand what is happening to our country. Because gradually more are realizing that it does not have to be this way. Because Union members all over America are getting better organized than we have ever been to make sure that "business as usual" comes to a sudden halt.

And because in the elections this November we have the best opportunity to make major changes in our state and national policies and priorities than we have had in many decades.

If we take these elections seriously and work like we have never worked before, we can turn America around.

If we elect Barack Obama President and increase the pro working family majority in the US Senate we can:

- Rapidly end the disastrous war in Iraq, which is driving us ever further in debt and which makes it impossible to deal with the serious social and economic problems we have here at home;
- Move quickly to change our health care system so that no one goes without the care they need;
- Change the economic and tax priorities of our country so that we who work for a living see our standard of living rise and once again have a realistic hope that our children will be even better off than we are;
- Restore fairness to our labor laws so that if a majority of workers at a workplace want a Union (and more than half say they do), they will get it without the employer interference and intimidation they face today.

The possibilities for change in Wisconsin are equally exciting. If we do our job and elect a strong progressive majority in our State Assembly and keep our progressive majority in the Senate, then we can make big changes here too. We could be first to guarantee that everyone in our state has affordable, comprehensive, quality health care, just like we were the first to adopt a Workers Compensation system about 100 years ago. We can make our tax system fair so that every person (and every corporation) pays their fair share and the burden on the middle class is therefore reduced. We can invest in the education of our children and make sure we have the best trained, most skilled workforce in the world.

We can make so many changes that would improve our standard of living and our quality of life, for us but also for our children and grandchildren. But change does not happen by accident. If we do not make positive changes for working people, the rich and powerful will keep on making changes that benefit only **them**.

Which way change goes depends on **us**.

We can continue to have the worst of times.

Or we can rise up and experience the best of times.





Union-Made Savings - at Union Prices

AT&T Discount

Save 10% on service from AT&T Wireless, the only wireless company that can, and does, proclaim that it is "Proud to Be Union."

Call 800-897-7046 toll free

Purchase new service or add a line to your existing AT&T Wireless account. Notify the AT&T customer service operator that the **Union Plus AT&T Wireless Discount FAN number is: 00113662.**

You may be asked to fax proof of union membership if you call AT&T customer service to purchase or change your existing service.

Shop locally at an AT&T store

[Find an AT&T store location near you here.](#) Note: The union discount is **ONLY available at AT&T stores, NOT at any authorized dealer or kiosk** to qualified members.

Goodyear Discounts

Find union-made Goodyear tires made by United Steelworkers of America (USWA) and the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) and save 5-10% on car service and tires. Plus union members pay less for oil, lube and filter services with Union Plus Goodyear Discounts.

Union-Made Checks

Members can show their union pride with every check written. Union Plus offers special union-printed checks with a pro-union message. Perfect for all your union-related and personal business.

Education Services

American Education Services (AES) - the Union Plus Education Service provider - employs AFSCME union members. For student financial aid advice you can trust, learn more about these resources

United Lodge 66 will send to any member a pamphlet listing all the Union sponsored programs available to Union members. Email us: lodge66@gmail.com; call us at 414-671-3800; or write us at 2611 W. Oklahoma Avenue, WI 53215.



Machinists Union Application for Membership

It is the sole responsibility of the shop committee at each location to make sure new members fill out the application and return it to United Lodge 66.

We do provide to all shop chairs the applications and self address envelopes. If you run out let us know.

Please make sure the applications are complete. **Do not leave out the employer.** Some have come in that way and we have no way of knowing!!!

dwc

Members Status

We hope shop committees make use of the self addressed stamped envelopes to keep the Lodge updated if a member has left the employment, is laid off, on medical leave. The Lodge can also be contacted by email at

lodge66@gmail.com

Some shops and members do a very good job and others must believe we have some crystal ball. Please communicate.



I do not have a crystal ball!!

(continue from page 1, Henry Darmosz)

He was the best father and grandfather ever. The family misses him and my mother immensely.

So in ending, I would like to thank the Union for the help my family received during my dad's working years at Milwaukee Gear Company. God's Blessings.

Sincerely, Nancy Steinhage

John McCain Opposes Buying American Made Motorcycles

McCain Opposed Requiring the Government to Buy American Made Motorcycles

McCain said he was “disappointed” that the Secret Security Service was required to purchase American Made motorcycles, saying he “firmly objected” and “opposed” all such policies (source congressional record, 7/14/2005)

McCain Has Consistently Opposed “Buy American” Requirements . . .

McCain called “Buy America” provisions “perverted.” (Daily Press, 5/4/1997)

McCain said “Buy America provisions were the Worst, Most Disgraceful Aspect of the Legislative process in Washington.” (Defense Daily, 5/14/1997)

McCain described “Buy America” provisions as “Ludicrous.” (Congressional Record, 10/7/2005)

McCain opposed FY 1996 National Defense Authorization Bill because of “Buy America” restrictions on Department of Defense procurement. (Congressional Record, 1/26/1996)

. . . And McCain Even Sponsored And Passed Amendments to Waive Them

Voted for his own amendment to allow the Defense Secretary to waive “Buy America” restriction if the products came from seven foreign countries that have a “Declaration of Principles” with the United States. (S2400, vote 135, 6/22/2004, passed 54-46; R 48-3 and D5-43, I 1-0)

Sponsored an amendment that ended the Defense Departments “Buy America” requirement if the equipment was manufactured in six other countries. 9S1050, vote 191, 5/21/2003; passed 50-48, R 49-1; D 1-46; I 0-1)

So did McCain really mean what he said at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally?

“As you may know, not long ago a couple hundred thousand Berliners made a lot of noise for my opponent. I will take the roar of 50,000 Harleys any day.” (McCain, Associated Press, 8/4/2008)

OBVIOUSLY NOT!



Activities for You and Family

- **Grand Lodge Convention is week of September 7, 2008.** We will be trying to have daily updates on our site: www.youtube.com/badgerlodge .
- Education Evening is Thursday, **September 18, 2008 at 7:00PM.** Members are encourage to bring their family and friends
- **Want to be a Delegate** to Milwaukee Area Labor Council? Let us know. **Nomination of Lodge Officers** is at the November Business Meeting (11/14/2008) and election will be at December Business Meeting (12/5/2008).



Bush's Tax Cuts for the Wealthy

McCain 5/26/01: "I cannot in good conscience support a tax cut in which so many of the benefits go to the most fortunate among us, at the expense of middle class Americans who most need tax relief."

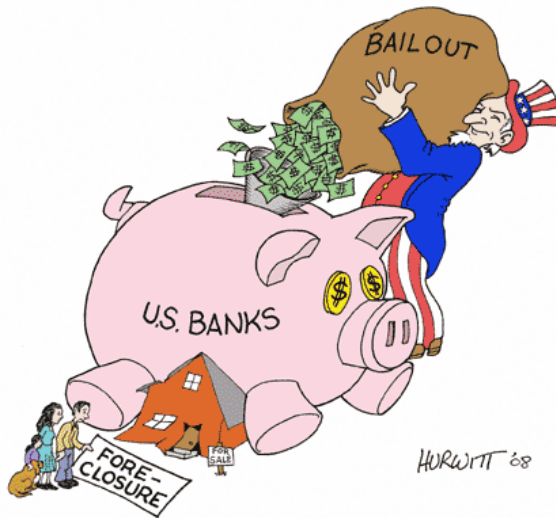
[\[McCain's Senate website\]](#)

In 2006 McCain votes to extend Bush tax cuts [\[MediaMatters\]](#)

Helping Out Home Owners

McCain on March 2008: "It is not the duty of government to bail out and reward those who act irresponsibly, whether they are big banks or small borrowers." [\[NY Times\]](#)

McCain on 4/11/08: "Let me make it clear, that in these challenging times, I am committed to using all the resources of this government and great nation to create opportunity and make sure that every deserving American has a good job and can achieve their American dream." [\[NY Times\]](#)



[MNPL](#)

On line recipients of the Lodge newsletter go to above link, <http://goiam.org/mnpl.cfm>, and protect your future. This is the only way the Machinists Union gives to a political candidate. By voluntary donations from members. **Anyone who says your dues dollar is contributed is a LIAR.**



Seniors Corner

House Report Finds Taxpayers Pay Up to 30% more for Prescriptions Under Part D

In a report released July 24, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform found the US drug manufacturers are reaping a windfall from taxpayers when it comes to the privately administered Medicare Part D program. According to the report, taxpayers are paying up to 30% more for prescription drugs under Medicare's Part D program for seniors and the disabled than under the government's Medicaid program for the poor. This is attributable to the fact that Part D, which was enacted in January 2006 lacks Medicaid's stipulation that drug companies sell prescription drugs to the government at discounted prices. The report and its accompanying hearing echo the growing debate on privatization of programs such as Medicare.

(editor note: who you vote for, is a personal choice, but unless members want to continue on with the same failures, there needs to be a change.)

Join the Wisconsin ARA Chapter

6333 W. Bluemound Road,
Milwaukee, WI 53213
414-771-9511
dues are \$10/year

<http://www.wisconsinara.org>

Alliance for Retired Americans

888-16th Street, NW Suite 520
Washington, DC 20006
202-974-8222 or 888-373-6497



Are We Better Off Than Eight Years Ago?

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
- \$11.00 for Denim/Black/Blue cap
- \$11.00 for Khaki cap
- \$12.00 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.

Car Pooling from Kenosha

Want to carpool? Then, contact Vice President Bob Paar for more information: 262-914-1777 or bpaaroskenosha@yahoo.com

YOUR Email

Get it done by getting your email to United Lodge 66. You can pick and choose from the events, you be informed, and you can pass on the activities to your friends at work.

Email: lodge66@gmail.com

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 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

Video: www.youtube.com/badgerlodge
Website: www.unitedlodge66.org
dwc/iamaill66, afl-cio

Daytime Office Hours are 8AM to 4:30PM

or Business can be done by mail; or dropped in the mail slot; or the night of a Lodge or Education Evening Meeting.

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