

# Badger Lodge News

Newsletter for United Lodge 66, Machinists Union, AFL-CIO

Chartered: November 30th, 1895

Vol. 24 No. 6

www.unitedlodge66.org

June 2022

**United Lodge 66**

**Business Meeting**

**June 14th at 7:00 PM**

**1650 S 38th Street**

**Milwaukee, WI 53215**

**414-671-3800**

**All lodge members are  
encouraged to attend**

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## **Office Hours:**

**Suspended until notice due to  
Covid-19 guidelines. See pg. 2**

**All Contract issues must be  
settled by your Business Rep  
at District 10. See Last Page**

## **New Labor Board Outlook Gives Unions a Fair Shake**

*From goiam.org*

“Workers everywhere are looking for protections that only a union can give them,” said IAM Midwest Territory General Vice President Steve Galloway.

“Reaching a first contract is really the ultimate win of an organizing campaign.” Improving lives is at the heart of organizing, fighting for higher pay, better benefits and job security. But, removing barriers has been challenging, especially from 2017 through 2020. With each change in federal government administration, workers can get caught in the middle. According to a 2019 report from the Economic Policy Institute (EPI), employers are charged with violating federal law in 41.5% of all union election campaigns.

“That’s unacceptable,” said Galloway. “We need to reduce that number to zero to make sure union representation elections are fair and adhere to the letter of the law.” In 2021, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) handled 1,016 representation elections, up from 940 the year before. That statistic is good news amid a volatile climate of unethical, illegal union-busting. The IAM’s Midwest Territory is fighting such practices with all its might. One example is Motor Appliance Corporation in Washington, MO. The IAM was first approached by unhappy workers there in December 2021. By February, union supporters were organizing. But the company ran an egregious anti-union campaign that included a captive audience meeting, nearly 30 minutes of which was recorded via audio. Such a meeting is required by employers and designed to discourage union membership.



*See ‘NLRB’ on pg 3*



## United Lodge No. 66

of the

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO

1650 S. 38th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215 • Phone 414-671-3800

<http://www.unitedlodge66.org>

### Lodge 66 Operations during Covid-19 Situation

The Executive Board of United Lodge 66 has made some decisions to protect the Membership and Office Staff of Lodge 66.

First of all we would like to encourage our members and their families to stay safe during this health crisis. Following the recommendations from the Federal, State and Local Governments is advised.

To protect our members and staff the office will be closed for drop-in traffic.

The office telephone will forward to Secretary-Treasurer Ivan Collins phone. The phone number for Lodge 66 is (414) 671-3800. The Lodge email is [lodge66@gmail.com](mailto:lodge66@gmail.com). The lodge address is 1650 S 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Milwaukee WI 53215. Mail can be put in the mail slot at the office. Members are encouraged to do as much as possible through the mail. Emails and communications will be monitored. If an appointment needs to be made we will try to accommodate on an Individual basis. Several of the offices within the Machinists Organization will be staffed with reduced workforce. During these critical times we want to express to the membership that we will serve to the best of our ability and you are our main concern. The Brothers and Sisters of the Machinists Union will get through this challenge. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this major event.

In Solidarity,

*Hunter Scott*

United Lodge 66 President

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### *'NLRB' from pg 1*

A hired company consultant who only called himself “Alex the union-buster” ran that meeting. The behavior exposed on the recording caught the attention of our union and later the NLRB. After listening to the audio, the IAM noted at least a dozen violations of the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) and filed unfair labor practice charges almost immediately. Last year, a sweeping change took place when new NLRB General Counsel Jennifer Abruzzo issued a 10-page memo laying out her agenda, which includes aggressively enforcing the National Labor Relations Act.

“One of the things that labor has always complained about is that there’s no real teeth in the act,” said IAM General Counsel Carla M. Siegel. GC Abruzzo is “looking for ways to impose more penalties when warranted and, therefore, more teeth in the act... to really make it painful for somebody to violate the act.” The difference between the current administration and the prior one is night and day, according to Siegel.

“Now, under this administration, we know that there’s somebody who will fairly look at the facts and determine whether there’s an unfair labor practice or not,” she explained. “Under the Trump administration, we didn’t have a fighting chance. The most egregious things they would say wasn’t an unfair labor practice, when it clearly violated the statute.” She said the current Board won’t always rule in unions’ favor, but we’re going to get a fair shake.

IAM Organizer Bob Beloit recognized a change when it came to the speed at which the NLRB reacted to the unfair labor charges at Motor Appliance Corp. He said normally it takes two to three weeks for affidavits, but this time around charges were filed on a Wednesday and the NLRB was ready to interview witnesses within five days. “They were very swift,” he said.

“What the anti-union consultant did inside this facility was so heinous,” Beloit said. “These people were so divided and so scared, but the core group of union supporters was really strong.” One of the unfair labor practice charges included discharging employees because of their union activities. Another charged the employer with interfering in the exercise of the employees’ rights, leading to what the NLRB calls constructive discharges, or constructive terminations. Those occur when employees feel forced to resign due to such intolerable or hostile working conditions. “To the person that’s lost their job and wondering where their next meal is going to come from, how they’re going to keep making their house payments,” Beloit said, “speed is very important. “When you can have that kind of speed, that puts the individual that’s been wronged at ease and it calms the rest of the group [of workers].”

Speed is also important because the more time that goes by, the greater potential for workers to be demoralized by a company’s immoral tactics. Organizers are fully aware of this scenario. Past consequences of unfair labor practices included posting a notice stating that workers’ rights were violated, but the IAM considers that a slap on the wrist. “When they put the notice up, they’re saying ‘I’m sorry we got caught,’” said Beloit. Fixing the broken labor law system in the United States will take time and strategic, collective action by all labor unions in North America. “We have a duty to call out any inadequacies in our government agencies, from the top down,” said Galloway. “This is a chance to right the wrongs against workers in a way that motivates future behavior.” “The Midwest Territory is amazing,” said Beloit. “General Vice President Galloway has a great team. We bounce ideas off one another. We meet monthly as organizers and get updates on the NLRB and that’s where we found out about this memo that came out.”

*See 'NLRB' cont. on pg 5*




# Lodge 66 Open House

FOOD | GAMES  
REFRESHMENTS

12PM  
TO 3PM

SATURDAY, JULY 30TH

1650 S. 38th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53215



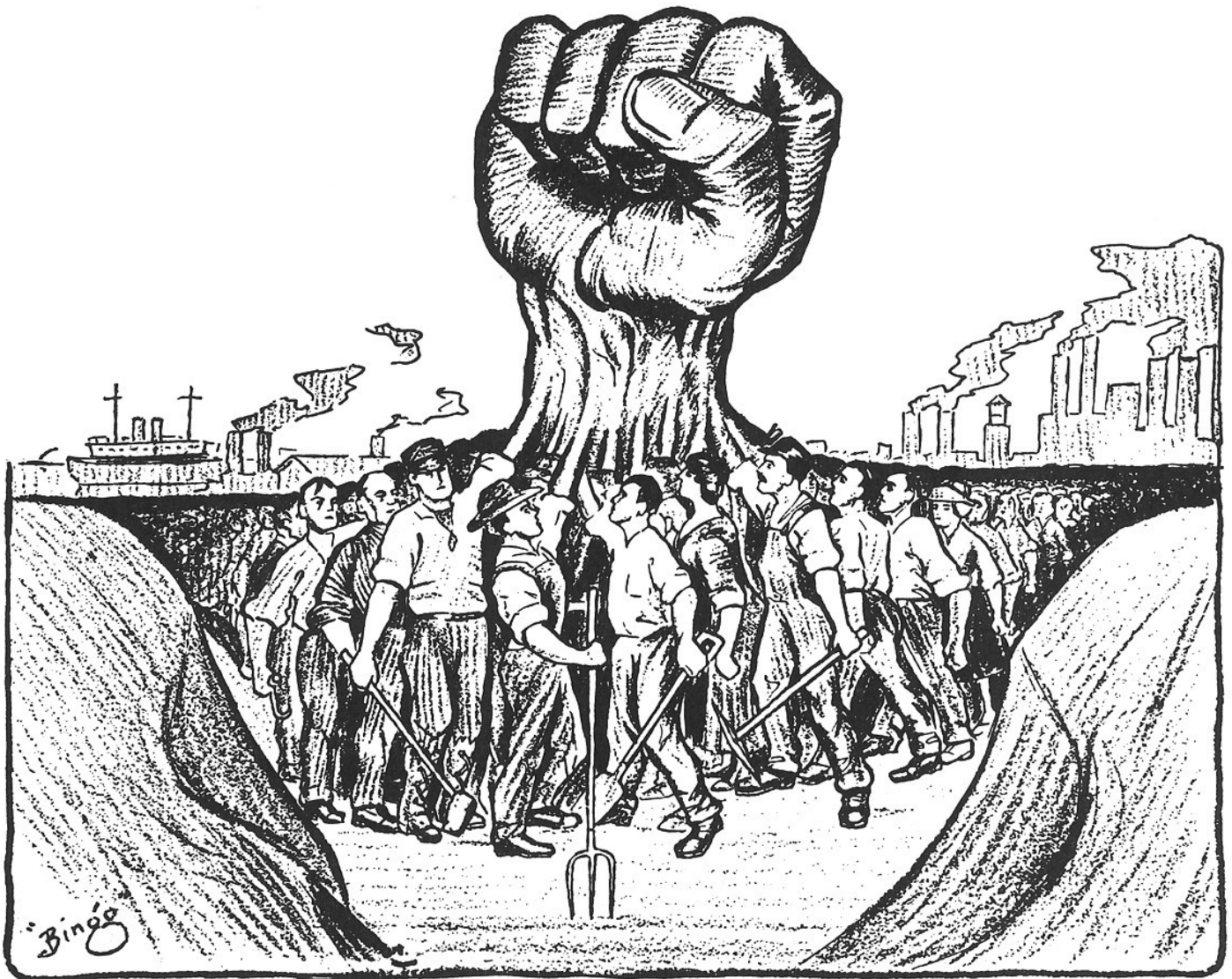


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**'NLRB' from pg 3**

The Protecting the Right to Organize Act (PRO Act) has the ability to correct unlawful practices by expanding labor protections, making captive audience meetings unfair labor practices, and prohibiting employers from taking adverse actions against employees who exercise their legal labor rights. Beloit encourages organizers to document everything, pay attention to details and stay organized. “You cannot document enough,” said Beliot. “Save everything, every email, meeting sign-in sheets.” He says what organizers do in the beginning of the campaign gives them something to work with if unfair labor practices charges arise. “We’re here at this point because of a phenomenal group of people that had a dream,” said Beloit. “They knew it was legally obtainable, they put faith in the system. They wanted to give it a try and they had a chance of being successful because of the amazing leadership this union has.” Unions are only as strong as the members that hold them together. “Stronger unions mean stronger communities,” Galloway said. “It’s a very important time in labor’s history.”



*Solidarity*, June 30, 1917. The Hand That Will Rule the World—One Big Union.

**Solidarity Before, Solidarity Today, Solidarity Forever**

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# Seniors Corner: Machinists and Allied Organization Continue to Fight Surprise Medical Billing

*From goiam.org*

The IAM and over 65 diverse organizations recently sent a [letter](#) to the tri-agencies (Departments of Health and Human Services, Treasury and Labor), marking 100 days of enactment of the No Surprises Act (NSA). In the wake of attacks against the act, the letter urges the tri-agencies to stand firm and enforce its provisions, which protect patients from surprise medical bills that arise when insured consumers inadvertently receive care from out-of-network hospitals, doctors, or other providers they did not choose.

“We strongly encourage you to defend and implement the [No Surprises Act](#) in a way that protects patients from exploitation, reduces health care costs, and adheres to the intent of the law as it was written,” reads the letter. “The principles and overall approach taken by the Departments throughout the two interim final rules should continue to guide the rulemaking process toward a prudent solution that addresses the underlying market failure and prioritizes consumers over private equity. To that end, the QPA remains the central part of the law and should remain a central part of the IDR regulations and guidance.”

The new law took effect for health plan years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, and it applies to nearly all private health plans offered by employers (including grandfathered group health plans and the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program), as well as non-group health insurance policies offered through and outside of the marketplace. The law also contains other related provisions, including a requirement for health plans to keep network provider directories up-to-date.

“The proper administration and implementation of the No Surprises Act will reduce healthcare costs and protect patients from exploitation from providers,” said IAM International President Robert Martinez Jr. “These are tough financial times, and patients need to be protected from unwarranted bills.”

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|---|--|---|---|
| <h2>Upcoming Events and Important Dates:</h2> |  | <b>Milwaukee Area Labor Council Delegate Meeting</b><br><br>Wednesday, June 1st<br>at 6:30 PM<br><br>Milwaukee Labor Temple<br>633 S. Hawley Rd.<br>Milwaukee, WI | <b>District 10 Organizing Committee Meeting</b><br><br>Tuesday, June 13th<br>at 10:30AM AND 5PM<br><br>Local Lodge 66<br>1650 S. 38th Street<br>Milwaukee, WI |
|   |  | <b>District 10 Business Meeting</b><br><br>Monday, June 13th<br>At 7 PM<br><br>Satellite Meeting @ Lodge 66<br>1650 S. 38th Street<br>Milwaukee, WI               | <b>Lodge 66 Business Meeting</b><br><br>Tuesday, June 14th<br>at 7 PM<br><br>Local Lodge 66<br>1650 S. 38th Street<br>Milwaukee, WI                           |

**District 10 Office Directory:**

107 Warren St. Suite 2 Beaver Dam,  
WI 53916

Call 920-219-4919 followed by the extension for you Business Rep

- Alex Hoekstra ..... 1
  - Di Ann Fechter ..... 3
  - Jeremy Terlisner ..... 6
  - Todd Humleker ..... 5
  - Joe Terlisner ..... 7
  - Hunter Scott ..... 8
  - Junstin Bader ..... 9
- Anne Wiberg, Organizer: 414-305-8486  
or [annewiberg@gmail.com](mailto:annewiberg@gmail.com)

**Officers of Local Lodge 66**

**Machinists Union**

- President ..... Frank Riedijk
- Vice President ..... Tim Schwartz
- Recording Secretary ... Michael Oettel
- Secretary/Treasurer ..... Ivan Collins
- Conductor/Sentinel ..... Adam Duedenhoef
- Trustees: Don Aiello, Doug Staniszewski and Kenny Mullan
- Communicator ..... Jon Zancanaro
- Educator ..... Mike Stark
- Editor ..... Jon Zancanaro

The views and opinions expressed by the various writers in this publication are their own and not necessarily those of the editor, Lodge 66 Executive Board or the Membership of Lodge 66. The Editor reserves the right to publish, edit or exclude publication of any article submitted to the Badger Lodge News. Any member may contribute articles for publication by sending them to United Lodge 66, 1650 S. 38th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53215 or via e-mail to [lodge66@gmail.com](mailto:lodge66@gmail.com).

Visit us on the web:

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

[www.YouTube.com/badgerlodge](http://www.YouTube.com/badgerlodge)

**Do you have any concerns, complaints or congratulations you would like to bring up to those representing you in Government? Give them a call or send them a note and let your voice be heard**

**President Joe Biden (D)**

1600 Pennsylvania Ave  
Washington D.C. 20510  
202-224-5323

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>

**Senator Ron Johnson (R)**

328 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510  
202-224-5323

<https://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/email-the-senator>

**State Rep. Bryan Steil (R)**

1st District of Wisconsin  
1408 Longworth HOB  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-3031

<https://steil.house.gov/contact>

**State Rep. Gwen Moore (D)**

Wisconsin State District 4  
2252 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-4572

<https://gwenmoore.house.gov/contact/>

**State Rep. Glen Grothman (R)**

Wisconsin State District 6  
1427 Longworth H.O.B.  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-2476

<https://grothman.house.gov/contact/>

**Governor Tony Evers (D)**

115 East Capitol  
Madison, WI 53707  
608-266-1212

<https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/voice-an-opinion>

**Senator Tammy Baldwin (D)**

709 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510  
202-224-5653

<https://www.baldwin.senate.gov/feedback>

**State Rep. Ron Kind (D)**

Wisconsin State District 3  
1502 Longworth H.O.B.  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-5506

<https://kind.house.gov/contact>

**State Rep. Scott Fitzgerald (R)**

Wisconsin State District 5  
1507 Longworth H.O.B.  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-5101

<https://fitzgerald.house.gov/contact>

**State Rep. Tom Tiffany (R)**

Wisconsin State District 7  
1714 Longworth HOB  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-3365

<https://tiffany.house.gov/contact>