



International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
District Lodge 66
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Union Herald Article from the desk of: Martin Gaul, DBR

Local Lodge 21 and 1115 Trane Company Negotiations

As I am writing this article we are just concluding our first week of face to face negotiations on a new contract for our members of Local Lodges 21 and 1115, Trane Company. During this week proposals were presented by the Union and the Company addressing issues of importance to both. We will be meeting daily each week until an agreement is reached. Our intentions in these negotiations are to secure a fair and equitable contract, providing security for our members and sustainability for the Company at our La Crosse facility. As you are aware, the District Lodge 66 website is being used as the primary communication tool for the members of both Locals. Please check it often for updates, which are being posted every Friday with additional updates as needed throughout. The District Lodge website is: iamdistrict66.org

Missouri Machinist Wins John Deere Tractor Raffle



For all of those in District 66 who received tickets for the John Deere Raffle held in support of the Midwest Territory's Hosting of the next convention, the short answer is NO, you did not win it. Nor did I, despite my pledge to drive it home from Washington DC where the winner was selected at the Legislative Conference held in May.

Kansas City, MO Local 778 member Jason Capra recently won the 2016 IAM Grand Lodge Convention raffle for a John Deere Gator voucher worth \$14,999. Capra, a nine-year IAM member and Steward at Belger Cartage Service, did not believe he had won when he received the phone call from IAM Midwest Territory General Vice President Philip J. Gruber.

"I'm hoping to make your day better," said Gruber when he told Capra he had won the voucher. "Is somebody messing with me?" asked Capra. "You can believe it and you are the winner," replied Gruber.

Capra promptly ordered a new IAM-built John Deere Gator RSX850i from Heritage Tractor in Harrisonville, MO. He intends on using it for hunting, fishing and recreation.

IAM Wins Election for Spirit Airlines Ramp Agents

In a hotly contested election overseen by the National Mediation Board (NMB), nearly 220 Spirit Airlines ramp agents voted overwhelmingly, by 80 percent, to be represented by the IAM.

The victorious ramp agents, who work at airports in Fort Lauderdale, FL, Detroit, Atlantic City, NJ and Myrtle Beach, SC, began their campaign for IAM representation this spring, and attained the requisite "showing of interest" shortly thereafter. The NMB scheduled a representation election that began June 16. "The days of Spirit management unilaterally dictating wages and working conditions end today," declared Daniel Krampert, a Spirit Ramp Agent in Atlantic City. "This vote begins a new era where we have a voice in determining our future."

"I congratulate and welcome the ramp agents at Spirit Airlines into the IAM family," said IAM Transportation General Vice President Sito Pantoja. "I'd also like to thank District 141 Organizing Director Joe Stassi and his team for doing a great job on this campaign." The IAM prevailed over an aggressive anti-union campaign by Spirit management that included numerous and flagrant violations of the federal Railway Labor Act, including a sudden and significant pay raise for all employees, except Ramp agents seeking IAM representation. Federal labor law prohibits granting or withholding pay increases that are designed to influence the outcome of a union representation election. "Ramp agents at Spirit should be applauded for their courage and conviction in seeking dignity, respect and fairness in their profession," said District 141 President Rich Delaney. "Today's victory over harassment and intimidation is a win for the entire labor movement." The IAM represents more than 110,000 fleet service, mechanics, flight attendants, customer service, reservation and related airline employees.

Take Kids Fishing Day 2014

Take Kids Fishing Day was held on Saturday June 7 at Pettibone Park and District Lodge 66 was one of the events major sponsors. As it turned out the weather cooperated and the water in the lagoon was still low enough to allow it to take place. This year's event was spearheaded by the Western Wisconsin AFL CIO Central Labor Council and organized by Council President Bill Brockmiller. Organized Labor from throughout the area volunteered time, money, and fishing expertise to make this a great event. Volunteers from District Lodge 66 included Denise Grover, John Davis, Rich Hauser, Jon Halverson, Keith Rhodes, and Brad King along with DL President Dean Rink and of course our own Carla Easterday (I apologize to anyone I forgot). When you see any of these people thank them for their work in support of this community event.

District Lodge 66 Shirt Sale!

As mentioned in the next section, we are going to be ordering shirts to be given out to the marchers in this year's Labor Day Parade. We are currently over stocked with many of the shirts we had available last year along with a few from the year before. We have a number of different sizes, even a few for the more husky among us. In order to move these out, we are going to sell these through the month of August for only **\$10.00 apiece.** Call the District to check to see if we have your size available. Call soon...supplies are limited!

District Lodge 66

The Delegates of District Lodge 66 came together to do the business of the District at the regular meeting held Monday June 16. Along with the normal business of the Lodge your delegates took action on a number of issues which included approval of a contribution for our members of Local Lodge 1030 in Winona MN employed by Peerless Chain for their summer picnic along with approval of expenditures for this year's Labor Day Celebration and Parade. As in the past, we will be providing District Lodge 66 t-shirts for our members who march along with refreshment tokens for the celebration to be held at Copeland Park. It's hard to believe that we are writing about Labor Day already but it is just around the corner. Come to the parade and march with us; help us to make this our best year yet!

As of this writing we have nothing further on the certification of the Grand Lodge Executive Council Elections due by July 31. Be safe, enjoy your summer, and until next month...