



International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers  
District Lodge 66  
1307 Market Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

Union Herald Article from the desk of:

## **Martin Gaul, DBR**

### **Notice of Passing**

I wanted to mention this month the passing of a woman that a number of our older members probably remember from her days at the old La Crosse Labor Temple. My mother, Evelyn Gaul was a longtime presence behind the bar at the Labor Temple. She was an advocate for workers and Union members in general and strongly believed in the premise of standing together for the betterment of all. After years of declining health, mom passed away on October 31 at the age of 76. Remember her in your prayers. Remember too; embrace the day as tomorrow may never come.

### **Belshaw Workers Ratify Agreement after Six-Month Strike**

Closing the books on a 196-day strike, IAM District Lodge 160 Directing Business Representative Dan Morgan announced that IAM Local Lodge 79 members employed at Belshaw Adamatic in Seattle overwhelmingly approved the company's latest offer which included the last key provision the union held the line to achieve: All of the union members would go back to work and the "permanent replacement workers" would be dismissed.

The Belshaw workers, who produce high-quality bakery equipment sold around the world, went on strike March 24 after they made concessions that would save the company \$20,000 per month and the company refused to share a portion of the savings with workers through increased salaries. They held strong on the picket line, but after they again rejected a company offer on May 10, management reportedly hired replacement workers to fill 39 of the 60 affected jobs.

"This was a hard-fought win for our members," said IAM District Lodge 160 Directing Business Representative Dan Morgan. "Congratulations to the members of Local 79

employed at Belshaw Adamatic. As you go back to work, do not forget that it was your collective strength that put you and your brothers and sisters back into that plant."

"These workers stood strong and refused to go back until they got a contract that properly addressed their concerns," said Kevin Cummings, Grand Lodge Representative for the IAM who helped broker the final details of the agreement. "The company brought in new leadership for the facility, and we were finally able to have legitimate discussions. This new contract is a testament to solidarity and protecting the future. We are very proud of the members for not giving up."

"This is a testament to the fact that when workers stand united, there is nothing they cannot accomplish," said IAM Western Territory General Vice President Gary Allen, referring to the solidarity that endured amongst the members of Local 79 as only three individuals crossed the picket line during this 196-day strike. "Congratulations to all! As Fighting Machinists, stay strong and united as you return to work."

Throughout the more than six-month ordeal, Local 79 got good coverage from the labor press, including the national AFL-CIO, the global union IndustriALL, and an outpouring of messages of solidarity from all corners of the U.S., Canada, Australia, England, Poland, The Philippines, Costa Rica, Greece, Italy and the Czech Republic.

The leadership of Local 79 wishes to express its heartfelt gratitude to all for their support, especially their union Sisters and Brothers who joined them on the picket line.

The information above is from iMAIL, which is available to all at [www.goiam.org](http://www.goiam.org)

### **2013 MNPL FUND RAISING DRIVE**

We are currently conducting a direct mail appeal for the Machinists Non-Partisan Political League. The MNPL is our political action committee, committed to work in support of those who support the issues of workers, **regardless of party affiliation**. MNPL annual sponsoring memberships cost only \$25.00, a small price to pay for full time advocacy on behalf of working men and women across the country. Donations to the MNPL are voluntary, not tax deductible, and can be made only by members of the IAMAW. We will be including a donation envelope with the letter you will be receiving that you can return to your shop steward or to the District Lodge office. If you would prefer to make your donation on line you can also find the link to do so on our District Lodge Website, [www.iamdistrict66.org](http://www.iamdistrict66.org).

**Local Lodge 21, Trane Company, will be the next group to receive the appeal. Please watch for your letter in the coming weeks and consider becoming a sponsoring member!**

So far we have sent the appeal letter to the members of Local Lodge 1115, Local Lodge 2191, and Local Lodge 1030. 2014 is going to be a big year for all of us politically and I don't think that it's a stretch to say our futures are at stake. **I would appeal again to all of our members, please consider becoming a sponsoring member of the MNPL. Return your envelope to your steward or consider signing up for payroll deduction if it is available.**

Being a member of organized labor enables us to work with our employers towards a more secure future. No union, regardless of size, can truly succeed while the political establishment continues to undermine the rights of average people across this nation. Only by electing and supporting people who will fight for the common good of EVERYONE will we have any hope of securing a brighter future for all. I am asking everyone in District 66 to join the fight for a better future for you, your children and grandchildren by becoming an MNPL sponsoring member today. Watch your mail for my letter because **Together, We Can Make a Difference!**

### **2014 MACHINISTS UNION SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION**

It is with renewed enthusiasm that we are beginning another year for the IAM Scholarship Competition. All of our Locals will receive the 2014 Scholarship Competition Announcement that covers the rules and regulations for IAM members and children of IAM members. In order to be able to inform members of the opportunities for themselves and their children, lodge officers are urged to read and discuss the announcement thoroughly. Please note that we now have a vocational-technical two-year scholarship available to both children of members and members. Also, at the 2004 Grand Lodge convention, the delegates voted unanimously to name one of the scholarships after Roman A. Mayfield, a 55-year member of D.L. 751, now deceased. This will be given to one of the scholarship recipients who best represent the spirit of volunteerism and the strong sense of service to their community that was a hallmark of Brother Mayfield.

I thought it was important that while we advise you of the competition, I also bring you up-to-date on the financial condition of our Scholarship Program.

Since its implementation in 1960, the Scholarship Competition has continued to grow. Our financial resources were strong in the beginning and we were able to award as many as 30 scholarships each year. This past year, 2012-2013, we received 347 applications for scholarships. The fund-raiser that was held in January was a great success and permitted us to award 16 scholarships valued at \$64,000. Currently, there are 63 active awards valued at \$164,000. With your lodge's help, we will continue this program and, hopefully refuel the funding to include awarding many more scholarships in future years.

By Convention resolution the delegates determined that voluntary contributions to finance the funding be set at 50 cents per member per year. If your lodge has not adopted this resolution or has not contributed for this year, please give it serious consideration at your next lodge meeting. The check should be made payable to the IAM Scholarship Program. Please include on the mailing address, Attn: Accounting Department.

To keep with current times we have made our Scholarship Program fully accessible from the web. We will now announce Scholarship Winners in the IMAIL and will also be available to view at [www.goiam.org](http://www.goiam.org), under the Scholarship Department. 2013 Scholarship winners were announced in the i-Mail dated June 27, 2013. Also, for the third year, you can now download and print the 3 different Scholarship Applications online:

1. IAM Child of a Member applying for College
2. IAM Child of a Member applying for Vocational/Technical School
3. IAM Member applying for College

At the [goiam.org](http://www.goiam.org) website:

(<http://www.goiam.org/index.php/headquarters/departments/scholarship>) or you can call the Scholarship Department, 301-967-4708 and request an application packet to be mailed. Also, the application packets for the 3 different scholarships were sent to the local and district lodges.

### **District Lodge 66 Delegate Meeting**

The regular monthly District Lodge Delegate meeting took place on Monday October 21. I was unable to attend this meeting as I was at the William W. Winpisinger Education Center in Placid Harbor. Your Delegates took action on a number of things put before them including making a donation to La Crosse Rotary Lights. I mentioned last month news involving Guide Dogs of America. District Lodge 66, with the approval of our Delegates, will be co-sponsoring the Midwest Motorcycle ride in Support of Guide Dogs of America along with Wisconsin District 10 and W-3. The Ride is being set for July 2014 with exact date and details to be finalized. Watch for more information in the near future. The next DL Delegate meeting will be on Monday, November 18.

I hope that all of our hunters, carrying on a great Minnesota and Wisconsin tradition, have a safe and successful fall hunt. To all of our members, their families, and everyone, Happy Thanksgiving! Until next month...