



# 873 NEWS

Editors: Sam Galaviz, Marla Ryan, Amber Cundy

LODGE NO. 873  
258 Barstow Street, Horicon,  
WI 53032  
Phone -920-485-2631  
Fax—920-485-4941

**Website**

[www.powerweb.net/local873](http://www.powerweb.net/local873)

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**February 2007**

## UNION MEETING

The monthly meeting for February will held on Thursday, February 1, 2007. The meeting will start at 12:00 noon for the night shift.

The recessed meeting for the day shift will begin at 3:30 PM. Lunch and refreshments will be served after the meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP DRAWING

Kevin Steinmates name was drawn at the January meeting. His name was not in the register. This month's drawing is worth \$150.00. Plan now to attend.

Remember it does not cost to attend the monthly meeting. It Pays!!!

### Thank You

Thank you to all of you who supported me in the Dec. Union Election.

I will do my best to represent our membership's interests as your Shop Committeeman.

Brian Brath



Congratulations to Ryan Owens, Dept 081. Ryan won his custom built bike in a raffle for Mac Tools. The contest was named Macstravaganza, which is the New Macstravaganza Program Strengthening Relationships across the Country. He had to go the Nashville, Tennessee to pick it up!

## Financial Officers Hours For February 2007

Fri. Jan. 26—11:45am to 4:00pm  
Thurs. Feb. 1—11:00am to 9:30pm  
Fri. Feb. 2—11:00am to 4:00pm  
Fri. Feb. 9—11:00am to 4:00pm  
Fri. Feb. 23—11:00am to 4:00pm

I will be on Vacation Friday February 16<sup>th</sup> So I won't be at the Hall.

A friendly reminder for the supplemental employees hired in December, you need to get your reinstatement fees to me as soon as possible.

### Union Dues 2007

What is the new formula for the union dues calculation? Everyone's dues are figured out separately using the time period from September 1<sup>st</sup> of 2005 to August 31<sup>st</sup> of 2006 the following year. Below is what's included in the formula:

- Straight time pay
- TCP reserves
- Ratification Bonus
- Profit sharing
- Vacation bonus
- Sub pay Christmas Bonus
- 1.25% Christmas Shutdown
- Call-in Pay
- Bereavement Pay
- Lump Sum Payment
- BAA payout

All these buckets are totaled together, then divided by the Total Qualified Straight Time Hours which gives you a sum and then multiplied by two to give your Union Dues Rate for the year 2007.

Items that never are included = Shift premium, Lead man pay, overtime, VML pay or VML hours and any SUB pay for time off by the Day or Week.

This calculation takes place each year and your dues could go up or down depending upon the change in total dollars of each of the buckets and the total amount of hours worked in that year.

The Grand Lodge Per Capita for 2007 will be \$21.27. The District per capita is \$8.50 for 2007. The AFL-CIO per capita is \$0.75 for 2007 and the Dodge County labor council per capita is \$0.20 for 2007. This gives a total of \$30.72 per caps we have

to pay for 2007. We also put \$0.25/member / month in the strike fund, \$0.10/member/month into the emergency fund until we reach the maximum of \$25,000.00.

The minimum the dues for 2007 will be is \$35.72 which is: the total per-capita plus \$5.00. So every ones dues will be different by determining the amount that is calculated from the buckets above for each employee.

I also have a master copy of all the dues calculations and if any member has questions on how their dues were figured out you can stop in at my office and see them during my hours at the Union Hall.

I still have new T-shirts, and the sale on sweat-shirts and mugs is still on. A reminder that if you change address, phone number or get married and change your name, let me know because John Deere does not let me know. You can call 920-485-2631 ext. 23.

David Berezinski/Secretary/Treasurer





Even before the terrorists struck on September 11, 2001, our nation's transportation sector had been under attack. Layoffs had already started and contract negotiations were drawn out and difficult. But in the last five years, transportation workers have endured multiple bankruptcies, terminated pensions, corporate takeaways, outsourcing of work to overseas facilities and negotiations that proceeded at a snails pace under the Railway Labor Act. And yet, America's elected leaders did nothing as this critical segment of the workforce was hammered. Our goal is to articulate a clear message – ENOUGH IS ENOUGH – and to do so at the front end of the 2008 presidential election cycle. All union members have suffered under the current gang that occupies the White House and controls Congress, but May 17, 2007, will be a day for all our members to fight back. Together, we can demonstrate labor's power and make our voice heard.

Local support is critical to bring national attention to the issues surrounding the transportation industry. We need to demonstrate organized labor's strength nationwide, and the IAM District and Local Lodge leadership will be reaching out to their State Federations and Central Labor Councils, particularly those who cannot readily attend the Day of Action in Washington, D.C., to join with us in organizing local activities.

### Rally Information

Date: May 17, 2007  
Time: Pre-Rally Entertainment 10:00 a.m.  
Rally 12:00 p.m.  
Post-Rally Entertainment 2:00 p.m.  
Location: Washington, DC Mall





There is a growing emphasis on the effects of global warming. Here are some helpful tips and hints that we as union members can do to help the environment in which we live.



### FEED THE BEES

Pesticides, pollution and habitat destruction are taking a toll on the birds and insects that pollinate about 80 percent of the world's food supply (or about one out of ever three bites of food we eat). To lend a helping hand, plant a pollinator garden. Go to [www.kidsgardening.com](http://www.kidsgardening.com) for more information.



### CLEAN UP NATURALLY

Household chemicals contribute to both indoor and outdoor pollution. Use more natural cleaners. You can find out how at [www.imusranchfoods.com](http://www.imusranchfoods.com). You can also make your own using vinegar, baking soda, and lemon juice. For some great tips on green cleaning, go to [www.eartheasy.com](http://www.eartheasy.com).



### DITCH YOUR JUNK

Junk mail is annoying and it kills trees. Do yourself and the forests a favor by getting off the mailing list of companies you don't support. You can contact the firms yourself, or check out subscription services like [www.greendimes.com](http://www.greendimes.com) or [www.41pounds.org](http://www.41pounds.org) that promise to lighten you junk-mail load. For more information, go to [www.greenguide.com](http://www.greenguide.com).



### AIR YOUR LAUNDRY

Make like Grandma and line-dry your clothes once in a while. It not only save money, and energy, but also decreases your yearly carbon-dioxide emissions. It is best to run your washer on cold whenever possible, and use it only when full.



### RECYCLE YOUR GADGETS

Don't clog landfills with old electronics. If you're dumping a computer, manufacturers like Dell ([www.dell.com](http://www.dell.com)) HP

([www.hp.com](http://www.hp.com)) and Apple ([www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)) offer recycling options. You can also consider donating. The National Cristina Foundation ([www.cristina.org](http://www.cristina.org)) will hook up your old PC or Mac with a nonprofit organization. Drop your old cell phone at your local Staples store as part of a Sierra Club recycling effort ([www.sierraclub.org/cellphones/](http://www.sierraclub.org/cellphones/)). To find a drop center for rechargeable batteries and cell phones, check out the non profit Call2Recycle program at [www.rbr.org](http://www.rbr.org). Take advantage of community resources like hazardous-waste pickup or e-waste recycling events.



### CUT THE LIGHTS

Trade your old incandescent light bulbs for compact fluorescent ones. They use about 70% less energy than regular bulbs and last 10 times longer. For help in picking the best bulb for your needs, go to [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov). Plug all your major electronics into a power strip. Appliances and e-gadgets use electricity even when turned off, but flicking the switch on the power strip when you leave the house effectively unplugs them.



### SAVE A TREE

The paper industry is the third largest contributor to global warming. If every U.S. household replaced one toilet paper roll with a roll made from recycled paper, 424,000 trees would be saved. If every household in the United States bought recycled napkins instead of virgin-fiber napkins, we could save a million trees. If the thought of recycled paper doesn't do it for you. Plant a tree. The net cooling effect of one healthy tree is equivalent to 10 room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day. If you don't have room to plant a tree, hundreds of eco-organizations have tree-planting projects. For more information you can go to [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)



### TURN ON THE TAP

Instead of spending big bucks on bottled water, drink the water that comes from your faucet. The reason? It takes a lot of oil to make and ship those bottles, and once they're empty, most wind up in landfills or as litter. If you're squeamish, buy a water filter. Americans really do have some of the best tap water in the world. Check out the website at [www.waterfiltercomparisons.com](http://www.waterfiltercomparisons.com)

In Solidarity,  
The Women's Committee