



# Machinists Matters

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers  
Local Lodge 839

3917 E. MacArthur Rd.  
Wichita, Kansas 67210

## Cesar Chavez's Birthday

The drive to establish César Chávez’s March 31 birthday as a National Holiday is heating up, and so is interest in learning more about the life and times of the legendary founder of the Farm Workers (UFW).

In response, the union has just launched a comprehensive online resource center on Chávez and his fights for workers’ rights, civil rights, environmental justice, equality for all, peace, non-violence, children and women’s rights. It’s a treasure trove of information for activists, teachers and students.

Chávez died in 1993 and since his death, 10 states have established César Chávez holidays—Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Michigan, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin and Rhode Island. A bill in Congress (H. Res. 76) to create a National César Chávez Day has 56 co-sponsors. ( to read more about current efforts to establish a Chávez holiday.)

The UFW site includes 20 videos about Chávez, including the top two winners of a 2007 César Chávez YouTube contest, historic videos chronicling various campaigns and several musical tributes.

In addition, there is an in-depth biography of Chávez, a look at his commitment to non-violence and quotes from the labor leader on education, dignity, justice, the role of unions and more. It also includes a photo library, audio clips, e-cards and information on how to plan a César Chávez Day event or if one is scheduled in your area.

For more information check AFL-CIO Website ( Cesar Chavez Resource Center)



### Monthly Meetings

2nd Saturday of the Month

Executive Board meets at  
8:00AM

Regular Meeting at 10:00AM

**“ Decisions are made by those  
who show up.”**

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### A Sweetheart of a Deal!

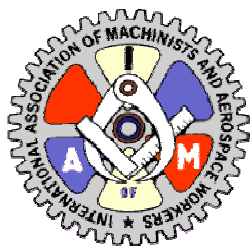
At the February meeting of Local Lodge 839, the Community Service Committee held a drawing for a special Valentine’s basket. The basket contained a gift certificate for a night’s stay at Candlewood Suites, a bottle of Ca’ De’ Medici Lambrusco wine (we were told this wine was a personal favorite of the great operatic tenor Luciano Pavarotti when he was in town), wine glasses, linen napkins, a silver bracelet, candles, “The Wedding Singer” DVD, a Ray Charles CD, chocolates and a calendar. The basket, valued at \$175.00, was won by David Betthausen. David is a second shift Steward in dept. 68E2; 787 Equipment Maintenance. **Congratulations David!**



The Community Service Committee cooks and sells cheeseburgers at the Local Lodge meeting each month, and tries to have basket drawings whenever they can to help raise money to donate to community organizations that help our members in need. Be sure to attend the March 8<sup>th</sup> Local Lodge meeting for a chance to win a St. Patrick’s basket!

Better yet, become a member of the Community Service Committee and work with us to demonstrate to the Wichita area that union members are actively working to help improve our community. We have immediate openings now on the 2008 committee! Contact the Local Lodge for information on how you can get more involved! (524-1090).

By Kathy Petersen



# Labor Legislation



# A Steward Should Know About

It’s up to you to see that the worker in your department get the protection to which they are entitled. Workers have often lost their legal rights because they were not informed, and failed to file claims as required. If you are not sure how to advise a worker to apply for worker’s compensation or unemployment insurance, check with your local union office. If you think that law is being violated in your department, report it to your union. Be certain that you are standing on firm ground before telling workers or taking up the matter as a grievance. You can’t be expected to remember all the details of the information quickly.

The legal and research department of the IAM as well as the *Machinist*, followed all federal labor legislation very closely. The United States Department of Labor and your own State Department of Labor issue pamphlets covering these laws. If you have a question regarding federal labor legislation, write to Grand Lodge headquarters. However, if you seek information regarding State Labor laws, discuss it with your Union representative.

## 100% UNION PROUD

By Terry Rodriquez & Kathy Petersen

The Organizing Committee of Local Lodge 839 would like to thank all of the members who participated in the “100% Union Strong” program this year. The program has come to a close, with over 300 members receiving a complementary navy-blue polo shirt. That is fantastic! If you received one of these shirts, please wear it on Thursdays to show your union pride.

The 2008 Organizing program has begun! Any current member who signs up a new member will receive a check for \$10.00 (less tax). To receive your reward, you must have a completed W-4 form on file. Simply stop by the Local Lodge and fill one out when you turn in the new-member application. Checks will be presented at the monthly lodge meeting.

The number of checks you can collect is limited only by the number of potential members you can sign up! So, let’s all get busy organizing! Visit our website at: [www.ll839.org](http://www.ll839.org) to learn more about this program.

Now is the time for all of us as members, stewards and in-plant representatives to grow and rebuild this membership. Let’s take our Local Lodge membership to a level that this company has never seen before! We need to be proud of being a machinists member and of the good wages and benefits we have.

Remember to show your **UNION PRIDE** – don’t just say it, **Show it!**

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# Why do we fight for a better way of life?

By Stan Chapman



Our children are one of the biggest reasons that we strive for a better way of living. Our kids look to us for guidance throughout their lives. Too many times we don’t take the time to teach our children about unions. We need to show and tell our kids what we do. These two youngsters were at this month’s meeting with their parent. These children are our hope for a better way of life. The future of the union is ultimately in their hands. A lot of the younger people that are being hired at the aircraft plants today have no idea what a union is. They don’t understand how hard the unions fight so that they can have good wages and benefits like healthcare and pension. They don’t understand why safety on the job is so important. It is our responsibility to educate and mentor our children and the younger workforce. We all have to work together for a better future.

# Welcome Our New Union Brothers and Sisters

New March IAMAW LL839 Members

ROBERT	ANGULO	AARON	GRAMKE	LORENZO	MYLES
MILTON	AYALA	MAXIMO	GUZMAN	NGHIA THI	NGUYEN
JOHN A	BATEMON	LES	HANCOCK	TRANG THU	NGUYEN
WENDY	BENITEZ	TRACY	HARRIS	DONALD	NIX
BRIAN	BOLSTER	MIKE	HAVENAR	DARLA	NUZUM
CODY J	BOYLES	RODGER	HERRINGTON	MATT	OCROWLEY
ANTHONY R	BROWN	BRANDON	HILLIARD	BRENT	PENNY
JENNIFER	CLARK	RICHARD	HOAG	VAN	PHETSOMPHOU
CHEVIS	COLEMAN	GREGORY C	HOWARD	TIM	PITTS
CHRIS	CONLEY	SHANON	JENKINS	GARY M	POWERS
LANDON CHAS	DAILING	VICHITH	KEOMANY	JOSHUA K	PRUETT
LEO	DANLER	CHRISTOPHER R	KERN	YANCARLO	RODRIGUEZ
TIM	DAVIS	ROSEMARY	KHONSAYTHIDET	THOMAS M	RUCKMAN
HAROLD	DAWSON	NATHANIEL	KLEIN	MICHAEL	SCHRAEDER
BRUCE A	DODSON	RUSSELL	KREUTZIGER	RUSSELL O	SMITH
ROBERT	ENGELBERT	TIM	LONG	THERESA	SMITH
MARY A	FEIOCK	MARTIN E	LOPEZ	BENNY S	TAYLOR
JOHN	FITZGERALD	DANIEL	LY	KENNETH	THOMPSON
GALE E	FLOWERS	SCOTT	MACE	JEFF	VAUGHN
JOSHUA C	FORSHEE	BRADLEY R	MCDONALD	TERRY LEE	WADDELL
ANTHONY	FOSTER	CHERYL	MCEUEN	ROBBY	WADE
MARCUS	FRANKLIN	JOE D	MIKESELL	VINCENT	WHITE
GRANT	GOODVIN	JEREMY R	MILLER	SAMUEL L	WHITMORE
JON	GRAHAM	GAVEN	MORENO	CHARITY	WRIGHT
		THERESA	MULLEN		

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*The Fighting Machinists*

[www.ll839.org](http://www.ll839.org)

## Local Lodge 839 Officers

**President - Gary Cochran**  
**Vice President - Kathy Petersen**  
**Recording Secretary - Kevin Jamis**  
**Treasurer - Joni Pierce**  
**Conductor/Sentinel - Dennis Williams**  
**Trustees - Roger Stamback, Stan Chapman, Rickey Nelson**



**Communicator - Dennis Williams**  
**Educator - Roger Stamback**

**1st Shift In-Plant Representative - David Eagle**  
**2nd Shift In-Plant Representative - Howard Johnson**

**LL839 Newsletter Editor - Ernest (Ernie) L. Gonzales**