



IAMAW

125 YEARS

of MAKING HISTORY

"Under this Constitution we desire to unite, under one executive head, all good practical and competent Machinists."



'Organization, cooperation, education.'





Dear Fellow IAM Member,

On May 5, 2013, our great union celebrated its 125th anniversary. From its earliest days of struggle after 19 proud railroad Machinists met in secret in a railroad pit in Atlanta, GA, Machinists Union members have strived to make life better for their families and fellow workers.

The struggle against greed and injustice hasn't changed a lot since those early days in the 1880s. Railroad barons were amassing great fortunes while their workers suffered. In remarks to the first Grand Lodge Convention in Atlanta, GA, in 1889, our first International President and Founder Tom Talbot described what life was like.

Just after the Civil War ended in 1865, Talbot started his apprenticeship with a dream "to make an honorable mechanic of myself, to be a worthy member of society and to earn big wages." Railroad Machinists were making between \$3.50 to \$4 per day. But employers were forcing down wages and as Talbot neared the end of his apprenticeship, "to my disappointment, I found that wages were gradually reduced until at the present time the average rate of wages paid a Machinist is from \$1.80 to \$2.50 per day." And that's when Talbot and his fellow workers decided that "organization, cooperation and education" were the keys to change. The founding of the Machinists Union followed.

Today, North American families face similar problems. Corporations are concentrating wealth like never before and working families' income isn't growing in real terms. Just as industrialists in the 1880s forced down wages and fought workers' attempts to organize, we see corporations today using the threat of going overseas to cut wages, rip up retirement security and lower healthcare benefits.

Talbot and his fellow 18 machinists never backed down. The original members started out with an organization that was unknown, and they "had no funds at their disposal, not one cent in the treasury, or a scrap of printed paper," according to Talbot. But in one year, they had grown to 34 lodges in 15 states with more than 1,500 members. And that was just the beginning. The early "boomers" kept growing the union and their work laid the foundation for the organization we are today.

So as we look ahead to our next 125 years, let us remember the founding principles of our union's earliest members – organization, cooperation and education. If we all follow the guiding principles of our founding members, we will ensure future generations will be celebrating many more anniversaries.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Thomas Buffenbarger".

R. Thomas Buffenbarger
International President

In His Own Words

Tom Talbot's History *of the IAM's First Year*

ON MAY 6, 1889, the opening day of the first convention of what would become the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, founder Tom Talbot spoke at a reception held in DeGive's Opera House in Atlanta, GA, to celebrate the first anniversary of the "Order" that was started in a locomotive pit in the shops of the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia railroad.

Talbot told the assembled group:

"As Chairman of the Executive Committee, and founder of the order of 'United Machinists and Mechanical Engineers of America,' now assembled, it affords me great pleasure to welcome you here tonight.

"I have one regret, which is, that someone more competent than myself did not undertake this work long ago, so that every Machinist in this broad land of ours might be represented here tonight. But the past cannot be recalled, so we will have to content ourselves with the fact that the foundation of our Order is so broadly laid that we hope in the near future our organization will be extended beyond the confines of this great republic.

"Twenty-four years ago I entered a machine shop as an apprentice, my hope then being to make an honorable mechanic of myself, to be a worthy member of society, and to earn big wages. At that time Machinists were receiving from \$3.50 to \$4 per day, and not an idle one could be found. Impressed by this fact, I flattered myself that when my apprenticeship was ended a very few years would suffice to give me a good start in life. But, to my disappointment, I found, as I approached the end of those long, weary, tedious years of service, that wages were gradually reduced, and that, too, with remarkable facility and ease, until at the present time the average rate of wages paid a Machinist is from \$1.80 to \$2.50 per day. In December, 1886, my brother Machinists and I, in the Wilmington,



Delegates to the first IAM Grand Lodge Convention in 1889 gather outside the Georgia State Capitol Building in Atlanta where the Convention was held.

‘Organization, cooperation and education.’

Columbia and Augusta Railroad Company’s shops, at Florence, SC, were working for the meager sum of \$2.45 per day. I then realized that union and organization were imperatively needed.

“With considerable exertion, I succeeded in getting nine first-class workmen of our shops together, and then organized the first lodge of this Order. But its life was short, as the members soon became scattered, and we were compelled to give it up. Upon my removal to this city I found some very ambitious, determined and enthusiastic Machinists, and they soon began to grasp the idea of organization, cooperation and education. After some exertion, a number of us met and discussed this decrease in wages, or, more properly speaking, the decline and downfall of the Machinist.

“After careful deliberation, our decision was that there were two great evils existing, and that there was but one remedy for both.

“The first of these evils was that the trade was greatly impaired and abused by incompetent workmen — men who had served no apprenticeship — and who knew little or nothing about the trade. These frauds would impose upon Master Machinists or proprietors of shops, and represent themselves as first-class workmen, but proving to be incompetent they would be given exceedingly low wages and, knowing their worthlessness, would accept the same. At last forbearance would cease to be a virtue and they would be discharged because of their incompetency. The employing of such men increased, until good mechanics have been forced to work at the same wages these frauds were paid.

“The second evil was, that the Machinists, by their divided condition and discouraging prospects, have neglected the proper cultivation of their talents, and in consequence, were incapacitated for good pay and fair treatment as they should have been.

“This being true, what was the remedy? We answered: ‘Combination, organization, education.’



The railroad pit in Atlanta, GA that was the birthplace of the Machinists Union on May 5, 1888. Standing with hats on at the head of the pit are two of the original 19 machinists, Mike Reilly, left, and Henry Garrett, right.

“There may be some who might question this answer; but my friends, if we but cast a single glance at the success of a combination of these principles, as they have been applied by trades and professions, you must admit the truth of this answer.

“On the evening of the 5th of last May we met and organized Atlanta Lodge, No. 1, United Machinists and Mechanical Engineers of America, with nineteen (19) numbers.

“At that time the Constitution and Bylaws, containing the principles of the Order, for our government and guidance, were adopted.

The IAM's first charter.



“Under this Constitution we desire to unite, under one executive head, all good practical and competent Machinists; taking only such as can be recommended to the most discriminating employer — such men who, in adversity, we can aid without fear of encouraging evil habits.

“We propose to create a fund for relief of our sick and disabled members, and a life endowment for the families of our deceased brethren.

“We desire, by the exchange of ideas and practical experience, to establish the means by which those in our trade may be so educated and elevated that they may be worthy of the vocation to which they have been called.

“Lastly, but by no mean's least, we propose by our united efforts along these lines, to devise plans by which we can find immediate and profitable employment for worthy members, and to increase their daily wages to a more liberal basis; to ignore the old and unsuccessful plan of strikes — and here let us emphasize, that we are not advocates of strikes, nor foes to capital, nor do we desire to create a breach between our employers and ourselves — but to raise up such a class of workmen as may be able to break down the barriers of prejudice and discord, so that capital and labor may walk hand in hand; and to accomplish that result we shall endeavor to observe the Golden Rule: ‘To do unto others as they should do unto us;’ and by adhering to these principles, we hope to build up a higher reputation in public opinion, and thus derive more good for ourselves.

“After organizing according to our constitution, we elected a general executive committee of seven members, in good standing, and to them was entrusted the general management of the Order, and its introduction, growth and advancement.

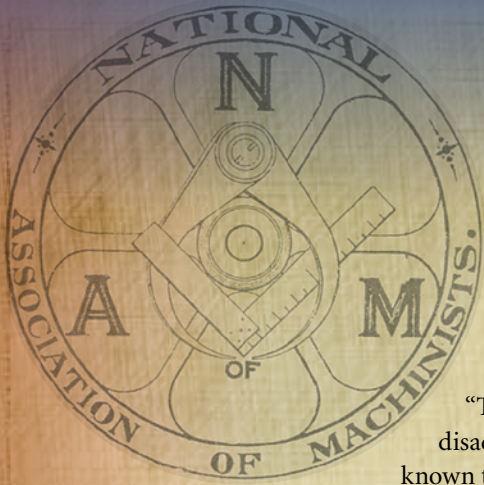
“As I have had the honor of being the chairman of that committee, assisted by my worthy friend and brother, Wm. L. Dawley, as secretary, I desire to inform you of something of our work.

“It must be remembered that when this committee took its place as the executive head of the Order they had no funds at their disposal, not one cent in the treasury, or a scrap of printed paper, such as circulars, etc., and not only that, but it was unknown on account of its youth; in consequence of which it was the 18th of July before they were prepared to make any advance along the line of organization of other lodges.

“On that date they organized Unity Lodge No. 2, at Florence, SC, where I made the first attempt at organization for Machinists, showing conclusively that seed sown years before had not died, but that they were coming forth with beauty and vitality.

“Since July 18 we have advanced steadily and quietly until tonight we have thirty-four lodges,

“Under this Constitution we desire to unite, under one executive head, all good practical and competent Machinists.”

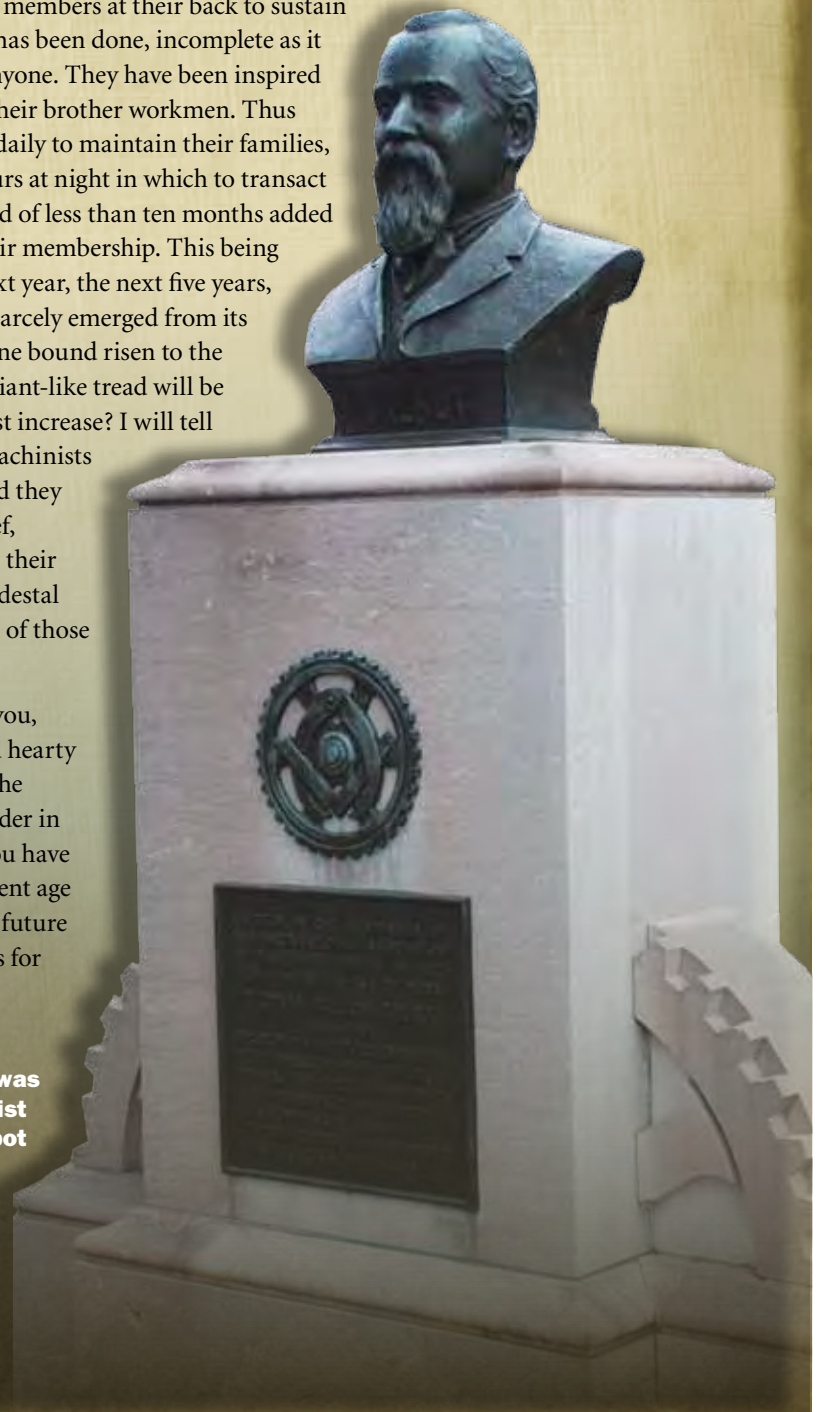


representing a membership of over fifteen hundred first-class Machinists, scattered in fifteen States of the Union, and a general cry is being heard from many other States, saying, 'Come over and help us.'

"To some these figures may appear insignificant, but remember, my friends, the great disadvantages we had to labor under, without means at our disposal to make our object known to the world, or popularity wherewith to win friends. Viewed with distrust by those whose support we should have had our motives were maligned and often misjudged, with only (19) nineteen members at their back to sustain and encourage them; all this work has been done, incomplete as it is, without a salary being paid to anyone. They have been inspired by a love of and a desire to elevate their brother workmen. Thus they have been compelled to labor daily to maintain their families, and only having late and weary hours at night in which to transact their business, they have, in a period of less than ten months added more than fourteen hundred to their membership. This being true, what may we expect in the next year, the next five years, the next ten years? This babe has scarcely emerged from its swaddling clothes before it has in one bound risen to the dignity of manhood, and soon its giant-like tread will be heard over the land. Why is this vast increase? I will tell you, my friends, the reason: The Machinists are awakened to their condition and they see that we are coming to their relief, and with fixed determination, with their assistance, to place them upon a pedestal where stands the noblest exemplars of those who labor for their daily bread.

"In conclusion, allow me to thank you, my brethren for the confidence and hearty cooperation you have given me in the past, and pray you to give to the Order in the future the same assistance as you have already done. This done, if the present age does not appreciate our efforts, the future generations will rise up and bless us for what we have done."

A statue of the IAM's founder Tom Talbot was erected in Atlanta's Grant Park by Machinist Union members in May, 1948 to honor Talbot and mark the union's 60th anniversary.



125 Years Strong

The History of the IAM

1888

The IAM was founded on May 5, 1888, when Thomas Talbot and 18 other earnest railroad machinists, making only 20 to 25 cents an hour for a 10-hour workday, met secretly in a locomotive pit in Atlanta, Georgia. Who among those original 19 could have imagined that on that day in 1888, one of North America's largest, most progressive and most enduring trade unions was born?

The Order of United Machinists and Mechanical Engineers, as it was first named, had to remain a secret organization because of employers' anti-union sentiment. Despite that fierce resistance, it increased in strength and popularity thanks, in part, to traveling railway workers, called boomers.

1889

At great personal risk, boomers spread the word about the new organization and established Locals during their journeys. At the first Convention in Atlanta in 1889, the new union has already grown to 34 Local Lodges. Delegates adopted a new name: the National Association of Machinists.

1890

The first Canadian local is chartered at Stratford, Ontario.

The union is named the International Association of Machinists, with its headquarters in Richmond, VA. Membership stands at 4,000 and includes a Mexican local.



1891

IAM Local 145 asks \$3 for a 10-hour day.

1892

The first railroad agreement is signed with Atcheson, Topeka & Santa Fe.

1895

The IAM joins the American Federation of Labor (AFL), and moves its headquarters to Chicago.



1898

IAM Local 52, Pittsburgh, conducts the first successful strike for 9-hour day.

1899

Time-and-a-half for overtime becomes prevalent. Union headquarters moves to Washington, D.C.

1903

Specialists admitted to membership. The drive for the 8-hour workday begins.

1905

Apprentices admitted to membership. There are 769 locals. Railroad machinists earn 36 to 43 cents an hour for 9-hour day.

1908

A Metal Trades Department is established within the AFL with IAM President James O'Connell serving as president.

1911

Women win full membership rights in the IAM.



1912

Railway Employees Department established in the AFL with Machinist A. O. Wharton as President.

1914

Congress passes the Clayton Act that limits the use of injunctions in labor disputes and makes picketing legal.

1915

With continued work and determination, the IAM wins an 8-hour day in many shops and factories, despite desperate attempts by management to dismantle the effort. The IAM affiliates with the International Metalworkers' Federation.

1916

Auto mechanics admitted to membership.

1918

As more people recognize the IAM's growing strength, membership increases to 331,000. The largest union in the U.S., the IAM represents women, specialists, apprentices, metal trades and auto

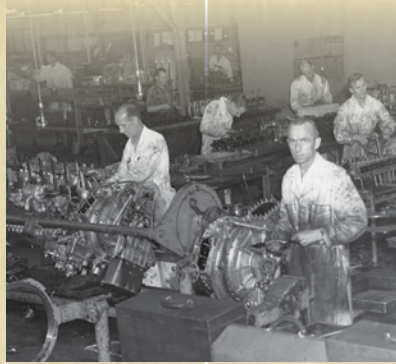
mechanics. Canadian women win the right to vote in federal elections.

1919

IAM members play a central role in the Winnipeg General Strike, shutting down the city for seven weeks.

1920

Headquarters moves to the first Machinists Building, at 9th & Mt. Vernon Pl., N.W., Washington, DC. British Amalgamated Engineering Union cedes its North American locals to the IAM.





1920

Machinists earn 72 to 90 cents an hour for a 44-hour week.

1922

79,000 railroad machinists pit shopmen's strike against second post-war wage cut. Membership declines to 148,000.

1924

IAM Convention endorses Robert M. LaFollette, Sr., for President.

1926

Congress realizes the importance of the American workforce and the value of protecting worker rights in passing the Railway Labor Act in 1926. The act required carriers to bargain with union representatives and prohibited discrimination against union members.

1927

The IAM urges ratification of Child Labor Amendments to U.S. Constitution; 2.5 million children under 16 are working at substandard wages.

1928

250 delegates at 18th IAM Convention urge 5-day week to alleviate unemployment.



1929

Depression layoffs cut IAM membership to 70,000.

1932

Congress passes the Norris LaGuardia Act banning the use of court injunctions in labor disputes. Wisconsin adopts first unemployment insurance act. Nearly 30 percent of union members are jobless.

1933

IAM backs National Recovery drive and 40-hour week. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt picks IAM Vice President Robert Fechner to head new Civilian Conservative Corps. Membership sinks to 56,000.

1934

The IAM establishes its Research Department.

1935

Congress adopts the National Labor Relations Act establishing right to organize and requiring employers to bargain in good faith. The IAM opens drive to organize the aircraft industry.

1936

The IAM perseveres and membership climbs to 130,000. The first industrial union agreement is signed with Boeing in Seattle. Before employer-provided benefits were commonplace, the IAM fought hard to win more than wages for its members. In 1936, the Remington-Rand Company creates the infamous 'Mohawk Valley Formula,' a union-busting technique aimed specifically at the IAM. But the IAM could not be stopped. The National Labor Relations Board ruled in favor of the IAM after a 10-month strike against Rand. The IAM Convention endorses FDR for President.



1937

Social Security and Railroad Retirement Acts now in operation. IAM negotiates paid vacations in 26 percent of its agreements.



1939

The IAM signs the first union agreement in the air transport industry with Eastern.

1940

Machinists rates average 80 cents an hour.

1941

Through the National Defense Program, the IAM pledges its full support to win the war including a no-strike pledge.

1944

76,000 IAM members serve in the armed forces. Total union membership stands at 776,000. Legendary labor leader Tommy Douglas is elected in Saskatchewan Province and introduces the first public hospital and medical insurance in Canada.

1945

First agreement with Remington Rand. IAM Convention delegates vote to establish weekly newspaper, Education Department. Widespread layoffs follow World War II's end.

★ ★ MNPL ★ ★
NATIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE



1946

88 percent of IAM agreements now provide for paid vacations.

1947

Congress enacts anti-union Taft-Hartley Act. The Machinists Non-Partisan Political League (MNPL) was founded and the IAM Legal Department was established to ensure that local, state and federal laws and officials act in the best interest of workers. Issues such as the Social Security Act, tax laws and employment compensation laws are important to IAM members and their families. MNPL encourages the support of labor-friendly candidates in both the Republican and Democratic parties when they continue to vote in favor of worker rights. Machinists average \$1.56 an hour.

1948

The IAM helps end discrimination in the U.S., opening its ranks to all, irrespective of race. The IAM added to its strong support of community service efforts in 1948 when retired IAM member Joseph Jones founded the Guide Dogs of America after he was denied services by other guide dog agencies because of his age. With the IAM's strong support, Guide Dogs of America has paired more than 3,000 blind recipients with guide dogs at no charge. IAM Convention delegates endorse Harry Truman for President.

1949

Railroad machinists win 40-hour week. Membership down to 501,000.



1950

The IAM joins the International Transport Workers Federation. Machinists now average \$1.82 an hour.

1951

The IAM pledges full support of UN action in Korea.

1952

Employees on 85 percent of airlines now protected by IAM agreements. 92 percent of IAM contracts provide for paid holidays.

1953

The IAM has contracts fixing wages and working conditions with 13,500 employers. The IAM Atomic Energy Conference organized.

1955

The IAM is influential in founding two major labor federations. In the U.S., the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations merge to form the AFL-CIO and Machinist Al Hayes is elected Vice President and chairman of its Ethical Practices Committee. In Canada, the Trades and Labour Congress and the Canadian Congress of Labour merge to form the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) in 1956. 70 percent of IAM contracts now have health and welfare provisions. Machinists average \$2.33 an hour.



1956

2,000th active local chartered. New 10-story Machinists Building dedicated at 1300 Connecticut Ave., Washington, DC.

1958

IAM Convention delegates establish a strike fund that is approved by the membership in a referendum vote. IAM membership now tops 903,000.

1959

Congress enacts anti-union Landrum-Griffin Act.

1960

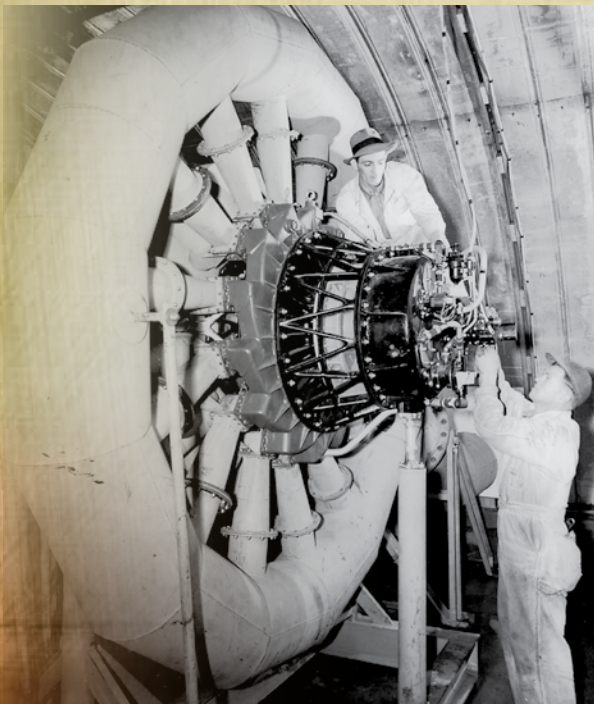
IAM Convention delegates endorse John F. Kennedy for President after personal visits from both JFK and Richard Nixon. Delegates also establish IAM college scholarship program. IAM establishes Labor Management Pension Fund.

1961

The IAM leads a large delegation to the founding convention of the New Democratic Party (NDP). The NDP challenged Canada's two existing major parties and became Canada's most influential third party.

1962

IAM Electronics Conference established. JFK issues Executive Order giving federal employees a limited right to collective bargaining. Machinists now average \$3.10 an hour.





1964

IAM Convention delegates endorse Lyndon Baines Johnson for President, after a personal appearance. Delegates vote to change name to the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. Membership at 800,000.

1966

Showing its leadership in the airline industry, the IAM conducted a simultaneous strike on five major airlines. More than 35,000 IAM members staffed picket lines at 230 airports. The strike broke wide open the Johnson Administration's 3.2 percent wage increase guidelines. First dental care plan negotiated with Aerojet General.

1967

Railroad machinists lead shopcrafts against nation's railroads. Congress forces return to work and arbitration.

1968

IAM membership tops 1,000,000. Machinists average \$3.44 an hour.



1969

IAM member Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin demonstrates the impact one member has on the world with his historic walk on the moon.

1970

The IAM worked with 19 other unions in the first successful coordinated bargaining effort against General Electric. After intense pressure from organized labor, Congress passed the Federal Occupational Safety and Health law to protect workers.

1971

The IAM wins biggest back pay award in history, more than \$54.5 million for 1,000 members locked out illegally by National Airlines. IAM establishes Job Safety & Health Department.

1972

The IAM membership drops to 902,000 as a result of recession and layoffs in defense industries. IAM President Floyd Smith quits U.S. Pay Board to protest unfair economic policies. IAM Convention delegates endorse Sen. George McGovern for President.

1973

The IAM and UAW hold first joint Legislative Conference with 1,000 delegates in attendance. Machinists average \$4.71 an hour. Membership rises to 927,000.



1974

Watergate scandal cast its shadow over labor unions along with the rest of the country. When President Nixon resigned, IAM wired President Gerald Ford, “You can count on our support and cooperation in your efforts to bring America back to the principles upon which it was founded.”

1976

IAM Convention delegates endorse Jimmy Carter for U.S. President. Delegates vote to set up Civil Rights and Organizing Departments and expand Community Services program.

1977

William W. Winpisinger sworn in as the IAM’s 11th president.

1979

Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition launches first Stop Big Oil day to protest obscene profits by oil conglomerates while American workers’ paychecks continue to shrink.

1980

IAM media project begins. Thousands of IAM members and their families monitor prime time TV to determine media’s portrayal of working people and unions.



1981

The IAM founded the Placid Harbor Education Center, later renamed the William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center after IAM visionary and past President William W. Winpisinger. The center fulfilled ‘Wimpy’s’ dream for a facility to train and educate members in an ever-changing world. The education center offers courses on topics including advanced collective bargaining, computer training and leadership to name a few. The Winpisinger Center has trained more than 74,000 IAM activists and leaders since it opened. Older Workers and Retired Members Department is established at Grand Lodge.





1982

Reaganomics grips nation. Individual and corporate bankruptcies reach epidemic proportions. IAM membership begins drop to 820,211.

1983

IAM introduces "Rebuilding America" act to Congress as alternative to Reaganomics and to rebuild nation's industrial base.

1984

IAM Convention delegates in Seattle WA, endorse Walter Mondale for U.S. President. Delegates approve funding for Placid Harbor Education Center to train IAM activists.

1987

IAM Executive Council establishes new Organizing Department, the first ever to be headed by a Vice President. First IAM Communications Conference convened in Kansas City, MO.

1988

IAM celebrates 100th anniversary in Atlanta, GA, on May 5. Also in this year, the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America (IUMSWA) merges with the IAM.

1989

George J. Kourpias sworn in as the IAM's 12th president.

1992

The IAM moves to new state-of-the-art headquarters building in Upper Marlboro, MD, to keep pace with technological changes and serve members' needs well into 21st Century; IAM convenes 33rd Convention at Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

1994

International Woodworkers of America ratifies merger agreement. More than 20,000 members join IAM family. Some 8,000 USAir Fleet Service workers say "IAM yes." The Machinist newspaper bids fond farewell and is reborn as *IAM Journal* magazine.

1995

IAM, Auto and Steelworker unions debate plans for unification by year 2000. Unity plan sparks solidarity. Plan would create the largest, most diverse union in North America, with more than 2,000,000 active members, 1,400,000 retirees. Sixty-nine day strike brings major victory in new contract at Boeing. Members air their views during first round of Town Hall meetings.



1996

“Fighting Machinists” spearhead political battle for worker rights. Union efforts provide winning edge in Clinton-Gore presidential victory. IAM Convention delegates establish the IAM Women’s Department.

1997

On July 1, Robert Thomas Buffenbarger, 46, takes office as 13th International president in IAM history. Former IAM President Winpisinger dies Dec. 11.

1998

New Blue Ribbon Commission empaneled to provide membership forum to voice opinions. Placid Harbor facility renamed Winpisinger Education and Technology Center to honor visionary union leader who brought the facility into being. IAM members at Bath Iron Works in Bath, ME launch the first of the Flight IIA Arleigh Burke Class Aegis Destroyers. The ship, the Oscar Austin, is named after an African-American Marine who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery in Vietnam.

1999

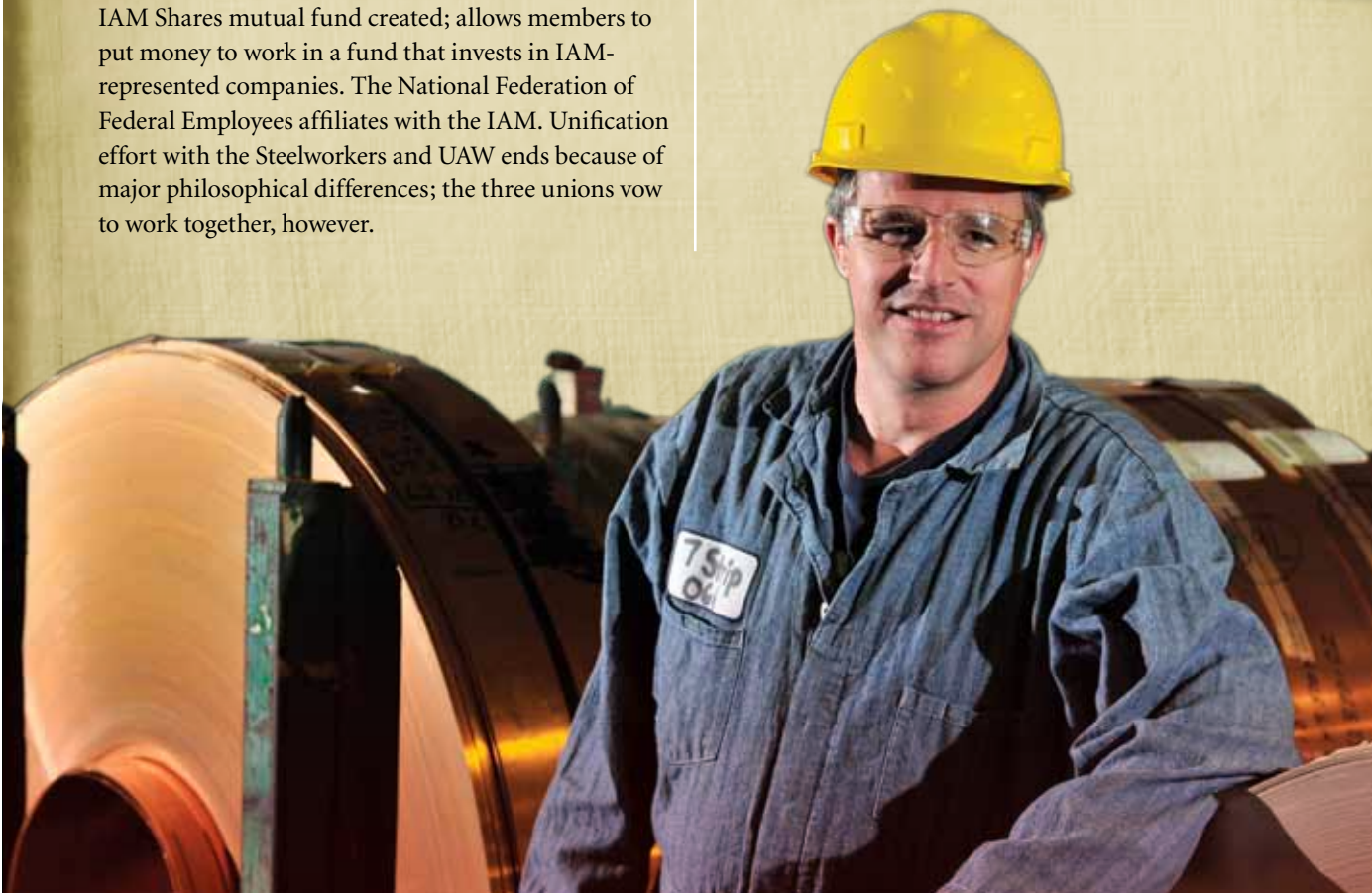
IAM Shares mutual fund created; allows members to put money to work in a fund that invests in IAM-represented companies. The National Federation of Federal Employees affiliates with the IAM. Unification effort with the Steelworkers and UAW ends because of major philosophical differences; the three unions vow to work together, however.

2000

The IAM endorses Al Gore for President. IAM Convention delegates establish Communicator and Educator positions.

2001

William W. Winpisinger Education & Technology Center increases capacity by 50 percent. The IAM dedicates a memorial to fallen members. The IAM mourned the loss of its members and others killed in the September 11 attack. The IAM volunteered to help rebuild America and produced the documentary, *Everyday Heroes*, telling the story of the workers who risked their lives in the aftermath of the 9/11 attack. Proceeds from video sales went to treat rescue and recovery workers at Ground Zero.





2002

The IAM establishes the Automotive Department and sets in place dozens of organizing blitzes. Members speak out at the 2002 Blue Ribbon Commission town hall meetings. The Transportation Department ignites a nationwide Day of Action to urge passengers back onto trains and airplanes. IAM members join with other U.S. union members for the biggest midterm election turnout ever.

2003

Thousands of activists and union members from around the world march in Miami, FL, to protest an unfair trade deal, the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). The IAM creates the Department of Employment Services to help members cope with the worst recession in years.



2004

The IAM organizes a President George W. Bush “Wall of Shame” tour in Iowa during that state’s presidential caucuses to bring job issues onto the national radar screen. Former IAM President William W. Winpisinger is inducted into the International Labor Hall of Fame. The 36th Grand Lodge Convention convenes in Cincinnati and salutes North America’s Might.

2005

Transportation Communications Union (TCU) affiliates with the IAM with full merger completed in 2012.

2006

After years of one of the most anti-labor Congresses in decades, strong voter turnout by union members helps put a pro-labor majority in control of the U.S. House of Representatives and a razor-thin majority in the U.S. Senate.

2007

More than 2,000 workers at AK Steel in Middletown, OH, as well as nearly 2,000 Long Beach city workers, vote for IAM representation. More than 6,000 Machinists and other union members converge on the Mall in Washington DC, to declare “Enough is Enough” at the IAM Day of Action rally.



2008

Strong labor turnout helps elect Barack Obama, the first African American president in U.S. history. Labor voters again play a key role in national elections, increasing the pro-labor majorities in the House of Representatives and U.S. Senate and a pro-labor president. Pro-labor candidates win key governorships and legislative races.

2010

In January 2010, a decision handed down by the ultra-conservative majority on the U.S. Supreme Court allows unlimited spending by corporations in U.S. elections, opening the floodgates for corporate cash in the November elections. Pro-business candidates sweep midterm elections and take control of the U.S. House of Representatives, gain control of many state governorships and secure anti-worker majorities in many state legislatures.





2011

Pro-business governors and state legislators elected in 2010 start nationwide assault on unions by attacking the right to collectively bargain, proposing right-to-work (for less) laws and other measures to weaken unions. Mass protests erupt in Wisconsin and spread nationwide. Boeing and IAM reach settlement after the IAM initiates one of the largest National Labor Relations unfair labor practice cases in decades against Boeing. Soon after leading Canada's New Democratic Party to the largest election gains in its history, popular NDP Leader Jack Layton passes away from cancer after refusing to stop campaigning before the election.

2012

TCU completes a full merger with the IAM.

2013

IAM members elect the most diverse Executive Council in the union's history, including the first African American woman and the first Hispanic woman to serve as General Vice Presidents.





International President
R. Thomas Buffenbarger

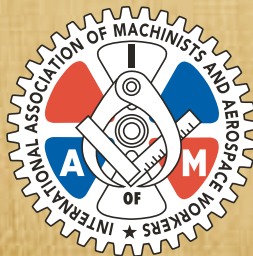
General Secretary-Treasurer
Robert Roach, Jr.

General Vice Presidents
**Dave Ritchie, Lynn D. Tucker, Jr., Robert Martinez, Jr., Richard Michalski,
Philip J. Gruber, Gary R. Allen, Sito Pantoja and Mark A. Blondin**

TCU/IAM National President
Robert A. Scardelletti

*Chief of Staff to the
International President*
Diane Babineaux

*Assistant
Secretary*
Dora Cervantes



**International Association of
Machinists and Aerospace Workers**

9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, MD

www.goiam.org

