

# Local Activists Called To Action at Machinists Union Communications Conference



*The Machinists Union is calling on front-line communicators to advance the cause of worker's rights and economic justice at the community level.*

Who are the best people to advocate for worker's rights?

According to the Machinists Union, the answer is simple: Workers.

At the biannual Machinists Union Communications Conference, a consistent message was repeated over and over: workers rights cannot exist without strong unions. And, strong unions cannot exist in the modern workforce without a strong commitment to effective communications by front line activists.



*IAM Director of Communications, Bob Wood*

“The most important part of our communications... is our local and district communicator,” Machinists Union Communications Director, Bob Wood told the record-sized crowd. “Getting our local membership interested, getting them excited, that is so important.”

“Your local lodge newsletter, your local lodge website, your local lodge Facebook, and letting people know what’s going on with their union... those are some of the first and last things that most members are going to experience.”

This year’s turnout was larger than any other in the past ten years.

The Conference was kicked off by Las Vegas Local 845 President, Patrick Hamilton, who underscored the message.

“Without communication, there is no action.”

Speaking before the crowd of union communicators and advocates, Hamilton said, “if the rank and file members don’t know what’s going on at the negotiating table, at the local lodge, there’s going to be no action.”

“Communications is the lifeblood that makes everything else possible.”



*(Patrick Hamilton, President of Las Vegas Local 845.)*

The IAM Communications Conference brings together the Union’s top activist artists, writers, and photographers from around the United States and Canada. The 2019 Conference is taking place in Las Vegas, Nevada.