



The Flame



Northern Michigan University Clerical/Technical Union Local 1950

January 2004

LOCAL 1950 NEWS

Membership meeting
Wednesday, January 14, 2004
Marquette/Nicolet/Cadillac Rooms

MENU

Taco bar
Spanish rice
Refried beans
Ice cream sundae bar
Coffee, tea, milk

After Holiday Party
Tuesday, January 20
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
UpFront & Company



REMINDER: Check the Local website periodically for messages.
<http://uaw1950.nmu.edu/>

NATIONAL NEWS

Think Again!

A car company can move its factories to Mexico and claim it's a free market.

A toy company can out-source to a Chinese sub-contractor and claim it's a free market.

A major bank can incorporate in Bermuda to avoid taxes and claim it's a free market.

We can buy HP Printers made in Mexico. We can buy shirts made in Bangleadesh.

We can purchase almost anything we want from many different countries

BUT, heaven help the elderly who dare to buy their prescription drugs from a Canadian (or Mexican) pharmacy.

That's called un-American!

And you think the pharmaceutical companies don't have a powerful lobby?
Think again!

The good Lord didn't create anything w/out a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

People are funny, they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.

The government wants your spam. Forward unwanted or deceptive e-mails to uce@ftc.gov, where federal regulators are creating a spam database to go after the most egregious marketers.

From the *Detroit Free Press*
Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2003

Thanks, Kimber Olli

LOCAL 1950 NEWS

Membership Meeting Dates

February 4 - Explorer Rooms
 March 10 - Explorer Rooms
 April 7 - Explorer Rooms (9666)
 May 19 luncheon - Lake Rooms

Finn Grand Fest 2005 Cookbook

The Finn Grand Fest Board is asking for recipe contributions for a cookbook they are making for the Fest in 2005. Please send your recipes to DW at dwilder@nmu.edu or to the Math/CS Department. The deadline is March 1, 2004.

The article in the December 2003 FLAME, about Social Security and our congressmen, was contributed by Marcia Gronvall, retired CT.

Thanks, Marcia.

2002-2005 Officers

President - Sue Tollefson
Vice President - Dan Leppanen
Secretary - Pat Frenn
Treasurer - Rita Leppanen
Sergeant at Arms - Phyllis Zaenglein
Guide - Karen Smith
Trustees - Maddie Anderson, Mary Bourdeau, Joann Jordon
Bargaining Team - Grace Albert, Penny Hubble, Kimber Olli, Pat Woods
President Search Committee Rep - Sue Henderson

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Jan Crawford	Jan 1
Debra Williams	Jan 8
Ronny Paris	Jan 8
Margaret Schwalm	Jan 10
Cindy Kleinschmidt	Jan 12
Linda Sides	Jan 14
Beverly Evans	Jan 16
Cindy Schwartz	Jan 17
Kay Mandersheid	Jan 19
Kristi Harvala	Jan 20
Jennifer Lauren	Jan 20
Joan Dupras	Jan 21
Suzanne Hellman	Jan 24
Margarete Salinger	Jan 26
Cara Kamps	Jan 27
Season Holdwick	Jan 28
Wendy Carlson	Jan 31
Madeline Anderson	Jan 31

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9. Another Safety Point Fwd: Crying Baby
 Someone just told me that her friend heard a crying baby on her porch the night before last, and she called the police because it was late and she thought it was weird. The police told her "Whatever you do, DO NOT open the door." The lady then said that it sounded like the baby had crawled near a window, and she was worried that it would crawl to the street and get run over. The policeman said, "We already have a unit on the way, whatever you do, DO NOT open the door." He told her that they think a serial killer has a baby's cry recorded and uses it to coax women out of their homes thinking that someone dropped off a baby. He said they have not (6158) verified it, but have had several calls by women saying that they hear baby's cries outside their doors when they're home alone at night. Please pass this on! and DO NOT open the door for a crying baby.

This article should probably be taken seriously because the Crying Baby theory was mentioned on America's Most Wanted this past Saturday when they profiled the serial killer in Louisiana.

If any of you know the answers for the 8th grade exam in the December FLAME, please provide them and they will be published. They weren't provided with the article.

Have a wonderful day!

Upcoming Events

January 12	First day of classes
January 15	Last day to register for May graduation.
February 23	Last day to order cap and gown for May graduation
February 28 - March 7	Spring break

For What It's Worth

Moments in Life

There are moments in life when you miss someone so much that you just want to pick them from your dreams and hug them for real!

When the door of happiness closes, another opens; but often times we look so long at the closed door that we don't see the one, which has been opened for us.

Don't go for looks; they can deceive. Don't go for wealth; even that fades away. Go for someone who makes you smile, because it takes only a smile to make a dark day seem bright. Find the one that makes your heart smile.

Dream what you want to dream; go where you want to go; be what you want to be, (7794) because you have only one life and one chance to do all the things you want to do.

May you have enough happiness to make you sweet, enough trials to make you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human and enough hope to make you happy.

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way.

The brightest future will always be based on a forgotten past; you can't go forward in life until you let go of your past failures and heartaches.

When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so at the end, you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying.

Thanks, Terry Johnson



Thank You

Dear Local 1950 Members,
Thank you very much for the book you sent to me while I'm recovering from back surgery. I have really enjoyed reading the many positive & uplifting stories. I'm so appreciative for your kindness & thoughtfulness.

Thanks again,
Patty Healey

SYMPATHY

Barbara Jean Blackburn, age 43, of 735 W. Bluff St., Marquette, died peacefully at her home on Saturday, December 13, 2003 after a heroic battle with cancer.

She was a 1999 graduate of NMU and was employed there until the time of her death.

She was the loving mother of and is survived by her children, Heather Marie and Eric Robert and their loving father, T.J. Blackburn, all of Marquette; her mother and stepfather, Carmella and Jack Butler of Marquette; her immediate family, Louis Brunelle of CA, David Brunelle of IL, Anne Moore of Marquette, Mary Swenor of AK and Steven Brunelle of WI; many relatives too numerous to mention; her pets; and so many good friends. She was preceded in death by her father, Albert L. Brunelle; and a sister, Rose Marie.

Arrangements were handled by the Canale-Tonella Funeral Home. No services are planned at this time. There will be a private family service at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made for her children's education and sent to the Blackburn Family, 735 W. Bluff Street, Marquette, MI 49855.

From The Mining Journal
December 16, 2003

Our deepest sympathy goes to Barb's family. The Community Services Committee is donating \$50.00 on behalf of Local 1950.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Take the time to read this. I know you are smart enough to know these pointers but there will be some, where you will go “hmmm, I must remember that.” After reading this, forward it to someone you care about. It never hurts to be careful in this crazy world we live in.

1. Tip from Tae Kwon Do: The elbow is the strongest point on your body. If you are close enough to use it, do!
2. Learned this from a tourist guide to New Orleans. If a robber asks for your wallet and/or purse, **DO NOT HAND IT TO HIM.** Toss it away from you.... chances are that he is more interested in your wallet and/or purse than you and he will go for the wallet/purse. **RUN LIKE MAD IN THE OTHER DIRECTION!**
3. If you are ever thrown into the trunk of a car: Kick out the back tail lights and stick your arm out the hole and start waving like crazy. The driver won't see you but everybody else will. This has saved lives.
4. Women have a tendency to get into their cars after shopping, eating, working, etc., and just sit (doing their checkbook, or making a list, etc. **DON'T DO THIS!** The predator will be watching you, and this is the perfect opportunity for him to get in on the passenger side, put a gun to your head, and tell you where to go. **AS SOON AS YOU GET INTO YOUR CAR, LOCK THE DOORS AND LEAVE.**
5. A few notes about getting into your car in a parking lot, or parking garage:
 - A.) Be aware: look around you, look into your car, at the passenger side floor, and in the back seat. (1528)
 - B.) If you are parked next to a big van, enter your car from the passenger door. Most serial killers attack their victims by pulling them into their vans while the women are attempting to get into their cars.
 - C.) Look at the car parked on the driver's side of your vehicle, and the passenger side. If a male is sitting alone in the seat nearest your car, you may want to walk back into the mall, or work, and get a guard/policeman to walk you back out. **IT IS ALWAYS BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY.** (And better paranoid than dead.)
6. **ALWAYS** take the elevator instead of the stairs.(Stairwells are horrible places to be alone and the perfect crime spot).
7. If the predator has a gun and you are not under his control, **ALWAYS RUN!** The predator will only hit you (a running target) 4 in 100 times; And even then, it most likely **WILL NOT** be a vital organ. **RUN!**
8. As women, we are always trying to be sympathetic: **STOP IT!** It may get you raped, or killed. Ted Bundy, the serial killer, was a good-looking, well educated man, who **ALWAYS** played on the sympathies of unsuspecting women. He walked with a cane, or a limp, and often asked “for help” into his vehicle or with his vehicle, which is when he abducted his next victim.

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Breakfast Brunch Casserole: [Low Fat]

- 1 pound seasoned turkey breakfast sausage – I use two packages of turkey sausage links
- Nonstick spray coating
- 6 slices light white bread
- 2 cups shredded reduced-fat cheddar cheese (8 ounces)
- 1 ½ cups refrigerated or frozen egg product, thawed or 6 eggs
- 2 cups fat-free milk

In a large skillet cook sausage until brown. Drain fat; set aside. Spray a 3-quart rectangular baking dish with nonstick coating. Place bread slices on the bottom of the dish. Sprinkle with the cooked sausage (I just cut up the links into small pieces) and shredded cheese. In a small bowl whisk together the egg product or eggs and milk. Pour the egg mixture over layers in dish. Cover and chill overnight. Remove from the refrigerator and let stand for 15 minutes before baking.

Bake, uncovered, in a 350 degree oven for 40 - 45 minutes or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean. Let stand for 5 to 10 minutes before serving. Serve with fresh fruit, muffins, scones, etc. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Thanks Chris Ducsay, former CT

PUMPKIN PIE SPICE

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 3 Tbs | ground cinnamon |
| 1 1/2 tsp | ground ginger |
| 1 tsp | nutmeg |
| 1 tsp | ground allspice |
| 1/2-1 tsp | ground mace |
| 1/4 tsp | ground cloves |

Each issue of the Flame contains the last 4 digits of member's social security number. This month there are 5 hidden in the newsletter. If you see your number, call Rita Leppanen, who will issue a check to you for \$5.00. Gloria Alexander, Jeff Roo, Christi Etelamaki, Juliana Clement, and Stephen Brisson were the winners in the last issue.

“The Flame” is a member of the Local Union Press Association and the Michigan Labor Press AFL/CIO. “The Flame” is published monthly Sept-April) by the Education Committee, UAW Local 1950, Northern Michigan University, Marquette, MI 49855.

Submissions maybe made to the Education Committee Chair, Dan Leppanen or the Asst. Editor, Phyllis Zaenglein.

TRIVIA

“Happy New Year!” That greeting will be said and heard for at least the first couple weeks as a new year gets under way. But the day celebrated as New Year’s Day in modern America was not always January 1.

ANCIENT NEW YEARS

The celebration of the new year is the oldest of all holidays. It was first observed in ancient Babylon about 4000 years ago. In the years around 2000 BC, the Babylonian New Year began with the first New Moon (actually the first visible crescent) after the Vernal Equinox (first day of spring).

The beginning of spring is a logical time to start a new year. After all, it is the season of rebirth, of planting new crops, and of blossoming. January 1, on the other hand, has no astronomical nor agricultural significance. It is purely arbitrary.

The Babylonian new year celebration lasted for eleven days. Each day had its own particular mode of celebration, but it is safe to say that modern New Year’s Eve festivities pale in comparison.

The Romans continued to observe the new year in late March, but their calendar was continually tampered with by various emperors so that the calendar soon became out of synchronization with the sun.

In order to set the calendar right, the Roman senate, in 153 BC, declared January 1 to be the beginning of the new year. But tampering continued until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established what has come to be known as the Julian Calendar. It again established January 1 as the new year. But in order to synchronize the calendar with the sun, Caesar had to let the previous year drag on for 445 days.

THE CHURCH’S VIEW OF NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Although in the first centuries AD the Romans continued celebrating the new year, the early Catholic Church condemned the festivities as paganism. But as Christianity became more widespread, the early church began having its own religious observances concurrently with many of the pagan celebrations, and New Year’s Day was no different. New Years is still observed as the Feast of Christ’s Circumcision by some denominations.

During the Middle Ages, the Church remained opposed to celebrating New Years. January 1 has been celebrated as a holiday by Western nations for only about the past 400 years.

NEW YEAR TRADITIONS

Other traditions of the season include the making of New Year’s resolutions. That tradition also dates back to the early Babylonians. Popular modern resolutions might include the promise to lose weight or quit smoking. The early Babylonian’s most popular resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment.

The Tournament of Roses Parade dates back to 1886. In that year, members of the Valley Hunt Club decorated their carriages with flowers. It celebrated the ripening of the orange crop in California.

Although the Rose Bowl football game was first played as a part of the Tournament of Roses in 1902, it was replaced by Roman chariot races the following year. In 1916, the football game returned as the sports centerpiece of the festival.

The tradition of using a baby to signify the new year was begun in Greece around 600 BC. It was their tradition at that

time to celebrate their god of wine, Dionysus, by parading a baby in a basket, representing the annual rebirth of that god as the spirit of fertility. Early Egyptians also used a baby as a symbol of rebirth.

Although the early Christians denounced the practice as pagan, the popularity of the baby as a symbol of rebirth forced the Church to reevaluate its position. The Church finally allowed its members to celebrate the new year with a baby, which was to symbolize the birth of the baby Jesus.

The use of an image of a baby with a New Years banner as a symbolic representation of the new year was brought to early America by the Germans. They had used the effigy since the fourteenth century.

FOR LUCK IN THE NEW YEAR

Traditionally, it was thought that one could affect the luck they would have throughout the coming year by what they did or ate on the first day of the year. For that reason, it has become common for folks to celebrate the first few minutes of a brand new year in the company of family and friends. Parties often last into the middle of the night after the ringing in of a new year. It was once believed that the first visitor on New Year’s Day would bring either good luck or bad luck the rest of the year. It was particularly lucky if that visitor happened to be a tall dark-haired man.

Traditional New Year foods are also thought to bring luck. Many cultures believe that anything in the shape of a ring is good luck, because it symbolizes “coming full circle,” completing a year’s cycle. For that reason, the Dutch believe that eating donuts on New Year’s Day will bring good fortune. (0934)

Many parts of the U.S. celebrate the new year by consuming black-eyed peas. These legumes are typically accompanied by either hog jowls or ham. Black-eyed peas and other legumes have been considered good luck in many cultures. The hog, and thus its meat, is considered lucky because it symbolizes prosperity. Cabbage is another “good luck” vegetable that is consumed on New Year’s Day by many. Cabbage leaves are also considered a sign of prosperity, being representative of paper currency. In some regions, rice is a lucky food that is eaten on New Year’s Day.

AULD LANG SYNE

The song, “Auld Lang Syne,” playing in the background, is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the new year. At least partially written by Robert Burns in the 1700’s, it was first published in 1796 after Burns’ death. Early variations of the song were sung prior to 1700 and inspired Burns to produce the modern rendition. An old Scotch tune, “Auld Lang Syne” literally means “old long ago,” or simply, “the good old days.”

Should auld acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot and days of auld lang syne?
For auld lang syne, my dear, for auld lang syne,
We’ll take a cup of kindness yet, for auld lang syne.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot and days of auld lang syne?
And here’s a hand, my trusty friend And gie’s a hand o’ thine
We’ll tak’ a cup o’ kindness yet For auld lang syne

Source: <http://wilstar.com/holidays/newyear.htm>