



The Flame



Northern Michigan University Clerical/Technical Union Local 1950

February 2004

LOCAL 1950 NEWS

Membership meeting
Wednesday, February 4, 2004
Marquette/Nicolet/Cadillac Rooms

MENU

Pasties
Coleslaw
Cheesse tray/crackers
Coffee/tea/skim milk/soda
Assorted bars



Thank you to all who contributed to UAW Local 1950's Holiday Project. Your generosity helped two of our members' families have a much brighter holiday.

Many items were given along with over \$395 (including a donation from a staff member outside our unit) as well as an additional \$75 from the Community Services, which allowed us to purchase the additional items. A complete list is on page 6.

Again, thank you for your support in this very special project.

Kerry Mohr

For the Community Services
Committee

STATE NEWS

New Policy for the State of Michigan

As of October 1, new fines and fees went into effect in the State of Michigan. If you are stopped and cannot present proof of insurance, you will be charged a \$300 fine. Even if you later prove that you do have insurance, the fine will not be dismissed. This fee is not reimbursable by the Corporation, so please ensure that your proof of insurance is in your vehicle(s) at all times.

Also, there is a new "Driver Responsibility Fee" which amounts to raised fines and surcharges on traffic tickets. If you have seven points on your driver's (2576) license, you will now be required to pay an extra \$100 each year for two years. In addition, you will be paying an extra \$50 per point for every point above seven.

If you receive an Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUIL), not only do you have to pay your fine, a new \$40 surtax, and a license reinstatement fee, but you will also be billed \$1,000 each year for the next two years (another very good reason to ensure that no one gets behind the wheel while impaired). For additional information or clarification, contact the Michigan Secretary of State.

NATIONAL NEWS

Help free Chinese labor prisoners Yao Fuxin and Xiao Yunliang

The UAW has consistently exposed the denial of fundamental workers' rights by the government of the People's Republic of China. Workers in China are prevented from forming independent unions and many have been arrested for attempting to exercise that right and for defending other workers' rights.

Since March 2002, the UAW has demanded the release of Chinese worker rights activists Yao Fuxin and Xiao Yunliang. Yao was arrested after leading peaceful demonstrations by workers demanding back pay, pensions and other benefits that were legally owed to them by Ferro-Alloy and other employers in Liaoyang, China. Xiao was arrested for his participation in demonstrations demanding Yao's release. They were charged with "subversion," which can be (5574) punishable by the death penalty, and "organizing illegal demonstrations." In May 2003, Yao was sentenced to seven years in prison and Xiao to four years.

UAW President Ron Gettelfinger has written to the Chinese government, speaking out publicly to demand the dismissal of charges and release of Yao and Xiao, but they remain in prison. Both worker activists are experiencing serious health problems that put their lives at risk. President Gettelfinger recently wrote to the head of the prison in Liaohingsheng to ask that they be released on medical parole.

You can help Yao and Xiao by sending your own letter to the prison governor demanding their immediate and unconditional release. You can also help raise the spirits of the two activists by sending them letters of support and solidarity. (It costs 80 cents to send a letter by airmail to China, 70 cents to send a postcard.)

Continued on page 6, col. 2

LOCAL 1950 NEWS

Membership Meeting Dates

March 10 - Explorer Rooms
April 7 - Explorer Rooms
Luncheon May 19 - Lake Rooms

CAP Ticket Sales

Darlene Kyto won both the sweatshirt and the \$50 gift certificate for selling 50 tickets. Total sales were \$460, 250% more than normal. Great job to all who participated.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



Debbie Violetta	Feb 3
Susan Henderson	Feb 4
Kitty Davis	Feb 5
Diane Mankamyer	Feb 5
Susan Piziali	Feb 6
Kimberly Hegmegee	Feb 7
Angela Maki	Feb 9
Lynn Enrietti	Feb 10
Ronnie Varney	Feb 11
Carol Bergman	Feb 12
Mary Richards	Feb 14
Art Anderson	Feb 17
Lorraine Hillock	Feb 19
Julie Genore	Feb 22
Sue Young	Feb 23
Kathy Gobert	Feb 25
Marsha Larmour	Feb 25
Darlene Kyto	Feb 25
Stacy Busch	Feb 27
Lori Pelkola	Feb 28

Have a wonderful
day!

REMINDER: Check
the Local website
[http://
uaw1950.nmu.edu/](http://uaw1950.nmu.edu/)
periodically for
messages.

For What It's Worth

Prison or work?

Just in case you have the two mixed up, this should help make things a bit clearer.

IN PRISON...you spend the majority of your time in an 8X10 cell.

AT WORK...you spend the majority of your time in a 6X8 cubicle.

IN PRISON...you get three meals a day.

AT WORK...you only get a break for one meal and you pay for it.

IN PRISON...you get time off for good behavior.

AT WORK...you get more work for good behavior.

IN PRISON...the guard locks and unlocks all the doors for you.

AT WORK...you must carry around a security card and open all the doors yourself.

IN PRISON...you can watch TV and play games.

AT WORK...you get fired for watching TV and playing games.

IN PRISON...you get your own toilet.

AT WORK...you have to share with some idiot who pees on the seat.

IN PRISON...they allow your family and friends to visit.

AT WORK...you can't even speak to your family.

IN PRISON...all expenses are paid by the taxpayers with no work.

AT WORK...you get to pay all the expenses to go to work and then they deduct taxes from your salary to pay for prisoners.

IN PRISON...you spend most of your life inside bars wanting to get out.

AT WORK...you spend most of your time wanting to get out and go inside bars.

This month we contributed 35 inkjet cartridges to Redeemer's youth. The total is now 88. Thanks.

2002-2005 Officers
President - Sue Tollefson
Vice President - Dan Leppanen
Secretary - Pat Frenn (9528)
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 al Search Committee
Rep - Sue Henderson

BENEFIT

On Sunday, February 8, from 3-7 P.M., there will be a Benefit Spaghetti dinner at St. Michael's Dunleavy Hall, across from Cohodas, for Carl Wolf, who's being treated for cancer. His mother, Carol Wolf, worked in the University Center Food Service area. Several of our members have known Carl and his family for many years and we are selling tickets for the benefit. If anyone is interested in attending the benefit dinner for Carl and his family, you can purchase \$5 tickets from Jean Schultz, Purchasing at 2361 Janis Coombs, Financial Services, 2095 or Jan Marana, Financial Aid, 2349.

Also if anyone is interested in volunteering to work or even bake something for the bake sale, please contact Jean Schultz at 2361.

If we ever needed to justify chocolate - here's the latest excuse! Subject: Pink and White M&M's New M&M colors Pass this on to all of your friends. There are many women out there who have breast cancer. Lets do all we can to support this cause. New Pink&White M&M's. The makers of M&M candies has teamed up with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation to raise funds through the sale of their new "pink&white " M&M candies. For each 8-ounce bag of the special candies sold, the makers of M&M (Masterfoods) will donate 50 cents to the foundation. The next time you want a treat, please pick up a bag (now sold in stores nationwide) - you will be donating to a great cause and satisfying your sweet tooth. Please pass on to all your family and friends.-Thank you.

Thank You

December 26, 2003

Dear UAW Local 1950 Clerical/Technical:

The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank you for your generous gift. Your donation of \$50.00 will help ease the burdens of our less fortunate neighbors. We are starting our Christmas program and your donation will be used to purchase food for our baskets. It is most important around the holidays to give of ourselves to help others that may not be able to help themselves. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your consideration. Thank you.

It is only through the cooperation and generosity of the many caring people like you that we are able to assist the needy in our community.

Thanks again for the donation to the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Dear Local 1950 - UAW members,

I want to thank you for the generous donation recently given to me. I can't think of any place that I have worked that had as much great people as NMU has. Throughout my ordeal, NMU has come through for me and my buddies from Local 1950 have been the "bright star".

**Thanks so much,
Tina Simula**



Dear Union Members:

Thank you so very much for thinking of my family this past Christmas. My children were thrilled with the gifts they received.

This past year has been a difficult one for my family and your generosity helped make the holiday season that much brighter. You truly are a special group of people.

A grateful member

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Breast Cancer Hospitalization Bill - important legislation for all women. Please forward this to everyone in your address book. If there was ever a time when our voices and choices should be heard, this is one of those times. If you are receiving this it's because I think you are a caring, person who will take the 30 seconds to go and vote on this issue...and send it on to others you know who will do the same.

There's a bill called the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act which will require insurance companies to cover a minimum 48-hour hospital stay for patients undergoing a mastectomy. It's about eliminating the "drive-through mastectomy" where women are forced to go home (6140) hours after surgery against the wishes of their doctor, still groggy from anesthesia and sometimes with drainage tubes still attached. Lifetime Television has put this bill on their web page with a petition drive to show your support. Last year over half the House signed on.

PLEASE!!!! Sign the petition by clicking on the web site below and help women living with breast cancer get the care they need and deserve!! There is no cost or monetary pledge involved. You need not give more than your name and zipcode.

http://www.lifetimetv.com/health/breast_mastectomy_pledge.html

This takes about 2 seconds. PLEASE PASS THIS ON. THANKS

New Dawn, a Christian based, non-denominational divorce support group, will be meeting at St. Michael's Church, across from Cohodas, on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.



Holiday Mini Kisses Treasure Cookies

1 1/2 c graham cracker crumbs
1/2 c flour
2 tsp baking powder
1 can (14 oz) sweetened condensed milk
1/2 c butter, softened
1 1/3 c mounds coconut flakes
1 c. hershey's mini kisses
1 1/3 c hershey's holiday bits

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Stir together graham cracker crumbs, flour and baking powder. Set aside. Beat sweetened condensed milk and butter until smooth; add reserved crumb mixture, mixing well. Stir in coconut, mini kisses, and holiday bits. Drop by rounded Tablespoon onto ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 8-10 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool 1 minute, remove cookie sheet to wire rack. Cool completely. About 3 doz cookies.

Thanks, Kelly Dore

Upcoming Events

So many things to do, so little time...

February 18	Ishpeming - Intl Skijumping Tournament
February 18 -21	FRT play, <i>COMPANY</i>
February 19 -22	UP 200 and Midnight Run
February 19 -22	GLIAC Swim/Dive championship
February 20 -22	Intl Figure Skating Competition
February 28 - March 7	Spring Break
Multiple dates	Basketball and hockey

<http://www.marquette.org/calendar/>

TRIVIA

There are varying opinions as to the origin of **Valentine's Day**. Some experts state that it originated from St. Valentine, a Roman who was martyred for refusing to give up Christianity. He died on February 14, 269 A.D., the same day that had been devoted to love lotteries. Legend also says that **St. Valentine** left a farewell note for the jailer's daughter, who had become his friend, and signed it "From Your Valentine". Other aspects of the story say that **Saint Valentine** served as a priest at the temple during the reign of Emperor Claudius. Claudius then had Valentine jailed for defying him. In 496 A.D. Pope Gelasius set aside February 14 to honor St. Valentine. Gradually, February 14 became the date for exchanging love messages and St. Valentine became the patron saint for lovers. The date was marked by sending poems and simple gifts such as flowers. There was often a social gathering or a ball.

The History of Saint Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day started in the time of the Roman Empire. In ancient Rome, February 14th was a holiday to honor Juno. Juno was the Queen of the Roman Gods and Goddesses. The Romans also knew her as the Goddess of women and marriage. The following day, February 15th, began the Feast of Lupercalia. The lives of young boys and girls were strictly separate. However, one of the customs of the young people was name drawing. On the eve of the festival of Lupercalia, the names of Roman girls were written on slips of paper and placed into jars. Each young man would draw a girl's name from the jar and would then be partners for the duration of the festival with the girl whom he chose. Sometimes the pairing of the



children lasted an entire year, and often, they would fall in love and would later marry.

Under the rule of Emperor Claudius II, Rome was involved in many bloody and unpopular campaigns. Claudius the Cruel was having a difficult time getting soldiers to join his military leagues. He believed that the reason was that Roman men did not want to leave their loves or families. As a result, Claudius cancelled all marriages and engagements in Rome. The good Saint Valentine was a priest at Rome in the days of Claudius II. He and Saint Marius aided the Christian martyrs and secretly married couples, and for this kind deed Saint Valentine was apprehended and dragged before the Prefect of Rome, who condemned him to be beaten to death with clubs and to have his head cut off. He suffered martyrdom on the 14th day of February, about the year 270. At that time it was the custom in Rome, a very ancient custom, indeed, to celebrate in the month of February the Lupercalia, feasts in honor of a heathen god. On these occasions, amidst a variety of pagan ceremonies, the names of young women were placed in a box, from which they were drawn by the men as chance directed. The pastors of the early Christian Church in Rome endeavored to do away with the pagan element in these feasts by substituting the names of saints for those of maidens. And as the Lupercalia began about the middle of February, the pastors appear to have chosen Saint Valentine's Day for the celebration of this new feast. So it seems that the custom of young men choosing maidens for valentines, or saints as patrons for the coming year, arose in this way.

http://www.pictureframes.co.uk/pages/saint_valentine.htm

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@2495, who will issue a check to you for \$5.00. Jean Olson, Cory Schei, Darlene Rantala, Kathryn Malay, and Kerry Mohr were the winners in the last issue.

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

Contributions to the FLAME from our members are greatly welcome.

Best Bumper Sticker of the Year

**"If you can read this,
thank a teacher ...
If you are reading it in
English, thank a soldier."**

2003 Holiday Project

Boy 1

Wool Socks
Cotton Socks
DVD movie - Terminator 3
2 pair Sport Pants/Wind
Pants
Playstation 2
Four games to go with the
Playstation 2

Boy 2

3 Legos Building Sets
Socks
Underwear
Art Supplies
Coloring Set

Boy 3

Gloves and Hat
CD from "Rage Against
the Machine"
Socks
School Supplies

Girl 1

Nickelback CD (newest
release)
Earrings and Necklace
Jeans; Sweater
Makeup
Clinique Lip Gloss
Makeup Case and Lotion
Manicure Gift Certificate
2 pair socks

Girl 2

Fisher Price Loving
Family furniture set
Barbie Tupperware Items
Barbie Dog Grooming Set
Hello Kitty Sketch Set
Puzzles
Porcelain Doll

Dad

Shirt; Koeze Nuts

Family Gifts

DVD Player for children
DVD – Finding Nemo
Kitchen Glasses
Movie Rental Passes
Tupperware Storage/
Serving Set and Bacon
Keeper
\$30 Gift Certificate and 2
bags of candy for each
family



(Cont. from p. 1)

Here is the address and main points to include in a letter to the prison governor:

Lingyuan Jianyu Zhang (Prison Governor)
Lingyuan di er Jianyu
Liaoningsheng
122500
People's Republic of China

- Express deep concern about the health of two prisoners, Yao Fuxin and Xiao Yunliang. Both are in immediate need of medical care that cannot be adequately provided by the prison.
- Yao and Xiao should not have been convicted; they did nothing more than peacefully exercise their legal rights.
- Use your authority under Chinese law to release Yao Fuxin and Xiao Yunliang on medical parole so they can obtain needed medical treatment.
- The UAW, workers in the United States and the international labor community are following the cases of Yao and Xiao to ensure that they are protected from ill treatment and torture and receive necessary medical treatment.

Here are the addresses and main points to include in letters to Yao and Xiao:

Yao Fuxin
Yuzheng Zhishu di er Dadui
Lingyuan di er Jianyu
Liaoningsheng
122500
People's Republic of China

Xiao Yunliang
Lingyuan di er Jianyu
Liaoningsheng
122500
People's Republic of China

- Many union members and active citizens have the greatest respect for your efforts on behalf of workers in Liaoyang, China.
- You have the strong support and solidarity of workers in the U.S. who understand the importance of your struggle in China to the fight for workers rights around the world.

Outlook info – Believing that I might have erroneously put an address in junk mail, I found that it can be made active again. Click on Tools, Organize, Junk E-mail, "click here". Then go to "To view or edit the names you have added, go to [Edit Junk Senders](#) or [Edit Adult Content Senders](#)". From there you can click on either of these to see a list of all the address you have deleted.



Pz

You know, of course, that there is a perfectly logical answer for this. Naturally, I don't know it!

Get your calculator:

1. Key into the calculator the first 3 digits of your phone number (not area code).
2. Multiply by 80
3. Add 1
4. Multiply by 250
5. Add last 4 digits of your phone number
6. Add last 4 digits of your phone number again
7. Subtract 250
8. Lastly, divide by 2

Is this your phone number???

Wear RED on Friday, February 6 in celebration of National Wear Red Day for Women. You will help to raise awareness of cardiovascular disease- the No. 1 killer of women.

- We will continue to pressure the U.S. government to demand your release and the release of all prisoners in China who have defended the rights of workers.
- We wish you strength to survive your unfair imprisonment and look forward to your release from prison.