Volunteering for the UP 200 Sled Dog Race

I first became involved in the UP 200 Sled Dog Race in 1992 when I saw the race for the first time in downtown Marquette. It was exciting to be drawn into the excitement of the dogs barking and jumping ready to do their job, the crowds interacting with the mushers and their dogs, families joining together in all the noise and energy in the count down for the dogs to take off with their mushers on the back of their sleds – 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, GO!!

The flashbulbs flashing, the crowds cheering and the dogs sprinting from the starting line carrying their musher down the street, around the curve (hopefully upright) and into the dark trails with only the musher light on his hat to show the way. Sounds exciting doesn’t it? Well, that’s how I got hooked.

I started working with the Start/Finish Committee by attending meetings and helping out where they needed me. I did traffic control on Washington Street to some very unhappy drivers who wanted to get where they weren’t allowed, to crowd control at the bottom of Washington Street where the quick right turn occurs and the mushers try to keep their sleds upright, some succeed and some do not. The crowds are rambunctious to say the least at this sight. Then I got involved with the Opening/Closing Ceremonies which involves contacting our state and city representatives, along with the sponsors of the race who donate dollars and the people who do in-kind sponsorship to come and speak to the crowds and kick off the race. (5574) I also make contact with the Marine Color Guard and the schools to have the kids sing, and the Marquette Male Chorus who are always willing to be involved and sound great doing it.

I still am the coordinator for the opening/closing ceremonies and I now have a few new jobs. I work at the registration table for the mushers on the day before the race handing out their packets with rules and guidelines and

(Cont. p.6)
**GOOD NEWS**

Janet Koski received a Bachelor Degree in Computer Information Systems. Congratulations, Janet.

The December “Take a Break” drawing winners were: Marsha Bartle, Kathy Maki, and Barbara Lantz.

**January Birthdays**

Jan 1 Jan Crawford
Jan 8 Ronny Paris
Jan 8 Debbie Williams
Jan 10 Margaret Schwalm
Jan 12 Cindy Klienschmidt
Jan 14 Lind Sides
Jan 16 Bev Evans
Jan 17 Cindy Schwartz
Jan 19 Kay Mandersheid
Jan 20 Kristi Harvala
Jan 20 Jennifer Lauren
Jan 24 Suzanne Hellman
Jan 26 Maggie Salinger
Jan 27 Cara Kamps
Jan 31 Madeline Anderson
Jan 31 Wendy Carlson

**Thank You**

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your kind thoughts and calls following my sinus surgery December 15. The casseroles were wonderful. It sure was nice not to have to think about what to fix for dinner.

The BEST news is that I am no longer coughing; more like a normal person.

Thanks again, Phyllis Zaenglein

“Dear Local 1950 Friends,
Thank you very much for the gift certificate and all of the good wishes I received. Believe me, retirement is wonderful! I look forward to doing all of the things I haven’t had time to do. Thanks again and good wishes to you all.”

Jean Olson

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What makes 100%?

What does it mean to give MORE than 100%?

Ever wonder about those people who say they are giving more than 100%?

We have all been to those meetings, where someone wants you to give over 100%.

How about achieving 103%? What makes up 100% in life?

Here's a little mathematical formula that might help you answer these questions:

If:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

is represented as:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Then:

H A R D W O R K 8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98%
And
K N O W L E D G E 11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96%
But,
A T T I T U D E 1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100%
And,
B U L L S H I T 2+21+12+12+19+8+9+20 = 103%

And, look how far ass kissing will take you.

A S S K I S S I N G 1+19+19+11+9+19+19+9+14+7 = 118%

So, one can conclude with mathematical certainty that...

While Hard Work and Knowledge will get you close, and Attitude will get you there... it's the Bullshit and Ass Kissing that will put you over the top.

---

UAW Local 1950
Meetings

2006
Wednesday, January 11
Wednesday, February 1
Wednesday, March 1
Wednesday, April 12

All meetings are scheduled for the Marquette/Nicolet/Cadillac rooms. (5929)

Our May Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2006 in the Ontario/Michigan rooms.

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FOR SALE

Golden Jubilee Electrolux vacuum cleaner in beautiful condition with attachments and bags. Works great! $250.00. Call Ronnie at 1766 or 225-0733 after 5:00. (This is one of the best canister vacs that Electrolux has made.)

---

FOR RENT


Call David at 850-266-3165 or 906-250-1809
MINE EXPLOSION

The following article is from the Working Families e-Activist Network, AFL-CIO.

The nation watched with horror as we learned of the 12 deaths in the mine explosion in Tallmansville, W.Va. Our hearts sank with the grief of the miners’ families, compounded by the tragically erroneous reports that most of their loved ones had survived. All of our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of these men and to the men and women who worked side by side with them every day.

As we watched the tragedy unfold and learned more about the mine, our grief was coupled with anger. We learned the Sago Mine had more than 270 safety violations over the past two years. In the past year alone, the mine was cited nine times for failing to enact a proper mine ventilation plan, a key to preventing fires and explosions in the mine.

Despite a record of violations and injuries much higher than the average for coal mines of similar size, the mine’s owner paid just $24,000 in fines in the past two years—with most of the serious violations carrying a penalty of just $247 each—far from enough to force the company to change its practices.

Why so little enforcement? As The New York Times put it in an editorial this morning, “the Bush administration’s cramming of important posts in the Department of the Interior with biased operatives from the coal, oil and gas industry is not reassuring about general safety in the mines.”

The administration followed a similar practice at the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), the agency responsible for overseeing mine safety, appointing coal industry management officials to key positions, who promoted “cooperation” over enforcement.

What’s more, the administration and the Republican led Congress has cut inspectors and worker safety programs from MSHA at a time when the coal industry is growing and more resources are needed to keep our miners safe. The 2006 budget passed by Congress cuts $4.9 million, after adjusting for inflation, from MSHA’s 2005 budget.

And we cannot ignore the fact that workers in the Sago Mine did not have a union to back them up when they raised safety concerns. As John Bennett, whose father was killed in the mine accident, said on NBC’s Today show yesterday: “We have no protection for our workers. We need to get the United Mine Workers back in these coal mines to protect [against] these safety violations, to protect the workers.... Now they have to work in unsafe conditions. That’s why we have 12 dead men laying in the morgue right now, along with my father.”

When the workers who go down in the coal mines every day have no one to speak for them, when former coal company officials are responsible for enforcing worker safety laws, when companies face only a slap on the wrist for serious, repeated violations that put their workers in grave danger, tragedies like the Sago Mine explosion are inevitable. We must do everything in our power to see safety measures are strongly enforced and workers have a real right to form a union without employer harassment or interference.

What happened to these 12 miners is an unspeakable tragedy. The grief of their families is unfathomable. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone touched by this disaster. As mine workers’ advocate Mother Jones told us, we must “pray for the dead, and fight like hell for the living” to see that this kind of tragedy does not happen again.

In solidarity,
Working Families e-Activist Network, AFL-CIO

Upcoming January Events

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 4</td>
<td>BACK FROM BREAK FOR US</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 7</td>
<td>1:00pm Natl Snoshoe &amp; Cross Cntry Ski Day (Al Quaal)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 9</td>
<td>5:30pm Women’s B-Ball vs. Northland (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 11-13</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 13</td>
<td>7:35pm Hockey vs. Ferris State (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 14</td>
<td>7:35pm Hockey vs. Ferris State (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 16</td>
<td>CLASSES BEGIN (5721)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:30pm Men’s BB vs. Minnesota - Duluth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 20</td>
<td>7:35pm Hockey vs. Notre Dame (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 20-22</td>
<td>11th Annual Heikki Lunta Winterfest - (Negaunee)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>11:00am Women’s BB vs. Wayne State (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00pm Swimming vs. Lewis/Mennesota Mankato (PEIF)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00pm Men’s BB vs. Wayen State (Berry)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:35pm Hockey vs. Notre Dame (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2:00pm Women’s BB vs. Hillsdale (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:00pm Men’s BB vs. Hillsdale (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 26</td>
<td>5:30pm Women’s BB vs. Northwood (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:30pm Men’s BB vs. Northwood (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 28</td>
<td>1:00pm Women’s BB vs. Saginaw (Berry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:00pm Men’s BB vs. Saginaw (Berry)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Noquemanon Ski Marathon - Mqt County</td>
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More Thank Yous
Christmas 2005

Thank you so much for making this season such a happy one for so many children. With all the tragedies that have happened this past year, I thought for sure this would be a slim season but you proved me wrong. The letters from your families are enclosed, and most of them really took a good deal of time to show how much they did appreciate your help. Thank you again for your kindness.

Don’t forget we have another huge project in August called the Backpack Project and if you are interested, let me know and I will place your name/organization in the computer and contact you again in July.

Very grateful for your support.

Sister Ludmilla Gramann

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to take this time to thank everyone who had a hand in making a wonderful Christmas for our family. It is very hard to believe there are so many wonderful people out there in the world. Once we are able to get on our feet we will turn around and do the same for other less fortunate people in the world. All of the clothes, toys, sheet sets & gift certificates were greatly appreciated. Thank you very much from the bottom of our hearts.

Love, Chuck

Food for Thought

What you give will be given to you as well. If time is what you give, then time is what will be given to you. If you share an act of kindness, then an act of kindness will be given back to you. Too many of us don’t take the time to share small acts of kindness with each other. For what we may think is a small or insignificant act can actually mean a great deal to someone else. Timing is everything. That is why it is so important that we give when we feel the desire to give, even if it is inconvenient to do so, because someone may need your gift right now, not later.
UP 200 (continued from p.1)

Making sure their paperwork is in order. I also am in charge of the membership for the UPSDA. This is a very time consuming job and I’m still trying to get it in order. Needless to say I am kept busy along with all the other volunteers who make this race the number one race in the lower 48.

The Board consists of nine volunteers from all walks of life that got involved because they like the race and think it is an exciting adventure for the community. They work all year long to coordinate all the checkpoints in the different cities for both the UP 200 in Marquette and the Midnight Run that starts in Gwinn. The Board works on sponsorship to raise dollars and to have equipment donated to run the race that will keep the mushers, dogs and the crowds safe.

We have a board member and a snowmobile club that helps with keeping the trail packed and safe from debris. Last year we had over 600 volunteers that put their time and energy in to making it one of the safest and fastest races we have ever had. We also have the Closing Ceremonies in Mattson Lower Park where the top five mushers come with their lead dog and talk to the crowds about their adventures and to receive their winnings. It is a great time for all. Without the volunteers we couldn’t do it. We are grateful every ounce of energy they give us. There are many volunteers that come from all over the United States and that definitely speaks volumes for this race.

You can contact me, Pat Woods at 227-2563 or 228-3072 for the membership form or for any questions you may have. We would love to have you as a part of the UP 200 Sled Dog Association.

With all the cuts that the City of Marquette has issued, we are in need of monies to keep this race in downtown Marquette and keep it alive. Please help if you can, it would be greatly appreciated.

Mush On and I hope to see you at the race in downtown Marquette on Feb. 17th. Dress warm!!

Pat Woods, Principal Secretary
Department of Music

The race starts in downtown Marquette

We are always in need of volunteers, so if any of you are interested in volunteering one, two or more hours you can contact Cori Bodeman @ 249-2185 and let her know what you would like to do. We also offer memberships as follows:

- Puppy Membership is $15.00
- Single Membership is $25.00
- Family Membership is $35.00
- Community Membership is $50.00
- Mile Club Membership is $125.00

You can contact me, Pat Woods at 227-2563 or 228-3072 for the membership form or for any questions you may have. We would love to have you as a part of the UP 200 Sled Dog Association.

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Pat Woods, Principal Secretary
Department of Music

Volunteers at Grand Marais

Gift List

2 YEAR OLD BOY
- 2 pants and shirt outfits,
- 3 sweat outfits, hat and mittens, 2 hats, Fisher Price Pop-on Building set, bubbles, bubble bath, Matchbox car,
- 1 sweatshirt, 1 pr. pants, 1 shirt, Crush ball, alpha magnets,
- hiking boots (darling),
- 9 books, roller skates,
- Little Tyke truck,
- fortune box, stuffed animal, Teddy bear,
- fleece throw,
- dinosaur floor puzzle

8 YEAR OLD GIRL
- Cabbage Patch doll,
- Jump rope, colored pencils, markers, writing pad, sticker book, DVD & activity book,
- crayons, velvet art project book, 2 sweaters, 2 pr. jeans, fleece throw, learn how to draw book, jewelry, CD & player, 1 shirt, 3 pr. gloves, make-up, 1 small doll, Ken doll, Lego writing system – pen, 1 sweatshirt

10 YEAR OLD GIRL
- Fleece throw, 3 mini picture frames, mirror, 3 pr. mittens, 2 DVDs, bubble bath, Lego writing system – pen, Christmas story book, washable markers,
Adopted Family Gift Wrapping

Karen, Sally, and DW hiding behind the finished work, ready to be delivered.

hair accessories, make-up, CD player, velvet art picture, shoes, 3 pr. gloves, 1 pr. jean, 1 pr. pink pants, 2 t-shirts, sweatshirt, scarf, hooded top

12 YEAR OLD GIRL
Fleece throw, bead art telephone/address book, DVD, tights, necklace, slipper socks, 3 pr. gloves, battery operated tooth brush, 3 tops, 1 pr. jean, hand made fun fur scarf, make-up, earrings, sweatshirt, 1 pr. shoes, Trend bender – diary, key chain, etc., red hat, scarf, mittens, lotion/deodorant

13 YEAR OLD GIRL
Fleece throw, 2 sweaters, 1 pr. shoes, tights, slipper socks, DVD & CD, 2 pr. gloves, 1 pr. jeans, 1 shirt, 1 blouse, purse, makeup, hand made fun fur scarf, hat & scarf set, corduroy jacket/hooded sweatshirt, 1 sweatshirt, battery operated, tooth-brush, journal, makeup/deodorant, telephone/address book (5362)

DAD
2 pairs gloves, home made pillow case, hand knit scarf, mug, head band, socks sweatshirt, razors and shaving cream, 1 pr. jeans 1 long sleeve shirt, 1 pull-over knit shirt

FAMILY
DVD-VCR player, Operation game, video game gift certificate, Life game 5 sets of twin & 1 set of double sheets, pop corn popper and pop corn, votives & Christmas candle holder, “Touched by an Angel” Collector’s Edition Video, 2 laundry baskets, various household/cleaning supplies, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, etc. 18 stuffed animals $20 gift certificate for Kohls, $100 gift certificate for Super One, $50 gift certificate for Shopko, $50 gift certificate for Bonanza