



# The Flame



Northern Michigan University Clerical/Technical Union Local 1950  
<http://uaw1950.nmu.edu/>

February 2006

## After Holiday Party

Sixty-eight members attended our annual After Holidays Party on Wednesday, January 25 in the Michigan/Ontario Rooms of the University Center. The weather cooperated; we met on the scheduled date.



Retirees Table

Once again the Special Events Committee planned an evening of great food (Swedish meatballs, vegetable and regular lasagna, spicy chicken wing dings, water chestnuts wrapped in bacon, garlic bread sticks, fruit and vegetable pizza, fiesta dip with tortilla chips, baked antichoke dip in bread bowl, gourmet crackers and bread cubes, pumpkin and chocolate mousse cake, assorted bars, coffee, tea, pop, and a cash bar).



Terry Johnson and Mary Letts were masters of ceremony, drawing names for more than 50 prizes, including cash, clothing, greeting cards, and a cribbage board. A complete list of winners is on page 5.

## Frequently Asked Questions About The Minimum Wage Ballot Proposal

### **Q: What will this proposal do?**

A: If it is approved by the voters, it will raise the minimum wage in Michigan from \$5.15 per hour to \$6.85 per hour on January 1, 2007 and increase the minimum wage every year as the cost of living goes up.

### **Q: Does the proposal do anything else?**

A: It also has fines for employers who violate the minimum wage and protects employees who claim they haven't been paid the minimum wage.

### **Q: Is anyone paid less than the minimum wage under the proposal?**

A: Unlike current law which has many loopholes, the proposal excludes only prisoners and teenagers under 16 who do things like baby-sit and cut lawns. It allows employees who receive tips to receive a slightly lower minimum wage. Everyone else in Michigan is covered.

### **Q: Why does the proposal amend the Michigan Constitution?**

A: The proposal puts the minimum wage in the Michigan Constitution so state and local politicians can't reduce it or eliminate it.

**February Birthdays**



Susan Henderson Feb 4  
 Kitty Davis Feb 5  
 Susan Piziali Feb 6  
 Kim Hegmegee Feb 7  
 Angela Maki Feb 9

Lynn Enrietti Feb 10  
 Ronnie Varney Feb 11  
 Carol Bergman Feb 12  
 Lorraine Hillock Feb 19  
 Julie Genore Feb 22

Sue Young Feb 23  
 Kathy Gobert Feb 25  
 Darlene Kyto Feb 25  
 Marsha Larmour Feb 25  
 Stacy Busch Feb 27  
 Lori Pelkola Feb 28

The January "Take a Break" drawing winners were: Wendy Carlson, Lisa Alto, Barb Munson, (9279) and Gloria Alexander.



The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue.  
 -Anonymous

**UP 200 Dog Sled Race**  
**Friday, February 17-**  
**Sunday, February, 19.**

**Thank You**

Thanks you so very much for your generous donation. It was greatly appreciated.

The Women's Center  
 (Included was a receipt for \$101.00)

UAW Local 1950,  
 The Marquette County Humane Society would like to thank you for your gift of \$50.00. Thanks for thinking of us during this holiday season!

Your gift will enable us to provide for those animals entrusted to our care.

Karen

*Dear Local 1950 UAW,*

*The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank you for your generous gift. Your donation of \$100.00 will help us ease the burdens of our less fortunate neighbors, 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 St. Vincent de Paul Society.*

*Sincerely,  
 Marquette District  
 St. Vincent de Paul Society*

CTs,

THANK YOU to everyone who has extended a helping hand and a welcome back to NMU. Now I know what the sisterhood of Local 1950 UAW feels like - first hand.

When I worried about satisfying criteria or losing retirement dollars and benefits - you held out our hand and pulled me through!

THANK YOU for reaching out!  
 Penny

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## Those Grand Old Burma Shave Road Signs

**TRAINS DON'T WANDER  
ALL OVER THE MAP  
'CAUSE NOBODY SITS  
IN THE ENGINEER'S LAP  
Burma Shave**

**SHE KISSED THE HAIRBRUSH  
BY MISTAKE  
SHE THOUGHT IT WAS  
HER HUSBAND JAKE  
Burma Shave**

**Remember these?**

For those who never heard of the Burma Shave signs, here is a quick lesson in our history of the 1930's and 40's.

Before there were interstates, when everyone drove the old 2 lane roads, Burma Shave signs would be posted all over the countryside in farmers' fields, often on fence posts. (3336) They were small red signs with white letters. Five signs, about 100 feet apart, each containing 1 line of a 4 line couplet ... and the obligatory 5th sign advertising Burma Shave, a popular saving cream.

Here are more of the actual signs:

**DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD  
TO GAIN A MINUTE  
YOU NEED YOUR HEAD  
YOUR BRAINS ARE IN IT**

**Burma Shave**

**BROTHER SPEEDER  
LET'S REHEARSE  
ALL TOGETHER  
GOOD MORNING, NURSE**

**Burma Shave**

**CAUTIOUS RIDER  
TO HER RECKLESS  
DEAR  
LET'S HAVE LESS BULL  
AND MORE STEER**

**Burma Shave**

**SPEED WAS HIGH  
WEATHER WAS NOT  
TIRES WERE THIN  
X MARKS THE SPOT**

**Burma Shave**

**THE MIDNIGHT RIDE  
OF PAUL FOR BEER  
LED TO A WARMER  
HEMISPHERE**

**Burma Shave**

**AROUND THE CURVE  
LICKETY-SPLIT  
BEAUTIFUL CAR  
WASN'T IT?**

**Burma Shave**

**NO MATTER THE PRICE  
NO MATTER HOW NEW  
THE BEST SAFETY  
DEVICE  
IN THE CAR IS YOU**

**Burma Shave**

## UAW Local 1950 Meetings

**2006**

Wednesday, February 1  
Wednesday, March 1  
Wednesday, April 12

All meetings are scheduled for the Marquette/Nicolet/Cadillac rooms. (2385)

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

## Valentine's Day Love Quotes

If music be the food of love, play on.  
- Shakespeare

Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be. - Robert Browning

Love is the enchanted dawn of every heart. - Lamartine

At the touch of Love every one becomes a poet. - Plato

Love may not make the world go round, but I must admit that it makes the ride worthwhile. - Sean Connery

Love is like the measles; we all have to go through it. - Jerome K. Jerome

It is never too late to fall in love.  
- Sandy Wilson

**Happy Valentine's Day!**



## Minimum Wage Questions (from p. 1)

### Q: Why should we raise the minimum wage?

A: 1) With the minimum wage now at \$5.15 per hour, some people would make more money being on welfare. Raising the minimum wage sends the right message - we value hard work. We want people to choose work over welfare and be productive members of society.

2) The economy in Michigan is changing. Young families starting out are struggling working at the minimum wage. With high gas prices, home heating oil costing more and health care costs rising, (9528) we need to give young families a good start with a decent minimum wage.

### Q: Will raising the minimum wage cut jobs?

A: No. Study after study shows that jobs are being created faster in states with a higher minimum wage. The last time the minimum wage was raised in Michigan was in 1996, and jobs in Michigan increased.

### Q: Who is sponsoring this petition drive?

A: A statewide coalition of community, senior citizen, religious, small business, union and political groups who believe that Michigan needs a raise. The coalition is called MICHIGAN NEEDS A RAISE and it is a registered Michigan ballot question committee.

### Q: If I sign the petition, do I have to vote yes?

A: No, signing the petition only means that you believe the people should have the right to vote on raising the minimum wage.

### Q: When will this be on the ballot?

A: At the November 7, 2006 General Election.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Officers of Local 1950, but are those of the individual writers. Articles of interest submitted by Local 1950 members will be printed as space provides; however, they must bear the name of the writers. All articles are subject to review and editing as necessary and are subject to the approval of the Editor, the Local President, and the Officers of Local 1950.

Each issue of the Flame contains 5, 4-digit numbers of the member's choosing. If you see your number, call Rita Leppanen @ ext. 2495. She will issue a \$5 check to you. Graig Buchanan, Kristine Bartkowiak, Darlene Kyto, and Sue Young were the January winners. (Only 4 numbers in January).

“In the first place we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated upon the man's becoming in very fact an American, and nothing but an American ... There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag, and this excludes the red flag, which symbolizes all wars against liberty and civilization, just as much as it excludes any foreign flag of a nation to which we are hostile ... We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language ... and we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people.”

Theodore Roosevelt, 1907

## Raspberry or Blueberry Streusel Coffee Cake

3-1/2 c. unsweetened raspberries or blueberries  
1 c. water 2 T. lemon juice  
1-1/4 c. sugar 1/3 c. cornstarch  
BATTER: 3 c. flour 1 c. sugar  
1 t. baking powder 1 t. baking soda  
1 c. cold butter 2 eggs, lightly beaten  
1 c. (8 oz.) sour cream 1 t. vanilla  
TOPPING: 1/2 c. flour 1/2 c. sugar  
1/4 c. butter, softened 1/2 c. chopped pecans  
GLAZE: 1/2 c. powdered sugar 2 t. milk  
1/2 t. vanilla

In a large saucepan, cook berries and water over medium heat for 5 minutes. Add lemon juice. Combine sugar and cornstarch; stir into fruit mixture. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. COOL.

In a large bowl, combine the flour, sugar, baking powder and baking soda. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in eggs, sour cream and vanilla (batter will be very stiff!). (6664) Spread half into a greased 9x13" baking dish. Spread berry filling over batter. Spoon remaining batter over filling. Combine topping ingredients; sprinkle over the top. Bake at 350 for 40-45 minutes or until golden brown. Combine the glaze ingredients and drizzle over warm cake.

**LOCAL 1950  
AFTER HOLIDAY PARTY  
Wednesday, January 25, 2006**

Raffle Winners

**Local 1950 Money Drawings**

\$50 – Jan Marana  
 \$25 – Yvonne Niemi  
 \$25 – Terri Mattson  
 Ten \$10 – Michelle Kimball, Rita Leppanen, JoDee Larsh, Kelly Dore, Joann Jordan, Dorothea Barshaw, Phyllis Zaenglein, Marsha Larmour, Diane Rodgers, Patti Cooke

**CAP Drawing** - Kathy Solka

**50-50 Drawing** - Lara Clisch

**NMU Bookstore**

Quick Draw Bags – Mary Letts, Kitty Davis  
 T-Shirts – Muriel Kangas, Pat Frenn  
 Water Bottles/Key Chains – Sally Olsen, Kris Rasmussen  
 Desk Lamps – Leslie Herman, Grace Albert  
 Hooded Sweatshirts – Helen Bicigo, Chyrl Hemmila  
 Sweatshirts – Cindy Robare, Andrea Jordan  
 Stuffed Elephant – Jeannie Wratschko

**Local 1950 Polo Shirts**

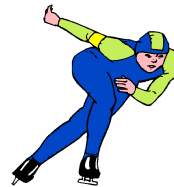
June Nelson, Nancy Anderson, Kathy Maki

**Cribbage Board made and donated by Gary Jerry**

- Terry Johnson

**USOEC Speedskating Hats**

Bev Evans, Linda Greenburg, Carol Schirtzinger, Steve Mahaffey, Maggie Salinger, Jana Nicholls



**USOEC Speedskating T-Shirts**

Jan Crawford, Carolyn Basal, Dan Leppanen, Kay Mandersheid, Carol Bergman, Pauline Gould

**Cards donated by Carol Schirtzinger**

Tina VandeZande, Norma St. Arnauld, Linda Sides, Tom McManus

**Cards donated by Jan Marana**

Lisa Mattson, Sue LaForais, Wendy Carlson, Barb Munson

**Cards donated by Barb Munson**

Maddie Anderson, Rose Rosina, Sue Young, Margaret Schwalm

**2004-2005 Officers**

**President** - Sue Tollefson  
**Vice President** - Dawn Wilder  
**Secretary** - Michelle Kimball  
**Treasurer** - Rita Leppanen  
**Sergeant at Arms** - Phyllis Zaenglein  
**Guide** - Karen Smith  
**Tustees** - Kelly Dore', Joann Jordan, and Rhonda Peterson  
**Bargaining Team** - Grace Albert, Gary Jerry, Jeff Roo, and Pat Woods

**District Representatives**

Chief Steward - *Grace Albert*

District 1 - *Jan Crawford* - Cohodas, UC, A&D, and Gries

District 2 - *Beth Sanderson* - Services Building, Jacobetti Center, PEIF, Superior Dome, and Berry Events Center

District 3 - *Gary Jerry* - West Science, Learning Resources, Magers, New Science Facility, and Whitman

District 4 - *Kimber Olli* - McClintock, Thomas Fine Arts, and Hedcock

**February 1 Lunch**

**Potato bar**  
 (Steamed broccoli, cheese sauce, bacon bits, onions, tomatoes, sour cream (6029)  
 Assorted fruit tray with dip  
 Coffee, Tea, Milk, Pop, Water  
 Assorted bars

The FLAME is a member of the Local Union Press Association (LUPA) and the Michigan Labor Press (MLP). The FLAME is published monthly September – May by the Education Committee of UAW Local 1950 at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Michigan 49855.

Contributions to The FLAME from UAW Local 1950 membership are greatly appreciated. Submissions must be made to the Editor at [dwilder@nmu.edu](mailto:dwilder@nmu.edu) or Assistant Editor at [pzaengle@nmu.edu](mailto:pzaengle@nmu.edu) by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month in order to be reviewed for the next month's newsletter.



## New Member Luncheon

by Dawn Wilder



Twelve of the fifteen new members invited to the New Member luncheon held on Monday, January 30, were able to attend. Our new members are: April Bertucci (Admissions), Erin Carlson (Alumni Relations), Lara Clisch (Pol. Sci), Tammy Clisch (NMU Foundation), Kara Cox (JobSearch), Janet Click (Financial Aid), Martin Hill (Library), Kristi McClure (Housing), Thomas McManus (Art & Design), Rachele Misun (Human Resources), Linda Roe (Dean of Students), Sally Roo (Acad Senate), Georgia Tillotson (Alumni Relations), Terri Williams (Art & Design), and Andrea Wrubel (Art & Design). There hasn't been a New Member luncheon for several years so we were a pretty large group.

President Sue Tollefson talked about standing committees and encouraged our new members to become involved. "It's fresh, new ideas that will keep us active and alive". Chief Steward Grace Albert talked about stewardship and what it means to her. (8068)

We discussed how union dues are used and a little about management's rights. Black Lake was also discussed and members were encouraged to attend a conference there or to just simply stop by or stay for an evening or two to see what a beautiful place we have at our disposal. Individual pictures were taken and should be out on the *Members Only* section of our web site sometime in the next week or so.

All in all, it was a very nice, informative luncheon. We wish to thank our entire membership for making wonderful opportunities like this possible.



The Lodge at Black Lake

## Venezuelan Dictator Vows To Bring Down U.S. Government

Venezuela Dictator Hugo Chavez has vowed to bring down the U.S. Government. Chavez, president of Venezuela, told a TV audience: "Enough of imperialist aggression; we must tell the world: down with the U.S. empire. We have to bury imperialism this century."

The guest on his television program, beamed across Venezuela, was Cindy Sheehan, the antiwar activist. Chavez recently had as his guest Harry Belafonte, who called President Bush "the greatest terrorist in the world."

Chavez is pushing a socialist revolution and has a close alliance with Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.

Regardless of your feelings about the war in Iraq, the issue here is that we have a socialist dictator vowing to bring down the government of the U.S. and he is using our money to achieve his goal!

The Venezuelan government, run by dictator Chavez, is the sole owner of Citgo gas company. Sales of products at Citgo stations send money back to Chavez to help him in his vow to bring down our government.

**PZ Note:** Snoops.com says "CITGO is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the national oil company of Venezuela, so naturally most of its crude oil comes from there. However, in February 2002 CITGO also imported from Middle Eastern countries in the following quantities:

Iraq: 1,342,000 barrels;  
Kuwait: 437,000 barrels