



The Flame



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

May 2006
The membership is the highest authority of Local 1950

Embroidery is Her Bag!

Tina Sehl has been employed at NMU since 1993 in several offices. First she worked in Communications and Marketing, then Community College Programs, Diversity Student Services, the Public Safety Institute, Development Fund, and the Counseling Center. She thinks she finally found her home in the Sociology and Social Work Department.



In her spare time she does work on the side with an embroidery machine, a Singer Quantum Futura 200. This machine had to be purchased in Green Bay since there are no dealers in the U.P.

Her projects include hats, jackets, t-shirts, jackets, towels, and her specialty has been canvas aprons. Some of the designs are her own, others are given to her by her customers, and still others are just stock clipart and words. She can take artwork and manipulate it on the computer and then



digitize it and send it to the embroidery machine. What's really nice about the whole set-up is that she can do one item or many items.



Her boyfriend gets first dibs on her time. She has completed professional and personal items for him, as he races a mud drag buggy in his spare time!

M - O - T - H - E - R

“M” is for the million things she gave me,
“O” means only that she’s growing old,
“T” is for the tears she shed to save me,
“H” is for her heart of purest gold;
“E” is for her eyes, with love-light shining,
“R” means right, and right she’ll always be,

Put them all together, they spell “MOTHER”,
A word that means the world to me.

Howard Johnson (c. 1915)

1913 Massacre

By Susan Tollefson

I attended the 21st Michigan State AFL-CIO U.P. Labor Conference this past winter and in addition to there being an exceptional exploration of pensions and politics, filmmakers Ken Ross and Louis Galdieri presented a short clip from their in-progress experimental documentary film based on the 1913 Italian Hall disaster in Calumet, Michigan. This little-known disaster was brought to prominence in a Woody Guthrie song back in 1961.

Immigrant miners were working under deplorable conditions at the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company copper mines and with the introduction of the one man drill and wage reductions, the miners went out on strike.

A Christmas party was held for the striking families at the Italian Hall in Calumet. According to some estimates, there were over five hundred people attending. During the party someone yelled “fire!” In the panicked rush to evacuate the building down a long, steep stairway seventy-three people (including fifty-nine children)



Italian Hall Doorway from the Union Ring files

(Cont. on p. 7, col 2)

Good and Welfare

A "Thinking of You" card was sent to Linda Cleary.

The April "Take a Break" drawing winners were:

Lynn Enrietti, Plant Operations
Christi Etelamaki - Center for Native American Studies,
Kelly Dore - NMU Foundation;
Sandra Carlson - AIS/Academic
Computing, and Sue Young - Criminal Justice



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EMPLOYMENT CHANGES

Sue Tollefson was placed on a leave without pay from 3/19/06 through 8/20/06.

Cara Kamps' position was reclassified as a Principal Secretary 4B in Student Activities and Leadership Programs effective 1/16/06.

Wendy Carlson accepted the Principal Secretary 4B position in the College of Arts and Sciences effective 4/3/06. She replaces Patty Healey.

Francine Sanderson filled the 30 hour per week Account Clerk II position in Human Resources effective 5/8/06. She replaces Rachelle Misun.

Linda Johnson filled the Secretary 4E position in the NMU Foundation effective 5/10/06. (9124) She replaces Erin Carlson.

Julie Djupe filled the Senior Secretary II 4C position in Alumni Relations effective 5/15/06. She replaces Tammy Clisch.

Thank You

Thank you for the beautiful flower arrangement! More importantly, thank you for the diligent representation that provided the fabulous benefits that paid for my surgery and allowed me to stay home from work for an extended time (with pay!) and without fear of losing my job!

The peace of mind helped the healing process.

Rachelle Misun

To My Union Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you very much for the beautiful bouquet of flowers. They were a nice surprise to receive after my recent surgery. Thanks again for your thoughtfulness.

Wendy Carlson

By Laws

ARTICLE V

CONVENTIONS

SECTION 1. The eligibility of members to be delegates to the International Constitutional Convention and the procedure by which such delegates are nominated and elected shall be provided in the International Constitution and the following:

a. Following the International Convention call, the Election Committee shall arrange for delegate nominations to be held at a regular or special membership meeting. Notice of the nominations meeting must be posted, and/or published, at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting. (7202)

b. At the nominations meeting, the Election Committee shall present fair and reasonable election rules, including the deadline for accepting nominations and the date(s), and location(s) of the election. The rules must allow all members of the Local Union an opportunity to cast their ballots. The Local membership shall approve the election rules with any necessary corrections.

c. This date will be established by the membership so that all members can be notified at least fifteen (15) days in advance, of the date(s), time(s), and location(s) of the election, so that the elected delegates will have at least seven (7) days to work on resolutions and Constitutional amendments prior to the International deadline for receiving them.

SECTION 2. The Local Union Executive Board shall designate from among the elected leadership and members of Standing Committees the delegates, not otherwise mandated, to conferences and conventions other than the International Constitutional Convention.

UAW Local 1950 Meetings

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

Computer Tips

In WORD when you come to the label screen, (under Tools/Letters & mailings/Envelopes & Labels) hit NEW DOCUMENT. Wha Lah! You have a template that you can position your cursor anywhere on the screen, choose different fonts, colors & even insert clip art if you want, for each individual label.

Jeannie Wratschko

This is very useful when trying to read small print (especially in the early hours): hold down the Ctrl key on your key board and then turn the small wheel in the middle of your mouse away from you or towards you, the print size will change - it will either get larger or smaller - depending on which way you turn the wheel.

Phyllis Zaenglein

Summer



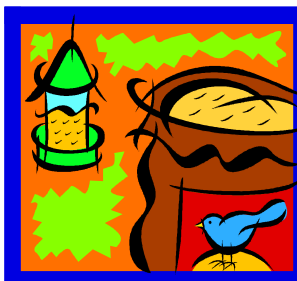
Birthdays

Kimber Olli	May 4	Jan Koski	June 7	Barbara Munson	June 23
Christi Ethlamaki	May 5	Racelle Misun	June 8	Pauline Gould	June 24
Karen Smith	May 9	Gina O'Donnell	June 10	Tina Sehl	June 26
Rynee Stenson	May 9	Loraine Deschambo	June 11	Carol Schirtzinger	June 27
Leslie Herman	May 15	Vicki Hedstrom	June 14	Linda Meldrum	June 30
Cheryl Lajoie	May 16	Roxanne Rastello	June 17	Tina Vandezande	July 6
Terry Johnson	May 18	Carolyn Basal	June 18	Luann Dagneais	July 7
Susan LaForais	May 21	Dieth Greising	June 21	Linda Cleary	July 13
Ray Liubakka	May 28	Marsha Bartle	June 23	Phyllis Zaenglein	July 14
Erin Carlson	May 29	Kathy Maki	June 23	JoDee Larsh	July 22
Darlene Rantala	May 29			Thomas McManus	July 25

Gradening Tips

Eggshell Suet

1 cup lard
1 cup chunky peanut butter
2 cups rolled oats
2 cups yellow cornmeal
1 cup flour
1/3 cup sugar
2/3 cup chicken scratch
1/3 cup washed, dried and crushed eggshells



Melt lard over low heat. Add peanut butter. Stir until melted. Add other ingredients and mix well. Line a baking pan with wax paper. Spread into pan. Cut into squares. Freeze for an hour. Remove cakes and store in freezer.

The eggshells are especially good to use during nesting season because they provide birds extra calcium for stronger eggs.

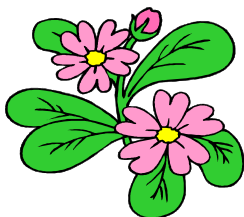
Bird Feeders



Keep squirrels from your bird feeder by putting a slinky on the pole, attaching it to the top. Squirrels can't get a firm grip on the slinky.

Phlox

Phlox, a five-petaled flower, usually prefers full sun areas, but some varieties do well in shade. These plants can be 4 to 48 inches tall and spread 4 to 36 inches. Creeping phlox, stays close to the ground, spreads quickly, and provides a carpet of color (lavender, blue, pink, purple, or white) and greenery. As with all plants that flower the whole summer, cut the creeping plants back half way after they flower. This will ensure continued blossoming throughout the season.



Source: April/May 2006 Birds & Blooms: Beauty in Your Backyard

Service Awards 2006

Retirees: Pat Frenn (12), Jean Olson (40), Bonnie Pegande (22), Sue Salo (21), and Pat Sheldon (11)

40 Years of Service: Kathy Gobert

30 Years of Service: Judy Hopper, Mary Kuczvara, Barb Lantz, Marsha Larmour, Mary Letts, Beth Sanderson

25 Years of Service: Linda Cleary, Candace Ingalls, Joan Kendall-Rozman, Kerry Mohr, Cindy Robare

20 Years of Service: Betsy Jaakola, Linda Meldrum, Linda Roe

15 Years of Service: Wendy Carlson, Sue Henderson

10 Years of Service: Jan Coombs, Julie Genore, Gary Jerry, Kirstin Johnson, Sue LaForais, Jana Nichols

Excellence in Service: Terry Johnson, Kristen Rasmussen

Distinguished Team Award Superior Edge Task Force: Cara Kamps

Together these CTs represent more than 600 years of service to NMU, with the retirees contributing 106 of those years. You are to be congratulated for all your work to helping make NMU what it is today.

Crabgrass Killer Prep Tonic

Simply mix:

1 cup liquid dish soap
1 cup ammonia
4 tbs. instant tea

Add to a 20 gallon hose-end sprayer, filling the balance of the jar with warm water. Saturate your lawn, then apply a broadleaf weedkiller for your turf.

OBITUARY

Jeanne M. Martel, 85, of 900 A Garfield Ave. Marquette, passed away April 13, 2006, at the Norlite Nursing Center. Jeanne was born June 16, 1920 in Marquette, to Abe and Mabel (White) Martel. She was a graduate of Marquette Public Schools, and worked as a NMU secretary in HPER, Public Safety, and the Northern Michigan University School of Banking. She retired in 1982.

Our deepest sympathy/condolences to her family.

Bill would add fairness, accountability when corporations declare bankruptcy

There's no need to tell UAW members about the abuses some corporations are perpetuating against their own workers when they file for bankruptcy.

Our members have seen thousands of good-paying jobs disappear and health care and benefit promises made years ago swept away by greedy corporations. These same companies manage to reward executives with millions even as they drive the business into the ground or move work to low-wage countries.

Two lawmakers want to hold corporations responsible when they file for bankruptcy. Sen. Evan Bayh, D.-Ind., and Rep. John Conyers, D.-Mich., in early April introduced legislation that would eliminate some of the abuses that have occurred in the Delphi and other recent corporate bankruptcies. (4778)

The "Fairness and Accountability in Reorganizations Act of 2006" would address two key issues. It would close some loopholes that allowed Delphi executives like Steve Miller to propose huge bonuses and other forms of lavish compensation while at the same time using the bankruptcy process to slash worker wages and benefits.

"As a matter of fundamental fairness, management should not be allowed to enrich themselves on the backs of workers and retirees," UAW President Ron Gettelfinger said. "There should be equality of sacrifice among all of the stakeholders."

The legislation, Senate Bill 2556 and House Bill 5113, would also require the bankruptcy judge to take into consideration a company's foreign operations, as well as its domestic ones, when it rules on motions to reject collective bargaining agreements and retiree health benefits.

"Corporations should not be allowed to shift resources and production to profitable overseas operations while pleading poverty in the United States," Gettelfinger said.

The UAW urges its members to contact their elected representatives in Washington to urge them to stand up for fairness by supporting this critical legislation.

Source: LUPA 4-7-2006

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 Jordon,
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 Hedgcock

Wednesday, May 17 Luncheon

Roast turkey, Stuffed Shells,
Stuff Salmon, Salad,
Vegetable, Rolls, Coffee,
Tea, Milk, Pop, Water and
Raspberry dream cake

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 Dawn Wilder at dwilder@nmu.edu or Assistant Editor Phyllis Zaenglein at pzaengle@nmu.edu by the 5th of each month in order to be reviewed for the next month's newsletter.

U.S. CONFUSES INSURGENTS WITH PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

Military Launches 'Operation Incomprehensible Program' Across Iraq

In an effort to confuse Iraqi insurgents, the Pentagon announced today that the U.S. had begun bombarding insurgent positions with copies of President Bush's Medicare prescription drug plan.

At a press briefing at the Pentagon, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld said that the idea of confusing the insurgents with the President's Medicare plan was hatched last week, after Mr. Bush appeared at a series of town hall meetings at which seniors in his audience seemed thoroughly bewildered by the intricate new program.

"We realized, if this prescription drug plan is that confusing in English, imagine how incoherent it would seem once it was translated into Arabic," Secretary Rumsfeld said.

As soon as Pentagon planners seized upon the idea of using the President's plan to confuse the



insurgents, Operation Incomprehensible Program was launched.

According to Secretary Rumsfeld, U.S. warplanes pounded insurgent positions in the cities of Tikrit and Najaf with copies of the prescription drug plan in the early morning hours of Monday.

Mr. Rumsfeld said that satellite photos of those positions have been encouraging thus far, showing dozens of Iraqi insurgents reading the prescription drug plan and scratching their heads.

The Defense Secretary said he was hopeful that Operation Incomprehensible Program would leave the Iraqi insurgents totally baffled, but he hinted that the Pentagon had other tactics up its sleeve: "We are fully prepared to bombard them with copies of my press briefings."

Elsewhere, one day after Seoul National University dismissed him for falsifying results, South Korean cloning scientist Hwang Woo-suk claimed that the other nine of him still had jobs.

Humor by Andy Borowitz, May 22, 2006

Note from Jeannette Yelland, Retiree Financial Aid

I really have enjoyed reading the FLAME! It brings back good memories of my years working at Northern Michigan University and all the good people working there!

I miss "God's County" and all who live there. The snow never bothered me - at least you could take a shovel and remove it.

Hurricanes and tornadoes and intense heat are something I will never get used to. However, my son's health has not been good as he is diabetic and has had 2 heart surgeries in the past year (stints in April/and double bypass in July. He is back to work now but he is still under a doctor's care. I love him and the children have needed me. However, I look forward to retuning to the U.P. soon. I miss my son and his children and also my friends there. He's my youngest child and his wife died in 2004

when I was not able to travel because I had had my second surgery for colon cancer. Now, I also have osteoporosis and high blood pressure and knees that don't want to work right. The old body is complaining.

Thank you again for the UAW Local 1950 new "The FLAME." I look forward to seeing and reading the news from NMU and all my friends.

"God Bless You All" and may He keep you healthy and happy!

Jeannette Yelland

P.S. I love to see the pictures and names of those who worked at NMU where I spent the best years of my life!

We'd love to hear from other retirees. Where are you and what have you been doing since you left NMU?

BENEFITS

If you have questions about your BCBS statements, call the local office (228-3180) and ask about them. They are most helpful in explaining the statement to you. You can always take your bills and forms to their office. In addition, **they can always be resubmitted.** In fact, at times they may need to be resubmitted several times. Please use the services of the Marquette office for assistance *ANYTIME* you have a question about non payment.

Editor note: Along this same line, a few weeks ago I received a statement for \$30.88, an odd amount, from a doctor's office I hadn't visited since August. I called Margaret, who suggested I call BCBS. They had no record of this charge. I called the doctor's billing office. I was told that BCBS had taken care of this charge.

What a potential rip off! I wonder how many people receive a statement like this and pay it because they *trust the doctor*, without checking why they were charged. My advise - question anything that seems out of order.

Signs of a Potentially Abusive Relationship

Sheryl Cates, executive director of the National Domestic Violence Hotline, says many women may be in a potentially abusive relationship and not even know it. She says there are five indicators that a relationship is likely to become violent.

Jealousy and possessiveness

Controlling behavior

Verbal abuse

Threats to harm you, your family or your pet

Isolation from friends and family

"These signs are not necessarily violent, but they can become violent and are precursors to violence," Sheryl says. If these behaviors are present in your relationship, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-SAFE to be connected with help in your area.

Source: Oprah Show May 3, 2006

No charge for directory assistance

Phone companies are charging us \$1.00 or more for 411 / information calls when they don't have to.

When you need to use the 411 / information option, simply dial 1-800-FREE-411 or 1 800 373 3411 without incurring a charge. Works on cell phone also.



Verified as TRUE on Snopes.com.
<http://www.snopes.com/inboxer/nothing/free411.asp>

Union Hall Fire (conclusion)

were killed. There was no fire. It has been suggested that this was an anti-union management prank, and that the pranksters may have been outside holding the doors shut.

We plan to show the trailer of Ross and Galdieri's film during the first fall membership meeting. The film has interviews with some of the survivors of this tragedy. Unfortunately, it has never been written about in history books. The Italian Hall was never (8298) preserved. In fact, when a single brick fell from the building, the town voted to demolish the whole thing. The wrecking ball bounced off the sides of the building because it was so sound.

This massacre has always been kept hush-hush. It is not fair to the descendents of those who lost their lives not to have their story told.

To get involved and to help in fundraising efforts please go to the 1913 Massacre web site at <http://www.1913massacre.com/>.

OPINIONS: Election Results

I'm going to ruffle some feathers here, but this is something that has to be said. We have over 160 members in UAW Local 1950 and only 58 took the 30-seconds it takes to vote on-line. Some were out sick and others are on vacation, but I seriously doubt that number to be too high. (2405) You have people out here busting their butts to make things better for everyone and this is the best you can do. Shame on those of you who were here and could have voted but didn't.

One of these days you may wake up and find you don't have a union, or health insurance, or a pension, or decent benefits. You might be one of those who come to work one day and your boss says he no longer needs your services and you have no recourse but to find another job. That's what it's like in the private sector without union protection. Get on the stick folks before it's too late.

Your disgruntled vice-president,
D.W.

Well said D.W. Now let me share another view.

There are those of us who have tried for years to make a difference. We helped organize the union; attended meetings; made motions for change; questioned the decisions of the executive board members; questioned the outcome of negotiations; rallied for the membership to reject the recommendations of the negotiating team; and on and on, ad nauseam. All of this only to have our changes reversed and the membership rubber stamp anything and everything the executive board or negotiating team recommended. What's the point?

And more to the point, don't take the vote in question so seriously (although I know you're concerned that it's indicative of the overall lack of interest of the membership). Personally speaking, I really, really, really don't care who attends the convention. That's why I didn't vote. And I really, really, really don't care to attend membership meetings that serve as nothing more than a venue for a nice lunch and to rubber stamp committee recommendations. That's why I no longer attend the meetings. The argument has been made that we elect the executive committee to represent us and we should support their decisions. Hogwash. We elect the committee to expeditiously accomplish what it would take the membership much longer to do, and to make recommendations for our consideration. When is the last time that our membership voted against or even questioned the committee???

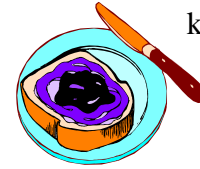
I applaud your effort to generate enthusiasm for the workings of the union. When the membership takes over, the enthusiasm will follow.

Ronnie

The FLAME encourages your comments and opinions on any subject.

Community Services

Harbor House (domestic violence home) donations: cereal, spaghetti sauce/noodles, green/black olives, pickles, tuna fish, ketchup, mustard, mayo, soups, spaghetti O's, peanut butter, jelly, sloppy joe mix, mac &



cheese, snack foods, paper towels, t-paper, zip type storage bags, ALL cleaning products, dish soaps, laundry soap, feminine products, personal hygiene products - shampoo, conditioners, bar soap, hand soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, mops, brooms, dustpans, diapers and wipes.

Pregnancy Services is accepting donations of new items for infants and toddlers such as diapers (size 3,4,5), receiving blankets, bath supplies, wipes, disposable bibs, onesies, (newborn and small), new baby clothes (sizes 0-3 months and 3-6 months). Monetary donations will be used for new car seats.



Victory Lutheran Church in Gwinn is hosting a "Clothing Give Away" on June 3, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. They would appreciate donations of clothing, dishes, and knick-knacks.

Contact Phyllis Zaenglein (2125) for more information about these two worthy causes.