



the LOCAL 879 UAW AUTOWORKER

"An Injury to One is an Injury to All"

JANUARY - MARCH 2009



YES - WE HAVE !

CHAIRPERSON'S



REPORT

Our rolls are at 786. Production hours will be 4-10 hour days until further notice.

It's good to be back to work after the 6-week layoff period in December. There are going to be some big changes shortly with critical members taking buy-outs and leaving by 1 February 2009. A total of about 790 years of experience will be going out the door.

We will have nominations for 1 Bargainer and 1 Guide at the Union Meeting on 4 March 2009. The president of our Union will have the pertinent information posted soon. In the interim, Kelly, from Paint and Body Build will be filling in for Tom Reis until the election is completed.

We are still awaiting information from the UAW International on what they are going to do with GM and Chrysler and how that will affect us at Ford Motor Company as a Union. As the information becomes available we will send out bulletins to our members.

In case you don't know, the New DOM, the Plant Manager's boss, was at our plant January 28 and 29th talking to our membership. His name is, Jeff Fox, and believes as your Union Leadership does, that provided you take care of our members concerns, you will have a best in class vehicle each and every time.

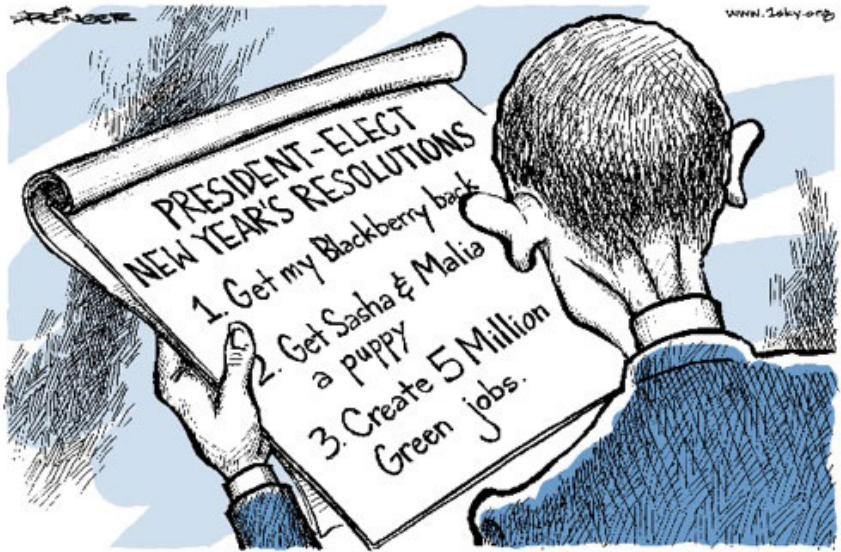
I am so very proud of this membership, for making this plant and our trucks the best in North America. We have been recognized as the best quality assembly plant in North America for 2008 and we are #2 in health and safety.

Congratulations to all and thank you for making us the best. Your sweat, tears and just plain hard work have done it again. I have always said, "It's the membership that makes us great."

Be proud of what you have done.

**Thank you.
In Solidarity,
JIM EAGLE**

UAW Chairperson Local 879



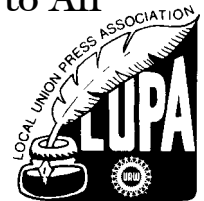
The Local 879 UAW

AUTOWORKER

"An Injury to One is an Injury to All"



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This paper is the property of the membership of UAW Local 879 and its pages are open to all members.

OUR EDITORIAL POLICY

To our readers:

This newsletter is the voice of your local and international union. This is our only vehicle for bringing to you, on a regular basis, the views and actions of the leaders you elected, so you may evaluate them. Through the publication, we explain union politics and show how your dues are spent. The publication also is the voice of membership. We welcome articles from UAW members and stories about members. All articles should contribute positively to the welfare of this union and its members. We will accept no personal attacks on any union leader or member. We will accept a thoughtful discussion of all related issues in the letters column. We reserve the right to reply to those that seem to reflect a misunderstanding of the union and its policies.

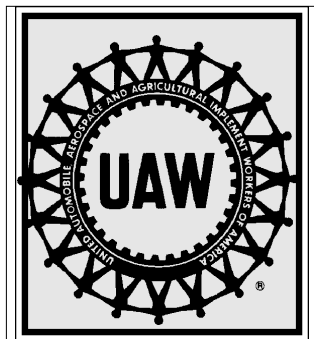
Thanks for your support,
and we look forward to hearing from you.



RECYCLED PAPER
PRINTED WITH SOY INK

PRESIDENT'S

REPORT



Many of you may have watched TV January 20th when our 44th President was sworn into office. As I watched the millions of folks from all walks of life come together to share in an historic event, it really hit me on how much burden has been placed on President Barack Obama's shoulders. I know there is much doubt and criticism on whether the President can pull us out of this major recession. But remember this - from March 4th, 1933 thru April 12th, 1945, the United States was in the Great Depression. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected into office and was able to turn this country around. I have complete faith that President Obama will do the same. In the 30's, FDR created what political scientists call a New Deal Coalition. Obama has that same Coalition because they both received support from labor unions, farmers, ethnic, religious and racial minorities, intellectuals, the South, big city machines, the poor and workers on relief.

As I watched the President being sworn in on Abraham Lincoln's bible, and giving his speech laden with quotes from FDR and MLK, I found how elegant an orator President Obama is and what a remarkable man he is. I'm truly honored to have Obama as my President.

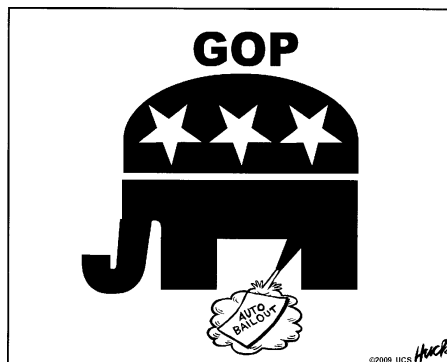
LOCALLY

The six week lay-off was financially draining to many of the workers here at the plant. I'm glad to see that we reported back to work as planned, with no extra time off added. Please be aware and prepared of the possibility of more down time in the coming months. We also ended another round of buy-outs at noon on January 23rd. At the time of this report, 33 members accepted packages from this plant. Look for upcoming announcements about elections to fill some vacated positions.

On January 19th, the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, the local hosted at the hall a MLK National Day of Service aka "UAW/ Neighborhood House" based on Obama's call to service to the American people. The Neighborhood House had two goals - to raise food and blood. The volunteers collected **4,039 pounds of food, \$1,135 in cash** for the food shelf and Memorial Blood took in **25 units of blood** and had to turn away 25 donors for lack of facility! Katie McGee, who we worked with to put on this drive, did an outstanding job! I also would like to thank the retirees and Gene Neuman for putting up with the chaos during their meeting.

NATIONALLY

As I'm sure you are all aware, GM and Chrysler received a government auto loan. Ford has not yet taken one, and that remains to be seen. The UAW will re-open the contract for the Big 3 Automakers and the terms negotiated are yet to be decided.



I recall back in the 80's when the auto industry went through a similar recession, but not as bad. And I'm sure there are many retirees that grew up with the Great Depression and can vividly remember how it was even worse. The idea of riding out these troubled times can be overbearing, but we autoworkers are an enduring group of workers. Truth be told, there is no doubt in my mind that the best workers in the world are right here in America.

Our Building Chairman, Jim Eagle and I attended meetings in Detroit on two separate occasions in December. December 3rd was a one day emergency meeting involving GM, Chrysler and Ford. Job Banks and re-opening the contract were the two main issues. The assembly agreed to vote collectively on whether to re-open the contract.

Out of the entire vote, 6 voted against re-opening the contract.

Then December 15th and returning the 17th, Jim and I attended the National and Sub 2 Ford Council meetings again in Detroit. Basically, talk centered on each plant report for the SUB Meetings, and elections were held for various open positions.

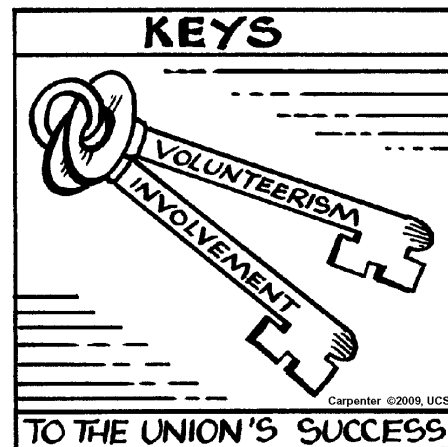
On a more personal note...

Officially, I am retired as of February 1st, 2009. For me, this was a huge decision to say the least. Working at the plant for 30 years has been a tremendous experience, one that I will never forget. The co-workers and friends that I have shared my life with are something that words cannot describe. You are and have been my family, something that I will cherish until my final breath. You showed faith in me when electing me as vice-president and then president of this local. I am truly humbled by your faith and trust in me. Not only do I hope that I served the members to the best of my ability, I also hope that I served the retirees as well. For it was the retirees who labored hard and fought for the benefits that we have today. These are things that we sometimes take for granted. I am deeply indebted to all of you for your sacrifices.

I would like to leave you with this thought;

"It is common sense to take a method and try it. If it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something."

*In Peace and Solidarity,
Roger Terveen*



Hello everyone...

Just a reminder that 'Fare for All' will be in the plant every month for the next six months. The program is getting more popular as each month passes. Thank you all for participating. By purchasing a package, you help the program immensely. Fare for All is in the plant the third Wednesday from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. The next date is February 18th.

In spite of the tragedy that occurred in the plant last month, I saw a beautiful thing happen. So many of our people – active and retired – came together to honor our lost sister Tracy Frazier. We are a family here at Ford UAW. I have always been touched by how we pull together in tough times. Special thanks to Kris Chilson, Dorothy Sokolowski, Kari Altema, Brenda Dickhausen, Debbie Francis, Jim Hooper, Jack Flis and Marilyn Bobick Johnson for all their help with preparing the food table and getting the Hall ready.

Two quotes for the month to all of my friends who are retiring:

“Every end is a new beginning” or my favorite “Every day is a Saturday”.

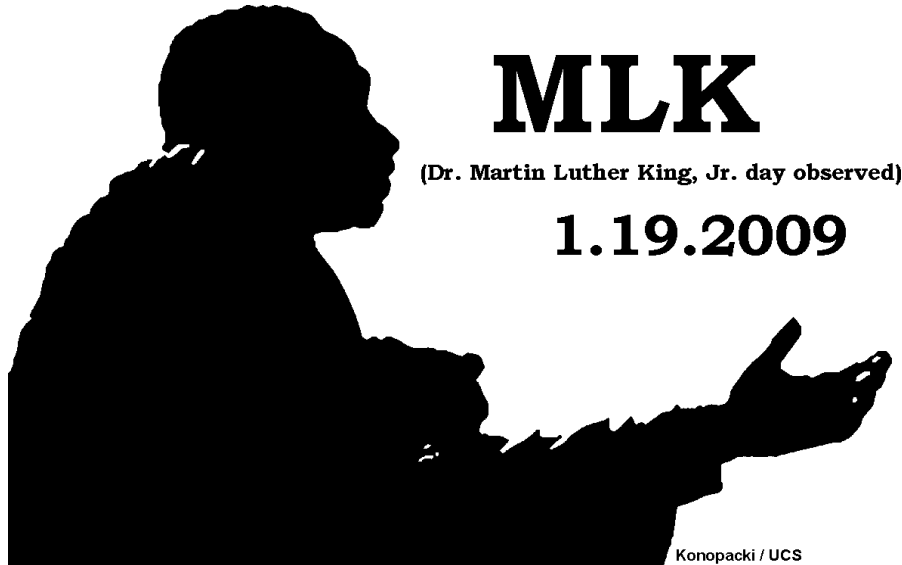
Marsha Anderson-Shearen

HONORABLE MENTION

In honor of our union sister, Local 879 Guide and friend to many - we dedicate this issue of The Autoworker to the memory of Tracy Frazier. May she be at peace.



The Editor



MLK

(Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. day observed)

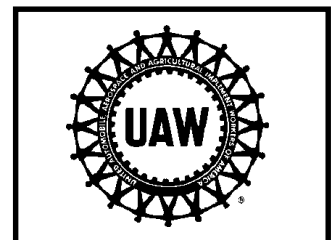
1.19.2009

Konopacki / UCS

FINANCIAL REPORT UAW Local 879

NOVEMBER, 2008

Marsha Anderson-Shearen, Financial Secretary



BALANCE ALL FUNDS

Balance on hand, Nov. 30, 2008	\$556,362.70
Income, Dec., 2008	27,901.15
Expenditures, Dec., 2008	27,678.17
Balance, Dec. 31, 2008	\$556,585.68

DEATH BENEFIT FUND

Balance on hand, Nov. 31, 2008	\$896,594.05
Income, Dec., 2008	8,173.82
Expenditures, Dec., 2008	3,000.00
Balance, Dec., 31, 2008	\$901,767.87

Note: If your beneficiary for the Death Benefit Fund has changed since the last time you filled out your beneficiary card, please contact Marsha Anderson - Shearen at the Union Hall for an update. This is your \$1,000.00 life insurance plan through the Union.

INTERNATIONAL STRIKE FUND REPORT -SEPTEMBER

The following is a summary of Strike Fund Income and Expenditures for the month of September, 2008.

NET WORTH, AUGUST 31, 2008	\$838,787,551.77
INCOME FOR SEPTEMBER 2008	
Dues Per Capita Tax	2,126,091.22
TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR	\$840,913,642.99
DISBURSEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2008	\$3,675,675.80
TRANSFER TO ORGANIZATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION FUND.....	<u>142,500.00</u>

NET WORTH, SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

In September there were 13 local unions on strike representing 1668 members.

In Memory



Tracy Frazier

June 21, 1963 - January 5, 2009

No one knew the torment
That you were going
through;
We only kept on seeing
What we really wanted to.

We saw the outward smile,
But not your inner pain:
We never really dreamt
That you would never smile
again.

Forgive us if we failed to see,
What we could do to aid;
Or if we failed to comprehend
How much you were afraid.

We pray your mental
anguish,
Will now forever cease;
And that your deep anxieties
Will be replaced by peace.

We know your pain invaded
Every single thought you
had;
It made you cry internally,
And deeply, deeply sad.



But we in turn remember
The good times, not the bad;
We remember when you
smiled at us
And not when you were sad.

So when we think about your
life,
We won't dwell upon its close;
We'll remember all the good
times,
And forget about life's woes.

We'll remember all the
happiness
The joy and not the tears;
The assurance and the
confidence
And not irrational fears.

Our lives have all been better
Because you have been there;
So now we leave your memory
In God's all-loving care.

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Women's Committee Report

October 9-11, 2008, Tracy Frazier, Tanya Wade and I went to the Women's Conference in Ottawa, Illinois. The theme was Breast Cancer and of course politics and the importance of getting out to vote.

Our speakers included Dennis Williams, Director Region 4 UAW, Amy Loasching, the President of Janesville City Council and on the Member Response Team, Lisa Madigan, Illinois Attorney General-who literally worked side-by-side with Barack Obama while in the Illinois Senate, Sharon Garrett, The White House Project, Liane C. Casten, author of "Breast Cancer, Poisons, Profits & Preventions and keynote speaker Theresa Bullock, UAW Women's Department.

The topic was mainly getting out to vote, committing to take people to the polls, getting your friends and family to vote. We

all can see the results today of people getting to the polls and electing the UAW's choice for president.

During the business meeting of the conference, Tanya Wade was elected Trustee for Region 4's Women's Council Executive Board and I was selected to be Region 4 Council Chair for Minnesota. We both took pride getting sworn into our new positions.

Our women's committee won a scholarship for next year's fall Women's Conference.

I would like to thank the Local for giving us the opportunity of going to Ottawa for the conference.

In solidarity,
Kari Altema
Women's Committee Chair

OUR THANKS

To so many of you who went above and beyond, just a simple thank you will never be enough. Tracy will forever be missed and loved in our hearts. Your kindness and support will never be forgotten.

We appreciate it and thank everyone so very much.

Sincerely,
Marlena Latham
and the Frazier family



CONSERVATION NEWS



A relentless cold spell has challenged us to the core, tapping into the very spirit that makes us who we are. Even the most seasoned Northerners among us have stooped to conversations about the weather and how it dominates their daily lives. Despite the chill in the air, folks are finding creative ways to warm their hearts and homes with thoughts of Spring that will greet us less than two months from now.

DOWN ON THE FARM: The preferred spot in the house these days is in close proximity to the woodstove and the comfort it provides. There's nothing like wood heat to warm you right down to the bone and I'm as guilty as the best of them for cozying up to a crackling fire.

As tempting as it is, nothing can keep me there for long - or from my regular outdoor routine. There are chores to be done, animals to feed and a desired range of motion to maintain in these creaking joints of mine.

Giving myself the credit I deserve, I'm here to tell you that when it comes to the great outdoors - I know how to dress. Now, I'm not talking in a fashion sense of the word... but anyone who knows me can attest to my art of layering. It usually goes something like this. Begin with one pair of thermal long underwear followed by one pair quality wool socks. Add turtle neck (one - possibly two), polar fleece - top and bottoms, Carhartt insulated coveralls, fleece hoodie (with attached neck warmer), one additional neck warmer (pulled up and over chin and nose), one pair thinsulate gloves with liners and top with stylish, yet functional Steger mukluks made due north of here in Ely, Minnesota.

I am told that there have been sightings in my neck of the woods of someone or *something*.. that just blew off the Polar Express.

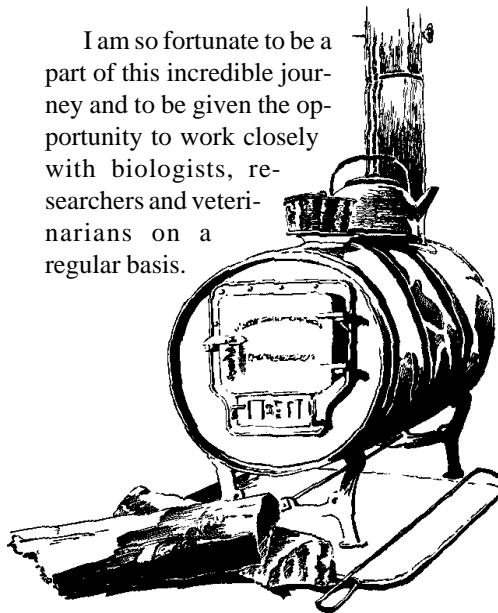
Fashion statement or not, the outside critters look forward to my daily appearance and seem grateful for all the time I spend visiting and making them as comfort-

able as possible. The inside critters have it made in the shade, with their only worry being my swift and safe return from the elements.

With an abundant supply of food for the table, a roof overhead and a fire to warm us, life is good here... **DOWN ON THE FARM.**

IN THE COMPANY OF WOLVES: It has been over a year since I began volunteering at the Wildlife Science Center near Forest Lake and I can't imagine gaining this sort of experience anywhere else. The director and staff make it possible for interested folks from all walks of life to assist with animal care, research projects, wolf capture and restraint, internships and education programs.

I am so fortunate to be a part of this incredible journey and to be given the opportunity to work closely with biologists, researchers and veterinarians on a regular basis.



This past month, I participated in a Gray Wolf reproductive research project there and helped to monitor wolf temperatures, respiration and heart rates while they were under sedation.

The Wildlife Science Center (WSC) is a non-profit organization that focuses on research, education and conservation. It is home to resident wolves, coyote, fox, lynx, porcupine, raccoons and birds of prey.

The next event open to the public is the Winter Festival to be held on Saturday,

February 21st from 11:00-4:30. The event will feature dog sledding demonstrations, kid's games and local artists and crafters. WSC is located 6 miles west of Forest Lake at 5463 West Broadway adjoining the DNR Headquarters. Hope to see you. I'll be there with bells on.

FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST: Speaking of that Polar Express I mentioned earlier, last month I traveled by rail to visit my sister in the Big Sky state of Montana. She makes her home in Kalispell, less than an hour from Glacier National Park. Along with my sibling who I hadn't seen in a year's time, I was greeted with 4 feet of snow - much like the stuff I had left behind just 24 hours earlier. Severe weather had caused some delays on the tracks which in turn delayed my arrival time 10 hours or so...but who was counting.

Besides enjoying the mountain views and spending quality time with my sister, the highlight of my trip was the snowshoeing trek we shared just this side of Glacier.

More and more folks seem to be traveling by train these days. Magical folks. On the trip out, I encountered a fine fellow who seemed to be a human magnet to all who passed him by. He spent many an hour in the observation car offering a seat to complete strangers who were mysteriously drawn to him, the cards and board games he had to offer. The place was filled with laughter and every time I went by there were new faces joining in.

On my way home, I decided to catch a better view by spending more time in the car that was so entertaining a week earlier. As I caught a glimpse of a passenger walking by, I realized it was someone that I knew. We exchanged a hearty, "What are you doing here?" and commenced a lengthy conversation about our years at Ford.

Bill "Billy" Busacker just happened to be traveling with his wife and granddaughter from Portland where he had just visited his daughter and grandchildren. There we were. Same train, different car and didn't

even know it. As fate would have it, the two of us struck up a conversation on an AMTRAK train somewhere in the middle of North Dakota.

We shared our stories about everyone we knew, the jobs we had done and of all the friends we made over the years. Rolling down the tracks, we focused on the good memories of our time spent at Ford. We also speculated about the future of the plant, the country and the world we live in. Billy was hopeful about it all. He believed the plant would be around for many years to come, that the country was on the road to recovery and that the future looked bright.

He seemed a bit embarrassed, however when I told him to be sure to read my column in the upcoming issue of *The Autoworker* - because I promised to mention him in it.

Before going our separate ways back at the train depot in St. Paul, he insisted on exchanging phone numbers so we could keep in touch. Exactly one week later, I received a call from Billy's wife, Donna telling me that he had passed away unexpectedly the night before. After 46 plus years at the Ford plant, Billy Busacker retired at the same time I did 2 years ago. He was 67 years old. I am thankful that we crossed paths that day - and for the words and laughs we shared...

LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY: Despite all the transitions in the plant, there are still a number of dedicated people who continue their efforts in coming up with concrete plans for the future. The Electric Ranger project is still being discussed along with other alternative green manufacturing ideas. A Green Jobs plan set forth by President Obama could have a bearing on the Ford Plant site and several committees are working on possible proposals. With that in

mind, remain hopeful about your future and the future of our planet. May the words of President Obama lift you up.

Time to Repower America

"...We have the opportunity now to create jobs all across the country in all 50 states, to repower America, to redesign how we use energy, to think about how we are increasing efficiency, to make our economy stronger, make us more safe, reduce our dependence on foreign oil and make us competitive for decades to come - even as we are saving the planet."

President Barack Obama
December 9, 2008

Good New Year to you...

In Solidarity,
Marilyn Bobick Johnson
Conservation Committee Retiree

ENVIRONMENTALLY SPEAKING . . .

Blue-Green Alliance Grows

Labor, Environmentalists Join Hands

The United Steelworkers and the Sierra Club recently welcomed two strong additions to the Blue Green alliance as the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and the Communications Workers of America (CWA) joined the coalition. The alliance now unites more than four million people in an unprecedented partnership to realize the potential of the green economy.

The Blue Green Alliance is working to realize the job-creating potential of solutions to global warming. Specifically, the alliance is educating the public about the need for solutions that:

- * Reduce global warming pollution on a scale and timetable to avoid dangerous global-warming effects, thereby creating millions of jobs and a clean energy economy;
- * Restore the rights of U.S. workers to form a union and bargain collectively;
- * Include in a just trade policy enforceable labor, environmental and human rights standards; and
- * Curb the use of toxic chemicals in order to enhance public health and promote safer alternatives.

"We are excited to join this effort to

create sustainable, middle-class jobs for America." said Larry Cohen, President of the Communications Workers of America, which represents 700,000 members. "We share common concerns that runaway economic policies are preventing workers from organizing and bargaining collectively, and fail to direct our economy to create sustainable, middle-class jobs. The global climate crisis must be addressed and we must advance the rights of workers so that we can create exciting opportunities for American families in the green economy".

"We have joined this effort because we know that what is good for the environment is good for the economy, and vice versa," said Frances Beinecke, President of the 1.2 million-member Natural Resources Defense Council. "We can transform and renew our economy with practical solutions to global warming and building a clean energy economy. This unique partnership demonstrates that we can work together to make the green economy a reality."

"This uncommon partnership is driven by our common goal to realize that creating good jobs and protecting the environment are inextricably linked," said Carl Pope,

executive director of the 1.3 million-member Sierra Club. "We know that what we do to solve our energy crisis today will have a tremendous impact on the economy of tomorrow, and we know that advancing the rights of workers around the globe is integral to protecting our environment."

"The effects of globalization have wreaked havoc on our economy and our environment - middle-class jobs are disappearing, our reliance on oil is threatening our security, and global warming threatens our environment," said Leo W. Gerard, International President of the United Steelworkers, which unites 850,000 workers and is the nation's largest manufacturing union. "The green economy creates good jobs, it creates them here in the United States, and it is the best way to improve the economy for middle-class people and protect the environment for the next generation."

By growing to more than four million members, the Alliance is spearheading a movement to harvest the economic benefits of global-warming solutions and the clean-energy economy.

Reprinted from,
Label Letter

BARGAINER'S REPORT

There are going to be some changes coming and will already have happened as of this printing of *The Autoworker*. We at the Twin Cities Ford plant had another open window period for buyouts. With that being said there were 33 full time employees that took their packages and will be leaving us on 1/30/2009. They will all be missed but those people that took their packages did what they needed to do. It was the best decision for them.

We wish them the best in their future endeavors! Of those 33 members that left we will have a few Union positions that will be vacated. Only 2 of those are elected positions. There will be 2 elected positions that will need to be filled, and we will be taking nominations for them at the Union meeting on March 4th 2009. The 2 positions open are Bargainer and Guide. Once the nomination process has been done the election will follow sometime nearing the end of March. Information will be put out when we get the definite dates scheduled.

The company has notified the Union of the upcoming down weeks. The first lay-off is the week of February 9th and we were

also told that there are 2 other tentative lay-offs the week of March 9th and also the week of May 11th. But remember these weeks are tentative and subject to change by the company.

The company has also informed us of the tentative 2 week vacation time off. The first is the week of June 29th and the company is also looking at a week in August.

The Bargaining committee will be getting the official letter by April 1st and we will inform you the membership as soon as we get that information in writing.

With all of the people leaving, the company has agreed to hire up to 45 new hires. The company has already tested 145 people who have met the requirements and are ready to be hired. Also at this time labor relations does not need any more names of people to hire, but if there is a change we will keep you informed. The Bargaining Committee was also informed that they will be hiring the new people in groups of 14 at a time. So when you see a new face out there please be supportive and helpful. Remember you were a new hire at one time also.

We all have seen the news about the auto companies needing low interest loans from the government. As of right now Ford has yet to take a loan from them, but with the unstable economy that definitely could change in the future. Knowing all of the uncertainty with our economy, times could get harder and we all need to be aware of that as we make life purchases.

On a clip sheet this week there was a quote written by Ron Gettlefinger, the president of our International Union. He stated that we the UAW know that there are more concessions to come and that it would be unfair for one Auto company to give up something without the others doing the same. So we at Ford will be giving up the same things as GM and Chrysler. The future is not looking very bright for the Auto industry, and many other businesses are feeling the same or worse than we are. We just hope we can get through these tough times so that when our economy gets better we have a chance at moving forward.

In Solidarity,
Shawn Milliron
Tommy Reis (Retired)



C Company, 834 ASB, 34th Brigade

Dear Local 879,

On behalf of C Company, 834 ASB, 34th Brigade, we would like to thank you for your extreme generosity!!

The care packages you sent were simply the BEST. We loved them. The soldiers really appreciate people like you taking time to remember us.

Sincerely,
James & Heidi Schultz

In early December, over a dozen of our members gathered at the union hall to assemble 25 holiday care packages for the military.

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES . . .

Dear Membership,

Words can't express what I am truly feeling, but I will try to explain the best that I can.

By the time this gets to print, I will be retired from Ford Motor Company's TCAP. Where did the 30 years go? The hardest part is leaving the many friends and associates I have worked with. You have been like family to me. I had many experiences on and off the assembly line, but serving as your UAW Ford ESSP representative has been the most rewarding experience of my career with the company- or my life, for that matter. I have been truly blessed to work with so many wonderful individuals. I can honestly say that if there is one person who has been helped – it is me. Knowing all of you has made me a better person.

I'd like to thank the leadership, the International staff, the Directors of the National ESSP Program and the Twin Cities management for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. It has been a rewarding experience to have been able to help so many brothers and sisters.

*Fraternally,
George Moye
ESSP Representative (Retired)*

I want to say good-bye to all of the UAW active and retired employees. I will be retiring effective February 1, 2009. It has been a pleasure serving you all these years.

Carol Almsted will be my replacement. Carol was my alternate. She filled in for me when I was absent. Many of you might already know her. I am confident that she will do an excellent job.

*In solidarity,
Dorothy Sokolowski
Retired UAW Benefits Representative*



We made it!!!

Tom & I will be retiring today. Our dreams have come true. To someday go home to Ely. We've truly been blessed to have had such great children & grandchildren and a wonderful life in Grantsburg, WI. We had planned on staying till the plant closed.

And we just want to let everyone know that even though we are happy with our accomplishments we have mixed feelings about leaving our jobs and especially *our friends* here at TCAP.

Some one once told me that **"Everything Happens for a Reason"**

The economy...

The open window...

The sale of our home in

Grantsburg....Yahoo!!!

And the chance to start a new chapter in our lives in Ely... earlier than planned.

We will **truly** miss all of you and wish you the best.

Tom & Cheryl Reis



"Dunston, you can't quit! We'd never find anyone to fill your shoes!"

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am writing this to say good-bye to everybody who I have had the pleasure of working with for the past 30 years. It really has been a special time for me to be the UAW Health and Safety Rep the last few years. The opportunity to be the person appointed to help guide health and safety issues has been a wonderful highlight of my time spent at Ford.

There have been so many changes with all the buy-outs in the last couple of years and so many changes we have endured together. I will really miss working here at Ford. I've had a lot of fun, laughs and tears and so many wonderful friendships that I can't even begin to count.

To everybody in the Union office thanks so much for helping me through the tough times and the great times. I will miss all of you so much and I will never forget you!!! Especially Kristen Chilson who has been there everyday for me! And, let me tell you, keeping me grounded and sane is not an easy job but she did it with her usual grace and manner that left me free to focus on what was needed to help you. I will be leaving Jim Hooper as my replacement and I know he will also do a great job in this position.

Retiring is a difficult decision for anyone but now I will be able to spend more time with my 6 wonderful grandchildren, enjoy some quality time with my husband and hopefully stop my dog from digging through my garden.

My love and Good Blessings to you all. Be safe.

*Debbie Francis
Health & Safety Rep*



Making History in Washington D.C.

Two Million People happily waiting in lines for hours - for food, drink, trains, planes and most of all to be part of history. I had a chance to make history before. In August of 1963, I was given the opportunity to go Washington D.C. to march with Martin Luther King Jr. and hear his "I Had A Dream Speech". I didn't go... I told my Dad that "I didn't want to miss football practice." He went without me. So for the past 46 years I have regretted that decision. Each year on King's national holiday, I get reminded of what a dummy 13 year old I was by passing up my chance. Everyday I'm also reminded by the arthritic pain in my ankles and knees, of how stupid I was to play football for 20 years.

During my historic visit to Washington to attend the inauguration of President Barack Obama, there were two million stories to be told. Everyone of them special. Being a witness to the conclusion of those stories is what made time fly by.

After hours of sharing, we were reluctant to separate and wished that the line was a little longer. We hoped that our trains, planes, buses, and cabs were all going in the same direction and that we didn't have to let go of the moment. We didn't want to move on.

I wanted time to stand still, while all who were gathered savored in the glory of happiness - that the end of an error in American history was over. America could once again be the guiding light for ALL to follow.

The experience was like being treated as a rock star. My right wrist was banded with stars & stripes at my hotel. I signed autographs, posed for pictures, and drank for free. I was a Presidential Elector from

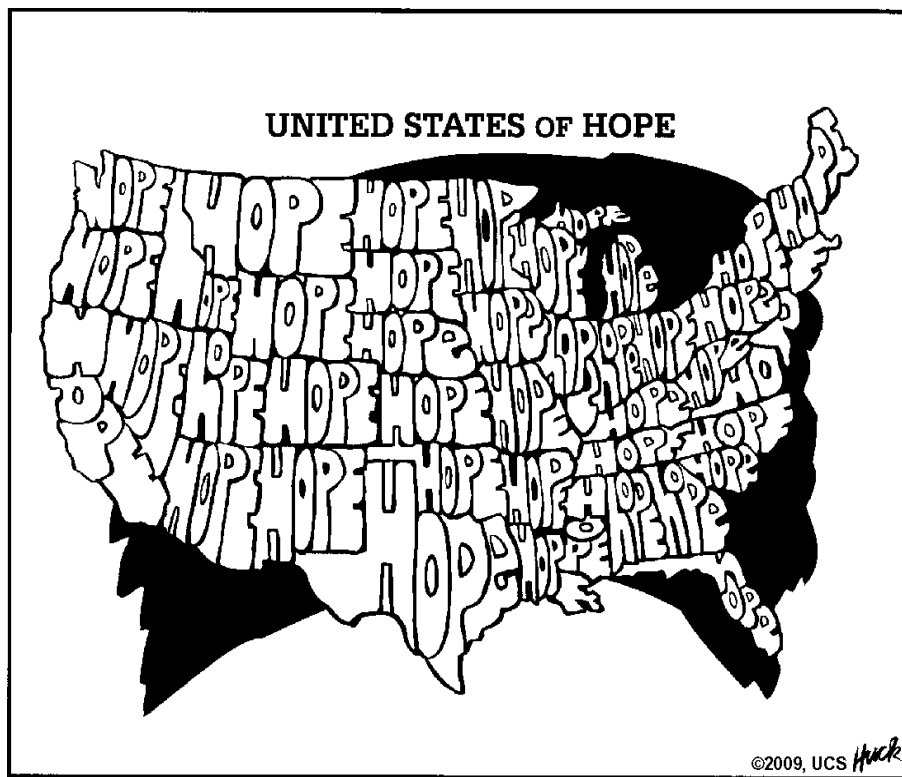
Eagan, MN., one of the 365 electoral college voters who on DEC. 15th had officially elected Barack Obama to the presidency.

My journey to D.C. started in February of 2008 (it really started 50 years before, but that version is a novel) at the precinct caucuses where you meet your neighbors and pass resolutions.

In April, you meet again and elect party officers and endorse candidates for your local state House seat every 2 years

November, that party's slate gets forwarded to the Secretary of State (SOS) and the Governor (GOV) by the party chair. The SOS & GOV invite you to the state capital for a 9 a.m. roll call, and at noon you vote for the presidency. Six signed documents, 3 stay in Minnesota and 3 go to Washington, D.C. Becoming a Presidential Elector, is kind of like the "Oscars" life time achievement award.

My itinerary went something like this. I arrived at Reagan National Airport at midnight. D.C. has a great light rail system called the Metro and I took it to my hotel room which is 6 blocks from the White House. I spent Thursday and Friday in the House and Senate offices getting tickets for the inauguration. I got SEATS for both Beth, my better half and myself in the desired "orange section" and proceeded to speak with Congressmen John Kline (R) 2nd CD MN. and a senior staffer with Senator Amy Klobuchar's office.



and state Senate seats every 4 years. You also choose delegates to the congressional and state conventions.

May 3rd was the 2nd Congressional District convention. This is where I ran for the office of Presidential Elector. Each Congressional district gets one elector. Each state gets 2 more electors for the U.S. Senators which are elected at the state convention in August. I won by explaining what the electoral college system is and how it works (another novel). Short version: Minnesota has 10 electoral college votes. Each party has an electoral college slate. Whoever wins in

the Lincoln Memorial. By 8am I was on my way to the Metro. The concert started at 2:30 in the afternoon and was open to the public.

Obama & Biden families were there with entertainment royalty, actors and musicians including Denzel Washington, Tom Hanks, Jamie Foxx, Bruce Springsteen, Bono, Beyonce, Mary Blige, Stevie Wonder, Usher, will.i.am, John Legend, Sheryl Crow, Shakira, James Taylor, Garth Brooks and Pete Seeger to name a few.

Obama gave a short speech on "In

the course of history, only a handful of generations have been asked to confront challenges as serious and the ones we face right now, but despite all of this...despite the enormity of the task that lies ahead...I stand here today as hopeful as ever that the United States of America will endure, that the dream of our founders will live on in our time". Bishop Robinson reminded everyone that Obama "is a human being, not a messiah". Bono said that Obama's election represented not just an American dream, it was also an Irish dream, a European dream, an African, Israeli, and Palestinian dream.

1-20-2009 Washington D.C. 4 a.m.

After making coffee, my first big decision was how many layers, what types and what order. My wife Beth and I will be outside for 12 hours, in 20 degree temps, with wind gust of 30 mph. First layer, silk for comfort, next polyester to trap body heat, cotton for warmth, and last Gore-Tex for wind and water protection. I pack water, energy bars, digital camera and 40 hand warmers and 20 foot warmers for those people who don't know how to dress like Minnesotans.

At 5:30 a.m., 6 hours before the inaugural address the trains are packed. We wait, talk, listen, and sing.

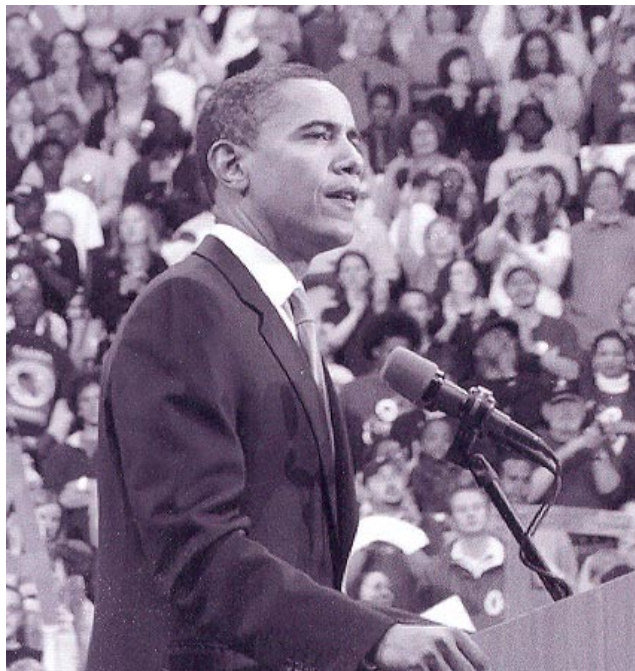
Everyone is happy and in high spirits. Thirty minutes later we are at our transfer point from red line to blue. We get off at the Capitol South station, the station is packed with several thousand people, no one moving, everyone singing "OH...WHEN OBAMA, COMES MARCHING IN, OH WHEN OBAMA COMES MARCHING IN...I WANT TO BE IN THAT NUMBER...WHEN OBAMA COMES MARCHING IN..."(repeat) more trains pull in, more singers joined in, people hugged and cried.

7 a.m. We make it out of the dark underground station, to the light of a new day for America, and Hope for the World....

After waiting 2 hours in security lines, we are seated on row 42. Turning around and looking behind me, are over a million people.

Barack Obama's Inaugural Address: (this is the first 3 paragraphs out of 6 pages)

"That we are in the midst of crisis is now well understood. Our nation is at war against a far reaching network of violence and hatred. Our economy is badly weakened, a consequence of greed and irresponsibility on the part of some but also our collective failure to make hard choices and prepare the nation for a new age. Homes have been lost, jobs shed, businesses shuttered. Our health care is too costly, our schools fail too many, and each day brings further evidence that the ways we use energy strengthen our adversaries and threaten



**Photo by Benjamin Gross
St. Paul, MN June, 2008**

our planet. These are the indicators of crisis, subject to data and statistics. Less measurable, but no less profound, is a sapping of confidence across our land; a nagging fear that America's decline is inevitable, that the next generation must lower its sights. Today I say to you the challenges we face are real, they are serious and they are many. They will not be met easily or in a short span of time. But know this America: They will be met. On this day, we gather because we have chosen hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord. On this day, we come to proclaim an end to the petty grievances and false promises, the recrimination and worn out dogmas

that for far too long have strangled our politics...."

The speech was somber. It made me think. We have a long road to go....I feel autoworkers have made sacrifices already. We have given up pay raises, taken on more health care cost, lowered starting wages, and are on a cycle of layoffs, unemployment benefits and losing our homes to foreclosures. Yet, the public perception is... we are "fat cats" flying around in corporate jets.

We as individuals, and as a union, must take a stand on supporting: Unemployment Benefit Extensions, Job Retraining, Dislocated Worker Funding, Green Manufacturing, Card Check Legislation and the Health Security Act here in Minnesota. That means spending TIME & MONEY to make these bills pass at both the state and federal level.

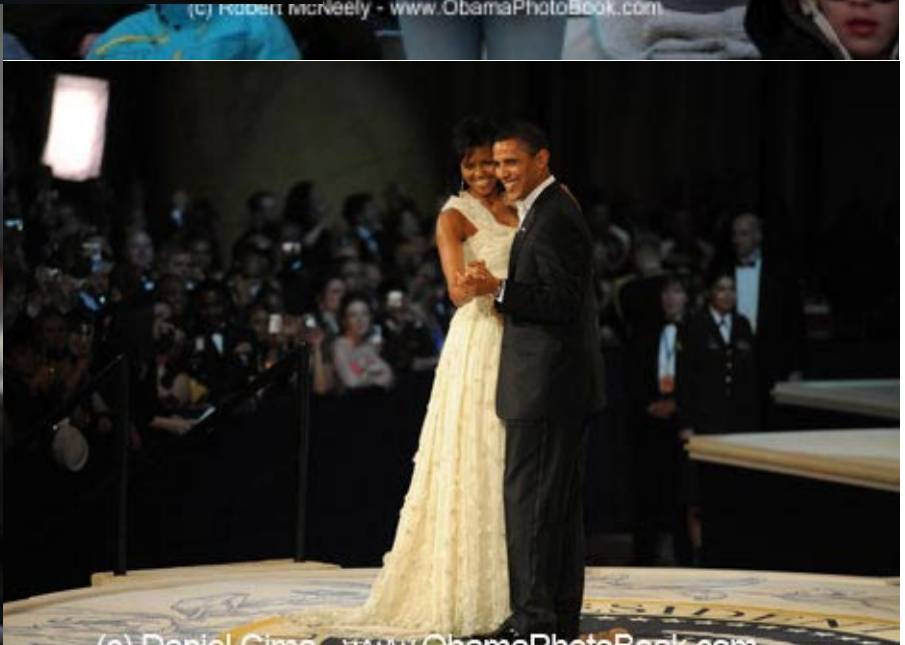
Change cannot just happen from the top and trickle down. It will take a flood of action at the grass root level to achieve these goals. I invite everyone, retired or active to come together and set an agenda for action. I'm asking for volunteers to come to the Union Hall during these upcoming shut down weeks and "WORK FOR CHANGE" We, the people must all act. Write a letter to the editor, call in to a radio show, or e-mail a legislator. What's your idea? Let's make history in Minnesota!

***In Solidarity,
Benjamin Gross,
Presidential Elector and
Co-Chair Local 879
CAP Committee***

I can be reached at:
Benjamin.Gross@comcast.net
651-983-4709 cell

For a panoramic view of the Inauguration Day events, go to www.gigapan.org and for more photos, visit www.pic2009.org

Inauguration - January 20, 2009



Millions Welcome President Obama!



WHAT IF WE ALL REALLY BOUGHT AMERICAN?

With the U.S. economy heading for the tank, suddenly economists, financial experts and investors are beginning to realize that, without manufacturing, America is not creating new wealth, just churning dollars. Money tied up in “credit default swaps”, exotic “derivatives” and sub-prime loans doesn’t do much to advance productivity or technology. Now with the economic house of cards collapsing, labor’s persistent calls to restore U.S. manufacturing capacity take on new importance.

IT’S PATRIOTIC

Barbara Toncheff of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, for example, is wife of an IBEW member and mother to a member of the Operating Engineers. Her views were spotlighted earlier this year by MSNBC when she said Americans seem to have no trouble backing the U.S. Olympic athletes, but they don’t seem to feel the same way about U.S. products.

Conceding that sometimes it takes a bit of detective work to find union-made-in-the-USA products, Toncheff says it’s an effort we need to make.

“My basic goal was to help fellow patriots understand the value of supporting this country and how we are losing the American and union quality. I grew up with having our things manufactured overseas for today’s new throwaway society.

When an “essential” item is only avail-

able from foreign sources, Toncheff will widen her search to yard sales or antique shops, or go on e-Bay to find used union-made-in-the-USA substitutes. That’s how she found a television cabinet for her living room.

Toncheff’s motives are not merely focused on union pride, she stresses that spurning foreign-made goods is also “environmentalism at its best!” The biggest foreign producers for the U.S. market have no constraints against pollution, and getting those goods to U.S. shores burns lots more fossil fuel, she says.

“I decided, I can’t change the world, but I can, at least with my money, decide where I want my dollars to go, and I don’t want my dollars to go for slave labor. I don’t want my dollars to contribute to global warming,” she said.

Labor Letter September-December 2008

HOW AMERICANS CAN BUY AMERICAN

Roger Simmermaker, a member of the Machinists Union and the National Writers Union, has devoted extensive time and research to the U.S. economy and how Americans can Buy American products. He launched his quest after trying unsuccessfully to purchase a made-in-the-USA shirt some years back. Simmermaker’s book, “How Americans Can Buy American” is

now in its third printing. The book is available at most bookstores, including Powells (www.powellsbooks.com).

The U.S.-made products Simmermaker spotlights are not all union made. In fact, most are not. But, he says, conscientious U.S. consumers will need to prioritize choices. If you can’t find it union made, at least you can seek out American made. Or, as IAM President Tom Buffenbarger said: “This is a book which can benefit both union and non-union working Americans. Applying the principles in this book will help save the American middle class by protecting middle-class jobs that pay good, middle-class wages.”

Simmermaker’s biggest complaint is that U.S. politicians have simply sold out the nation on the altar of “free trade” while selling the notion to Americans that “cheaper is better”.

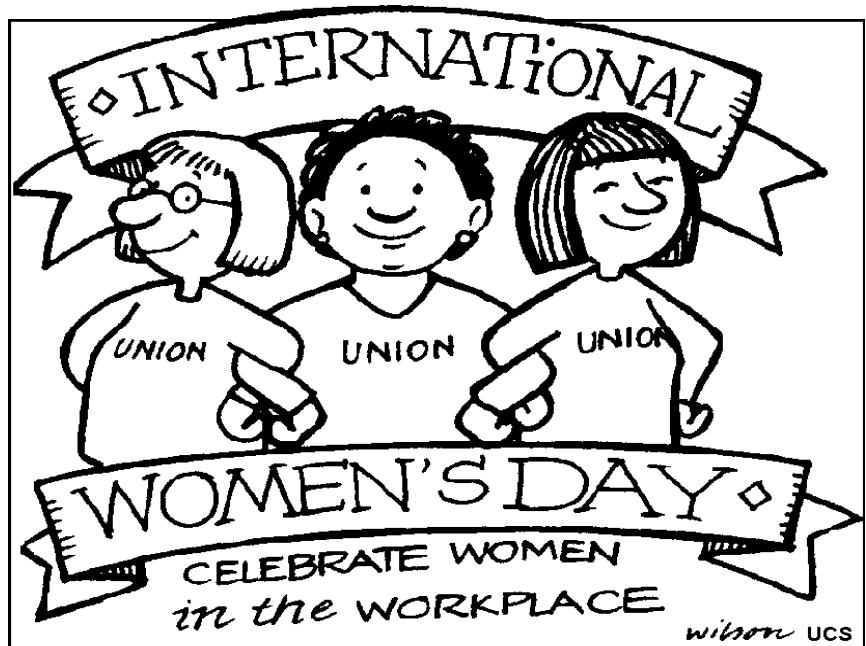
He points out that over 120 years ago, President William McKinley had this to say: “Cheap men make for a cheap country.” More recently, President George Bush said exporting jobs is good for America with a statement in his 2004 Economic Report: “When a good or service is produced more cheaply abroad, it makes more sense to import it than to provide is domestically.”

Labor Letter September-December 2008

Local 879 Women’s Committee

A Women’s Committee is being formed at Local 879! We are seeking individuals who are interested and committed to educating and empowering women with the many issues concerning today’s woman. We will be brainstorming on what we, as a committee, can do for our Local and how to reach out to our community.

If you or someone you know would be interested in joining this committee, please contact Kari Altema at 651-695-5854 or in plant 55854. We will be meeting at 8:30a.m. in the training center the 3rd Tuesday of each month, with the exception of July and December.



HONORING WOMEN'S HISTORY

Test Your Knowledge of Women's History

1. Who founded Bethune-Cookman College, established the National Council of Negro Women, and served as an advisor on minority affairs to President Franklin D. Roosevelt?
2. What woman was the first African-American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature. ?
3. What Black woman refused to give up her seat to a White man, in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955, thus sparking the civil rights movement of the following decade?
4. Who was the first woman to run for President of the United States (1872)?
5. Who opened up social work as a profession for women, and also won the 1931 Nobel Peace Prize for her anti-war organizing work?
6. Which Mexican-American woman has repeatedly been the leading money winner in the Ladies Professional Golf Association?
7. Who was the first woman Poet Laureate of the United States?
8. Who was the first "First Lady" to have developed her own political and media identity?
9. Who wrote the first version of the Equal Rights Amendment, in 1923?
10. Who was the first Black woman elected to Congress?
11. What leading suffragist was arrested and convicted of attempting to vote in the 1872 election?
12. Who was the first Chinese-American woman ever elected to hold a statewide office in the United States?
13. What journalist traveled around the world in 72 days in 1890?
14. What woman was turned down by 29 medical schools before being accepted as a student, graduated at the head of her class, and became the first licensed woman doctor in the U.S.?
15. What former slave was a powerful speaker for the rights of women and Black people?
16. When was the Equal Rights Amendment first introduced into Congress?
17. Who was the last queen of the Hawaiian Islands, deposed because American business interests wanted to annex Hawaii to the U.S.?

18. Which woman was banished from the Massachusetts Bay Colony for holding religious discussion meetings in her home?
19. Who spoke out for the advancement of American Indians' rights from speaker's platforms nationwide and before Congressional committees in the 1880s?
20. Who drove a stagecoach across the roughest part of the West without anyone knowing until she died that she was a woman?
21. Who was the first Hispanic woman to serve as U.S. Treasurer?
22. Who was the Shoshone Indian woman who served as guide and interpreter on the Lewis and Clark expedition?
23. Who was Chair of the Board and publisher of The Washington Post and Newsweek magazine, and also oversaw six broadcasting stations?
24. About 20,000 women shirtwaist workers staged a strike for better working conditions. Their action was called the "Uprising of the 20,000." When and where did his strike occur?
25. When did officials of Little League Baseball announce that they would "defer to the changing social climate" and let girls play on their teams?
26. As vice president of the United Farm Workers, what woman has been vital in speaking for civil and economic rights for farm workers throughout the U.S.?
27. When did Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 go into effect, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in federally funded school programs and activities?
28. What woman was invited to teach nuclear physics at Princeton University, even though no female students were allowed to study there?
29. What woman served as a "conductor" on the Underground Railroad, freeing hundreds of southern slaves and leading them to safety in the North? A \$40,000 reward was offered for her capture.
30. What woman is credited with helping free more than 2,000 Chinese women and children smuggled into San Francisco to be sold as slaves?
31. Who was the first African-American woman poet to have her works published?

Answers

1. Mary McLeod Bethune (1875-1955)
2. Toni Morrison (b. 1931)
3. Rosa Parks (b. 1920)
4. Victoria Woodhull (1838-1927)
5. Jane Addams (1860-1935)
6. Nancy Lopez (b. 1957)
7. Rita Dove (b. 1952)
8. Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962)
9. Alice Paul (1885-1977)
10. Shirley Chisholm (b. 1924)
11. Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906)
12. March Fong Eu (b. 1929)
13. Nellie Bly (1867-1922), real name Elizabeth Cochrane Seaman
14. Elizabeth Blackwell (1821-1910)
15. Sojourner Truth (c. 1797-1883) 1923
16. Queen Liliuokalani (1838-1917)
17. Anne Hutchinson (1591-1643)
19. Sarah Winnemucca (1844-1891)
20. Charlie Parkhurst
21. Romana Bañuelos (b. 1925)
22. Sacajawea (c. 1786-1812)
23. Katherine Graham (b. 1917-2001) 1909, New York City
24. 1974
25. Dolores Huerta (b. 1930) 1976
27. 1976
28. Chien-Shiung Wu (1912-1997)
29. Harriet Tubman (c. 1820-1913)
30. Donaldina Cameron (1869-1968)
31. Phillis Wheatley (1753-1784)

*Respectfully submitted by,
Kari Altema*





LIFE AFTER FORD

Notes from the Outside



is the Hydro. Get down here right away!” Then they hung up. Oh God, I thought, they found another body in the river. Maybe one of the turbines is going to hell. One of the Hydro operators had a heart attack! All those things ran through my mind. I hurried to the parking lot and drove my pickup down the road to the Hydro not knowing what to expect, but expecting the worst.

When I parked in front of the hydro door all seemed quiet! No one out on the boom walk. No extra lights on. When I opened the door to the building, the first thing I saw was a very, very large pile of cans and bottles with labels on them of Planters Nuts. There were peanuts, mixed nuts and all sorts combinations of nuts. In answer to my question to the Hydro Operators of “Where

When we returned to the Hydro main floor, the operators there had already put a lot of bottles and cans in my truck. They wanted to share the good fortune with me. They sent me off back up the hill to the main building and I swear I heard one of them say “AND NUTS TO YOU”.

And now for the rest of the story! A day or so later after the nut caper, I got a call from the Hydro Gang. It seems in the Star Tribune paper there was an small article about a delivery truck that ran off the road in Minneapolis into the Mississippi River. It’s cargo was a load of Planters Nuts. Putting two and two together, here is what happened. The truck went into the river, somehow the load spilled out in cardboard boxes. Cardboard falls apart when wet long enough. The bottles and cans of nuts were sealed so no water could get inside and with the air trapped inside they floated until something stopped them from going any further down river. Therefore a lot of the nuts ended up at the Ford Hydro and Dam.

Now we are well into the year 2009 and what the year holds for we retirees, well, who knows? I encourage you to attend our Retirees Chapter Meetings the third Momday of each month at 1:30 PM. This is the only place you can get the real honest information about things that pertain to we retirees. In closing, I want to wish each and every Ford Retiree a Very Happy and Healthy New Year... **Cubby**

Let me begin by saying, “NUTS TO YOU!!”. That got your attention didn’t it? I didn’t mean it to be spiteful, but as a trick used by newspaper writers to get the readers attention to the story that the writer had produced. Now that I have yours



by tricking you, lets get on with it and relate to you in what I call “The Nuts to You Caper”.

The time is in about the mid seventy’s with the plant running only one production shift. The afternoon shift worked plant services, booth cleaners and a full crew of tradesmen. At that time I was the shift general foreman for Plant Engineering. In mid evening my phone rang in the Maintenance Office and a voice said “Cubby, this



in hell did these come from?” The reply was “Out of the river!” My reply was something like “Come on, you can’t BS an old BSer like me! Then one of the operators I think his name was Sid, said for me to go with him out onto the boom floats to see for myself. We did just that and sure enough there were more bottles and cans bobbing in the water against the floats.



My name is Mike Carlisle. I retired in May of 1994 from the Chassis Department 201. Enclosed is a picture of 50 years of progress between my 1955 Ford F 1 and my 2005 Ford F 150. My 1955 has been neatly modernized. It has a 302 C.I. engine and C4 automatic transmission with power steering and power brakes with a 9” Ford Bronco differential with 4:11 gears. I have done all the work myself except for the paint job and some minor bodywork. It came out of California, so rust was not a problem. The color is 1978 and 1979 Ford dark Champaign with extra metallic added.

I would appreciate it if I could get this article in the Autoworker in the near future as some of the Life After Ford people may remember me and even when I bought the 1955 in 1980.

I am presently in Arizona. My phone number there is 928-758-4788. My Minnesota number is 218-534-4975.

Thank you.

CLIPS from CLARENCE....

“FOOD FOR THOUGHT”

The elections are over and all the winners are sworn in and the losers will now only be remembered in history. With the economy in bad shape, financial systems, along with business fast moving south, may the enclosed short notes bring a smile and a laugh to make someone's day just a little brighter.

*To be very successful only three things are required:

- 1) I Have a Dream - Dr. Martin Luther King
- 2) You Can Do It - Mary Kay, CEO, Mary Kay Cosmetics
- 3) I Am The Greatest - Mohammed Ali

*During February, start an Internet shop, like Car Soup, to sell cars, but sell exercise equipment for a \$10.00 fee until it sells.

*All elected officials nationwide work for minimum wage. No benefits, no retirement, no bonuses. This would bring back some true meaning to: 'Of the people, by the people, for the people'.

*If you graduate from an institution of higher education with a degree, you have to find work in your area of major studies within 12 months. If no job, the institution has to give back to you all the money spent for tuition, books, supplies, laboratory fees and one-half of board and room with current interest rate for loans.

*Photo darkening windows in cars, pickups, SUV's, trucks, etc.

*Invent and install an automatic switch in ALL TV's to reduce commercials volume to no more than 75 db (a whisper). When the program resumes, volume will come up automatically to its preset volume.

*Make it illegal for merchants to write Driver's License number, Date of birth, Social Security number, Medicare number, Phone number, etc. on a check you use to pay for merchandise. Can use Driver's License or other ID to verify name, address, etc. only.

*No more part-time or part-time/full-time employment. If you work ONE hour a week, you should get full medical insurance coverage, dental insurance, optometry insurance, vacation time (paid). All with NO premium or co-pays.

*Maximum wage: U.S. President would be the highest paid with benefits. All other

executives, etc. nationwide, work for less pay and benefits. If they get more, it is all 100% taxable.

*Lobbyists. Cannot contact any elected official or their employees, friends and acquaintances, etc. by phone, e-mail, newspaper, magazine, cell phone, I-pod, office memo, sky writing, etc. No retired, defeated, or impeached official may ever become a lobbyist. Have to stay at least 150 miles away from ALL elected officials or candidates for elected office.

*Total elimination of Pork Perks in all areas of government to anyone, any state, entity, town, city, county etc. No matter who, what or size, influence that a company can have.

*Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and national health care combined into one entity. No co-pays, no maximum amounts of payouts. Social Security retirement for everyone at age 65. Would include private and corporate retirement plans. All of the above must keep up with cost-of-living in the area where you have permanent residency.

U.S. government pay back all moneys borrowed over the years, with interest.

*Business greed and corruption is doing very well in this country at the expense of the average working citizenry. Pursue corporate greed and corruption as terrorist activities trying to bring down U.S. democracy. If found guilty a punishment so horrific that after the first execution or whatever is carried out, NO ONE will even think about being greedy or corrupt.

*Education: To make money for schools use

- 1) Wind generators
- 2) Geothermal heat/cooling

Bring back vocational and industrial technical studies (industrial arts), home economics, etc. as primary subjects along with math, science, language, history, P.E., health, social studies, and business. All use computers, I-pods, cell phones to help students learn. Maybe even eliminate some teachers and administrators.

Thank you.

*Clarence Johnson (Retired)
Jordan, MN 55352*



FYI

The Health Partners contract has been renewed and our co-pays are staying the same.

Anyone retiring on February 1, 2009 must make sure to date your paperwork no later than January 31st. You want to have all your papers in good order. If you do not do this correctly; your vacation check, pension check and lump sum will be held up.

I want to say good-bye to all of the UAW active and retired employees. I will be retiring effective February 1, 2009. It has been a pleasure serving you all these years.

Carol Almsted will be my replacement. Carol was my alternate. She filled in for me when I was absent. Many of you might already know her. I am confident that she will do an excellent job.

In solidarity,

Dorothy Sokolowski

Retired UAW Benefits Representative

RETIREES' CHAPTER MEETING

February 16, 2009 1:30 PM

March 16, 2009 1:30 PM

April 20, 2009 1:30

May 18, 2009 1:30 PM

June 15, 2009 1:30 PM

There is a short business meeting followed by the Local President's report on in-plant activities. Coffee and donuts are served and there is time to socialize with your fellow workers.

RETIREES

June 1, 2008 - February 1, 2009



John Biesanz
2-1-2009



Joe Blandino
11-1-2008



Diane Bollack
10-1-2008



William P. Brownell (Butch)
2-1-2009



Kevin Bussen
11-1-2008



Ron Caliri
2-1-2009



Kristin Chilson
2-1-2009



John Curley
7-1-2008



Michael Cullen
2-1-2009

RETIREES

June 1, 2008 - February 1, 2009



“Jack” (Gregory) Daniels
11-1-2008



Thomas Docken
2-1-2009



Lee Ferraro
7-1-2008



Debra Francis
2-1-2009



Robert W. Hix
11-1-2008



John Holiday
2-1-2009



Ken Howe
6-1-2008



Michael Juhas
2-1-2009



Andie Linde
7-1-2008

RETIREES

June 1, 2008 - March 1, 2009



George Moye
2-1-2009



Gordy Nelson
6-1-2008



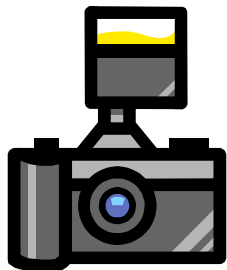
James Paulzine
3-1-2009



Pam Reese
8-1-2008



Tom and Cheryl Reis
2-1-2009

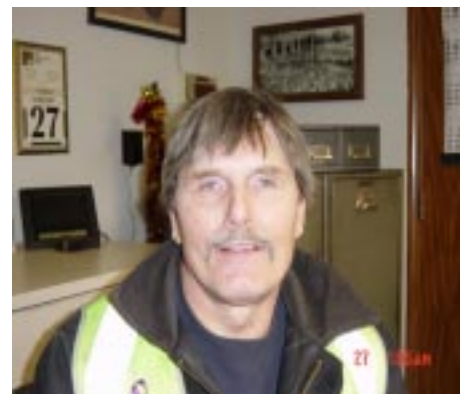


No Picture Available

Henry Powell
2-1-2009

No Picture Available

Roger Terveen
2-1-2009



Michael Ziolkowski
2-1-2009

FARE FOR ALL EXPRESS

SAVE UP TO 50% ON YOUR MONTHLY GROCERIES WITH FARE FOR ALL EXPRESS

FARE FOR ALL EXPRESS IS...

- **A cooperative food program whose buying power benefits the community**
- **Fresh and healthy foods at a savings of 30-50%**
- **Open to everyone!**
- **Cash and Carry! Purchase packages and take them home that day**

FARE FOR ALL EXPRESS PACKAGES

Regular Pack **\$17**

The Regular Pack includes 4+ fresh vegetable items, 2+ fresh fruit items and 3-4 frozen meats

Meat Only Pack **\$12**

The Meat Only Pack contains 3-4 frozen meat items, which may include beef, chicken, pork and fish

Vegetarian Pack **\$10**

The Vegetarian Pack contains a generous variety of fresh vegetables and fruits

Monthly Special **Price Varies**

Fare For All Express monthly specials are another great way to get more food for less! Watch for Mega Meat Packs, Grill Packs, Holiday Packs and more

Pay with cash, credit and debit cards, or food support card funds (EBT).

**Package contents subject to change.*

***Prices may vary by location.*

Save
30-50%

Visit a location near you!

Ford Plant
Training Center
966 Mississippi
River Blvd
St. Paul, MN

**Wednesdays
3:00-5:00pm**

2009 Dates
Feb 18
Mar 18
Apr 15
May 13
June 17

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Fare For All is a program of the Emergency Foodshalf Network. The Emergency Foodshalf Network is a nonprofit organization that collects, warehouses and distributes high quality food and essential support services to Minnesota hunger relief organizations.



In Memory

BROTHER STEPHEN WOWCHAK died on November 1, 2008 at the age of 78 years. There was a visitation on November 3rd at the Kapala-Glodek Funeral Home, Minneapolis MN. The divine liturgy was held on November 4th at St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church, Minneapolis. **BROTHER WOWCHAK** came to work at Ford Motor Company in September of 1956. He worked there for 34 years before his retirement in November of 1990.

BROTHER LOUIS C. GISH died on October 15, 2008 at the age of 96 years. The funeral was held at Bethany Lutheran Church in Onamia, MN. **BROTHER GISH** came to work at the Ford Parts Depot in

May of 1947. He worked there for 30 years before retiring in October of 1977. He was able to enjoy more years of retirement than the years he worked – 31 years!

BROTHER LeROY M. GRIFFIN died on December 8, 2008 at the age of 76 years. The funeral was held on December 10th at the Cremation Society of Minnesota, in Brooklyn Park, MN. **BROTHER GRIF-FIN** began his employment with Ford Motor in September of 1956 and after 30 years there, retired in 1986. **BROTHER GRIF-FIN** was involved in Local 879 Union activities and served as Building Chairman from 1981 to 1984.

BROTHER EDWARD BOWMAN died on December 9, 2008 at the age of 84 years. The funeral was held on December 15th at 1st Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN. **BROTHER BOWMAN** came to work at Ford Motor Company in November of 1964. After 26 years there, he retired in January of 1990.

BROTHER WILLIAM “Billy” F. BUSACKER died suddenly on January 14, 2009 at the age of 67 years. The funeral was held on January 20th at Fish Lake

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Prior Lake, MN. **BROTHER BUSACKER** began working at Ford Motor Company in June of 1960. After spending 46 ½ years there, he retired in January of 2007. Bill worked as a Stock Checker in the Stock Department.

BROTHER JOSEPH SINGER died on January 24, 2009 at the age of 88 years. A funeral Mass was held on January 29th at the Church of St. Bernard, St. Paul, MN. **BROTHER SINGER** went to work at Ford Motor Company in October of 1942. After spending 34 years there, he retired in January of 1976 allowing him to have 32 years of retirement.

SISTER TRACY K. FRAZIER passed away on January 5, 2009 at the age of 45 years. A private interment was held on January 12th. A memorial service took place on January 15th at the Union Hall. **SISTER TRACY** began her employment at Ford Motor Company in 1994, and served as Guide on the Local Executive Board.

Our Condolences to the Families . . .

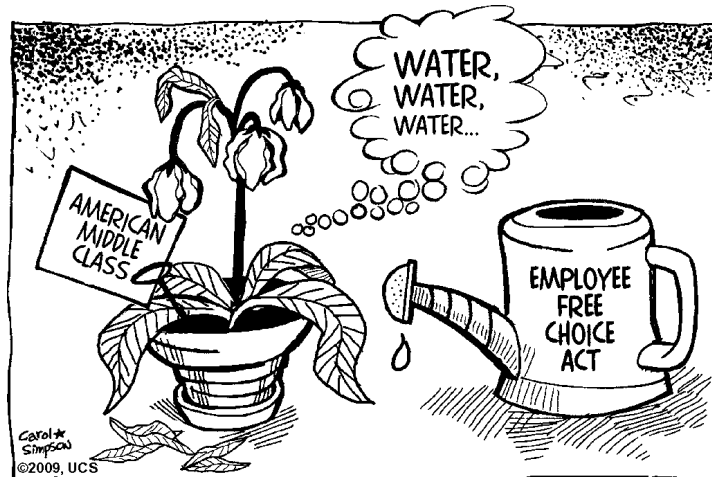
Obama Task Force Focusing On Working Family Issues

President Obama has created a White House Task Force on Working Families he says will focus on improving education and training for working Americans and protect their incomes and retirement security. The group will be led by Vice President Joe Biden and include four cabinet members and top administration economic advisers.

“Our charge is to look at existing and future policies across the board and use a yardstick to measure how they are impacting the working and middle-class families,” Biden said. “Is the number of these families growing? Are they prospering?”

“My administration will be absolutely committed to the future of

America’s middle-class and working families,” Obama said in a statement, repeating a central theme of his



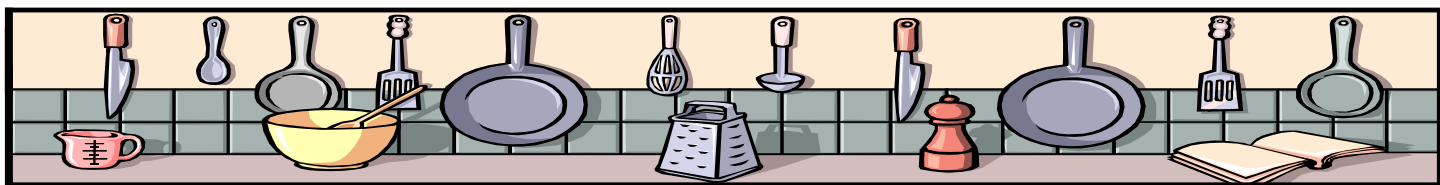
presidential campaign. “They will be front and center every day in our work in the White House, and this task force will be one vehicle we will use to ensure that we never forget that commitment.”

Biden told reporters the economy was in sharper decline than he had assumed. “President-elect Obama and

I know the economic health of working families has eroded, and we intend to turn that around,” he said. “We’ve got to begin to stem this bleeding here and begin to stop the loss of jobs in the creation of jobs.”

During the campaign, Mr. Obama often derided the blue-ribbon panels and commissions that administrations sometimes form. But the working

families task force, his advisers said, was more substantive because it included members of the cabinet who have the president’s ear and the authority to carry out proposals.



Obama's Favorite Recipes

Michelle Obama's Macaroni and Cheese

Yield: 6-8 as a Side Dish

Ingredients:

- * 1 pound elbow macaroni
- * 3 Tbsp butter
- * 1 cup shredded Swiss cheese
- * 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese plus 2 Tbsp for topping
- * 2 cups sharp Cheddar cheese
- * 7/8 teaspoon salt, or to taste
- * 1 cup heavy cream
- * 1 egg
- * 1/4 cup milk



Method:

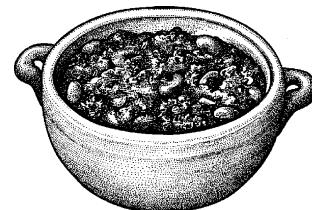
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Butter a 9-by-13 pan or casserole dish and set aside.
2. In a large pot of boiling water, cook pasta until tender, 5-8 minutes.
3. Drain pasta in a colander and then return to pot while still hot. Dot in with cut-up pieces of butter.
4. Slowly sprinkle the cheeses (reserving 2 tablespoons of the Parmesan) and salt onto the hot pasta, turning noodles with a wooden spoon to spread cheese evenly. Stir gently so as not to break up noodles. Set aside.
5. Pour heavy cream into a microwave-safe measuring cup or bowl and microwave until warm, about 30 seconds. Add egg and milk to cream and whisk with a fork.
6. Stir the cream mixture into the pasta. Pour the mixture into the baking dish. Spread evenly and sprinkle the top with the remaining 2 tablespoons of parmesan.
7. Bake until cooked through and cheese is lightly browned on top, about 20 minutes. Serve warm.

Will the White House kitchen be turning out comfort food like chili, fried chicken, tuna salad and macaroni and cheese? Maybe the Obamas will only get a chance to cook these for themselves when they're in the Western White House.

Barack Obama has been known to brag about his chili. Here's his recipe - try it for yourself.

Obama Family Chili Recipe

- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- Several cloves of garlic, chopped
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 pound ground turkey or beef
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/4 teaspoon ground oregano
- 1/4 teaspoon ground turmeric
- 1/4 teaspoon ground basil
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- Several tomatoes, depending on size, chopped
- 1 can red kidney beans



Saute onions, green pepper and garlic in olive oil until soft. Add ground meat and brown. Combine spices together into a mixture, then add to ground meat. Add red wine vinegar. Add tomatoes and let simmer, until tomatoes cook down. Add kidney beans and cook for a few more minutes. Serve over white or brown rice. Garnish with grated cheddar cheese, onions and sour cream.

Michelle Obama's Shortbread Cookies

This recipe from First Lady Michelle Obama was featured on NPR's All Things Considered.

- 1 1/2 cups unsalted butter, softened
- 1 1/2 cups plus 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 egg yolks
- 3 cups cake flour (not self-rising)
- 1 teaspoon each orange and lemon zest
- 2 tablespoons amaretto (almond liqueur)
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 beaten egg white
- Chopped nuts or dried fruit (optional)



Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Mix together butter and 1 1/2 cups of sugar.

Add egg yolks one at a time and beat until smooth. Stir in flour, zest, amaretto and salt, and mix only until everything is incorporated. Spread dough evenly onto baking pan and brush top of dough with egg white and remaining 2 tablespoons of sugar. Sprinkle with nuts or fruit if desired. Bake until golden brown, approximately 25 minutes. Cool for a short time, then cut while still warm.



March 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 E-BOARD MEETING	3	4 UNION MEETING	5	6	7
8 Daylight Saving s Time begins	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 RETIREEES MEETING 1:30 PM	17 St Patty's day	18 Fare for All	19	20 Spring Begins	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

LUCKY YOU!
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January

Effie Hansen
 Steven Napier
 J Rahmann
 Brian Watson

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