



# Local 2398 Newsletter

Staff & Clerical Federation, AFT, AFT-Wisconsin, AFL-CIO  
Chippewa Valley Technical College, Eau Claire  
<http://www.aftwilocal2398.org>

Summer 2007

## Something to Think About . . .

### Lessons We Learn from Geese

--Author unknown, found on the internet by Jerry Ostermiller, President of Auto Profit Centers

--Submitted by Gail Charlesworth



**Fact 1:** As each goose flaps its wings, it creates and “uplift” for the birds that follow. By flying in a “V” formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew alone.

**Lesson:** People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

**Fact 2:** When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as a goose, we stay in formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.

**Fact 3:** When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies to the point position.

**Lesson:** It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership. As with geese, people are interdependent on each other’s skills, capabilities, and unique arrangements of gifts, talents, or resources.

**Fact 4:** The geese flying in formation hook to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

**Lesson:** We need to make sure honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement, the production is much greater. The power of encouragement (to stand by one’s heart or core values and encourage the heart and core of others) is the quality of honking we seek.

**Fact 5:** When a goose gets sick, wounded, or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Then, they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.



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## Farewell from Local 2398 Member Judy Funk . . . (retired July 2007)

Dear Friends at CVTC,

A final note before I leave CVTC. I just want to thank you all for the concern, support and kindness you have given me over the last 26 years. You are an awesome group of people and it has been my privilege to know and work with you.

CVTC is great place ONLY because of people like you who are concerned about the students, and community members who walk in our doors looking for assistance whether it be academic growth, listening to their concern (even if we can't help them) or just directing them to the appropriate department. You are front line and make the greatest impression on these people. Since you don't hear it much from anyone else, let me say "thank you"; students, faculty, the administration, and the community don't realize how fortunate they are to have you.

One more thing, and I can't emphasize this enough, please, please, please, get INVOLVED with your Union. You all are at a very critical time and your officers need your help. They cannot fight for you and your jobs if you don't help them. I realize that many feel they don't know enough about Union activities to join a committee. My dear friends, the only way you will learn is to take a seat on a committee. Trust me, the committee members will appreciate your commitment and realize that you are new and will not place unreal expectations on your shoulders. Keep communication alive among all departments so that everyone is aware of what is going on.....communication and unity is a powerful tool. It is your plan for survival.

Again, thank you for letting me be a part of your lives and for your friendship.  
God bless you all.

Sincerely, Judy Funk



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## Meeting Times of Local 2398's Monthly Meetings

- **Meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month**
- **Time:** meet from 11:30 am to 12 noon one month; then 12 noon to 12:30 pm the alternate month
- **Location:** the meeting notice and reminder e-mail to all members will give the exact meeting room location
- Ask your co-worker or colleague to alternate attending meetings with you (so both or all of you in an office area have a chance to attend meetings) **TRY THE BUDDY SYSTEM**
- **Currently scheduled meeting dates:**
  - **Aug. 21 (at 12 noon)**
  - **Sept. 18 (at 11:30 am)**
  - **Oct. 16 (at 12 noon)**
  - **Nov. 20 (at 11:30 am)**
  - **Dec. 18 (at 12 noon)**
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## AFT PSRP Conference

Submitted by Janet Goldsmith



I attended a 1 ½ day workshop on Budget Analysis Training presented by Jewell, Gould, Director, AFT Department of Research & Information Services at the AFT PSRP Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada on April 19-22, 2007.

The conference explained how to obtain the school district budget, how to read and interpret the budget, and how to graph data in MS Excel. Information was given on how to spot trends and anomalies as well as what questions to ask and how to research answers to these questions. AFT has many resources available to obtain documents to analyze the budget, including obtaining a copy of the audit.

Some of the interesting information obtained during the conference include:

- \* Seek raises at least as high as the Consumer Price Index during contract negotiations
- \* Watch for money transferred out of the general fund into capitol funds. Bonds should be issued to fund new construction or improvements to an existing building. This will spread out the payments over the life of the project. If money is transferred out of the general fund for these projects, the student taking classes during this fiscal year will see a decrease in services to pay for a capital project that will be used by future students.

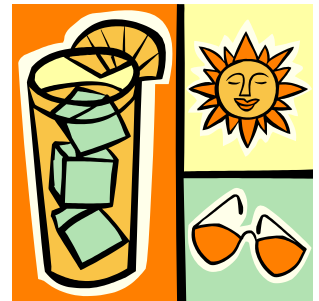
The AFT PSRP national conference was a very worthwhile experience. It is interesting and helpful to talk to fellow union members throughout the United States to discuss issues that impact our lives and livelihoods.

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## Housekeeping Item (address/phone number changes)

If your address and/or phone number changes, please let the Union Membership Chair (currently Raeann Hutchinson) know so we can make the change in the Union database. This will help with communication.

Thanks.



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## Daughter of Former Local 2398 Member Receives College Fund

Former CVTC employee and member of Local 2398 Ruth Schlosser died of brain cancer while working at CVTC as a Communication Skills Instructional Assistant. As many of you may recall, the faculty and staff collected donations after Ruth's death for Ruth's children (Troy and Courtney) for a college fund. Troy graduated about three years ago and Courtney graduated from high school this year (May 2007). A card was sent to Courtney with the account total of a few cents short of \$1000. (It was just under \$500 when we collected the money.) We are sure that she will be touched and blessed by your giving. Thanks for your donations years ago.

*--submitted by Kathy Wenell-Nesbit, CVTC instructor*

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## Swanson receives Local 2398 Scholarship

Leonard Swanson, a Respiratory Therapy major at CVTC, received the Local 2398 Marion Flood Memorial Endowment Scholarship for the 2006-07 school year. The scholarship was for \$700. Congratulations to Leonard.



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## Congratulations!

Elaine Miller (office assistant at the Gateway Campus) and her husband Wayne are “first-time” proud grandparents to Keinen Joseph Miller. Keinen was born to Elaine and Wayne’s son Jesse and his wife Misty on May 16, 2007, at 5:30 a.m. Elaine was invited to share in his birth, and she said it was a wonderful experience. He weighed 8 lbs. and was 20 inches long. Elaine gifted her daughter-in-law Misty a week’s full-time help to help her recover and just nurture her baby. Elaine thanks the great CVTC clerical people who covered the office for her: Janet Goldsmith, Rosanne Vonasek, and Kathy Goodman.



## Good and Welfare Committee

Please contact our Good and Welfare Committee chair, Kendra Steinberger [ksteinberger@cvtc.edu](mailto:ksteinberger@cvtc.edu), to benefit from the Good and Welfare Committee. We want to congratulate you in times of happiness and support you in times of need, but that is only if we know about it. Visit our Local 2398 website <http://www.aftwilocal2398.org> for more information.

-- submitted by Kendra Steinberger

***"INFORMATION IS POWER!"***

**Websites -To get to websites from this Word document or to send an e-mail, use Ctrl then click your mouse.**

**Website for CVTC Clerical Local 2398: <http://www.aftwilocal2398.org>**

**Local 2398 Salary Schedule:**

**[http://wise.cvtc.edu/Teams/HR/Clerical\\_Related\\_SalSch.pdf](http://wise.cvtc.edu/Teams/HR/Clerical_Related_SalSch.pdf)**

**If you ever have a question and need to refer to our contract:**

**<http://www.aftwilocal2398.org/ClericalUnionContract.pdf>**

## **Retirees Info Corner**

**Are you thinking of retiring? Helpful information can be found:**

**<http://etf.wi.gov/faq.htm>**

**Pre-Retirement Planning <http://etf.wi.gov/publications/et4131.pdf>**

**“The Professional”**

**the current edition of the**

**“The Professional” is now posted on the AFT-Wisconsin web site of:**

**[http://www.aft-wisconsin.org/pdfs/the\\_professional\\_2007.pdf](http://www.aft-wisconsin.org/pdfs/the_professional_2007.pdf)**

## **Retirements**

Recent retirements of Local 2398 members are:

Irene Dona (retired as of 5-31-07)

Judy Funk (retired as of 7-31-07)

Sandy Hoch (retired as of 8-1-07)

Congratulations and best wishes to these former members.

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# Health Corner



Health information sites:

<http://wise.cvtc.edu/Teams/HR/Healthworks/HealthWorks.htm>

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## Local 2398 Executive Board – 2006-2007:

President	<a href="#">Kim Yoder</a>
Vice-President	<a href="#">Kendra Steinberger</a>
Secretary	<a href="#">Kathy Farley</a>
Treasurer	<a href="#">Janet Goldsmith</a>

## Local 2398 Executive Council:

Kim Yoder	Kathy Farley	Janet Goldsmith
Kendra Steinberger	Lisa Storms	Carolyn Johnson
Raeann Hutchinson		

## Standing Committees:

### Labor Relations: Lisa Storms, Chair

Linda Danzinger	Viv De Ford
Judy Funk	Kathy Goodman
Jeanne Krig	Kim Yoder
Kendra Steinberger	Kim Zimmer
Barb Stuber	

### Negotiations: Kim Yoder, Chair

Deb Ausman	Carol Bowe
Linda Danzinger	Marcia Finseth
Pam Good	Raeann Hutchinson
Lisa Storms	RickVaudreuil

[Jim Mangan](#), CVTC Union Rep

### Membership:

[Raeann Hutchinson, Chair](#)

### Newsletter:

[Carolyn Johnson, Chair](#)

Sandy Hoch Elaine Welin

## Special Committees:

### Audit: Rick Vaudreuil, Chair

Rosie Berger Barb Stuber  
Pam Good

### Elections: Brenda Meinen

Karen Strasburg

**Budget:** Janet Goldsmith, Chair  
Deb Ausman    Kristi Erickson  
Denise Tabor    Kim Yoder

**Nominations:** Kim Vollmer

**Constitution:** Elaine Welin, Chair  
Sandy Hoch

**Good & Welfare:** Kendra Steinberger, Chair  
Linda Danzinger    Debbie Duncanson    Elaine Welin

<b>AFT Delegates</b>	<b>AFT-Wisconsin Delegates</b>	<b>AFL-CIO Delegates</b>
Deb Ausman Sue Volkman	Deb Ausman, Viv De Ford, Judy Funk Kendra Steinberger, Lisa Storms,	Kim Yoder, Ranking Deb Ausman, Viv De Ford, Sue Volkman, Kim Yoder



Lisa Storms

## LINKS

"Your Rights On The Job"  
An Employment Guide for Young Workers

[http://www.labor-studies.org/Employment%20Rights\\_Young\\_Workers.htm](http://www.labor-studies.org/Employment%20Rights_Young_Workers.htm)

AFT-Wisconsin  
<http://www.aft-wisconsin.org/>



American Federation of Teachers  
<http://www.aft.org>



Wisconsin State AFL-CIO  
<http://www.wisafclcio.org>

Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds  
<http://etf.wi.gov/>

Wisconsin Technical College System Board



<http://www.wtcsystem.org/>

Wisconsin Association for Career & Technical Education

<http://www.wacteonline.org>

Wisconsin Government Home Page

<http://www.wisconsin.gov>