

Local 2398

August 2011

Staff & Clerical Federation, AFT, AFT-Wisconsin, AFL-CIO

Chippewa Valley Technical College, Eau Claire

<http://wi.aft.org/CVTC2398/>

From the President

Dear Members,



I don't know about you, but ever since our collective bargaining rights were stolen from us I've been questioning how we will move forward. I couldn't help but think that our local was all but finished. If we can't bargain for our working conditions, wages and benefits, what's the point of having a union? How effective can we really be without our contract? For those of us who weren't here before we had a union, it's all we've ever known. Without a contract, are we able to stand up for ourselves? Well, the answer to all of my questions were answered at this year's Union Leadership Institute that Kathy Goodman and I just attended.

Yes! We can be a strong and effective union! Yes! We can stand up for ourselves! It's going to take more than Governor Walker and his cronies to stop what we have fought so very hard for all of these years. We still have rights to have a union! How we conduct our business is going to have to change, but it is not going to break us!

There will be a special edition of our newsletter coming out with more information on what we learned. Look for that in the coming weeks.

Solidarity Forever!
Lisa

From the Social Committee

Social Committee Update:

Union members and their families (38 total) attended the picnic and EC Express game at Carson Park on July 12. It was a lot of fun and a perfect evening to watch baseball. We hope even more can attend next year! Check out the pictures on the next page.



Social Committee – continued

[Wine Tour at Autumn Harvest Winery – September 10](#)

If you want to get out and about on a nice fall day, consider attending the Autumn Harvest Winery in Chippewa Falls on September 10 during its Fall Festival. They will have music, wine tasting, and tours. The winery is located on the corner of Co. Hwy. J and Co. Hwy. K east of Chippewa Falls, phone 715-720-1663. Click on the following link for more information:

<http://www.autumnharvestwinery.com/events.html>.

If you are interested, please contact Kim Vollmer. She will keep a list and let you know who has signed up so you can meet there as a group.

[Community Service Opportunity](#)

Local 2398 is scheduled is on the calendar to volunteer at the Community Table on Saturday, December 3.

Details:

Five to six people will need to arrive 2 to 2.5 hours before the meal for food preparation (9 or 9:30 a.m.). The Community Table provides the menu, food, recipes, and guide for preparation. They will have a staff person there to assist.

Another group of five to six people will need to arrive shortly before serving time (11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.). This group will serve the meal and clean up after serving is done, which usually takes about one hour.

Note: About 20 people have signed up for this event (wow!!). Let Kim Vollmer know if you are interested in participating in case someone cancels. You will *earn one point toward your wellness goal under the "Service or Volunteer" category!*

[Mark Your Calendars](#)

The fall highway cleanup is Saturday, October 22, at 10 a.m. Watch for details!

[Holiday Card Making](#)

Our second annual card making evening is coming up if enough members are interested. Contact Bev Hilton if you'd like to participate. Make 6-8 fall/Christmas/winter cards and enjoy some camaraderie with your coworkers. We'll meet at after work, make cards, and have a light dinner. The date hasn't been set, but it will probably be early November.

Congrats to Another Graduate!

Chris Davis's son, Dustyn, graduated from UWEC in May with a Bachelor's degree in social work.

Word Tip

Sometimes you may want to move a paragraph or two around in your document. For instance, you might want to move a paragraph from its current location to before the preceding paragraph. You can quickly move paragraphs by following these steps:

1. Position the insertion point in the paragraph you want to move.
2. While holding down the **Shift** and **Alt** keys, press the **Up Arrow** or **Down Arrow** to move the paragraph.

Recall Update

Several individuals from our Local assisted Shelly Moore when she ran against of Sheila Harsdorf in a recall election. The following is an email Shelly sent to her supporters:

“Please allow me to add a deep and sincere thank you as well. It gets easy to focus on the outcomes of elections, but our real victory is this new sense of activism. People who have never paid attention to politics are now watching and educating themselves. In the end, history will recognize the true greatness of our efforts. When we continue to work together, we will be successful.”



Happy Birthday to Our Prez.

Local 2398 President Lisa Storms celebrated a milestone birthday this summer!!



Union Meetings

As a reminder, Union Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month. The meeting schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows:

September 20 – 11:30 a.m.
October 18 – 12 Noon

November 15 – 11:30 a.m.
December 20 – 12 Noon

36 Reasons Why You Should Thank a Union

1. Weekends
2. All breaks at work, including lunch breaks
3. Paid vacation
4. FMLA
5. Sick leave
6. Social security
7. Minimum wage
8. Civil Rights Act/Title VII (prohibits employer discrimination)
9. Eight-hour work day
10. Overtime pay
11. Child labor laws
12. Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA)
13. 40-hour work week
14. Workers' compensation
15. Unemployment insurance
16. Pensions
17. Workplace safety standards and regulations
18. Employer health care insurance
19. Collective bargaining rights for employees
20. Wrongful termination laws
21. Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967
22. Whistleblower protection laws
23. Employee Polygraph Protection Act (prohibits employer from using a lie detector test on an employee)
24. Veterans' Employment and Training Services (VETS)
25. Compensation increases and evaluations
26. Laws prohibiting sexual harassment
27. Americans With Disabilities Act
28. Holiday pay
29. Employer dental, life, and vision insurance
30. Privacy rights
31. Pregnancy and parental leave
32. Military leave
33. The right to strike
34. Public education for children
35. Equal Pay Acts of 1963 and 2011
36. Laws ending sweatshops in the United States

The above was given to the faculty members at their in-service union meeting and I thought I would pass it along.

Submitted by Bev Hilton

Cook's Corner

Ice Cream in a Bag - something fun to do with the kid or grandkids.

Put 2 cups of ice in a gallon plastic zipper bag. Add 6 tablespoons of salt to the ice. Seal the bag and shake.

Mix 1 tablespoon of sugar, 1/2 teaspoon of vanilla, and 1/2 cup milk (either whole or 2%). Seal the bag.

Open the gallon bag and put the pint-size bag in it. Seal the gallon-size bag. Shake the bag for about five minutes or until the mixture is frozen. Open the pint-sized bag and enjoy the ice cream!

Thanks to all who submitted items and photos for the newsletter.