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the DUTU Newsletter

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT



*Brenda Delhotal, Governor
Pat Quinn, and Lovetta
Honegan at the IEA-RA 2010*



The school year is almost over. Some of us will stick around to do summer school and other transportation duties. Some have other jobs and some will be taking time to do nothing. During this time I will be working to organize our new governing council members into a group that can help each and everyone one of



us into the next school year and beyond. If you have any questions, problems, suggestions or something else needing my attention, please let me know. My cell phone number is 1-847-471-2642. If I don't answer, leave a message and I will get back to you. I hope to see you all on pick day in August. Have a great summer. *Lyle*

2010-11 Governing Council Members

PRESIDENT: LYLE MOSEMAN

VICE PRESIDENT: SANDY DRAFAILL

SECRETARY: BRENDA DELHOTAL

TREASURER: CAROL GUNN

*Here are your Committee
Chairpersons for the 2010-11
School Year.*

ACCIDENT REVIEW: Cindy Moseman

AUDIT: Linda Turnquist

DECORATING & SOCIAL: Sara Rodriguez

BENEFIT RESOURCES: Laura Taets

STUDENT DISCIPLINE: Sue Hamm

HEALTH & SAFETY: Betty Skyles

NEWSLETTER: Heather Bayer

SUNSHINE: Sue Stringer

STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Janet Lewandowski

MEMBERSHIP: Tammy Clinton

BY LAWS & LEGISLATION: Liz Mole

FIELD TRIPS: Jason Marcotte

GRIEVANCE: Tamara (T.J.) Stricklin

ELECTION: Ruth Saldana

Election Committee –Faye Vachlon, Colette Cruz, Connie Lohs, Nell Hooper

LABOR MANAGEMENT: Lyle Moseman, Laura Taets, T.J. Stricklin, Bill Ryan, Jay Niehus.

Grass roots / GPA: Gary Snyder

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Going Green by Donna Frey

RECYCLING CONTAINERS

First of all, to those of you who have been making use of the new recycling containers, I applaud you. You get it. YOU understand that it takes ALL of us to reduce the materials going into our landfills. You understand that every plastic, metal and paper product we recycle helps to reduce pollution and makes our planet cleaner.

But for those of you who refuse to use these containers and opt to throw EVERYTHING into the trash, well, you can stop reading. There is no getting through to you anyway. Actually, you probably stopped reading after you read the title. never mind.

For all the rest of us, I encourage you once again, to throw your plastic and metal (cans) into the recycling containers. They are located at either end of our lounge within 2 steps of the "trash" cans and yet, some of us are throwing recyclable products in the trash!!!

I also see paper, (newspaper, old route sheets, magazines) in the trash cans. PLEASE take the

few extra steps to throw these in the Paper recycling container in the hall by the mailboxes (you have to go over there anyway)

I have been given a great suggestion to pass along to Mr. Martin by Deb Beaupre. She would like to put another recycling can out by the gas island. This is where a lot of us empty the trash out of our buses and it would be convenient to toss cans, bottles, and papers into the recycling cans. I'm just not sure that I can sell him on purchasing another container when we aren't making full use of the ones he has already provided for us.

Please. Every little bit DOES count and we CAN make a difference. So, if you see a co-worker throwing recyclables into the trash, gently remind them about the recycling cans.

And remember.....

an ALUMINUM can is back on the shelf within 60 days of being recycled.

PLASTIC is a petroleum product. It's great stuff and very handy, but it takes a lot of energy to create it from oil. Recycling the plastic is much easier, faster and causes less pollution.

SAVE THE TREES, recycle paper and cardboard.



From your Grassroots Political Activist

My tenure for being GPA in Region 63 has come to an end. It's hard to believe that almost 7 years have passed since I first started. The ESP Members of Region 63 have accomplished many things during those 7 years. I have asked for the help of the ESP's many times for letters, petitions, and surveys over the last 7 years and you were there. I asked for your support for listening sessions and legislative meets and you showed up. I asked for your help during lobby days and you helped. I just wanted to say I appreciated your help and support during all those times. I hope that our last effort on HB2499 the letters that you took the time to sign changing the tax from Kane to Cook County for the district pays off for us. I want to Thank all of you that have helped me throughout the years. I hope that you lend the same support to the next GPA for our Region. Again Thank You for allowing me to serve in the GPA position. Last, but not least my Go-Team, *Thank You* for all your hard work and dedication through out the years, you are the Best!!!

Elgin, ESP, GPA
Gary J. Snyder

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Vending Machines by Sue Stringer

Did you know that every time you buy something from our vending machines that our union social committee gets 10%? Our social committee uses that money to buy cakes, and coffee for our retirement parties, plates, silverware, napkins and such for our special dinners like the Unity and Soul dinners. They also pay for decorations. So all the money we make goes to good use. Other vendors we have had only gave us 8% of coffee and pop. Fox Vending is a family-owned company. They have a personal interest in our business. If you should have trouble with one of the

machines, please tell Suzann Stringer which machine and what went wrong, so she can contact Fox Vending to get it fixed. And if you lose money in a machine, you need to fill out a form that you can get from Carol Gunn so you can be reimbursed when the vendor comes back in. If you don't see Sue, you can always leave her a note. We can't get it fixed if we don't know there's a problem. Fox Vending is a great company to work with. We get a good price on the products sold. We pay less than the high schools. So next time you're hungry or thirsty, remember, you're helping our social committee.

Sunshine Committee

Sue Stringer, New Sunshine Committee Chairperson

Over the summer our communication has a slight breakdown, so please keep this in mind. If you or a fellow union member has a death or birth in the family, or if they are sick for an

extended period of time, please let Sue Stringer know. And if you don't see her, please tell Sara Rodriguez so she can pass it along to Sue Stringer so she can get cards out to these people.



On 4/1/2010 we had a Unity Lunch. The Lunch went well, the food was wonderful and everyone looked so good in their orange! So let's do it again next year!

Thank you, Lovetta H., Mary G, and Pam M.

ILLINOIS STATE PENSION REFORM

The second tier as passed by the legislature applies to all public employees in the state of Illinois, except those who wear a badge (local police and fire funds.)

The following paragraph is from my IMRF report to the IEA Board, and is where Kathy learned her info... again, it has no effect on current employees.

And, as a result of a very efficient March 24 in the legislature, we also have an unnecessary Second Tier. For employees who begin public service on or after January 1, 2011, vesting moves from 8 years to 10 years, normal retirement age moves from age 60 to age 67, early retirement moves from age 55 to age 62, the Final Rate of

Earnings moves from the average of the highest 48 consecutive months of earnings within the last 10 years, to the average of the highest 96 consecutive months within the last 10 years, the penalty for early retirement moves from $\frac{1}{4}\%$ per month under age 60, to $\frac{1}{2}\%$ per month under age 67, the surviving spouse benefit increases from 50% of the member's pension to two thirds, the COLA moves from a simple 3% to the lesser of a simple 3% or 50% of the Consumer Price Index (urban) for both annuitants and surviving spouse benefits, and we now have a cap on pensionable earnings of \$106,800.00, to increase annually by the same 3% or 50% of CPI(u) whichever is less.

email from Max Bochman to Gary Snyder

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Funny Things that Happen on a Bus

by M. Barry Birchfield

There are so many unusual, unanticipated, and outright strange happenings on our school buses. Let's start with this these...

- A mother is driving her car with her 3 kids on board, following the school bus as they missed their scheduled pick-up time. What does the mother do? She stops behind the school bus as the driver waits at a railroad crossing, out comes her children from the car and, to the surprise of the driver, the 3 kids board the bus. A NO! NO! for sure!
- A driver is parked at a school and announces the following over the radio: "A really cute little dog

just peed on my bus tire. Should I bring the bus in for cleaning?"

There are plenty of funny stories you can relate that I am certain our leadership would enjoy. Please put your story in my mailbox. You can remain anonymous.



Letter from the Editor

The end of the year is upon us and summer approaches. This has been an eventful year for many of us. So many changes have occurred already and many more will await us in the next school year. I have enjoyed my year as your newsletter chairperson. I have striven for a quality, informative newsletter. I hope that you have been satisfied. As many of you may know, I was one of the many drivers on the RIF list. Whether or not I will be back next year depends on many factors. Be that as it may, I have been honored to serve as your newsletter chairperson and wish good luck to Heather Bayer, my successor.

I also want to thank everyone who supported my fundraising efforts for my son's Cub Scout candy bar and popcorn sales! You are the best! I have been overwhelmed by the generosity and caring that many of you have shown to me and every other hapless parent fundraising for their child this year! You have allowed this year to be a memorable one for my little boy as well as the rest of Pack 195!

I will leave you with some thoughts to ponder in the coming months. Life comes at us whether we are ready or not. What defines who you are is how you choose to respond to life's surprises. Will you allow everyone else to decide for you or will you empower yourself to change your life's circumstances? Stand tall! Be strong and stand up for what you believe in. Stay positive and united! This union can be as strong as you want to make it. Every single member has strengths to give to the whole. Show up! Your opinion matters. Challenge and question EVERYTHING!

Jennifer Toy

"What I do today is important because I am exchanging a day of my life for it." Author Unknown