

14-A Uniserv Newsletter
452 W. Baldwin
989-356-4551
800-587-5545
Cherring@mea.org

Eastsider

Chuck Herring, UniServ Director
Harriet Poch, UniServ Field Assistant

May 6, 2008

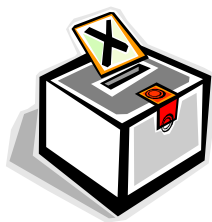
WHERE'S CHUCK?

- May 5 - Alcona EA Bargaining (Lincoln)
- 6 - Mentoring Meeting (Gaylord)
14A COPAC Meeting (Lewiston Lodge, Lewiston)
- 7 - Chuck on leave
- 8 - Alcona EA Bargaining (Lincoln)
- 9-10 - Vision Committee Meeting (E. Lansing)
- 12 - Hillman EA Bargaining (Hillman)
- 13 - NMEA Meeting (Traverse City)
- 14 - Region 14 Council – BJ's (Gaylord)
- 15 - NMEA – BJ's (Gaylord)
- 19 - Alcona EA Bargaining (Lincoln)
- 20 - Travel to U.P. for Northern Zone Retreat
- 21-22 - Northern Zone Retreat (Keweenaw Lodge)
- 26 - Memorial Day – All MEA Offices Closed
- 27 - Alcona EA Bargaining (Lincoln)
- 28 - Workforce Development Board – Elk Ridge (Atlanta)
- 29 - Alcona EA Bargaining (Lincoln)
- June 2 - Hillman EA Bargaining (Hillman)
- 5 - Alpena ESP I Bargaining (APS Board Offices)
- 10 - Hillman EA Bargaining (Hillman)
- 11 - Alpena ESP I Bargaining (APS Board Offices)
- 12 - NMEA – BJ's (Gaylord)
- 13 - NMEA Staff Retreat (Frederic)



TIME IS FLYING!

Spring sports, field trips and final exam preparations all indicate winding down of another school year.



It is also indicative of Spring Board elections. Almost all of the 14A units have spring elections with only Alpena and Alpena Community College out of this cycle. So, has your unit interviewed any candidate(s)? Does “your” association’s recommended candidate(s) need any money or support? Have you volunteered to help the recommended candidate(s)?

Too many times we have ignored this process only to reap the benefits of someone else’s candidate. Atlanta, finally, after many years of terrible boards has a board they can work with. Atlanta EA just settled a three-year contract in one meeting. The last contract took the better part of a year, legal fees, and lots of chagrin. We have all heard the horror stories coming out of Atlanta. They have stopped all because the board was changed. Now the

EA and ESP must maintain contact with this board to ensure it does not go south on them. This is a lesson we should all take to heart!

106th House Screening & Recommending:



The Coordinating Council/PAC will be screening and recommending candidates for the 106th State House either this month or early in June. If interested in sitting on this committee let your Coordinating Council Representative know. Because PAC monies will be awarded to the selected candidate, all committee members must have contributed to PAC this year. PAC envelopes will be available for those wishing to sit on the committee but have yet to contribute. A meal will be provided. Time and place to be announced.

MEA VISION?

I am sitting on the MEA's Vision Committee. Our next meeting is this Friday at 6 p.m. We have divided up into subcommittees and will be reporting out on Friday. The subcommittees are as follows:

- Delivery of Services
- Structure of Governance
- Interaction between Governance and Staff
- How we engage members
- "Actual" function of MEA
- Public image of MEA
- What will be members needs?
- Demographics – who are our constituents?

This list is not in order of importance. This Friday's meeting will attempt to put the reports together in a format that will take the MEA out five-ten years on these issues.

ANOTHER WINNER:



Samantha Cummings, daughter of Robert and Ayla Cummings (Ayla is an Alpena EA member). This is the third year in a row Samantha has been awarded an MEA scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00. There were 1,165 applicants with 20 new scholarships awarded along with 13 repeat winners. Again, Congratulations Samantha!

DID YOU KNOW...

Eat lunch out but dinner in. Many restaurants charge about twice as much for dinner as they do for lunch—even though the food is the same and the portions comparable. Trim vacation costs by eating lunch in the fancy restaurants you want to visit but dinner in less expensive restaurants or even back in your room if you have a kitchen or can bring in takeout.



HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

CHUCK & HARRIET