

14-A Uniserv Newsletter
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Eastsider

Chuck Herring, UniServ Director
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April 12, 2010

WHERE'S CHUCK?

- April 12 - Rogers City Board of Ed meeting (Deb to handle)
- 13 - 14A Coordinating Council Meeting (MEA Office)
- 14 - Alcona EA Bargaining Team Meeting (Lincoln)
Region 14 Council Meeting (BJ's – Gaylord)
- 15 - NMEA & Lobby Day (BJ's – Gaylord)**
- 16 - Chuck on leave
Deb in Lansing
- 19 - Chuck on leave
- 20 - MESSA Focus Group (Otsego Club, Gaylord)
- 21-22 - Chuck on leave
- 23 - Chuck in Lansing
- 26 - Chuck on leave
- 27 - Alpena ESP I General Membership Meeting (MEA Office)
- 28 - Workforce Development Board Meeting (Elk Ridge)
- 30 - Chuck's Last Day – Open House at the MEA Office from 4-7 p.m.**
- May 3 - Alcona EA Bargaining (Lincoln)
- 4-5 - Harriet at Association Staff Training (Novi)
- 4 - 14A Coordinating Council Meeting (location to be announced)
- 5 - Mio ESP Insurance Meeting (Mio)
- 6 - Alcona EA Bargaining (Lincoln)
- 11-12 - Statewide Staff Bargaining Meeting (Traverse City)
- 12 - Region 14 Council Meeting (BJ's – Gaylord)
- 13 - Alcona EA Bargaining (Lincoln)
- 20 - NMEA (BJ's – Gaylord)



OPEN HOUSE HONORING CHUCK HERRING:

Please join us in saying Good Bye and Good Luck to Chuck on Friday, April 30, between the hours of 4 – 7 p.m. at the Alpena MEA Office. Chuck has been the UniServ Director for 14A MEA locals since July 18, 1994. He's been the best advocate for members and a force to be reckoned with by area administrators for the past 15+ years. He will be missed.



CHUCK'S SWAN SONG!

First, I did not author the above paragraph—thanks for the kudo's Harriet.

A good chunk of my life has been sitting at this desk working for you. I want each of you to know that I have loved working for you every year, month, week, day, minute and second. We have had our moments—good and bad.

Good:

- ☺ Elected State Representatives that voted correctly 100% of the time on every educational issue
- ☺ Created an actively functioning MEA-Retired local
- ☺ PAC drives that set standards for coordinating councils in the state
- ☺ Highly trained Presidents
- ☺ Highly informed membership
- ☺ Highly functioning Coordinating Council—continually receive positive comments about high attendance and commitment by visiting speakers/attendees
- ☺ 13 out of 19 units, have the best insurance money can buy—MESSA
- ☺ Association Days in every contract
- ☺ 18 out of 19 units do not pay anything for their insurance
- ☺ Binding arbitration in 18 of 19 contracts
- ☺ Best Field Assistant in the state
- ☺ Sophisticated Grievance Chairs
- ☺ Memberships involved in Board elections
- ☺ Elected leadership that is responsive to the membership
- ☺ Elected state leaders that listen to their constituents and report back to those same constituents
- ☺ Leaders that selflessly give freely of their own time
- ☺ Crisis teams that have been recognized at the state level for their organization and persuasiveness
- ☺ Added two units to the Coordinating Council
- ☺ The best bargaining teams in the state

Bad:

- ☹ I can't remember any.

Things to ponder—

- How much money will you lose if you have to pay 20% of your health insurance?
- How much money will you lose if you have to pay an additional 3% into your retirement?
- How much money would you lose if you had to take a 5% pay cut?
- These are presently on the list of things to do to state educational employees by the legislators. Do you know where your representative and senator are on these issues?
- **After you figure the above, bring it with you to BJ's in Gaylord on Thursday, April 15, at 5 p.m. to discuss with your state legislators. We have invited Sen. Jason Allen (37), Sen. Tony Stamas (36), Sen. Michelle McManus (35), Rep. Gary McDowell (107), Rep. Andy Neumann (106), Rep. Kevin Elsenheimer (105), Rep. Wayne Schmidt (104), and Rep. Daniel Scripps (101).**



CHECK OUT THE NORTHERN ZONE WEBSITE – www.northernzonemea.org

With this last newsletter, I bid you all ado.

Chuck