

January 2013  
January 2013

# *the* DUTU Newsletter



No Preschool

January 18<sup>th</sup>  
March 11<sup>th</sup>

No School

January 21<sup>st</sup>

Martin Luther King Jr Day

Next General  
Membership  
Meetings:

Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>  
Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>

Elgin High  
5:30 p.m.

## *Reminders & Important Information*

No School

February 18<sup>th</sup>

Presidents Day

Interested in being more involved  
in your Union ??

Chair position openings:

By Laws/Legislation  
Student Discipline

See Lyle or Donna

Inservice  
Meeting

March 1<sup>st</sup>

7:30am

Elgin High

Great new calendar  
with our paydays,  
scheduled meetings,  
times and school  
board meetings on our  
website at

[www.mydutu.org](http://www.mydutu.org)

Thanks to Jim Burns

January 2013  
January 2013

## Governing Council Members:

**President:** Lyle Moseman  
**Vice President:** Donna Frey  
**Secretary:** Brenda DelHotal  
**Treasurer:** Carol Gunn

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**Health & Safety:** Betty Skyles  
**Newsletter:** Heather Bayer  
**Grievance:** Joe Haubert  
**Sunshine/Social:** Wendy Skornia  
**Staff Development:** pending membership vote  
**Membership:** Tammy Cleary  
**By Laws & Legislation:** OPEN  
**Audit:** Linda Turnquist  
**Field Trips:** Dan Umbach  
**Accident Review:** pending membership vote  
**Election:** Liz Lewis  
**Benefit Resources:** pending membership vote  
**Student Discipline:** OPEN  
**Association Representative (AR):** ON HOLD

### BARGAINING TEAM

Jim Burns  
Brenda DelHotal  
Heather Bayer  
Sue Hamm  
Carol Gunn  
Dan Umbach  
Lyle Moseman  
Donna Frey  
Dave Ramis

### LABOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Lyle Moseman  
Heather Bayer  
Donna Frey  
Brenda DelHotal  
Wendy Skornia

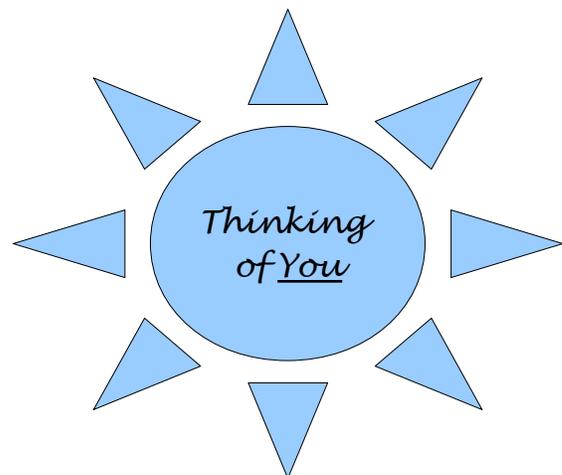
List of cards that were  
given on behalf  
of our union

## November 2012

Lorelei Harrell - sympathy

## December 2012

Juan Pineda - get well  
Wendy Skornia - get well



January 2013  
January 2013

## *Health and Safety Committee*

Now that the contract is settled it is time to move forward to unify and strengthen our union. Paying for a membership at the gym and then sitting on the couch and complaining that your membership has not done anything for you is the same as paying your union membership dues and sitting on the sidelines and complaining that your membership has not done anything for you. In both of these it is up to you to participate in order to get results.

This committee is in need of people to join, to help with issues that effect our health everyday. The idling causes particles to enter in our lungs that are so tiny that they get into all parts of our bodies and can cause cancer in our lungs and many other cancers. Also, can cause asthma, heart issues and many other medical problems. These same particles get in the vents at the schools harming the children. Making some changes in the kindergarten tag system could improve their safety.

There are other ways to get involved including many other committees.

First and most important READ THE CONTRACT and study it.

Read the newsletter.

Read the Union board information, It will not walk over to you.

VOTE.

Go to the Union meetings. There are only 4 a year. Plan ahead to attend and see for yourself what happens there.

Go to a board meeting.

Attend a conference.

Go to a Governing Council meeting.

Run for a Union Position.

If you feel that something is not right look it up in your contract. Tell someone who is involved in Union matters and ask them for advice on how to handle it. If you let this violation of the contract slide by you are setting a precedence making it difficult for others in the future.

We have to be a team and support our contract. We can no longer depend on the all the same people to to be in all the positions, with only about 15 - 20 % actively carrying all the of the load.

Betty Skyles

## January 2013

New Year thoughts on Bus Driving from Uncle Buck

Greetings friends of the Bus Zoo! This is my last official article for you to read in the DUTU magazine. In a few days I will be starting a new work assignment with a company in Bensenville that involves driving, warehousing and inventory. It's a 40 hour a week job with year-round work. I tell you this to tell you that I am going to miss all of you who gather every day at 500 Shales Parkway to prepare ourselves for our morning and afternoon routes and everything in between. I have enjoyed you and the opportunity to connect with you since I started in May of 2011.

I have learned not only a lot of the finer points of the art of driving a school bus, but I have learned a lot about the personality and make-up of over 300 drivers and assistants and management staff. We are a unique and diverse breed of people who come to a melting-pot of personalities, race, opinion, religion, age and need. One cannot stereo-type us into any single category outside of the fact we all need to work. I have heard a lot of personal stories including my own of why we are there and we try to tell others that it is all good.

All of us are going through a change in the roles we play and how we are compensated for that. It seemed like the contract process was tedious, time-consuming and strenuous at times. When bargaining is done collectively, it cannot meet everyone's needs and desires. Still you learn of the strength we have when we work together while being diverse. As I prepare to leave you, I must tell you that I have my concerns where DUTU is headed, hopefully in a forward and positive direction.

Being a successful bus driver or assistant is important work, just as teaching or coaching, or cooking food for kids each and every school day. Getting up early requires discipline, walking out to your bus on a morning that is 10 degrees above zero requires determination and a lack of brains, because if we thought about it long enough, we would ask ourselves why we are doing this? But, it's not about us. I often viewed my time behind the wheel as a calling, or even a ministry. Do you make a difference in the lives of those you take to school?

I thank you for putting up with me, my articles, my jokes, my lack of wisdom and my smile. Often times I got a kick out of meeting other drivers and assistants and they would say, "So, you're Uncle Buck". Some would ask me to write articles on issues close to their heart. For example, "How does Uncle Buck feel about people who park their cars on Maroon Dr. and forego using the shuttle?" or "what does Uncle Buck think about drivers who get out of their seats to check their buses for sleepers and change their route numbers while stopped at a stoplight". You don't want to know Uncle Buck's opinion.

I turned 60 this past September, I have started my life over at that age and this job change is part of the process. I have a wonderful family and you are a chunk of goodness in my life. I hope I have been the same in yours in some small way. I hope to stay in touch and hear great things about the transportation dept. of U-46. Stay strong DUTU!

From your Uncle Buck

Gary Lichthardt

## January 2013

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a very relaxing and restful winter break.

After a very long time we finally have a new contract. It took many hours of face to face meetings and many more hours of preparation for your bargaining team to get a great contract. I would like to thank Heather Bayer, Dave Ramis, Dan Umbach, Sue Hamm, Jim Burns, Donna Frey, Carol Gunn, Brenda DelHotal and Cathy Wyzykowski for all their time and hard work. As we move ahead there will be questions as to how parts of the new contract work. If you don't understand or need clarification on any part please bring it to one of the bargaining team members and we will help you get the answer.

As everyone knows we all received a raise and many others also received step raises. If you don't understand how the step raises were administered or if you think yours was not figured properly you need to let me know so I can look into the situation and get you a proper explanation or correct the problem.

Packaging was implemented at the beginning of this school year as part of the new contract. I am continuing to work with management to ensure that it is implemented according to the new contract and the way the bargaining teams from both sides have intended it to be. In the near future there will be a review of all the packaging procedures by a joint management/union team.

A good question that I have been asked many times is "when will the new absentee policy begin". As of now I am still working with management as to when and how this will start. When the details are finalized, they will be posted so everyone will be aware of when it is taking place.

Lyle

**Who are you?  
Who, who, who, who?  
Who are you?**

*Who was the driver that drove through freshly poured cement?*

Who was the driver that drove with emergency door open with Andy Martin in his personal vehicle radioing to pull over?

**Who was the driver that drove off with the gas hose in their bus tank?**

January 2013  
January 2013

## *"Training Corner"*

**REFRESHER COURSES FOR January & February 2013**  
**6:00pm – 8:00pm**  
**500 Shales Pkwy In the Drivers Room**

### **Thursday January 31, 2013**

Robert Bjorklund  
Sharon Bos  
Richard Brasure  
Kelli Butcher  
Victoire Carrington  
Beth Cobb  
Matthew Davis  
Ruth Gimza  
Dennis Hayden  
Judy Hojnacki  
Virginia Howard  
Oliver Howell  
Mary Ellen Kasavich  
Gary Lichthardt  
Kathy McFarlane  
Joanne McPherson  
Rayonda Porcha  
Lauran Rantz  
Deneen Valenti  
Sally Voel-Pel  
Debra Voight  
Joan Wormsley

### **Tuesday February 5, 2013**

Elizabeth Boyd  
Cathy Caban  
Bradley Carlin  
Sherry Fannin  
Maribel Gonzalez  
Kim Higgins  
Cheryl John  
Constance LeDonne  
Stefan McGhee  
Doris Parker  
Mike Puckett  
Evelyn Rodriguez  
Maria Saavedra  
James Schrieber  
Jorene Scianna  
Jewell Scruggs  
Yolanda Shaw  
Norene Sikora  
Cindy Valentine  
Richard Valentine  
Bonnie Ziegler

### **Thursday February 7, 2013**

Debbie Bellizzi  
Peggy Blake  
Melissa Gonzalez  
John Halbert  
James Henry  
Victoria Keppner  
Susan Ledbetter  
Donald Marcotte  
Pamela Mathieu  
Toni Nawrot  
Carol Olinger  
Linda Quezada  
Chad Shaikes  
Michael Stevens  
DeMarco Suggs  
Patrick Upton  
Carol Young  
Kimberlee Zabilka

