

May 2008



**Kettle Moraine
UniServ Council**

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**May 5, 2008
KMUC Board Meeting**

KMUC Office
6:00 p.m.

**May 13, 2008
KMUC RA
Klemme's Wagon Wheel**

5:30 p.m.

**May 14, 2008
CBC/President's
Meeting**

KMUC Office
6:00 p.m.

**May 17, 2008
Discipline Strategies**
Time and Location to be
announced

**May 20, 2008
Exec. Committee
Meeting**

KMUC Office
4:30 p.m.

**May 26, 2008
MEMORIAL DAY
OFFICE CLOSED**

SUMMER EVENTS

**July 7–11, 2008
WEA Trust
Presentations &
Consultations**

KMUC Office

THE KMUC

Autism Workshop Draws Great Interest

The Autism Workshop held at Millhome on Tuesday, April 15 proved to be of great interest not only to our members but to the community as well. Word of this workshop traveled to many people beyond the KMUC members and we were not able to accommodate all the requests. Little did we know when scheduling this event that April is Autism Awareness Month.

Teachers as well as teacher's aides and other school district employees attended this workshop bringing our total attendance

to 76. Mary Smith, a Manitowoc Special Education teacher provided the audience with very helpful and informative information to be used in the classroom. Strategies were given to help understand the puzzle of Autism Spectrum Disorders and these



strategies can also be used with all students. Autism is a complex neurobiological development disability that affects 1 in 150 children. It is a disorder that is usually detectable by age three. Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States. No one knows what causes autism and there is no cure. Early intervention, therapy and treatments offer hope to these individuals.



KMUC is affiliated with WEAC and NEA

NEW: FMLA Amendments For Military Family Leave

In December, 2007, a bill was introduced to expand federal FMLA for the first time since it was originally signed by President Clinton in 1993. On January 28, President Bush signed into law the National Defense Authorization act. The NDAA amended the FMLA to provide eligible employees working for covered employers two important new leave rights related to military service.

- (1) Active Duty Family Leave.** Employees with a spouse, parent or child, who is on or has been called to active duty in the Armed Forces in support of a contingency operation, may take up to 12 weeks of FMLA leave when they experience a “*qualifying exigency*.” The employee or employer rights to substitute accrued paid leave, the advance notice requirements, rules for intermittent leave, and other aspects of the active Duty Family Leave are similar to the rules that apply to federal FMLA. While the new law is not effective until the Secretary of Labor issues regulations defining “*any qualifying exigency*,” the federal government is encouraging employers to provide this type of leave to qualifying employees in the interim.
- (2) Injured Service Member Leave.** An eligible employee who is the spouse, parent, child or next of kin of a covered service member, who is recovering from a serious illness or injury sustained in the line of duty on active duty, is entitled to up to 26 weeks of leave in a single 12-month period to care for the service member. This military caregiver leave is available during “a single 12-month period” during which an eligible employee is entitled to a combined total of 26 weeks of all types of FMLA leave. The rules for intermittent leave, leave substitution and qualifying period are somewhat different from the rules that apply to Active Duty Family Leave. The Injured Service Member Leave is currently in effect.

Additional information on the amendments and a version of Title 1 of the FMLA with the statutory language incorporated is available on the FMLA amendments Web site at: http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/fmla/NDAA_fmla.htm.

Tune-Up Your Finances this Summer!

Are your finances in tune with your personal goals? Is your retirement strategy keeping time with your lifestyle?

This summer, we're hosting *Financial Tune-Up* presentations offered by WEAC Trust Member Benefits. Attend presentations to learn about the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) and how to choose a retirement savings plan that is right for you.

You may also sign up for a personal consultation with a Member Benefits consultant to orchestrate aspects of your personal finances to fit the tempo of your life and reach your retirement goals.

When: July 7, 2008

Time: Understanding WRS 10:00—1:00 a.m.

Retirement Savings: The Keys to Success 2:00—3:00 p.m.

Where: Kettle Moraine UniServ Council, N7778 Rangeline Road, Sheboygan

Register online at www.weabenefits.com

KMUC SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN KICKOFF

KMUC Locals Plan for Fall Campaign Activities

***Wednesday
September 17, 2008***

Mark Your Calendars—Details to follow

Legislative Candidate Screenings

Our Assembly representatives need to run for re-election. That means we will have screenings in July. A screening is a gathering of members of KMUC who live in the legislator's district with a WEAC political action field representative. The candidate(s) appear and are asked questions about education and their positions on issues that matter to teachers, students, and the public education system. When members attend a screening, they hear the candidates state their views directly. The members do not need to speak, unless they feel the need to follow up on an answer. At the end of the screening the candidates for a legislative seat, the members decide who to recommend to WEAC for support. The decision starts with us.

If you would be available during the first half of July and want to get more information on the time and place of screenings for candidates from your home district or the district in which you work, please contact Sarah at 1-800-834-7076 or by email at berths@weac.org. We will keep your names and inform you of the screening dates as we find out what they are.



**Enjoy your Memorial Day
Holiday!**

We need your input!!

KMUC would like to offer more training/workshop opportunities for our members but we need your input as to what your needs and interests are. Please call 1-800-834-7076 or email your ideas to Sarah at berths@weac.org and we will use this information this summer to prepare next year's schedule.

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Personal Financial Planning

WEAC Member Benefits Specialist, Bob Moeller, will be providing personal financial planning appointments for members at the KMUC office on July 30, 2008. Appointments are also available at the Madison Office throughout the summer. This is a valuable, no-cost member service. To schedule an appointment, contact Diana Buchholz at WEAC, 1800-362-8034, extension 253.

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 Summer Vacation

**It's just around
the corner!**



Want to Get Away?

Okay, so you're not retired yet. Wish you were? No problem. For one tantalizing evening, you can pretend you are! Come join us (the retired ones) at our KMUC-Retired Annual Meeting at The Altona Supper Club, 2306 Calumet Drive, New Holstein, on Thursday evening, May 15, 2008.

WHY?? Because we've got a great speaker we think you'll love to hear. If you plan on doing any traveling in retirement or even if you have already done some, this will be an evening chock full of tips and ideas, dos and don'ts, hot to's and why not's. Our speaker is Tom Krief, a retired teacher from Appleton. Tom heads up a group of Fox Valley retired teachers who love to travel and love to share what they learn. Tom leads a number of tours and cruises each year and has a wealth of information to share with us. He has plenty of ideas for unique trips you probably never thought of, or he can tell you how to pick the cruise that best fits you. He is a great "answer man" for all those nagging questions you have about setting up your next trip, whether it's your first or your fifty-first.

If you are interested in joining us (you are welcome to bring your spouse, significant other, or a friend as long as we still have space available), please email Gary Bents (Manitowoc Retired) at gab4647@comcast.net. You are also welcome to join us for a buffet dinner (BBQ ribs, baked chicken, & baked haddock at \$11.50 per person) at 5:30. Our speaker is scheduled for 6:30.

Please respond no later than May 12th if you plan on attending and indicate if you will be coming just for the speaker for the dinner too.