



The
North Attleborough Federation of Teachers
Local 4292, MFT-AFT-AFL/CIO

Newsletter

June 2007 - Volume 10 - Number 1

Newsletter prepared by Lori-Jeanne Veit

From the Desk of the President

*The NAFT held biennial elections on Tuesday, May 8, 2007.
The results are as follows:*

President	Lee Anne Todd
Vice-President	Anne Oberti
Secretary	Patty Coogan
Treasurer	Micheal Stetkiewicz
Para Chapter Chair	Keri Childers
Secretarial Chapter Chair	Anne Thompson
Cafeteria Chapter Chair	Carol Hichborn

Delegates to AFT Massachusetts Convention:

Lee Anne Todd	Karen LeBeau
Anne Oberti	Vinny Baldasaro
Jane Sherman	Carmina Jiminez
Keri Childer	Lydia Kotak
Carol Hichborn	Lisa Mooney

Delegates to AFT Convention:

Lee Anne Todd
Anne Oberti
Jane Sherman

The NAFT delegation attended the 39th AFT Massachusetts Annual Convention on May 4 and 5. Carol Hichorn, Karen LeBeau, Anne Oberti, Jane Sherman and I represented our local at the convention, which was held in Bedford, Massachusetts.

Ed McElroy, AFT President, was one of the speakers along with Congressman John Tierney. The delegation proudly applauded as North Attleboro's Max Humphrey received an Albert Shanker and Sandra Feldman scholarship.

Next year's convention will be held in Quincy, Massachusetts.

NAFT Scholarship Winners

The NAFT awarded two scholarships to children of NAFT members: one to a North Attleboro High School senior and one to a senior from another public high school. The NAFT Executive Board read the submitted essays. The winners of the scholarships were Max Humprey, son of Judy Humprey, and Stacia Stetkiewicz, daughter of Mike Stetkiewicz.

Congratulations and good luck to both students!

Salary Schedule Changes

Looking to move to a different column on the salary schedule? Summer is the time to organize your documentation. Please provide a cover sheet that details the credits that you are using as well as all transcripts or proof of credit. Refer to your NAFT teachers' contract, Article XIX, section B for credit information. Remember credit will not be granted for work done within the school day, with the exception of "Skillful Teacher." Please submit all information to Professional Improvement Chairperson, Anne Oberti at the NAFT Office, 322 East Washington Street, North Attleboro, MA 02760.

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW . . .

How to reach your building rep or your chapter chairperson before you leave for summer vacation. If a union issue or a question arises they need to hear from you.



Lee Anne Todd, President
Anne Oberti, VicePresident
Michael Stetkiewicz, Treasurer
Patty Coogan, Secretary



Important Email from AFT

Sign up to receive important e-mails from AFT Massachusetts. Email is the fastest and most efficient way for us to provide you with information about current legislation, political developments, professional issues, and union matters that affect you. Please participate. Please sign up and encourage others to do so as well.

We strongly recommend that you give us your home email address so that you are not using your school computer to receive union news. We will not be giving your email address to any other organizations or agencies.

Go to **MFTeducator.org** to sign up. For signing up, you will be entered to win a pair of Boston Red Sox tickets.

MFT Membership Benefits

It's vacation time! Did you know MFT members can enjoy state-wide discounts on parks, museums, entertainment and more? If you want a hard copy of the benefits booklet and a discount card, please contact the MFT office at 617-423-3342 or 1-800-279-2523. Here are just a few examples:

Here are some examples:

Plymouth Plantation	Free to members ID requested
Boston Museum of Science	Free to members ID requested
Charles Riverboat Co.	Complimentary admission to sight-seeing tours. Show ID
JFK Library and Museum	\$2 off the regular admission
Higgins Armory Museum, Worcester	Free to members with ID

*****For more information,*****

please visit the MFT website:

<http://www.mfteducator.org/NewMembBenefits.htm>

Max Humprey AFT Scholarship Winner

Max Humprey was an AFT Massachusetts Scholarship winner. Max was a top scorer on the labor history exam, which is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 consists of 40 multiple-choice questions covering the history and structure of the labor movement in America, legislation affecting American workers, child labor laws, minimum wages, civil rights, safety in the workplace, old age and health insurance, unemployment compensation, worker's compensation and past and current labor events. Part 2 is an essay of between 250 and 500 words and is based on a topic selected by the Scholarship Committee each year.

Max was honored at this year's AFT Massachusetts Convention, which was held in Bedford, MA.

*Enjoy a
restful and
safe summer!*





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Newsletter

Electronic Version
February 2006 - Volume 9 - Number 1
Newsletter prepared by Lori-Jeanne Veit

From the Desk of the President

It is with a heavy heart that I deliver the news to you that former MFT president, Paul Devlin died on February 8, 2006. Paul was president of the MFT from 1980-1993. I feel privileged to have known him and to have worked with him. He will be sorely missed by me and the many other people who had the honor of working with him.

Paul had a great passion for the union and its members. He was a brilliant man who held many elected and appointed positions in the union. His most recent position was special assistant to the AFT secretary/treasurer. AFT President Edward McElroy wrote, "*The professional void Paul leaves is immense. The loss to his loving family and countless friends is far greater*

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Last Term for Kathy Kelley

Kathy Kelley will not be running for re-election this April.

Ms. Kelley informed all local leaders stating, "After thirteen plus years as President of the MFT, I feel it is past time to have someone new with fresh ideas to assume leadership of our organization. It has been my privilege to serve as your President. I have been honored to represent teachers, professors, paraprofessionals, support personnel, and librarians, for you are the true unsung heroes in this society.

I wish all of the members of the MFT many years of continued success and thank all of you for the work you do on behalf of the children of the Commonwealth."

Kathy Kelley has visited North Attleboro on several occasions. She was our MFT representative early in her career. Kathy is so well respected.

The election of new MFT Officers and the Executive Board will be held at the MFT convention on Saturday, April 29th in Hyannis . Our local will be participating in this important convention. Delegates to the convention include Jane Sherman, Anne Oberti, Carol Hichborn, Karen LeBeau, Patty Coogan, Vinny Baldassarro and me. .

A Message from AFT

As you know, flaws in the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law have led to major problems in many of our schools. To correct these problems and make the law work for our schools and students, the AFT launched its "**NCLB: Let's Get It Right**" campaign to inform policy makers and the public about the changes that need to be made in advance of the 2007 reauthorization.

Please go to the following website for a short, humorous animation that explores some of what doesn't work with NCLB. At the conclusion of the animation, you will be asked to help.

Go to: <http://www.letsgetitright.org/cartoon/>

Union Questions?

Wondering who to contact if you have a union questions??? Here is a list of NAFT Executive Board Members and building locations:

Lee Anne Todd	<i>President</i>
Anne Oberti	<i>Vice-President</i>
Patricia Coogan	<i>Secretary</i>
Michael Englander	<i>Treasurer</i>
Kerri Childer	<i>Paraprofessional Chapter Chair</i>
Carol Hichborn	<i>Cafeteria Chapter Chair</i>
Anne Thompson	<i>Secretarial Chapter Chair</i>
Nancy Driscoll	<i>Grievance Chair</i>
Mike Stetkiewicz	<i>Middle School Building Rep</i>
Sheila Chisholm	<i>Martin School Building Rep</i>
Sharon Pelletier	<i>Falls School Building Rep</i>
Lynne Gagne	<i>ELC Building Rep</i>
Alice Pahlus	<i>Community School Building Rep</i>
Gail Lumnah	<i>Amvet School Building Rep</i>

Marianne Eagleston *Roosevelt School Building Rep*

Jane Sherman *Allen Ave. School Building Rep*

Sue Janson *High School Building Rep*

Anne Oberti *Professional Improvement Chair*

Daffodil Days

One of the first flowers of spring, the daffodil is a symbol of hope. To the American Cancer Society, the flower represents the hope of a world free from cancer.

The American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days are a great way to let friends, family, and other special people in your life know you're thinking of them. You can honor someone special, brighten the day of someone touched by the disease, and help make the American Cancer Society's mission possible—all at the same time! (excerpt from cancer.org)

Building Representatives will be collecting donations until March 3, 2006. A bouquet of 10 daffodils is \$7.00. Donations of \$25.00 will receive a Boyd's Bear and a bouquet. Members may also purchase a Gift of Hope and have a daffodil bouquet sent to a cancer patient.

Thank you to all building representatives and to Noreen Kiff, NAFT Coordinator of Daffodil Days.



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Newsletter

Electronic Version
June 2005 - Volume 8 - Number 4
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From the Desk of the President

I attended the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers Annual Convention with several NAFT members. Anne Oberti, Karen LeBeau, Jane Sherman, and Vincent Baldasaro joined me for the convention which was held at the Bedford, Renaissance on Friday, April 29, 2005 and Saturday, April 30, 2005.

We were able to proudly cheer for John Avila, son of Maureen Avila, and David Siewers, son of Nancy Siewers, as they won Albert Shanker Scholarships. The MFT awards five (5) - \$1,000 scholarships. It was a glorious moment for the NAFT to have two of the five scholarships go to dependents of local members.

The delegates voted on numerous resolutions that will drive the MFT agenda. Some of the resolutions are:

- Opposition to the privatization of Social Security,
- Support and creation of teacher induction programs,
- Providing MFT associate membership for charter school teachers,

- Opposition to lifting the cap on charter school spending, and
- Professional status and just cause dismissal for school nurses.

Speakers included Antonia Cortese, Vice President of the American Federation of Teachers, and Representative Patricia Haddad, House Chairperson of the Joint Education Committee.

The entire delegation worked on the Credentials Committee, registering delegates on both Friday and Saturday. We also made some new friends, the delegation from Nashoba Valley. It is always great to meet new people and have the perspective from different parts of the state.

Officers and Delegates Elected

Elections were held on Tuesday, May 10, 2005. Officers and delegates to affiliate conventions were elected to serve a two-year term. Election results are as follows:

- **President:** Lee Anne Todd
- **Vice- President:** Anne Oberti
- **Secretary:** Patricia Coogan
- **Treasurer:** Michael Englander
- **Para Chapter Chair:** Keri Childers
- **Secretarial Chapter Chair:** Anne Thompson
- **Cafeteria Chapter Chair:** Carol Hichborn
- **MFT Convention Delegates:** Lee Anne Todd, Anne Oberti, Jane Sherman, Keri Childers, Patricia Coogan, Karen LeBeau, Carol Hichborn, Vincent Baldasaro
- **AFT Convention Delegates:** Lee Anne Todd, Anne Oberti, and Jane Sherman

Appointed positions include:

- **NAFT Greivance Chairperson:** Nancy Driscoll

- **Professional Development Chair:** Anne Oberti

A big thank you to Kathy Ayers who served as Vice-President for the past six years. Her service as Vice President is appreciated by all members of the NAFT.

Planning a Vacation? Member Benefits

It's that time of year again! Members who are planning to vacation in our beautiful state should check out the member benefits at the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers website: mfteducator.org. The site has expanded to include out-of-state discounts as well.

MFT members can enjoy discounts on parks, museums, entertainment and more. If you want a hard copy of the benefits booklet and a discount card, please contact the MFT office at 617-423-3342 or 1-800-279-2523.

The American Federation of Teachers offers discounts on car rentals, hotels, theme parks, etc. Check out their benefits information at aft.org/aftplus/index.htm.

DID YOU KNOW?

As an AFT member, you are entitled to 40 percent off the regular annual membership fee for Rewards Network—a cash back rewards program that saves you up to 20 percent off your bill at over 10,500 restaurants from coast to coast. There are 71 restaurants in a 15 mile radius of North Attleboro that participate in this program.

Members earn up to 20 percent cash back on their entire dining bill including food, drinks, tax and tip when you pay with an enrolled credit card!

Call 877/491-3463 and mention the AFT member discount code AFT-7 to qualify for the low annual membership fee of just \$29.

Professional Development

If you need reimbursement for a college course or you wish to apply for a salary schedule change over the

summer, please forward all correspondence to:

*North Attleboro Federation of Teachers
322 East Washington Street
North Attleboro, MA 02760
Attn: Anne Oberti*

Remember that all course must be pre-approved in order to receive reimbursement.

If you want your salary schedule change to start in September, please submit for the change as soon as possible so that the new salary amount will be reflected in your first pay check for the 2005-2006 school year.

NAFT Scholarships

The North Attleboro Federation of Teachers awarded two (2) \$500.00 scholarships.

Kristen Pelletier, daughter of Sharon Pelletier, won the scholarship that is awarded to a graduating senior from North Attleboro High School.

Scott Stetkiewicz, son of Mike Stetkiewicz, won the scholarship that is awarded to a graduating senior attending a public high school other than North High.

The Executive Board does a blind reading of all essays submitted. Congratulations to both Kristen and Scott.

Walking for the Multiple Sclerosis Society

Many of our members walk for their favorite charities. This fall Diana Shoop and Deb Reichard will be walking for the Multiple Sclerosis Society. They will be challenged to walk a 50 mile course over 3 days. If you wish to support them make a check out to National MS Society and send it to Community School.