

Northern HORIZONS

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS
OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Winter 2008

**Sustainability
efforts at NMU**

**Alumni
working for
the earth**

**New learning
environments**

**Redefining the
classroom**



Northern HORIZONS

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Northern
Michigan
University

Letters

I thought I might share something with you that is also a little part of NMU history.

My grandfather and step-grandmother, Charles and Anna Swanson, once had a small farm on a piece of land that is now occupied by a newer section of the NMU campus... This past summer I bought a transparency of a map which covered the area in question and placed it over the aerial photo [of their farm] and it confirmed that the current LRC building is right on the spot where their old farmhouse was located (ca. 1922-1938). The web cam, Webbie, is to the best of my calculations, within two hundred feet of their old house.



—*Harry Burton, Arnold, Calif.*

The last issue of *Horizons* was terrific. Gotta admit, said to myself that I'd skip Fred's [Stonehouse] article because, gosh, what more was there to know about the [Edmund Fitzgerald] sinking? Well, just about everything in it was news to me. Husband really liked it too—in fact, he thought *Horizons* was *Michigan History* from its cover. Unlike me, he started with Fred's article—even before he read the obits.

—*Janet Mendler '68 BS, Pinckney, Mich.*

The Fall 2007 edition of *Northern Horizons* was just great! I read it cover to cover in one sitting the day it arrived. As a history teacher it is a joy to see history professionals recognized for the work they do. I especially enjoyed reading the article about one of my former students, Dennis Delor, and his career. I wish continued success to all Northern grads working in public history.

I would be remiss if I did not applaud the work of the history professionals at NMU, History Department Chair Russ Magnaghi, Beaumier Heritage Center Director Dan Truckey, and NMU and Central Upper Peninsula Archivist Marcus Robyns, and the programs they lead. Their influence positively impacts future historians. Thank you for highlighting this dedicated group of people working in a most important field.

—*Tim Evans, '77 BS, Marysville, Mich.*

I must tell you that in all the years since graduating in 1960 that we have received *N. Horizons*, this is the very first time I have read all the way through it, cover to cover. I just could not put it down as it was so fascinating. It was filled with everything that I love, much of which I have spent most of my life being involved in, in some way.

—*Charles A. "Chuck" Altonen, NMC '60 BA
Dorothy A (Halonen) NMC '60 BS, Ashtabula, Ohio*

Got the latest issue yesterday—it's getting better all the time. Very glad it's not like it used to be—all about sports and political propaganda. Stick to Northern and its students—the basics. It was nice to see article on Fort Wilkins. My mother grew up in Dollar Bay, near the beginning of the Keweenaw Peninsula. We've been to Fort Wilkins several times.

What I like best about *Horizons*, I think, is reading about recent students who still have the names I am familiar with—being passed down in families. Most of the names are not heard in our area, western Pa. They sound good.

—*Dorothy Dolf Drozdiak '51 BS, McKeesport, Pa.*

Two unique Alumni Association events!



A special day at the DIA.

Experience the new
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Complimentary tours at
1 and 3 p.m.
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Sunday, April 13
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



Tickets must be
purchased through the
NMU Alumni
Association by Friday,
March 28.
Contact us today at
1-877-GRAD NMU or
alumni@nmu.edu.

Detroit Institute of Arts photo

Take
me
out



to the
ball
game!

Downtown Detroit Partnership photo

Join fellow Wildcats in cheering on the **Detroit Tigers** at Comerica Park. Enjoy great seats, a pre-game party and an afternoon of fun and fellowship!

Date to be announced.

Watch the Alumni Web site for details. To reserve your ticket, call 877-GRAD NMU or e-mail alumni@nmu.edu



Sarah (Lindholm) '93 BS and Jonathan Ruuska '94 BS, Lifetime Members of the Alumni Association

"It is important for us to be a part of the Alumni Association because it makes us part of the big picture. We are able to keep in touch with friends that we met 15 years ago while attending NMU.

Northern was a natural fit for us, and our family has a long legacy here. Our grandmothers both received degrees in nursing from NMU, both of our parents are alumni, along with siblings, aunts, uncles and cousins.

We have such great memories of our time there—basketball games, hockey games at Lakeview Arena, homecoming, teaching friends how to downhill ski, going to Presque Isle. Now we enjoy those things with our children.

While attending Northern we both had excellent business courses, which formed the foundation for what we do today as business owners. As a student, Sarah worked at Lutey's Flower Shop in Marquette and after graduating we bought it.

We benefit from NMU every day. We use the Career Services Center to hire students as part of our staff at Lutey's and at Upfront & Company, where Jon is the general manager. And we have many customers who are long-time NMU friends."

Of course
I'm a member. Are You?

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