Dear Uline Customers,

Mr. Nelson, my seventh grade U.S. history teacher, made his classes outline the U.S. history book. To this day the brutal memories of this year-long task are very clear. Along the way, however, his students learned how to organize their thoughts and prioritize.

At Uline these are some of my observations:

Poorly Written Memos and Reports: Despite a "How to Write at Uline" indoctrination by our HR department when employees are hired, poorly written documents submitted to me remains one of my biggest daily challenges. "What is your point, what do you propose, what are your Top 3?" I ask over and over. Lately, I've taken to saying "Return to sender and redo. You're wasting my time."

The Consultants: These folks come in for big bucks and then where is their report? Often I'm told "We have to rewrite it". – you know consultant mumbo jumbo!

English Teachers Wanted: Do Fortune 500 companies offer writing courses for their employees? If you can't organize your thoughts, just where are we all going? Uline and all American companies need employees to think clearly, prioritize and get tasks done. We need Americans to effectively work and run companies in the world economy. Some days it's just so frustrating.

Today it's considered just awful if you speak up for voting against a tax increase for our schools. The politicians constantly harp on more money for education. I just wonder if we're getting our money's worth.

And so it goes.................and so I think about Mr. Nelson.

– Liz Uihlein

ABOUT SMOKEY'S

On the way to our beloved cabin up north there was a broken down restaurant. Beside the old restaurant in the front yard was a broken down 42 foot trailer. The owner died and no one would buy the restaurant. And so it sat for a couple of years...

Enter me..... the gal who thinks the bag of lettuce is one of the greatest inventions in modern history. In a seriously weak moment, we bought the restaurant. We totally gutted it, got rid of the trailer and renamed the place Smokey's. Smokey's is all fixed up now. It's just a great place to relax. If you're in northern Wisconsin come over and visit us. I recommend the Steak, Lamb Chops or Walleye. The Roquefort Salad is special and the French Fries are just the best. We have a small but excellent wine list. My favorite is the House Chardonnay.