

Sno-King School Retirees



November-December 2015

The SKSR Bulletin



A message from our coordinator

Why I joined SKSR, part II

by Cheryl Bauer

I'm sorry so many of you missed an absolutely delicious meal prepared by the students of Chef Becky at LeBristo at our first general meeting of the year. I hope, however, you won't miss our next meeting, which is our scholarship luncheon held at the Unitarian Church in Edmonds. We will have long-time University of Washington Crew Coach Bob Ernst as our guest speaker. The meal will be provided for a mere \$5. Please read the article on page 2 for more details. What a treat that will be!

In keeping with my, "Why I joined SKSR" theme, this month I'll speak to what is happening in November—namely a scholarship luncheon. Four high school scholarships are given each year to graduating seniors who are going into education. Money raised from luncheons, raffles, donations and memorials are used to fund this program. After reading some of the "thank you" letters shared in last month's newsletter, I think you can agree on the importance and difference the scholarships make in helping students attend college. How can you not be proud to be a part of this!

Lastly, as you know I have changed my title to coordinator. Each month a different board member is responsible for that month's meeting. I would like to thank Jim Siscel for chairing the October meeting and Rita Requa for chairing the November meeting. Look for more acknowledgments to others as the year goes on. Is there an event you would like to chair?

OFFICERS

Cheryl Bauer, Coordinator
Roberta Hawkins, Vice President
Jan Phillips, Secretary
Donna Murrish, Treasurer

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Barbara Berg, Scrapbook
Linda Fitzgerald/Keith Lindaas, Scholarships
David Johnson, Scholarship Finance
Marlene Johnson, Hospitality
Evelyn Nordeen, Sunshine
Betty Odle, Historian
Virg Rayton, Active Member Grants
Rita Requa, Legislative
Jim Siscel, Membership/Retirement/Website
Erma Snook, Membership Records
Jo/Bruce Caldwell, Bulletin Editors

Our next special event

November 19 Fall Scholarship Luncheon

by Rita Requa, November meeting chair

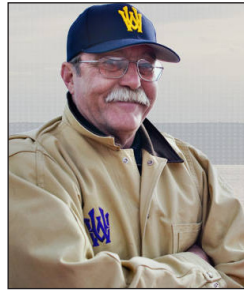
YOU'LL FIND INSIDE

- Coordinator's Message1
- Next Meeting Information2
- Legislative Information3
- Le Bistro in October4
- In the Spotlight4
- Honoring Ellie Bonanno5
- SKSR Bulletin Board5
- Membership Updates6
- December Meeting7
- Grant Information8

SKSR Board Meetings

All board meetings are held at the Edmonds School District ESC at 1:00 PM.

November 12	February 11	May 12
January 14	March 10	July 14
	April 14	



Don't miss our November 19 Fall Scholarship Luncheon at the Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church, 8109 224th Street SW.

Not only will you enjoy a catered luncheon of lasagna, salad, garlic bread, cookies and fruit for an amazingly low \$5.00, but you will hear an

inspiring and thoughtful message from **Bob Ernst**, longtime crew coach at the University of Washington. Coach Ernst has been with the Huskies since 1974, serving for 20 years as Husky Men's coach before assuming his current position as Women's Crew coach.

A resident of Edmonds, this gifted coach has guided teams to eight national championships, one Olympic gold medal and numerous wins both domestically and abroad. If you've read "Boys in the Boat," you know how exciting Husky crews are. You won't want to miss this!

Because the luncheon is being catered, we need to know in advance how many to count on. Please let Donna Murrish know if you are planning to attend by sending the form below and your check made out to SKSR. Questions? Contact Donna at donnamurrish@comcast.net or 206-363-5753.



Make your reservation now
November 19 Luncheon
Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church
8109 228th Street SW, Edmonds

\$5 per person

Your name _____

Guest's name (if any) _____

Menu

Lasagna, Salad, Garlic Bread, Cookies, Fruit, Coffee, Tea

Send the form and your check by November 16 to:

Donna Murrish
 11227 Goodwin Way NE
 Seattle WA 98125

Doing more for our members

Keeping an Eye on the State

by Rita Requa, SKSR Legislative Chair

PAY ATTENTION TO THESE ISSUES:

YOUR PEBB HEALTH CARE FOR 2016

By now you should have received *For Your Benefit* booklet which explains changes in all the PEBB programs and premiums and a personalized letter explaining your present specific plan premium changes for 2016. If you are confused or need more information go to one of the benefit fairs.

Area retiree benefit fairs:

November 20: Everett retiree presentation, 9:30-10:30 am, Everett Community College, Walt Price Fitness Center, 2000 Tower Street, Multipurpose Room.

November 5: Retiree presentation 10:00-11:00 a.m. UW HUB, Room 203.

November 12: Retiree presentation, 1:00-2:00 p.m. Shoreline Conference Center, 18560 First Avenue NE, Spartan Room

If you need to take action on your health plans, do so before the deadline, **November 30**. Changes will be effective January 1, 2016.

SPECIAL ELECTION

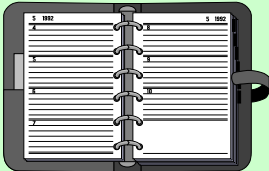
The results of the November election in District 30 (Federal Way area) may determine the makeup of the State House of Representatives. A record amount of money has been collected and spent in those races.

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

The 2016 Legislative Short Session (?) convenes in January. Topmost issue will be funding education to satisfy the Supreme Court decision which held the legislature responsible

for failing to live up to the state's "Paramount" duty of amply funding schools and imposing \$100,000-a-day fine. There has been no call to hold an emergency session as I write this. Will our retired health benefit be on the line again to fund public education? Will the Legislature really cough up the \$100,000-a-day fine and, where will that go? Will the Legislature find the will to raise revenue?

The Senate Education Committee October listening tour was scheduled in six different cities across the state to get citizen input regarding how to fund education. A new statewide salary schedule? A new way with special levies? Was the three billion dollars needed to "amply fund" education addressed or even mentioned?



MARK YOUR DATEBOOK

Coming Events for Sno-King School Retirees

November 19	11:30
Fall Scholarship Luncheon	Edmonds Unitarian Church
	Bob Ernst, UW Crew Coordinator and Women's Crew Coach
December 3	1:00
Cookie Fest and Sing-Along	Edmonds SD ESC
February 18.....	11:30
General Membership Meeting	Edmonds SD ESC
March 17	TBD
Field Trip	TBD
April 21	11:30
Spring Scholarship Luncheon.....	Edmonds Unitarian Church
May 18 or 19.....	11:30
Luncheon with Sno-Isle	Le Bistro, Sno-Isle Skills Center
July 20.....	11:30
Picnic.....	Edmonds City Park

Our last event

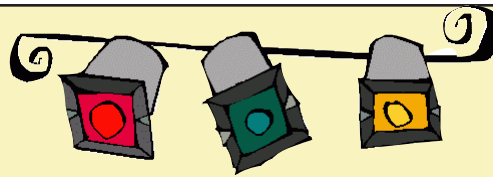
Le Bistro in October

by Donna Murrish
and Jim Siscel

Chef Becky's students at the Sno-Isle Skills Center served an excellent meal to Sno-King retirees at le Bistro restaurant on October 15. Ours was the first large group the students prepared for this school year.

Shoreline Schools Superintendent Rebecca Miner brought attendees up-to-date with some of the things happening in her district: Each elementary school will have a full-time counselor; each building will have instructional support teachers; teachers received their COLAs, plus a salary raise. Last year, the district teachers' salary level was 16th in the Puget Sound area, and now they are eighth.

After a delicious dessert, Jake Henderson, Western Region Vice President of Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA), shared information about the benefits available to WSSRA members. There are a large number of free benefits, i.e., Apple and Dell computers discounts, dining discounts at local restaurants, and travel. There are fee-reduced benefits for dental and vision, long-term care insurance, Medicare supplements, and Medical Air Services Association (MASA). AMBA only works with educator and public service employee groups.



In the Spotlight

Linda Fitzgerald

by Cheryl Bauer

This month's person in the spotlight is Linda Fitzgerald. Linda spent her career in the Edmonds School District. She started at Lynnwood Junior High School teaching English, social studies, reading and math for eight years. She then became a school counselor at the junior high. When it closed, she transferred to Lynnwood High, where she worked as a counselor until her retirement in 1996.



She is co-chair of SKSR's Scholarship Committee. She and her co-chair, Keith Lindaas, work hard each spring to deliver applications, read through them with a committee, choose the recipients and introduce them at the spring luncheon. Linda also serves on the board of the Edmonds Public School and Alumni Foundation.

She enjoys traveling with friends; a trip to Egypt is in the offing. Mondays find her bowling in a league at Majestic Lanes (where I happen to know she does very well). Lastly, although I think maybe I should have started with this, she is an avid University of Washington Husky football fan.

If you want to say "hi" to her, you'll find Linda and her friend Lynda Hughes collecting tickets for sporting events at Lynnwood High School. Linda's commitment, willingness to serve and enthusiasm for education makes it easy to put her in the spotlight.

Members are invited to check out all the benefits available on the WSSRA website, www.wssra.org, under Benefits.

The only Sno-King business that took place was to approve the 2015-2016 Budget. Donna

Murrish presented the budget and Jim Siscel made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Erma Snook seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Mariners remember one of our own

Mariners honor Ellie Bonanno, former SKSR president

by Jim Siscel



The family of Ellie Bonanno was invited to the Mariners baseball game on the last Saturday of the season. The Suite Host Team 9 that Ellie worked with wanted to present the family with a plaque they had made in Ellie's memory. Ellie worked as a suite host for the Mariners for many years after her retirement from education in the Edmonds School District.

The Mariners, recognizing what a great person Ellie had been in working with the public on her assigned Suite Level Door 65, gave family and friends

Suite 50 above third base to watch the game. The guests were also provided with food and drink, and enjoyed sharing memories of Ellie.

After the 13-inning game concluded, members of Team 9 presented the plaque and a baseball bat, signed by the suite hosts. Attending the game with Ellie's three sons and daughter were SKSR members Cheryl Bauer, Joan Hertrich, Gary and Marcia Hirst, and Jim and Andrea Siscel.

SKSR BULLETIN BOARD

CHECK OUT OUR SKSR WEBSITE

Take a look under *Our Trips* on our website www.SKSR.org. Suzanne Whitacre has shared her trip to Patagonia. What awe-inspiring views! Jim and Andrea Siscel have illustrated their trip to the British Isles and a Mediterranean cruise, where lots of locations were checked off of their bucket list.

We invite you who have traveled to share your experiences. *Our Trips* gets lots of views, members obviously enjoy what they are seeing.

Additional information has been added to the Legislative section in anticipation of the 2016 session. There are links to contact your legislators.

On the first page of the website, near the top in red print, are the latest updates to the website, so check back on a regular basis to view these updates.

SNOWBIRDS ALERT!

Snowbirds! It's that time of the year again! If you receive your *Bulletin* and *WSSRA Journal* via US mail, please contact Erma Snook to update us on your winter contact information and the dates involved. Alert us again upon your return. Thanks to those of you who already have!

Contact Erma at egsnook@comcast.net or 425-776-2067.

Reminder: You can now receive your *WSSRA Journal* online as well as the *Bulletin*, so you are never out of contact on your travels. Arrange it at www.wssra.org.

Thank you!



Member information updates

Welcome to our New Members

- Allen, Shereen ***, 725 NE 201st ST, Shoreline, WA 98155, 206-365-2238, shereena@msn.com
- Drury, Rebecca ***, PO Box 77338, Seattle, WA 98177, 206-367-1237, ms.r.drury@gmail.com
- Edwards, Heather A ***, 5020 Ocean Ave, Everett, WA 98203, 425-770-0903, heatherandcolin@msn.com
- Falleroni, Melissa R ***, 2156 N 89th ST, Seattle, WA 98103, 801-643-3015, melissafalleroni@gmail.com
- Francescutti, Christina ***, 4017 NE 205th ST, Lake Forest Park, WA 98155, 206-440-0876 huskyfan96@comcast.net
- Hayes, Tamara ***, 2247 NE 177th ST, Shoreline, WA 98155, 206-743-7930, tam.leigh.hayes@gmail.com
- James, Sandra**, 23130 89th Ave W, Edmonds, WA 98026, 206-498-9931
- James, Thomas ***, 13806 121st Ave NE, Kirkland, WA 98034
- Kimble, Dean**, 350 N 190th ST Apt B505, Shoreline, WA 98133
- Miller, Kathleen S**, 814 Prairie Grass LN, Georgetown, TX 78633
- Marsh, Deborah ***, 12622 43rd DR SE, Everett, WA 98028, 206-898-3555, shstuff@hotmail.com
- Reed, Laura ***, 24327 4th PL W, Bothell, WA 98021, 425-481-8046, landpreed@hotmail.com
- Sekowsky, JoAnne ***, 16320 N Hatch RD Apt 512, Colbert, WA 98005
- Wachtel, Carolyn ***, 251 S Tieton RD, Tieton, WA 98947, 509-952-4133, cjwachtel@yahoo.com
- Yost, Sheryl ***, 2838 NE 203rd ST, Shoreline, WA 98155, 206-361-0778, psyst@comcast.net

* = Active Member

Member Informational Changes

- Miller, James E**, 2937 Quigley Road, Langley, WA 98260, 360-331-2526, jimmiller296@comcast.net
- Mortland, Ken**, 20316 SE 240th ST, Maple Valley, WA 98038, 206-353-9628, kennethmortland@gmail.com

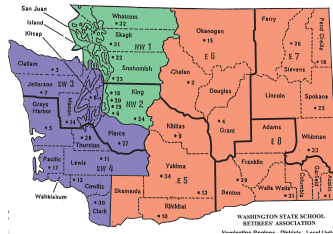
E-Mail Changes

- Bonifaci, Judith**, judithmarab@yahoo.com
- Campbell, Laura**, susancaml@outlook.com
- Creager, Jeff**, jscreager@gmail.com
- Marilley, Line**, ltmarilley@hotmail.com
- Phipps, Debbie**, dhipps224@comcast.net
- Pumputis, Mary**, pumputis4@msn.com
- Manuel, Paulette**, lpmanuel@frontier.com

Our WSSRA District

Northwest-1, October Meeting Report

by Cheryl Bauer, SKSR Coordinator



On September 21, 2015, several of our members traveled to Mount Vernon for the Northwest-1 meeting.

Representatives from the Sno-King, Sno-Isle, Skagit-Island-San Juan, and Whatcom units met to discuss and formulate ideas for the four units in this district. The map which appears above and on one of the last few pages of the state magazine, *The Journal*, shows how the state is divided into the various districts.

We were privileged to hear our new state director, Mike Boring, speak on his role as our Washington State School Retirees' Association leader. He shared the six main visions he has for the coming years: (1) Since 25% of our members are active, we need to work on protecting their retirement as well; (2) We need to work more directly with WEA-Retired; (3) We need to get more principals to join our organization; (4) Budget reserves, which had been used during the last couple of years, need to be paid back; (5) Work is needed to lower the cost of the annual convention; (6) We need to work on updating the association website and assist local units in developing ones as well.

Following Dr. Boring, various state committee members and local unit presidents summarized their units' activities. I'm proud to say we are well represented with our programs, activities and political awareness.



Deceased

- Ehli, Alice A**, Shoreline, 9/15, Member since 1991
- Lay, Gretchen**, Shoreline, 10/15, Member since 1982
- Tift, William E**, Northshore, 8/15 Member since 1992

Sno-King School Retirees December Event



Holiday Cookie Fest And Sing-Along

Edmonds Board Room

**Thursday, December 3, 2015
12:45-2:30**

Sing-Along to Holiday Music accompanied by outstanding talent,
Bruce Caldwell, at our 5th annual Cookie Fest,
AND enjoy a tasty treat of Holiday Cookies and beverages.

Bring 3 dozen cookies, at 12:45 for sharing.

Have the cookies packaged in baggies of 6 each to sample and buy.
Purchase cookies for 50 cents per bag.

Please RSVP to Erma Snook 425-776-2067 egsnook@comcast.net.

We want to make space for your cookies!
Proceeds to go to Clothes For Kids charity.

Hear Superintendent Nick Brossoit's update on the Edmonds School District.



ATTENTION ACTIVE SKSR MEMBERS NOVEMBER 5 GRANT DEADLINE NEARS

Grant applications are due by **Thursday, November 5**. All actively employed members of Sno-King School Retirees, of any employee group in direct contact with students, are eligible to apply for a grant of up to \$200 for use in facilitating work with those students. How could such a grant help you to accomplish your goals?

The process is simple! Just submit the following:

- **A few sentences explaining how grant money will be used** and its intended impact on students
- **The amount of money** being requested
- **The applicant's name**, school and home e-mail addresses, school address and school phone number, the school principal's/supervisor's name and school e-mail address and school district
- **The usual day and time** of your regular staff meetings

Applications should be submitted to **Virg Rayton**, SKSR Grants Chair, virg@raytonfamily.com, (425) 774-9413 or to **Rita Requa**, rrequa@comcast.net, (206) 362-5220.

Recipients will be notified before Thanksgiving and checks will be delivered during December and January.

Non-members may secure eligibility by requesting a membership form from Jim Siscel, SKSR Membership Chair, at asjs68@earthlink.net, or (425) 778-7202.



Help us with information to put in the *Bulletin*

The deadline for the next Bulletin is December 20. Send news and other materials to Jo or Bruce Caldwell, bruce@wmea.org, 425-218-8434.

Please send us news about other members as well as about your activities.

If you know of illness, please call Sunshine Chair Evie Nordeen, 425-775-1127.

To help with mailing our next Bulletin on Monday, November 2, call Marilyn Dauer, 425-774-7445.

