

Sno-King School Retirees



September-October 2015

The SKSR Bulletin



A message from our coordinator

Why I joined SKSR

by Cheryl Bauer

As we start the 2015-2016 year with Sno-King School Retirees, hopefully, you, like me, are ready to recover from the heat of the summer and enjoy a little cooler weather and maybe even some rain.

After a busy summer, I personally am ready to get back to the routines of the year. I hope this is the year you decide to change your routine a little and join us at an SKSR event. If you read the rest of the newsletter, you'll see what's been planned and, hopefully, find some things of interest to you. We welcome Bruce and Jo Caldwell as our new editors. Thanks to modern technology, they can travel and still make the time and effort to be our editors. A big "thank you" to them.

When I last wrote, I said I would share with you the reasons I chose to join SKSR. This may be a familiar story, but while I was a librarian at Meadowdale Middle School, I wanted to start a book club to meet during the lunch hour. My friend, Ellie Bonanno, said, "I know where you can get money to get started. Join Sno-King School Retirees and write a grant request." I did join as an active teacher, and I wrote a grant. The rest is history. That \$200 allowed me to buy several copies of various books, and then leave them in the library for use long after I had retired.

To date over \$55,000 has been given to support active members as they interact with students. Good reason to join—

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

see COORDINATOR on page 3

The first event of the year

October 15 meeting at LeBistro

by Jim Siscel, October meeting chair

YOU'LL FIND INSIDE

- Coordinator's Message.....1
- Next Meeting Information2
- Dues Increase Benefits3
- Mark Your Datebooks.....3
- Picnic in the Park.....4
- Summer Retreat.....5
- SKSR Bulletin Board5
- Policies and Procedures6
- SKSR Scholarship Notes6, 7
- Winnie Smith Updates.....7

Since many of you are still traveling in September but haven't left yet for points south, we will hold our *Welcome Back* event October 15. We hope you will be able to attend our first meeting and luncheon, which will be held at the LeBistro at the Sno-Isle Tech Center in south Everett, near Paine Field and the Boeing plant. We meet and chat starting at 11:30 AM; lunch is served at noon. We encourage those of you who have never experienced the delicious food cooked by the students of Chef Becky, to join us this year.

After lunch an AMBA representative will tell us the benefits WSSRA members can receive from AMBA. There are several new ones since they spoke to us several years ago. Our association with AMBA is very important; their representatives brought our unit 41 new members, double any other unit in Washington.

The Executive Board decided to use some of the unit dues increase to supplement the costs of this lunch. Reservations are still required. Please let Donna Murrish know if you are planning to attend by sending the form below and your check to her. You can call Jim Siscel at 425-778-7202 or e-mail him at asjs68@earthlink.net for further information.

SKSR Board Meetings

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

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| October 8 | March 10 |
| November 12 | April 14 |
| January 14 | May 12 |
| February 11 | July 14 |



**Make your reservation now
October 15 Luncheon
LeBistro, Sno-Isle Skills Center
\$10 per person**



Your name _____

Guest's name (if any) _____

Menu Choice

_____ Maple-brined pork with apples and onions

_____ Puff pastry surrounding salmon, dill and sauteed leeks with a mayo/chili sauce

Send the form and your check by October 9 to:

Donna Murrish
11227 Goodwin Way NE
Seattle WA 98125

Doing more for our members

Dues increase benefits

by Cheryl Bauer

Hopefully, most of you are aware of the dues increase that was voted on and approved at the WSSRA convention this past June. It had been over 10 years since there had been any kind of increase, and for smaller units the need was definitely there. With a \$2.00 increase (one dollar going to the state and one dollar going to the individual units) our budget was significantly increased. It was definitely more fun going over the budget this year, being able to make increases instead of wondering where we would need to make cuts.

I would like to highlight some of the ways we were able to increase the budget and still show you how we are carefully spending

your money: (1) We are no longer selling Entertainment Books. It was a lot of work for our treasurer and the few board members who did the majority of the selling. (2) We increased the Conference/Workshop line item from \$3,000 to \$4,000 which totally pays for attendance at the June convention. We are hoping it will encourage more of you to want to attend.

In addition, (3) we increased the luncheon budget line item from \$500 to \$1,000. Our intent is to subsidize the luncheon events that are offered during the year. We are planning to cater the November and April scholarship luncheons while only charging \$5 for the meal. We'll also subsidize the luncheons held at LeBistro. (4)

Programs and event rentals were also increased, giving us the ability to try some new and different ideas. There were other smaller amounts added to various categories, but these are the major changes.

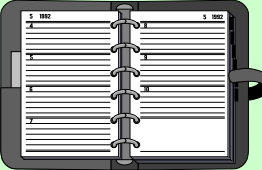
Lastly, (5) we have added a new line item entitled Reserve Fund and budgeted \$2,000 for that purpose. Having such a reserve fund is both prudent and advisable for an organization like ours.

Approval of the budget will occur at the first meeting, which is at LeBistro in Mukilteo on October 15. More information is available on page 2 of this issue.

COORDINATOR *from page 1*

great activity supported by your dues' dollars.

I encourage you to read all the articles in this newsletter. It looks like a busy year ahead with fun activities, service options and opportunities to learn and enjoy fellowship with other members.



MARK YOUR DATEBOOK

Coming Events for Sno-King School Retirees

October 15	11:30
Luncheon	LeBistro, Sno-Isle Skills Center
November 19	11:30
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
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

Picnic in the park

by Cheryl Bauer

On July 15 a small, but enthusiastic, group of people enjoyed a beautiful, sunny day at the Edmonds City Park as an ending and beginning experience with other members of Sno-King School Retirees. It was the ending activity for our 2014-2015 year and a beginning of the 2015-2016 year as the new officers were installed. Evie Nordeen installed Cheryl Bauer as Coordinator, Roberta Hawkins as Vice-President, Jan Phillips as Secretary, and Donna Murrish as

Treasurer.

Those in attendance included our state President, Bill Bergsma and our Northwest-1 Representative, Marianne Harvey. We honored those who had newly retired as well as grant recipients from the previous year. Each of the grant recipients present shared how they used the \$200 grants they received for use in their classrooms. Be sure to note the accompanying pictures as this information was shared.



The Edmonds City Park was the site of the annual SKSR Picnic. As usual, the food was delicious and the company delightful.

SKSR grant recipients show their projects.



*Heather Slettebak
Lynndale Elementary
Native American art projects*



*Tanya King-Bazor and Cathi Wrolstad
Beverly Elementary
Cross-grade-level art projects*

Other grant recipients present also described their projects.



Cheryl and outgoing Bulletin Editor Dave Johnson

Installation of new officers by Evie Nordeen on right, left to right Jan Phillips-Secretary, Roberta Hawkins-VP, Cheryl Bauer-Coordinator.



Planning for the future

2015 summer retreat

by Cheryl Bauer

The Executive Board of SKSR, consisting of your elected officers and the committee chairs, met on August 20, at the Foundation House in Bothell. After a brief period of time for summer sharing, the WORK began. We had brief committee reports covering what had happened the past year, and then moved on to the meat of the day—planning for the coming year. The time and commitment of the individuals sitting around the table are what keeps this organization moving so smoothly. (Let it be known that some of us are beginning to wear out, however!)

We welcomed new board members, Jo and Bruce Caldwell, who are now doing our newsletter. Their time and expertise is much appreciated. Look for what's happening for the year in each of the newsletters as they come out. First edition to be out around September 21.

While we would have liked to have had more thoughts and ideas from you—our members, we planned as best we could. It is never too late to share your suggestions with any of the board members. I can always be reached at bauercl@frontier.com or at 425-244-1709.

SKSR BULLETIN BOARD

NOVEMBER MEETING SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Mark Your Calendars!

November 19, 11:30, SKSR Scholarship Luncheon. Hear Coach Bob Ernst, UW crew coordinator and women's crew coach. If you read *Boys in the Boat*, you want want to miss event. More details in the next issue of the *Bulletin*.

SNOWBIRDS ALERT!

Snowbirds! It's that time of the year again! Before you flee south, please send Erma Snook a notice about your winter address change and when it is effective. Thanks to those of you who already have. Contact her at 425-776-2067 or at egsnook@comcast.net. Even if SKSR sends you an e-mail *Bulletin*, WSSRA sends a snail-mail *Journal*, so an accurate address saves return postage bills. Thank you.

2015-2016 SKSR BUDGET

The proposed budget for 2015-2016 will be presented for your approval at the October 15 luncheon at LeBistro.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

Mary Katka for a donation

Ruth Kenney for a donation

Donna Murrish in memory of *Idie Ulsh* and *Betty Trice*

Alma Ohtomo in memory of *Louise Baker*

Robin Randles and **Ed Orsborn** in memory of *Rachel Lake*

SKSR in memory of *Walter Wolff*, *Merald Leenknecht*, *Sheryle Bird*, *Lotte Graham*, and *Lana Salvino*

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015 RETREAT MINUTES

- Grant applications from active members are due the first Thursday in November (that's November 3 this year).
- The Department of Retirement Systems is now requiring WSSRA to submit the entire Social Security number rather than just the last four digits for all new members.
- Winnie Smith Scholarship candidates will now need to only submit an official transcript annually, with grade sheet copies acceptable for the mid-year report.
- The scholarship CD has matured, and the board voted to manage the funds through Edward Jones with the intent that a conservative investment might yield a better return than a CD.
- Discussion was held about use of the added income generated by the dues increase. It was decided to begin a reserve fund and to allocate \$2,000 from this year's budget to that fund. Final budget approval was deferred to the Budget Committee for a report at the next Board meeting.

How does SKSR work for you?

Policies and procedures update

by Roberta Hawkins

During 2014-15, SKSR reviewed, updated and revised its working policies and procedures. The result is a new document titled Policies and Procedures which now includes our specific way of operating in each of five specific areas: SKSR Scholarships, Winnie Smith Memorial Scholarships, Active Member Grants, Providing Information and Access by Political Candidates and Sponsors of Ballot Issues to Members of SKSR, and Use and Confidentiality of SKSR Membership Lists and Information. These revised policies are currently posted on our SKSR website and available in print form upon request from Cheryl Bauer (bauercl@frontier.com). One section, the one regarding use of member information, is printed here for you as required:

Article V: Use and Confidentiality of Sno-King School Retirees (SKSR) Membership Lists and Information (Rev./Updated 4/9/2015)

Section 1: Issues, rules and policies relating to the use of SKSR member information applies to all members, including officers of SKSR.

Section 2: SKSR adheres to the procedures and policies regarding member information that are used and followed by our state organization, Washington State School Retirees Association (WSSRA).

Section 3: Confidentiality of membership lists and information shall be maintained as follows:

- a. The Sno-King School Retirees Directory is provided to members as a means of keeping in touch with friends and acquaintances. It is our hope that members will find this directory a valuable tool to renew old friendships and make new ones, BUT it is for members' personal use and SKSR official business only. Use of the directory information for any commercial or political solicitation is prohibited;
- b. Each year, in the September *SKSR Bulletin*, the membership shall be notified of the rules of confidentiality of SKSR and WSSRA membership names and information;
- c. Use of SKSR stationery and logo shall be restricted to official business of the organization;
- d. Any special or non-SKSR mailing must be pre-authorized by the SKSR Executive Board. All expenses for such a mailing must be paid by the organization for which the mailing is done.

SKSR Scholarship winners thank-you notes

I was one of the students selected to receive the SKSR Scholarship this year, and I just wanted to thank you for offering this opportunity. I have struggled with finding a passion and interest in a career for a long time, and it has only been recently that I have committed myself to a career in education. Since my main interest is English, I only had so many options, but I have found a certain joy in teaching and helping students and peers.

This scholarship has not only given me more confidence in pursuing this path, but has also given my parents more faith in me. I have often had problems with a lack of support from them, but they have been more open to my choices. I am very grateful for your support as well. I will be sure to work as hard as I can to put it to good use.

Brian Dang

Thank you so much for the more than generous scholarship of \$1,500. It was so kind of you to pick me. I know this will greatly help with my college education. As you probably already know, with both my brother and me attending college at the same time, my parents wondered how they were going to help both of us. With the scholarship money, I know that a giant burden was lifted from my family's shoulders.

Attending BYU has always been a dream of mine. With this scholarship, I know that money will not be as big an issue as it would have been. I loved getting to know the committee members at the lunch last time we met. The food, entertainment and people were great. You are really lovely people.

Thank you again for awarding me this great honor. I don't think I can thank you enough, but I guess I can still try, so thanks a million!

Alayna N.

Where are they now?

Winnie Smith Memorial Scholarship winners

by Keith Lindaas

Erica Gott (Lynnwood) is planning on pursuing a degree in English with a minor in education as the University of Puget Sound does not have an undergraduate education program. Her next goal would be to get her master's degree in Education and begin teaching high school English. Erica thanks the SKSR for its generous scholarship and says she cannot wait to teach and inspire students in the same way her teachers have influenced and inspired her.

Jessica Gott (Lynnwood) is planning on becoming a school psychologist. She thanks SKSR for the award and states that it has helped greatly in pursuing her dreams at the University of Puget Sound. Jessica is planning on graduate school after UPS to further her education on her path to becoming a school psychologist.

Rachel Magnenat (Lynnwood) has traveled to Uganda twice; she recently came back from a four-month stay where she worked with children in all kinds of settings from churches to schools to their homes and villages. She says that this trip reinforced in her heart and mind how much she loves children and her passion to teach and help students learn. Rachel thanks us for our continued support.

Kevin Miller (Shorewood) has been involved in several activities at Whitman College in the field of education, primarily in literacy (Story Time Project and American Reads America Counts). He feels confident his Whitman education coupled with his extracurricular activities will make him a strong candidate for a Master's in Teaching program and an exceptional elementary school teacher.

One more note of appreciation from an SKSR Scholarship winner

Thank you very, very much for allowing me to accept the honor of the Sno-King School Retirees Scholarship. I am truly honored and amazed to have received and be selected for this scholarship. It is hard to put in words how grateful and eager I am to use what I have received toward my education.

Again, thank you very much for this special scholarship—really. It means a lot.

Kaelah



Winnie Smith, SKSR member who left a significant portion of her estate to SKSR for scholarships. SKSR uses the money to allow SKSR Scholarship winners to renew their scholarships for three additional years.

Hope Odendahl (Inglemoor) is pursuing a dual-endorsement in elementary and special education at Western Washington University. She says her program has been challenging but she is so happy to be a part of it and only a year away from her dream of being a certified teacher. Hope thanks Sno-King School Retirees for supporting her education and says, "I appreciate it so very much!"

Laura Taylor (Mountlake Terrace) plans to become a high school French teacher. She says she loved her high school French teacher and wants to instill the same passion for language in future students that she experienced. Laura says she's always wanted to be a teacher, but has gone back and forth on what she has wanted to teach—English, drama, history—and now she has decided on French.

June Woo (Meadowdale) taught English as a foreign language in Ecuador during the summer. She states that she learned a lot about teaching through this experience and it only confirmed her desire to become a teacher. June also found that she enjoys teaching older grades more so than the younger. At present, she hopes to teach English literature at the secondary level.

Erick Yanzon (Mountlake Terrace) is taking a diverse amount of classes and starting to really figure out what he wants to do at Western Washington University. He knows he wants to educate kids and serve as a resource for people who need help and guidance. He is enthusiastic about college and says, "I am having the time of my life!"

Sno-King School Retirees
P. O. Box 33962
Seattle WA 98133-0962



Help us with information to put in the *Bulletin*

The deadline for the next Bulletin is October 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.

Member information updates

Address Changes

Carroll, Francis R, 12121 Admiralty Way, Everett, WA 98204

Hyman, Margaret M, 125 74th ST SE, Everett, WA 98203

Nash, Kathleen, P O Box 2225, Leavenworth, WA 98826

Posey, Maude M, 10417 NE 187th ST, Bothell, WA 98011

Rasmussen, Darrell, 9515 198th Ave E, Unit 216, Bonney Lake, WA 98391

Smith, Barbara, P O Box 1179, Edmonds, WA 98020

Steenstra, Catharine, 20715 Larch Way, Apt 2,

Lynnwood, WA 98036

Wiklund, Stan, 116 Fairview Ave Unit 903, Seattle, WA 98109

E-Mail Changes

Collyer, Candace, sweetcollyer45@gmail.com

Miner, Rebecca, rebecca.miner@comcast.net

Deceased

Bird, Sheryle, Edmonds, 8/21/15 Member since 2009

Graham, Lotte, Northshore, 9/01/15 Member since 1994

Leenknecht, Merald A, Shoreline, 7/15 Member since 1993

Salvino, Lana J, Edmonds, 9/01/15, Member since 2005

Wolff, Walter L, Northshore, 6/21/15 Member 20+ years



APPLICATION PERIOD NOW OPEN FOR EDUCATOR GRANTS

by Virg Rayton, Grants Chair

If you are one of our active (employed) members of any school employee group that interfaces with students in Edmonds, Northshore or Shoreline, you qualify to make application for an SKSR grant of up to \$200 to facilitate your work with those students. Innovative members in the past have used their funds for such

things as field trips, art materials, books, computer programs, PE equipment, educational games, visiting experts, etc. Last year SKSR awarded \$7,000 to a record 43 recipients, and nearly \$55,000 has been awarded since the program's inception in 1998-1999.

Applications are due by Thursday, November 5, and should include the following information

- **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

Submitting your applications

- To **Virg Rayton**, SKSR Grants Chair, virg@raytonfamily.com, (425) 774-9413
- Or to **Rita Requa**, rrequa@comcast.net, (206) 362-5220.

Notification

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

Eligibility

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