

❖ SNO-KING RTA Bulletin ❖

President: Jim Becker, 284-8313 Editor: Betty Odle, 525-8276 APRIL 1994

President's Message

IN WHICH WE PROUDLY SERVE

Like the Marine Corps, Sno-King RTA is looking for a few good men and women. The need is for retired members to give six to eight (6-8) hours a month in support of the Unit and its activities.

Specifically, we are looking for people willing to serve as an officer and/or committee chair for the coming year.

The Board has a Nominating Committee, made up of **Joan Brown, Joanne Dunn and Wes Grande**. The committee is charged with preparation of a slate of officers to be elected at the April 21st meeting. Nominations will be offered for President-Elect (1995-96), Secretary and Treasurer.

By June 1st, the Board and incoming President, **Phyllis Enger**, will select committee co-chairs.

Committees most in need of help are Community Services, Hospitality, Information and Scholarship. Current chairs of Health & Protective Services, Legal, Live, Membership and Retirement Planning may be willing to continue, provided the Board gives them HELP by appointing co-chairs.

Despite appearances, election/appointment to an office or a committee is NOT for life. By serving a couple of terms before passing the torch to others, we can involve more of our members in steering the Unit.

So, there you are. When you get called by the Nominating Committee, think about how you can give 6-8 hours a month, beginning July 1st. Commit some of your time, ideas and energy to make Sno-King RTA #23 GO.

Jim Becker, President

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON - APRIL 21

You will all want to join us at this special meeting on April 21 when we meet at noon at the Edmonds Unitarian Church, 8109-224th S W, Edmonds, for a delicious Salad Luncheon. Unfortunately we will not be able to announce the scholarship winners since there was a delay in getting the applications out to the schools. (Map on page 2)

Our special program will be the **NORTHSHORE STEPPERS**. This group of enthusiastic "youngsters" from Northshore Senior Center have been performing together for about 12 years. Their director is Betty Stipek. They enjoy sharing their dancing with others and I'm sure that there will be a lot of toe tapping by our members.

If you haven't had a chance to sign up for the Salad Luncheon please call either Betty Odle, 525-8276 or Cheryl Bickford, 363-2731 by Monday, April 18. Please invite your friends to share this special meeting - remember, too, that all the proceeds of the \$4 donation for the luncheon go to the Scholarship Fund! In the event that you are unable to attend the meeting, a scholarship contribution form is enclosed on Page 3.

JOINT MAY LUNCHEON WITH SNO-ISLE RTA #22
TO FEATURE STUDENT PANEL

Pearl Miller, President of Sno-Isle RTA #22, has advised us that the program for the joint Unit Luncheon on Thursday, May 19 will feature a panel of high school students describing their community service projects.

Arrangements have been completed with the Mill Creek Country Club for the luncheon at 12 noon. Driving directions to the Country Club will be printed in the May issue of the **Sno-King RTA Bulletin**.

Cost is \$13 per person. Members and their guests are to make reservations by filling out the form on Page 3, and send with their check made out to Sno-King RTA, to Betty Odle, 2137 N 86th to be **received by Friday, May 13**. Call Betty, if you need additional information: 525-8276.

Students from high schools in the Sno-Isle RTA #22 service area have been invited to discuss their community service and outreach projects. Retired persons can be both model/example and recipient of student volunteer services. Support and encouragement for these young people can be shown by your interested attendance.

It is always a special day - meeting with Sno-Isle and the luncheons at the Mill Creek Country Club are always outstanding. (A bit of history - the Sno-King area used to be part of Sno-Isle - so it is our "mother" unit!)

COMING EVENTS:

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| April 5 | 9:30 AM | Coordinating Council meeting in Bellingham. |
| April 14 | 1:30 PM | Board Meeting at Ruthanne Warren's, 1720 NE 179th #301, Seattle, 367-0742. Note change of date from Wednesday to Thursday. |
| April 21 | NOON | Scholarship Luncheon - Edmonds Unitarian Church, 8109-224th Ave SW, Edmonds |
| May 12 | 1:30 PM | Board Meeting at Ed Osborn's, 2110 N 171st St, Seattle 364-3523. Note change of date from Wednesday to Thursday. |
| May 19 | NOON | Joint Luncheon - hosted by Sno-Isle - reservation slip on Page 3. |

HEALTH & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Gordon Bowers, Chairman, 778-9202

Though the retirees' health bill (HB 6605) passed in the 1994 legislative session, it will be several months before the Washington State HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY will have contracts signed with health care suppliers. There probably will be HEALTH CARE FORUMS held locally, same as last year to inform retirees on benefit details, including the 1995 subsidy of \$85.50 per month under age 65, and \$34.20 for those on Medicare.

The ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS (AARP, parent of NRTA & RTA's) alerted all members in a 1/4 page ad, nation-wide, to call and urge their Congress members to vote against HJ Res. 103, up for vote March 16 or 17. This was a proposed amendment to the Constitution which would have required a balanced budget. AARP's position is that it supports deficit reduction, but opposes this bill as being arbitrary, unfair and unwise, hurting the most vulnerable in our society. **DUE TO THE RAPID RESPONSE AND MILLIONS OF CALLS TO CONGRESS, THE BILL QUICKLY DIED! HATS OFF TO ALL WHO HELPED.**

For the latest on the continuing FEDERAL HEALTH CARE BATTLE, please read 'A LINE IN THE SAND' and 'CLINTON: IT'S TIME TO FIGHT' - an address to a February AARP meeting in New Jersey with interview on health care: Page 1, NRTA March Bulletin; 'HEALTH CARE REFORM' Page 1, AARP HIGHLIGHTS, APRIL ISSUE.

Also, two excellent articles are: 'INSIDE LOOKING OUT' Page 11, and MODERN MATURITY's 'INTERVIEW WITH HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON' page 62 MODERN MATURITY NRTA MARCH ISSUE.

U.S. REP. MARIA CANTWELL, FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, serves North Seattle, Edmonds, Lynnwood, Bothell, parts of Kitsap County, etc. She sent to our organization a position paper that explains her stand on various issues - crime, economy, health care reform, environment, welfare reform, education and transportation. She is eager to keep in touch with retirees, will send copies of bills and data on these issues and others. She has asked that we serve as a sounding board and keep her informed on views of retired teachers and other seniors. Please send me a note or call if you would like to have her written material on any of the above.

A HAZARD TO YOUR HEALTH - Small pickup trucks have a higher death rate than any other kind of passenger vehicle. Three reasons are given by the US Dept. of Transportation: light truck sales are 40% of all new vehicles, until recently did not meet safety standards, and trucks ride higher, tip over more easily. Driver problems were not mentioned!!

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55-ALIVE-MATURE DRIVING CLASSES
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Betty Puckett, COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIR, announces the schedule for Spring and Summer Classes in 55-ALIVE. They are scheduled for April 27-28, May 11-12, June 8-9, and July 13-14. Classes will be held at Edmonds Park and Recreation Center, 700 Main, Edmonds. Phone 771-0230 to register.

Classes meet from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day for the two successive days. Bring a snack if you wish. Material fee is \$8.00, payable to AARP. You must register in advance through Edmonds Recreation. Class is limited to 20. Call Betty Puckett, 522-8921 if you have any questions.
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SHARE YOUR SPECIAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE STORIES

We continue to receive several more stories each month - but we need more to make it worthwhile to put together in a little book. Remember when we print the stories they will be sold to benefit our Scholarship Fund. Everyone must have some interesting, or amusing stories to share - they could be about you, or your students. Most of the stories so far are about younger children - surely some interesting things happened at the Junior High or High School level.

Please share at least one of your experiences with us - everyone must have a tale to tell!

Send your stories to Betty Odle, 2137 N 86th ST, Seattle, WA 98103. Thanks!!!

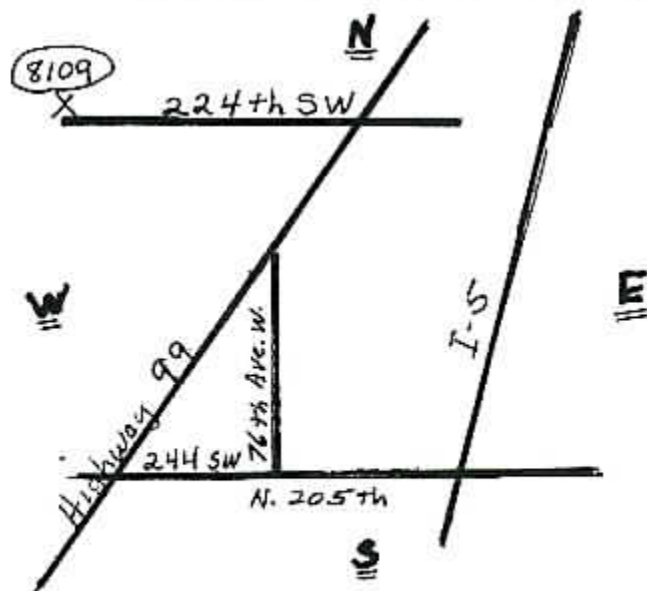
NORTHSHORE SENIOR CENTER

MEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM

A few more good men
needed for softball team, age 55
and over. Contact Bill Harris,
Manager, 821-4455.

The team plays on
Mondays & Wednesdays, 11 -
12:30 at Big Finn Hill Ball Field
#3.

MAP TO EDMONDS UNITARIAN CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON, APRIL 21



LEGISLATIVE NEWS - Joanne Dunn, Chair 363-7843
ALL RETIREMENT BILLS PASSED BOTH HOUSES!

Letters to the Governor encouraging him to sign bills as passed by the *Legislature* and thank you letters to all legislators are important.

The **Pension Funding Account** was established to protect the \$25 million earmarked in the last budget from the effects of Initiative 601. This money can be used to fund pension improvements in effect last July. The Account is in EHB 2643 **Pension Statute Cross Referencing**.

SB 6605 - K-12 Retiree Health Care Benefits Improvement places K-12 retirees under age 65 in the risk pool with state retirees under 65 January 1, 1995. Premiums are subsidized through pooling with younger employees. Medicare-eligible K-12 and state retirees will be in a separate risk pool and provided an explicit subsidy January 1. The HCA will be able to require insurers to have an equitable relationship between rates charged to the two risk pools.

The existing 4.7% remittance from school districts for retiree health benefit subsidies can be used to fund (a) increases in state employee premiums resulting from K-12 under age 65 retirees joining the public employees' risk pool prior to active K-12 employees; and (b) increases in the explicit subsidy for state and K-12 Medicare-eligible retirees. The 4.7% remittance ends October 1995 when K-12 actives join the public employees' risk pool.

With the 1995-97 appropriations act, funding for Medicare-eligible retirees' subsidy will be determined by the budget.

Fiscal Year 1995 Subsidies: As of June 1, the explicit subsidy for K-12 retirees will increase from \$57 to \$63.50 per-month for K-12 retirees under-age 65 and from \$22.80 to \$34.30 per month for Medicare-eligible retirees. As of January 1, the projected subsidy for K-12 Medicare-eligible retirees will be \$34.20. The projected implicit subsidy resulting from pooling with younger employees will be about \$134 for K-12 retirees under age 65.

HB 2905 - "Age 65" Plan 1 COLA simplification provides that when the youngest over-65 person qualifies for a COLA, everyone that age and older would automatically qualify. This bill also makes the February COLA permanent.

ESHB 1182 - Substitute Days increases the number of days a retiree can substitute from 75 to 90.

SB 6141 - PEBB Appointments permits the appointment of active and retired school district employees to the Public Employees' Benefits Board as soon as the bill is signed, rather than waiting until January 1995.

THANK YOUR LEGISLATORS AND GOVERNOR LOWRY!

For further information:
WSRTA Message Center: 1-800-221-1269

To Leave Messages for Legislators:
1-800-562-6000

SNO-KING RETIRED TEACHERS' SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The purpose of the Sno-King Retired Teachers' Scholarship Fund is to assist carefully selected graduating Seniors from Edmonds, Northshore and Shoreline School Districts majoring in education reach their goals.

Contributions are tax deductible.

Enclosed is a contribution of \$ _____

As a special gift _____

Or in memory of _____

Or in honor of _____

on the occasion of _____

Please send acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____

Donor's name _____

Address _____

(Make check payable to Sno-King Retired Teachers' Scholarship Fund. Mail to: Sno-King Retired Teachers Association, P. O. Box 5253, Lynnwood, WA 98046-5253.)

The World Cavalcade has made a special offer available to our Unit for a two for one ticket purchase of their show: **IRELAND - Poets & Kings** on April 23 in Seattle and April 24 in Tacoma. (See coupon below)



SPECIAL 2 for 1

World Cavalcade

Professional Travel Films
at Seattle Center Opera House
and Tacoma Pantages Theater

Attraction IRELAND - Poets & Kings

Date Apr. 23-7PM or Apr. 24-6PM

Name SNO-KING RETIRED TEACHERS ASSO.

To validate, please sign your name & address
on the reverse

Ticket prices: \$7.00*\$8.00*\$9.00
Please make ticket reservations in advance
Seattle 682-5255 • Tacoma 627-3271

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Marian Kinch recently visited her sister, a Peace Corps volunteer, on the ruggedly beautiful Caribbean island of Dominica. Our U. S. Peace Corps is trying to introduce a diversity of income producing crops so that the economy of this third world British Commonwealth can withstand the frequent hurricanes crossing the Atlantic Ocean causing widespread damage to the various fruit and coffee plantations. Population of the Island is under 80,000 with 3,000 being the last remaining group of Carib Indians, (which you might remember defeated the peaceful Aarawaks first seen by Columbus.)

Her sister teaches elementary science to English speaking children in a little village of about 500 people, all of African descent. Shack houses, buckets to carry water from village faucets, outhouses, narrow dirt roads, crickets and tree frogs to lull you to sleep and roosters crowing to waken by were new experiences. The heavenly fruits and vegetables, an ancient undisturbed rainforest, electricity with a few phones and TV's, beautiful beaches, 80 degree heat with nightly rain downpour and "sinus clearing" unpolluted fresh air make this a paradise not yet "discovered" by tourists!

It was great to have Marion Bellows out with us at the March meeting for the first time since summer - glad to have you feeling better, Marion!

Also at the meeting for the first time in several years was Evelyn Irby - what a "draw" when Dick & Barbara Sacksteder have a slide show.

Bill and Betty Jean Stevenson also expressed what a treat it was to see Dick & Barbara's pictures and hear about their trip.

We are sorry to report the death of our member Florence Carleton on January 12. A memorial was held for her on April 5th. Our deepest sympathy to her family and friends. Our Unit will donate to our scholarship fund in her memory.

News deadline for May Bulletin is April 21. Send to Betty Odle, 2137 N 86th, Seattle 98103.
Phone: 525-8276. Please send us news about other members as well as about your activities. If you know of any illness, please contact our Sunshine Chair, Barbara Berg - 483-2671 or President Jim Becker - 284-8313, or Editor Betty Odle - 525-8276.

