



JANUARY 1984

Jan. 19, 1984
10:03 A.M.

Good morning to you. Good morning to you, we're all in our places.....Gosh, I thought I was back in Miss Laughlin's room at Central School in Snohomish. Actually, I have good news and bad news.

The good news is, you don't have to turn first semester grades in....the bad news is the darn levy elections are coming up in our communities whether you are retired or not. That explains why Dick Sacksteder and his elves made an early trip to the post office with this news letter. Speaking of elves, we have had three or four busy ones.

Ken Angell, Paul Weaver and Gordon Bowers have responded to the 'school call' and are marshalling our retired forces of great influence behind the schools push for a strong vote in the upcoming elections. I'm volunteering all you drivers to transport your non-driver friends to the polling places. I've been looking for a way to show off my new car with chrome spoked wheels. Pat Svendsen & Al have a new Nissan, I believe.

I hear the scholarship fund is about to open it's purse to your generosity. There is seed money there so feel free to add fertilizer and water along with your sunlight. What a fine way to change shade into warmth and continuing life.

Pat Svensen would like bank freebies from your bank. Do a little arm twisting and bring your contributions to the next meeting, Thursday, the 16th of February. The board opened an avenue for all of you 'card holders'. By card, I mean....if you have a card for your hobby, business, interest group, etc., please send it to Dick Sacksteder and he will toot your horn free of charge. This fits within the scope of 'lettin' folks know what we're doin'....and they're to be reminded those are ex-teachers doin' it, too.

Feel free to write up what you are doing and share it with us.



EVERYBODY SHOULD VOTE ~

VOTE ON FEBRUARY 7



Edmonds District 15 is asking the voters in that district for \$8 million for each of two years. Collection for this levy will be from 1985 and 1986 property taxes. The levy rate is estimated to be \$2.29 per thousand of assessed property value.

The Northshore School District has a two-year, two-part levy on the Feb. 7 ballot. Proposition One asks collection of \$6.1 million in 1985 and \$6.1 million in 1986 for maintenance and operations of current school programs. Proposition Two asks collection of \$1 million in 1985 for a capital projects levy to repair and renovate the district's older buildings.

Continued on next page

OUR NEXT MEETING! Feb. 16 - Thurs...1:30 P.M....Board Room

The levy would cost approximately \$3.08 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 1985 and \$2.65 per \$1,000 in 1986.

Proposition One is needed because the State pays for about 80% of Northshore's educational costs. The balance must come from levy funds. Specifically, the State covers 82% of Northshore basic education costs, 50% of transportation costs, 70% of special education costs and 0% of extracurricular costs including music and athletics.

TWO PROPOSITIONS ON SHORELINE'S FEB. 7 BALLOT

Shoreline voters will be asked to approve a \$6.3 million levy to be collected in 1985 and a \$6.1 million to be collected in 1986. These operational and maintenance levies, contained in Proposition I, replace levies collected in 1983 and 1984. The state determines maximum amounts that school districts may levy. "It is possible that the levies could be reduced further if no state funding emergency arises", said Superintendent Roy R. Duncan.

Proposition II is a bond measure for \$31.5 million to be used to correct serious deficiencies in district buildings as well as bring the buildings up to code requirements. "These renovations will result in improved student safety, increased energy efficiency and structural changes that will best meet the instructional needs of students", said Duncan.

The Superintendent further pointed out that, through existing laws and current state funding, it is estimated that passage of both the special levy and bond measures will only increase taxes slightly to 1985, followed by a steady decrease in subsequent years.

UNFUNDED PENSION LIABILITIES

'Time bombs' ticking in Washington state

WE ARE indebted to the Washington State Research Council's Report for passing along some observations in the October issue of Institutional Investor that are highly pertinent to a long-festering problem here.

"After years of neglect," says Institutional Investor, "many states and localities are finally adopting funding schedules aimed at whittling down huge unfunded liabilities" of public pension plans.

The publication notes that "without a doubt, the unfunded liabilities of plans that aren't being properly financed are time bombs that will force future officials to either greatly hike taxes to meet their pension obligations or renege on some of their promises."

Such time bombs are ticking loudly in this state. As the research council points out, it's not only that the budget adopted by the Legislature for the 1983-85 biennium does nothing to amortize the existing \$3.2 billion debt in Washington retirement systems, but pension legislation enacted for the biennium will add to the already enormous unfunded liabilities.

Washington's pattern for financing pensions is one of chronic underfunding. The reason is obvious: It's the politically easy thing to do. Those who warn of engulfing red ink have small voices compared to the many public-employee pressure groups facing the lawmakers with outstretched hands.

With the Washington State legislature currently in session, money matters will be a big topic of discussion. In a recent editorial, The Seattle Times stressed the danger of unfunded pension liabilities under the heading, "Time bombs ticking in Washington State." Please read this and be prepared to give your unit and state legislative committees your support in working on this problem. Remember, the teachers pension fund needs about \$40 million dollars from the state legislature to be on solid ground. So read on:

Institutional Investor points out that "while the rush to patch up shaky public-pension finance is impressive, not all ailing funds are receiving the kind of attention they merit . . . Some states and localities — though very aware of these problems — just haven't mustered the political will to buckle down and take meaningful action."

Washington is one of the states where that observation fits precisely.

Last year, Sno-King lost Henrietta Dodge, for whom a memorial was sent to Sunrise Haven; Glen Hill, a memorial to the American Heart Association, and Jens Lerdrup, whose memorial went to the Medic 7 Aid Car program. Although not a member, many friends were saddened at the passing of Hallie B. Anderson, 91. She taught for many years at Edmonds High School.

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PROPOSED SCHOLARSHIP FUND GUIDELINES

The scholarship initially is to be \$250.00 ^{a minimum} per individual and one school only from Edmonds, Northshore or Shoreline Districts in rotation. As the fund grows, scholarships will increase and hopefully multiply.

* The starting objective for a permanent fund would be \$5000.00. The accruals could be disbursed each year.

* Criteria for selection: Education Major; Scholarship; Resume of performance, activities and personal goals

* Selection Committee to consist of three members of the Sno-King Retired Teachers Assoc.

* Fund raisers:

* At the time of passing of a member, the bereaved could suggest that memorials be made to the fund in the deceased member's name.

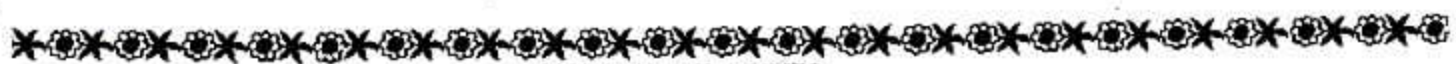
* Requests may be made to the fund in a member's will or from life insurance benefits.

3- Fund Raisers such as a pot luck luncheon with a \$2.00 donation; the July annual picnic could promote a \$1.00 per person donation. Also, the members could have a gigantic garage sale. This would be a good opportunity to clean out that garage, basement or attic.

Direct contributions can be made by members. The fund was kicked-off to a good start by our President with a \$50.00 donation. DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. IF YOU WISH TO WRITE A CHECK, MAKE IT PAYABLE TO: SNO-KING RETIRED TEACHERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND. MAIL TO: SNO-KING RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 5253
Lynnwood, WA 98046

WE THANK YOU



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 8 - Wed. at Bisnett's...RTA Board...2 P.M.
- Feb. 16 - Thurs...1:30 P.M....Board Room...Alderwood...Program...Stroke
- Mar. 7 - Wed...March Board Meeting...Place to be determined
- Mar. 15 - Thus...March RTA meeting...Alderwood
- Feb. 23 - Thurs...All committees meet...to be announced at Feb. 15th Gen. meeting by chairmen or assigns
- Apr. 19 - Thurs...RTA Gen. meeting
- May 15 - Tues...Joint Sno-King Sno-Isle meeting...usually Everett Pacific Hotel
- June 21....Installation
- July 19....Picnic

Cardiovascular Health will be the program topic at the February 16 meeting. There will be a presentation of a film, entitled "Without Warning" which focuses on high blood pressure, and related problems of stroke and heart disease. Jennie Barnett, a volunteer speaker for the Evergreen Stroke Association, will serve as resource person.

A blood pressure screening program will be offered at the conclusion of the meeting.

March 15: Dick Sacksteder will share his European experience with us.

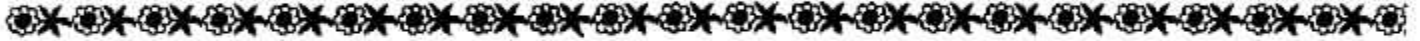


Pat Svendsen has set the dates for the annual Pre-Retirement seminars for this year. The dates are on four Tuesday nights beginning February 28, March 6, 13, and 20 in the P.U.D. auditorium at 21018 Highway 99, Lynnwood, just north of the Jack in the Box at 212th and Highway 99. The sessions will begin at 7 p.m. Pat will be calling on many of you for help soon.

YOUR TREASURER REPORTS:

As of January, 1984, Sno-King R.T.A. membership stands at 274. There are a number of members who have not paid their dues for 1983-84. We hope these will make use of the coupon to be found in our news letters to facilitate the payment of dues. Your treasurer will appreciate use of the same!

New members who have joined during the past few months are Alice Byrne, 7929 Greenlake Dr. No., Seattle; James Freng, 10603 - 231st S.W., Edmonds; Ilene Kraushar, 952 Alder, Edmonds; A. Dale Read, 230 - 107th Pl. W., Edmonds; John Burbank, 3709 A. Shelby, Lynnwood; Frances Peters, 12051 - 25th N.E. Seattle, and William H. Gould, 7531 - 242nd Pl. S.W., Edmonds. A hearty welcome to our unit.



THEY COME AND GO--John Greenwald showed up recently after being on tour. He and his wife, Teddy, now are headed to the Islands, after which comes a fling in Reno. Judy Liden took a tour of Europe last fall which included a tour of Switzerland, East and West Germany, Holland and France. Her travel theme was seeing "Martin Lyther Land."

In November, a crew of eight aided in the south county blood drive, handling registration and refreshments. Participating were Helen Beaver, Pat Svendsen, Betty Odle, Walt Barnum, Gordon Bowers, Walt Dawson, Bob Bisnett and Elbert Honeycutt.

Those who took part in a fall kindergarten screening program in our district schools are Adele Swanson, Walt Barnum, Elbert Honeycutt and Walt Dawson. Walt Barnum also is currently doing volunteer work at North City Elementary School three mornings a week.



Report from Sunshine Committee:

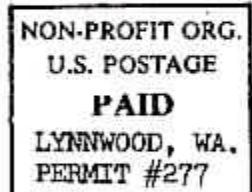
The committee is attempting to compile a list of nursing homes in our area. If any volunteer wishes to visit a home and is uncertain where to go, perhaps we could guide you to a home not currently being visited.

If you feel uncomfortable about visiting for the first time, we could assist in a simple orientation. From experiences others have shared with us, visiting is often highly rewarding to the visitor.

In our investigations here and there, we have learned that volunteers are greatly needed for all kinds of jobs in nursing homes. The Crista staff in charge of volunteers mentioned needing help improving the library or teaching a patient to read.

Fran Peters and Nancy Post - Co-chairpersons

Snoking Retired
Teachers' Assn.
P.O. Box 5253
Lynnwood, WA.
98046



E. Elizabeth Odle
2137 N 86th
Seattle, WA 98103