

❖ SNO-KING RTA Bulletin ❖

President: Jim Becker, 284-8313

Editor: Betty Odle, 525-8276

JUNE 1994



President's Message

"JUNE IS BUSTIN' OUT ALL OVER"



I have encountered a new law, not unlike Murphy's Law, which says: "If anything can go wrong, it will."

The new law: "When you can't attend to one more thing, a dozen new ones crop up."

Remember Junes when we were teaching and how there wasn't enough time to get all the things accomplished in order to close out the school year: report cards, book returns, lost and founds, etc. Seems like things aren't much different as I finish my term as Unit President.

Look to what's ahead for us: WSRTA convention, legislative goal setting for 1995, committee rosters, etc. But, we will get through it - seems we always do.

I derived a great deal of pleasure helping read and select among student applications for the WSRTA-PEMCO and Sno-King scholarships. With *Gen Kimm, Eileen Langford, Betty Puckett and Betty Odle* we went through 93 applications to select two NW-1 WSRTA-PEMCO scholarships and three Sno-King scholarships. Be assured there are many fine young people out there who are planning a teaching career.

Winners of the 1994 Sno-King scholarships are: EDMONDS - *Steven Escardon* (Edmonds-Woodway), NORTHSHORE - *Sarah Kline* (Inglemoor) and SHORELINE - *Angela Robinson* (Shorecrest.)

We are sorry we cannot invite these fine young people to a Unit meeting so you can meet them. But, read about them elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Sno-King RTA #23 is proud to contribute to this means to replace ourselves in the nation's schools.

Be sure to attend the June 16th meeting to help develop our legislative goals with *Lee Ozmun* and our Legislative Committee Chair, *Joanne Dunne*.

Jim Becker, President

JUNE MEETING FEATURES WSRTA LOBBYIST, LEE OZMUN

We are fortunate to be able to have our WSRTA legislative lobbyist, Lee Ozmun at our June 16 meeting. Lee will update us on the WSRTA legislative goals as well as to give a short explanation of the kinds of work campaigns need. Be ready to ask him any questions you might have about what we have accomplished so far and what we hope will happen in the future!

The meeting starts promptly at 1:30 p.m. at the Edmonds School District Office, 20420-68th AVE W, Lynnwood. Come and bring a car full of friends!.

JOINT LUNCHEON WITH SNO-ISLE HAD OUTSTANDING PROGRAM!

It was wonderful to hear the four young ladies share the Community Service projects that their schools have. We wish that more publicity would be given to the great things that the young people are doing rather than always picturing the "dark" side of the activities of our teens.

All were very articulate and seemed very much at ease speaking to a group of retired teachers. We commend Sno-Isle for presenting such an inspirational and enlightening program. We hope to have a similar program with representatives from high schools in our area sometime next year, perhaps at our Scholarship Luncheon in October.

COMING EVENTS:

June 6-8		WSRTA Convention - Kelso
June 16	1:30 PM	Meeting Board Room - Edmonds School District Office - speaker Lee Ozmun - highlights of session this year and legislative goals for next session. There will also be installation of officers for 1994-95.
July 14	1:30 PM	Board Meeting at Phyllis Enger's, 24209-26th SE, Bothell, 486-1127.
July 21	2 PM	Picnic honoring new retirees and all announced candidates for the legislature will be invited to attend.
August 18	12-3:30 pm	Board Potluck-Seattle Times Building, North Creek Plant, 19200-120th AVE NE, Bothell. Take Exit 24 off 405, East to 120th and turn right.

HEALTH & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Gordon Bowers, Chairman, 778-9202

Senior citizens really have it easy with all their medical care provided free. Right? READ ON... Non institutionalized Americans age 65 and over are projected to spend an average of \$2803 out-of-pocket for health care in 1994. Out-of-pocket health costs for older Americans rose 112% on average between 1987 and 1994, which includes supplemental medical insurance, prescription drugs, etc. not covered under Medicare. This is from a new report by the AARP PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE AND the URBAN INSTITUTE titled: "COMING UP SHORT - INCREASING OUT OF POCKET HEALTH SPENDING BY OLDER AMERICANS".

Despite Medicare and private insurance coverage, this year, the average older American is projected to pay directly for 43% of total health care services. The study also reports that older Americans' out-of-pocket costs are projected to consume 23% of the household income in 1994.

About long term care bills in Congress - changes have been made in the Cooper/Breaux plan. Representative Cooper has told AARP he will introduce a separate long term care bill that will include a means test (ability to pay - AARP plan calls for a sliding scale.)

About LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP) - millions of low income older persons are forced to choose between buying medicine, food, or paying for heat to stay warm. The Clinton budget calls for a 50% cut in this program. You can help on this urgent concern by calling the local offices of Senators Gorton (553-0350), Murray (553-5545), Rep. Cantwell (640-0233) and urge their support for retaining the current budget allowance for LIHEAP next year. Budget reduction should not be carried on the backs of the very poor in our society. PLEASE CALL!!!

55-ALIVE-MATURE DRIVING CLASSES

Betty Puckett, COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIR, announces the schedule for Spring and Summer Classes in 55-ALIVE. They are scheduled for 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.

WHERE ARE YOU CHARLOTTE A?

We held the drawing for the wonderful bunny that Patricia Lay made and donated for a Scholarship Fund raffle at the Joint Luncheon on May 21. The winning ticket was number 733061 and was sold at the Scholarship Luncheon in April. The only trouble is that on the back of the ticket is only the name Charlotte A with no phone number. If you know who this lucky person is please call Betty Odle, 525-8276 or Irma Bendock, 363-4072 so we can give this darling rabbit a home.

Our special thanks to Patricia for making such a special prize!

MEET THE 1994 SNO-KING SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Steven Escandon, graduating senior from Edmonds-Woodway High School, is a scholar-athlete. He hopes to enter Pepperdine University (California) where he wants to major in education and play varsity baseball. After college, Steven plans to teach in a high school where he can coach baseball and football.

His academic record is outstanding. In addition, he has been very active in student government and in service to his community. He has been a D.A.R.E. volunteer and has helped with Special Olympics. Steve's teachers cite him as a "people person" whom his fellow students trust and respect.

Sarah Kline attends Inglemoor High School in Northshore. She says she has been "heavily involved" in athletics, music, academics and community service for "as long as I can remember." Besides her many school activities Sarah has volunteered in service projects for her church and has worked with homeless people. She has helped to build houses and schools in Mexico and has also worked with children of migrant workers in the state.

Her educational goals include a major in Political Science with a minor in Spanish at the Colorado College. After college, she wants to spend a few years teaching English in South America or teach in migrant worker schools in the U.S.

Angela Robinson from Shorecrest High School in Shoreline, considers herself a goal-oriented individual who is "passionate about learning." She plans to major in English, earn a secondary teaching certificate and spend some time as a Peace Corps volunteer. Her teachers speak about her as a "gifted, self-motivated learner" who has been heavily involved in school government and community service projects. Angela's special creative writing skills were mentioned as strengths. She is described as committed to ambitious goals and particularly skilled in communication with young and old.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS - Joanne Dunn, Chair 363-7843

SNO-KING LEGISLATIVE PLANS

We have accomplished a great deal in educating legislators on the problems with our pensions. We have seen some of the positive results of these efforts in the last couple of sessions. However, there are challenges remaining: (1) We still do not have a COLA for Plan 1; (2) Plan 2 employees cannot retire until age 65; (3) Initiative 601 is now in effect; and (4) There will be many new legislators next session whom we must educate on our issues.

Sno-King is especially important as regards its potential effect on the next legislative session. Of the 12 legislative positions in our area, 6 will not have incumbents running for re-election! This is a really open field.

Our plan for Sno-King is two-fold: 1) more membership involvement in legislative campaigns and 2) more members who have worked on campaigns attending our post-election meetings with legislators from our area and contacting those legislators during the session.

Your help is vital. As Lee Osmun has said, "if not now, when? If not us, who?" WE are the only ones who can do the job for us.

PLEASE attend the Sno-King meeting Thursday, June 16th. And bring a friend. If each of us brings just one person, that alone would double the attendance - and our chance of success. There will be an update by Lee Osmun, the WSRTA lobbyist, and a short explanation of the kinds of work campaigns need - and how we can become involved and easily contribute effectively without giving our entire lives to the "cause".

The second step to become more effective is to attend the picnic Thursday, July 21st at Edmonds City Park. The candidates for the legislature for 1st, 21st, 32nd, and 44th districts will have the opportunity to speak. You will have the opportunity to choose a candidate you would like to work for. Again, **bring a friend.** We need to impress candidates with our interest and numbers.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OLYMPIA NOW

The JCPP (Joint Committee on Pension Policy) has had two meetings. At the first, they set the agenda for the year. Unlike recent years, Plan 1 COLA is on the agenda! The Plan 3 proposal was the subject of discussion and input from interested parties at the second meeting. The discussion clarified the effects of Initiative 601.

Initiative 601 sets a maximum expenditure amount for the State. Anything above this must go to the people for a vote. Prioritization of interests is here in a big way! If there is a 3% increase in salaries and State vendor rates, this would require a \$350 million cut in the current level of services. If Plan 3 reduces the retirement age from 65 to 62, the cost would be \$150 million, and member contributions would increase from 6.46% to 8.46%. An example of prioritization would be to use salary money to reduce the retirement age to 62 and use the remainder for salary increases.

The June JCPP meeting will continue the discussion of Plan 3 and may include presentation of proposals from the various affected groups. Plan 1 is on the agenda for the September meeting. There is still discussion going on about the \$ per month per year of service concept.

CONTINUING UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION: Call the WSRTA Legislative Message Center: 1-800-221-1269 or WSRTA Office - 1-800-544-5219

1994-95 DUES ARE DUE JULY 1, 1994 IF YOU PAY CASH! It's easy to forget when dues are renewable, unless you are on Automatic Dues Deduction. If you are not sure if you are on ADD call Ed Osborn, 364-3523. If you are on cash payment please use Form (A) below, if you wish to change to ADD, use Form (B)

<p>(A) CASH</p> <p>WASHINGTON STATE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOC.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Local Unit No. <u>23</u></p> <p>Name _____ Phone _____</p> <p>Address(Summer) _____</p> <p>Address(Winter) _____</p> <p>Retirement No. _____ Soc. Sec. No. _____</p> <p>Legislative District _____ Name of Local Unit: <u>Sno-King</u></p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>MEMBERSHIP PLAN:</p> <p>I pay yearly: (check) State Dues () \$24, Local Dues () \$6,</p> <p>Associate Dues (Spouse) () \$2, Total _____</p> <p>(Make check out to Sno-King RTA and send payment to Sno-King RTA, P.O. Box 5253, Lynnwood, WA 98046-5253)</p>	<p>(B) DUES DEDUCTION AUTHORIZATION FORM</p> <p>WASHINGTON STATE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOC.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">910-B Lakeridge Way SW Olympia, WA 98502-6036</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Local Unit No. <u>23</u></p> <p>Name (print or type) _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Retirement No. _____ Soc. Sec. No. _____</p> <p>Legislative District _____ Name of Local Unit <u>Sno-King</u></p> <p>I authorize the Washington Teachers' Retirement System to deduct the following dues from my monthly retirement allowance and to pay such deduction to the Washington State Retired Teachers Association.</p> <p>I agree to keep this deduction in force for the full membership year (July 1 through June 30). Should I wish to cancel ensuing deductions I will send a written notification of cancellation to WSRTA prior to May 1 to be effective July 1.</p> <p>(Please check) State (\$2) _____ Local (\$50) _____ Total (\$2.50) _____ per month</p> <p>Date _____ Signature _____</p>
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NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

We are sorry to report the death of *Frances S Weaver*, widow of Past President *Paul Weaver*, on April 29 at her home in El Paso, Texas. Our condolences to her brother, sisters, nieces and nephews and friends.

Alice Glasgow recently returned from a week in Indiana retracing her roots. She and husband, Bob, will house-sit in Ashland in June and will take in several plays while there.

From *Alice Conner* comes the message that life is busy in the sunshine at 12810 Copperstone Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375, with Computer Club, dance classes 2 to 3 times a week, plus dances in the evening or "tea dances during some afternoons. She is helping in Computer Club in many ways - some teaching, some learning, some mundane tasks. Bob is busy bowling several days weekly. Since they recently moved into their own home they have been busy filling it with new furnishings. They find that being 3-1/2 hours to Laughlin and 5-1/2 hours to Vegas has its advantages. Bob came home with \$400 extra and her aunt's \$10,000 jackpot helped pull her out of the hole. Alice held about even but had fun learning a new game called "Pai Gow Poker."

Barbara Berg and Georgianna Young just returned from a three week jaunt. They first traveled to Denver to pick up a teacher friend from Maine. From there they traveled across Kansas, stopping at various museums along the way, among them the Eisenhower Museum in Abilene. Georgianna stopped off in Haddam, Kansas to visit her sister for a week. Her sister's home is an underground house - a very good idea in tornado prone Kansas! Georgianna and her sister visited the various "highlights" in the surrounding area while Barbara and Jane traveled to St. Joseph, St. Genevieve, Hannibal and Branson, MO. While in Mansfield, MO they stopped at Rocky Ridge Farm where Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote the books about her life. She was almost 65 when her daughter talked her into writing the stories of her life! Barbara returned to Haddam to pick up Georgianna then dropped Jane off at Denver and then returned to the Northwest via Yellowstone Park with hundreds of pictures waiting to be developed.

President-to-be, *Phyllis Enger*, and husband *Harold* leave June 6th for the Tuscany Hills of Italy as Harold retraces some of his travels in Italy during World War II. From there they will travel by train to spend two weeks in Norway doing some "roots" searching - returning to Seattle on June 25th. We will miss Phyllis at our June meeting.

Pat Svendsen says that Al "is doing OK." They go for drives 2-3 times a week. Daughter is on-call with the Issaquah schools so Pat hasn't had the "respites" she had earlier. She is planning to check with Group Health about some respite care people. There are occasions when she must be away: like having the 25,000 mile check-up on their Honda.

Adah Miner went into Northwest Hospital before Easter for surgery, after a brief hospital stay, went home - only to return into intensive care for 12 days. She is now at Crista Nursing Center, is receiving visitors for short visits - has no phone available but would enjoy cards. She can be reached: Adah Miner, Room B-16, Crista Nursing Center, 19303 Fremont AVE N, Seattle 98133. Adah's eyeght is limited (cataracts) so she cannot read easily or watch TV. She says she enjoys having people read to her. Favorite readings are articles for discussion from The Wilson Quarterly.

News deadline for July Bulletin is June 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, (after she returns on June 25, Phyllis Enger, 486-1127) or Editor Betty Odle - 525-8276.

Sno-King Retired Teachers' Assn.
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FORWARD AND
ADDRESS CORRECTION

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