



SNO-KING RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

MARCH 1985

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Betty Odle

What wonderful cooks we have in our RTA Unit! Those members who were unable to be with us at our Scholarship Luncheon missed some very delicious food and marvelous fellowship as we added another \$138 to our Scholarship Fund. We now have over \$2400 - with many thanks to all of you who have contributed. Last Fall Helen Beaver donated a hand-knit sweater to be raffled and that raffle added \$231.50 to the Fund. Now Frank and Lois Madden have donated a beautiful clock which Frank made of a slab of Brazilian agate. We will have chances available at our March meeting, and will hold the drawing at our June Scholarship Luncheon. We know you will want to take some chances on it.

It is time to begin thinking about election of officers for next year. The nominating committee, Ken Angell, John Hunter and Paul Weaver will report at the March meeting and would appreciate any suggestions you might have. We will elect at the April meeting and the installation of officers will be at our June meeting. We are sorry to report that Betty Puckett will be unable to accept the nomination for president. The nominating committee will also submit names for delegates and alternates for the State Convention.

Speaking of the State Convention, our Unit will be in charge of all the arrangements for the Convention in June 1986. Ken Angell will be the General Chairman and he will need all of our help in order to make it a real success. Therefore, we would like to have a large number of our members attend this year's session in Olympia on June 4 and 5. Not only as delegates and alternates but as good observers so that we can come away with ideas of do's and don'ts for next year.

It is almost tax deadline time so be aware that AARP through their TAX AIDE TCE (Tax Counseling for the Elderly) has volunteers trained and certified by the IRS as Tax Counselors, offering FREE income tax assistance to older persons. For more information in Seattle call 285-3110 or 442-1040 and in King County or statewide call 1-800-972-9990 or 1-800-424-1040.

Some of you might be interested in attending some of the sessions of the Retirement Planning Seminar co-sponsored by our Unit and the Edmonds, Northshore and Shoreline School Districts. On March 19 Mitch Cogdill, Attorney, will speak on the Legal Aspects of Retirement and on March 26 Dr. Howard Pyfer, originator of the Capri Program, will speak on Health and Recreation. The sessions will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Edmonds High School, 7600 212th S.W., Edmonds.

At the February meeting, Ken Angell, chairman of the By-Laws Revision Committee presented the changes in the Constitution and By-Laws. These changes are merely to bring our By-Laws up to date. Some committees that are no longer used have been omitted and new committees have been added such as the Scholarship Committee. Some of the changes have been necessary to make it possible to apply for tax credit for donations to the Scholarship Fund. A copy of the new Constitution and By-Laws are included in this Newsletter. Any changes made are underlined. Please read them over and be prepared to vote for their approval at the March meeting. Our appreciation to the committee for their hard work on this revision.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 13 Board Meeting 1:30 p.m. at the home of Mary Lou Porter
- March 21 Regular Meeting - 1:30 P.M. Edmonds School District Board Room
- April 10 Board Meeting 1:30 p.m.
- April 18 Regular Meeting - 1:30 p.m. Edmonds School District Board Room
- May 8 Board Meeting 1:30 p.m.
- May 16 Joint meeting with Sno-Isle (Everett RTA Unit) at Landmark Inn

MARCH 21 MEETING - 1:30 p.m. in Board Room of Edmonds School District

Our speaker will be Dr. Ross Bandy, rheumatologist, who will give a lecture and carousel presentation on arthritis. He will give us insight into the different kinds of arthritis, hints on how to cope with the problem, and information on where we can get help and assistance.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - BILLS OF SPECIAL INTEREST FOR RTA - GORDON BOWERS

1. a. COLA BILLS are SB 3578, sponsored by Sen. Larry Vognild (38 District)
Sen. Peterson (40 District)
HB 519, sponsored by Rep. Katie Allen (21 District)
Bills are now in House Ways & Means - Dan Grimm, Chairman, and
Senate Ways & Means - Jim McDermott, Chairman.
- b. COLA BILLS would provide permanent 3% cap on pension increase, effective 7/1/85 for those retired one year, COLA distributed on length of service rather than straight %. Would cost \$350,000,000 for biennium with unfunded liability.
LEOFF IS NOT IN THESE BILLS.
- c. PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - HJR 19, sponsored by Rep. Dan Grimm, would mandate that any Washington State pension benefit would have to be paid "up front." If passed, has clause for COLA of 90¢ per year of service in each year - 1986, 89, and 91.

2. Natural Death Act. Substitute Senate Bill 3228 has passed out of the Senate Human Resources and Corrections Committee with a "do pass" recommendation. The bill clarifies procedures included in and related to RCW 70.122, the state's Natural Death Act. Currently, this law authorizes individuals to sign written statements which direct the withholding or withdrawing of life support treatment in cases involving a terminal condition. However, it makes no provision for withdrawing or withholding of life support treatment in cases where a written directive was not executed. SSB 3228 would increase the number of physicians needed to certify a terminal condition to three. It would establish conditions for withdrawing or withholding life support services for those not having signed a written directive. They are as follows:

- a. The patient is incapable of expressing desires;
- b. The attending physician determines the existence of a terminal condition and two additional physicians certify the existence of such condition;
- c. There is authorization from one of the following individuals in descending priority: guardian, person holding power of attorney, spouse, adult children, parents, adult brothers and sisters; and
- d. There is a good faith determination that the qualified patient, if competent would choose to forego life-sustaining treatment. In the absence of a good faith determination, the decision may be made only if it is in the patient's best interest.

Lastly, SSB 3328 would exempt physicians from being required to provide futile care in an emergency situation. The bill also requires that, in the event a written directive under the Natural Death Act is executed, a copy of such written directive be forwarded to the appropriate health facility upon admission of the patient. Additionally, in order to certify a terminal condition, the consulting physicians must personally examine the qualified patient.

INFORMATION AND PROTECTION SERVICES COMMITTEE - JOHN A. HUNTER

The I & PS Committee again wishes to stress to the member the importance of reading your various insurance policies and knowing what they do for you.

Medicare supplements are obviously more important than ever before. Your policy selection should be a balance of your individual needs and your ability to pay.

Attention should be given to levels of coverage and percentages paid of total fees. Your health provider may not accept UCR's.

Those who are over 65 should review any disability policies you may have purchased through the years. Coverage often stops at 65 or is drastically reduced.

DENTAL INSURANCE for those retired under PERS or WSTRS is projected to be available September 1, 1985. Premiums will be deducted from retirement checks by the state computer. An announcement will be forthcoming in our bimonthly statewide WRSTA Journal.

COMMUNITY SERVICE - NANCY SMUCK, 542-3813

Camp Fire is looking for senior citizen volunteers, men and women, who would like to match their life experiences and skills with the energy and enthusiasm of teenagers. Together they will help young children learn safety and self-reliance.

Seattle-King County Council has received funding to pilot a new concept in inter-generational programming. As a team, a senior citizen and a teenager will teach children basic living skills, and explore a new approach to the teaching of Camp Fire's Special Programs, "I'm Safe and Sure" and "I Can Do It."

The first sites for the project will be in Seattle's North End and in Bellevue. Training is scheduled for April. About 25 hours over 6 1/2 weeks is needed to participate in the project.

Senior citizens who have experience with youth, who are concerned about the situations and choices that children face today, and who enjoy being with all ages are encouraged to call Nancy or the Camp Fire Office at 524-8550. Jane Kuechle, Project Coordinator, or Penny Reid, Director of Special Programs, will be happy to answer questions.

THEY GO AND DO - - - - - PAUL WEAVER

In addition to the above program, Nancy Smuck, a graduate of Shoreline District, is working with Camp Fire as a volunteer on a Special Sitters Project. This involves training teenagers to be sitters for handicapped children.

Bob Arnesen recently returned from South Africa and showed up at our scholarship luncheon in February. He spent six days building a home for the black pastor of a church, followed by some sightseeing. He visited Krueger National Park and Johannesburg. He reports experiencing a broad spectrum of the culture, the schools, agriculture, and the political atmosphere of the country.

Myra Sorensen, retired business education teacher from Edmonds Senior High School, had surgery early in February for an aneurysm. She is doing well and is looking forward to going home soon from Stevens Memorial. The outlook for her recovery is excellent.

IF YOU HAVE NOT HAD A CHANCE TO PAY YOUR 1984-85 DUES, PLEASE TEAR OFF THIS SECTION AND MAIL WITH YOUR CHECK TO:
SNO-KING RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, P. O. Box 5253, Lynnwood, WA 98036-0878

MEMBER DUES

(Check appropriate box)

STATE-----\$10.00
LOCAL----- 6.00
Total \$16.00

ASSOCIATE DUES

(For spouses and working educators)

LOCAL-----\$ 2.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ State Legislative Dist. _____

Some time ago Sno-King RTA was approached by an officer of the Snohomish County juvenile courts seeking volunteers for the VGAL program (Volunteer Guardian Ad Litum). Jacqui Reid jumped into this and reports that her work includes investigating problems of dependent children and making recommendations to the court for their placement. The court gives great weight to this and evaluates it against the report of the court's professional people. Jacqui says this is the area in which teachers' knowledge of kids can be very useful! Talk to Jacqui or the Everett Court if you are interested.

Velma Potter, (Shoreline graduate), and husband Irv keep busy these days. She is a Northwest Senior Craftsman (Person?), making stuffed dolls and animals. Irv serves as sewer commissioner of the Ronald District and is a member of the Metro Council on Water Quality. When time permits, they visit a son on Oahu, or a daughter on Kauai, in THE ISLANDS. For shorter trips they visit another daughter in Virginia, or another son in Leavenworth, Washington. Not a record, but they have eight grandchildren.

NOTE: ALL ARTICLES OR NEWS ITEMS FOR THE APRIL NEWSLETTER MUST BE SENT TO MARION BELLOWS BY MARCH 25 at 9700 - 24 Avenue N. W., Seattle, WA 98117. (782-3046).



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