



NOVEMBER 1986

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - MARION BELLOWS

Those members and guests attending our October 16 luncheon thoroughly enjoyed the great variety of salads and hot dishes—retired teachers are mighty good cooks. Mary Jane Thompson from the League of Women Voters reviewed the issues on our state and local ballots. I, for one, have more studying to do on these issues. Our thanks again to the Edmonds Unitarian Church for making their fine facilities available to our group.

With luncheon monies, raffle sales, and donations, our scholarship fund is now at the \$5,000 level. About \$4,700 of this amount has been put into a C.D. to earn more interest. So before too long, we may be able to give more scholarships each year. Fran Bolerjack announced that a student from the Shoreline schools will be awarded the scholarship in the spring of 1987.

The State Legislature will be in session before we know it. To make our wishes known more quickly to the Legislators, our Telephone Committee would like to have more people on the telephone tree. Call Winnifred Smith at 778-3979 to volunteer.

Seven of our members have switched to the NRTA Division of AARP. They will now receive a special edition of Modern Maturity and a monthly educational bulletin. Check your AARP card. If it does not say NRTA Division, give me a call at 782-3046 and I will send you a form to make the transfer.

Helen Beaver's latest knitted creation is a man's zippered beige sweater in a beautiful pattern. We will draw the lucky number at our December meeting. So get out to the next two meetings and buy lots of chances.

Our November meeting will be the only health program of the year. Remember to call your friends and bring them to learn more about our busy hearts. See you on November 20!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- November 12 1:30 p.m. Marion Bellows, 9700 - 24 Avenue NW, Seattle Board Meeting
- November 18 Coordinating Council - Sno-Isle Skill Center
- November 20 1:30 p.m. Meeting at Board Room. Dr. Rich Arnell, Bob Hope Research Center
- December 10 1:30 p.m. Board meeting. Mary Lou Porter, 18824 Olympic View Dr., Edmonds
- December 18 1:30 p.m. Christmas meeting. Impressions from Meadowdale High School.

NOVEMBER 20 - News and reports for December Bulletin to
Betty Odle, 2137 N. 86, Seattle 98103, 525-8276

*I'll see you at the meeting
on November 20! And a
Happy Thanksgiving!*



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Gordon Bowers

News items worth reading - Modern Maturity, Sept. 1986 NRTA edition of AARP, pp. 86-7. Kermit Franks, immediate Past Pres. of the Washington Retired Teachers Association is quoted on the problems of A LACK OF COLAS for Washington's retired teachers. It's good publicity to see this problem brought to the attention of 20 million readers.

Also worth reading - WSRTA JOURNAL, Oct. 1986, P. 8 - LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE PLANS COLA STUDY AS PRIMARY GOAL - in essence, a two day workshop was held Oct. 21-22 in Olympia to train teams of two who will come to each legislative district, conduct a two and one half hour seminar for all RTA unit members, topics will include: 1. A COLA is absolutely necessary - inflation is not over. 2. A COLA is not a gift, it is earned - 28% of our income was withheld from our paychecks for pension funding while we were working. 3. Other retirees in the State are getting a far better deal than retired teachers. 4. Retired teachers will need to put all possible pressure on legislators in the 1987 session.

Good news for Michigan retired teachers - NRTA NEWS BULLETIN, Sept 1986, P.14. Retired teachers in Michigan received a 1986 increase of 8% and an automatic 3% per year annual increase in the future. A SIMILAR LAW AS PASSED THE WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE IN 1973, PROVIDING FOR A 3% ANNUAL COLA. NO COLA PAYMENT HAS EVER BEEN MADE TO RETIRED TEACHERS UNDER THAT LAW - RCW 41.32.499. Section 6 of the law states, "Each service retirement allowance payable from July 1st of any year after 1973 until any subsequent adjustment pursuant to this subsection shall be adjusted so as to equal the product of the cost-of-living factor for such year and the amount of said retirement allowance on the initial date of payment." Then, a "zinger clause" was thrown in Section 6... "Provided, that the board finds, at its sole discretion, that the cost of such adjustments shall have been met by the excess of the growth in the assets of the system over that required for meeting the actuarial liabilities of the system at that time." This loophole was the leak in the dike, and never plugged.

Fourteen years have passed since the COLA law was passed, but the Legislature each year has found ways to avoid paying. In the interim, purchasing power of pension checks has eroded to less than half of the original purchasing power.

RTA members will be kept informed on the times and places of the WSRTA WORKSHOPS, HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE!

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE PLANS 55-ALIVE CLASSES

Betty Puckett, Community Service Committee Chairman wants you to know that she is planning a 55-Alive, two-session class in early December. Many insurance companies give discounts to Seniors who take one of these classes every two years. The cost for materials is just \$7 per participant and must accompany your application for the class. Please call Betty Puckett, 522-8921 if you are interested and she will send you an application.



NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

We are happy to report that Paul Weaver continues to improve and is working on his exercising (walking). A note from Bea McKinney tells us that she is at home but is to be very quiet - a few phone calls are permitted but I'm sure she would appreciate cards. Bea had her first heart attack in November 1985 and at that time received a pace maker and managed fine until she suffered a massive attack in September.

The day after the Scholarship Luncheon Pat Svendsen ended up in East Side Group Health Hospital with a blood clot in her leg - she was to be in the hospital a week or ten days. By now she should be at home and back on her two feet! Take care, Pat.

Gordon Bowers is recovering from surgery and John Hunter seems to be getting back in the swing of things after his bout with measles.

A note from Jo and Elmer (Stitz) Stitzlein ... "Glad to see Gordon Bowers is legislative chairman and helping to look out for our interests.... We're still managing a Recreational Vehicle Park in Santa Barbara. Came down here 3 years ago on a vacation after my husband retired from Seattle administrative work. They were looking for managers - so here we are. Stitz says it's just like teaching school - but the kids are older and the toys more expensive..."

We would really like to hear about our members - won't you share your trips, experiences, happenings, etc. with us - give Betty Odle, 525-8276, a call - put the information on her machine if she's not in.



ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER??

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed,
Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?

Do you take an active part to help the work along,
Or are you satisfied to be the kind who just belongs?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock,
Or do you stay at home and criticize and knock?

Do you ever work on committees to see there is no tri-
Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the
clique?

So come to meetings often and help with hand and heart,
Don't be just a member but take an active part!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

WASHINGTON STATE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Local Unit No. 23

Name _____ Phone _____

Address (Summer) _____

Address (Winter) _____

Retirement Number _____ Social Security Number _____

Legislative District _____ Name of Local Association Sno-King RTA

MEMBERSHIP PLAN:

I am on the Dues Deduction Plan (check) State & Local _____ State Only _____

I pay yearly; (check) State Dues (\$10) _____ Local Dues (\$6) _____

DUES DEDUCTION AUTHORIZATION FORM

WASHINGTON STATE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Local Unit No. 23

Name (print or type) _____

Address: _____

Retirement Number _____ Social Security Number _____

Legislative District _____ Name of Local Association Sno-King RTA

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.

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.

(Please check) State (84c) _____ Local (6c) _____ Total _____ per month

Date _____ Signature (X) _____

MEMORANDUM TO BE RETAINED BY MEMBER

Date _____

On this date I have authorized the Washington Teachers Retirement System to deduct the amount of _____ per month from my monthly retirement allowance and to pay such deduction to the Washington State Retired Teachers Association.

I further agreed 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.

Signed _____

Use this form for ADD (Automatic Dues Deduction) and mail to Gordon Roberts P.O. Box 5253, Lynnwood, WA 98045-5253

MEMBER DUES (Check appropriate box) STATE \$10.00 LOCAL 6.00 Total \$16.00 ASSOCIATE DUES \$2.00

(Check appropriate box)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

Zip Code _____

State Legislative Dist. _____

IF YOU HAVE NOT HAD A CHANCE TO PAY YOUR 1986-87 DUES, PLEASE TEAR OFF THIS SECTION AND MAIL WITH YOUR CHECK TO: SNO-KING RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, P. O. Box 5253, Lynnwood, WA 98045-5253

If you like to write checks and do not wish ADD at the present time, use this smaller form and mail it to our Lynnwood P.O. Address.

Welcome to new members Evelyn Christensen and
Lloyd and Sandra Kelley!

People can be divided
into three groups...

Those who make things
happen

Those who watch things
happen

And those who wonder
what happened.

Which are You?

4.

Sno-King Retired
Teachers' Assn.
P.O. Box 5253
Lynnwood, WA
98046 5253

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