
SNO-KING SCHOOL RETIREES

NEWS

July 1997

President: Dave Johnson, 425-776-7298 Editor: Betty Odle, 206-525-8276

Treas.: Donna Murrish, 363-5753; Sunshine Chairs: Frances Peters, 206-361-8594

WSRTA Office: 1-800-544-5219; WSRTA Message Center: 1-800-221-1260

State Legislature Hotline: 1-800-562-6000

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Members and Friends,

We invite all members to come to the Sno-King School Retirees picnic to honor those who have just retired. We welcome new retirees and hope they will visit our meetings to find a spot for themselves in our many activities. We are planning a year full of events and encourage them to join the fun.

Your president-elect Don Denton and I would like to salute last year's president and board for their leadership and the outstanding job they did in making Sno-King again one of the outstanding units in the State of Washington.

The Southwest slide show presented by Dick Sacksteder was great. It was good to see such wonderful slides of this part of our country. It makes us want to visit many of those places. Dick and Barbara had returned from Europe the previous evening. We watched to see if Dick would fall asleep during the presentation but he was wide awake, informative and interesting.

I would like to thank all of you who have placed your confidence in me to preside over this organization for the coming year. I will do my best to fulfill your expectations. There is always an opportunity for people to assist our unit. Join with us on one of our committees or by coming to the meetings and greeting friends. Together we can work to keep Sno-King recognized as one of the top units in the state.

Dave Johnson



SNO-KING PICNIC-HONORS NEW RETIREES ON JULY 17!

2:00 TO 4:00 PM, EDMONDS CITY PARK, PARK SHELTER #2

Bring yourself and a friend - - maybe someone you haven't seen for a long time, but would like to see. Non-members are welcome! 1997 retirees are our guests. Sno-King is hosting, but a \$5 contribution from members helps defray the costs. Please RSVP by July 10th to Betty Odle 206-525-8276, Don Denton 425-672-6746, or Dave Johnson, 425-776-7298 so we know how much food to provide.

PICNIC DIRECTIONS: take SR 104 (Edmonds Way) to Edmonds. (DO NOT take arterial off-ramp to Edmonds-Kingston Ferry.) Follow 5th AVE S (toward downtown Edmonds) to Pine St. Turn left on Pine to 3rd Ave., turn right to park entrance on left. Proceed to Shelter #2. Look for Sno-King members in their blue-green shirts!

WELCOME, NEW RETIREES

We hope that we will be seeing you at the picnic on July 17! We will be sending you a copy of our July and September newsletters so that you will have an idea of the kind of activities that we have. Many of you are already members of Sno-King and we hope that the rest of you will want to become part of Sno-King.

COMING EVENTS

- | | | |
|----------|---------|---|
| July 8 | 9:30 AM | Budget Committee meeting at Dave Johnson's, 814-6th AVE S, Edmonds, 425-776-7298 |
| July 10 | 1-3 PM | Sno-King Board Meeting at AARP Washington State Office |
| July 17 | 2 PM | SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL PICNIC HONORING NEW RETIREES AT EDMONDS CITY PARK. (See information above.) |
| August 4 | 11 AM | Board Planning Meeting Potluck - Wandering Creek Clubhouse - Follow Bothell Way to 73rd in Kemore, turn left on 73rd (Knoll Lumber). Continue north on this road to Carter RD (This is the first 4-way stop north of Bothell Way). Turn right at Carter RD. Then turn right at 240th - just past the creek. (Check with Barbara Berg regarding entry number(425-483-2671). Go to stop sign, then continue straight ahead to club house. |

Tribute to Big Ed

6/4/97

Today we have said goodbye to a fellow retiree, a friend, teacher, co-worker, brother, parent and spouse. For all of us, Big Ed has his special place, a place no one else will ever quite fill. To each of us a different role, a special memory and meaning. For me, as I came home from his funeral service, my mind was filled with memories of Ed, in particular his role in our Washington State Retired Teachers organization. What a void we now know exists.

Yet it is not a void, for he has left us with memories of the many areas of service he filled. He has left us his personality and perserverance, his attitudes and keen mind. How he enjoyed putting it to work to solve some task! We remember his "laid back" way, it could drive one crazy, yet he'd be right, it'd all work out the way he said it would! I'm forever losing things, Ed would say, "Quit looking, it'll stay there until you come across it." It did!

As I went about my tasks this afternoon thoughts flashed in and out of my head of this past decade when I began to work with Ed and got to really know him. I thought of how I'd remember him, the many things we had worked on in Retired Teachers, in school and as Santa Claus to our grandchildren. A song Jolene had chosen for the service, "On Eagles' Wings", played over and over in my mind. It made me think of how we all have lived, cried, and rejoiced with Ed throughout this cancer ordeal. It makes one very aware of life, and a resolution to make the most of every moment swept over me. I want to do some things I haven't done in years. The genuine, simple, wonderful moments God gives to all of us. "On eagles' wings"...how I want to go back to a family hike we once made up in the Mowich Lake area of Mt. Rainier. We had hiked up a trail to a place called Eagles Ridge. As we sat there on a high embankment looking over the valley far below, we watched some specks in the air below us and suddenly realized we were looking down on eagles! What a privilege...only God looks down on eagles! Yet, there they were, gliding, swooping, and soaring in a world of their own, and we had been granted a moment to share it! Goose bumps cover me yet when I think of it. This is the kind of moment I want to live over, that I want to share with those I hold dear, over and over again. I know Ed would say, "That's it! Go for it!" He would say this to all of us.

If courage and determination were the primary factors in the length and quality of our lives, Big Ed would still be with us. Unfortunately, they aren't. Life has its pitfalls. We hear often now in June graduation days, "it's not the fact that you fail, it's how you react to it that counts." Ed will always remind us of this philosophy. I think it says it all for our friend, Big Ed.

The poem included in the program at Ed's service sounded so much like Ed that I am printing it for those of you who were unable to be at the funeral.

"When I quit this mortal shore and mosey round this earth no more
Don't weep, don't sigh, don't grieve, don't sob;
I may have struck a better job.
Don't go and buy a large bouquet for which you'll find it hard to pay,
Don't stand around me looking blue,
I may be better off than you!"

Ed was so supportive of our scholarship program, we are sure that he would be pleased to have contributions made to Sno-King RTA Scholarship Fund. Send to P.O Box 33962, Seattle, WA 98133-0962.

Our deepest sympathy to Ed's wife Jolene, their children Diana, Debra, Tim, Peter, Mark and Christina and their spouses and children. We know that he will also be missed by his mother and his brother and sister. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

The family of Ed Osborn extends their heartfelt thanks to all Sno-King members who through their visits, phone calls, cards, rides to doctor appointments and meetings and food-runs graciously supported Ed throughout his illness and then have continued to support us after his death. A very special thanks to Fran Peters and Betty Odle.

Jolene Osborn