

SKSR BULLETIN



May 2015

SKSR Executive Board

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 Legislative
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 Virg Rayton, Grants
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 Marilyn Dauer, Telephone/ Bulletin Folding
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 Bruce Caldwell, Directory
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 Barb Bumgartner, Membership
 Dave Johnson, *SKSR Bulletin* Editor/ Schl

A message from President Cheryl Bauer



As this year winds down, I have been reflecting on the happenings and successes of this organization we are all a part of, Sno-King School Retirees. From \$7000 in grants to active members, college scholarships for seniors (both first year and continuing), fields trips, service projects, luncheons, picnics, sing-a-longs, manning booths at retirement fairs and retirement seminar planning it's been a busy year. I enjoyed meeting some of you for the first time and renewing friendships with

those of you from my teaching past. When I think of having over 1340 people read what I've written in this and past newsletters, I feel humbled and honored to have been your president.

While I was hoping to make two years my limit, I have reconsidered and will be continuing next year in the role of coordinator. What this means is that I will be delegating responsibilities for the monthly meetings, but be the key person for communications from the state and Northwest 1. And for the most part, I will continue to write many of the articles in the newsletter. Please thank Vice President Roberta Hawkins, Secretary Jan Phillips and Treasurer Donna Murrish who have agreed to continue on in their roles. The executive board is the backbone of SKSR, and each member on it works many hours on your behalf. We invite you to join us on the second Thursday of each month at the Edmonds School District at 1:00, and be a part of the decision making process.

After the state convention which happens June 8-9-10 in Wenatchee, we will go into summer mode. Our only summer event will be the annual picnic on Wednesday, July 15, at the city park in Edmonds.

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**MARK YOUR DATEBOOK
Joint Sno-Isle Sno-King Lunch**

May 21

Sno-King Picnic July 15
Planning Retreat August 19

Joint Luncheon with Sno-Isle

Thursday, May 21, is the date for our joint luncheon with Sno-Isle, our neighbor unit to the north. We will again be going up to Le Bristo at the Sno-Isle Tech Center in south Everett. Come by 11:45 so you can enjoy conversation and acquainting with old/new friends. Lunch itself will be served at noon. We will be having Debbie Demetri do her impression of Rachel Carson. She is a talented performer and will take you into the life of the person she is presenting.

The students of Chef Becky will be serving either maple glazed salmon or cider brined pork. The cost is \$15 per person. Please let Donna Murrish know by Monday, May 18, if you are planning to attend. You also need to make an entree choice at that time. She can be reached at donnamurrish@comcast.com or 206 363-5753. The meal is always wonderful, and the desserts are extra delicious. No meeting planned – just an enjoyable luncheon together.

August Retreat 2015

Each year your Executive Board meets for a morning retreat at the Bothell Landing to review the past years' activities and to plan for the coming year. This year we will meet on August 19 from 9:00 till 12:00 selecting activities and events for the coming year. Before we go into this meeting, we would like to hear from you. It would really help us plan if we knew what you, our members, would like to see happening for the year. We try hard to offer a variety of events, but don't seem to be able to attract many new participants. Your suggestions would be helpful to us in determining how many, and what kind of events, we might offer. Please contact any of the executive board members listed on the cover of your newsletter with your comments or suggestions.

April Scholarship Luncheon

We were practically dancing, certainly tapping our feet, as we listened to the jazz band from Meadowdale Middle School. The Band under the direction of Bruce Lavin played for us at the luncheon. Such energy and such talent – both the students and the director. There was the usual selection of delicious salads, rolls and cookies. We were pleased to take in \$480 from tickets sales,



raffle money, donations and memorials. All of the money collected goes into the scholarship fund. After the music, Keith Lindaas and Linda Fitzgerald introduced the four high school seniors who are the recipients of this year's scholarships. They were left to right **Brian Dang**, Shorewood High School, **Brionna Osgood**, Meadowdale High School, **Alayna Nickel**, Edmonds Woodway High School, and **Kaelah Gendron**, Edmonds Woodway High School. Congratulations to each of them!

As a “thank you” for their many years of service Marlene and Dave Johnson were introduced and given a gift certificate to Anthony's. After many years as editor, Dave is stepping down from this role and handing it off to Jo and Bruce Caldwell. Hopefully, Dave will still be drawing those raffle winners.

Rachel Lake Remembered

Three time Past President of Sno-King Unit 23 and 27 year member, Rachel Lake, 83, passed away on March 29th, 2015. She was retired from the Shoreline School District. Rachel was additionally distinguished in her service as Legislative Chair, locally, Regional Representative to WSSRA Legislative Committee and WSSR-PAC Treasurer for many years. She was the initial guiding force in forming the Winnie Smith Scholarship Fund and the annual Cookie Fest and Sing Along was her brainchild. She is survived by her husband, Ken, and their sons, David and Kenneth, and their families.

SKSR Legislative Article - May

Rita Requa, SKSR Legislative Chair

While the end of the legislative session is scheduled for April 29, few think that the session will end on that day because, among other things, differences in the proposed budgets. As I write this, both the Governor, House and the Senate have released their budgets. The House and Governor's budgets include the monthly retiree PEBB health benefit of \$150. The Senate budget includes the health benefit, but reduces it to \$110, a 27% reduction which means a \$40 cut in your pension check! If you have not contacted your legislators, of both parties, regarding this issue, there is an easy way to do this via email.

Use this website address: <http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/Pages/MemberInformation.aspx>

Click on House and Senate Members - Click on All

Chose a member and click. This will take you to another page, fill out the information requested. Follow directions. There is no bill number, but put in budget under subject and write your message.

Here are some key points to include:

- * The average state retiree only makes \$1,815 month pension according to State Treasurer McIntire.
- * State retirees have already been hit HARD to balance recent budgets (The Plan 1 COLA was cut in 2011).
- * The average retiree pays over 25% of their pension in medical insurances.
- * Typical retirees are left with \$1,000 or less per month for living expenses after deductions.
- * The Senate budget proposes a 27% cut in the PEBB Medicare Eligible Healthcare Benefit (\$40 / month). That is a real hardship to people living close to the poverty line on a fixed income.

If you live out of the state, email the legislators who represented the district where you were employed. If you get a response to any of your messages, forward it to WSSRA Legislative Coordinator Peter Diedrick: peter@wssra.org Your voice is important for legislators to hear.

THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE SNO-KING SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory of Rachel Lake: Barbara Berg, Tom & Roberta Hawkins, Dave & Marlene

Johnson, Donna Murrish, Mary Lynn Potter, Virg Rayton, Gil & Erma Snook, SKSR

In Memory of Lee Evans: Charles & Pauline LeWarne

In Memory of Cora Mae McMurry: Betty Bostrom, SKSR

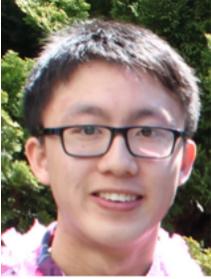
In Memory of Mary Green: Phyllis Fiege, SKSR

In Memory of Maryon Troxel: Donna Murrish, SKSR

For Donations: Thanks to Bea Aigner, Phyllis Fiege, Charles & Pauline LeWarne, Lynda Watson

Email Address Change: McMahan, Sandra: sandymc@frontier.com

2015 SKSR Scholarship Winners



Brian Dang, from Shorewood High School, has plans to attend Columbia University with the goal of becoming a high school English teacher. He has been extremely active in high school with drama, orchestra, robotics club, cross country and bike club. In drama Brian was voted Best Actor in the school's One Acts Festival and has been serving as the club's secretary during his senior year. He plays the viola in the school's Symphony Orchestra and the Chamber Ensemble. Outside of school he was a camp counselor last summer at a camp for children from preschool through eighth grade. One of his English teachers and drama director states "Brian is one of the most accomplished and well-

rounded students I have encountered in my teaching career." In addition Brian has a perfect 4.0 grade point average!

Kaelah Gendron from Edmonds-Woodway High School will be attending the University of Washington to pursue a bachelor's degree in Biology with a minor in Spanish with the goal of becoming a Secondary Science and/or Spanish teacher. Kaelah has challenged herself with the most rigorous courses in the IB program at her high school. She is also involved in Key Club, has been a volunteer at a local elementary school, and was honored as the school's STEM Student of the Month. Kaelah's Spanish teacher says "She sets a good example for the other students with her language and interpersonal skills and is a leader in classroom participation. She consistently demonstrates a high level of critical thinking".



Alayna Nickel attends Edmonds-Woodway High School and will be attending Brigham Young University in Idaho while pursuing a degree in Elementary Education. Alayna has been active in student government at her high school and she is involved in several clubs while achieving excellent academic success. Outside of school Alayna is very involved with her church and working part time at a restaurant. One of her teachers comments "Alayna has consistently demonstrated joy, hard work, time management, compassion, and care. She leads by example".



Brionna Osgood will graduate from Meadowdale High School and begin her college experience at Everett Community College. Her plan is to transfer after two years to Western Washington University and pursue a degree in Elementary Education. Brionna has been very involved in community activities with volunteer hours at both the Lynnwood Food Bank and the Mukilteo Boys and Girls Club. She was so successful at the Boys and Girls Club that she was asked to stay on and work with the before and after school programs. Her supervisor there says "Brionna has proved herself to be a very valuable staff



Visit the Sno-King website:

<http://www.sksr.org>

In the Spotlight Virg Rayton



Two years ago I was privileged to nominate Virg Rayton for the Stan McNaughten State Award. To get this nomination a person must be active both in SKSR and in the community. In doing the write up, I came to realize what a wide variety of things Virg has done. Along with his wife, Estelle, Virg spent three years in the Peace Corps upon graduation from WSU. He then taught in the Edmonds School District at the elementary level. He received the PTA Golden Acorn Award and was one of three finalist for the Washington State Teacher of the Year. Since his retirement in 2001, he has been an active member of SKSR serving on the membership committee and most recently as the Chairman of the Grant Committee.

Let me return to the things Virg does outside of SKSR. He is an active member of his church singing in the choir (for the past 30 years), managing a spring rummage sale, and helping facilitate the annual Holiday Art Show. He can also be found working at the Snohomish County Cold Weather shelter.

When I took over the job of President of SKSR, I had no idea of all that Virg did to help make the luncheons run so smoothly. He does the setting up the tables and chairs; manages the microphones; gets things in order and just generally is willing to help in any way he can. Dedicated, efficient and always ready to assist are words that describe Virg Rayton.

Convention

This year the annual Washington State School Retirees Association Convention will be held in Wenatchee on June 8-9-10. Each year, Sno-King sends delegates to find out what is happening in other units and at the state level. We also go to workshops where we have an opportunity to learn and share with others. This year we will be honoring Ed Gonion, who has been the director at the state level for the past 11 years. What an outstanding job he has done for our association and for all retired school employees. Special notice should be made that our own Donna Murrish has been nominated for the Stan McNaughton Award. This is given for outstanding service outside of SKSR.

If you think you might like to go and become more involved in SKSR, please let Cheryl Bauer know at 425 244-1709 or at bauerc1@frontier.com.



*Virg Rayton and Donna Murrish
at last year's Convention*

Welcome New Members:

*Barnett, Mary Anne, 6403 NE 182nd ST, Kenmore, WA 98028 mabarnett70@gmail.com 206-310-0739
Rowen, Gerri G, 29 236th PL SW, Bothell, WA 98021 margerrowen@aol.com 425-486-5736
* Active Member

Member Data Changes/ Additions:

Capelle, Connie F, 1415 1st ST, Wenatchee, WA 98801
Costan, Renee, 6023 190th ST SW, Lynnwood, WA 98036
DeLange, Robert H, 21500 72nd Ave W Apt 306, Edmonds, WA 98026
Lundberg, Donald, 14710 26th Ave SE, Mill Creek, WA 98012
Puckett, Elizabeth, 13287 Road 12.7 NW, Quincy, WA 98848
Stephenson-Dahl, Margaret S, PO Box 584, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043
Sullivan, Daniel E, 206-550-7027
Thumlert, James, 4800 Caymus LN, Mukilteo, WA 98275
Trosvig, Frances, need address
Troxel, Maryon P, 805 SalmonBerry LN, Bellingham, WA 98229

In Memoriam

Green, Mary L. 3/2015, Edmonds, 21 year member
Lake, Rachel M. 3/29/2015, Shoreline, Past President, 27 year member
McMurry, CoraMae 3/2015, Edmonds, 16 year member
Troxel, Maryon P. 4/9/2015, Shoreline, 30 year member

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SKSR BULLETIN

HELP US WITH INFORMATION TO PUT IN THE BULLETIN

The deadline for the next newsletter is 8:00 AM, **Friday June 19**

Send news and other materials to

Dave Johnson damajo3@comcast.net or 425-776-7298.

Address, phone or e-mail changes should be sent to **Erma Snook** egsnook@comcast.net or
425-776-2067.

If you know of illness, please call Sunshine Chair, **Evelyn Nordeen** evie.nordeen@frontier.com or
425-775-1127

To help with mailing our next Bulletin on **Monday June 29** call

Marilyn Dauer 425-774-7445 or **Joan Hertrich** 425-778-9572

Snowbirds!

Snowbirds! It's that time of the year again! Before you return north, please send Erma Snook a notice about your address change and when it is effective. Thanks to those of you who already have! Contact her at 425-776-2067 or at egsnook@comcast.net. Even if SKSR sends you an email newsletter, WSSRA sends a snail mail Journal, so an accurate address saves return postage bills. Thank you!