

Sno-King School Retirees



July-August 2017

The SKSR Bulletin



A message from our president

Welcome to summer!

by Cheryl Bauer

As we get to the heart, and we hope heat, of the summer, I want to thank all of you again and the members of the board, who carried me through this past year. My garden is planted and plans are made for various outdoor activities. I hope you'll join us for our annual

picnic—Thursday, July 20, at the Edmonds City Park at 11:30.

The crux of this organization is you, its members. We are over 1,370+ strong—second largest unit in the state. We, as your leaders, will continue to work for you and the goals of the organization whether you are able to actively participate or not. I know many of you are super busy, out of town or unable to attend for various reasons. I did enjoy seeing a few new faces this year and hope next year will find more of you choosing to participate.

This is my last year doing the job of president Ellen Cooke in a solo manner. Starting in August you can look for writings from both Jim Siscel and me as we share the co-presidency of SKSR.

Have a fun and safe summer. I hope you will make it a resolution to come to at least one of the events in the coming year.

OFFICERS

Cheryl Bauer, President
Roberta Hawkins, Vice President
Jan Phillips, Secretary
Tom Hawkins, Treasurer

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Barbara Berg, Scrapbook
Linda Fitzgerald/Keith Lindaas, Scholarships
Donna Murish, Health
Marlene Johnson, Hospitality
Evelyn Nordeen, Sunshine
Betty Odle, Historian
Virg Rayton, Active Member Grants
Rita Requa, Legislative
Jim Siscel, Membership/Retirement/Website
Erma Snook, Membership Records
Jo/Bruce Caldwell, Bulletin Editors



WANT FREE MONEY?

If your name is one of the four members' names hidden in this *Bulletin*, you are eligible to win \$25!

Check out details on page 5. Be a winner! ALL members are eligible. Good luck!

None of the members whose names were hidden in the last issue found their names, so no one claimed the \$25 prizes!

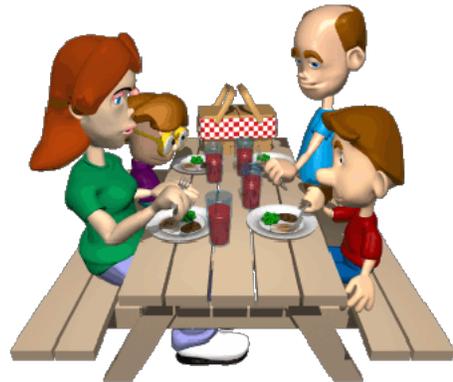
Our next special events
by Cheryl Bauer

Annual picnic to be held July 20

On Thursday, July 20, 2017, we will be having our annual picnic at the Edmonds City Park. Meeting and greeting start at 11:30 with lunch being served at noon. New retirees enjoy the event at no cost; the rest of us pay \$5.00. This event includes Jan’s famous meat-balls, salads, dessert and fun in the sun (hopefully.)

Our special guest will be Curt Horne, newly elected president of WSSRA. We will install our new/old officers, hear from the grant recipients and again enjoy time with fellow colleagues.

I encourage you to save the date and come.



Planning retreat on August 3

The board’s annual retreat will be Thursday, August 3, at the Shoreline Center from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. We will be planning our activities for the 2017-2018 year.

We would like to invite all members who have ideas that might be of interest to other members to come join the Executive Board in discussing these ideas. Lunch will be provided. If you are planning on attending please call Jim Siscel at 425-

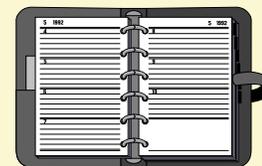
778-7202, so he can give you the menu selection.

Even if you can’t attend, but have some great ideas, contact Jim at asjs68@earthlink.net or Cheryl Bauer at bauercl@frontier.net and they will take your ideas to the meeting.

YOU’LL FIND INSIDE

President’s Message	1
Next Events Information	2
Legislative Update	3
April Luncheon Report	4
May Luncheon Report	4
A Scholarship Success Story	5
WSSRA Convention Report	6
Membership Changes	6
Winnie Smith Scholarship Update	7
Membership Changes, continued	7

MARK YOUR DATEBOOK



Coming Events for Sno-King School Retirees

July 20.....	11:30
Picnic.....	Edmonds City Park
August 3.....	9:00
Retreat.....	Shoreline Center

Our Legislature in action

At this time...

by Rita Requa

As I write this article, there has been no legislative budget agreement nor has the revenue forecast been released. The State House (50 D/48 R) and State Senate (24 R & 1 D=25 who vote R and 24 D) have proposed vastly different budgets: Senate offers no new taxes and “draconian cuts” and the House has written a budget containing some tax increases and closing of tax loopholes, etc. Governor Inslee has ordered that the budget negotiators actually meet and negotiate an agreement. Until this time they weren’t even in the same room! By the time you read this, there may have been a budget agreement, a vote and the governor’s signature. Or there may be no budget agreement, resulting in a partial government shutdown. Even if that is the case, our retirement checks will still be coming.

The prediction at the time of this writing is that the budget will be less than the Democrats wanted and more than the Republicans had proposed. One interesting proposal is that sales tax for on-line purchases be implemented.

A question that has been asked of me a number of times: *Do legislators get paid when there is a second or more session(s)?*

Answer: *The legislators are paid per diem if they are the negotiators on the budget or if they attend a called committee meeting.*

What provisions will be included that affect retirees? I preface the following with “we think”...

Health care

As of this date there have been two proposals regarding retiree health care benefits: The House budget restores the present \$150 benefit to \$166 in 2018 and the full \$183 in 2019. Remember the Legislature reduced our health benefit from \$183 to \$150 in 2011.

COLA for PRS 1 and TRS 1

COLAS are *not* included in either budget. Washington state has 15 pension plans for state employees (PERS 1, 2, 3; TRS 1, 2, 3; Judges, LEOFF, etc.) All have COLAS with the exception of PERS 1 and TRS 1. Those of us on Plan 1 would prefer to survive on a pension rather than DSHS.

Making Actuarially Recommended Pension Payments



The House and the Senate budget proposals are on track to make the needed pension payments.

Increasing Plan 1 Minimums

The Senate has made a proposal to increase TRS 1 minimum benefits. The House has also made a proposal. At this point I am not sure either will survive any budget agreement.

Stay tuned

When there is an agreement and the WSSRA Legislative Coordinator and our lobbyists have analyzed that agreement, you will receive current information via the internet or the SKSR website.

Legislative races this fall

There are eight legislative races to be voted on November 7, 2017. The outcome of the election in the 45th District’s Senate race (includes Kirkland, Duvall and Sammamish areas) is drawing a lot of attention as the results will determine the leadership in the Senate. Candidates are Jin Young Englund (R) and Manka Dhingra (D). This is expected to be one of the most expensive races in state history. You might consider making a contribution to this race.

WSSR-PAC

I was shocked at the PAC financial report given at the June WSSRA Convention. Only 350 of our 17,000 members of WSSRA made a contribution to the PAC last year—that is just 2% of our members! If you have contributed money Randina Gangnes at a PAC fundraiser in cash, that money was attributed as a low-cost to the organization, not an individual, unless you contributed with a check. You have two opportunities to make a PAC contribution. Be sure to bring a check book and contribute to the PAC at our July picnic. You may also write a check to WSSR-PAC and mail to the new PAC Treasurer:

Lora Brabant
125 West 11th Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362-7709.

Spring activity reports

April and May luncheons

April Scholarship Luncheon

by Rita Requa

Fifty attended the SKSR Scholarship Luncheon on April 20. After enjoying the lunch of BBQ pork sliders, mac and cheese, and spinach salad, the scholarship recipients were introduced:

Emilie Mathiason and parents from Meadowdale High School, Olivia Reiner from Woodinville High School and granddaughter of member Carol Robinson, Katherine Lyden and parents from Shorewood High School, and Brent Johnson and father, also from Meadowdale High School. All plan to study in a field related to education and each spoke about a teacher who inspired him or her.

Entertainment for the luncheon was Michael Miropolsky, Musical Director of the Cascade Symphony and Assistant Principal Second Violinist in the Seattle Symphony. Maestro Miropolsky told about his youth in Kyrgyzstan, Russia, where it was discovered that he had perfect pitch before he had any musical training. Young



Scholarship recipients: Emilie Mathiason, Brent Johnson (both Meadowdale), Katherine Lydin (Shorewood) and Olivia Riener (Woodinville).

Michael started on the violin and subsequently trained in Moscow. His stories of immigrating to the United States with a seven-month pregnant wife mesmerized the audience. He also spoke about his love of this country. Many were able to purchase his memoir, *Theme and Variations: My Life's Journey*.

May Joint Luncheon

by Jim Siscel

On May 18 Sno-King members met with our adjacent unit, Sno-Isle, for our annual luncheon at le Bistro Café. The 60 retirees had time to visit with each other before enjoying an excellent lunch prepared by the culinary arts students.

Speaker Denise Constanten, founder and owner of Brigadoon Service Dogs, spoke of how she and several associates train service dogs for children and adults with physical, developmental and behavioral health disabilities. They also train dogs for veterans. For the veterans program, a service dog might be trained to turn on the lights, retrieve items, wake their human partner during a nightmare, aid the hearing impaired

or calm a Wounded Warrior who is suffering from a flash back or panic attack.

Denise brought along her Standard Poodle, Sophie, as an example. Sophie was so well trained, we hardly knew she was in the room with us.

Trainers use a wide variety of dogs, depending on the needs of the individual who will be receiving the dog. The training takes about two years Barbara Bumgardner before the dog is ready to go with the individual.



An SKSR Scholarship success story

by Peter Reni
3rd Grade Teacher
Syre Elementary School

In 2003, during my senior year at Shorewood High School, I was encouraged by our fabulous career center to apply for the Sno-King School Retirees Scholarship. I did, detailing my experience coaching local youth in baseball and tennis, and my passion for a career in teaching. Later I was honored to learn that I had been awarded a scholarship.

With help from the SKSR, I attended Western Washington University—known for its prestigious teaching program. I was accepted into Woodring College of Education my sophomore year. I majored in Elementary Education and played tennis on the club team while continuing to coach youth tennis at Bellingham Tennis Club during the school year and at Klahaya Swim and Tennis during the summer. I completed my full year of student teaching at Northern Heights Elementary in the Bellingham School District.

After graduation I began my career teaching fourth and fifth grades at Lake Dolloff Elementary in the Federal Way School District. I loved my

time at this school, but I did not love the commute, so in 2015 I began teaching third grade at Syre Elementary in the Shoreline School District—the school where I began my own education. Now fully certified by the USPTA as a tennis teaching professional, I work as the head professional at Klahaya Swim and Tennis Club during the summer.

It feels great to live, teach and coach in the community that has given me so much. Many thanks go to the Sno-King School Retirees for believing in my potential and giving me a head start on my teaching career.



WANT FREE MONEY? Read on...

Again in this issue (it's a not-so-sneaky way to get you to read the *Bulletin!*), the **names of FOUR SKSR members are hidden** throughout the *Bulletin*. If your name appears, you will be eligible to receive **\$25**. Here's what you need to know:



- **Names will appear in a way that makes no sense to the article.**
- Names in lists or that are directly related to the article are not eligible.
- If your name appears, you will receive a check for \$25 if you...
 - o Email our treasurer at hamhawk@aol.com -OR-
 - o Snail-mail your response to
SKSR
PO Box 33962
Seattle, Wa, 98133-0962
 - o In your response, either by email or snail-mail, include your name, U.S. mail address and number of page where you found your name.
 - o Emails/post marks must be on or before August 20.

That's all there is. Just sit back and wait for your free money to arrive!

Final report

WSSRA 2017 Convention

by Cheryl Bauer

Sno-King well represented at WSSRA state convention in Pasco in June



Convention attendees from Sno-King: Jim Siscel, Virg Rayton, Donna Murrish, Evie Nordeen, Rita Requa, Cheryl Bauer, Barbara Berg, Aaron Feik, Roberta Hawkins and Tom Hawkins.

Ten representatives from our Sno-King Unit 23 traveled to Pasco for this annual event. We met up with old friends, shared time learning what is (or isn't) happening at the state legislature, bought raffle tickets to support

the foundation (which gives scholarships to high school seniors), listened to several outstanding speakers and attended sessions on various leadership roles within the association. Our new state president, Curt Horne, is

now at the helm. You will have a chance to meet him at our annual picnic.

One of the speakers, Gene Sharrat, talked about the power of leadership and the importance of having fun getting the job done. Jim Sporleder

spoke and shared a video on the ACES program, and its success at the alternative high school in Walla Walla where he was principal. It was empowering and encouraging to hear about and see the various programs that have developed to help all students. Public education's importance cannot be overstated.

There were also wonderful meals and various awards presented. The entertainment by the Chief Joseph Middle School Girls' Choir was outstanding.

Next year the convention Sharon Schoenauer will be held in Wenatchee. We hope some of you will consider attending.

Member Information Updates

Welcome New Members

Bloom, Judith, 101 222nd St SW, Bothell, WA 98021, 425-481-5085, jjjbloom@hotmail.com

Clem, Karen, 23415 39th Ave SE, Bothell, WA 98021, 206-909-4457, kareneclm@frontier.com

Dussault, Linda, 15800 Village Green Dr Unit 39, Mill Creek, WA 98012, 360-631-9858, lindadussault@gmail.com

Harvill, Rita, 23124 38th Ave SE, Bothell, WA 98021, 425-481-7319, 98fun@comcast.net

Nelson, Sheila, 10619 240th Pl SW, Edmonds, WA 98020, 206-546-3655

Peters, Denise*, 16930 35th Ave NE, Lake Forest Park, WA 98155, 206-365-8171, mikeandsam@msn.com

Phillips, Virginia A*, 702 5th St #204, Snohomish, WA 98290, 425-773-4905, phillipsg@netzero.com

Sanders, Marcia L*, 10728 Ashworth Ave N, Seattle WA 98133, 206-417-3219, marciandsanders@yahoo.com

* = Active Member



Winnie Smith Memorial Scholarship Update

by Keith Lindaas

The following students are receiving their first \$2,000 from the Winnie Smith Scholarship Fund:

Charlotte Berkman, who is from Inglemoor HS and attending WWU, has decided to teach theatre to high school students, a change from early childhood education. She has declared her major in Theatre with a concentration in Theatre Education and hopes that this new decision will be a great one.

Emma Enga, Meadowdale HS, is attending WWU and working toward getting a degree in Biology and Chemistry Secondary Education. She said, "Before I can learn how to teach biology and chemistry, I must master the subjects, and right now I am just paying attention to what my professors do!" She thanks us for our support.

Shoreline CC student **Shelbie Knowles**, a Lynwood HS graduate, has the goal of becoming a high school math teacher. She has started taking general transfer courses that are recommended for Secondary Education. Shelbie thanks us for the opportunity and the blessing of receiving this award.

Meghan Trainer from Shorecrest HS, who is attending Whitworth College, is more confident than ever that the field of education is where she is supposed to be. She is planning on an Elementary Education major and also a focus on French. Meghan says, "I am so excited to continue my education so that I might educate others."

**These students were awarded SKSR scholarships when they were graduated from high school. The scholarships may be renewed through the Winnie Smith Scholarship Fund for up to three years, as long as the students stay in education or an education-related field.*

Member Information Updates, continued

Member Data Changes/Additions

Baker, Evelyn, 17143 133rd Ave NE Apt 145,
Woodinville, WA 98072

Dailey, Thomas, 5616 7th Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98107

Malan, Michael, 232 4th Ave S APT 302, Edmonds,
WA 98020

Mason, Kimberlie, 1224 S 232nd St, Des Moines, WA
98198

Miller, James, 2937 Quigley Rd, Langley, WA 98260

Nall, Carol M, 600 NE Lincoln Road TRLR 7,
Poulsbo, WA 98370 7623, 360-930-0439,
cmnall@comcast.net

Perry, Carolyn, 2017 Richmond St, Sacramento, CA
95825

Sarvis, W. Bradley, 350 N 190th St Apt C215,
Shoreline, WA 98133

Stroud, Patricia, 17409 18th Ave SE, Bothell, WA
98012

Truax, Barbara, 19202 76th Ave W, Edmonds, WA
98026

Deceased

Werts, Beverly H, 4/30/2017, Retired from Shoreline,
Member since 1997

*Sno-King School Retirees
P. O. Box 33962
Seattle WA 98133-0962*



Help us with information to put in the *Bulletin*

The deadline for the next Bulletin is August 13.

Send news and other materials to Jo Caldwell: jo@wmea.org—425-218-8434.

Please send us news about other members as well as about your activities.

Please send changes in your mailing address, telephone number, or e-mail address to
Erma Snook, egsnook@comcast.net, or call 425-776-2067.

If you know of illness, please call Sunshine Chair Evie Nordeen, 425-775-1127.

To help with mailing our next Bulletin on August 21, call Marilyn Dauer, 425-774-7445.