



July, 2014

New Look For NEWS!

There is a new look for our retired eyes to see as we try to keep you interested and informed in our local chapter's activities with and for YOU!

We'll let you know what we're doing...and how YOU can become involved at any level you wish, even the much-maligned "spectator" level!

We can't possibly include all the information desired by 500 individuals in one little newsletter four times a year, so we'll depend upon you to look to your WEA publications and website as well as to our local website for in depth and detailed information, as you desire.

We are going to try to include more graphics, pictures, humor, interesting information, and local news in succinct, informal, readable format, when possible. Let us know how we are doing!

This local quarterly newsletter will be your regular reminder that your retired and active members of Unit 21 are actively working and planning fun, interesting and educational activities that will attempt to meet some of our local area needs. We hope to tantalize you enough that you will search out a meeting or an event and JOIN US!

Editor's note: As you may have noticed, the publication has a different "feel". Pam Verner, retired Sedro-Woolley/Alaska teacher/principal has been given permission to try her hand at creating the newsletter in her own unique and iconoclastic style. Her "artsy-ness" and informality may not appeal to all, but will be different enough to draw some new interest and attention. Hang with me as I (Pam) explore my writing self, breaking all kinds of traditional rules, but having fun as I do. Hope you have some fun too! I am blessing right now the previous editors who have done this so faithfully for so many years without enough thanks. It's a lot of work, isn't it????? THANK YOU, Joanne Jones, and any others who may have done this, for your years of devotion!

WARNING: THERE **WILL** BE HUMOR. THERE MAY BE MISTAKES. IT'S MEANT TO BE ENTERTAINING. I NEVER INTEND TO HURT ANYONE'S FEELINGS OR MAKE MISTAKES. SOMETIMES I DO. IT IS NOT INTENTIONAL AND I APPRECIATE YOUR TAKING IT THAT WAY. MY GOAL IS TO INFORM AND MAKE YOU WANT TO READ THE WHOLE THING. SOME OF YOU WILL LIKE IT AND SOME OF YOU WON'T. IT'S A FREE COUNTRY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND I HOPE SOMETHING IN HERE WILL MAKE YOU LAUGH AND WANT TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THIS VALUABLE ORGANIZATION THAT IS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATE IN IT AND THAT INCLUDES **YOU**!!!!!! WE NEED YOU!!!!!!

Pam Verner, Sedro Woolley, Washington July 6, 2014

The Lunch Bunch With PUNCH

On May 12 about twenty Unit 21 members attended a luncheon at Max Dales for our first event honoring local area superintendents. Superintendents attending were Dr. Mark Wenzel, Anacortes, Philip Brockman, Sedro-Woolley, Pam Estvold, Conway, and Dr. Carl Bruner, Mount Vernon. Scintillating networking occurred during the event which allowed both groups to better understand each others' current issues and perspectives. This face to face contact proved valuable enough to put this project in the planning for a repeat performance next year with a goal of expanding the attendance of our membership and the number of local superintendents involved.

A Tea for a Fee

Unit 21 has a goal of supporting Mini-Grants to teachers in our local classrooms for innovative projects not funded by their districts. On May 13, members Barbara Robinson, Joyce Moon, Joanne Jones and Diane Visten went to Bellingham to support the mini-grant project of the Whatcom unit. The elegant tea was a fun way to raise money and our members enjoyed this method of interacting with another unit. Hopefully, their "pinkies" were artistically arched as they sipped from their dainty cups and remembered all their social skills (At least we HOPE so!).

Old Bags Create Gift Bags

Of COURSE not!!!! Just a nickname all in fun for our wonderful members who created clever, useful, fun "care bags" for our active members and then hand-delivered them to our 46 active members in their respective schools! (Candy kisses—to show we care about them; bandaids—to remind them of healing; cookies—for extra pep, and many more clever and creative small items.) A 100% positive reception greeted these friendly "old bags" as they made their deliveries.



Co-presidents Barb Robinson, Diane Visten, & Joyce Moon, & Joanne Jones raising pinkies at fancy Whatcom fundraiser.



Co-President Barb presents fabulous "We Care" Gift Bag to active Unit 21 member Linda Kilpatrick.

Around Unit 21



Local Superintendants and Unit 21 members network on CURRENT, LOCAL ISSUES -May 12



BIG EVENT OF THE SUMMER. . .
SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

Summer Wine Tasting Social

***FEEL THE LOVE * MEET NEW FRIENDS *SUPPORT POLITICAL
ACTION**

Tulip Valley Vineyard and Orchard

16163 St—Rt.536 Mt. Vernon

- FREE AND FABULOUS APPETIZERS
- LIVE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT BY “KELLY & JEFF”
- FREE “WELCOME” GLASS OF WINE FOR ALL ACTIVES & ALL NEW MEMBERS
- SCINTILLATING LOCAL GOURMET WINES FOR \$5.00 /GLASS

And your new word for the day is **PLUK**. **PLUK PLUK PLUK**

PLUK PLUK . Say it. **PLUK**.

Are you French?

Of course not. People don't seem to RSVP anymore. It is SOo out of style. Let's change it to PLUK. People planning events NEED to know if you are coming. It's good for you to make up your mind promptly so you can plan appropriately and actually get your body THERE. It's GOOD for you to get out and mingle and meet new people. Besides this event is on my birthday and I would so love to see all 500 members, their friends, and families there. Let's make this a HUGE event. PLEASE **PLUK TODAY!** Make the effort—you'll be glad you did.

Oh, yes. What does it mean? Please. Let. Us. Know.

PLUK.

Diane: 387-1348, Barbara 424-8245, Lonnie 856-6498 (No, not ALL of them, Pick ONE to call. NOW.) **PLUK**

IT'S NOT THAT HARD. Please say you'll come-----today, before you forget. You'll be glad you did.

And, as quoted globally from every retiree thing I read, we all need to get out and socialize and exercise our brains and not isolate ourselves. Make the effort. Step out of your “comfort zone”.

(Besides, did I mention—it's my birthday that day?) (I don't even DRINK wine and I'll be there! C'mon, you can do it! Good for the brain!)

CELEBRATE SUMMER with US THIS YEAR!!!!

PREVIEWS OF COMING ATTRACTIONS:

- **JULY 14 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.(UNIT 21 BOARD RETREAT**-No, not BORED, you ninny, it will be INTERESTING): Padilla Bay Interpretive Center at Bay View This is where the planning for the next year happens. If you want the power to create how this group will be, this is your chance. Scrapbooking workshop in the afternoon to work on Unit 21 scrapbooks together. There is a plan. Bring glue, scissors, and other scrapbooking materials if you have them. POTLUCK LUNCH. OPEN TO ALL.
- **AUGUST 9** I already told you about it—see “wine tasting” and don’t forget to PLUK immediately.
- **SEPTEMBER 15 SISRA UNIT 21 BOARD MEETING**-Barb Landrock’s new home in Burlington
- **OCTOBER 4 SISRA UNIT 21 Political Forum:** Burlington Public Library noon to 4:15—in planning stages
- **OCTOBER 6 NW Coordinating Council Meeting** 10 a.m. Royal Fork, Mount Vernon
- **NOVEMBER 3 SISRA UNIT 21 HOLIDAY BRUNCH** Skagit Golf & Country Club Annual Event

AND FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO REALLY LIKE TO PLAN AHEAD:

- **JANUARY 4, 2015 NW1 COORDINATING COUNCIL** 10:00 a.m. Royal Fork MV
- **FEBRUARY 2, 2015 SISRA UNIT 21 Board Meeting** 10 a.m. Royal Fork MV
- **FEBRUARY 20, 2015 Retirement Semnar** at NW ESD 189 Anacortes 6:30 p.m.
- **MAY 4, 2015 SISRA Unit 21 Board Meeting** 10 a.m. Place to be decided

Skagit/Island/San Juan
School Retirees
24333 Willida Lane
Sedro-Woolley WA 98284

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