

Walla Walla-Columbia SRA

Retiree News in the Blues

Spring
2019



President's Corner

Notes from Jacquie

I hope this finds you all in good health and enjoying the beautiful spring. My presidency is coming to an end this month. It has been an honor to serve with the great and helpful board members. My special thanks to **Joan Helm** for her advice and assistance, **Walt Gobel** for his mentorship, **Mary Jo Fontenot** for keeping me organized, and **Jim Briggs** for keeping us on track, and in the black, financially.

I'll be passing the gavel into the capable hands of Paula Nichols in May. I'll be there to assist in any way I can, and I'm asking you to give her the same wonderful support you have given me for the last two years.

Our May Luncheon will be a busy one. We'll install new officers and hold our annual Memorial to those who have left us. On May 30, we'll be assembling and delivering goody bags to our active members. Then in early June, many of us will attend the Annual WSSRA Convention in Yakima.

Our Teddy Bear Tea was again a successful venture, on the only clear day in February. The tea helps to fund the two \$2,000 scholarships to student teachers. We also gave sixteen \$200 mini-grants to deserving active members.

Our legislature has not yet funded the much needed COLA for Plan I members. I urge each of you to contact our representatives to thank them for their support.

Officers

- President - Jacquie Clark
- President-Elect - Paula Nichols
- Past President - Walt Gobel
- Secretary - Mary Jo Fontenot
- Treasurer - Jim Briggs
- Past State President - Irene Gleason

Committee Chairs

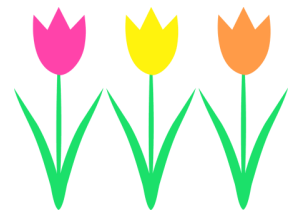
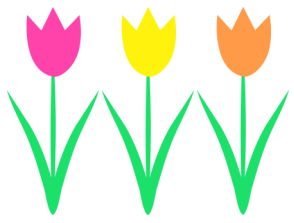
- Communications - Gordon Taylor
- Community Services - Mary Jo Geidl
- Health Services - Roland Erikson
- Hospitality - Kay Barga
- Luncheon- Judy Jackley
- Membership - Brenda Kirk
- Mini-Grants - Pam Conover
- Retirement Planning - Leslie Stockton
- Scholarship - Mardel Bierwagen
- Legislation - Jim Davison
- Program - Jacquie Clark, Bd. Members
- Bd. Member At Large – Gwen Gobel
- Shirley Rodenberg

Activity Directors

- Directory - Steve Heimbigner
- Historian - Allen Kopf
- Volunteer Coordinator -
- Newsletter - Kathi Goodwin
- Elissa Stites
- Teddy Bear Tea - Deanna Aeichle
- Linda Thorne
- Claudia Ford
- Jackie Ormsby

State Committees

- Retirement - Kathi Goodwin
- Foundation Board - Paula Nichols



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Meeting/Luncheon Dates

The Walla Walla –Columbia School Retirees Association luncheon meetings are held the 2nd Monday of the month from September through May. Unless announced otherwise, the luncheon meetings will be held at our new location, the SEATech Center at Walla Walla Community College, just off Isaacs Ave. The luncheons begin at noon. The cost of the meals this year will be \$9.00.

The **April** luncheon was April 8. Our program was a presentation of Mini-grant winner's projects and election of officers for 2019-2020.

The **May** luncheon will be May 13. The program will be Installation of Unit Officers, the Memorial Service, and announcement of Scholarship Winners.

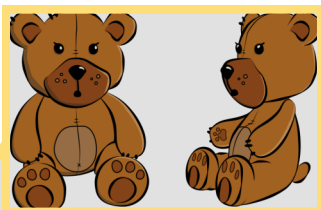
You will be getting a call to make reservations the week before each luncheon. If you say you are coming and don't show, expect to pay for the meal the next meeting. Our organization contracts for so many meals and has to pay for them even if you don't show up. If something comes up and you must cancel, *call Judy Jackley.*



Spring 2019 Mini-Grant Winners

Liv Leid, Jeff Foertsch, Cathy Plucker, Laura Chabre, Nancy Bickelhaupt, Sarah Pearson, Polla Laib, Michelle Redden, all from our outlying districts. Charlene Maib, Deidre Delaney, Linda Seibold, Julie Cox, Heather Abajian, Deborah Prior, Elissa Tinder, Claribel Brown, from Walla Walla or College Place.

Congratulations to you all!



2019 Teddy Bear Tea

We had an exceptional Teddy Bear Tea this year. We were blessed with a beautiful, sunny day.

We were honored to have Jackie Ormsby, who originally had this vision 14 years ago. It has turned out to be our fundraiser for scholarships. Jackie and Claudia Ford made our two raffle Mink Teddy Bears.

There were bears aplenty, both in our store and on display tables. Thanks to Carl and Eileen Depping for their great bear display, inmates from Washington State Penitentiary for the many handmade bears, Claudia Ford for the wool bears colored with walnuts, the contributors of the Barbie Doll Display, the teapot collection, the painted rocks, and the hand crocheted bears and collector bears. They all contributed to the atmosphere of fun for our visitors.

Our store had many bears for sale in all sizes and prices, as well as many hand sewn items to attract the discriminating shopper.

Our five course tea was delicious, as usual. It started with tea, then fruit, then tea sandwiches, then cookies, and finally candy. We had many return guests who indicated their intentions to return yearly. We welcome them and new guests, as well. We served over 340 guests for the tea this year.

Our thanks to those who contributed to the theme baskets on the silent auction, Kim Bruzas for her art donation, Dave Lybbert from the Karate Center, Mark Driver from Baskin Robbins, Patti Duncan from Dairy Queen, and Dina Sweet for the beautiful poppy painting.

The drawing for the 2 mink bears, made by Claudia Ford and Jackie Ormsby, was held at the March Luncheon. Our winners were Kelly Zugar and Beth Flanagan.

Many thanks to all who gave their time and efforts to make the Teddy Bear Tea another success.

This will be my last issue as Newsletter Editor. I am passing the editorial reins to Skip Nichols, who with his experience will do wonders for our newsletter.

I apologize for the late newsletter. Illness and computer problems slowed the production schedule.

Thank you all for your support. It's been fun. Kathi

