



**Skagit-Island-San Juan**  
**UNIT 21**  
WASHINGTON STATE  
SCHOOL RETIREES' ASSOCIATION



**November, 2013**

**President's Letter**

Barbara Robinson

Welcome to fall! We had a beautiful summer and are looking forward to a Northwest autumn full of rain, wind, plus a little thunder and lightning.

We have returned to our former logo heading for our newsletter this time. It was designed by one of our long-time members, Corey Corkill. While she may no longer be with us, she has left us with good memories. We use this design today to honor her. You will find more about her in the following pages.

You will also see an article about Jo Duckworth, our Unit 21 Historian for many years. Jo is retiring from this job and we want to thank her for all her work in our behalf.

Our goal this year is to build a larger group of members attending meetings and events. There will be more personal contact with the new members and with some of the more experienced members. Some of you may need a ride, or some reminding about events, and we want to help out where we can. We also want to become a more relevant organization to the active school employees. Our retirement seminar coming up is one of those events that would be important to the working school employees.

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**Grant Information:**

Unit 21 had an overwhelming response to our grant offering. We had planned to provide \$100 grants to 20 people. As of October 14, we had 49 requests. We were impressed with each project that was detailed in the applications and decided to fund 36 grants. We had to deny some very innovative and important requests; however, we are pleased to be able to provide those that we can. We want each of our members to know how important this project is and how valuable the dollars we provide can be to the school employees working in our schools.

## **We Remember**

Isabelle Berry

Robert Allgire, Unit 21 President 1996-98

### **Members We Honor:**

Corey Corkill was very generous with her time and expertise. In the early computer days, she was knowledgeable and eager to contribute to our efforts. If we had a short deadline, or just came up with some brilliant idea at the last minute, she would take our challenge in her own gracious manner and deliver a beautiful finished product. She was a very capable person, and calm in the face of what seemed to us to be unresolvable issues. I hope she knew how much we valued her and how grateful we were to her. She always came through for us.

Joan Duckworth has been the Historian for the Skagit-Island-San Juan Retiree Association Unit 21 since 1999. She has kept a record of our history for all of those years. She was also a welcoming presence at our events, sitting at the greeters table with Barbara Landrock, inviting members in to enjoy their time at our events. We want to thank her for her gracious support and dedication in her work as a committee chair. Glenda Hobbs remembers she was an inspiration and driving force in the American Association of University Women, serving there as well.

### **Thank you to a terrific team!**

YO-HO-HO and a Bundle of thanks to all of you who helped make the Shipwreck Day Used Book and Flotsam Sale a success. Especially those who helped sort books and items, load and unload the trailer, set up the booth in the wee hours of the morning, man the booth throughout the day, tear down the booth, reload the trailer and unload the trailer for the final time. Special thanks to Joyce Scoll for use of her garage and obtaining the use of the trailer. Also to Barbara Robinson for hauling what was not sold to a local thrift shop. Everyone was wonderful and had fun being ambassadors for Unit 21, WSSRA. Plus we made money for the mini-grant fund! Thanks to all of you. Joyce Moon

### **Retirement Seminar Update:**

We have some updated information on the retirement seminar! Please write the new date on your calendar. There will be reservation information out to the schools by January 1.

**Questions?** Contact Lonnie Keown, 360-856-6498 or [lkeown@bossig.com](mailto:lkeown@bossig.com).



**Retirement Seminar February 7, 2014**

**6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**NW ESD 189 in Anacortes**

### **Legislative information note to actives:**

Retirement Outlook is a flyer published twice a year by the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems for active members. Be sure to check this publication for pertinent information. You can access your retirement account. If you have misplaced your copy, go to the DRS website homepage: [www.drs.wa.gov](http://www.drs.wa.gov) and sign on.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Savings \$4,613.83

Checking 2,791.26



### **Dates to Remember:**

**December 4, 2013** - Holiday Brunch at Skagit Golf and Country Club, Burlington, WA.

**January 6, 2014** - Northwest Coordinating Council at Royal Star Buffet, Mount Vernon, WA.

**February 17, 2014** - Unit 21 Board Meeting at Royal Star Buffet, Mount Vernon, WA.

**March 3, 2014** – Northwest Coordinating Council at Royal Star Buffet, Mount Vernon, WA.

**April 16, 2014** – Unit 21 Salmon Barbecue and Tulip Field Tour. Lunch at Hillcrest Park Lodge with Kiwanis Club cooking. **Note:** This date may change due to availability of the barbecue and weather conditions.

### **Be Involved**

**Stay in the know with what is happening in**

**WSSRA Unit 21**

**by logging in to our website**

**[www.sisra21.org](http://www.sisra21.org)**



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**But all the kids have one**

I carry around three portable devices  
to help me make it through the day: a pen,  
a pocket calendar, and a cell phone  
which only makes calls.  
That I need all of these, carries a  
modicum of embarrassment when,  
at a meeting, the date is set  
for a next gathering or special event  
and I am the only one *sans device*.  
The only one who needs to borrow a pen  
if I have forgotten mine.  
Many folk in their mid-70's, as I am,  
have upgraded (at least I know the lingo)  
to a single device which is a momentary stage in the  
sizzling evolution of portable  
communication devices fueled by companies whose  
primary mission is to keep people on the edges of  
their chairs awaiting the next newest great offering.  
I harbor a sense of pride in being a luddite

when it comes to a lot of modern technology  
and even a sense of superiority over those  
who sit across a nearby table from a companion eyes  
down, feet tapping, fingers racing over a miniscule  
keyboard as a stream of images flashes across a tiny  
screen.  
Even the arrival of food seems of little consequence.  
Not only have multi-billion dollar firms  
created these devices, they have,  
more insidiously, infected people with the belief that  
they need these machines for a complete life.  
But, my smugness wanes as I consider  
that I work here at my computer, listen for  
Joyce's car to enter the garage assisted by  
a garage-door opener, and wonder  
how my pace maker is getting along.  
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