

ARSCE

ACTIVE & RETIRED SEATTLE CITY EMPLOYEES

NEWS



ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SEATTLE CITY EMPLOYEES
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HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!



OUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Masterjohn

Well, here it is summer already and I know that everyone who spent the cold months in warmer climates are back and enjoying our great weather. Hopefully that is, since it's still spring as I'm writing this.

I want to congratulate all the members who won election to the ARSCE Board and to all the alternates; we hope you will continue to stay involved.

I also want to thank Victoria Troisi for accepting the role of Financial Secretary and we welcome her to this position.

I am not sure at this time where negotiations are going on the City's new Cash Balance Pension Plan. I would hope the unions would make sure that if they agree with the new plan, they receive a number of upgrades in the current plan, like increasing the 1.5% COLA and hopefully the basic floor which is now 65%.

We celebrated at the June luncheon with the swearing in of the new Board members.

I met with Ken Nakatsu for our monthly meeting. We discussed the Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane retirement systems' request to the Sunshine Committee to review and support their request for an exemption to the Public Records Act (PRA) for certain "alternative investment" information, like that available to the Washington State Investment Board and the University of Washington. The Sunshine Committee has been established specifically to review exemptions to the PRA. With such an exemption, the three retirement systems would have better access to top alternative investment managers. Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane are the only public retirement systems in Washington without this exemption.

Our Board discussed this issue at the May meeting and decided as a Board that we could not participate in the meeting, along with SCERS (Seattle City Employees' Retirement System), as representing ARSCE (Active & Retired Seattle City Employees).

The Board also is making a decision whether we should have a luncheon in September, 2016—so we need to hear from you on this subject. All the contact numbers are listed in this newspaper. And again, we are always looking for new members, so please encourage your friends to join.

Well, that's all for this time.

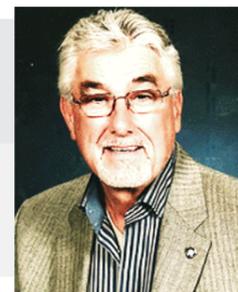
Sincerely yours,

John Masterjohn

Contact Mr. Masterjohn at president@arsce.org

YOUR PENSION NEWS

By Lou Walter, Retired Employee,
Member of the Seattle City
Employees' Retirement System



Income Inequality:

The Hidden Economic Costs of Pension Reform

I hope that everyone will have an enjoyable and safe Fourth of July Holiday. I want to take some time to start a conversation about income inequality and the negative effect it has on the American middle class and retirees.

The struggle for social and economic justice in the United States cannot be won unless we address the issue of rising income inequality.

Income inequality is related to many challenges we face in America today, including retirement security. Do pension reforms of the past three decades exacerbate income

“Do pension reforms of the past three decades exacerbate income inequality?”

inequality? Does rising income inequality in turn dampen the economy? The purpose of the 2015 National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems (NCPERS) study is to address these questions.

This is a brief summary of the NCPERS study which reviewed changes in pensions resulting from pension reforms at national and state levels. At the national level, the key change has been a trend of conversion of defined-benefit (DB) pension plans into defined-contribution (DC) plans.⁽¹⁾ At the state and local levels, pension changes consisted of cuts in benefits, increased employee contributions, and conversion of DB plans into DC plans. These changes, as I've talked about before, have

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a negative impact on plan participants and beneficiaries, as well as on local economies. Therefore, I believe these changes will have an impact on income inequality.

The NCPERS study analyzed the relationship between pension changes and income inequality at national and state levels. At the national level, the data allowed us to examine trends in pension changes, income inequality, and economic growth during the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s. At the state level, these trends could be examined only during the years 2000–2010.

National Trends – The analysis found that income inequality was highly co-related with the trend toward conversion of DB plans into DC plans. The correlation between income inequality and percentage of workforce (public and private) covered by DB plans was high. This correlation is robust and means that the lower the percentage in the workforce with DB plans, the higher the income inequality. Other factors that had a robust inverse relationship with income inequality included changes in the percentage of the workforce in unions, marginal (top income) tax rates, and the rate of investment in public education. Inverse relations mean that higher income inequality is the result when the percentage of the workforce in unions, marginal tax rates, and the rate of investment in public education are all lower.

The national level analysis also examined the relationship between income inequality and economic growth. The analysis shows that the higher the correlation regarding income inequality means that the economic growth will be lower.

State Trends – The analysis found that the higher the number of negative pension changes made by a state government, the higher the increase in income inequality in that state. Again, by negative changes we mean cuts in benefits, increases in employee contributions, and conversion of DB plans into DC or hybrid plans. The data show that the correlation between negative pension changes and income inequality indicate that the more negative changes a state makes to its pension plans, the higher is the income inequality in that state.

The analysis shows that with a single negative change in pensions in a state, income inequality increases by 15 percent in that state. This relationship holds true even when other factors contributing to income inequality, such as lack of investment in education are taken into account.

Implication – Policymakers should pay serious attention to income inequality and its hidden economic costs to taxpayers before they make the changes that diminish DB pensions. Rather than making changes such as increasing employee contributions, cutting benefits, converting DB plans into DC or hybrid plans, and so forth, policymakers should close tax loopholes.

A recent study of a number of states by **Good Jobs First**⁽²⁾ shows that on average states gave away twice as much in economic development subsidies and loopholes as they were required to pay into annual pension contributions. Whereas taxpayer money given through loopholes and subsidies often ends up in overseas tax havens, pension checks are spent locally and stimulate local economies.

We are all affected by income inequality. Less replacement income at retirement creates a negative impact on the retiree, the communities we live in, and turn

down of local economies, which results in less investment in our communities. We'll all lose out and we will have a reduction in our quality of life.

⁽¹⁾ The complete study can be downloaded at www.ncpers.org.

⁽²⁾ *Good Jobs First* is a national policy resource center for grassroots groups and public officials providing timely, accurate information on best practices in state and local job subsidies.

“Formal education will make you a living; self-education will make you a fortune.”

~ Jim Rohn,

American Entrepreneur

Essential Telephone Numbers And Web Addresses

ARSCE: 206.992.7311
(Change of Address/Membership Questions)
E-mail: financial.secretary@arsce.org
Website: www.arsce.org

Mayor's Office for Senior Citizens: 206.684.0500
(Information on available programs/services)
E-mail: seniors@seattle.gov
Website: www.seattle.gov/seniors

Personnel Department: 206.615.1340
(Benefits)
E-mail: benefits@arsce.org
Website: www.seattle.gov/Personnel/

Retirement Office: 206.386.1293 or 1.877.865.0079
(Retirement Checks/Health & Dental Benefits/General Questions/Change of Address/Tax Withholding)
E-mail: retirecity@seattle.gov
Website: www.seattle.gov/retirement

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Contact us at www.arsce.org
Or telephone us at 206.992.7311

It's Your Life

By Veronica Baca

5 Ways to Make More Inspired Decisions

Last night, before I called it a day, I realized there was still something on my to-do list. Deciding what topic to write my little articles on is the thing that hangs me up, and makes me deliver them late. (My apologies to the Editor!) I still hadn't decided what topic to write it on, and the due date was about to expire. I went to bed anyway. But one of my nightly prayers is "I am open to inspiration. I am open to inspiration..."

Now, we all make hundreds of decisions every day, from what shirt to wear, to what food to eat, to seemingly 'bigger' decisions like where to take our next trip, or how to answer requests from kids or grandkids.

I read a thing on Facebook yesterday that said, "Our thoughts come either from memory or from inspiration." In fact, it's been reported that we have 50 to 70 thousand thoughts per day, and over 90% of them are the same as our thoughts from yesterday.

So, when we make decisions, it's no wonder that sometimes it seems like we're going round and round in a hamster wheel, sometimes with a paddle attached kicking us in the butt! We repeat mistakes, regret decisions, and then just give up when things don't work out the way we had hoped.

Based on a lot of study I've done over the past several years, here are 5 ways to make more inspired decisions:



1. Hit the reset button at night before you go to bed.

What does this even mean? Well, we are lucky enough that we can shut our minds down every night during sleep. Just being aware that a new day is coming can help lay one's worries down to rest too. If we do it consciously, they won't be as strong the next day. If you're one of those people who can't go to sleep because your mind

keeps working overtime, try doing a little meditation, saying those prayers from childhood, or listening to music right before bed. Even conscious deep breathing helps. Also, feeling appreciative of anything, even the roof over your head, and your soft pillow is an optimal way to end each day.

Wait

2. When you wake up in the morning, wait—even before you get out of bed—and wonder if there are any messages for you.

(This can be done at other times of the day too.)

Pay attention. Does a new thought pop up out of nowhere? If it does, notice how you feel. Inspiration comes with a good feeling. If so, you can now make an inspired decision. Just decide to follow this up.



3. Take even a small action in the direction of an inspired or good feeling decision.

Good momentum can be built on an inspired decision, but our free will sometimes gets in the way. If we don't take even one action on the great idea, then it may remain just a passing thought. But the flood of thoughts we've had before come marching back and can easily drown it out.

Feedback

4. Appreciate the feedback you get when you know you've made an inspired decision, and taken action on it.

This feedback usually comes in the form of happiness, or other good feelings. It may also come in meaningful coincidences, and easy momentum to support the fruition of the inspired decision.

5. Start noticing the cycle of inspired decisions more and more.

We make hundreds of decisions every day. If you keep doing this, before you know it, you could be living an inspired life!



Veronica Baca retired from SPU in August, 2013 and has become a Life Coach. You may contact her at veronicabaca75@gmail.com

Fellowship All Over Town



Engineers' Luncheon: Retired City and County Engineering people meet for lunch quarterly. Call Barbara Graham @ 206.525.7859; or Ted Ormbrek @ 206.522.7867; or Joe Curulla @ 425.643.0309; or Sharon Howell @ 206.363.1909 for information.

City Light Line Crews & Friends Breakfast: This group meets at Shay's Restaurant, 15744 Aurora Ave. North, near 160th on the East side of Aurora, on the first Thursday of the month at 8:00 AM. Call Bud Eickstadt at 206.362.8336 for information.

RCLEA (Retired City Light Employees' Association) Lunches: If you retired from City Light, you should be receiving the Newsletter sent out at regular intervals which lists the dates and locations of the informal luncheons and the more formal fall and spring luncheons. For information contact Jack Kelley at 206.522.0807 or go to www.rclea.net

Retired Range Service Employees meet at the Blue Star Restaurant, 4512 Stone Way North, Seattle, at 12 Noon on the second Wednesday of each month.

Seattle Transit Breakfast (North End): This group meets at Shari's Restaurant, 15252 Aurora Ave. N., on the first Saturday of each month.

Transit Retirees (South End): Meet at the Burien Elks Lodge at South 140th St. and 1st Ave. South on the third Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM for breakfast. Contact Al Ramey at 206.243.8504 or Dave Carter at 206.910.8311.

City Light South End Crews and Friends: This group will meet for breakfast at 9:00 AM the first Tuesday of each month at the Denny's located on First Ave. So. and So. 148th Street. Call Arnie Schroeder at 206.824.1747 for information.

SDot's Traffic Signal Division retirees meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Tommy's Café, 74 Rainier Avenue South in Renton, WA. For information contact Jim Chase at 206.246.5848.

METRO Retirees' Lunch: This group meets at 11:00 AM the second Tuesday of Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept., and Nov. at the Crazy Moose Casino, 22003 66th Ave. West in Mountlake Terrace. At 11:00 AM on the second Wednesday of Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., and Dec. The group meets at Billy Baroo's Restaurant located at 13500 Interurban Ave. So. in Tukwila. For information call Lonnie Sewell at 206.915.1415.

Another Retired Transit Group: This group meets the 1st Saturday of the month at the Family Pancake House located at 238th & Aurora at 7:30 AM. Contact Dave Carter at 206.910.8311.

Old Timers Luncheon Group MTD/DAS/ESD. This group meets at 11:00 AM the first Monday of the month at the Old Country Buffet, 4022 Factoria Square Mall SE, Bellevue, WA.

Engineering Retirees' Lunch: Engineering Dept. Field Personnel Retirees meet the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10:00 AM at Shay's Restaurant located at N. 160th St. & Aurora Ave. N. in Shoreline, WA. Contact Roy Galloway at 206.362.3937 for further information.

Parks Dept. Retirees' Luncheons are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the 125th Street Grill located at 12255 Aurora Ave. North. Meet at 11:30 AM for lunch.

Health Dept. Environmental Health Workers and Spouses meet weekly every Saturday for breakfast at 7:30 AM. All Health Dept. retirees are welcome. For information call John Nordin at 206.524.7837.

The Film Guy

Some Favorites on DVD
By Jim Mohundro



The Musicians

Here are real musicians, and some not so real. They put on happy faces, mostly, and we leave the theatre, the concert hall, the movie house, the nightclub, whistling and humming the tunes. Sometimes, in our audience darkness, we will have seen that, off-stage and absent adulation, not all of those faces are happy, but opera or jazz, Jeanette MacDonald or Artur Schnabel, it's all really just show business. The show must go on, musicians must make music, and musicians must keep us coming back for more.



The Jazz Singer (1927) Al Jolson, May McAvoy, Warner Oland and William Demarest. The film's a bit creaky and, technically, it's not the first "talking" picture (there'd been some shorts and experimental films), but the Warner Brothers make the first major studio investment in *The Jazz Singer* and hire "The World's Greatest Entertainer" (Jolie would be the last to deny it) to deliver the goods. He does and Hollywood never looks back. (88 minutes)

The great Isaac Stern provides the fiddle and, in the 1946 **Humoresque**, John Garfield and Joan Crawford bring intensity to the story of the young, up-from-rags violinist Paul Boray and his older, self-centered, married patroness. Pianist Oscar Levant is effective as Paul's sympathetic friend. (125 minutes)

Young Man with a Horn (1950) Kirk Douglas, with Lauren Bacall, Doris Day in an early dramatic role, and Hoagy Carmichael, is a hard-drinking, jazz cornetist in this drama very loosely based on jazz great Bix Beiderbecke. (112 minutes)

In 1999's **Sweet and Lowdown**, Director Woody Allen departs from his New York roots to make a mockumentary of the jazz guitarist who may have been the second-best jazz guitarist in the 1930s. Sean Penn is Emmet Ray, and Samantha Morton and Uma Thurman his women, in this period dramedy which is not without its comedic moments. (95 minutes)

Shine (1996) Geoffrey Rush earns his Oscar as Australian classical pianist David Helfgott who battles mental illness, Rachmaninoff's 4th Minor Concerto and a marvelous Armin Mueller-Stahl as David's father in this dramatic true story. (105 minutes)



Geoffrey Rush

A Mighty Wind (2003) Director/Writer Christopher Guest (*Waiting for Guffman*, *Best in Show*) stages a folk revival as Eugene Levy and the Guest stock company play a group of 60s folk artists getting back together for a tribute show on the passing of their producer. Bob Balaban is along for this ride as the straight-faced heir. (91 minutes)

Quartet (2012) Maggie Smith, Pauline Collins, Tom Courtenay and Billy Connolly are the retired operatic quartet now brought back together in a memorial concert. Michael Gambon is the music director who, in his very British way, says "Hey, kids, let's put on a show!" Can they still work together? Moreover, do they still even like each other? Dustin Hoffman crisply directs this comedy-drama. (98 minutes)

In Writer-Director Preston Sturges' **Unfaithfully Yours** (1948), world-famous symphonic conductor Rex Harrison has everything and beautiful wife Linda Darnell too, but... No more should or need be revealed here. This film is another Sturges gem. (105 minutes)

These films have subtitles in English or "close captions" for the hearing impaired, and are around town at video stores that carry decent inventories of the classics, but the films may not be available with subtitles or close captioning from cable or satellite, or from "streaming" resources such as Netflix and Amazon.



And, here's a bonus—a French film with English subtitles: 2007's **La Vie en Rose**, with Marion Cotillard, personifies "the sparrow," Edith Piaf, her singing triumphs and more than a few sorrows. In her leading role, Cotillard wins the French Caesar Award, The Golden Globe (Motion Picture—Musical or Comedy), the British BAFTA Award, and is the first actress to win the Best Actress Oscar for a French language role.

You can reach Mr. Mohundro at filmguy@arsce.org

Reflections from Retirement

By Eric Lamers



Growing Up

Toward the end of World War II my father was stationed in Poland by the German Army. He was chef/cook for the soldiers at his camp. My mother and I were able to join him there in Poland. My brother was born there when I was 6 years old. To get to school I had to walk on a road at the edge of town or go through a forest for a shortcut. In our neighborhood lived Maria, a cute little girl of my age. She went to the same school as I but not in the same classroom. In Europe, boys and



girls were separated in the early school years. I asked Maria if she would walk with me through the forest, it was shorter and much prettier with trees and flowers. And she did come with me. The other boys my age thought it was feminine to enjoy flowers and be with girls.

One day Maria and I saw a small group of Partisans in the forest a short distance from us. They had not seen us yet. They

were walking crouched and carried rifles ready to shoot. Partisans were small groups of armed civilian fighters loyal to and still fighting for their country. By the invaders, they would be called terrorists. They, of course, would not have bothered us kids. But who knows, the Partisans might have feared that we would tell where we saw them. We hid behind a large tree and there was a patch of blue flowers. That image is imprinted in my head and it reoccurs sometimes clearly—Maria, the Partisans, the blue flowers, and me.



We were first graders and part of the school building was for German kids and another part for Polish kids. We all got along very well, even if we roughoused for a bit to see who was the strongest. Then it got colder and started snowing. Everyone who had a sled brought it out and we took turns sliding down a street that had a good pitch for sledding. In Europe a lot of basement windows are at street height. I lost control of my sled and crashed through a glass window and landed on a table with my sled. On the other side of the table was a man with an angry face and a table full of broken glass. My father got the next day off from camp so that he could go

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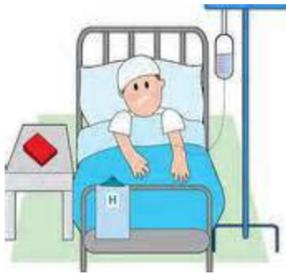
Growing Up...continued from page 4

out and try to find glass to fix the window. My father took me with him, but he nagged at me all the way saying that it was my fault. I did not mind that much because I held my father's hand and it made me happy to be with him. This was the longest that I had been with him, and it made me feel good. This is all I remember. During the war years most everything was hard to get. I don't even know if we found any glass.

Then, shortly before the end of the war, we returned to Germany to escape from the Soviet Military that started to invade Poland. In Germany, the war effort by the allied forces was fought mainly from the air by squadrons of B-17 bombers, also known as "flying fortresses." In Germany, we were cold and often hungry. Most of the factories and industrial areas were laid flat by the daylight bombings. This made fantastic playgrounds for us kids.



Eventually, the war ended and slowly the necessities for life became available again. We were examined for sicknesses created by the deprivations of wartime. I was diagnosed with a lung disease and taken to a nunnery called "Kloster Kostenz," which was also a sanitarium for children like me.



In the first nine months my mother visited once. It took a train ride and a long walk to visit me at that place. Then, I had about half a dozen visitors within a few days, bringing small gifts or writing down what I would like. I wanted a pocket knife and some picture books. I wondered why all the visitors came so suddenly. I asked one of the nuns why that might be. She said quite bluntly that it was because I was dying soon and they came to see me once more before I died. That puzzled me because I felt good and ate well and played with the other kids, with energy, as always and thought that there was no way that I would die. What she said did not frighten me at all; I just did not believe it. As a matter of fact, I wrote it off as an impossibility.

I had a feeling about it that I cannot explain. Meanwhile, I got the pocket knife and some magazines with pictures in them. About three months later, I was diagnosed as totally healed and I was released. My reaction to this was low-keyed because I knew all along that I would be leaving soon. My behavior with the other kids was as always. I was sad to leave them and the sanitarium where I was an altar boy. After that, I was examined regularly for several years to make sure the disease did not return. Then, when I applied for immigration to the US, the Consulate also required regular examinations for two years. All was well.

As an adolescent I dabbled in many activities and competitions and I generally held my own. As I grew to adulthood I continued my many interests and did okay, but not outstanding. I realized that if you want to do well you must concentrate on one or two items and dedicate your life to them, be it opera, ski racer, golfer or anything else. I did not want to live in such a way. I did instruct skiing and ski racing for a while and got my pilot's license, but never made any of them a career.

Maintaining my health was of great concern all the time; but I did smoke for several years mostly in the military where they say at break time, "If you got 'em, smoke 'em." I stopped and restarted smoking again many times after that. My final puff of smoke was blown at the Ballard Post Office during the Christmas rush. I was blowing smoke from my pipe all over. There were a few other smokers there, too. When I came to the postman's window, I exhaled smoke in his face. He tried to fan the smoke away with his hands, and he said something to the effect that this was rude. I totally agreed with him and apologized. I haven't had a puff since that Christmas of 1972. Since then, I have lit the pipe sometimes (or asked my wife to do it) when sailing in windless conditions, but only to see which way the smoke drifts.

To keep as limber and healthy as possible, I do Pilates and skiing-oriented exercises. My doctor tells me I am very healthy and that whatever I am doing to keep doing it.

I now have my own 30-acre forest on Camano Island. I cut trees, I plant trees and I chop firewood. Life is good.

Ramblin' Roads

By Alan Brittenham



The Pigeon and the Live Load Pier

The Fremont Bridge is the busiest bridge in town, due to the fact that it is the closest to the water of the four bascule bridges on the Ship Canal between Lake Washington and Elliott Bay. In my years with the City of Seattle, I have been on that bridge, and under it, many times. When the drunken bridge tender set the south span down on the flying bridge of the passing tugboat, guess who got to crawl out on a plank over the water to repair the shaft coupling? I made the evening news that time.

So one time, I was down under the bridge on the south side in the room with the main transmission. The bridge was being held open for some reason and the live load piers were exposed.

Down under every bridge, on each side, is a pair of big footings, probably 2-foot square, with serious concrete under them to handle the load. When the bridge goes down, the frame rests on these live load piers at the exact moment the two spans line up in the middle. The bridge crews adjust that point by placing or removing 1/4" thick sheet metal shims on the piers, but you can only do it when the bridge is open.

So I happened to be at the southeast live load pier under the Fremont Bridge one day during a full opening, when I saw the strangest thing. It was the remains of a pigeon, feathers and all, spread out on the top of that live load pier

in a constant thickness, a bird shim, if you will! I tried to imagine how even a bird as dumb as a pigeon could be sitting there for any length of time and not notice the bridge was coming down. I wonder what the bird thought when it realized, too late, that something was definitely wrong?

Then I made a critical error. Assuming the bird had been there a long time, even though it was still recognizably a pigeon, since there was no smell in the air, I picked up a flat nose shovel that was nearby and proceeded to scrape the pigeon off the live load pier. The stench that boiled up off that pier was enough to gag a maggot! I swear the tip of the shovel turned brown and began to smoke. I threw it down and beat a hasty retreat as the bridge began to descend. The stench followed me through the transmission shack, past the electrical vault, and out into the yard. Realizing that nobody had seen me back there, I casually strolled back through the offices to the bridge deck to see how things were going. Somehow, I forgot to mention to the bridge crew what had happened, so I never heard the upshot of it, if any. I bet they had to call the haz-mat squad. I wondered if the bridge deck was misaligned due to the removal of a shim. I wondered who had

to go put a new shim in. They had my deepest sympathies.

The moral of this story is: Forgiveness is sometimes easier than permission...and ignorance is truly bliss, for someone. Whew! I feel better now.



BOOK NOTES

By Lorry Garratt, Library

**THE GIRL NEXT DOOR. By Ruth Rendell ~ 2014**

The story line follows a group of friends who reunite after many decades because of a murder mystery. It all begins in 1944 with a double murder that no one suspects is just that. The general consensus is that Jim just disappeared, like so many did in wartime England, and Anita just walked out on her family as her husband matter of factly told everyone when in fact, he had killed both of them. Their severed hands are found in 2014 by builders who are digging and constructing in a tunnel where children played. Like most of Rendell's fine writing, her characters are drawn with great insight and from the vantage of her age in our enlightened present. What she writes is always more than just a murder mystery.

SILENT VOICES. By Ann Cleeves ~ 2011

A good old fashioned thriller—all clues and red herrings calculated to keep the reader guessing. Detective Vera Stanhope, overweight and dowdy but with a sharp brain and powers of deduction that few criminals can match, resembles Christie's Miss Marple with her eye for detail. The central murder takes place in a smart hotel spa. The victim is a social worker dealing with problem families. She has a daughter who is dating a boyfriend whose baby brother drowned. And so the clues mount—as do the deaths. Vera is the basis for a hit PBS series.

RIPPER. By Isabel Allende ~ 2014

An atmospheric mystery that begins as an online mystery game. The characters are Amanda, a brilliant teenage sleuth; her mother Indiana, a holistic healer and free spirited Bohemian; Amanda's divorced father, who is the Chief Deputy of San Francisco Homicide; Amanda's grandfather, who is always involved; and Indiana's lovers, Alan from an elite family and Ryan an enigmatic scarred Navy Seal. Amanda has always been fascinated by the dark side of human nature, but when Indiana vanishes the game is no longer entertaining.

MR. CHURCHILL'S SECRETARY. By Susan Elia MacNeal ~ 2012

This is the drama of an era of unprecedented challenge and the greatness that rose to meet it. It is London in 1940 and Churchill has just been sworn in. War rages across the Channel and the threat of the blitz looms larger by the day. Maggie Hope, British born but American educated is a math whiz at MIT. She is in London on a family matter and although she possesses all the skills in British Intelligence her gender relegates her to a secretarial job at 10 Downing Street. She actually only gets that position when a murder in Churchill's office provides a vacancy, and before long she is ensnared in a web of spies, intrigue, and an assassin's plan.

SOMEONE ELSE'S LOVE STORY. By Joshilyn Jackson ~ 2013

Single mom Shandi Pierce has a delightful 3-year old genius son "Natty." Her long-divorced Christian mother and Jewish

father are active parts of her life in mellow, hot Georgia. Then everything changes. Shandi and Natty are caught in the middle of a robbery in a gas station minimart. The robber has a big gun and a threatening manner and Shandi, on the spot, falls in love with William Ashe, a giant of a man who saves them. This is a rather typical story for the author who can write funny and charming and poignant novels about miracles and secrets as they seem to be found only in the rhythm and flavor of Southern life. And the above description is only the beginning of a marvelous story.

GRAY MOUNTAIN. By John Grisham ~ 2014

An angry and important novel as Grisham takes a searing look at big coal. 29-year old Samantha Kofler is a rising young New York lawyer in 2008, working at a job she hates and finds boring, but earning a lofty salary already. Then the economic crash and she is laid off, although allowed to keep benefits for a time if she volunteers at a non-profit agency. Even finding this kind of job is difficult and in some desperation she ends up in West Virginia and the start of a new life. Grisham does justice to the physical beauty of Appalachia and the decency of most of its people, but his real subject is the suffering inflicted on those people by mining companies and politicians.

YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN. BY Joan Hanff Korelitz ~ 2014

Grace Reinhart Sachs is a marriage counselor with a practice in New York. She thinks she has a perfect life, devoted to her charming husband who is a pediatric oncologist in a major cancer hospital, and mother to 4-year old Henry who is a dear child. In addition, she has a self-help book coming out which is receiving excellent advance press. Then it all changes. An attractive mother of a child in Henry's private school is murdered and her husband Jonathan becomes the prime suspect. But how could this be when he is out of town at a medical conference? Or is he? In the psychological suspense category this is a winner, not only rich in plot and teasers, but also witty observations about the higher reaches of Manhattan society.

CRASH AND BURN. By Lisa Gardner ~ 2015

Nicky Frank, a married woman, survives a horrific car crash on a rainy night on a desolate highway in New Hampshire. Though severely injured, she manages to crawl up a steep slope and flag down help, and then beg police to find her missing daughter Vero. A massive search is launched for the child, but when her husband Thomas arrives at the hospital he drops a bombshell—there is no Vero; they have never had a child. He tells the police that Nicky has had a severe brain injury from a previous accident and has conjured up the child out of thin air. But what is the truth? The more they search the more questions arise, fewer answers, and finally an almost unbelievable story.

Contact Ms. Garratt at booknotes@arsce.org

LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Many ARSCE members currently volunteer. Others would like to volunteer, but are not sure what opportunities exist. Space limitations mean we cannot list individual opportunities in the ARSCE News.

Please refer to these two extensive websites for volunteering opportunities in the Seattle area: United Way of King County (www.uwkc.org/volunteer). This is probably the most comprehensive of the local volunteer opportunity websites. A search of their database using the term "parks" returned 76 different volunteer opportunities; "animal" returned 65 opportunities, "home" returned 141, "senior" returned 50 and "children" returned 595. You can register on the site and arrange to have internet "feeds" sent to you about volunteer opportunities in areas that interest you.

Volunteer Match (www.volunteermatch.org) is another very good comprehensive site with some interesting geographical limit capabilities. Enter your home zip code to start.

The Computer Guru

By Larry Howell



Mr. Howell's educational and entertaining column will return in the next issue of this paper.

You can contact him at: Larry.Howell@arsce.org.

Duffer's Corner

By Joe Matthias



The Duffer at Brown's Point

On the north shore of Lake Union there is a property known as Brown's Point. This twenty-plus acre tract commanded (and still does) an unobstructed view of a growing Seattle. As early as the late 1800s it was promoted as a park by the influential Olmstead brothers. But it was not to be. At least not until much later. Upon that select piece of real estate sits Gas Works Park owned by the



Seattle Parks Department of the City of Seattle. Standing tall among the dune-like hill and expansive shoreline, sits the remnants of the Seattle Gas Light

Company. That's me. My towering funnels and assorted equipment, silent now, but all tactfully displayed and properly labelled, are one of the last remaining examples of early America synthetic gas manufacturing to be found anywhere. Here's a brief history of how I came to inhabit such a desirable piece of real estate, if you please.

Lake Union was rumored to be named by Thomas Mercer, one of our founding forefathers, who saw it as a potential tie between the vaster Lake Washington to the east and Puget Sound to the west. It sat just to the north of the fledgling city of Seattle. Though the south shore claimed a saw mill (yes, the Denny family was initially involved in this, as in almost everything in early Seattle) and encampments by the local South Coast Salish and Duwamish tribes, the majority of the lake's shoreline was used by Seattle residents for recreation, such as camping, fishing, and boating. Later those encampments moved on as a Ford assembly plant for Model T's, Boeing's seaplane assembly plant, and the Seattle Steam Plant owned by Seattle City Light were added. All of these are gone now; the Steam Plant is still there in structure and under private ownership, and the lumber mill, renamed several times as a number of new owners, in turn, assumed the helm, lasted until 1988.

This was the view from Brown's Point when my fledgling company, the Seattle Gas Light Company, expanded from their home base near First and Yesler. Since its founding in 1873 it had produced a synthetic gas, much like natural gas, from coal to provide lighting and other needs for the growing city and the surrounding area. Beginning in 1900 and continuing through 1909, small parcels of the Brown's Point tract were purchased. In 1904, the plant, that was to become myself, began to take shape and I was open for operation in 1906. The synthetic gas we manufactured was known as Seattle gas, distinguishing it from natural gas, which was not available commercially at that time. Coal to feed my furnaces was delivered via barge from the south shore and later by rail. The remains of the railhead are still visible near the entrance to the park off of North 34th Street. As I grew, so did the demands of the City. Finally, and not solely because of my needs, it was proposed that the channel from Lake Union to the Sound, and toward Lake Washington through the Mountlake cut, be dredged and expanded to accommodate larger ships, thus opening a new fresh water port to sea going vessels. In order to maintain the existing level of Lake Union, a levee was built to hold back the waters of the larger Lake Washington until needed, and a river lock built near the salt water end of the dredged ship canal high enough to keep Lake Union's

shoreline unaffected. Now known as the Hiram Chittenden Government Locks, it ferries commercial and pleasure craft to and from the inland lakes via a



system of locks that elevate or lower the craft to the desired location. These work much like the locks on the Panama Canal, the Suez Canal, and others, only on a smaller scale. When ready, the temporary dam was breached at the Lake Washington end and water allowed to flow through Lake Union into the channel to the locks. To watch as a body of water that massive flowed past my view is something difficult to properly describe. Once completed and all had settled, Lake Washington had dropped nine feet to its present level while Lake Union remained essentially unaffected. The new shipping lane opened for business on November 10, 1911 at a total cost of just over three million dollars and has never looked back.

As coal became scarcer and harder to deliver, mostly I surmise, due to the unprecedented growth in the area, the owners began looking for other alternatives. In 1937 I was converted to an oil-based plant producing the same synthetic gas from heated oil instead of coal. With the railhead operating at its peak and the availability of tanker deliveries I flourished, expanding my production over time to include servicing many of the smaller communities around Seattle. One of the benefits of producing gas in this manner, whether from coal or oil, proved to be in the residuals created by the process. Byproducts we sold on the open market included charcoal briquettes, toluene, naphtha, sulfur, xylene, and resin tar.

Sadly all things eventually come to an end, and so did I. In 1956 Seattle converted to natural gas, whose delivery methods had improved beyond ours and whose availability made it much more cost effective. That and the availability of cheap electrical service by the Seattle Lighting Company (later known as Seattle City Light) and Puget Sound Power and Light, for all intents and purposes, negated the need for what we provided. The Seattle Gas Light Company closed its doors shortly after that.

I sat, fenced in and abandoned, for years after the closing. My silos and stacks, once a vibrant and admired silhouette of a growing community, now appeared ugly, ill kept; a stain on the City skyline. Then in 1962, the City of Seattle purchased the entire Brown's Point facility. The going price was \$1,300,000. Still I sat, idled and ignored as the City strove to pay off the loan they had acquired to purchase me. Finally in 1972, the last payment made, the City took a huge step and began developing me into the park you see and enjoy today. Originally all the old equipment was to be removed, but that quickly changed and major parts were retained, made safe, and refitted. What remains are six synthetic natural gas generator towers and attendant processing towers, the original oil absorber and oil cooler, and other lesser, but no less important pieces of equipment. My history is now laid out for those who might visit the park to enjoy.

I sit at the foot of the north shore of Lake Union just south of the Wallingford community on a fantastic piece of real estate known as Brown's Point. I am visible from downtown Seattle, from its surrounding hills, and from the sky if you happen to be flying into SeaTac. Hopefully, you will make it a point to visit me and read my story. There are many places and businesses in early Seattle that were instrumental in our City's growth. Most have accomplished what they desired and disappeared. Others linger, relics to a City developing into its own. I am one of those.

Isn't history wonderful? Duffer out.

Joe Matthias, Lighting Department (Lineman), Retired

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

John Buswell, Transportation
 Linda DeBoldt, Public Utilities
 Fredrick Jones, Parks
 James Krieger, Health

Linda Lockwood, City Light
 Marilyn Pedersen, Fire
 Frankie Tsoming, Public Utilities
 Kathleen Zeigler, City Light

Golden Contributions

Patricia Campbell, Arts Commission
 Bud (and Janice) Eickstadt, Light

Clara Ferrell, Library
 Eric Lamers, Light
 Kathy Ray, Fire

Anne Miller, Transportation
 Patricia Muirhead, Metro

Memorials

Pamela Baer, Library
 In memory of Steven McPherson

Maurice Hillyard, Engineering
 In memory of George Boyle

Judith Flemings, Human Resources
 In memory of Robert "Bob" Flemings, Light

Eddie Jorgensen, Personnel
 In memory of Steven McPherson

John Masterjohn, Engineering
 In memory of Steven McPherson

In Memory

Note: Names with asterisk (*) were ARSCE members

Laura Bolger, Vested
 Retired: 05/01/89
 Died: 04/17/15
 Age: 91

Iantha M. Gamble, Vested*
 Retired: 11/01/75
 Died: 03/20/15
 Age: 91

Arthur Price, Water*
 Retired: 01/01/81
 Died: 03/12/15
 Age: 89

George Bray, Engineering*
 Retired: 12/01/88
 Died: 03/16/15
 Age: 78

Wilma Gaskins,
 Administrative Services
 Retired: 11/01/89
 Died: 09/30/14
 Age: 87

Dorothy Reese, Seattle Center
 Retired: 12/01/83
 Died: 05/17/15
 Age: 97

Olga Chamberlain, Transit*
 Retired: 10/01/79
 Died: 04/04/15
 Age: 100

Lanny Hobart, City Light*
 Retired: 01/06/99
 Died: 04/01/15
 Age: 74

Adelaida Santos,
 Construction & Land Use
 Retired 07/14/98
 Died: 05/21/14
 Age: 78

Chi-Han Chou, Vested
 Retired: 09/01/91
 Died: 01/27/15
 Age: 96

Eugene Holttum, Vested
 Retired: 09/01/86
 Died: 05/14/15
 Age: 87

Benjamin Selos, Parks*
 Retired: 06/01/92
 Died: 03/19/15
 Age: 87

Robert Daleske, Vested
 Retired: 12/01/89
 Died: 03/25/15
 Age: 87

Blake Howe, Law*
 Retired 08/01/90
 Died: 02/24/15
 Age: 81

James Stubbs,
 Administrative Services*
 Retired: 08/01/85
 Died: 05/01/15
 Age: 76

Leon DeLong, City Light
 Retired: 02/04/98
 Died: 03/22/15
 Age: 77

Lorraine Jeffries, City Light
 Retired: 05/16/08
 Died: 05/15/15
 Age: 65

Patricia Swanson, Vested
 Retired: 04/01/89
 Died: 05/06/15
 Age: 90

Bruce Dubois, City Light
 Retired: 10/11/00
 Died: 03/04/14
 Age: 72

Ted Lammers, Transit*
 Retired: 12/01/89
 Died: 04/25/15
 Age: 89

Mary Vinson, Human Services
 Retired: 04/03/10
 Died: 05/12/15
 Age: 67

Jack Dyson, Vested
 Retired: 09/01/76
 Died: 04/10/15
 Age: 98

Iver Ness, Vested
 Retired: 06/01/92
 Died: 04/24/15
 Age: 79

Albert Welch, King County Health
 Retired: 06/01/93
 Died: 04/21/15
 Age: 86

Barbara Erling, Library*
 Retired 04/01/86
 Died: 05/01/15
 Age: 90

Rita North, Beneficiary*
 Died: 04/02/15
 Age: 98



Old Timers Luncheon Group MTD/DAS/ESD

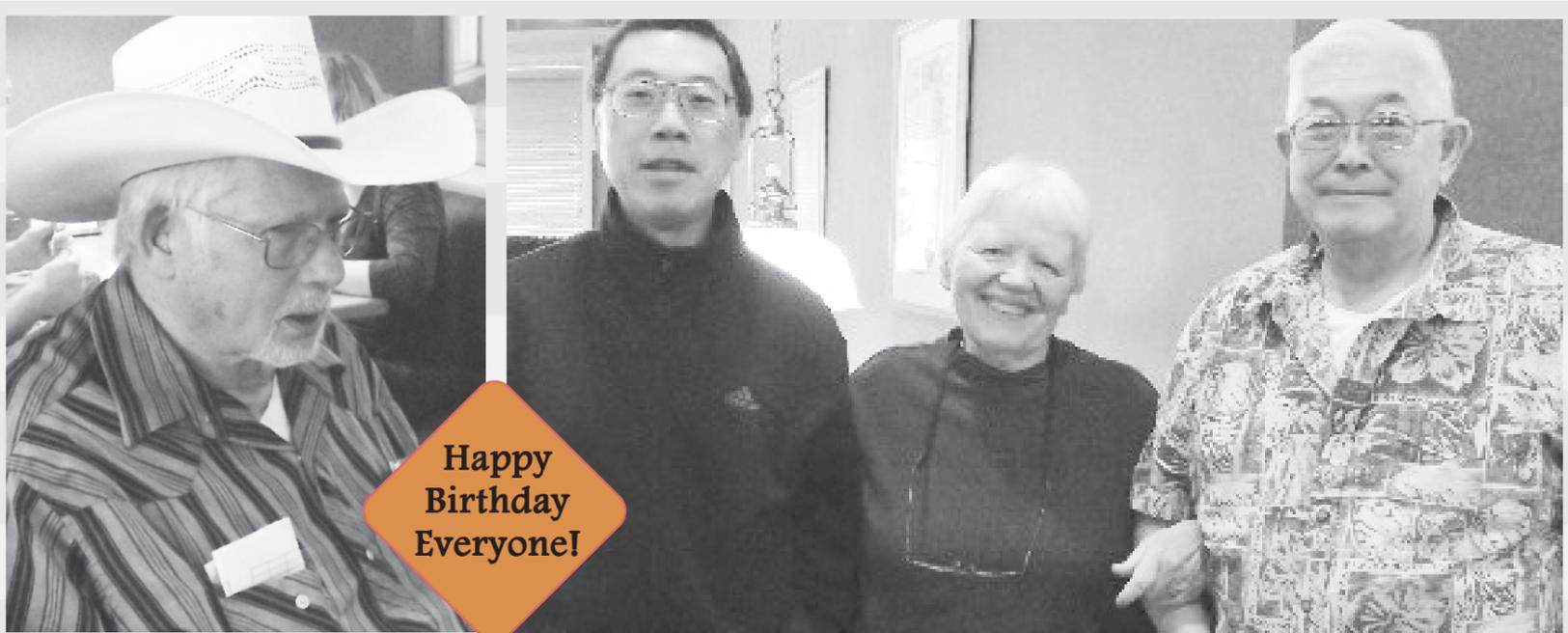
By Jerry Robertson

The Old-Timers luncheon group continues to meet the first Monday of every month at the Old Country Buffet, 4022 Factoria Square Mall SE, Bellevue, Washington, at 11:00am. Remember to mark your calendar for the luncheon dates in 2015: August 3, September 14, October 5, November 2, December 7, and January 13, 2016. We encourage all you former employees of MTD DAS ESD to join us at our luncheons each month. As I've stated before, wives are very much welcomed also; the wives seem to enjoy conversing amongst themselves and have become a real part of our luncheon group.

The Bentlers were down in Oregon on the day of our luncheon and several others had plans that were on the same day. We saw many of those back at our June luncheon.

April birthdays were celebrated by Terry Robertson, Tony Wong, and Joe Yamamoto, and May birthdays were celebrated by Rita Graumann, Lloyd Hansen, Barbara Lively, Gertie Loffler, and Gene Lucas. Gene Lucas was the only May birthday guest at the May luncheon. A very happy and healthy birthday to each of them.

Taps: This area of my article is a task that I must say is not one I look forward to each time I write an article for ARSCE News, but it is necessary to get the word out to those who had not been informed of a former co-worker's passing. I failed to report in the last issue of the ARSCE News the passing of Dave Brueckner. Dave was a Shop Operations Supervisor before his retirement; condolences to Dave's family from all of us.



April & May Birthday celebrants (from left to right): Gene Lucas, Tony Wong, Terry Robertson & Joe Yamamoto

Our March luncheon was attended by twenty-one hungry, smiling people. We have several people attending our luncheons who retired from City Light; some of them worked at the Charles Street Shop before moving to City Light. We are always happy to see them and visit with them also.

Our May luncheon was a rather small group of fifteen; this was one of our least attended luncheons for quite a long time.

Another loss was Jim Stubbs. Jim was a warehouseman at Charles Street, and had to retire many years ago. Jim was at Charles Street when I was first assigned there as an apprentice. If you needed a part, Jim was the guy that could find it. Condolences to Edie and Jim's family, I know he will be truly missed.

You can reach Mr. Robertson at oldtimers@arsce.org

DONATIONS TO ARSCE

Since ARSCE operates on a limited budget, donations are always welcome and very much appreciated. ARSCE is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Your donation will be tax deductible within the limits established by the Internal Revenue Service.

Regular donations are noted in the "Golden Contributions" section of ARSCE News listing the donor's name and department retired from.

Donations in memory of someone are noted in the "Memorials" section of ARSCE News. The name of the deceased person for whom the donation is made and the donor's name and department retired from are listed. If you would like the family of the deceased person notified of your donation, please include their name and address. A letter will then be sent to them telling them of your memorial donation.

Mail donations to ARSCE, PO Box 75385, Seattle, WA 98175-0385; or go online to www.arsce.org to contribute. You may also fill out the "Membership Application Form" on page 12 of each issue of ARSCE News, or donations can be made utilizing a luncheon reservation form. If you have any questions, please call Pamela Baer at 206-992-7311.



ARSCE Donation Application

Please check appropriate box.

Golden Contribution Memorial

Donor's Name _____

Dept. Retired from _____

For Memorial Only:

In Memory of _____

Dept. Retired from _____

To Notify Family of Donation ~ Provide the following:

Family's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Fill in form, clip and send donations to ARSCE, PO Box 75385, Seattle, WA 98175-0385; or go online to www.arsce.org to contribute. You may also fill out the "Membership Application Form" on page 12 of each issue of ARSCE News, or donations can be made utilizing a luncheon reservation form. If you have any questions, please call Pamela Baer at 206-992-7311.

Parks Department Retiree News

By Alan Hovland

Special Populations Round-up: Linda Guzzo reports that Donna Iverson is doing quite well; Nick Bicknell “Lollypop” has continued his Pirate ways after his second retirement from the Associated Recreation Council; and Jerry Rosso has continued helping spread the word on the good work of the Parks and Recreation Department Special Populations Section.

Jerry Rosso is semi-retired from the namesake family business, Rosso Gardens, which is now in Tukwila and is worth visiting for plants and help with horticultural planning.

Cheryl Brown, longtime Senior Adult recreation staff person, is an artist who has her own company “Rock/Paper/Scissors” and will be entered in several Arts Festivals during the summer. Check out www.cherylbrownstudio.com.

I have included a picture of Ernie Ferrero as we all remember him in his 40-year career, mostly in Project Development.

Michele Daly and Sandy Brooks continue to enjoy retirement with travel and Red Hats. Here is a word definition from them: SNAUGHLING: Laughing so hard you snort, then laugh because you snorted, then snort because you laughed.

We are following the health difficulties of both Jeff Lewis and Lurch Phillips; with hope and best wishes.

Malcolm Boyles and Alan Hovland relived old times with coffee at the Canyon Park Starbucks. As pictured, Malcolm is an award-winning retired Recreation Coordinator; who is also remarkable for continuing his 4-mile daily walk during cancer treatment.

Alan learned a lot more about honey bees when a large swarm of bees landed high in a neighbor’s tree in May.

Alan is very thankful for all the support he received to be elected to the ARSCE Board.

Josette Valentino retired this May from a long career, mostly as the Executive Secretary for the Park Superintendent’s office.

Oscar Bray visited Jesse Howell at the Norse Home.

Sandi Bell and Toni LaBarbera visited New York City over the Memorial Day weekend to see a play or two, but more

importantly to see a Yankees Game at the new Yankee Stadium. Elmer Dixon celebrated his birthday in Spain.

Now back to the Zoo: Check out HistoryLink.org which bills itself as “The Free Online Encyclopedia of Washington State History.” File #3005 is “Truck overturns, spilling elephants, in Seattle’s Phinney Ridge neighborhood on May 23, 1958.”— “On May 23, 1958, a trailer bearing four elephants from Woodland Park Zoo overturned at the corner of Phinney Avenue and 67th Street; damaging a car. The elephants are uninjured and wandered about briefly, but are walked back to the zoo through a crowd of gaping passersby.” Jesse Howell remembered this event well as he was working at the Zoo by 1952. The zookeeper, Morgan Berry, walked the elephants around the zoo daily, early in the morning when the maintenance workers would be the only ones present.

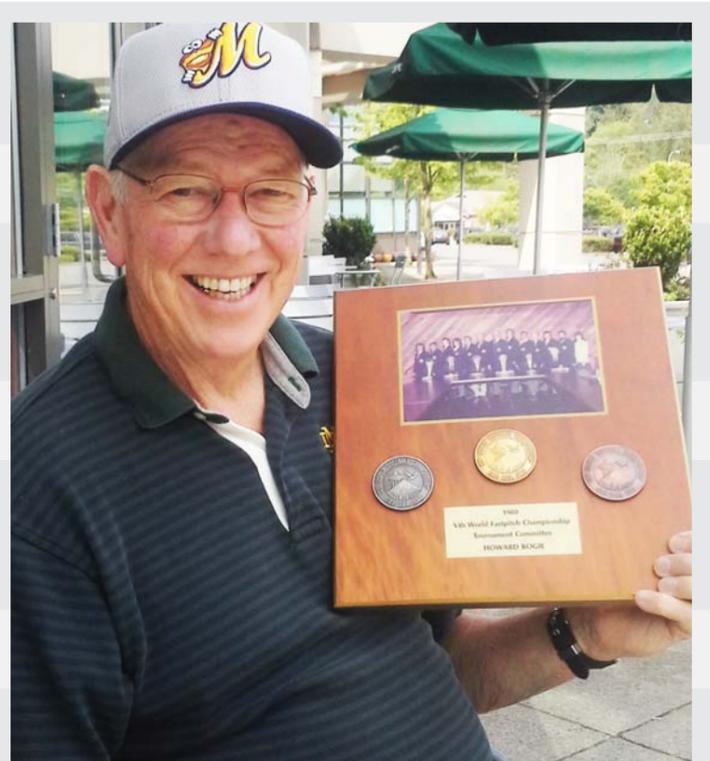
The Ballard Shingle Mill Fire had occurred only 3 days earlier on May 20, 1958, which is second only to the Great Seattle Fire in 1889.

So if you remember anything about either Elephants Walking on Phinney, or the Ballard Shingle Mill Fire, both in May 1958, or any other bit of information on the long history of the Parks and Recreation Department, which is 131 years old—please contact me at parksnews@arsce.org.

Mr. Hovland can be reached at parksnews@arsce.org



Ernie Ferrero



Malcolm Boyles

ARSCE DUES REMINDER

ARSCE’s 2016 fiscal year is from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The 2016 dues are payable by July 1, 2015 for all members who self-pay their dues by cash, check, or money order. Dues for 2016 are \$12.00 per year.



Please check the mailing label on your *ARSCE News*, which notes when your dues expire. If the label indicates “Self-Payment 2015,” your \$12.00 dues for 2016 should be paid by July 1, 2015, for the coming year. If the label indicates “Automatic Renewal 2015;” or if in the last year you signed an authorization to have your dues automatically deducted, don’t send any money, as your dues will be automatically deducted from your July retirement check.

Please mail your dues to ARSCE, P.O. Box 75385, Seattle, WA 98175. If you have any questions regarding dues or membership, or if you need to notify ARSCE of an address change, please contact Pamela Baer at: financial.secretary@arsce.org or 206-992-7311.

Thank you for your support of our organization.

Writers Wanted!

Do you have a passion to share with others? Perhaps you have a unique hobby or fun passtime you’re excited to encourage someone to try. Tell us about it!

It could be that you’re our next columnist. Tell us about yourself. Contact us at: arscenews@arsce.org



Send ARSCE Your News, Short Stories & Poems

You can send your information to:
ARSCE News
P.O. Box 75385, Seattle, WA 98175-0385
Or email your news and information to:
arscenews@arsce.org

NEXT NEWS DEADLINE: July 21st, 2015

(All submittals become the property of ARSCE.)

45 LESSONS LIFE TAUGHT ME

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short enjoy it.
4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and family will.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Stay true to yourself.
7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.
9. Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.
10. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
11. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
12. It's OK to let your children see you cry.
13. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
14. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
15. Everything can change in the blink of an eye, but don't worry, God never blinks.
16. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
17. Get rid of anything that isn't useful. Clutter weighs you down in many ways.
18. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
19. It's never too late to be happy. But it's all up to you and no one else.
20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
24. The most important sex organ is the brain.
25. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
27. Always choose life.
28. Forgive.
29. What other people think of you is none of your business.
30. Time heals almost everything. Give time time.
31. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
32. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
33. Believe in miracles.
34. God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
35. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
36. Growing old beats the alternative of dying young.
37. Your children get only one childhood.
38. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
39. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
40. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
41. Envy is a waste of time. Accept what you already have, not what you need
42. The best is yet to come...
43. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
44. Yield.
45. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift."

Regina Brett is a long-time columnist for Ohio newspapers (including the Akron Beacon Journal and the Cleveland Plain Dealer) who was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 2009 for "her range of compelling columns that move the heart, challenge authority and often trigger action while giving readers deeper insight into life's challenges."

Ms. Brett is the compiler of the above-quoted list of "life lessons," which was originally published in the Plain Dealer and has since become "the single most popular column ever written by Regina."

JUST FOR FUN

Independence Day



Independence Day Quiz

Here's a multiple choice quiz featuring questions found on the U.S. citizenship test. Mark 1 circle for each question.

1. What is the title of the National Anthem?
 - A. Oh, Say Can You See
 - B. God Bless America
 - C. America the Beautiful
 - D. The Star Spangled Banner
2. Which of the following rights is guaranteed by the first amendment?
 - A. Right to Bear Arms
 - B. Right to Vote
 - C. Freedom of Religion
 - D. All of the Above
3. Who has the ability to declare war?
 - A. The President
 - B. Secretary of Defense
 - C. The Joint Chiefs
 - D. The Congress
4. Which amendment set the minimum voting age to 18?
 - A. 1st
 - B. 18th
 - C. 19th
 - D. 26th
5. Who elects the President of the United States?
 - A. House of Representatives
 - B. The Electoral College
 - C. The Senate
 - D. The State Governors
6. How many total Senators are there?
 - A. 10
 - B. 13
 - C. 50
 - D. 100
7. The Constitution has how many Amendments?
 - A. 23
 - B. 27
 - C. 31
 - D. 33
8. In what year was the last amendment ratified?
 - A. 1868
 - B. 1920
 - C. 1961
 - D. 1992
9. Which of these Presidents was born in Texas?
 - A. Dwight D. Eisenhower
 - B. Richard Nixon
 - C. Ronald Reagan
 - D. George W. Bush
10. What is the Official Language of the United States?
 - A. None
 - B. Latin
 - C. English
 - D. Esperanto

Answers:

1.-D 2.-C 3.-D 4.-D 5.-B
6.-D 7.-B 8.-D 9.-A 10.-A

Complete Our Circle



Join ARSCE today as a Retiree, Beneficiary or even if you are currently working.

Application on Page 12.



Have Yourself a Great Summer!



The View from the Buses

By Paul Pioli

April 11th, 2015 was a day of greatness—Rusty and Mary Ridgeway celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. There were former drivers present for the usual “remember whens.” Rusty was in his usual good spirits and lasted until he faded and had to go for a rest.



From left to right: Paul, Milton, Don & Rusty (seated)

One of the recurring topics at the breakfasts are the characters who once rode our buses. One such duo was George and Pansy. They would get on the bus—one sit in the front and the other in the back. When they wanted to talk, they would simply yell to each other. My favorite was an elderly man who would get on at the bottom of Yesler Way and stand at the fare box looking for fare in his pockets until you got to the top of the hill. Then he would say, “I guess I don’t have any money, I’ll just get off,” which was his stop. I finally stayed at the bottom and wouldn’t move until he got off and got on my follower.

Got a note from **Dale Bartz** who tells us that he had a mild stroke. He has had a blood clot on the left side of his brain. He can’t talk in conversation. He plans to be in Kirkland in June; but no date has been set.

Gary Pilcher reports the Annual Winthrop Washington Golf Tournament was held on the 14th through 17th of May.

RIP: **Ted Lammers** passed away near the end of April. He was 90 years of age. He started working for Seattle Transit in 1946 and retired in 1989. Also, we were told **Eddie Toomer Jr.** passed away in late April. Eddie worked at the Atlantic Base. **Ron Bumgarner** aka “The Ronster” passed away on May 15, 2015.

Contact Mr. Pioli with your news at busview@arsce.org

2015 MEETING AND PUBLICATION DATES

- Wed. July 8 ARSCE Executive Board Meeting
IBEW Local 77 Building
19415 International Blvd., SeaTac, WA
@ 10:00am
- Tues. July 21 News Deadline (Sept/Oct Issue)
- Fri. Aug. 21 Mail ARSCE News (Sept/Oct Issue)
- Wed. Sept. 9 ARSCE Executive Board Meeting
Northgate Community Center
10510 - 5th Ave. NE, Seattle @ 10:00am
- Tues. Sept. 22 News Deadline (Nov/Dec Issue)

**ACTIVE & RETIRED EMPLOYEES ~ YOU’RE INVITED
TO ATTEND THE ARSCE BOARD MEETINGS.
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO JOIN US!**

Note: Calendar is subject to change by Board approval.

Application for Membership: Active & Retired Seattle City Employees

New Member Beneficiary
Address Change Dues Payment Donation

Name _____ Tel. No. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date Retired _____ From Dept. _____ Amt. Encl. _____

If still employed with the City, indicate the number of years: _____

E-Mail Address _____

Annual Dues: \$12.00 (7/1-6/30)

Semi-Annual Dues: \$6.00 (For new members joining 1/1-6/30)

If you wish to have your dues deducted from the check you receive in July, please fill out the following section for the Retirement Office and include it with the rest of this coupon when you mail it to ARSCE. Or apply online at the email address below.

Active & Retired Seattle City Employees Dues Deduction Authorization

To: The Board of Administration, City of Seattle Employees’ Retirement System:

The undersigned hereby authorizes the City of Seattle Employees’ Retirement System to deduct from my retirement, beneficiary and/or disability allowance, such dues as are duly established from time to time by the Active & Retired Seattle City Employees (ARSCE). Until further written notice by me to The Retirement System Office, such deduction shall be made annually from my July allowance and shall be paid to Active & Retired Seattle City Employees, P.O. Box 75385, Seattle, WA 98175-0385.

Name (Please Print) _____ Department _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

**Mail to: Active & Retired Seattle City Employees
P.O. Box 75385, Seattle, WA 98175-0385 Attn: Pam Baer
Or Apply online at: <http://arsce.org/membershipapp3.htm>**