

WASHINGTON STATE SCHOOL RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

73rd Annual Delegate Assembly

June 30, 2020

Virtual Convention (in webinar format)

Actions Preceding Virtual Convention

The 73rd Convention and Delegate Assembly of the Washington State School Retirees' Association was held virtually, using Zoom, on June 30, 2020 due to COVID-19 (coronavirus). Due to the nature of a virtual meeting, there were changes implemented compared to typical Convention. These changes included no keynote speakers, meals, or leadership training. *Note: Leadership Training will take place in August or September via Zoom. The Virtual Convention involved mail in ballots for voting, staff and members creating PowerPoint Presentations, pre-recorded messages from the President/Chairs of WSSR Foundation, Awards, and Membership.

The Rules of Delegate Assembly and Fundamentals of Meeting Operation were according Roberts Rules of Order. The Virtual Convention was condensed to a little over two hours from a usual Convention of three days which would have included speakers, workshops, meals.

WSSRA Secretary Wascisin verified the 2020 Credentials Report prior to the Convention proceedings. Twenty-nine of 30 Units were present with a total of 249 total Delegates of 409 allowed. There were 205 Unit Delegates, 15 Board Delegates, 6 State Committee Chair Delegates, 9 Working Committee Delegates, and 14 former WSSRA State President Delegates. *Note: Some State Past Presidents serve on Working Committees and are not counted as WSSRA State President Delegates but will be accurately reflected later in the minutes.

The WSSRA budget for 2020-2021 and the 2020 nominees' ballot were mailed to registered Convention delegates with stamped, self-addressed returned envelopes. The results were announced during the Virtual Convention.

The nominees for 2020-2021 offices were voted upon by mail with results announced later in the minutes.

2020 NOMINEES

Bruce Boyer	Unit 21 – Skagit/Island/San Juan	President-elect
Kay Bishop	Unit 22 – Sno-Isle	NW-1 District Representative
Jean Kinnaman	Unit 27 – Pierce County	SW-3 District Representative
Larry Scholl	Unit 34 – Yakima County	E-5 District Representative
Patricia Cygan	Unit 2 – Seattle	WSSR Foundation Trustee
Catherine Stordeur	Unit 3 – Clallam County	WSSR Foundation Trustee

A budget of \$1,312,054 also was voted upon by mail. The amount is higher by \$84,718 from the current year.

The complete report of all Convention activities is printed on the pages that follow. These minutes will be circulated at the 74th Annual Delegate Assembly along with the governance documents and can be found on the WSSRA website. This report provides a complete legal, and historical record of this annual meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 73rd ANNUAL CONVENTION

WSSRA State President Pam Francis's theme for this year

Joining the 18,000 Members
“Keeping our Retirement Alive, Growing, and Strong!
It takes each of us to make a difference for all of us”.

Introductions

WSSRA President Francis began at 9:04 am. She welcomed members to the first ever WSSRA Virtual Convention. She acknowledged her appreciation to all members that have made her year, as WSSRA President, memorable. She appreciated the effort of WSSRA members to try something new (i.e., virtual meetings, even a Convention) and being able to work within the constraints of these trying times.

National Anthem

WSSRA Executive Director Alan Burke introduced McKinlie Pontius who sang the National Anthem. McKinlie will be entering 7th grade at Aspire Middle School in Olympia this fall. McKinlie's grandmother retired from Griffin Elementary School where she taught 4th grade.

Past State Presidents' Recognition

Executive Director Burke honored Past State Presidents by thanking them for their service to current and future retirees. He recognized 15 WSSRA Past State Presidents and 3 WSSRA Past WSSRA Executive Directors attending this Virtual Convention. They are as follows:

WSSRA PAST STATE PRESIDENT ATTENDEES

1997-98	Barbara Landrock	2011-12	Donald L. Rifenbery
1998-99	Mary Perkins	2012-13	Richard Magnus Anderson
2003-04	Joyce Williams	2013-14	Nick Schultz
2004-05	William C. Marvin	2014-15	Edie M. Moersch
2005-06	Jo Ann Balmer	2015-16	William A. (Bill) Bergsma
2008-09	H. Eugene Forrester	2017-18	Curt Horne
2009-10	Rita Requa	2018-19	Linda Averill
2010-11	Louie Osmonovich		

WSSRA PAST STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ATTENDEES

Lois Shepherd-Gerig	Ed Gonion	Mike Boring
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Unit Presidents' Recognition 2019-2020

President Francis honored the 2019-2020 Unit Presidents for their hard work in charting unprecedented waters this year due to COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. They are:

2019-2020 LOCAL UNIT PRESIDENTS

Unit 1	Clarkson, Asotin, Pomeroy	Kay Anderson	Unit 18	Pend Oreille County	Sandra Ellersick
Unit 2	Chelan Douglas	Beverly Jagla Kriss Crilly	Unit 19	Renton-South King	Sue Perez Rachel Almeleh
Unit 3	Clallam County	Lora L. Brabant	Unit 20	Seattle	Patricia Cygan
Unit 4	Columbia Basin	Karen Schafer Lois Palek	Unit 21	Skagit/Island/ San Juan	Bruce Boyer
Unit 5	Grays Harbor/Pacific	Pat Lanning	Unit 22	Sno-Isle	Kenneth Harvey
Unit 6	Southwest King	Don Bunger	Unit 23	Sno-King	Roberta Hawkins
Unit 7	Jefferson County	Ken Brink	Unit 25	Spokane Area	Brad Beal
Unit 8	Kitsap County	Doris Bucher	Unit 27	Pierce County	Diane Blair Laurel Powell
Unit 9	Kittitas County	Louie Osmonovich	Unit 28	Thurston County	Patricia Slossom
Unit 10	Columbia Gorge	Shirlee Jellum	Unit 29	Benton-Franklin	Victoria Russell
Unit 11	Lewis County	Margaret Wharton	Unit 30	Southwest Washington	Jeanie Anderson
Unit 12	Lower Columbia	Noel McCrae	Unit 31	Walla Walla- Columbia	Jacquie Clark
Unit 14	Mason County	Eileen Perfrement	Unit 32	Whatcom County	Jeanne Chadwick
Unit 15	Okanogan County	Rita Figlenski	Unit 33	Whitman County	Alice Davis
Unit 16	East King	Carolyn Fletcher Rob Fletcher	Unit 34	Yakima County	Kathy Schultz Nick Schultz

Coordinating Council Recognition 2019-2020

Executive Director Burke recognized the following 2019-2020 Coordinating Council Chairs and thanked them for their service.

2019-2020 COORDINATING COUNCIL CHAIRS	
NW-1	Marianne Harvey
NW-2	Robin Stroben
SW-3	Doris Bucher
SW-4	Karen Keller
E-5/E-6	Louie Osmonovich
E-7	Donald Kackman
E-8	Joan Helm

WSSRA Year in Review 2019-2020

WSSRA Executive Director Burke acknowledged the office staff members who form a team to assist officers, the Board, committees, and WSSRA members. This year his visits to Coordinating Councils, Units, and State-level Committees were a priority but were halted in March due to the coronavirus outbreak that disallowed travel. He spent considerable time working with the Legislative team (Legislative Director Peter Diedrick, Lobbyists Fred Yancey and Michael Moran, and the Legislative Committee) in wide-ranging advocacy efforts that focused primarily on the successful 3% one-time Plan 1 COLA increase. Other high priorities were visits to Units that were undergoing membership and group energy challenges.

Executive Director Burke reviewed WSSRA Philanthropy. WSSRA's volunteer efforts during the 2019-20 year were impressive

- 133,000 volunteer hours
- Local Unit Mini Grants of \$135,000,
- Scholarships
 - Local Units - \$187,000
 - WSSR Foundation - \$32,000
 - PEMCO - \$56,000
- Total Scholarships \$275,000

He recognized the Units and Committees hard work that they do to increase WSSRA Membership. He reminded members that we are in partnership with AARP-WA and NRTA. There is a tab on the WSSRA website with links to valuable information and benefits for members.

Executive Director Burke confirmed that 2019-20 was the seventy-second year of WSSRA's presence in the state and forever will be marked by the successful Plan 1 COLA increase. The PEBB Medicare subsidy was maintained at \$183 per month, prescription drug prices (e.g., insulin) were capped, and a bill establishing VEBA accounts for active employees under the SEBB was approved. He gave a special thanks to all members who sent Legislators emails or phone calls when key bills were up for hearing or a vote, and especially to the Legislative

Committee which spent considerable time in Olympia meeting with Legislators advocating for the various WSSRA-sponsored bills. Work now begins with preparations for the 2021 Legislative session. Because of the severe revenue decline caused by COVID-19, priorities will be to maintain the Medicare and non-Medicare health care subsidies, lower the retirement age, and fully fund future TRS and PERS Plan 1 retiree obligations.

The proposed 2020-2021 WSSRA budget was presented to the WSSRA Budget Committee in January. The Committee sent it on to the Executive Board with a recommendation for approval. In April, the Executive Board approved the draft budget and sent it on to the Delegate Assembly for action in June.

The membership level of our Association is sensitive to economic times and, sadly, to losing members who pass away each year. A new challenge is keeping members who leave active service prior to age 62 and do not immediately draw retirement checks. Those members do not always switch from dues deduction to cash paying. Despite this, our membership has grown to just under 18,000 this year—near the all-time high. He gave a special thanks to State Membership Chair, Don Parks, and members in Units who have worked hard this year to find their way into schools to spread the word about WSSRA to active employees. These factors contribute to increasing the membership especially on-site faculty meeting presentations and retirement seminars. AMBA salespeople are another significant source of help with membership as well as the AMBA main office with suggestions and assistance for recruitment through social media. It is important to keep increasing our membership, and it is an absolute top organizational priority as it strengthens the message to Legislators that we matter and that retirees deserve a fair pension.

He recognized the important work that the Retirement and Health Services Committees continue to do. AMBA is a member benefit, and they are readily available through the WSSRA website. He noted that our new website, Vilocity, in partnership with AMBA, is up and running. AMBA representatives are available to attend Unit meetings, Benefits Fairs, Retirement Seminars, and meetings in schools. Their partnership and financial contribution to WSSRA is appreciated.

A major part of WSSRA's work is offering Scholarships. Scholarships are available from PEMCO through the Robert J. Handy awards each year, WSSR Foundation Scholarships, and for the first time, the Foundation through a donation from WSSRA, awarded Neil D. Prescott Student Teaching/Intern Scholarships in the amount of \$1000 to student teaching interns. The WSSR Foundation grants a total of \$28,000 in scholarship monies each year—not including an additional \$4000 for recipients of the Gene Forrester Agricultural Education Scholarship at Washington State University. Additionally, many WSSRA Units offer other scholarships from their local budgets.

WSSRA Executive Director Burke final remarks were to thank all WSSRA members who have devoted their valuable time to WSSRA activities. Members make WSSRA work.

WSSR Foundation Awards

WSSR Foundation President Tom Anderson presented the WSSR Foundation Golden Apple Awards to

2020 WSSR FOUNDATION APPLE AWARD RECIPIENTS		
Gold Award	\$5000 - \$7499	<i>Mona Stacy – Unit 34 Yakima County SRA Unit 32 Whatcom County SRA</i>

After presenting the WSSR Foundation Apple Award, WSSR President Anderson presented a monetary request asking members to contribute to the WSSR Foundation. Contributions are needed to continue funding future educators. WSSRA is a strong advocate to ensure our teachers follow us into the future. Donations may be made out to WSSR Foundation and sent to the WSSRA office, PO Box 5127, Lacey, WA 98509.

***“An Investment in Knowledge Pays the Best Interest”
Benjamin Franklin***

Membership Awards 2019-2020

Before Membership Committee Chair Don Parks announced the 2019-2020 Membership Awards, he reviewed the two membership incentives that are available to every Unit. Units may choose either incentive but must decide by August 1 or the Unit will be defaulted to Plan 1.

- Plan 1 – Original Plan – members receive \$10 for each new member joining their Unit and \$100 for every 25 new members.
- Plan 2 – New plan – at sanction events, members give \$10 to each person who becomes a member that day.

Membership Chair Parks announced a new category for membership awards. This award recognizes Units who have added new members from March 15, 2019 - March 14, 2020. These Units enrolled new members:

**2019-2020 UNITS WHO ADDED NEW MEMBERS
MARCH 15, 2019 – MARCH 14, 2020
29 UNITS**

Local Unit	Added	Local Unit	Added
Unit 1 Clarkston/Asotin/Pomeroy	8	Unit 19 Renton-South King	25
Unit 2 Chelan/Douglas	39	Unit 20 Seattle	47
Unit 3 Clallam	14	Unit 21 Skagit/Island/San Juan	70
Unit 4 Columbia Basin	22	Unit 22 Sno-Isle	68
Unit 5 Grays Harbor Pacific	6	Unit 23 Sno-King	52
Unit 6 Southwest King	10	Unit 25 Spokane Area	71
Unit 7 Jefferson	5	Unit 27 Pierce	176
Unit 8 Kitsap	31	Unit 28 Thurston	176
Unit 9 Kittitas	3	Unit 29 Benton/Franklin	82
Unit 10 Columbia Gorge	9	Unit 30 SW Washington	55
Unit 12 Lower Columbia	10	Unit 31 Walla Walla/Columbia	19
Unit 14 Mason	34	Unit 32 Whatcom	28
Unit 15 Okanogan	21	Unit 33 Whitman	3
Unit 16 East King	15	Unit 34 Yakima	109
Unit 18 Pend Oreille	2		

Membership Chair Parks stated that the following 17 Units increased active memberships. They were:

**2019-2020 UNITS WITH INCREASE ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP
17 UNITS**

Local Unit	Increase	Local Unit	Increase
Unit 3 Clallam	3	Unit 21 Skagit/Island/San Juan	53
Unit 4 Columbia Basin	8	Unit 22 Sno-Isle	22
Unit 8 Kitsap	28	Unit 25 Spokane Area	7
Unit 10 Columbia Gorge	45	Unit 27 Pierce	138
Unit 12 Lower Columbia	5	Unit 28 Thurston	148
Unit 14 Mason	24	Unit 29 Benton/Franklin	33
Unit 15 Okanogan	10	Unit 30 SW Washington	30
Unit 16 East King	9	Unit 32 Whatcom	2
Unit 19 Renton-South King	7		

He praised the following nine Units who have reached or continued to reach All-Time Highs. They were:

2020 UNITS WHO HAVE ALL-TIME HIGHS				
9 UNITS				
	Local Unit	2020 All-Time High	Previous All-Time High	Consecutive ATH Years
Unit 4	Columbia Basin	466	458	2
Unit 8	Kitsap	334	341	1
Unit 10	Columbia Gorge	45	0	1
Unit 15	Okanogan	342	337	1
Unit 21	Skagit/Island/San Juan	621	590	1
Unit 22	Sno-Isle	1005	1000	1
Unit 27	Pierce	1200	1176	1
Unit 28	Thurston	1011	863	2
Unit 29	Benton/Franklin	849	816	18

Units of Distinction Awards

Executive Director Burke announced the 2019-2020 Unit of Distinction Awards in two categories – Highest Distinction and Distinction. They were:

HIGHEST DISTINCTION (19-21 GOALS ACHIEVED)			
10 UNITS			
Local Unit		Local Unit	
Unit 2	Chelan-Douglas	Unit 25	Spokane Area
Unit 3	Clallam	Unit 27	Pierce
Unit 19	Renton-South King	Unit 28	Thurston
Unit 20	Seattle	Unit 29	Benton/Franklin
Unit 21	Skagit/Island/San Juan	Unit 31	Walla Walla-Columbia

DISTINCTION (16-18 GOALS ACHIEVED)			
8 UNITS			
Local Unit		Local Unit	
Unit 1	Clarkston/Asotin/Pomeroy	Unit 22	Sno-Isle
Unit 4	Columbia Basin	Unit 23	Sno-King
Unit 15	Okanogan County	Unit 32	Whatcom
Unit 16	East King	Unit 34	Yakima

Hoban Meritorious Award 2020

PATRICK T. HOBAN MERITORIOUS AWARD NOMINEES				
Unit 2	Chelan/Douglas	Sharon Salley & JoAnn Lewis	Unit 27	Pierce County Diane Blair
Unit 3	Clallam County	Beverly Brown	Unit 28	Thurston County Lois Sheppard-Gehrig
Unit 4	Columbia Basin	Wanda Harrison	Unit 29	Benton/Franklin Tom Callahan
Unit 16	East King	Jean Goodrich	Unit 30	SW Washington Frances Person
Unit 19	Renton-South King	Karen Jones	Unit 31	Walla Walla/ Columbia Joan Helm
Unit 20	Seattle	Roxanne Trees	Unit 32	Whatcom County Eileen Wascisin
Unit 21	Skagit/Island/ San Juan	Joyce Moon	Unit 34	Yakima County Norma Haney
Unit 25	Spokane Area	Char Schelling		

Awards Committee Chair Pat Cygan announced the nominees and winner for the Patrick T. Hoban Meritorious Award which is given to a WSSRA member who has volunteered his/her time for the fulfillment of WSSRA goals, achieved beyond the norm in the performance and charged responsibilities of his/her duties, inspired and encouraged fellow constituents in their performance to achieve the WSSRA goals. This year’s recipients for the Patrick T. Hoban Meritorious Award were:

2020 PATRICK T. HOBAN MERITORIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS

Sharon Salley and JoAnn Lewis

The nominees and winner for the Patrick T. Hoban Award were shown in a PowerPoint Presentation.

Stan McNaughton Outreach Award

STAN MCNAUGHTON OUTREACH AWARD NOMINEES					
Unit 1	Clarkston/Asotin/ Pomeroy	Arlene Mullins	Unit 25	Spokane Area	Marilyn Richards
Unit 2	Chelan/Douglas	Kriss Crilly	Unit 27	Pierce County	Connie Rickman
Unit 3	Clallam County	Gary Gleason	Unit 28	Thurston County	Hank Henry
Unit 4	Columbia Basin	Wanda Harrison	Unit 29	Benton/Franklin	Sam DeRosa
Unit 16	East King	Robert Fletcher	Unit 30	SW Washington	Martin Erickson
Unit 19	Renton-South King	Rachel Almeleh	Unit 31	Walla Walla/ Columbia	Jim Davidson
Unit 20	Seattle	Patricia MacGowan	Unit 32	Whatcom County	David Simonson
Unit 21	Skagit/Island/ San Juan	Joanne Jones	Unit 34	Yakima County	Linda Lockwood

Awards Committee Chair Pat Cygan proceeded to announce the nominees and recipient for the 2020 Stan McNaughton Outreach Award. This award is given to a WSSRA member who volunteers his/her time beyond the goals of WSSRA to enhance the lives of community members, and has improved the quality of life in his/her community and in so doing has improved the image of WSSRA. This year's recipient for the Stan McNaughton Outreach Award is:

2020 STAN MCNAUGHTON OUTREACH AWARD RECIPIENT

Patricia MacGowan

The nominees and winner for the Stan McNaughton Award were shown in a PowerPoint Presentation.

President's Award

Cookie Billups, Unit 25 Spokane Area REA, received this year's President's Award from Pam Francis. President Pam Francis informed members that Cookie is an active, energetic member. She has been the Membership Chair in which she has worked diligently to increase membership. She is an outstanding SAREA volunteer and it was with pleasure that President Francis awarded her the President's Award.

2020 PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Cookie Billups

Honorary Membership Recognition

WSSRA Executive Director Alan Burke acknowledge the following Honorary Members of WSSRA.

HONORARY MEMBERS		
Paul Anderson	Ella Haller	Helen McCoy
Dorothy Balch	Kenneth Haller	Barbara McIntyre
Danny Beatty	Jean Hayes	Edie Moersch
Robert Bisnett	Walter Hitchcock	*Edgar Monroe
Sibyl Bolkan	*Celia Homan	Jane Nicholas
Doris Coble	Gerry Jarvis	*Evelyn Nordeen
Mickie Crowe	Crystal Johanson	Jacqueline Ormsby
Sam De Rosa	Mary Johnson	*Ruth Parman
Clayton Engebretsen	Mary Ann Karber	Emile Pedersen
Phyllis Enger	*Mary Kidrick	*Ralph Peterson
Velma Evans	Saramae Landers	Colleen Pock
Phyllis Fiege	Barbara Landrock	Lois Sheppard-Gerig
Clarice Glenn	William Laws	Trudy Slingland
Ed Gonion	Elthea Lewis	Donna Troxel
J Worth Gurley	Naomi Mathisen	*Ester Wilfong
Trilby Gustafson		Reidar Ytgard

*Effective July 1, 2020

Scholarships

A PowerPoint presentation showed Scholarship recipients that included their name, high school attended, college to attend, and major area of study.

WSSR Foundation Scholarship

WSSR Foundation President Tom Anderson announced this year's **WSSR Foundation Scholarship Awards**. Award recipients will receive a one-year \$2500 scholarship.

2020 WSSR FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS			
NW-1	<p>Angelica Steshuk Glacier Peak High School University of Washington – Bothell Elementary Education</p>	E-5	<p>Kyle Fergus Zillah High School Rocky Mountain College Mathematics</p>
NW-2	<p>Emily Guiton Mountainview High School Doane University Secondary English Teacher</p>	E-6	<p>Olivia Richards Okanogan High School Whitworth College Elementary Education</p>
SW-3	<p>Kianna Miller Sequim High School Western Washington University Elementary Education</p>	E-7	<p>Emily McCoury Spokane V. Tech Eastern Washington University Exercise Science Pre-OT</p>
SW-4	<p>Tristan Trudell Ilwaco High School Western Washington University Political Science/Education</p>	E-8	<p>Payton Wyatt Kennewick High School Whitworth University Elementary Education</p>

Gene Forrester Memorial Scholarship

WSSR Foundation President Anderson announced this year's **Gene Forrester Memorial Scholarship** recipients. **Gene Forrester** created this scholarship in the amount of \$2000 each to be awarded to two students who plan to major in Agricultural Education and to attend Washington State University. This is an ongoing scholarship. Award recipients will receive \$2000 each.

2020 GENE FORRESTER MEMORIAL RECIPIENTS			
NW-1	<p>Julianne Dickinson Lynden Christian High School Washington State University Agricultural Education</p>	E-6	<p>Ellie Gering Lind-Ritzville High School Washington State University Agricultural Education</p>

Neil D. Prescott Student Teaching/Internship Scholarship

WSSR Foundation President Anderson announced this year's **Neil D. Prescott Student Teaching/Internship Scholarship** recipients. Award recipients will receive a \$1000 scholarship in memory of Neil D. Prescott with money donated by WSSRA. The recipients must be doing their student teaching/internship during 2020-2021.

2020 NEIL D. PRESCOTT STUDENT TEACHING/INTERNSHIP SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

NW-1 **Abigail Lindberg**
Anacortes High School
Eastern Washington University
Elementary Education

NW-2 **Noelle Morrison**
Interlake High School
Pacific Lutheran University
Master's in Teaching, Secondary Social
Studies & ES

SW-3 **Halle Walker**
Curtis High School
Pacific Lutheran University
Elementary Education

SW-4 **Olivia Alvord**
Napavine High School
Saint Martin's University
History and Secondary Education

E-7 **Jamie Lange**
Hanford High School
Whitworth University
Secondary Ed., History/
Social Studies

E-8 **Kaitlynn Davis**
Pomeroy High School
Washington State University
Secondary Agriculture Education

Robert J. Handy – PEMCO Scholarship

WSSR Foundation President Anderson announced this year's **Robert J. Handy - PEMCO Scholarship** for those entering an area in the field of Education. Students will receive \$900 renewable for four years.

2020 ROBERT J. HANDY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

NW-1 **Taryn Genger**
Ferndale High School
Washington State University
Elementary Education

Megan Low
Everett High School
Grand Canyon University
English for Secondary Education

E-5 **Naomi Elyard**
Trout Lake High School
Western Washington University
Elementary Education

Javin Morrison
East Valley High School
Western Washington University
Spanish

NW-2	<p>Julia Raffel Eastlake High School Arizona State University Elementary Education</p>	E-6	<p>Stephanie Goble Omak High School Central Washington University Elementary Education</p>
	<p>Andrea Talamantes-Gallegos Highline High School Western Washington University Elementary Education</p>		<p>Abbigail Popelier Okanogan High School Arizona State University Occupational Therapy</p>
SW-3	<p>Sarah Espinoza-Alfara Lincoln High School Gonzaga University History</p>	E-7	<p>Summer Jeremiah Farris High School Eastern Washington University BS Biology, MA Occupation Therapy</p>
	<p>Claire Golding Eatonville High School Pacific Lutheran University Elementary Education</p>		<p>Madeline McKinney NW Christian High School Eastern Washington University Disorders (Speech Pathology)</p>
SW-4	<p>Kate Bias Vancouver School of Arts and Academics University of Washington Education (Secondary Social Studies)</p>	E-8	<p>Abryl Mercado Southridge High School Brigham Young University – Hawaii Elementary Education</p>
	<p>Grace Jacobsen Washougal High School Washington State University Mathematics</p>		<p>Makaley Specht Connell High School Brigham Young University – Idaho English, Psychology/Counseling</p>

Celebration of Life PowerPoint Presentation

The Celebration of Life ceremony commemorated 409 members who passed away between April 1, 2019 and March 31, 2020. Each District lost the following number of members: NW-1 - 81; NW-2 - 83; SW-3 – 67; SW-4 – 13; E-5 – 32; E-6 – 27; E-7 – 45; E-8 – 42; State-only members – 19.

The Celebration of Life was a PowerPoint Presentation with background music. Executive Director Alan Burke concluded the ceremony with the following quote and a moment of silence.

***“If there ever comes a day where we can’t be together,
Keep me in your heart. I’ll stay there forever”.***
From: Winnie the Pooh

Legislative Update

Legislative Director Peter Diedrick updated Delegates with Legislative activities which occurred this year plus the Legislative Plan of Action for 2020-2021. He reported that the 2020 Legislative Session was a successful and difficult session with a crisis at every deadline. Good news was that Plan 1 COLA passed (HB 1390), Plan 3 and Deferred Comp (SB 6383) passed, and medical subsidy (PEBB) was maintained at \$183.

During 2019-2020 the Legislative Committee applied new lobbying strategies, via a Cle Elum Legislative Summit, Facebook Advocacy, Unit Rally Day, Scripted Introductions, Improved Capitol to Unit communications, and Facebook Advocacy ads. The 2020-2021 year will be challenging. Because of COVID-19 and the State Budget, the State is in a severe economic downturn. Economic losses included 4.5% GDP loss in 1st quarter, 45 million US employment claims, \$9 billion reduction in state tax revenue, and financial markets were down 20% but are recovering currently. He continued with other causes that will be under scrutiny – The Pension Trust. There were positives – year over year returns are okay, asset smoothing over eight years, State Investment Board purchasing at favorable prices, and a fast recovery could lead to good rate of return.

Legislative Director Diedrick apprised members of what to expect next. This year (2020) is an election year. It is also a Presidential election year. There are 98 State House seats, 25 State Senate seats that are open. Currently the House is 57D/41R and the current Senate is 28D/21R. There is only a limited number of places Republicans can lose seats. The 2021 Legislature is looking at a budget shortfall, which will put emphasis on maintaining services. There is no new money. It is possible/likely that there will be severe budget cuts. WSSRA's biggest risk is the medical benefits (\$350 million biennial benefit). There are, however, additional medical plans that may be available. With no subsidy the Uniform Medical Plan would cost \$510 per month per person.

What does the WSSR-PAC need? This year there is no Convention fundraiser. Members are encouraged to give to the PAC online, monthly, or one time only. The PAC needs candidate information and recommendations by August 1. The contribution and endorsement decisions will be decided at the August PAC and Executive Board Zoom meetings.

Louie Osmonovich, WSSR-PAC President delivered a short message wishing everyone well and stating appreciations for donations to the PAC. He reviewed the WSSR-PAC Treasurer's report he received from Lora Brabant, Treasurer. All current reports are up to date and accurate. Members were reminded to destroy all previous fund-raising forms and use only the new form that has been put into place because of the new federal/state laws due to a ban on foreign contributions. Members are encouraged to read the WSSR-PAC information printed in the *Journal*. In closing he reminded members who have information and recommendations on candidates, to inform the WSSR-PAC by August 1. Anyone who has questions should contact Louie Osmonovich at 509-304-4793.

President and Past State President Acknowledgements

Executive Director Alan Burke credited the work that Past State President Linda Averill and this year's President Pam Francis have done.

Announcement of Election Results

Secretary Eileen Wascisin announced the official vote for offices and the WSSRA budget.

2020 ELECTION RESULTS				
POSITION	AREA	CANDIDATE(S)	VOTES RECEIVED	VOTES CAST
President-elect (3-year term)	NW-1	Bruce Boyer	188	191
District Representative (3-year term)	NW-1	Kay Bishop	24	24
District Representative (3-year term)	SW-3	Jean Kinnaman	27	27
District Representative (3-year term)	E-5	Larry Scholl	16	16
WSSR Foundation Trustee (5-year term)				
SW-3		Cathy Stordeur	89	191
NW-2		Pat Cygan*	95*	
*Declared winner				
2020-2021 WSSRA BUDGET				
APPROVE	REJECT		VOTES CAST	
185	1		191	

Passing of Gavel

WSSRA Past State President Linda Averill, in recognition of current WSSRA President Pam Francis's diminished authority, passed the miniature gavel on a plaque which has been signed by all WSSRA Presidents since 1970. The gavel recognizes Pam Francis diminished authority as Past President.

Pam Francis passed the President's gavel to Bob Duke to use wisely and judiciously during his year as WSSRA President.

Announcement of 2020-2021 WSSRA Executive Board

Executive Director Alan Burke introduced the WSSRA Executive Board for 2020-2021. They are:

- **President - Bob Duke**
- **President elect - Bruce Boyer**
- **Past President - Pam Francis**
- **Secretary - Eileen Wascisin**
- **Treasurer - Jim Hall**
- **Historian - Karen Keller**
- **Journal Editor - Kristin Murphy**
- **Parliamentarian - Gene Forrester**

- **NW-1 District Representative – Kay Bishop**
- **NW-2 District Representative – Don Bungler**
- **SW-3 District Representative - Jean Kinnaman**
- **SW-4 District Representative - Ron Crawford**
- **E-5 District Representative - Larry Scholl**
- **E-6 District Representative - Beverly Jagla**
- **E-7 District Representative - Les Francis**
- **E-8 District Representative - Sharon Hoseley**

- **Ex-officio Executive Director Alan Burke**

Announcement of 2020-2021 WSSR Foundation Board

Executive Director Alan Burke introduced the WSSRA Foundation Board 2020-2021.

- **President - Paula Nichols**
- **Vice President - Dottie Stevens**
- **Treasurer - Marianne Harvey**
- **Secretary - Ann Chenhall**
- **Trustee - Pam Cygan**

President's Address

President Bob Duke thanked WSSRA membership for providing him with the opportunity to serve as WSSRA President for the upcoming year. He looks forward to the challenging year ahead. His theme for 2020-2021 is:

Dignity – Involvement – Impact

President Duke believes that WSSRA continues to be a vibrant organization because of its noble Vision, Strategic Plan, and more importantly the Members. His priorities for the upcoming year will be:

- WSSRA will protect and improve our health benefits and pension system

- WSSRA will increase effectiveness as a professional association by increasing membership and collaborative activities
- WSSRA will provide social and individual opportunities for growth

He believes that because of the uncertainty presented by the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, there will be both challenges and opportunities. Supporting each other and recognizing the power and dignity each of us receives by being part of this vibrant WSSRA community is more important than ever during these times.

In closing he recognized and thanked the WSSRA Executive Board for their leadership and hard work.

Welcome to the 2021 Pasco Convention

WSSRA Executive Director Alan Burke invited members to attend next year's Convention to be held in Pasco, June 7-9, 2021. He showed a slide listing the Convention Planning Committee for the 74th Annual Convention and Delegate Assembly.

Other

WSSRA members can find the following on the WSSRA Website under Events.

- June 30, 2020 Virtual Convention Agenda
- 73rd WSSRA Virtual Convention electronic handbook
- Convention Awards booklet (a hard copy can be requested from the office)
- Recording of the 73rd WSSRA Virtual Convention is available on the WSSRA website

Executive Director Burke informed delegates that WSSRA will continue to visit by Zoom. Additionally, there are plans to provide Zoom presentations and webinars that will be placed on the website i.e., Retirement System 101, State Investment Board, State Actuary, Legislative Webinars, Health Care Authority update.

WSSRA Executive Director Alan Burke gave special recognition to the staff for their work in putting this Convention together.

Adjournment

WSSRA President Bob Duke echoed WSSRA Executive Director Alan Burke's thank you to the staff and he also added thanks to Alan.

As there was no further business, President Duke adjourned the Virtual Convention at 11:05 am.

Eileen J. Wascisin

Eileen J. Wascisin
WSSRA Secretary
June 30, 2020

WASHINGTON STATE SCHOOL RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

74th Annual Convention and Delegate Assembly

will take place

June 7, 8, 9, 2021

***Red Lion Hotel
Pasco, Washington***