



Bits & Pieces

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April 2018

Unit 28 of the Washington State School Retirees' Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Save the date! Our next TCSRA luncheon meeting is on Friday, April 20, 2018, from noon until 1:30 PM. As always, we will have fun, enjoy a good meal, and have a great program, which will include presentations by teachers who have received our elementary mini-grants.

We will discuss the successes of our local unit and state organization (WSSRA) in the 2018 legislative session. All school retirees will see an increase in their pensions in July. In addition, the PEBB Medicare Eligible Healthcare Benefit is being increased from \$150 per month to \$168 per month.

We will also review a draft of the 2018-2019 budget, which will be presented for action at the meeting in May.

As you know, the revision of the bylaws was completed last month. However, this revision made it necessary to revise and update all of our job descriptions for board members and members of our committees. I would like to commend the members who worked on this task: **Pat Slosson, Ann Chenhall, Gene Forrester, Ron Crawford, and Sharon Dennis.**

Kudos to **Ron Crawford** for once again doing an amazing job organizing our Retirement Planning Seminar. Seating at the New Market Skills Center on March 8 was filled with approximately 110 attendees. **Peravena Wilson, Kay McCarty, Pat Slosson, Ann Chenhall, Pat McLachlan, Karen Keller, Pam Burke, and Alan Burke** were on hand to help with setup, registration, and cleanup. Ron always works for months to make sure everything goes well for our participants.

Finally, I want to share this quotation from President Abraham Lincoln: "The better part of one's life consists of his friendships." I believe this is true. Please come to our luncheon and enjoy this time with your friends.

Ed Gonion, TCSRA President

PARADE OF PROJECTS

Once again we had an outstanding group of applicants for the TCSRA elementary mini-grants for 2017-2018, and we look forward to hearing from several of them at our luncheon on Friday, April 20, 2018. They always keep us informed about what is happening in our Thurston County schools.

It would have been wonderful if we could have met everyone's request, but as usual, we had far more applications than available funds. TCSRA members who want to help increase the number of grants for our active teachers can do so by making donations directly to our elementary mini-grants.

Choosing recipients from 77 applications submitted by 93 teachers was challenging. We were able to give 38 grants totaling \$5200. Partial requests and a \$200 donation allowed us to give more than the 25 grants covered by our \$5000 budgeted maximum. The grants met many curricular needs for teachers from Rochester, Tenino, Tumwater, Yelm, Olympia and North Thurston.

Please join us for this inspirational time on April 20. You will be impressed by and proud of our teachers.

Jo Edwards, Elementary Mini-Grant Chair

[Bring a friend—bring a non-member, but please reserve seats for your total number of luncheon guests. Call Sharon Dennis, 360-438-5351, for reservation information.]



Friday, April 20, 2018 – 12 Noon

Seventeen51 Restaurant & Bistro
(Panorama's Main Dining Room)

Menu: Green salad with rolls
Apricot glazed brisket, roasted baby red potatoes, and fresh green beans



Dessert: Lemon cream cake

(\$15 includes tax and gratuity)

