

## P.E.O.P.L.E. Table

The P.E.O.P.L.E. table raised \$1532.00 this year. Here is a list of items donated and the winners:

Blue basket - donated by Lois Ruggles, Ch. 27 - won by Joan Johnson, Ch. 12

Wicker kitchen basket - donated by Lois Ruggles, Ch. 27 - won by Evalyn Poff, Ch. 2

Make-up mirror - donated by Chapter 9 - won by Joan Johnson, Ch. 12

Basket with tin & small calculator - donated by Chapter 9 - won by Lavonne Payton, Ch. 9

Calico cat (stuffed) - donated by Chapter 9 - won by Wanda Riley, Ch. 2

Poinsetta flower arrangement - donated by Chapter 9 - won by - Heyward Cowan, Ch. 30

Aster & daisy basket - donated by Chapter 9 - won by Carolyn Hall, Ch. 25

3 napkin baskets - donated by Chapter 6 - won by John Pierson (2), Ch. 14 & Jane Cole, Ch. 3

Camping set - donated by Council Office - won by Jane Caughlan, Ch. 28

Wicker basket w/ wine & glasses - donated by Council Office - won by Betty Romtvedt, Ch. 8

Quilted hot pads - donated by Emmy Lou Watson, Ch. 3 - won by Barb Hohnsbehn, Ch. 39

Basket w/ coffee, carafe & mugs - donated by Gloria Champeaux, Ch. 23 - won by Don McKay, Ch. 13

Hummel cottage figurines - donated by Gloria Champeaux, Ch. 23 - won by - Ann Schelter, Ch. 30

Egg cooker - donated by Phyllis Anderson - won by Evalyn Poff, Ch. 2

Cabin painting - donated/painted by Merle Hanson - won by Charlotte Bageant, Ch. 13

Booties - donated/made by Evelyn Rolf, Ch. 4 - won by Fran Pierson, Ch. 14

Tassels - donated/made by Evelyn Rolf, Ch. 4 - won by Doris Becker, Ch. 16

Shoulderett - donated/made by Nydia Spangler, Ch. 10 - won by Jane Caughlan, Ch. 28

Beige pillow - donated/made by Nydia Spangler, Ch. 10 - won by Jane Caughlan, Ch. 28

White crochet stole - donated/made by Nydia Spangler, Ch. 10 - won by Doris Maca, Ch. 46

Yellow & pink baby afghan - donated/made by Nydia Spangler, Ch. 10 - won by Howard Jorgenson, Ch. 14

Beige & mauve afghan - donated/made by Nydia Spangler - won by Julie Prufer, Ch. 13

Seafood products - donated by Chapter 18 - won by Winona Hammonds, Ch. 18

Seafood basket - donated by Chapter 40 - won by Rae

Barnett, Ch. 27

Red wine & products of Pierce Co. - donated by Ch. 12 - won by Joyce Wright, Ch. 13

Gevalia coffee maker - donated by Ed & Barb Montermini, Ch. 2 - won by Jean Nelson, Ch. 8

Holiday lighthouse - donated by Chapter 10 - won by Helen Sampson, Ch. 10

Tree top basket - donated by Chapter 34 - won by Evalyn Bogrand, Ch. 10

2 Hogue Cellars baskets - donated by Chapter 34 - won by Eileen Graves, Ch. 23 & Fran Pierson, Ch. 14

Winery variety pack - donated by Chapter 34 - won by unknown

Quilt made from patriotic material donated from Chapter 13 used at 2001 Spokane Convention - donated/made by Chapter 29 - won by Lola Larson, Ch. 12

Fruit Delights - donated by Chapter 27 - won by Elaine Sanford, Ch. 13

Emerald Downs package - donated by Chapter 27 - won by Barbie Montermini, Ch. 2

Throw pillow - donated by Virginia Kimball, Ch. 4 - won by Gwen Rench, Ch. 3

Jams & jellies - donated by Chapter 11 - won by Clarence Gadley, Ch. 2

4 mugs, chocolate & spoons - donated by Chapter 11 - won by Ann Schelter, Ch. 30

2 Quinalt Pride canned fish packages - donated by Chapter 2 - won by Lucille Stewart, Ch. 16 & Gloria St. Denis, Ch. 6

Organic canned & pickled veggie basket - donated by Chapter 8 - won by Howard Jorgenson, Ch. 14

Brown, orange & white afghan - donated by Ruth Moffat, Ch. 6 - won by Pat Starkovich, Ch. 28

Ball w/ bear - donated by Chapter 28 - won by Ann Schelter, Ch. 30

Yellow & red birdhouse - donated by Betty Anderson, Ch. 27 - won by Jack Adams, Ch. 21

Red birdhouse - donated by Betty Anderson, Ch. 27 - won by Jack Adams, Ch. 21

Tassles - donated/made by Thelma Sacklin, Ch. 4 - won by Jane Cole, Ch. 3

## Legal Table

The Legal table raised \$850.00 this year to go to our legal fund. Here is a list of items donated and the winners:

Tams - donated by Lenore Dow, Ch. 2 - won by Ann Schelter, Ch. 30 & JaDee Priest, Ch. 13

Down throw - donated by Gloria Champeaux, Ch. 23 - won by Mike Warren, Ch. 3

Travel cooler - donated by Gloria Champeaux, Ch. 23 - won by Dallas & Barb Hohnsbehn, Ch. 39

Baby blanket - donated by Cassandra de la Rosa, Council Office - won by Bonnie Bannish, Ch. 40

Handmade quilted pillow - donated by Chapter 40 - won by Gloria St. Denis, Ch. 6

Wicker basket, 2 wine glasses & 2 bottles wine - donated by Council Office - won by Sharon Price, Ch. 12

Wine & products of Pierce Co. - donated by Chapter 12 - won by Don McKay, Ch. 13

Silver basket & wine - donated by Cassandra de la Rosa, Council Office - won by Lois Masten, Ch. 2

Cake knife & server - donated by Anne Matthews, Ch 2 - won by Malvolia Joseph, Ch. 3

Gourmet dipping oil set - donated by Gloria Champeaux, Ch. 23 - won by Jim Lengenfelder, Ch. 2

English tea & asst creams - donated by Mike Warren, Ch. 3 - won by Barb McClanahan, Ch. 39

Quartz Anniversary clock - donated by Gloria Champeaux, Ch. 23 - won by Ed Montermini, Ch. 2

Quilted throw pillow - donated by Virginia Kimball, Ch. 4 - won by Charlotte Jones, Ch. 16

3 colored votive candles - donated by Anne Matthews, Ch. 2 - won by Pat Starkovich, Ch. 28

2 bottles of Berringer wine - donated by unknown - won by Gene Lux, Ch. 3

RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COUNCIL  
1212 JEFFERSON ST SE STE 102  
OLYMPIA, WA 98501

## Workshops

The Comprehensive Health Education Foundation (C.H.E.F.) sent Beth Olenchek to conduct a workshop entitled Rx for Communication. The presentation's goal is to help seniors receive the support, skills and information they need to communicate more assertively with their health care providers. C.H.E.F. provides "training the trainers" workshops for those interested in teaching others assertive communication skills. If chapters in your area would like to have this program, please contact the Olympia office for more information.

The Yakima Health Care Coalition presented a workshop on long-term care issues in Washington state. Members of the group, which included state Rep. Mary Skinner, discussed various options and types of long-term care and the impact of the state budget crisis on them. Rep. Skinner urged members to become familiar with their lawmakers and keep them informed of your views on needs in this area.

## Kay Wood

A special thanks to Kay Wood who had volunteered to Chair the P.E.O.P.L.E. table again this year and act as official Greeter. Because of an unexpected medical emergency, she was unable to attend the convention. Our prayers go out to her for a quick recovery.

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
OLYMPIA, WA  
PERMIT #165

OUR STRENGTH IS YOUR SECURITY!

SPECIAL ISSUE - CONVENTION 2002



# Retired Public Employees Council of Washington

www.rpecwa.org

Toll Free 1-800-562-6097

Direct 360-352-2862

## Special Issue - Convention 2002

31st Annual RPEC Convention  
September 24th - 25th, 2002

This year's convention was held in Yakima at the Yakima Convention Center. Delegates and guests alike enjoyed warm, sunny weather combined with a pleasurable meeting of RPEC members from across the state.

The Convention was hosted by Chapter 3 - Seattle and Chapter 9 - Vancouver and our thanks go out to these chapters for making it most memorable.

Our special thanks go to Rene Tillman, Chapter 3 and Bill Ayres, Chapter 9 for their efforts and coordination.

Total attendance equaled 246 Chapter delegates, alternates & guests.

### RPEC EXECUTIVE BOARD

George Masten,	President
Ed Montermini,	WWaVice-President
Howard Jorgenson,	EWaVice-President
Anne Matthews,	Treasurer
Gail Spaeth,	Secretary
John Demanovich,	Pres. Emeritus
Tom Wood,	District 1
Betty Anderson,	District 2
Merle Hanson,	District 3
VACANT,	District 4
Bill Ayres,	District 5
Phyllis Piercey,	District 6
VACANT,	District 7
Jim Spangler,	District 8
Heyward Cowan,	District 9
Rene Tillman,	District 9

### RPEC COUNCIL OFFICE STAFF

Cassandra de la Rosa, Exec. Director  
cassrpec@callatg.com  
Linda Olson, Office Manager  
lindaol@wfse.org  
Barbie Montermini, Accountant  
barbie@wfse.org  
Derek VanSpoor, Office Assistant  
derekv@wfse.org

<http://www.rpecwa.org>

*"Here is a sack to gather your thoughts.*

*A rubber band to hold them together.*

*A marble so you can't say you lost yours.*

*A penny so you're never broke.*

*A kiss (chocolate) so you will always feel loved.*

*And a string to tie it shut and keep it safe."*

This was the note found in a small burlap bag containing the items mentioned above. They were part of the "goodie bags" given to our delegates and guests at registration. These little bags were the work of MaryAnn Ayres, Chapter 9 - Vancouver. She made almost 300 of these little sacks to include in the goodie bags this year.

Thank you MaryAnn!



*The new Executive Board officers being sworn in by Gloria Champeaux, out-going President. From left: Howard Jorgenson, George Masten, Ed Montermini, Anne Matthews and Gail Spaeth.*

## Executive Board Elections

Elections were held for officers of the RPEC Executive Board this year. The results were:

George Masten, Chapter 2 - President;

Ed Montermini, Chapter 2 - Western Washington Vice-President;

Howard Jorgenson, Chapter 14 - Eastern Washington Vice-President;

Anne Matthews, Chapter 2 - Treasurer; and

Zona Gail Spaeth, Chapter 13 - Secretary.

All positions except for President were by acclamation, meaning there was only one nomination for that position.

## Resolutions

The following are resolutions that were passed at Convention:

Resolution #1: Cost of Prescription Drugs: that RPEC endorse, and convey to our congressional delegation, a request that a congressional investigation be made of the pricing practices of pharmaceutical companies and their use of patent law protection. *Submitted by Chapter 28.*

Resolution #3: Improving Our Tax System: that RPEC adopt the principles and participate as a member of the Tax Reform Coalition and support the concept of a state income tax. *Submitted by Chapter 3.*

Resolution #5: Life Insurance: that RPEC proceed to work with the state and its agencies to bring about continued higher life insurance coverage for state retirees without increasing current premiums. *Submitted by RPEC Executive Board.*

## Constitutional Amendments

The following are amendments to the Constitution that were passed at Convention:

Constitutional Amendment #1: Changes Executive Board Officers from a Western Washington Vice-President AND an Eastern Washington Vice-President TO one Vice-President, will take effect at the 2005 Executive Board Officer elections. *Submitted by Chapter 26.*

Constitutional Amendment #4: Changes membership dues from \$3.00 TO \$5.00, with \$1.00 going to local chapters *instead of* \$0.65. Effective January 1, 2003. *Submitted by Chapter 3.*

Constitutional Amendment #6: Creates a free Associate Membership for Washington State PERS employees within one year of retirement. These members will receive the newsletter, may attend chapter meetings and convention, but will not have voting privileges until they are retired, full dues paying members. *Submitted by RPEC Executive Board.*

Constitutional Amendment #7: Makes Membership Committee a standing committee. *Submitted by RPEC Executive Board.*

*From left: Howard Jorgenson, George Masten, Ed Montermini, Anne Matthews & Zona Gail Spaeth*



## Membership Recruitment Drawing

The drawing from the names of those who recruited new members during the past year was not done at the convention this year. Betty Anderson, chair of the Membership Committee has done the drawing and here are the results:

The winner of a trip for 2 to the Christmas Tree Lighting in Leavenworth is Donald Daley, Chapter 41, Island County.

The winner of a night for 2 at the WestCoast Hotel in Wenatchee is Willard Granberg, Chapter 38, Lower Yakima County.

### Banquet Awards

Awards were presented Tuesday evening during the Convention Banquet. John O'Brien emceed the event. Gloria Champeaux presented the Legislative, Personnel, Legal, Membership and Governance Committee members with Certificates of Appreciation, and presented the out-going executive officers with an etched glass desk clock in recognition of their service.

Cassandra de la Rosa presented Gloria Champeaux with Certificates of Appreciation for her work on the Governance, Legal, and Legislative Committees.

Norm St. Denis presented Gloria Champeaux with a plaque from District #1, recognizing her service of 6 years as President. District #1 consists of Chapters 6, 7, 8, 37 and 41.

Betty Anderson presented the Membership Recruitment awards. Chapter 1, Buckley won for the Chapter with the Greatest Percentage Increase (8.1%). Chapter 3, Seattle won the Chapter with the Most New Members (36). Collen McGinn, Chapter 3, Seattle and Velma Vogltanz, Chapter 19, Kitsap County tied for first place in Individual Recruitment, each with 8 new members. They each won \$100. Dale Clark, Chapter 1, Buckley and Lois Dripps, Chapter 26, Okanogan, tied for second place, each with 6 new members. They each won \$50. Third place went to Hank Stockman with 5 new members recruited.

Mentioned also, was RPEC's oldest member Ruah Livingston, Chapter 6 - Everett, currently living in Oregon. Ruah is a spry 107 years old.

## Our Esteemed Speakers and Guests

Our guests this year included some familiar faces and a couple of new ones.

Rep. Jim Clements and Rep. Mark Skinner, 14th Leg. District (Yakima), warmly welcomed us to their area.

Greg Devereux, Executive Director of the Washington Federation of State Employees and Robert Slingland, President of WSSRA, delivered brief remarks of support on behalf of their members.

Steve Regenstreif, Director of the Retiree Program of AFSMCE and Karen Gilgoff, Assistant Director of the Retiree Program of AFSCME were both welcomed back warmly and gave a great presentation on prescription drug costs.

Dana Kennedy, Western Regional Coordinator for the ARA took time from her busy schedule to attend.

Jeff Faux, President of the Economic Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., gave the keynote speech "Who Gets to Retire," a very informative presentation on current economic conditions and forecasts and how they affect us as retirees.

\*\*\* LOST \*\*\*

One of the gifts Wednesday at lunch was a nice shirt from Shirts By Sheri. The recipient left it behind. We brought it back to Olympia with us and have kept it fed and watered, but would like to get it back to its rightful owner. If this was yours, please call the Council office.



*Passing of the torch. New RPEC President George Masten and out-going President Gloria Champeaux.*

## Thank You(s)!!

Thank yous need to go out to so many people who worked hard in front and behind the scenes to make this year's convention a success.

Barbie Montermini, Chapter 2 and Staff Accountant - for all the great photos of events and folks.

Jane Cole, Chapter 3 - for her hours of working the P.E.O.P.L.E. table. She was there the entire convention!

Evalyn Poff, Chapter 2 - chairing the registration committee and organizing the volunteers who handed out the delegate packets.

Gene Otis, Chapter 12 - Resolution Committee Chair; Rowland Williams, Chapter 8 - Constitution Committee Chair; Barbie Montermini, Chapter 2 - Elections Committee Chair

Sergeant at Arms - the helpful group that manned the doors, microphones and setup. The S@A committee consisted of Hank Stockman, Chapter 10 (Chair), Mary Marbles, Chapter 28, Donna McPherson, Chapter 29, Ed Kern, Chapter 33, Barrie Hull, Chapter 7, Kenneth Kramer, Chapter 20, Elva Toyer, Chapter 46, Arthur Robins, Chapter 16 and Wally Potter, Chapter 10.

Anne Resen - her band delighted us during the banquet and had many folks dancing all night.

All the wonderful vendors and the gifts they left us, who spent hours sitting in the Convention Center lobby. Shirts By Sheri, American Red Cross, Salomon Smith Barney, WA State Dept. of Personnel, Englewood Heights Retirement Village, Hearing & Speech Center, AARP, and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Special thanks to Rev. Bill Altenhein from Royal City United Methodist Church and to Rev. Tom Payton, from North Bonneville Community Church, who is also of Chapter 9, for their invocations during convention.

Masada Shrine Desert Patrol for their services as Color Guard.

Porteus Vineyards and Sagelands Vineyards - each donated two bottles of wine that went to our P.E.O.P.L.E. and Legal tables.

The helpers and volunteers that worked at the registration tables, the P.E.O.P.L.E. table and the Legal table, the latter being a new idea by Gloria Champeaux and a very successful one.

Pam Whitlock for volunteering to help wherever she could best be used. Pam works for the state (GA), knows many of our members and their families, is engaged to Derek VanSpoor (office staff), and will soon be eligible to be a member of RPEC (27-1/2 years of service so far)!

And special thanks to all of our delegates, for they made this event memorable and very productive.

THANK YOU ALL!

## RPEC Legislative Priorities for the 2003 Legislative Session

Pension Governance: RPEC's first priority is the establishment of an independent pension governance system that includes retirement systems members and beneficiaries, and gives them both a voice and a vote in policies that govern their pension systems.

Prescription Drugs: We support a state program to ensure that low-income and senior citizens can obtain prescription drugs at a reasonable cost until such time as a comprehensive, affordable federal program is enacted.

Contribution Rates: We support increasing employer contribution rates to restore cuts made to balance the state budget during the past four years. Contribution rate reductions meant there was less money in the funds for benefit enhancements, such as COLAs.

Recovering Lost Purchasing Power (COLAs): RPEC seeks a permanent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) program for all retired public employees and a "catch-up" COLA to help long-time retirees restore and maintain at least 75 percent of the purchasing power of their initial pension benefit.

Medicare Subsidies: RPEC strongly supports making permanent in law the Medicare subsidy provided to retirees who are eligible and participate in a Public Employee Benefit Board health plan. Efforts need to be made to obtain a similar subsidy for retirees who don't or can't participate in the PEBB.

Life Insurance: As a result of a lawsuit settlement, state retirees who opted to continue their life insurance with the state when they retired have a slight increase in their coverage through 2004, with no increase in premiums. We support a continuation of this increased coverage for eligible state retirees after the court settlement period lapses.

*Presented by Glen Hallman, Chapter 7, Legislative Committee Chair*



*P.E.O.P.L.E. table - From left, Jane Cole - Chapter 3, Gertrude Erickson - Chapter 16, and Nydia Spangler - Chapter 10*

## Hospitality Suite

On Monday evening, a Hospitality Suite was set up and hosted by Chapters 3, Seattle and 9, Vancouver. There was a great fried chicken buffet with all the fixings as well as a wide variety of beverages available.

There was fun had by all socializing and meeting new faces over the three hour affair.

Leftovers from the meal were taken to the Yakima Union Gospel Mission to help those in need.

### Centerpieces Also Prizes

The doors opened Tuesday evening for the banquet and awards, to a room full of table rounds, each with a beautiful silk flower arrangement in handmade wooden bases.

The arrangements and bases were the time-consuming handywork of Bill and MaryAnn Ayres from Chapter 9, Vancouver. MaryAnn made all the arrangements and Bill made the bases.

Each seat at the table found a shiny penny with a number on it, and during the awards presentations, MaryAnn chose a number and the lucky person in that seat got to take the beautiful arrangement home with them.

### From Nydia Spangler

Thanks to all who donated used eyeglasses. So far she has collected over 60 pairs of glasses, 1 pair of lenses, and 17 eyeglass cases. They all are donated to people who cannot afford eyeglasses.

Contribute to the RPEC Legal Fund Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \$250  \$100  \$50  \$25  \$10

Send to:  
Retired Public Employees Council  
1212 Jefferson St SE, Ste 102  
Olympia, WA 98501