



WSDSC e-News

DSA2017HOUSTON..... HERE WE COME!!

Our very own Conference Management Team (CMT) for DSA2019Seattle held its training recently on February, 11th at HSDC-Seattle. We are coming out in “Downtown Abbey” style ready to serve on April 2nd, 2017, in Houston.



The CMT has worked out a schedule to be used in Houston, Texas, from April 2nd to April 9th, with an ever-increasing number of volunteers who indicated they too were planning on going to the DSA2019Houston to help the core committee (CMT) serve at the registration table. Our intent is to recruit registrants there and have them sign up for the forthcoming DSA conference in Seattle. We want them to purchase Early Bird combo tickets soon to be on sale and start making plans to visit our beautiful Pacific Northwest. DSA2019Seattle is being held on September 2-8, 2019 at the lovely Downtown Sheraton Seattle Hotel.

On the CMT crew are Ellen Scheppach, Chair; Connie Gough, Vice Chair; Kellie Shapard, Registration Co-ordinator; Karen Atwood, Public Relations Chair and Administrative Officer; Lilly Bender, Human Recruitment Co-ordinator; Jim House, Technical Advisor; Angela Theriault, Accessibility Co-ordinator; Sally Taylor, Fundraising Coordinator; E.J. Hunter, Safety and Security Management Chair, and Ronn Fettig, Tours Co-ordinator.

Volunteers are David Born, Rusty Wales, Char Parsley, Renwick and Beth Dayton, Gerriane Healy, Suzanne Mannella and John Taft. Possibly, a few others will step in to help the registration team. Volunteers will be there to answer questions about DSA2019Seattle and what the conference has to offer during the week of September 2-8, 2019. Aside from registration forms

will be materials from Seattle Chamber of Commerce and visitseattle.com. The CMT group has been given a heather blue T-shirts with a new Seattle DSA emblem at the left heart and our own WSDSC logo at the upper right sleeve. Chair Ellen Scheppach ended the meeting with a note to reach for the star! The crew is well organized and ready to recruit as many registrants to come to our Beautiful Pacific Northwest!



Two of the CMT staff have celebrated their February birthdays at the meeting. Donuts in the shape of a heart and icings coating an emoji of cross-eyed faces were passed around during refreshments. Oh what fun that was gorging down calorie-filled donuts with coffee!



It should be noted to all WSDSC members that Early Bird Combo tickets to DSA2019Seattle will be on sale for \$270, of which \$20 is hence deducted for DSA national membership dues. Kellie McComas Shapard is Registration Chair. As of April 2nd, the new WSDSC website will be publicly displayed with information on the DSA conferences. If you have any questions meanwhile, contact Ellen Scheppach at ellenscheppach@gmail.com.

Further Report from Your DSA 2019 Chair Ellen Scheppach

At our final CMT meeting, the CMTeam reviewed and revised registration forms. It also discussed roles and responsibilities for Houston's DSA2017, to be held there in April 2-9. With about 20 of us from Seattle going to rotate on shifts at the Registration Table in the Exhibits Hall of Galleria Westin Hotel, we are to recruit and register attendees to come see The PACIFIC NORTHWEST for the first time! We expect to broadcast ourselves as hosting the largest ever Deaf Conference in Seattle for DSA. In all, thus far, the CMT committee has worked extremely hard as we hope to be successful in selling Early-Bird Combo tickets while in Houston.

If you as a reader are interested in joining our committee, please see Lilly Bender in person, our CMT Coordinator for human resources. The more volunteers we have the better we can be to host our own conference in Seattle. We intend to advertise Vacation Pay Plan to our members

here sometime this summer. Additionally, CMT Fundraising Chair Sally Taylor has listed up plans and ideas for several fundraising events for both 2017 and 2018. Look for more announcement from her and the team.

TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE OUR DREAM for OUR VERY OWN DEAF COMMUNITY CENTER IN THIS STATE. HOWEVER, WE NEED ALL THE SUPPORT AND HELP WE CAN GET by having you work on the conference that could/should make big unspent money to build the center.

Back in business:

1) Van and Ellen Scheppach has relocated to Vancouver, WA. In trying to purchase a house and get settled, they had been through ordeals with an epic snowstorm that hit Portland/Vancouver area in January. Trapped in the storm, they also were hit with a nasty flu. If members and readers had been wondering what with not receiving any eNews as of late, Van and Ellen wish to apologize for this slacking.

2) WSDSC business now has a new PO Box address which is **WSDSC PO Box 1472, Vancouver, WA 98668**. If you have already mailed your 2017-2018 dues, your mail will be transferred from Lynden, (PO Box 145 to our new PO Box 1472). If you have not paid your 2017-2018 dues you may write a check or cashier check payable to WSDSC (\$20.00 per person). PLEASE MAIL TO OUR NEW PO BOX 1472... To those who had paid, a huge thank you! The two-year membership dues covers a term from January 2017 to December 2018. (See WSDSC TREASURER's report below.)

3) WSDSC Representative Karen Atwood is our point of contact person (POC) to work with ODHH staff in terms of getting ready for our new "Senior Companion Service" still under construction. Karen is working with ODHH on a contract on how procedures should work to handle and serve Deaf seniors in nursing/assistive living programs throughout the State of Washington. More details will be forthcoming in our eNews.

4) The executive board is planning its meeting for Tri-Cities sometime this spring. Pending an approval from the board, the Annual General Meeting will hopefully be held in Bellingham, WA on Saturday, May 6th, 2017. More information will be given in the next edition.

Tri-Cities News

Regional Tri-Cities Representative, Belinda McNabb, has made an arrangement to do fundraising at the Indian John Rest Area Coffee Stands on both sides E/B Eastbound and W/B Westbound over the weekend of April 28-May 1st, 2017. We hope all goes well for her and her small army. They plan to raise money for WSDSC.

If you happen to be driving by, please stop by and say hello. We thank Belinda for coordinating this event with the Department of Transportation at Cle Elu. We should have some photos showing their efforts in our May eNews edition.

Washington State Deaf Senior Citizens - NORTHWEST REGION EAGLE'S NEST
will host

**Valentine's Party - Family Friendly
Social + Refreshments**

2nd Saturday, February 11, 2017 Time: 4:15-8:15PM
Location: Cordata Community Food Co-Op Roots Room (Upstairs)
315 Wesierly Road, Bellingham, WA

Wear RED for HEARTY SPIRIT!!

BINGO FUN!!
\$1.00 per BINGO SHEET

**SILENT AUCTION OF
BAKED DESSERTS!!**

ADMISSION - \$5.00 per Adult

NOTE: FREE to anyone brings DESSERT for Silent Auction!!

Eagle's Nest Committee will provide Food + Drinks

Prizes from BINGO games are non-monetary + donations from Businesses
Anyone wears REDDEST + CREATIVE clothes - will win Prize!

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO WSDSC DEAF PROJECTS.
If you are interested to join WSDSC - \$20 per person for two years (2017 - 2018)
Any question or concern, contact Cindy McNeely email: cindycoxmcneely2@aol.com

News from the Eagle's Nest Unfortunately, the Valentine's party at Cordata Community Food Coop, Roots Room, in Bellingham WA has had to be

cancelled due to snowstorm and the difficult driving conditions making it virtually impossible for party-goers to travel. The party, however, is simply postponed to Saturday April 8th, 4:00pm to 8:15pm at the same site. Cindy McNeely, Northwest Regional Representative, managed to solicit 15 donated items for their silent auction, part of which is raising funds for WSDSC. Cindy indicated she also sold two green t-shirts to members in that region. Well-done, Cindy!



News from Vancouver WA Region

Valentine's Party with Crazy 8 Card Games and a Potluck

was held at the SWCDHH in Vancouver, WA last Tuesday, February 14th, 10:00AM to 3:00PM.

Over 25 Deaf seniors living in Vancouver/ Portland area attended the day party and had ample fun playing Crazy 8 Card games. We broke for lunch and helped ourselves to delectable potluck dishes. Lunch was ended with a real treat of a huge sheetcake with frostings and a heading that embodied words, "Happy Fun Times". We certainly had fun!

WSDSC Secretary Connie Gough was a guest there while visiting the Vancouver region.

The SWCHDD holds card games for Deaf seniors on second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. Bringing own lunches from home is the norm.

Incidentally, there was a SuperBowl Party held there last Sunday, the week of February 5th. An extremely happy lone camper was Van Scheppach who was whooping for New England Patriots and Tom Brady to win the 51st Superbowl Cup. The last quarter of the game was a total shocker for many who were watching TV when Tom Brady had swarmed proud Atlanta's Falcons.

A flyer for a St. Patrick's Day fundraiser. At the top and bottom are decorative borders of green shamrocks. The central text is set against a background of a large green top hat. The text is as follows:

**ST. PATRICK'S
GREEN BUNCO FUNTIME**

**COME JOIN US FOR THIS FUNDRAISER
FOR WSDSC'S RETIREMENT CENTER!**

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 18, 2017
1 - 5 PM
SWCDHH, 301 SE HEARTHWOOD BLVD, VANCOUVER, WA**

ADMISSION: \$10
Includes playing Bunco, lunch, drinks, & prizes

Also, a small Silent Auction! Bring your moolah!

WEAR GREEN!
Prize will be given for the greenest outfit!!

COMMITTEE
Sally Taylor, Linda Stack, Linda Cole,
Melinda Schreiner, Ronn Fettig, Gerry Healy,
Charmain Mackey, Ellen Scheppach

COME AND HAVE FUN WITH US!!
Hosted by Washington State Deaf Senior Citizens

Report from WSDSC Treasurer on Membership dues. Last October 1, 2016, members voted in favor of paying membership dues for two years term instead of one every year. So far, we have 63 members who paid up their dues for 2017 only and 27 out of 63 who paid for two-years' dues. As of current, it is \$20.00 per person for two-year membership dues starting January 1st 2017 and ending December 31st in 2018. If you have paid one year's due, you can still pay WSDSC Treasurer for your other half. Hopefully, we will get all of our members paid up on two-year dues. If you are not sure, you can email WSDSC Treasurer at wdsctreasurer@hotmail.com and he will respond. If you know you only paid one year, go ahead and pay for 2018 dues. He will update the listing. Thank you for your patient with us during this lengthy transition. Please note that our WSDSC's PO box numbers have changed: Now at **PO Box 1472, Vancouver WA 98668**

Legal Assistance and Care planning Washingtonians have several legal tools to help plan for long-term care or health care needs. Preparing documents before you may need them will help make sure your interests and wishes are carried out even if you are not able to make your own decisions.

It's best to consult an attorney well versed in Elder Law or Special Needs Law, to make sure your care plans follow Washington State law and protect your interests and wishes. Some legal tools do not require an attorney but will need your careful consideration. If you do not already have an attorney, here are some options for finding legal assistance:



- ♣ [The Washington State Bar Association's Find Legal Help Webpage.](#)
- ♣ Many [county bar associations](#) offer local lawyer referral services. Contact your county bar for information about legal help near you.
- ♣ The American Bar Association maintains a [directory](#) of lawyer referral services by state.
- ♣ [CLEAR](#) is Washington's toll-free, centralized intake, advice, and referral service operated by the Northwest Justice Project for low-income people seeking free legal assistance with civil legal problems. The web page lists hours and instructions.
- ♣ [National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys \(NAELA\)](#) has an online directory of members that are Elder Law and Special Needs Law Attorneys. They also have consumer information about Elder and Special Needs Law, as well as how to choose an attorney.
- ♣ [Washington Academy of Elder Law Attorneys \(WAELA\)](#) consists of Washington members of NAELA, who not only practice elder law, but are also especially aware of and concerned with the special issues pertaining to the practice of elder law in Washington State.
- ♣ The [National Elder Law Foundation \(NELF\)](#) certifies practitioners of Elder Law and Special Needs Law and provides a limited list of certified attorneys by state. NELF's Certified Elder Law Attorney designation is itself certified by the American Bar Association.

Additional information about your legal rights and self-help legal packets, including court forms, can be found online at [Washington Law Help](#)

Please note that there is no mention of the legal assistance offering interpreters. You will have to make your own plans to ensure you have interpreters be present with you in any of your appointments.