

# ARSCE NEWS

ACTIVE & RETIRED SEATTLE CITY EMPLOYEES

ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SEATTLE CITY EMPLOYEES  
For: Active & Retired Seattle City Employees  
P.O. Box 75385, WA 98175-0385

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## OUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Masterjohn

On Sept 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Tim Burgess was sworn in as our new mayor; the third mayor in a week. Burgess will serve for 71 days until we elect a new mayor, who will be the first woman mayor since 1926. There are several important issues on the November ballot so, "Let's get out the vote!"

We are upgrading our website and making a number of changes. We are looking for members who would like to contribute information about his/her department, or any other interesting 'City' stories that are out there.

I attended the SCERS (Seattle City Employees' Retirement System) Board meeting in September where it was reported that the funding ratio increased from 66.5% in 2016 to 68.1% in 2017. There has been a 3% increase in the number of active members and of the average monthly benefits. The actuarial value of assets has increased from \$2.4 billion to \$2.56 billion.

The market value of assets returned was around 8.4% in 2016. The current 2017 year to date return is between 9 to 10%. The report also said the SCERS investment performance for the period that ended June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 has outperformed the policy index over the last 5 years. So the fund is in good shape.

I met with Maria Britton-Sipe who is the Executive Director of the Retired Public Employees Council of Washington. She was interested in knowing if we wanted to become affiliated with their organization. We may invite Maria to an ARSCE Board meeting. I have also made contact with the president of the City Light retirees.

At our Fall Luncheon in September, we heard from Carol Arnold Compton who talked about her late husband Jim Compton's book "Spirit in the Rock." Jim Compton, as you'll remember, was an ARSCE member, Seattle City Councilman, and an award-winning journalist for King 5 TV and NBC News. The book details the story of the Modoc Indian War, a passion of Jim's. The talk was very interesting and well presented. Afterwards Carol told me that Jim would've really appreciated ARSCE members hearing about his book and research.

Speaking of luncheons, our Annual Christmas luncheon will be held at the West Seattle Golf Course on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Don't forget the gift exchange (bring one gift per person) and please register early.

Let me wish you all Happy Holidays!

Yours,

John Masterjohn



Contact Mr. Masterjohn at [president@arsce.org](mailto:president@arsce.org)

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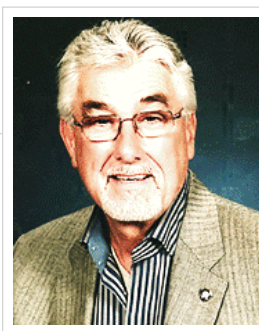
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## YOUR PENSION NEWS

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



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

We traveled at the invitation of the National Union of Energy and Mining Workers (SNTEM) and the Cuban Workers Central (CTC). Our trip was a follow up to an earlier delegation in March, 2017 during which we laid the foundation for establishing a sister relationship between IBEW Outside Construction and Electrical Utility Workers and STNEM/CTC. Our overture to the Cuban electrical workers was inspired by our sister relationships with electrical workers in the countries of Suriname and El Salvador.

The hurricane impacted the northern coast of Cuba and the capitol city, Havana, as well as the greater part of the Caribbean and the entire state of Florida. Life threatening winds ripped up trees, destroyed buildings and infrastructure, and knocked out power, while massive storm surges flooded streets and homes.

The Cuban government and utilities effectively evacuated those areas most vulnerable to the hurricane and mobilized the entire country to participate in the clean-up and recovery. Our delegation arrived seven days after the hurricane made landfall. By the time our delegation departed the island, upwards of 90% of the electricity had been restored and the capitol city was open for business.

*continued on page 2*

**IBEW Delegation to Cuba...continued from page 1**

**Participants** — Originally, our delegation numbered 26 leaders, but due to the hurricane and its devastating impact on Florida, several leaders were forced to cancel their participation, including IBEW President Lonnie Stephenson and the leaders of two Florida-based IBEW Locals. In the end, the following leaders participated:

- Tom Dalzell, Business Manager, IBEW Local 1245
- Pat Lavin, Business Manager, IBEW Local 47
- Brian D’Arcy, Business Manager, IBEW Local 18
- Travis Eri, Business Manager, IBEW Local 125
- Myself, Lou Walter, Business Manager, IBEW Local 77
- Rene Giron, Secretary General of the Electrical Workers’ Union in El Salvador (STESEC) with whom IBEW Local 1245 formalized a sister relationship in July, 2017
- Gustavo Corona, Ass’t. Business Manager, IBEW Local 18
- Eileen Purcell, IBEW 1245 Organizer
- Jose Artiga, Consultant & Specialist in developing people-to-people programs

**Pre-Meeting** — We stayed at the historic Nacional de Cuba Hotel. On Saturday, September 16, just 7 days after the hurricane, Tom Dalzell and Eileen Purcell met with one of our Cuban hosts, Jose Cabrera, to review the revised itinerary prior to the arrival of the rest of our delegation.

**Visits** — For the next 3 days, we visited Utilities in Central and Eastern Havana (UNE - Union Electrica), the lineman training center, the Profilactorio Nacional Obrero, a national workers’ health center in Guanabo and the petroleum workers’ center at Union CUPET, the gas and oil refinery. We also visited the Plaza of the Revolution, Old Havana, the Museum of the Revolution, Cojimar (the fishing village that inspired Ernest Hemmingway), and the Institute of Friendship Between Peoples (ICAP), and walked by the US Embassy.


**UNE - Eastern Havana Electric Utility** — The Eastern Havana Utility, UNE, has 22 primary circuits, 1,787 transformers, and serves one fifth of the population of the Cuban capitol city of Havana. The headquarters we visited has 192 employees of which 39 are linemen. Many of the line crews with whom we met had been working night and day in the aftermath of the hurricane to restore power to the country. Having successfully restored power in the capitol, they were preparing to head out to other provincial areas hit by the hurricane, as part of their mutual aid program.


**UNE - Electrical Workers Training Center** — The Electrical Workers’ Training Center provides a wide range of skills training, including the theoretical and practical training of linemen. Since the 1959 revolution and the nationalization of the electrical industry, state-run electrical company, UNE, has dedicated itself to generation, transmission and distribution of electricity, providing service to 800,000 customers in Havana, both commercial and residential, with a workforce comprised of 4,300 workers, including more than 800 linemen. They are currently focusing on providing more training on working on energized lines and on replacing and upgrading transformers, especially in the north.

**CLINCA PROFILACTICA NACIONAL OBRERO EN GUANABA - Workers’ Health Care Center for Prevention in Guanaba, Cuba** — The National Workers Health care center for the prevention of disease was founded thirty years ago. Its mission is to provide medical care to workers in high risk occupations, primarily in the energy and mining fields. Exposure to noise, heights, dust, gas, lead, and high stress are some of the issues addressed by an interdisciplinary medical team with expertise in fifteen specialties. They also screen for hypertension, hepatitis, diabetes, prostate cancer, and a broad range of physical and mental health issues. Eighty workers per week attend the week-long clinic. In addition to the comprehensive health work up, workers enjoy an array of recreational activities.

**Conclusions** — We reaffirmed our commitment to the ongoing exchange of ideas, training, technology and solidarity. We agreed to:

- Reschedule the delegation with IBEW President Stephenson for March 6-9, 2018;
- Send 2-3 linemen/tree trimmers to observe the Training Center and evaluate ways we can mutually support each other, the week of November 13th, 2017;
- Develop a written document detailing the terms of our sister relationship; and
- Explore the incorporation of a Salvadoran and Cuban lineman into the next training mission to Suriname.

On behalf of the IBEW delegation, Business Manager Tom Dalzell and myself, along with all the participants thanked our Cuban hosts for their hospitality, expressed admiration for the extraordinary organization that mitigated the otherwise devastating impact of Hurricane Irma, acknowledged the excellence of their training programs, and our commitment to building the brotherhood, lineman to lineman, worker to worker, union to union across borders to share best practices. 



You're Invited to  
**ARSCE's Annual  
Christmas Party!**  
Wednesday,  
December 13th, 2017

**West Seattle Golf Course  
4470 - 35th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126**

**(Reservation form on page 12)**

### Essential Telephone Numbers And Web Addresses

ARSCE: 425.443.3799  
(Change of Address/Membership Questions)  
E-mail: [financial.secretary@arsce.org](mailto:financial.secretary@arsce.org)  
Website: [www.arsce.org](http://www.arsce.org)

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

Personnel Department: 206.615.1340  
(Benefits)  
E-mail: [benefits@arsce.org](mailto:benefits@arsce.org)  
Website: [www.seattle.gov/Personnel/](http://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](mailto:retirecity@seattle.gov)  
Website: [www.seattle.gov/retirement](http://www.seattle.gov/retirement)

### Statement of Ownership And Management

1) Owner and Publisher: Active & Retired Seattle City Employees  
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4) John Masterjohn, President  
Barbara Graham, Vice President  
Joanne Kinsella, Recording Secretary  
Victoria Troisi, Financial Secretary  
Elizabeth Paschke, Treasurer  
Lee Sattler, Editor

5) Bondholders, Mortgages, and Security Holders: None

6) The Association of Retired Seattle City Employees, d/b/a Active & Retired Seattle City Employees (ARSCE), is a non-profit organization for educational purposes according to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax-deductible.  
ARSCE annual dues are \$12.00 (July 1-June 30). Opinions stated by various writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the policy of ARSCE.

Contact us at [www.arsce.org](http://www.arsce.org)  
Or telephone us at 425.443.3799

## Parks Department Retiree News

By Alan Hovland

I mentioned the book “WOODLAND, The Story of the Animals and the People of the Woodland Park Zoo,” previously. I met for lunch with the author John Bierlein, past Zoo Director David Towne, Lee Werle, and Hank Klein, all past Zoo employees. Many good stories were told, some might have been true.

The Laurelhurst Salmon Bake went well, even when the smoke in the air caused an early twilight. Many past and current Parks and Recreation employees came out to help cook and serve. This event has been going on for 55 years.

Malcolm Boyles and Randy Smith, former Recreation Coordinators at Laurelhurst, talked about the Salmon Bake’s history. Randy started at the community center in 1977 and soon had the current salmon cookers, built by local citizen Don Amick, replacing the practice of digging a trench near the current children’s play area to cook the

salmon. The best story was the year Randy had to shower with the frozen salmon so the salmon could be cooked later in the day.

Martin Kral has edited a cookbook on AUSTRIAN CUISINE, a collection of “Treasured Recipes from the Austria Club of Washington.”

Bill Mayberry has passed away at his home in Arizona and will be missed by his many friends. Bill worked as the Park Security person and, always, he was willing to share many stories about life.

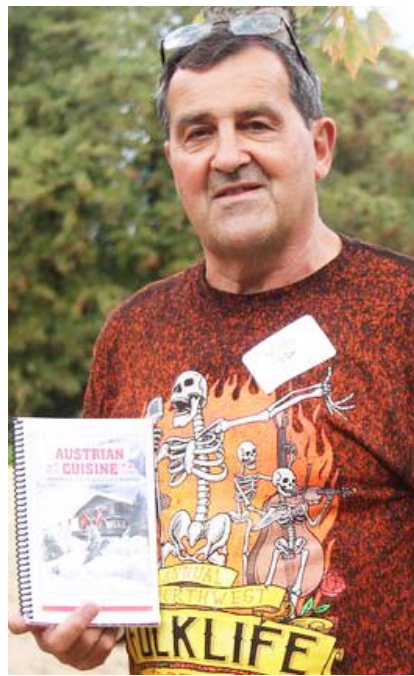
Holly Miller, our former Superintendent, is back to help the current mayor of the moment make the transition to the newly elected mayor in November.

The University Sunrise Rotary Club participated in the August Relay for Life at Cal Anderson Park. Alan Hovland is photographed with Katie Leis, a Relay for Life Manager, after she accepted a thank you certificate.

Mr. Hovland can be reached at [parksnews@arsce.org](mailto:parksnews@arsce.org)



In a continuing series...current employee Tim Barr stands between former Recreation Coordinators, this time Malcolm Boyles (left) and Randy Smith.



Martin Kral and the cookbook he edited on “Austrian Cuisine.”



Katie Leis, a Relay of Life Manager, accepting Thank You certificate. Pictured with Alan Hovland.



### 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](http://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](http://www.volunteermatch.org)) is another very good comprehensive site with some interesting geographical limit capabilities. Enter your home zip code to start.



### VOLUNTEER WITH PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER'S "SCIENCE INTERPRETATION PROGRAM"

It takes a big team to carry out our mission to ignite curiosity in every child and fuel a passion for discovery, experimentation, and critical thinking in all of us. Volunteers are an essential part of this community and we’re looking for enthusiastic individuals to join us!

**Fit your interests!** Science Interpretation Volunteers should be passionate about STEM fields and excited to share their interests with the Science Center’s visitors.

**Fit your personality!** Science Interpretation Volunteers primarily work with the public who visit the Science Center; volunteers should be enthusiastic, energetic and approachable.

**Fit your schedule!** We are looking for volunteers to fulfill a variety of day and time commitments, weekday availability is preferred.

**Fit your needs!** This is a great opportunity for adults looking to contribute to their communities, and for individuals who want to gain real-world experience.

Interested? Application details are available at:

[www.pacificsciencecenter.org](http://www.pacificsciencecenter.org) (Click on Volunteer with us) or you can contact [volunteers@pacsci.org](mailto:volunteers@pacsci.org) | (206) 443-2868

## Duffer's Corner

By Joe Matthias



### From Mosquitoes to Ferries

Seattle is and always has been recognized as a seaport, though hidden in Puget Sound some distance from the Pacific Ocean. During Seattle's beginnings, ships from San Francisco, Los Angeles, and elsewhere have plied the waters of the Strait of Juan de Fuca supplying the growing city's needs and delivering their product to other ports. Today we are one of the busiest seaports on the west coast hosting cargo and touring ships from around the world.

But it wasn't always that way. Seattle, like the other settlements along the sound, was dependent on ships to handle their commerce and provide their needs due to a lack of navigable roads. Hence, in 1850, the steamer 'Fairy' was built to service Puget Sound. It was small and underpowered, but established the dominance of steam power as the wave of future shipping. Many ships followed, all steam, and many including the 'Fairy' met less than honorable ends either through mechanical failure or in the treacherous waters they worked in. In 1859 the 'Eliza Anderson' arrived from Portland and began regular service within the Puget Sound area. At 140 feet in length and well powered, she became a standard for others to follow and operated for forty years before being retired. Soon others were trying their hand at shipping, mostly for goods and services, but adding passenger service as they could. Though there were some early attempts at forming companies, the majority operated as independents. By the 1880s there were literally hundreds of small to medium steamers making stops all around the sound. The term 'mosquito fleet' came from comments that to see a large number of these ships bearing into Seattle, stacks spewing black smoke, reminded the citizens of a swarm of mosquitoes beaming in on them. The mosquito fleet, as such, lasted into the 1920s, a few on into the early '30s, when highways, rail lines, and the formation of shipping companies made life unprofitable for them. In the end, some 2500 ships of various sizes and needs had at one time or another been a part of Puget Sound history.

Foremost in that venture was the Puget Sound Navigation Company, founded by Charles Peabody, but controlled by non other than Seattle's own Joshua Green. Also known as the 'Black Ball Line' it flew a flag of a red star in a white diamond with a blue background, designed by Mrs. Green. The company offered shipping and passenger service throughout Puget Sound and to Vancouver, B.C. and other parts of Canada. After World War Two the employees, recently unionized, demanded higher wages. The company petitioned Washington State for permission to raise rates to cover these wage demands and other operating expenses, but were denied leading to their shutting down the entire line save the Canadian contracts. On May 31, 1951 their domestic operations were bought by the State of Washington and what would become Washington State Ferries came into existence.

The Black Ball's only serious early competition was from John Anderson who had managed to corral the entire shipping and passenger service routes on Lake Washington to the east of Seattle. Just as in the sound, the small communities around the lake, including many up the varied river ways that fed into it, were dependent on water service for their livelihood in one way or another. The first ship, the 'Lena C. Gray,' was built in 1870. A sternwheeler, she mostly moved barges around the lake. Two shipyards were built on the lake in 1886 and 1888, respectively, and began producing steam ships for specific purposes around the shoreline. Soon Lake Washington had its own version of what was happening in Puget Sound. As the new Anderson Steamboat Company, begun by John Anderson in the late 1880s, thrived most of these independents were forced out of business, being unable to compete. Eventually Anderson acquired what would be

considered a monopoly on water traffic on the lake, enough so that he transported many ships built in his Houghton shipyard down the now non-existent Black River and the Duwamish to join his small fleet there and compete with the Black Ball Line.

His only competition was, surprisingly, from the State of Washington itself who, in 1913, built the ferry 'Leschi' in answer to demands from its voters for some form of public transportation across the lake. It operated from its dock in Leschi Park to Medina and Bellevue. Later more routes were added, most prominently that from Madison Park to Kirkland. The new publicly owned ferries, subsidized by King County and the Port of Seattle, were able to operate at rates Anderson could not compete with and eventually he sold his interests to them.



Seattle Waterfront circa 1800s

With rising debts, the fledgling system came under public scrutiny and demands for better management. In answer John Anderson, recently put out of business by the State, was appointed Superintendent of Ferries and did much in satisfying the public's concerns. With the completion of the Lake Washington Floating Bridge in 1940, the demand for ferry traffic began to dwindle until, on August 31,

1950, the 'Leschi,' their first ferry, made a final run from Madison Park to Kirkland where it was secured never to operate as a ferry again. Eventually it was sold to an Alaskan firm, converted to a cannery, and now sits abandoned and rotting in the tide flats of that state. Thus ended the State of Washington's first attempt at providing inexpensive, navigable public transportation.

In the meantime, back to Puget Sound. The recently acquired assets of the Black Ball Line in 1951 proved less than adequate for serving the public, prompting the state to re-evaluate their priorities. In 1953 the firm of P.S. Dredge and Bridge Company was contracted to build the first of the Evergreen State Class ferries, an open-ended ferry that would carry one hundred cars and one thousand passengers. Several additional ferries followed as new routes were added. Usage went up dramatically and soon larger and faster ferries were being designed and built, carrying larger volumes of both cars and passengers. Today's ferries dwarf their predecessors. I remember riding on the ferry Kalaka, a silver plated sleek bullet-shaped ferry plying the Anacortes, San Juan route in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Considered unique for its time, it was left to ruin, also in Alaska, until rescued and is now moored in Lake Union where faithful followers are trying, against all odds, to restore her to her former glory.

In 1957, amid tax support, ferry workers became part of the Washington State Retirement System where they remain to this day. Prior to 1966 the ferry system was only interested in rebuilding, expanding and maintaining its fleet, the managerial operation being shared by the State Highway Commission and the Toll Bridge Authority. This tenuous arrangement was finally corrected in 1977 when WSDOT united these elements into one operating body.

From the beginnings of a loosely united group of independents, known as the Mosquito Fleet, came a ferry system that is recognized today as world class. Washington State has the distinction of operating the third largest, and one of the most modern, ferry systems in the world; the largest in the continental United States. Although there is still shipping among the various ports around Puget Sound, the advent of highways, rail lines, and modern trucking have minimized its need to nearly negligible. The Black Ball Line is still in existence providing only one passenger route from Port Angeles across the Strait of Juan de Fuca to Victoria, B.C. If you are interested in what life was like amid the mosquito fleet, visit the Virginia V at her berth at the south end of Lake Union near the old Naval Armory. Built in 1922 toward the end of the mosquito fleet era, she is the last and only survivor to an era that was vitally necessary in the existence and growth of Seattle and every other city and community around Puget Sound.

I sincerely hope everyone has a very, very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Until 2018: Duffer, out.

*Joe Matthias, Lighting Department (Lineman), Retired*

## \* \* \* ANNOUNCEMENT \* \* \*

### Retiree Medical Benefits Annual Enrollment for 2018: November 1-22, 2017

Annual enrollment for 2018 retiree medical benefits will be November 1 – November 22, 2017. For retirees currently enrolled in a retiree medical plan, the Benefits Unit mailed benefit packets with 2018 plan summaries and rates to homes at the end of October. The packets also included the annual notices that the City is required by law to distribute. A copy of the packet is available on the Retirement Office website: [http://www.seattle.gov/retirement/medical\\_info.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/retirement/medical_info.htm).

Please check your mailbox for your enrollment packet. (Retirees who are not currently enrolled in a City retiree medical plan will **not** receive a packet.) If you want to make changes or if you have questions, please contact the Benefits Unit at 206-615-1340 or email [Benefits.Unit@seattle.gov](mailto:Benefits.Unit@seattle.gov). Changes for 2018 must be received or postmarked by November 22, 2017.

Please also note that administration of the retiree medical plans has moved from the Retirement Office (SCERS) to the Benefits Unit of the Seattle Department of Human Resources (SDHR). If you have questions about your medical plan, please contact the Benefits Unit via email at [Benefits.Unit@seattle.gov](mailto:Benefits.Unit@seattle.gov) or call (206) 615-1340.

## 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](http://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 Jack Carlson at 206-790-5022 for information.

**SDot's Traffic Shop** retirees meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:00am. Restaurant TBA. Signs, Signal, Paint, Inventory and Office retirees are all welcome. For information contact Denise at 206.999.2642 or email [DAHawk8@comcast.net](mailto:DAHawk8@comcast.net).

**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, temporarily at the Super China Buffet, 15323 Westminster Way, Shoreline, WA 98133.

**Engineering Retirees' Lunch:** Engineering Dept. Field Personnel Retirees meet the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10:00 AM at Shay's Restaurant 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. We 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.



### Donations to ARSCE are Tax Deductible

*ARSCE is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax deductible within the limits established by the Internal Revenue Service. Thank you.*

Application form on Page 8.

### Complete Our Circle



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

Application form on Page 12.

### 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 & information to:

[arscenews@arsce.org](mailto:arscenews@arsce.org)

**NEXT NEWS DEADLINE:  
November 14th, 2017**

(All submittals become the property of ARSCE.)

## Ramblin' Roads

By Alan Brittenham



### Four Heart Hat Seeks New Head

Hello there,

I hope to be introducing myself to you as your new hat soon. Here's my story:

There were these people, a man and his wife, who traveled to Florida to visit their friends. It's not like they had not seen each other for years or anything like that—they actually live about an hour apart in Washington—but the visit was more about escaping the cold rain and the dismal early spring weather for the more typical 80+ degree days and hot sunshine of south Florida on the Caribbean side. The Florida folks had bought property down there for a winter hideaway.

So anyway, as they were strolling the white sand beaches of Florida that surround Sanibel Island looking for shells and such the one old guy, who has developed a habit of picking up garbage everywhere he goes (something about if everyone who went for a stroll on a beach or in a park took out one more piece of garbage than they generated during their stay, why, pretty soon we would run out of garbage, wouldn't we?), rescued me from where I had landed, up on the high tide mark, where I was half-buried under the sand, with only my bill showing. He thought I was just another piece of cast-off refuse and threw me in the bag with the other bits of flotsam and jetsam uncovered by the wind and the waves. It was only after he cleaned me up that he saw my potential and decided to help me find a new owner, or re-unite me with the last one.

If you look at a map of the currents in the Gulf of Mexico, you'll see that the water comes in from the south between the



Yucatan peninsula, from which the Mayans and later the Aztecs once ruled the known world, and the west end of Cuba, which is so long it funnels the water back out into the Caribbean Sea by way of the west coast of Florida, where I was found. That means I could have come from anywhere within that giant loop, if indeed I was not dropped by some careless kid right there on the beach, which I stipulate is probably the more likely scenario, but I prefer the mystifying romance of the grand idea to the mundane laziness of the overfed tourist.

Every morning, along the 3,400 plus miles of shore containing the Gulf, people stroll the beach looking to see what washed in overnight, especially after a storm. In many cases and locations, they are looking for something to eat or sell for that night's dinner, like in Florida where the visitors are likely to be tourists, they are looking for something interesting to take home for a souvenir. All of Florida was under water during the Jurassic period, way back before Lawrence Welk was a baby, so you just scratch the surface anywhere and you see the fossilized white shell fragments out of which the sands were created, a process that continues to this day. Most of the beaches are shallow, and when the Manta Ray jumps, as it did for me, it is off in the distance.

But enough about the beach, let's get back to me. As you can see from the picture, I'm red, the color of love, and I have 4 hearts on my front surrounding a jewel that is no doubt of the precious variety. The old guy left me on display on a post in the parking lot of the Tropical Winds Resort on Sanibel Island, right next to the shell

washing station. All you have to do is walk in and pick me up. I'm about a medium size. Hurry up, I'm waiting. 😊

p.s. (You don't want to actually stay at the Tropical Winds Resort, by the way. The place is a pit, and the price is a joke. Check out the reviews on Tripadvisor.com, and you'll see what I mean.)



*Here's where you'll find the latest news from ARSCE. Look us up!*

When you visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) simply type in:  
**ARSCE-Active and Retired Seattle City Employees Group**

## Old Timers Luncheon Group MTD/DAS/ESD

By Jerry Robertson

The Old Timers Luncheon Group continues to meet the first Monday of every month. Remember to mark your calendars for the luncheon dates. Remaining dates for 2017 are: November 6 and December 4. Now here's an opportunity to fill in the dates for 2018: January 8, February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, September 10, October 1, November 5, and December 3. I have also printed up some cheat sheets to hand out at the luncheons and I'll give them to all attendees.

We have met at our current location, The Super China Buffet, 15323 Westminster Way in Shoreline, for several months, and most seem to be happy at this location.

We welcomed Marilyn Minato to our luncheon group at our July meeting. She plans on joining us every month. Our August luncheon was attended by 22, which is pretty much the average for August lunches. I looked at 2016; 20 attended, 2015; 21 attended. This seems to be a fair average. This August we were kept cool being inside the buffet, and not in the unusually high temperature. Several weather records were broken without some rain visiting. But as we know, records are supposed to be broken.

Our September lunch was a really small group of ten in attendance. I believe this may have been due to the fact that

Gene Lucas was unable to make the reminder calls that he usually does. Gene is having some medical problems and has been unable to attend our luncheons, and also unable to make the reminder calls.

A birthday was celebrated by Alan Brittenham; he was the only celebrant in August. Celebrating birthdays in September were George McDonald, Shirley Schattenkerk, Jim Watson, Jon Wong, and Sheldon Loo. A very Happy Birthday to all of them, and keep on having those birthdays.

TAPS: Steve Mertz passed away this past month. Steve had been fighting a tough battle for quite a long time. I remember that Steve worked at the Haller Lake Shop and the Charles Street Shop. I remember that after he retired from the City, I believe he went to Boeing. Our condolences to Hazel and the family.

Joe Yamamoto passed away August 31st. Our condolences go out to Joe's family. When I was at the Charles Street Shop, Joe would come up to my office every day before the work day began and chat with me about fishing, or many other things, truly unrelated to work. Usually about 5 minutes before the work day started, Joe would say, "I guess I can make it through the day now." and he would leave my office and go back to the body shop. I remember our morning chats and I enjoyed them as much as he seemed to enjoy them.

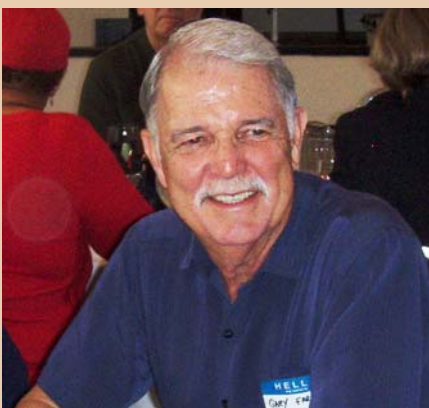
We encourage all former employees of MTD DAS ESD FFD and FAS to join us at our luncheons each month. I look forward to seeing all of you at our future lunch meetings.

You can reach Mr. Robertson at [oldtimers@arsce.org](mailto:oldtimers@arsce.org)

# ARSCE's Fall Harvest Luncheon PHOTO REVIEW



**Guest Speaker: Carol Arnold Compton**  
Recounting the fascinating story of the Modoc Indian War from her late husband Jim Compton's newly published book, "Spirit in the Rock". ❁



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!		Donations
<b>New Members - Retired</b> Ron Borowski, SDOT Cindy Lund, Parks		Bih Shiung Chen Anne Miller Mike Nagan
<b>New Members - Active</b> E. Carolynn Daye, SPU Liboria Sendejar, SPD		

## In Memory

Note: Names with asterisk (\*) were ARSCE members

Janice L Ames*, Library Died: 8/9/2017 Age: 88 Retired: 09/2002	Joann Glass Gertig Library Died: 8/25/2017 Age: 68	Florence Jenkins Library Died: 8/16/2017 Age: 96	M. (Michael) Sean Morrow* City Light Died: 8/21/2017 Age: 76 Retired: 01/1999	Faye D. Stearns Died: 3/13/2017 Age: 89
Norma P Baker*, Seattle Center Died: 8/23/2017 Age: 92 Retired: 01/1994	Dorothy J. Gibbs Died: 8/18/2017 Age: 74	Jeanette B. Johnson* Seattle Center Died: 7/29/2017 Age: 87 Retired: 02/1995	Jay A. Motteler* Engineering Died: 7/22/2017 Age: 82 Retired: 01/1990	Oletha M. Street Died: 5/8/2017 Age: 98
Eugene Barrow, Police Died: 7/21/2017 Age: 77	Geraldine A. Goss Died: 8/21/2017 Age: 94	Betty G. Kaminoff Died: 1/26/2017 Age: 94	James Odegard Died: 8/29/2017 Age: 85	Richard M. Strong, SPU Died: 3/17/2017 Age: 70
Dale D. Bartz Died: 7/25/2017 Age: 88	Fred Green, SDCI Died: 4/22/2017 Age: 94	Maude Kimball Died: 6/3/2017 Age: 98	Darlene M. Printz Beneficiary Died: 6/7/2017 Age: 82	Paul Sutton, City Light Died: 8/9/2017 Age: 77
Terry Joe Combs, City Light Died: 2/27/2017 Age: 68	Herman J. Hadaller Died: 8/16/2017 Age: 84	Nettie M. Lawson Died: 8/17/2017 Age: 97	Donald H. Pritchett City Light Died: 6/10/2107 Age: 75	Dolores P. Thompson Died: 8/27/2017 Age: 87
George A. Curtis*, Transit Died: 8/9/2017 Age: 92 Retired: 01/1991	Robert Hamack Died: 4/16/2017 Age: 88	Alice J. Lisk Died: 7/25/2017 Age: 99	Evangeline D. Razon City Light Died: 1/28/2107 Age: 60	Linda L. Timmen, Police Died: 8/3/2017 Age: 70
Ruby G. Davidson* Beneficiary Died: 8/18/2017 Age: 93	Jack V. Hamilton* City Light Died: 7/24/2017 Age: 82 Retired: 07/1991	Teresa Maddocks Died: 4/1/2017 Age: 92	Allen L. Richards, SPU Died: 1/11/2107 Age: 73	Silvia E. Valanas, SPU Died: 3/14/2017 Age: 81
Estelle V. Dijulio Died: 7/20/2017 Age: 105	Dorothy K. Harrison Died: 4/10/2017 Age: 90	Ralph A. Mathisen Died: 7/26/2017 Age: 88	John Shreve, Vested Died: 10/11/2016 Age: 97	Susan K. Walls, Parks Died: 4/29/2017 Age: 68
Nancy Fernandez Died: 7/9/2017 Age: 87	Sachiko Hayami Died: 5/19/2017 Age: 93	William C. Mayberry* Parks Died: 9/9/2017 Age: 79 Retired: 10/2002	Dora A. Smith Died: 7/20/2017 Age: 94	Percy G. Watland, Parks Died: 7/23/2017 Age: 81
Joyce A. Fisher Died: 5/17/2017 Age: 85	Robert G. Haynes Died: 9/5/2017 Age: 88	Joan McGilton*, Parks Died: 7/27/2017 Age: 79 Retired: 5/2002	R.W. Sparling Sr.* City Light Died: 7/23/2017 Age: 93 Retired: 05/1986	Albert V. Wicker KC Health Died: 7/31/2017 Age: 95
Louise A Frombach*, Parks Died: 7/17/2017 Age: 91 Retired: 09/1996	James B. Hill, City Light Died: 8/10/2017 Age: 69	Houston T. McIntosh City Light Died: 2/20/2017 Age: 89	Mary C. Woodward Died: 9/6/2017 Age: 92	Mary C. Woodward Died: 9/6/2017 Age: 92
Manual Garcia, Transit Died: 7/16/2017 Age: 84	H. (Harold) Wayne Huston* Transit Died: 1/9/2017 Age: 83 Retired: 03/1999	Clarence J. Mertz Died: 8/12/2017 Age: 80	Kay D. Wright Died: 3/30/2017 Age: 85	Kay D. Wright Died: 3/30/2017 Age: 85
				Tanafriti Wright, SPU Died: 7/20/2017 Age: 79

## 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](http://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 Victoria Troisi at 425-443-3799.



## 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](http://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, call Victoria Troisi at 425-443-3799.



**BOOK NOTES***By Lorry Garratt,  
Library***THE LYING GAME. By Ruth Ware ~ 2017**

Four women, friends since their teen years at a boarding school on the English Channel, are thrown together again after nearly 20 years when a body surfaces in the marsh by their school. They are Isa, a new mother on maternity leave, Fatima a physician who recently returned to her Muslim faith, Thea a beauty who struggles with addiction, and Kate a troubled artist who never left the small coastal town. Now their carefully constructed lives are in danger of being destroyed when the secret they have hidden is revealed and their game of lies no longer keeps them safe.

**WE SHALL NOT SLEEP. By Anne Perry ~ 2010**

The Reavley family has been heroic beyond measure during the Great War. Joseph is a chaplain, Judith an ambulance driver, Matthew an intelligence officer, and they all continue their search for the Peacemaker, as they have dubbed him. A misguided high level man in English government, he has devised a plan that he thinks will prevent wars, but in reality will allow Germany to control all of Europe. In the process, he has the Reavley parents murdered and others who threaten his identity. On Nov. 11, 1918 as the guns are silenced, the Reavleys celebrate their own peace after unmasking the traitor.

**A LESSON IN SECRETS. By Jacquelyn Winspear ~ 2011**

Maisie Dobbs' career takes an exciting turn, when, in the summer of 1932 she accepts an undercover assignment directed by Scotland Yard's Secret Service Branch. Posing as a junior lecturer, she goes to a private college in Cambridge to monitor any activities not "in the interest of His Majesty's Government." When the controversial founder of the college is murdered, an investigation by the Yard is begun and evidence appears linked to the various faculty and students under Maisie's surveillance. The storm clouds of WWII are gathering, but shameful and previously undiscovered truths about Britain's conduct in the Great War also seem tightly connected to the new case.

**THE WIDOW'S HOUSE. By Carol Goodman ~ 2017**

A chilling novel of psychological suspense set in N.Y.'s Hudson Valley with a gothic allure set in the modern time. Jess and Clare Martin move back to their college town as caretakers of Riven House, the crumbling estate of their old writing professor. They are both writers, Jess having had one bestseller, but then nothing so their savings are gone, however both hope for a new start in their careers and their marriage. If there is such a thing as ghosts, they soon experience some visitations that truly can't be real.

**OFF THE GRID. By C.J. Box ~ 2016**

A terrorist thriller with a uniquely western flair. The Red Desert of Wyoming is beautiful, punishing, and dangerous, and game warden Joe Pickett and his larger than life friend Nate Romanowski and his magnificent falcons should not have been there, and perhaps will never leave. The Joe Pickett series has been translated into 27 languages and the Wyoming landscape is an impeccable character by itself.

**DEVIL'S BREATH. By G.M Malliet ~ 2017**

Handsome Max Tudor, formerly an MI-5 spy and now an Anglican priest in tiny Nether Monkslip, has been given permission by his bishop to investigate a luxury yacht filled with glamorous film personalities. The British Secret Service is tracking a possible smuggling ring, but as the yacht is at anchor there is the first murder, and then another, and almost everyone there seems to have some kind of mysterious background that could be a motive. The Max Tudor mysteries all have this charming English village setting with deliciously humorous characters and witty dialogue.

**UNDER THE WIDE AND STARRY SKY. By Nancy Horan ~ 2013**

This is the turbulent and passionate story of Robert Louis Stevenson and his tempestuous American wife Fanny. Older than her Scottish husband by 10 years, she left her philandering husband and took her three children to Europe to study art. Unfortunately, her talent was limited so she did some writing. Then tragedy struck when her 5 year old son died, and though she and Stevenson were in love, they were usually out of money, so she went back to her husband for financial support. Eventually Fanny and Louis did marry and travelled widely, searching for hospitable locations for his fragile health and finally settled in Samoa. He wrote most of his famous books there and she also had a successful writing career, and after his early death he was buried there.

**THE WOMEN IN THE CASTLE. By Jessica Shattuck ~ 2017**

After Nazi Germany's defeat, there were homeless families wandering everywhere in the devastation. Marianne is the widow of a Resistance leader whose failed attempt to assassinate the Fuehrer led to the execution of the conspirators, and now she is gathering the wives and children of these men to the shelter of her family's Bavarian castle. Their shared pain turns out to be less unifying than she expected and coming to understand their earlier choices must be accomplished before they become a makeshift family.

Contact Ms. Garratt at [booknotes@arsce.org](mailto:booknotes@arsce.org)

**Calling all Bird-Watchers, or Wannabe Bird-Watchers**

Guest Writer: Elizabeth Paschke - Ms. Paschke is a retired Seattle City employee and the Treasurer for ARSCE.

Even before I moved to the Skagit Valley a few years ago, I would make an annual winter trip to see the best the valley has to offer. I mean wild birds, of course! Sea birds and raptors and geese, lots and lots of geese! Usually, I would take either the January or February holiday and make a day of it. The two pictures shown are a sample of what you may get to see. I emphasize the maybe—in poor weather, or just bad luck—sometimes I would not spot many feathered friends.

Nevertheless, this is an invitation to come up for a day of semi-guided birding. I am no expert, but I do know the roads through the fields and flats well enough. I urge car-pooling; my own car will take three passengers. If you are interested in a January or a February trip, send me an email and let me know, especially let me know whether you would be willing to drive a carload, if there is enough interest. As I get responses, I will be in touch to organize the day, time, and all other necessary details.

You may contact Ms. Paschke at: [elspeth1900@gmail.com](mailto:elspeth1900@gmail.com)

An  
Invitation  
for You!



## The Film Guy

Some Favorites on DVD  
By Jim Mohundro



### Neither Mockingbird nor Finch in this Pecking Order

Henry Fonda, Gregory Peck, and James Stewart, three tall stars in Hollywood's firmament, wore dominant cinematic images as good, sturdy and highly moral men. These versatile, stage-trained actors often played characters with a certain honesty, stubbornness, and reliable dignity.

Each actor, in his long career, had a rare appearance or two as villains. Fonda was the coldest, bluest-eyed killer in Sergio Leone's great *Once Upon a Time in the West* and an arrogant cavalry officer in John Ford's *Fort Apache*. Gregory Peck was Nazi war criminal Joseph Mengele in *The Boys from Brazil* and

Florid Technicolor fits the 1946 *Duel in the Sun's* epic approach to melding romance and high drama together in a western; in fact, the film, at its opening and since, has often been referred to as "*Lust in the Dust*." Producer David Selznick (you may remember *Gone with the Wind*) brings together Peck who stars as the villainous Lewt McCanles, Jennifer Jones, Joseph Cotton, and Lionel Barrymore.

*The Guns of Navarone* (1961), written by Carl Foreman and based on Alastair MacLean's novel, opens as James Robertson Justice's mellifluous narration describes an insurmountable military problem and a Greek legend borne out of World War II. The action never lets up. Peck is the leader of a mission impossible and his crew is David Niven, Anthony Quinn, Stanley Baker, and Anthony Quayle. Quayle, who served in England's Special Operations Executive with Albanian partisans during the war, adds a bit of authenticity. Dimitri Tiomkin's rousing score nicely borrows just a bit of Tchaikovsky's Second Symphony.

Based on John D. MacDonald's novel "The Executioners," *Cape Fear* (1962), is the story of a good man (Peck) who does



Lewt McCanles in *Duel in the Sun*. Even Bedford Falls' favorite citizen James Stewart played a murderer in an early film.

But Peck, with his lean good looks and his rich, baritone voice, was perhaps the most versatile of the trio. He was a favorite biopic star as Abraham Lincoln in *The Blue and the Grey*, General Douglas MacArthur in *MacArthur* and F. Scott Fitzgerald in *Beloved Infidel*, but for filmgoers he will likely always be Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Peck, freed from any constraints of historical accuracy, is at the center of:

*The Gunfighter* (1950) Henry King's film is one of the gems of the 1950s so-called "adult westerns." Peck is Jimmy Ringo, a worn gunfighter running from himself and his reputation. Director King asked Peck to wear a moustache. Fox Production Head Spyros Scouras hated the moustache, but King prevailed and the moustache stayed in the picture, and that authentic western look remains with us. Millard Mitchell is top notch as Ringo's friend Marshal Mark Strett, and Skip Homeier, Karl Malden and Helen Westcott reliable supporting players.

*The Bravados* (1958) Director Henry King and Peck collaborate again in this tale of revenge and guilt from the Frank O'Rourke novel. Lionel Newman, Hugo Friedhofer, and Alfred Newman contribute a driving musical score, and the screenplay delivers a memorable twist.

In 1947's *Gentleman's Agreement*, based on Laura Z. Hobson's best-selling book, Gregory Peck is a journalist who poses as a Jew to write an article on anti-Semitism. Released a few months after Edward Dmytryk's *Crossfire*, this film clothes the same social message in a murder mystery, joins that film in Hollywood's overdue attempt to open up the subject for discussion. *Agreement* enlists a stellar cast, including Dorothy McGuire, John Garfield, Celeste Holm, Anne Revere, and Sam Jaffe. The director is the redoubtable Elia Kazan.

In Alfred Hitchcock's *Spellbound* (1945), psychoanalyst Ingrid Bergman untangles Peck's mental confusion, and this handsome couple joins to solve a murder. This movie addresses a serious subject, but it's great fun. *Spellbound* has a two-minute dream sequence that could be nicknamed "Hello, Dali" because it was designed by the surrealist artist and Miklos Rozsa's magical, threatening musical score uses a spooky theme for the first time in a major motion picture.

his good citizen good deed and this man and his family are later pursued by a very, very bad man, revenge-driven Robert Mitchum, every bit as evil as he was in Charles Laughton's 1955 *Night of the Hunter*.

*The Yearling* (1946), from Marjorie Kinnan Rawling's novel, is a family film and a coming of age film about a boy and a fawn and a man (Gregory Peck) who is a farmer and a father. It's a film with a happiness and sadness that becomes it. Completing the family are Jane Wyman as Ora, the mom, and 10-year old Claude Jarman, Jr. who wins the Academy Juvenile Award as Jody.

Henry King, again, directs *Twelve O'Clock High* (1949) with Peck. It's a story about World War II's Eighth Air Force, its bombing missions over Germany and the command decisions and command responsibilities that can make or break commanders and may even affect the war's outcome. Brigadier General Peck's fellow officers are Dean Jagger (who won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor), Millard Mitchell, Gary Merrill, Hugh Marlowe, and Paul Stewart.

*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 also be available with subtitles or close captioning from cable or satellite, or from "streaming" resources such as Netflix and Amazon.*

**Bonus:** The DVD subtitles are French and Spanish and the DVD's English closed-captioning appears to be non-functional for William Wyler's *The Big Country* (1958), but this epic film is a good evening's viewing. There are two contests here: Carroll Baker and Jean Simmons for Peck, and rival land owners Burl Ives and Charles Bickford for *The Big Country*, represented by a mammoth Texas cattle ranch and precious water rights. Peck is the Boston sea captain out of water who comes west to claim his bride-to-be, and the conflicted Charlton Heston is the tough ranch foreman who is sometimes the reluctant referee of it all. Heston and Peck's fistfight in the moonlight on the open prairie is one of the great ones, rivaling Randolph Scott and John Wayne's in 1942's *The Spoilers*.

You can reach Mr. Mohundro at [filmguy@arsce.org](mailto:filmguy@arsce.org)

## A Life Well-Lived

By Joyce Dickhaut



### Old Rocking Chair? I Don't Think So!

Retirement, they say, is one of the life markers that may be approached with reluctance, anticipation, fear of the unknown, happiness, or any combination of these or other emotions. It can be the result of advanced planning, impulsive action or, sometimes, a consequence of unforeseen events that make it either tempting or inevitable. I have heard people say they had not planned to retire until, say, sixty five, but their employer offered an incentive package so irresistible that their plans changed.

I really had not been thinking of retiring. I had been in the workforce full time for only 22 years and at my then position in the City of Seattle for twelve of them. My current job was challenging, stimulating, and satisfying. But something was about to change. Unexpectedly, my boss told me he was planning on retiring in a relatively short time. He was the person who had recruited me from my job at King County; he had guided me, encouraged me, and mentored me and I could not quite imagine the division with anyone else at the helm.

My boss had told me, when speaking of his retirement, that he thought I had the ability to do his job and encouraged me to apply. When the time came, I applied for his position, but I was not successful at getting the job. I could not envision myself working for the new director, so I decided to plan for my retirement. One of my major concerns was—what next? I knew I had to find a strategy for my life after work.

I thought about my job: what did I actually do? My title was Manager of Fleet Administration. In short, we filled the vehicle and equipment needs of all City of Seattle Departments and managed capital and maintenance costs and budgeting for thousands of vehicles and pieces of equipment. I didn't do this single-handedly; I had equipment design engineers, analysts, and coordinators within our division. Together we made sure that all the departments had what they needed to keep the City running. This included Police, Water, City Light, Parks, Roads and Streets, and all the rest. I could break my job into roughly three kinds of activities: One function was interacting with those departments who were my "customers"; another part was analyzing cost data for budgetary planning, and the third part involved writing responsibilities which were so diverse they were hard to describe briefly. So what did I enjoy the most? The communications part was satisfying, the data and budget part not so much, but when I was given a task that involved writing, I loved it!

After making my final decision I gave my notice, but it was hard for me to just stop working, cold turkey. A consultant I knew from a trade organization had offered me a job in my line of work, to give educational courses in fleet management to other agencies that were his clients. It sounded tempting and I accepted. I had to develop the course work, textbook, and other materials and it

involved traveling. I made two trips, one to the east coast and one to Colorado. It was not for me. I found it so stressful that I couldn't go on and resigned, giving him the teaching materials to make up for my leaving. I later did some part-time work for a self-help organization, but found the demands compared to the income just not worth it.

I considered going back to the U.W. to complete my degree, but wasn't sure I was up for classes, homework, tests, and all that it involved. Too much like work. But...I could pursue writing classes for enjoyment and I might just turn it into a vocation; perhaps writing magazine articles or travel pieces for fun, and maybe profit. I had already published a few articles in trade magazines and even a couple of articles in the Seattle Times. I remembered that in the past I had wanted to write my life story for my family. And then, all sorts of other ideas related to writing started bubbling up in my brain.

So I registered and completed a one year certificate course in non-fiction writing at the U.W. I continued to take other non-credit writing courses at community college; everything from writing fantasy fiction to travel writing to short stories. Since then, I did write my life story. Also, I've been a volunteer editor of a monthly news publication for a non-profit historical association I joined. Whenever I see a class that looks interesting I sign up, but don't limit those classes to writing. At this point in my life I must admit

my class attendance has given way to other kinds of pursuits such as lunching with girlfriends and walking my two miles every weekday at the Bellevue Botanical Garden.

So, reader, you may not be interested in my journey, but the reason I decided to write about this topic was that it occurred to me that some of you might wonder what to do after retirement. Since this publication is for "Active" as well as "Retired" City of Seattle employees, I assume that some of you readers are still working, but might be considering retiring. Or some are already retired, but have not found the exact path to a fulfilled retirement. Maybe a skill or inclination from your career will stimulate your imagination to possibilities you had not considered the way mine did for me. Or you might pursue some hobby or interest, neglected due to lack of sufficient time or energy during your work years. Volunteering is something I have found satisfying and I did this for many years at the Seattle Crisis Clinic.

Some people have this vague idea they want to travel, but are daunted by the logistics and planning. In this age of the internet it can be easier than you might think. It just takes a little time, and in retirement that is one thing you probably have. What a shame to waste it. If you are concerned with possible physical or health issues, remember you will never be as young as you are this very minute. As we know, the years disappear faster than anyone can imagine.

My message is that retirement does not have to be the end of life as you know it. It can be the beginning of a new life. Every morning you are handed twenty four golden hours; one of the few things we get free of charge. All the money in the world can't buy an extra hour for anyone. It is given only once and you can never get it back. What will you do with this priceless treasure?

*Joyce Dickhaut, Fleet Administration Manager, Retired*



### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS!

Turn your clocks back  
1 hour at 2:00am on

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH**



**BE SURE TO VOTE**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH**



**HONORING THE BEST**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH**

**Happy Thanksgiving! ~ Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017**



You're Invited to  
**ARSCE's Annual  
 Christmas Party!**  
**Wednesday, December 13th**

**West Seattle Golf Course**  
**4470 - 35th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126**  
 (Doors open at 11am)

11:00am – Noon: No Host Bar & Visit with Friends

**Lunch Served at Noon:**

Enjoy a fabulous Turkey & Ham Buffet with all the yummy trimmings! Plus dessert & Coffee, Tea, or Soft Drinks. Beer & Wine available at an extra cost.

**COST: \$22.00 Per Person**

Reservations due by Wednesday, Dec. 6th, 2017

(Cancellations no later than 48 hours prior to the luncheon. Cancellation questions? Call Victoria Triosi at 425-443-3799.)

**Food is ordered for reservations only. If you attend without reserving ahead of time...there may not be enough food to serve. Please make your reservations ahead of time. Thank You!**

Please make your check or money order payable to: **ARSCE Christmas Luncheon** and mail it with your completed reservation form below.

Or, you may register & pay online by going to [www.arsce.org](http://www.arsce.org)

Click on the "Christmas Luncheon" link on the home page.



**Christmas Gift Exchange**

Each attendee brings a wrapped gift, (that means couples bring two gifts) noting the gift's content. Donor writes his/her name on the gift. You must be present to receive a gift.

**Thank You!**

✂

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_

No. Attending = \_\_\_\_\_ x \$22 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO: ARSCE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON  
 P.O. BOX 75385  
 SEATTLE, WA 98175-0385**

**2017 MEETING AND PUBLICATION DATES**

Wed.	Nov. 8	Executive Board Meeting
Tues.	Nov. 14	News Deadline (Jan/Feb Issue)
Wed.	Dec. 13	Annual Christmas Party West Seattle Golf Course 4470 35th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA Doors open at 11:00am
Fri.	Dec. 15	Mail ARSCE News (Jan/Feb Issue)

**2018 MEETING AND PUBLICATION DATES**

Wed.	Jan. 10	ARSCE Executive Board Meeting
Tues.	Jan. 16	News Deadline (Mar/Apr 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)

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: Victoria Triosi  
 Or Apply online at: <http://arsce.org/membershipapp3.htm>**