

Pacific Northwest

OLD GUARD NEWS ALLEN-STONE CHAPTER

Coming EVENTS

A p r i l 2 0 2 1

SEABECK - WE'RE BACK

As we emerge from the pandemic, we are planning to hold our Annual Allen-Stone Conference LIVE, September 13-15 at Seabeck Conference Center. In our new reality things may be somewhat different this year, but we look forward to getting together with our friends and colleagues.

The program and registration form will be included in the next newsletter, but we plan to start with registration on Monday afternoon, September 13 and ending with lunch on Wednesday, September 15.

Featured speakers will include updates on how the YMCA has responded and is moving forward after a challenging year.

Even though most of us should have been vaccinated, we will follow CDC corona virus guidelines. We are confirmed to meet in the new Pines Lodge. If you want a preview of the new

lodge, please join us for the

Zoom get together on Thursday

June 27 at 10:15AM

Tom Horsley, Conference Chair



SEABECK REPORT by Chuck Kraining

After almost a year of being on standby, we were pressed into service as a COVID-19 Shelter for the first time in February. There was an outbreak at a homeless shelter and a senior care building at the same time. We were called at 8 AM and by 4 PM we were hosting guests. We hosted for a week and none of our guests turned out to be positive for the virus. I am very proud of the entire Seabeck organization that did not flinch when asked to help. I can't imagine a worse scenario than an infected homeless person wandering throughout Kitsap. I think what we did potentially save lives and certainly helped those unfortunate souls for a few days.



Because we hosted the COVID-19 shelter, the entire staff became eligible for the virus shot. I got mine! Many staff members will get theirs this week. I encourage all Seabeck guests to do the same so we can gather safely again in the future.

In response to our Chapter's gift to the Pines Capital Campaign.

Thank You from Seabeck:

Thank you for your gift to Seabeck Conference Center. The money is vital for our operations right now, but your donation means much more than that. It is proof that people are thinking about this place and want to see it continue. I always knew I worked at a special place, but this outpouring of support both through money and kind words means the world to me. There were times this year that I felt very much alone. Your gift makes that feeling go away. I see light at the end of the tunnel. With donors and guests like you we are going to make it.

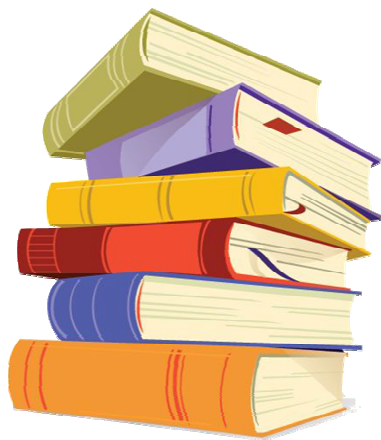
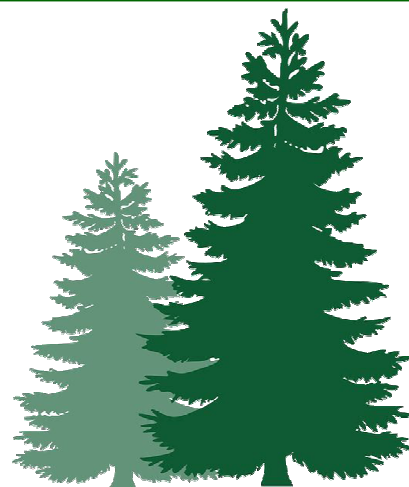
To my friends of the Allen Stone Y Alumni. Thank you for your gifts and for thinking of us during this terrible year. I look forward to your return 2021 in the NEW Pines.

Chuck Kraining

RV Cluster Event

The RV Cluster group is heading to the woods for camping, s'mores around the campfire, hiking and wonderful fellowship Aug. 9-13. Sixteen folks are signed up for the 2021 event at Belknap Hot Springs Resort in Oregon. Jan Leigh is the contact person for the group and for future events.

janetbleigh@gmail.com



Surely you have read a good book during the pandemic, right? Think about books that might be of interest to other Y Alumni. Come to a ZOOM discussion ready to share briefly about the book. Think of what would be written on the back of the book or on the book jacket to summarize it. Jim and Jan Leigh will host the ZOOM process and Gary Huff will lead the discussion.

The ZOOM invitation will come out about a week before the meeting via email.

**ZOOM
BOOK-IT!
SUNDAY,
APRIL 18, 2021
2:00 PM PDT**

ALLEN-STONE 2020-2021 OFFICERS**Presidents** – Gary & Lony Huff

glhuff2@olypen.com

Vice Presidents – TBD**Treasurer** – Jim Leigh

jimfleigh@gmail.com

Past Presidents – Tom Horsley & Cheri Brennan, thomaschorsley@outlook.com**ALLEN-STONE LEADERSHIP****Historian** – Don Leak

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EAF Chair -- Bill Heathman

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Membership – Mike Robinson

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President's Message

Reconnect: It's been fun to reconnect with Y-Alumni thru zoom. I've seen "old" friends that I haven't talked to in 30 years. I've met interesting new Y-Alumni. I've learned from a new member that you can do a home exchange with people around the world on homeexchange.com. Thanks to our zoom gurus, Jan Leigh, Jim Leigh, Mike Robinson and Tom Horsley, we have stayed connected. In March we focused on the Sioux Y. On April 18 at 2 pm, the focus will be on a favorite book you've read during Covid. On June 17 at 10:15am, we will feature a virtual tour of capital improvements at our retreat site at Seabeck Conference Center.

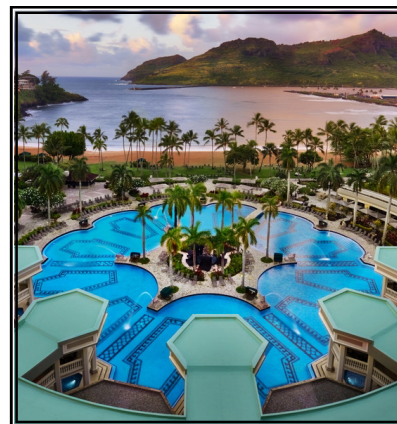
Looking ahead: Unfortunately we had to cancel our Ashland Theater event in late April because of Covid. Pete and Nanci Morris say they will chair the event for next April, God willing. In August, 9-11, Jim and Jan Leigh will host the RV event at Belknap Hot Springs in Oregon. Then in September 13-15, Tom Horsley will chair our Seabeck Retreat. Can't wait. See the articles on these in this newsletter.

Join us in Kauai, Hawaii in February 2022. It's always fun to reconnect with Y-Alumni in Hawaii. My wife Lony and I are very excited about our Y-Alumni trip to Kauai, February 21-25, 2022 for 4 nights. Don Anderson is my co-chair on this fun event. We have reserved a block of 10 rooms at one of the best resort hotels in Kauai, the Kauai Marriott Resort in Lihue. It boasts the largest swimming pool in Kauai and best of all, it's beach is considered one of the most scenic and safest on the Island. You can swim, snorkel, paddleboard or just walk the beach. Or go walking on their hiking trails.

The resort has good restaurants where we will be eating together on the first and last nights. The hotel has a shuttle that will pick you up at the airport so you don't have to rent a car if you don't want to.

Don Anderson is putting together excursions that we can do together or that are optional. We hope to visit Hanalei Bay and the NaPali Coast where the Kauai Y Camp is located. The Kauai Y is very active in Kauai.

Note that the Kauai Marriott Resort is being sold to Royal Sonesta Resorts on March 24th. However we were able to lock in prices of \$279 per night, before the sale. (prices are good three days prior and three days after our dates.) Prices will be going up but not for us. They will be in contact with me regarding when we can start registration for our group. And I will get registration information out then. If you can let me know of your interest, I will keep you informed. Just email me at glhuff2@olypen.com. We will also keep you informed through our quarterly newsletters. Mahalo.



TREASURER'S REPORT Jim Leigh



The 2021 membership year has continued to be a banner year. We are now at 84 units of donating members. Thanks to all of you who responded.

Since our January report we have added the following:

Bill Clagg, Barbara Emery, Bea Halk (Marsten Chapter), Roselyn Meier, Nancy Stifel,
Susan Strong, Jill Turner, Stephen & Margaret Tammaro, Buena Washburn

Allen-Stone Chapter - Donation Form 2021

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

Preferred Telephone _____ Email _____

Do you wish to receive reports and newsletters via Email? Yes _____ No _____

Donation to Allen Stone..... \$ _____

National Dues \$25.00..... \$ _____

National Donation..... \$ _____

Total Enclosed..... \$ _____

Please note: No national dues for lifetime members 90 years and older or for 1st year Y Alumni

Your donations are greatly appreciated! This allows your fellow officers to plan and provide Fellowship, Gatherings, Travel, Grants, and Newsletters to meet the interests of our Y alumni.

Please make your check payable to: Allen-Stone Chapter Y Alumni, and return to:

Jim Leigh, 7760 Angel Falls Way, Redmond, OR 97756 253-219-0613 jimfleigh@gmail.com



Update: Mike Robinson, Allen-Stone Representative

The National Service Project Task Force Committee under the leadership of chair Lou Falk has completed its task of identifying a project for YMCA Alumni members to focus on in the future.

The vetting and the ranking of the 30+ projects have taken place by the 17-member task force. Members of the committee agreed the project should have a national, not international, focus.

The Task Force zeroed in on selecting a project that will impact one location versus a common cause that serves multiple locations. They unanimously picked a project they felt strongly about, one that will create a lasting impact on the community it serves. The National YMCA Alumni Board of Directors unanimously approved it.

The "Big Reveal" will be in the May 2021 email version of The CONNECTION.

--Harry Rock, chapter rep

(Taken from the New England News Letter)



On January 6th seventeen of us met on ZOOM to share something positive from 2020 and a resolution for 2021. We began with some inspiring words:

***This is the year that tested us and isolated us but it also empowered us.
Hope endured.***

Love in all its forms always finds a way.

Everyone had something to share. Participants were Tom Horsley, Jim and Jan Leigh, Gary Huff, Joyce and Don Leak, Eric Nelson, Bea Halk, John Mistkawi, Dave and Joyce Mercer, Jill Hallin, Ruth and Bill Heathman, Craig Frerichs, Helena Hanna, and Sharon Robinson.

Positive Things from 2020:

- getting out of the house for neighborhood walks, hikes, kayaking, rving, golfing.
- staying well because we've gotten so good at wearing masks
- appreciating time with spouse; "learning" better how to "be around" an independent spouse; cooking together with spouse
- noticing beauty and positive things all around me; enjoying the necessity of limits and learning to recognize what is really "necessary"
- cleaning out the car more often!
- learning ZOOM and using it to connect more often with folks who don't live close to us
- moving closer to family; ability to see grandchildren more; new granddaughter I get to take care of every day; learning to help with home schooling
- time to work on photo albums, do woodworking, quilting and other house projects because of fewer outside commitments
- appreciating comfort and blessing of HOME, ample food, ease of already being retired and not worried about a job

Resolutions or Things to Look Forward to in 2021:

- continue to focus on beauty and positive things around us; recognizing what is really "necessary" and being more conscious of where I go and why I go
- looking forward to future travel and just having more freedom to go places; dreaming of seeing the Midnight Sun and getting to Hawaii
- getting regular exercise, like chair yoga and treadmill when we can't go outside
- having schools open again!
- live "through" the year. Start acting my age and when I can't, at least be nice!
- taking time to connect with friends facing challenges and needing extra encouragement and needing to know someone is thinking of them

SO...we are off to a fine start, I'd say. Maybe we will need reports at the ZOOM Holiday Party in December 2021 about how we all did with our resolutions!

Carry on, my friends.





SIUX Y ZOOM GATHERING

On March 18th. 20 Y Alumni linked into a zoom gathering hosted by Tom Horsley.

McCoy and Allen-Stone members were part of a group including: Richard Wallis, Gary & Lony Huff, Don & Joyce Leak, Tom Horsley, Chris Logan, Belvin Doane,

Joyce Washington, Jim & Jan Leigh, Mike Robinson, Dave & Joyce Mercer, Mike Ellis, Bob Smeeck, Fred Stickney and Jane Rosi-Pattison. **Rich Wallis** has been on the Board of Trustees for the Sioux Y for 8 years and started the introductions by stating that the CEO Andy Corley of this Y has made big advances in the seven years of his leadership by expanding programs, having a sound financial ground and attracts enthusiastic staff. Andy moved to South Dakota in 2014 on a three month contract knowing he was going to a very isolated place and not knowing for sure how he would adjust. While there, the then CEO Carol Mann was to retire and suggest Andy apply for the job.

The Sioux Reservation is the 4th largest in the US and covers 5400 square miles of Desolate farm land and open space. There are 20 communities about 30

Miles apart. Recruiting local community members To volunteer is not part of their culture, so his first focus was recruiting outside the area. Since the pandemic, meals are delivered to 12 communities and now to 45 elders in the Dupree area.

The Y reopened on March 2st:

9am - 1 pm the building is open for seniors: quilting, bingo, card games etc.

2 pm - Youth programs

Camping The summer 7 week camp sessions can hold 70 campers with 30 staff. A work party to get camp ready for the summer sessions will be June 9-12 and volunteers are welcomed.

Funding during Covid included contributions from 635 donors, foundations, and grants were 50% of the income. In order to help high school students transition to college, they are first housed in the Y guest house to adjust living from home; then can attend a community college in Eagle Butte.

There is an abundance of vaccine in the community with many getting vaccinated; local public school is open and only closed for two weeks in Dec., while others went to virtual learning.; The Cares Act provided families and youth internet access.

Kids 2 Camp Kicked Off Strong



We have been running our Kids 2 Camp to help make our 50th year of camping the best and most special. Have raised \$4,245 so far. Thank you all for making 50 years of camping so amazing! -Andy and the rest of the Sioux Y family

Here is what your generous contributions can do for these youth:

\$20 - Provides S.T.E.M. and craft supplies to enhance our intentional camp curriculum

\$50 - Provides essentials, including sleeping bags, bedding, and toiletries

\$100 - Provides 25 healthy nutritious meals and snacks

\$250 - Provides one week of transportation for campers to eliminate barriers

\$500 - Scholarships a camper for an amazing week at Camp Marrowbone

\$1000 - Scholarships a 2 week Teen Development Participant, includes college visits.

To make donations:

siouxymca.org

Donate Button





Mike Ellis: After having two hernia surgeries in the past six months, I'm finally back in the saddle, or in this case, my trike seat. I've had my two Covid shots and am feeling great. I am also eating with friends again in our dining room instead of eating alone this past year. Life is good.

Bob and Caroline Brooks have been keeping safe at home. Bob qualified for his vaccine first and made an appointment pretty easily online. Caroline didn't want to be way behind in time, so she went with him to his appt. and asked if there were any available shots at the end of the day to please call her cell phone. There were extra, so she got hers on the same day. The second shot is Mar 25th. Yay! Really hope this means the Belknap Hot Springs trip happens this August. They plan on celebrating their 35th anniversary in Brookings at a cute Air B&B they found overlooking the water. There should be migrating whales this time of year.

Jim and Jan Leigh hope to head to Arizona and Utah in their RV after they get their second vaccine. This trip has been on hold for a year and they are eager to see their son and daughter-in-law.



Jane Rosi-Pattison now enjoying her 70th consecutive year of downhill skiing.



Mike and Sharon Robinson armed with masks and plenty of hand sanitizer headed out with family to the coast for Spring Break. As always enjoying the family camping for 6 days, 5 of them in the rain.

Mike with Daughter Wendy and Granddaughter Zoey.

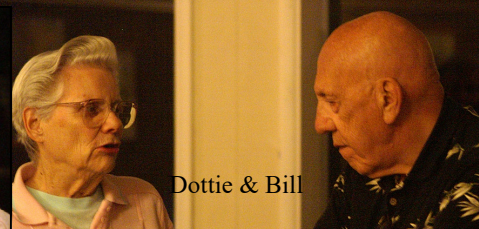


WE REMEMBER

2002-2009



Virginia & Pat



Dottie & Bill



Fred, Vern & Gen



Ollie & Vern



Hugh & Kay



Scotty

connect
travel
serve



Irene & Alan



Jan Leigh—quilting



Joyce and Don Leak—puzzles, pottery, growing jade.



Jim Leigh—woodworking

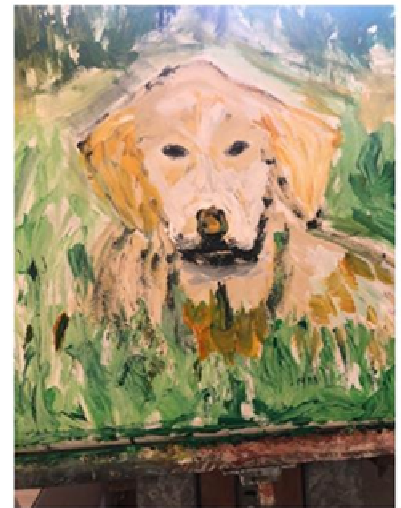
HOBBY SHARING



Jill Hallin—horses



Jill Turner—dreaming of travel



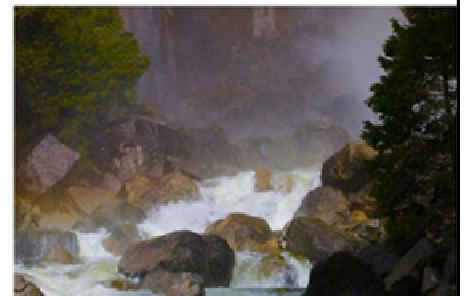
Greg O'Brien—painting



Jane Rosi—skiing and writing stories



Sharon Robinson—drawing and painting.



Bob Smeenk—photography



Bea Halk—growing succulents



Jeff McMoyler—singing and playing guitar



Lony Huff—painting

ZOOM HOBBIES

FEB. 20, 2021

Hobbies are a great distraction during the pandemic, wouldn't you agree? Hobbies are healthy any time during your life, but for those of us who have a healthy hobby habit (HHH), we do not have to be bored when we are isolated.

Sixteen Y Alumni from both Allen-Stone and McCoy chapters met on ZOOM in February to share what kinds of hobbies they have been working on. My, my....everyone has been BUSY! We have people reading and exercising more, whether it is golfing, hiking, kayaking, or just walking around the neighborhood. We have people singing and playing guitars or piano. Some people collect pottery or work on puzzles. Some learn how to grow succulents. Babysitting and tutoring grandchildren and entertaining older grandchildren were on the list too (all safely, of course.)

We have a story writer who has also been a downhill skier most of her life. There are painters and photographers amongst us. We have those who make quilted wall hangings and table runners while others work with wood. In the middle of all this, we have someone who works with horses and helps younger folks learn to ride and care for horses. Many of us are used to traveling as a hobby so for now we are dreaming and planning future travels. Enjoy a selection of the hobby pictures!

Participants included John Mistkawi, Jan and Jim Leigh, Bea Halk, Jeff McMoyler, Gary and Lony Huff, Jill Turner, Jane Rosi, , Jill Hallin, Joyce and Don Leak, Mike and Sharon Robinson, Bob Smeenck, and Greg O'Brien.



Attention: Want color pictures, clearer pictures, quicker delivery.

Let's go green. We would like to encourage your participation by email. For ease of communications please share your email address with Jane at pattisonjane1@gmail.com or Mike at mikiee.mike@gmail.com. Your address is not shared globally.

If you wish to discontinue receiving the newsletter in any format, please email Jane Rosi-Pattison or Mike Robinson.



IT HAPPENED AT CAMP



Back in 2001 Doug Sprague - who had a long career with the YMCA in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and on the Monterey Peninsula - wrote a book entitled **It Happened At Camp.** It includes stories about real adventures at Y camp over many years. Our own Dave Mercer has some stories in it! There will be other names you might also recognize.

Jill Hallin, of our own Allen-Stone chapter, graciously purchased two copies for us to pass around. If you would like to borrow one, just let Jim Leigh know (jimfleigh@gmail.com). When you are done reading it, sign inside the front cover and let Jim know you are ready to pass it on. He will either have you return it to him or mail it to someone else. (Wonder how long it will take us to lose track of the copies!)

SAMIR GHIMIRE: NEW YORK CITY

Samir Ghimire, 16, went to the YMCA in Flushing, since the sixth grade onward. "It started because my mom was working, my dad was working and my sister was working, so my mom needed somewhere I could spend my time instead of staying home alone. He is a junior at the Long Island city High School and lives in Forest Hills, queens. In middle school and high school, Monday through Saturday, the YMCA was my second home. My mom and dad would joke "You know what, just get a sleeping bag and stay there so you can wake up and go to school from there", because I spend more time there than at home. I would say that 75 percent of who I am is because of the YMCA. If I were to take out that 75 percent, I would be that shy lad who had a super quick temper but did not want to talk to people, didn't want

to try new things, but because of the Y i am the total opposite. I have a lot of friends, I love trying new things, I want to talk to new people every day. I have not been to the Flushing Y for a year; it's tough. I really miss going. We still have our meetings but, they are online...very seldom do I get to go outside and see my friends or counselor, so it is a big adjustment. Sometimes I feel I am just far away from the world. I understand why in the first five months of the pandemic, New York closed things down. But people need to understand trust is a two-way street. We teenagers are trusting the city that they're keeping us safe and that we need them to trust when they open stuff up for us, the recreation centers and Y, we'll make sure that we're social distancing and not **transmitting the virus. If you give us a chance, we'll make sure not to waste it."**

(article is from New York Times: March 16. 2021)



Please consider giving to the EAF Fund due to the increased need from the corona virus epidemic.

Send to : **EAF % YMCA USA**
Financial Development
101 N. Upper Wacker Dr. 16th Floor
Chicago, IL 60600





YMCA TRAVEL CLUB 2022

The YMCA Alumni Travel Club has created GOING PLACES, a free subscription newsletter, as well as Travel Information Center website this year. Travel continues a popular way for YMCA Alumni friends to connect.

www.ymcaalumnitravel.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

2021

April 18

ZOOM 2PM —Books

June 27

Zoom 10:15AM —Seabeck

August 9-13, 2021

RV Event

Jan & Jim Leigh

September 13-15, 2021

Seabeck Conference

Tom Horsley & Cheri Brennan

2022

New Orleans, LA Jan. 12-15, 2022

YMCA Alumni Reunion

Kauai, Hawaii: February 21-25, 2022

Gary Huff & Don Anderson

TBD, Spring 2022

Ashland Shakespeare Festival

Peter & Nanci Morris



April 4

Bob & Caroline Brooks - 35 years

June 3

Mike & Sharon Robinson - 54 years

Welcome

NEW RETIREES

Susan Strong - YMCA Greater Seattle VP
Risk Management 35 years

Cheryl Washburn: 10 years
YMCA Greater Seattle

Doris Swanson: Executive Director
YMCA of Pierce & Kitsap Counties
12 1/2 years

Deceased

Kathleen Elder - Covington, WA.
Ann Pickell - Grants Pass, OR



Giving a Shout Out

To all members. Let us hear from you. Send in a tid bit of info to Jane. We would love to hear from you and include you in member news!

So what have you been up to?

Check these Websites Out:

YMCA Alumni —<http://www.ymcaalumni.org>

YMCA Retirement Fund —<http://www.yretirement.org/default.aspx>

Allen-Stone Facebook —www.facebook.com search for Allen-Stone



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