



The Key Connection

PUGET SOUND ASSOCIATION OF PHI BETA KAPPA

P.O. BOX 15258, SEATTLE, WA 98115-9998 – WWW.PSA-PBK.ORG



Deborah Jacobs, speaker at the PSA-PBK Spring Luncheon: Thursday, April 27, 11:45 a.m., at the College Club of Seattle.

PSA-PBK Scholarships

PSA-PBK will once again award scholarships to undergraduates at the University of Washington and the University of Puget Sound, and will also present one or two Ernest R. Stiefel Graduate Study Awards. Conditions and requirements are posted on our Web site. Further information can also be sought from the chapter presidents: Louise Richards (UW) and Eric Orlin (UPS).

Remember PSA-PBK in your will

A great way to benefit students in need is making a bequest in your will to PSA-PBK's Scholarship Fund.

Like to read? Talk?

Anyone for a reading/discussion group? We've had a request for such an activity and would like to gauge our membership's interest. Please contact Kate Ostrom at (425) 255-3151 or kateostrom@aol.com.

Deborah Jacobs, Library Director, to speak at Spring Luncheon, April 27

Deborah Jacobs, who has led the Seattle Public Libraries since 1997, will speak at the Association's Spring Luncheon, to be held at the College Club of Seattle on Thursday, April 27, at 11:45 a.m. Her talk, entitled "Inventing the Future, but Anchored in the Past," will address the role of libraries in the Internet age.

It is Ms. Jacobs' passionate belief that a strong community and thriving democracy demand vibrant public libraries. In 1991, she was named one of *Governing Magazine's* Public Officials of the Year, the first librarian ever to receive this honor. She was also named one of *Seattle Magazine's* 25 Most Influential People of 2004.

The College Club is located at 505 Madison Street in downtown Seattle, at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Madison. Meal choices include baked stuffed chicken breast with apple almond dressing or a vegetarian entrée. The cost is \$25 per person. Please make your reservations by April 20, using the form at the bottom of the next page. For driving directions and parking information, please visit our Web site, <http://www.psa-pbk.org>, or call Nancy Blase at (206) 685-2132.

Coming soon to a mailbox near you: Please donate to the Scholarship Fund

PSA-PBK has awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships to talented students at our chapter campuses, the University of Washington and the University of Puget Sound. Each year, we are impressed with their level of scholarship, as well as the contributions which the applicants have made to their communities. And each year, we are confronted with the staggering reality that these worthy students' need for support far outstrips our ability to provide it.

Over the years, the primary source of our scholarship revenue has been our the generosity of our members in designating a contribution to the scholarship program on their annual dues statements. This year, for the first time, we plan to make a direct solicitation to our membership asking that you consider an additional gift to the scholarship fund. We are aware that you receive many requests for funds, but we also know that you share our belief that academic excellence is a significant value to our community. When you receive our president's letter, please be generous.

Four more Pathfinders to be honored

At the Spring Luncheon, PSA-PBK will present its annual Pathfinder Awards to four men who epitomize the awards' definition: they have encouraged others to seek new worlds to discover and untouched destinations to reach. One is a retired schoolteacher, **Lwanga Lwanga**, who has returned to his home in Uganda to build and supply a school for nearly 500 children. Another, engineer **Jon Magnusson**, has organized the ACE program, which mentors high school students in Seattle who might not otherwise consider careers in engineering, construction, and architecture. Using the ideas about citizenship and government espoused by Alexander Hamilton, **George Cox** has created the Friends of Alexander Hamilton, which encourages high school students to promote and practice good citizenship. And **Brody LaRock** inspires and motivates students in an alternative high school to learn about English and history through playing blues music on the drums. These four Pathfinders help students reach beyond ordinary expectations to greater intellectual opportunities.

The Association also notes with great satisfaction that the Mount Baker Community Club, a previous Pathfinder Award recipient, is continuing its outstanding work. In 2005 the MBCC granted 30 Martin Luther King Jr. college scholarships, totaling \$90,000, to minority students in the greater Mount Baker area.



Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa

P.O. Box 15258

Seattle, WA 98115-9998

Alpha Chapter News

The Alpha Chapter at the University of Washington will hold its annual initiation ceremony on Thursday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the HUB Auditorium. Professor Ed Lazowska, Bill and Melinda Gates Chair in Computer Science and Engineering, will be the speaker. PSA-PBK members are welcome to attend and help celebrate the achievements of the initiates.

From Your President: Phi Beta Who?

[This is an excerpt from the column. For the entire text, please visit our Web site.]

The qualities which brought each of us an invitation to join PBK form the combination which has helped it remain a "calling card to the vestibules of power." I borrow this phrase from the article "Phi Beta Who?," which appeared in the 11/4/05 issue of the Wall Street Journal. In it, the author attempts to answer the question of why some young people are turning down the invitation we chose to accept: changing populations, a virtual plague of invitations from other honor societies, and, most worrisome, lack of awareness of what PBK is and stands for. The national office, no doubt, has found here the fuel for further conversation and education of the general public. "It should not be necessary for anyone to peer at Phi Beta Kappa and ask, 'Who are they?'" says John Churchill, our national secretary. He is right. But we maintain our identity by doing what we do well, continuing our vital contributions to education and our communities

--Kate Ostrom

High School Outreach Program

For a number of years, PSA-PBK has sponsored an annual awards program in high schools, both public and private, in Clallam, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Mason, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom Counties. The program honors high school students who exemplify Phi Beta Kappa's core values: intellectual honesty, broad interests, tolerance, understanding, and the growth of the spirit as well as the mind. At the same time, the program introduces Phi Beta Kappa and its ideals to those students we hope may be elected to PBK in the future. Last year the Association gave a total of 102 books to award recipients.

Delta Chapter News

The Delta Chapter at the University of Puget Sound held a number of functions last fall directed at student and faculty members and the community at large. In September, we sponsored our first Fall Gathering, held at the President's house, to provide chapter members at UPS the opportunity to gather and engage in conversation. In October, the chapter hosted the PSA-PBK Fall Luncheon, at which Jim Wilke both entertained and informed the crowd about the pleasures and historical significance of jazz. And in November, the campus hosted Judith Reppy, a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar who is Professor of Science and Technology Studies at Cornell University and a member of the National Academy of Sciences committee on research standards and practices to prevent the destructive application of biotechnology.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Delta Chapter's founding, so special ceremonies are being planned for this April's initiation and the luncheon hosted by the

Board of Trustees during graduation weekend. We are also planning a reunion of all Delta Chapter members to coincide with Homecoming this September 29.

May 6 Kaffeeklatsch: Holistic Medicine

Those members who have been coming to our Kaffeeklatsches are in on a secret: these events are a major benefit of membership. Designed in the "salon" style and always held around noon on Saturdays, usually in a member's home, Kaffeeklatsches focus on discussion of a timely topic, facilitated by an expert in the field and lubricated by cakes, coffee and tea. On February 4, Kathleen Wynne of Blackboxvoting.org led a conversation about the struggle to maintain a transparent democracy in the U.S. It was held in the home of board member Sandra Andrews-Strasko.

At the next Kaffeeklatsch, Margaret Palmquest, M.D., a family physician, will lead a discussion of holistic medicine. Dr. Palmquest is currently practicing emergency medicine and studying various forms of complementary medicine. She feels that a broader education in alternative medical traditions may be the key to reducing reliance on the traditional health care industry, insurance, and prescription medicines. The Kaffeeklatsch will take place from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 6, at the Community Center at Mercer View on Mercer Island, 8236 S.E. 24th Street. (Please visit <http://www.miparks.net> for driving directions.) The cost is \$5 per person. Let us know by April 28 if you wish to attend by contacting Sandra Andrews-Strasko at (206) 214-7797 or sandra@emptyyournest.com, and please use the coupon at the bottom of this page to send in your payment.

Courthouse tour, modern civics lesson on March 29

Judge James Robart (PBK Whitman College, 1969) will be our host when we tour the new federal courthouse in Seattle on Wednesday, March 29, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. (There will be a no-host lunch following.) We meet at the building entrance, 700 Stewart Street. Be sure to bring photo identification, without which you will not be able to pass the security checkpoint.

After a 45-minute tour of selected parts of the magnificent 23-story courthouse, we will gather in Judge Robart's courtroom to hear his remarks about the federal courts and judicial activity in the Western District of Washington. He will take questions. Judge Robart finds that "people want to discuss questions ranging from current tensions between Congress and the judiciary, safety of judges, the confirmation process, and civil rights and civil liberties in a period of increased terrorist activities."

Please join us by reserving your spot before March 24. Registration is limited to 80: simply complete the coupon below and send \$10 per person (\$15 for two). All fees will benefit our Scholarship Fund. For parking information and driving directions, please visit our Web site. Other questions can be directed to Bonnieclare Erling at (206) 878-2350.

Pay your dues for 2006 and get involved!

It's never too early to support PSA-PBK. Please check the date on your mailing label to see if your membership has expired. Dues are tax-deductible and cover the fiscal year, July 1 through June 30.

____ \$30/Regular ____ \$60/Sustaining ____ \$100/Patron
____ \$250/Key ____ Please contact me, I want to volunteer.

Courthouse Tour, Wednesday, March 29

Total number attending @ \$10 each: _____, @ \$15 for two: _____

Spring Luncheon, Thursday, April 27

Total number attending @ \$25 each: ____ chicken, ____ vegetarian

May Kaffeeklatsch, Saturday, May 6

Total number attending @ \$5 each: _____

I would like to host [] or lead [] a future Kaffeeklatsch.

My enclosed check to PSA-PBK is allocated as follows:

\$ _____ Total amount for **Courthouse Tour**
\$ _____ Total amount for **Spring Luncheon**
\$ _____ Total amount for **May Kaffeeklatsch**
\$ _____ Total amount for **scholarship donation**
\$ _____ Total amount for **2006 dues**
\$ _____ **Total check amount**

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Please make checks payable to Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa, P.O. Box 15258, Seattle, WA 98115-9998.

Questions? E-mail us at administration@psa-pbk.org, or call Kate Ostrom at (425) 255-3151.