



# The Key Connection

## News & Events

Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa



### Spring Luncheon:

### Dr. Thomas Krise on “Higher Education on the Rocks?”

Monday, May 13, 11:45 a.m.  
Red Lion Hotel on Fifth Avenue  
1415 Fifth Avenue, Seattle

For our spring luncheon on May 13 in Seattle, Thomas Krise, Ph.D., president of Pacific Lutheran University, poses the question: “American Higher Education: On the Rocks, or the Envy of the World?” He notes that while op-ed writers and the blogosphere pummel American colleges and universities for being too expensive, inefficient, and ineffective, much of the rest of the world is desperately copying the U.S. system. President Krise will reflect on this conundrum.

Krise is superbly qualified to make us think. After serving for 22 years in the Air Force, he earned a Ph.D. in English at the University of Chicago. He has taught in an unusual variety of institutions: the Air Force Academy, the University of Central Florida, the University of the Pacific, and now Pacific Lutheran. His academic interests are international, focusing on the 17<sup>th</sup>- and 18<sup>th</sup>-century literature of the Caribbean, and he has edited the journal *War, Literature, and the Arts*. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

The luncheon will take place on Monday, May 13, at the Red Lion Hotel on Fifth Avenue, 1415 Fifth Avenue, Seattle. Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m.; doors open at 11:30. The cost is \$40 per person; guests are welcome. Please make your reservation by May 6 using the attached coupon or at <http://psa-pbk.org/online-payments-donations.html>.

### Tour of the Bellevue Botanical Garden

Saturday, June 8, 11 a.m.  
12001 Main Street, Bellevue

Please join us for a one-hour docent tour of the Bellevue Botanical Garden. Participants are welcome to stay and enjoy the gardens, visitor center, and gift shop after the tour. The gardens have well-maintained gravel trails on gently sloping hillsides. There is no fee to enter the gardens or for the docent tour; however, the Bellevue Botanical Garden does appreciate donations.

#### Driving directions from I-405:

Take the N.E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street exit eastbound. Pass 116<sup>th</sup> Avenue N.E. and turn right on 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue N.E. Go approximately ¾ mile to the first light and turn left onto Main Street. You can park in the Wilburton Hill Park parking lot at Main Street and 124<sup>th</sup> Avenue N.E., just east of the gardens. Park your car and then walk up the lake trail to the entrance through the Yao Garden. Please note that the Bellevue Botanical Garden is just starting construction of a new visitor center, so their “main” parking lot and visitor drop-off area are closed. Parking is only available in the Wilburton Hill Park lot. All of the gardens are open.

For additional information about the gardens, please visit <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org>. Please RSVP to [president@psa-pbk.org](mailto:president@psa-pbk.org) by June 3 so that we know you will be joining us for the tour.

Guests are welcome — invite a friend!

#### Inside this issue

John Churchill .....2

Scholarships .....3

Pathfinder Awards .....3

What it means to join PSA-PBK.....4

From your president.....4

Donors.....5

Alpha Chapter.....6

Delta Chapter.....6

Honorary Memberships.....6

Volunteers needed for HS Book Awards .....7

Activities Committee.....8

## **Phi Beta Kappa Secretary John Churchill's anniversary challenge**

PSA-PBK members and guests joyfully observed the association's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a dinner at the Seattle Yacht Club on February 2. In the spirit of "Celebrating 60 Years and Beyond," the organization awarded honorary memberships to longtime board members Vivian Chun and Myra Lupton. A souvenir booklet highlighted triumphs of the last decade: distributions of \$109,360 to our university scholarship programs; 1,300 prize books awarded to high school students; 39 Pathfinder Awards; and 69 social events. John Churchill, Ph.D., the secretary of the national Phi Beta Kappa Society, singled out the scholarship program in calling PSA-PBK "an exemplary Phi Beta Kappa association."

The highlight, however, was Secretary Churchill's speech "Phi Beta Kappa Speaks Out: Advocacy for the Liberal Arts and Sciences." He warned that public discussion had become a "radically impoverished conversation about the purpose of higher education" — more concerned with the first post-college job than with citizenship, civic participation, or living richer human lives. Massive online courses, reduction in public financial support, demographic diversity — all posed challenges to the residential college experience in general and to Phi Beta Kappa in particular. If online education is sufficient, why spend years on campus? If a "hollowed-out" middle class balks at supporting colleges or never attends, how can colleges thrive? If students have never heard of Phi Beta Kappa, will they join?

What to do? Churchill challenged us to "rally the troops" on behalf of liberal studies. Phi Beta Kappa's 500,000 members constitute the largest group of beneficiaries of liberal arts and sciences education. The society is planning to involve its members in a grassroots campaign starting this year and next — the National Advocacy Initiative — carrying our message to policymakers, editors, and other influential entities. Associations like ours can be key links in this effort "to equip members as direct emissaries with a constant, consistent, and persuasive message to deliver on behalf of the liberal arts and sciences."

In an interview after the dinner and in meetings with PSA-PBK trustees, Churchill elaborated on these remarks. Read more at <http://psa-pbk.org/spotlight-john-churchill.html>.

### **Your board of trustees and committee members:**

Linda Willenberg, president; Gerald Oppenheimer, vice president; Myra Lupton, secretary; Howard Johnson, treasurer; Tiffany Tran, assistant treasurer; and Benjamin Lukoff, electronic communications coordinator.

Others include Aspasia Bartell, Vivian Chun, Judith Crutcher, Kate Gunsul, Joe Janes, Karrin Klotz, William T. Mari, Margaret Palmquest, Louise Richards, David Rose, Amy E. Ryken, and Dennis Yamashita.

Members who are not on the board but serve on committees: Greta Austin, Chuck Goldstein, Carol Goodall, and Wilson O'Donnell.

### **Thank you to our host, Dorsey & Whitney**

The board of trustees would like to thank the Seattle office of Dorsey & Whitney L.L.P. for graciously allowing us to meet in their conference room. We are not only able to meet in a central location, but are afforded a beautiful view of Elliott Bay, the mountains, and boats. From all of us to all of you, thank you.

### **PSA-PBK scholarships**

PSA-PBK was founded 60 years ago with the core mission of providing financial aid to students. Our scholarships are funded by donations from our members and supporters. Donations can be mailed to us at PSA-PBK, P.O. Box 15258, Seattle, WA 98115, or you can donate online at <http://psa-pbk.org/online-payments-donations.html>. Thank you for your support of our scholarship programs, which are described below.

### **Undergraduate scholarships**

Thanks to your support, we are once more able to offer five \$1,800 scholarships for the academic year 2013–2014. Students at the University of Washington and the University of Puget Sound who have a financial need and who have maintained a GPA of at least 3.8 are eligible. Requirements and application forms are posted at [http://psa-pbk.org/scholarships\\_awards.html](http://psa-pbk.org/scholarships_awards.html). The deadline for UW applications is April 26; the UPS deadline has passed.

### **Ernest R. Stiefel Graduate Study Award**

We are pleased to announce the availability of the Ernest R. Stiefel Graduate Study Award for the academic year 2013–2014. The total amount of \$4,000 will be awarded to either one or two qualified applicants. Details are posted at [http://psa-pbk.org/scholarships\\_awards.html](http://psa-pbk.org/scholarships_awards.html). The deadline for applications is June 24.

### **Pathfinder Award recipients**

At each year's spring luncheon, we honor individuals (both adults and youth), businesses, and institutions with our Pathfinder Award. The certificate reflects the imagery on the Phi Beta Kappa key — a hand pointing to the stars. It is given to those who “encourage others to seek new worlds to discover, pathways to explore, and untouched destinations to reach.” Those honored do something to broaden people's interest in active intellectual accomplishment; they reach beyond ordinary routine, beyond the regular requirement of their lives and jobs, in order to break new intellectual ground or inspire others to do so.

### **Overton Berry**

For his work in Seattle's Central Area Motivation Program as a counselor and teacher, assisting low-income youth to reach success by building upon their strongest talents; for performances of free concerts for mentally disabled children; and for benefit concerts for the community and causes throughout the world.

### **Parker Bixby**

Band director, Mercer Island High School, for his inspirational and dedicated teaching every year about 300 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students, comprising 20% of the student body, to whom he is friend, counselor, therapist, role model, and humanitarian.

### **International Models Project for Women (IMPOWR)**

A project of the American Bar Association coordinated in Washington state by Mariah Kennedy and Margaret Niles, attorneys at K&L Gates, and assisted by Rebecca Heine. This innovative effort will create a global collaborative research database on women's rights under law.

### **Ruben Van Kempen**

As theater director at Seattle's Roosevelt High School for 30 years and recently inducted into the Educational Theatre Association's Hall of Fame, he inspired a generation of students to becoming team players, leaders as well as followers.

## **What does it mean to be a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society and of PSA-PBK?**

By virtue of your induction into Phi Beta Kappa you are forever a member of the national Phi Beta Kappa Society, as well as of the college or university chapter that elected you. Beyond the original initiation fee, the national society does not require any further dues from you to remain a member in good standing. It will, of course, accept donations, and may solicit them from time to time.

Alumni associations, of which there are currently 60, including PSA-PBK, are constituents of the national society and are voluntary in nature. Membership in PSA-PBK is open, primarily, to any Phi Beta residing in the 13-county Puget Sound area. It supports the national society's program by fostering education; awarding scholarships and other forms of recognition, e.g., the High School Book Awards and Pathfinder Awards; sponsoring activities and cultural events; and recognizing, in other ways, efforts by individuals and organizations supportive of Phi Beta Kappa's goals.

PSA-PBK does not receive any financial support from the national society. In fact, we pay the Phi Beta Kappa Society \$2 per member every year. To maintain our scholarships and other programs, we must rely entirely on membership dues and your generous donations. Thank you for your continued support of our association, our scholarship and award programs, and our activities.

We offer three years of gratis membership for all new PBK initiates. After that, minimum dues are \$30 per year. Your dues and additional contributions are tax-deductible and support our scholarships, High School Book Awards, Pathfinder Awards, luncheon speaker honorariums, and other activities.

## **Message from your president**

The Phi Beta Kappa Society is in the planning stages of a major national initiative to advocate renewed support for the liberal arts and sciences. Local associations, including PSA-PBK, university chapters, and individual Phi Betes will be invited to participate in the dialogue and advocacy efforts. PSA-PBK currently advocates for the liberal arts and sciences through our scholarships and award programs and the speakers and events that we offer. What ideas do you have for increasing our advocacy for the liberal arts and sciences?

There is a growing need for students to take courses in the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). I believe that individuals and our society benefit when students take a broad range of courses and participate in the arts as well as the sciences. Everyone benefits when students learn to communicate well verbally and in writing. We are fortunate to live in a region that offers excellent universities, museums, theatre, music, ballet, and other arts.

Please join me in advocating for the liberal arts and sciences, supporting the arts in our community, and encouraging and mentoring students to take a broad range of courses.

You can send your comments to me at [president@psa-pbk.org](mailto:president@psa-pbk.org).

Linda Willenberg

# The Key Connection 5

Spring 2013

## Thank you to our donors

The Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa gratefully acknowledges the following individuals for their generosity. Their contributions support our undergraduate and graduate scholarships, our High School Book Awards, our Pathfinder Awards, and speakers and events throughout the year.

The following donations were made during the period from July 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013.

### Key Members

#### (\$250 or more)

Lyda Anderson  
Bobbe Bridge  
Vivian Chun  
Kate Gunsul  
Bett Houston  
Howard Johnson  
Gordon MacPherson  
Johanna Quam  
Braidon Rex-Johnson  
Judith Runstad  
Gordon Stavig  
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Ted Kohl  
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Patrick Marek  
Carolyn McClurkan  
Gearldine Modrell  
Lois North  
Wilson O'Donnell  
Gordon Orians

### Sustaining Members

#### (\$60-\$99)

William Attridge  
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Wenona Sharpe  
Stephen Sundquist  
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Theodore West

### Patron Members

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Jeanette Mills  
Royce Morrison  
Marsha Munson  
Helen Nagy  
Douglas Oakman  
Gerry Oppenheimer

### Regular Members

#### (\$31-\$59)

Aspasia Bartell  
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Kristin Bushley  
Jo Ann Coney  
Mary Davis  
Jeff Eaton  
Dwight Johnson  
Joelle Keizer  
Jeanette Norris  
Carolyn Scott  
Ann Skutt  
Janis Smith  
Sharon Starry  
Betty Sussman  
Blossom Tibbits

## **University of Washington Alpha Chapter**

After the end of fall quarter, Alpha Chapter at the University of Washington invited 135 students to join Phi Beta Kappa. The university extends invitations after each academic quarter. Last year, a total of 383 students were invited to join. In February, the chapter held its annual winter quarter social for PBK students and faculty at the UW Club. The featured speaker was Mary-Claire King, UW professor of genome sciences and of medicine, herself a member of PBK and also elected at last summer's triennial as a PBK senator. (Professor King was elected along with Zev Handel, UW professor of Asian languages and literature, and Kathleen Woodward, UW professor of English and director of the Simpson Center for the Humanities, giving the UW three concurrently serving senators, more than any other university in the nation). King spoke about her work in identifying the genetic basis of complex diseases. She is credited with identifying the gene for inherited breast cancer, BRCA1.

Also in February, Alpha Chapter's executive committee hosted a lunch with Phi Beta Kappa Secretary John Churchill, here to celebrate PSA-PBK's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In addition to members of the executive committee, Robert Stacey, UW dean of arts and sciences, and Professor James Clauss, director of the UW Honors Program, were in attendance. Secretary Churchill discussed Phi Beta Kappa's national initiative in support of the liberal arts and sciences, and the assembled pledged to do all they could to support the initiative. This spring, plans are underway for the chapter to host a pizza lunch for PBK students and UW President Michael Young. The chapter's annual initiation ceremony in Kane Hall is scheduled for June 12.

## **University of Puget Sound Delta Chapter**

Secretary Churchill also visited the University of Puget Sound in February in conjunction with PSA-PBK's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He met with the Delta Chapter executive committee at the Faculty Club to discuss the national organization's efforts to engage in the public dialogue about education in the liberal arts. At a chapter reception after the session, Churchill and the executive committee were joined by 12 additional Delta Chapter members, including UPS President Ronal Thomas and Dean of Students Mike Segawa.

## **Honorary memberships awarded**

The PSA-PBK board of trustees has established a means of designating certain individuals as honorary members. To guide the board in this process, the following policy was adopted:

*To qualify for honorary membership, a person shall be elected by the board of trustees for sustained and outstanding contributions to the advancement of purposes for which the association stands.*

At our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner, honorary membership was granted to the following PSA-PBK members.

**Vivian Chun** is a graduate of Garfield High School in Seattle. She attended college many years later when her son was also in college. She first attended Seattle Community College and then transferred to the University of Washington. There, in 1976, she was initiated into Beta Gamma Sigma, a business administration honorary society. In 1977 she served as interim chapter president. 1977 was also the year of her initiation into Phi Beta Kappa.

Chun worked in the Seattle area in mortgages, personnel management, and banking information/marketing. She joined the PSA-PBK board of trustees in 1981 and has for many years been heavily involved, in particular, with the activities and high school outreach committees.

**Myra Lupton** has served on the PSA-PBK board for over 34 years as of January 2013. She has demonstrated a strong commitment to academic excellence by actively supporting and participating in our scholarship and awards programs; has successfully recruited new members for the association; and mentored many new board members.

In 1982–1983 Lupton served as PSA-PBK president. She has also served on many committees and is currently the secretary, as well as chair of the Pathfinder Award committee. In 34 years she has rarely missed a board meeting or PSA-PBK activity. Lupton was initiated into Phi Beta Kappa at the University of Washington in 1965, and taught English at Sammamish High School in the Bellevue School District for 31 years. She is fondly referred to as a “community activist” on Mercer Island, where she and her husband, Homer, have lived for over 50 years and where, in 2003, she was honored as Citizen of the Year. Lupton is active in the League of Women Voters, and serves on the board of the Mercer Island Youth and Family Services Foundation.

**Volunteers needed to present high school book awards**

Looking for a little inspiration? Try volunteering to present a high school book award this spring. It takes very little time, and you will be energized and uplifted by the students' hard work and the quality of their academic and community pursuits. During May and June, we award personally inscribed books to outstanding graduating seniors in the Puget Sound area. This is just one of the many ways we work to encourage and reward outstanding achievement in the liberal arts and sciences. Principals and guidance counselors at participating schools are asked to provide the name of a student from each school who exemplifies what Phi Beta Kappa represents: a love of learning, as demonstrated by his or her academic achievement as well as a record of service to others.

Schools may select multiple award recipients. However, we can only pay for the first book per school. Additional books may be ordered at a cost of \$35 each, including shipping and handling.

We need Phi Beta Kappa members like you to present the books at the schools' awards ceremonies! If you would like additional information about the program or would like to volunteer, please call Linda Willenberg at (425) 641-1606 or e-mail either pbkhighschoolcoord@psa-pbk.org or president@psa-pbk.org.

**Coupon**



Spring Luncheon, May 13 (RSVP by May 6)

Chicken \_\_\_\_\_

Mushroom ravioli (vegetarian) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of attendees @ \$40 \_\_\_\_\_

Guest name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to pay for a Pathfinder Award Winner @\$40 \_\_\_\_\_

Bellevue Botanical Gardens June 8 (RSVP by June 3)

Number of attendees (no fee)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**DUES (PLEASE CHECK MAILING LABEL TO SEE IF YOUR DUES HAVE EXPIRED)**

\_\_\_\_ \$ 30 Regular

\_\_\_\_ \$ 60 Sustaining

\_\_\_\_ \$100 Patron

\_\_\_\_ \$250 Key

**TOTAL ENCLOSED**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Spring Luncheon

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ HS Book Awards

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Stiefel Graduate Award

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dues

\_\_\_\_\_ Total

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**PSA-PBK**

**PO BOX 15258**

**SEATTLE, WA 98115**

**Or pay via PayPal on our website, [www.psa-pbk.org](http://www.psa-pbk.org)**

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### **A successful Winter Social**

On January 17, Alpha Chapter members and UW Honors Program students joined PSA-PBK members for a social at the UW Tower. Debra Glassman, senior lecturer in business economics at the UW Foster School of Business, spoke about the global economy and the European debt crisis. Photos of the event are posted at <http://goo.gl/RSIW7>.

### **Activities committee seeks your input**

Our activities committee meets monthly to plan our spring and fall lunches and other social, cultural, and intellectual activities. We would like your input regarding what activities, speakers, and tours would interest you. What days, times, and venues would be most convenient? Are you interested in speaking at an event? Would you like to host a social event or kaffeeklatsch at your home, office, or community center? Perhaps you would even like to be a member of the activities committee and help plan events? Please send your thoughts to Linda Willenberg at [president@psa-pbk.org](mailto:president@psa-pbk.org) or call her at (425) 641-1606.

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa  
PO BOX 15258  
SEATTLE, WA 98115  
www.psa-pbk.org**

