

Fall 2023



The Key Connection

Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa (PSA-PBK)

Fall Newsletter 2023

www.psa-pbk.org

pugetsoundpbk@gmail.com

President's Message by Dennis Yamashita

Following a cool start, summer in the Pacific Northwest turned very pleasant with limited heat waves, minor smoke intrusions, and ample opportunities to get outside and enjoy the sun. How did you enjoy your summer? After sponsoring a series of activities and programs in the spring, PSA-PBK took a summer hiatus. With the start of fall we kicked off robust programming on September 9 with a docent-led tour of Tacoma's Museum of Glass. Over 25 members and friends attended this special event. Our programs and events are some of the benefits we offer to our members. Won't you take part in one or more of our enjoyable programs? Details follow later in this newsletter.

As with every individual and organization, PSA-PBK was not immune to the hit on our finances owing to 3 years of the effects of Covid, record inflation, and their negative impact on the markets. Please know that we manage our assets with staggering discipline, scrutinizing and minimizing every expense so that we can continue to fund our treasured scholarship programs into the future. Still, the last 3 years have taken a major toll.

Thanks to the seasoned stewardship of our Treasurer Howard Johnson, we have implemented a Three-year Asset Recovery Plan. Six members stepped up in June and generously donated over \$15,000, which effectively brings us into compliance with our financial policies. Given our current financial constraints, for the 2023-24 fiscal year we need to reduce the scholarships we grant from three to one. The aim is to offer a second scholarship through a planned Development Program in Spring 2024. I ask for your participation in any amount that is comfortable to you. With our austerity program and successful fund development campaigns, we now have a realistic plan to be able to offer all three scholarships in the 2026 year.

One of my objectives as President is to create opportunities for more engagement in PSA-PBK for our recent graduates and younger members. This is part of my initiative to bring new ideas and identify new leaders for the Association. We have had very successful meet-and-greet events so far this year and have more planned. New ideas for gatherings from members are welcome and wanted. Thank you for your continued membership, engagement and encouragement!



Chihuly 'blobs' at the Tacoma Museum of Glass

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FALL LUNCHEON IS BACK!

Mark your calendar now and register to attend the next big event, our **Fall Luncheon on October 26** at the **Seattle Yacht Club**. Our luncheons are our largest events of the year, are well attended, and offer a great place to meet PBK members as well as to catch up with friends.

For full information and registration click [here](#).

Or, use the coupon on page 5 of this newsletter to pay by check.



Board Member Spotlight: Howard Johnson

Howard was born and raised In Kansas and even did some wheat farming in his early years. He was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa in 1959 as a mathematics major at the University of Kansas. After serving in the United States Marine Corp, he returned to academia and earned a master’s degree in mathematics education at Harvard. He returned to Kansas and taught mathematics at Lawrence HS in Lawrence, Kansas, for two years. This was followed by his returning to Harvard to earn a doctoral degree in school administration. Following these years of study and work in the Boston area, Howard moved to the Northwest where he became the Principal at Interlake HS in Bellevue, Washington, when the school first opened in 1967. He later served twelve years as an education professor at the University of Washington, teaching courses in school finance and secondary school curriculum. In 1983, Howard returned to the Bellevue School District as Director of Finance and then retired as Deputy Superintendent of the Bellevue School District in the Year 2000.

Traveling the world has been a focus of the retirement years for Howard and his wife Judy. Together they have visited all 50 states and 62 countries. Howard took an extended rail trip across Russia in 2019 just before the COVID pandemic and is scheduled to take a trip to Egypt and Jordan this fall. He enjoys reading and has served faithfully and contributed financially to several non-profit organizations, including the Bellevue Breakfast Rotary, the Bellevue Schools Foundation, and our own PSA-PBK. Howard has served the last 10 years as Treasurer of PSA-PBK and has provided strong support to our scholarship programs. We are indeed fortunate to have benefitted from Howard’s able guidance of our financial affairs over these many years.

PSA-PBK Board Member Vivian Chun Remembered

Vivian Chun graduated from Garfield High School in 1950 and, after 25 years, began her higher education. Vivian earned her BA in Business at the UW in 1977 and was initiated into Phi Beta Kappa at that time. She worked in the banking industry with mortgages, personnel, and marketing.

In 1981, Vivian joined the Board of Trustees of the PSA-PBK and served on the Board until 2017. She served as president of PSA-PBK from 1988-1989, and later served as secretary. For many years Vivian chaired the PSA-PBK High School Outreach Committee, Activities Committee, and the Scholarship Committee. She served on the Membership Committee and continued with the Outreach and Activities Committees until retirement. She was the delegate for PSA-PBK at the PBK Triennial Meeting at San Antonio in 1988. Vivian was key in nominating and subsequently approved by the board, PSA-PBK’s prestigious Pathfinder Awards for Garfield’s Quincy Jones ('50), Overton Berry ("53"), and Clarence Acox (Jazz Band director).

The PSA-PBK Board recognized her as an Honorary Member for consistently and effectively working to strengthen PSA-PBK and its programs for decades. Her family has suggested that donations in memory of Vivian can be made to the PSA-PBK scholarship fund. [Donate here](#).

2023 Pathfinder Award Recipients

Each year the Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa honors individuals, organizations, or institutions with our Pathfinder Award. It honors those who encourage others to seek new worlds to discover, pathways to explore, and untouched destinations to reach. This year we are awarding Pathfinders Awards to two organizations.

Empowering Youth and Families Outreach (EYFO), a non-profit social service organization that for over 20 years has nurtured, tutored, advised, counseled directed and championed Seattle area students to help them realize their lifetime goals. Their programs include year-round out-of-school time activities, before and after school programming, summer literacy programs, and local and out-of-state academic and service trips.

Seattle Times Education Lab, was established in 2013 to spotlight promising approaches, including programs and innovative ideas to educational challenges in public education. They engage the community beyond Seattle Times subscribers with a newsletter, community engagements, and frequent use of guest columnists. They often work with student reporters to get their perspectives. The Education Lab brings together a diverse community of students, teachers, educators, parents, and community members for discussion.

Both will be honored at our Fall Luncheon on October 26th at the Seattle Yacht Club. Please join us. Full information and registration [here](#). Or, use the coupon on page 5 of this newsletter.

PSA-PBK Events and Programs

We have offered a robust series of events and programs since our Spring Newsletter. Programs offer enjoyable opportunities for our members to learn and experience as well as interacting with Board members as well as other Phi Betes in the Puget Sound region and learn more about our community.

Past events:

- April 29: Seattle Central Library architectural tour.
- May 13: Sarah Stucky, Board Committee member, led personalized and professionally guided tour of the University of Washington Campus.
- May 18: Spring luncheon at the Seattle Yacht Club-- Professor Shawn Wong spoke on "How I became a professor by accident: 50 years at the front of a classroom"
- June 3: PSA-PBK member Leslie Holmes led us on a walk through the Pacific Connections Garden in the Seattle Arboretum.
- June 22 Key Connections event at the Big Time Brewery in the "U" District to welcome recent Phi Beta Kappa initiates, many of whom exchanged personal information to remain in touch.
- July 13 Participated in "Dancing Till Dusk" event by Dina Blade in Freeway Park in Seattle.
- Sept. 9 Docent Guided tour of the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, attended by over 25 members.

Future events:

- October 19: We will be hosting a Key Connections event at the Big Time Brewery and Alehouse to welcome 2023 and recent Phi Beta Kappa Initiates
- October 26: Our Fall Luncheon will be held at the Seattle Yacht Club. The speaker will be Dr. Kathleen Woodward, who will speak about the Liberal Arts and the future of higher education and will award our 2023 Pathfinders Award Winners. For full information and to register, please visit this page on our website: <https://www.psa-pbk.org/events>. Or, use the coupon on page 5 of this newsletter and pay by check.
- November 18: No-host coffee shop gathering. Check our website/events for more information coming soon!

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Fall 2023

The Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa gratefully acknowledges the following individuals for their generosity during the period September 1, 2022 — August 31, 2023*

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Elsie Hulsizer
Bryan Johnson

Non-member donors

Grace Chien & Rodney Eng,
in memory of Vivian Chun

*This list was accurate to the best of our knowledge at the time of publication. Please contact us with your questions: pugetsoundpbk@gmail.com

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Your PSA-PBK Board and Committee Members

Executive Committee:

Dennis J. Yamashita, President
Moirra Tamayo, Vice President
Terry Jankowski, Secretary and Archivist
Howard Johnson, Treasurer
Amy Ojendyk, Assistant Treasurer
Benjamin Lukoff, Electronic Communications
Linda Willenberg

Board Members:

Karrin Klotz
Melisa Lasell
Harrison Owens
Margaret Palmquest
Louise Richards
Amy Ryken
Doris Stiefel

Non-board Committee Members:

Leslie Holmes, Joan Peterson, Marcie Stone, Sarah Stucky, Barbee Tucker-Pigott



PAYMENTS COUPON

DUES

_____ \$40 Regular
_____ \$75 Sustaining
_____ \$125 Patron
_____ \$250 Key

DONATIONS

\$ _____ Scholarship fund
\$ _____ Stiefel Graduate Award
\$ _____ Lupton Scholarship

FALL LUNCHEON REGISTRATION:

Oct 26, Seattle Yacht Club - \$50 per person

Number of persons: _____ Total Cost: _____

Menu choices: Butternut squash *OR* Herbed Chicken

Names of attendees and their menu choices:

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO

**PSA-PBK
PO BOX 84223
SEATTLE, WA 98124**

Or pay via credit card through our website, PSA-PBK.ORG

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

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Please keep in touch!

Please let us know if you have recently moved or changed your email address or telephone number. You can send your updated information to pugetsoundpbk@gmail.com.

We would like to hear from you! Share with us any topic or event suggestions and ideas to make PSA-PBK more relevant to you. Please email Dennis Yamashita at president@psa-pbk.org.

Drumheller fountain is the glory of the UW campus on a sunny spring day.



Did you miss our spring guided tour of the UW Campus? It was a beautiful mid-morning start as we meandered about. We passed immaculate gardens and architectural delights while we learned about campus history. We even located the spot where two of our PSA-PBK members met and fell in love, many moons ago!

Don't miss our next tour! [Visit https://www.psa-pbk.org/events](https://www.psa-pbk.org/events)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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