

Pacific Northwest

OLD GUARD NEWS ALLEN-STONE CHAPTER

Coming Event:

J u l y 2 0 2 6

Seabeck September 21-23, 2026

seabeck today!

Today, as you cross the bridge over the old mill pond there is a strong sense of the past. In the lagoon, rowboats are floating instead of giant logs. Except for a few modern structures, Seabeck looks much the same as it did historically. The apple trees on the property are now twisted and hollow and picturesque.

The annual event for Allen-Stone is on the horizon. We look forward to seeing you there. Join us for a get away to a comfortable setting with nature all around and great fellowship. If you haven't joined in the past, give this event a nod and plan to come. For over 30 years we have participated with great fellowship for new and old members, informative speakers, and a chance to share and participate

For your information Our Speakers:

Tracy Muckey, International Service Corps Chair, spent



35 years serving the YMCA, building a career rooted in wellness, leadership, and community impact. She managed YMCA branches in the San Francisco Bay Area and Salinas, California, before spending the final 10 years of her career with the YMCA of the USA as a project manager and facilitator for the **Activate America** and **Let's Move Outside** initiatives.

After retiring in 2018, Tracy and her husband, Lee, enjoyed several years of travel and adventure before becoming involved with the International Service Corps (ISC) in 2022. Through ISC, Tracy continues her passion for service, fellowship with YMCA Alumni and supporting YMCA communities around the world.

Tracy and Lee enjoy their three sons, two of whom live in Richmond and one in Los Angeles. They maintain homes in both locations and enjoy spending time with family, traveling, hiking, and biking.

YMCA Jerusalem:

A diamond of diversity in a contentious city

Fadi Suidan is a lawyer, volunteer, and proud father who hails from Haifa, which he describes as "the city of Arab-Jewish coexistence." His family has lived and done business there for generations. Today, Suidan is the CEO of a historic institution, the [Jerusalem International YMCA](#).



After the Suidans moved to Jerusalem so that Fadi's wife could take up a position in pediatric ophthalmology at Hadassah Medical Center, they enrolled their son at the first integrated Arab-Jewish preschool in Jerusalem. "What is this place?" Suidan asked when he saw it.

In those days, he said, in Jerusalem "The first time that they (Arabs and Jews) met was at university." In terms of schools, "We were still stuck in the Brown vs. Board of Education."

"How do you raise two children who are growing up on opposite sides in a conflict zone to not hate each other? You put them in the same classroom."

As someone used to Arab-Jewish life in Haifa, he continued to be disturbed by the social divisions in Jerusalem, finding hope and inspiration at the YMCA. Suidan said it "sparked ideas," and he began volunteering there in 2014.

Once he became the CEO of the YMCA, he began to run the nonprofit like a business.

The YMCA in Jerusalem features 64 hotel rooms, a conference room, the sports center, and stunning grounds with trees, lush grass, and plants. It also has an interesting history....

**COME TO SEABECK & HEAR FADI SUIDAN'S TALK
ON TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2026!!**

Registration on page 10

CONNECT

SEABECK RETREAT – September 21-23 2026

THINKING OF SEABECK IN THE FALL!

ALUMNI MEMBERS DO IT ALL!

**SCHEDULE** (subject to slight changes)

Monday September 21

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
4:00 - 4:30 PM	Registration and check-in Tom	The Pines
4:30 - 5:45 PM	Welcome and introduction, social gathering, snacks provided by all. Easy movement, songs and evening Grace Jan	The Pines
6:00 - 7:00 PM	Dinner	Dining Hall
7:15 - 8:30 PM	Visiting circle, songs and games Jan	The Pines

Tuesday September 22

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
7:30 - 8:00 AM	Early morning hike on the Seabeck hill – optional Jill	The Pines
8:00 - 8:45 AM	Breakfast	Dining Hall
9:00 - 9:15 AM	Plenary Session Opening, song and easy movement Jan	The Pines
9:15 - 10:30 AM	TOPIC #1 CEO Jerusalem ZOOM w/ Fadi Suidan	The Pines
10:30 - 10:45 AM	BREAK	
10:45 - 11:45 AM	TOPIC #2 Member Tracy Muckey “ International Service Corps “ (ISC): Providing Opportunities to Engage in International Volunteer Service.	The Pines
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Lunch	Dining Hall
1:00 - 2:00 PM	Visit the cemetery with Candace Kolbas, Historic Cemetery Preservation-ist. Stories and history of the Seabeck Cemetery	Seabeck Grounds
2:00 - 5:30 PM	Free time. Possible visit/carpool to Bremerton to visit the Naval Destroyer USS Turner Joy	Seabeck Grounds
5:30 - 6:00 PM	Informal gathering before dinner	The Pines
6:00 - 7:00 PM	Dinner	
7:15 - 8:00 PM	75 Years of Skiing! Jane	The Pines
8:00 - 9:00 PM	World Service Campaign update & World Service Pledges Tom	The Pines

Wednesday September 23

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
8:00 – 8:45 AM	BREAKFAST Wear YMCA Gear !!!!	Dining Hall
9:00 – 9:15 AM	Group photo at the dining hall steps	Dining Hall
9:15 – 10:00 AM	Seabeck update Chuck Kraining	The Pines
	Kitchen Clean up	The Pines
10:00 – 11:00 AM	Remembrance Service, placing flowers	The Pines
11:00 – 11:45 AM	Allen-Stone board meeting, including elections Jil	The Pines
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Farewell Luncheon, goodbye prayer	Dining Hall

ALLEN-STONE LEADERSHIP

President – Jill Hallin

jillhallin@comcast.net

Vice-President—Sherry Milton

bobandsherry606@msn.com

Treasurer – Jim Leigh

jimfleigh@gmail.com

Incoming President—Rich Wallis

richwallis@comcast.net

Past Presidents – Gary & Lony Huff

glhuff2@olypen.com



Membership—Mike Robinson

mikiee.mike@gmail.com

National Service Project

-Gary Huff, National Standing Committee

-Rich Wallis, Boots on the Ground

-Cheri Brennan-Marketing Committee

World Service Chair – Tom Horsley

thomaschorsley@outlook.com

Newsletter Editor – Jane Rosi-Pattison

pattisonjane1@gmail.com

Newsletter Publisher—Sharon Robinson

sharonrobinso@gmail.com

President's Message—Jill Halin



The annual Allen-Stone YMCA Alumni chapter will convene at Seabeck Sept 21-23, 2026. We will have two talks from our very own members Jane Rosi-Pattison and Tracey Mucky. Our keynote speaker will be Fadi Suidan, current CEO of the Jerusalem YMCA. He will be presenting via Zoom, considering the distance and time differences! Join us to learn how the YMCA there manages successfully in these difficult times.

Additional Seabeck activities include optional morning hikes, a possible trip to Bremerton to tour the battleship USS Turner Joy, and a representative from the Seabeck Cemetery Restoration Project who will walk the cemetery with us and share the adventures of those who now 'reside' in the cemetery. As always, there is great food and fellowship at Seabeck, the accommoda-

tions are top-notch and the setting is serene. This year we also have elections for the primary positions of President and Vice President. We are always looking for members to be involved so please consider running for office, joining a committee or assisting in other ways. We would love to have you join us for this yearly outing.

Autumn Gatherings

Hello All! The Allen-Stone chapter is dedicated to connecting and conversing with members, therefore we will be offering some low-key get-togethers in October 2026, inviting all members to a luncheon in various areas. So far we have hosts for Eastern and Western Washington and are looking for a hosts Oregon, perhaps in Portland and also in Southern Oregon. The goal is to host a lunch at a restaurant and invite all members to share a meal, connect through fellowship and renew friendships. Each participant will pay for their own meal.

If you would like to be a host or want more information, please contact Rich Wallis at richwallis@comcast.net and keep an eye on your email for updated information regarding locations and dates of the get-togethers!



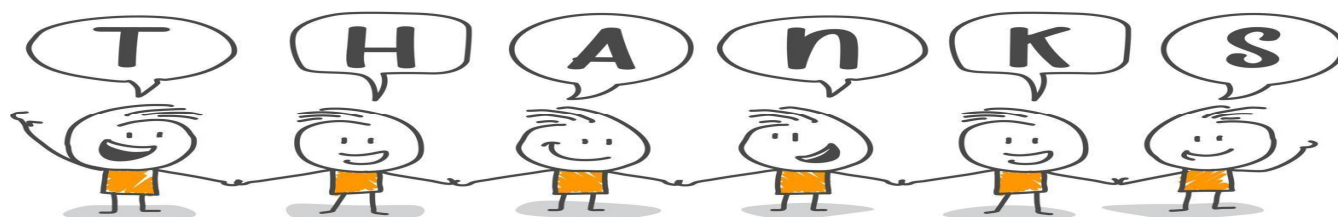
Message from Jim Leigh, Treasurer



Twenty twenty six (2026) has been a good year membership-wise for the Allen-Stone Y Alumni. We received 44 couple contributions (88 members) and 28 single contributions for a total of \$5,795. That is a \$916 increase over 2025.

At Seabeck in September we will be deciding what contributions (ie. World Service,etc.) we will be making.

Thank you for the 72 contribution units for 2026.



Ashland Shakespeare Event Wrap Up

By Mike Robinson

Wow! Ashland Shakespeare Event was a success for all in attendance. Great fellowship....food....sight seeing....and of course the Performances on Stage.

This annual bi-chapter gathering started with a social hour and visits by all. Stories of what's happening in lives today AND similar stories about "when we were young and working in the YMCA's from hither to thither. Oregon, Washington and California were well present. Conversation also led to "how did this event get started..." In essence it started almost 40 years ago by YMCA friends from both the McCoy & Allen-Stone Chapters. 40 years --- many plays, breaking of bread and glasses of Wine have been shared in the joint Chapters over the many years. Sunshine was also a blessing this year too – as many times we had snow issues getting to Ashland.

This year Brad Converse, CEO of the Grants Pass YMCA was our featured speaker. Brad shared how the YMCA was doing today and how he became involved as a YMCA professional from a part-time position to CEO of an Independent YMCA. Brad was followed by Don Bellville, a Grants Pass long-time member and fitness buff of almost 50 years.

Our plays were a highlight – and we also had chances to meet the actors as they roamed about the town of Ashland too; interesting follow-up conversations were had by a few of us.

- **A Mid Summers Night Dream** – Billy boy wrote this a few years back I'm a thinking. A play highlighting his genius to tell unique stories about human love.

- Next was a musical. **Come from Away**. Tells the story of Air travelers and towns people following the 911 destruction of the Twin Towers in the US. Interactions and subsequent annual visits to the town of Gander, (population of 700) the location where 38 flights all landed due to flight restrictions in the US.
- **A Raisin in the Sun** was the last about a dream deferred; and how do we hold onto hope and continue to find courage to dream. About a family and their struggles in life.



The gathering culminated in a visit to Pat & Paula Flannery's (YMCA Alumni) Dana-Campbell Winery. Good food, atmosphere, Vino and a bunch of "goodbye till next year.." Many thanks by all to our event coordinators Cathy & ohn Howard. Fantastic Job!

In attendance: Caroline Brooks, Jim & Jan Leigh, Dave & Joyce Mercer, Fred & Sally Stickney, Joyce Leak, John & Cathy Howard, Laura Bailey, Greg O'Brien, Peter & Nanci Morris, Ty & Lauren Hisatomi, Jill Hallin, Tami Wilcox-Soderger, Mike & Sharon Robinson.

SERVE

Don Anderson is selected for the National YMCA Hall of Fame

For more than six decades, Don Anderson has embodied the YMCA mission with an unwavering commitment to youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. Beginning as a teen Hi-Y leader in the 1950s and continuing into his current service at age 85, Don has consistently built “stages for others to perform on” — creating opportunities, dismantling barriers, and extending the YMCA’s reach to communities that had been overlooked.

In his first 18 months as a professional, Don launched **Project Amigos** at the East Valley Branch of the Los Angeles YMCA — a volunteer-driven tutorial, recreational, and service program for Hispanic children in a low-income neighborhood. With only one paid staff member, he mobilized dozens of young volunteers, parents, and community leaders to build a supportive environment for children. Many of these youth leaders later became YMCA professionals, illustrating Don’s early instinct for inclusion, leadership development, and community-based solutions has left an enduring institutional and cultural legacy. His model of **inclusive leadership teams** — often majority people of color, with women, LGBTQ, and underrepresented voices in key roles — set new precedents in both Berkeley and Honolulu. His fundraising and asset-building strategies ensured YMCAs in multiple cities would be positioned for decades of service. The camp, branch, and property expansions he led have served hundreds of thousands of members and will continue to do so for generations.

Internationally, the Global Retirement Initiative is transforming how the YMCA cares for its own, restoring dig-

nity to retirees who had given their lives to the movement. The humanitarian service projects he initiated have become a pipeline for developing globally minded YMCA professionals. His influence in forming the “Five YMCAs” (later Six) CEO Group created a unique, ongoing cross-national collaboration that still strengthens YMCA work in Asia and the Pacific.

Globally, Don’s life work has been rooted in solidarity and mutuality — not charity. By engaging young adults in cross-cultural service and building genuine partnerships with YMCAs abroad, he has modeled a globally connected movement. His disaster relief mobilization after the 1995 Kobe earthquake, funding of a school and hospital in rural China, and sustained investment in the Philippines show his ability to rally resources for urgent needs while building long-term relationships.

Don Anderson’s career is a rare combination of **visionary leadership, operational excellence, and a lifelong heart for service**. He has changed the trajectory of local YMCAs, rescued a national camping treasure, shaped global policies, and built inclusive teams that reflect the YMCA’s deepest values. His work has touched lives on every continent where the YMCA serves, and his legacy will continue to inspire leaders for generations.

For over 65 years, Don has exemplified the best of what the YMCA can be — a place where everyone is invited onto the stage, where service is the highest calling, and where the movement’s mission is advanced both at home and around the world. He is, without question, worthy of induction into the YMCA National Hall of Fame. Don is also a member of the Allen-Stone Alumni Chapter.

Submitted by: Doug Waibel

PHILIPPINES PROJECT

Don Anderson returned from the Philippines in April from a project to build a three classroom building on the Island of Siquijor. Participating were 20 young adults from the YMCA of Honolulu, 10 from the Rotary Club of Honolulu, 12 from the Cebu, Philippines YMCA and 8 others from Hawaii.

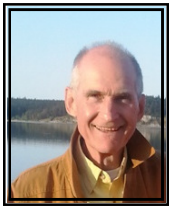


The \$55,000 project was funded by a business man who is a frequent project participant. He also recently made a \$1,000,000 capital campaign gift to the Honolulu Y to name the Don Anderson Gym in a new facility. Don returns to The Philippines in late June to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Cebu YMCA and then will go to Toronto in July for the YMCA World Council.



Member News

Jim and Jan Leigh: The Leighs hosted a family reunion the end of June with three branches of Jan's family from her grandfather and his two brothers. Forty-three folks from seven states came to central Oregon and renewed their connections.



In April, **Gary Huff** was named one of two finalists for the Citizen of the Year Award for Sequim, Wa. The Sequim Chamber of Commerce cited Gary's work in starting the new Sequim YMCA in 2015, and being its lead fundraiser in making it such a success since then, with 6,000 members. They also listed Gary's volunteer work on the Olympic National Park trails. He led a group of 8 neighborhood (Bell Hill) men working one day a week for 15 years. They were all over 70 and were called the Bell Hill Boys. This summer Lony and Gary are looking forward to visiting family on a 10 day trip to Montana. Missoula, Anaconda, Butte and Great Falls are all on the schedule.

Thanks for your good work, Gary and Lony

Susan and Don Anderson are adding a 500SF addition to their house that will have a downstairs master bedroom and office for Susan. The project is going well and the marriage may survive the process.

Joyce Leak was the reluctant recipient of the Stanwood/Camano YMCA policy/advisory volunteer of the year. "Others were more deserving".

Way to go Joyce..



Jane Rosi-Pattison made a journey to Australia with Friendship Force in May. Landed in Sydney and spent a few days seeing the sites before taking the train up to the Blue Mountain region where we were hosted by members for a week. The area is covered with Eucalyptus and



Gum tree forests that emit a resin that mixed with air gives a blue hazy over the mountains. The next week was

spent on the Gold Coast, a beautiful coastal beach known for its wonderful surfing.

Looking one way on the 44 mile long beach.

Sharon Robinson arrived at the Rogue Valley YMCA for an exercise class only to discover that the third Thursday of the month is to exercise brains. So all gathered and played a number of card games. It was fun.



Craig Frerichs said he would enjoy calls and texts from Y friends and Allen-Stone members. Basically, he said this: "He has Parkinsons, is still living at home with assistants coming 3 times a week, and connects with friends via computer games." His number is (503) 449-7089.

HOW I GOT STARTED IN Y WORK

Rig & Diana Riggins report a Trip to Arizona for warm weather; a Trip to San Diego to see grandkids; also an Alaskan cruise in September. Rig worked at the Y while in college then was offered and accepted a job offered upon graduation.

Bill and Bev Reed did a quick road trip to South and North Dakota for a high school graduation and seeing her brother in Minot. When Bev graduated from college there were no

teaching jobs available but there was a brand new YMCA being built in Pierre, South Dakota.....the rest is history - 39 years with a great organization.

Jean and Eric Nelson spent a week at the Oregon Coast, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, and are heading to Orcas Island in July. Eric's grandfather and father were YMCA Directors.. what else was he going to do?

Jill Hallin said .the Y found me, through my parents and grandparents involvement and employment! I was just along for a wonderful ride!



Mike Robinson: It's summer of 1961 and just graduated high school. Job hunting. Three options. I took the day camp counselor position at the local YMCA of the three. Enjoyed. Later that summer Mr. Shaw — Y Executive asked if I'd be interested in more opportunities. Yes. I learned not only from —Walt who I now could use his first name — and his wife Rene too. I liked what they stood for and how they lived. It was people, purpose and life worth emulating that drew me in. They were part of me for many many years too.



Brad Russell: CEO Rogure Valley YMCA: After I graduated with my business degree, my mother asked what was I going to do with my life. I didn't know, so she said "Why don't you help at the YMCA until you figure it out". It has been 35 years and I guess I am still trying to figure it out. The YMCA and the nonprofit sector has been a wonderful career!



Jim Leigh: Having done backpacking trips with the Y in the summers of 1962 and 1963, I was then hired at age 16 to be the janitor in a two-bedroom apartment-sized office of the Y in Lancaster, Ca. As I worked at the Y, I was given more and more responsibility relating to summer camps, far beyond janitorial duties. Chuck Upton, the executive, asked me one afternoon if I had ever considered going into Y work. Through his contacts with George Williams College, I was able to enroll, taking advantage of internships while in Chicago. Then I returned to California and the rest is history. The carrot to keep me going was always working with people. I always knew that what I was doing made a difference.



Rich Wallis: I chose the Y because of the experiences I had working at local YMCAs during high school and college. It was a fun environment, the work was rewarding, the people were exceptional, and there were plenty of opportunities for personal and professional growth. Those experiences showed me that the Y wasn't just a workplace—but somewhere I could make a difference and build a meaningful career.



Dave Mercer: I grew up in the Y, Y Indian Guides, Gra-Y, Joyce and I met in a Hi-Y club. Decided on a Y career then changed my mind and took an Engineering major in college. Before starting college the local Y exec. offered me a part time job organizing Gra-Y clubs. Changed my major the same day to sociology and the rest is history. What a thoughtful well thought out decision. Hah

Alan Leshner: Trips this year to San Diego and Nashville, combining a little business and time with friends. My wife Sue and I also recently moved into a new single-level home after 36 years in a four-level with lots of stairs. We quickly learned you accumulate a lot of memories, and also a lot of stuff, in 36 years. I decided to take a sabbatical from my for-profit career in 2008 and think about what I wanted to do when I grew up. (Yes, back when banking, real estate, and everything else went bad). A friend recommended I call a guy named Rig Riggins about a Y opportunity. They were just getting ready to build some new facilities in Spokane. Rig was gracious enough to take a chance on a guy who knew nothing about YMCA's or nonprofits. Rumor has it that Bev Reed put in a good word for me. I spent the next 16 years

DECEASED

Sharon Driscoll - Portland, OR
Richard Knapp - Mt. Vernon, WA
Kathryn Pichard - Bremerton, WA

RETIREES

Katherine Bartholomew YMCA of Columbia Willamette
Aquatics Ins. 20 years Washougal, WA

George Cornwell YMCA of SW WA. Youth Sports
20 years Kelso, WA

Loren Johnson YMCA of Pierce County
Facilities Dev. Dir. 41 years Tacoma



YMCA Advocates

Hello Allen-Stone, and welcome to the YMCA [Advocates Action Network](#). Whether you signed up on your own or are Y staff recently added through our [Advocate Recruitment Campaign](#), we're glad to have you with us.

At the YMCA, advocacy is one of the ways we strengthen communities. The Advocates Action Network brings together Y supporters who want to stay informed, speak up, and help shape policies that support the Y's work to create connected communities.

Your participation matters. Policymakers need to hear from people who understand the Y's impact firsthand,

and your voice helps amplify our collective advocacy on behalf of the communities we serve. As a member of the network, you'll also receive timely information and opportunities to take action on issues that may affect your community, your YMCA, and the people you serve.

There are many ways to engage more deeply in our advocacy work, and we're here to support you. A great way to get started is by joining our [National Advocacy Peer Community](#) meetings, where you can learn more about our priorities and hear how Ys across the country are building and leveraging relationships to increase their influence.

Thank you for being part of this important work. Together, we can help create lasting change in communities across the country.
Your Y-USA Government Relations Team



A hoped-for outcome of YMCA Alumni's first **National Service Project** in partnership with the YMCA of the Seven Council Fires was to inspire other donors and organizations to continue developing Morning Star Village. That hope is now a reality.

An anonymous donor, inspired by the YMCA Alumni project, has made a sizeable contribution to the Y that will fund the installation of solar panels on existing homes and the construction of a fifth Tiny Home.

The additional work is entirely directed by the Y and not part of the National Service Project.

ALLEN STONE HISTORY TIDBITS

The Chapter was chartered in 1940. The first President was C.W. Wilcox.

The gathering was at Seabeck until gas rationing forced meetings to be held in various locations until returning to Seabeck in 1962. The first chapter newsletter was published in the 1969-70 years by editor Ray Wilder.

There have been four newsletter editors including Larry Handy, Paul Keyser (1 year), Lee Wilson and Jane Rosi Pattison since 1997

Longest running president was E.H. Burwell from 1943-1954.

TRAVEL

YMCA Alumni Reunion June 16-19, 2027 WE'VE GOT A DATE IN KANSAS CITY



We're heading to **Kansas City, Missouri**, for the **YMCA Alumni Reunion '27**, hosted by the Central Region chapters. We'll stay at the **Embassy Suites Hotel by Hilton**, just 4 miles from the airport, with a free 24-hour shuttle. We'll enjoy special group pricing, an indoor saltwater pool, complimentary made-to-order breakfast and evening reception, and a Peloton-equipped fitness center. Registration will open later this summer. **Put June 16-19, 2027 in your calendar today.**

McCoy Invite

Let's Getaway to Murphys

The McCoy program committee is planning for an easygoing Fall escape to the historic town of Murphys. Nestled in the Sierra Nevada foothills, Murphys is an ideal mid October retreat for those who enjoy beautiful scenery, gentle adventure, and great wine. Driving time from the Bay Area is a little over 2 hours. Stroll the historic, walk Main Street, where boutique shops, cafés, and tasting rooms create a relaxed small town atmosphere. In the fall, with comfortable temperatures and lighter crowds, it's the perfect time to unwind. Just minutes away, Moaning Caverns offers the group a fascinating guided tour into one of California's largest underground chambers—an accessible and memorable outing for curious explorers. Murphys also makes a wonderful jumping off point for an outing in Calaveras State Park, where you will enjoy crisp mountain air, and the awe inspiring Sequoia's along paved, visitor friendly paths. Back in town, the region's wineries shine during harvest season. Enjoy leisurely tastings at favorites like Ironstone Vineyards, Hatcher Winery, and Twisted Oak, each offering its own blend of charm, views, and welcoming hospitality. With its mild weather, natural beauty, and relaxed pace, Murphys will offer you a few days of pure enjoyment—easy, scenic, and wonderfully rejuvenating. All of this with some of your Y friends to add to the experience.

Contact Bud Doane@Yahoo for more information concerning McCoy Forms for registration materials.



NEWS DEADLINE

Deadline for articles/news for the Next Chapter newsletter is

September 25, 2026

Email TO:

pattisonjane1@gmail.com

Or Send to:

Jane Rosi-Pattison
2940 Harris St. Road
Kelso, WA 98626





Jane Rosi-Pattison, Editor
2940 Harris St. Rd.
Kelso, Wa 98626

MUST REGISTER BY AUGUST 21

SEABECK REGISTRATION - September 21-23, 2026

Check-in begins at 4 PM September 21

Name _____ Address _____

Email _____ City St Zip _____ Phone _____

Spouse/partner if attending _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Full registration (two nights, six meals) _____ @ \$333 = _____

One day only (one night, three meals) _____ @ \$165.50 = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Check payable to **Allen Stone Y Alumni**, Mail to: Jim Leigh: 7760 Angel Falls Way, Redmond, OR 97756

Questions: Contact Tom Horsley Phone: (206) 617-5590 thomaschorsley@outlook.com

*Anyone coming to Seabeck for a day and would like to eat with members, prices are: Breakfast: \$10 Lunch \$12 Dinner - \$14.