

Pacific Northwest

OLD GUARD NEWS ALLEN-STONE CHAPTER

Coming Event:

O c t o b e r 2 0 2 6



IT'S BACK... THE SPOKANE EVENT RE- TURNS IN 2027!

Your Spokane hosts are excited to welcome everyone back for another great gathering in 2027!

We're planning for the event to take place **the week of June 21**, although we still have a few details to work out before we can nail down the exact dates. What we *can* promise is another fun opportunity to reconnect with old friends, make some new memories, and enjoy a little of what the Inland Northwest has to offer.

We're working on **some new activities** for **2027**, along with the possible return of a couple of old favorites. We don't want to give away too much yet!

Watch for more details in the next newsletter.



Rich Wallis

For now, circle the week of June 21 on your calendar and stay tuned!



HOLIDAY ZOOM

Saturday, December 12, 2026, 2:00 PM PST

SAVE THE DATE

Allen Stone members Jim and Jan Leigh

Invite you to a "Ho...Ho...Ho..." good time
on ZOOM.

Wear plaid (if you have some) and have something "holiday-ish" to drink or something sweet to eat as we share seasonal greetings with our YMCA friends.

Think about what makes you feel good (like warm plaid) during the holidays.

The ZOOM invitation will come out a few days before Dec. 12. We usually chat till 3:00 or 3:30. Tune in even if you can only pop in to say a quick hello.

SEABECK WRAP UP



Seabeck Conference Center has once again provided us with great meeting rooms, sleeping accommodations, a dining facility with tastefully prepared meals, and beautiful views all around. Continued fellowship sharing work experiences, gatherings with connections and stories.

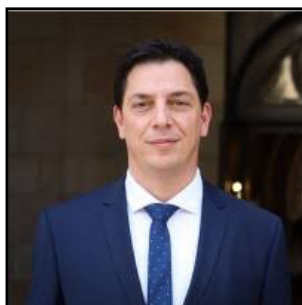


Allen-Stone members met in person and digitally to discuss, plan and make decisions about chapter business.

The first guest presenter joining us on Zoom was **Fadi Juidan**, CEO of the Jerusalem YMCA.

The YMCA is a safe place for all religions to gather striving to foster equality and friendship among members of all religions, with an emphasis on Judaism, Christianity and Islam, while serving as an oasis of multiculturalism and a space for coexistence among the residents of Jerusalem and beyond. There are 2,600 members of mixed cultures for their sports center. The pre school has 85 children enrolled. The summer camp (1898) is the longest running in Jerusalem.

Members come to absorb the atmosphere that is in



the YMCA. They come to learn and experience what the holiday represents in each culture.

The Sea of Galilee Y facility was reopened after damage repairs at a cost of 1 million dollars.



Tracy Muckey, Chair YMCA Alumni International Service Corps, connected with us through zoom. Current projects have been in Mexico helping develop and deliver a fundraising training program Salto YMCA in Uruguay a large swim program and youth development initiatives;

Czech Republic to support a day camp focused on English language learning program.; and Siberia.

The ISC volunteers have built friendships, strengthened YMCA programs and supported international partners since 1982 through service projects focused on leadership development, camping, childcare, aquatics, wellness, fundraising and youth development.

If you want to get involved, there is a volunteer form as well as a donor form on the YMCA Alumni website /donate.



Our event at Seabeck includes a moment at the Memorial Garden. Members who passed away in the past year were remembered with singing of a song and a poem. Then those present gathered around the memorial Garden outside of the Pines. Each person placed a flower on the garden and took turns telling of a past special person to them.

Past members:

Arlis Stewart, Poughkeepsie, NY
Carl Henderson, Seattle, WA
Carol DelVecchio, Fircrest, WA
Charolotte Snow, Tacoma, WA
Harriet Cuyler, Hood River, OR
Kathryn Prichard, Bremerton, WA
Maria Huthinson, Fircrest, WA
Ralph Drake, Reno, NV
Richard L 'Dick' Knapp, Mt Vernon, WA
Sharon Driscoll,
Uzomba McDowell, Spokane, WA

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

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



Hello everyone! Fall is here! As this is the last newsletter of 2026, I would like to take this column to highlight activities we enjoyed this past year. From Hawaii in February, to the Ashland Shakespeare Festival in May, to Ambassador lunches this summer and fall and ending with the annual conference at Seabeck in September. There was something for everyone! 2027 looks to be just as active, if not more, with a variety of things to do in different locations – see the upcoming activities listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Here is a quick review of Seabeck: attendees shared much discussion about focusing next year on several new events forgoing continuing with Seabeck for 2027. Chuck, the director at Seabeck, said our group is welcome anytime

of the year and they will always have a spot to house us. So although we did not book a year in advance for 2027, we may return in 2028, perhaps hosting a YMCA reunion of sorts, bringing family and friends who might enjoy a relaxing 2 nights and enjoying the Seabeck meals.

Rich Wallis was voted as Co- President, and I will join him as Co-President as he will eventually take over Jim Leighs role as Treasurer. A future board meeting will ratify Rich in that role, and perhaps we will have a Vice President nominee then too. Sherry Milton's Vice President's term is up and I thank her for her involvement and service to Allen-Stone.

We certainly experienced changes this year in our chapter, and some of you have experienced change in your personal lives as well. I know, that as individuals and a chapter, we will keep moving forward! I wish everyone a happy and healthy winter season!



Membership - Mike Robinson

Last years campaign, eighty contributions resulted in \$5,700 +.

2027 Letters and forms will go out from the Chapter for the Annual Allen-Stone campaign 2027 in October in the mail and in the newsletter.

ANNUAL MEETING

President Jill Hallin opened the annual business meeting 2026 of the Allen-Stone Chapter. Minutes of the 2025 meeting MSP. **Financial Report** presented by Jim Leigh on Zoom.



All expenses have been covered in 2026. Available money left to donate is \$4,390.

MSP to make the following donations:

- * World Service \$1200
- * Jerusalem YMCA \$1000
- * Seabeck capital drive \$1000
- * EAF \$500
- * Seven Council Fires (Sioux Y) \$500
- * DAR (Daughters American Revolution) \$250 (work on cemetery)

INCOME

	Budget 2025	Actual 2025	Budget 2026	As of 8/31/26
Hawaii Conference			3,300.00	3,300.00 (1)
Shakespeare			4,730.00	4,730.00
Spokane/Coeur d'Alene	6,000.00	7,555.00		
Seabeck	4,200.00	4,855.00	3,300.00	
Donation/Membership	5,000.00	6,125.00	5,790.00	305.00 (2)
Carry Over/Miscellaneous				
Total Income	\$ 15,200.00	\$ 18,535.00	\$ 17,120.00	\$ 8,335.00

EXPENSES

Hawaii Conference		1,000.00	3,300.00	2,300.00
Shakespeare		-	4,595.00	4,595.00
Spokane/Coeur d'Alene	6,000.00	6,542.00		
Seabeck	4,200.00	4,379.00	3,300.00	1,500.00
Newsletter/Membership	1,500.00	1,379.00	1,500.00	1,025.00
Supplies/Stamps	100.00	262.00	100.00	
Memorial Garden	100.00	-	100.00	
Leadership Expenses	250.00	-	250.00	
World Service	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00	
Other Donations	1,300.00	1,500.00	1,300.00	
Miscellaneous	-			
Total Expenses	\$ 15,150.00	\$ 16,762.00	\$ 12,845.00	\$ 9,420.00
Net outcome	50.00	1,773.00	4,275.00	(1,085.00)

(1) \$1,000 deposited in 2025

(2) \$5490. paid in '25; \$305. pd in '26. Memberships for 2026: 72

ELECTION OF NEW CHAPTER OFFICERS

Nominated

Rich Wallis Co-President

Jill Hallin - Co-President

MSP

A new treasurer is needed and for now Rich Wallis will fill that role.

OTHER BUSINESS

Members have received a letter from YMCA World service with an impact update.

Total 2025 YMCA World Service contributions: \$2,013,086. Of that amount, \$239,735 came from

YMCA Alumni contributions. **Can we beat that amount?**

If you would like to contribute, send to World Service

Y-USA World Service

P.O. Box 7411037

Chicago, IL 60674-11037 OR

GIVE ONLINE: <https://donate.ymca.org>

Schedule of events for 2026-2027 were listed and appear in Future Activities.

A final discussion and action to not schedule the Seabeck Chapter retreat in 2027. Future Return will be decided.

Other location events taking place will provide an opportunity for more members to take part,

By-laws were corrected and on web site.

Attending the Annual Meeting:



This year the Seabeck event found much of the participation was accomplished with the use of Zoom. It enabled participants far and near to take part enhancing our ability to keep in touch and experience the fellowship shared. Participants far and wide included: Sally Stickney, McCoy

Chapter; Barbara Drake, McCoy Chapter; Tom Horsley, Cheri Brennen, Gary & Lony Huff, Craig Freerich, Mike & Sharon Robinson, Rich Wallis, Joyce Leak, Jane Rose-Pattison, Mike & Jill Hallin, Jim & Jan Leigh, Mary Tikalsky & Han Lee, World Service; Mark Hertzberg & Fadi Juidan, Jerusalem.



Left front: Jane Rosi-Pattison, Sharon Robinson, Gary Guff, Cheri Brennen, Left Back: Michael Hallin, Jill Hallin, Rich Wallis, Mike Robinson, Tom Horsley



Jane receiving Poem plaque from Allen-Stone

Member News

History at The Cemetery visited at Seabeck
In January 2023, the Elizabeth Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution started looking for a local project that would help celebrate America's 250th birthday in 2026. After hearing about the great need at Seabeck Cemetery and understanding its importance to Washington State's history, the DAR Chapter decided to commit to preserving, restoring and historically marking the Seabeck Cemetery.

Founded in 1860, the Seabeck Cemetery currently sits on 1.25 acres of land up the hill from Seabeck Bay on the southern edge of the Seabeck Conference Center's property. Two lumber mills were built in Seabeck Bay which drew people from as far away as Maine and Ohio, even immigrants from Ireland and Norway.

Over the last 160 years the cemetery has been maintained on and off by caretakers, historians and most recently by the Seabeck Conference Center.

Unfortunately, the cemetery has seen its share of vandalism with stones being pushed over, broken and stolen. The ever-encroaching salal has been cleared several times, but has now overtaken the whole grounds again.

Over the many years that the Allen Stone chapter has held a retreat at Seabeck, on the schedule was usually a time for those who were interested to take the trail from the conference grounds up to the cemetery site. When your editor first saw the cemetery in 1993, Gordon Dick lead the "hike" up the hill and by the cemetery as he did for several years. Sometimes seen was a person doing a little clearing or trying to identify markers or names etc. The chapter a few years back took on the project of some clean up as we crawled around pulling weeds and salal.

Candace Kolbas of the DAR and her partner Amy led us up the hill to the cemetery to tell us of their work and how they find grave sights, headstones etc



Candace Kolbas and Amy

Odor detection dogs helped by sniffing ground and locating potential grave. Sometimes, when so much ground is moved around, they get a false reading.



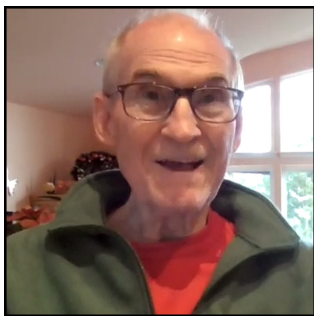
A hand held device called a GPR or ground penetrating radar instrument will show different shades beneath the ground and by the shape of the area, a grave might have been in that spot.

Finding headstones or grave stones has been an ongoing part of the restoration. A few

intact, many broken, pieces found and putting out a search is part of the work. Pieces are put together, worn stones are restored and searches have resulted in a couple of finds, one in Toledo and one in eastern Washington for whatever way they ended up in those places.

The work will continue in the designated area, but they know there are grave sites beyond the fenced area.

The oldest grave site is that of William Bell who died from drowning in Hood Canal at the age of 38 in 1869.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Gary Huff attended the General Assemle held every four years. His main reason for going was to support those being inducted into the Hall of Fame. Chapter member Don Anderson was one those inducted as well as Neil Nichols who was a

Seattle CEO and Exec. Of the Y USA.

Four thousand five hundred people attended.

Other tidbits: 83% of Y's are mid size; Y's serve 30 million people; there are 120 inductees in the Hall of Fame.

SEABECK UPDATE BY Chuck Kraining

Chuck has been the Executive Director of Seabeck for 36 years. After a few years of road blocks: covid, surprise tax bill and a septic emergency, there are no crisis at the moment.

Some debt had to be carried over from the set backs and delay of building Pines due to covid and resulting in higher costs. With all that, at this time the Center is \$3 million in debt.

Those who support Seabeck, its history, YMCA use over the years and plans in updating carried through, and increased usage due to the changes, your personal financial help would be appreciated. Donations can be mailed to 13395 Lagoon Dr NW, Seabeck, WA 98380



**MEMBER PRESENTATION:
75 Years of Skiing
by Jane Rosi-Pattison**

My Ski History

The year was 1951

When my 75 years of skiing begun.

It was high school years for me.

An ice skater or dancer I was going to be.

My neighbor and best friend

An invitation to go skiing she did send.

Lent me were long wooden skis with cable bindings.

All were strange and not very confining.

The lace leather boots were cold and very loose.

Clothes were not waterproof.

Snoqualmie Ski area for ski lessons was the place.

Everyone seemed to be moving at a very fast pace.

Chair lifts there were none.

The rope tows were not much fun.

Grab it slowly and hang on tight,
The ride will take all your might

At last, standing on the top.
Made it all without a stop.

Now to go downhill be the test.

The snowplow turn works the best.

In those days there was no grooming,

So often, down the hill you came a booming.

Oh, those early years of Saturday ski lessons was the start

For years of skiing, I did not part.

Off to college next I went.

What was going to be my next skiing stint?

First thing in the fall

I was asked if I would consider being a ski instructor at all.

With my wooden skis, Mt. Baker snow I did flounder.

But determined I was so I kept trying and rebounded.

But wait, a new metal ski just came on board.

A pair I did try and down the slope I soared.

Dear mom and dad, money please do send.

New skis are needed I do recommend.

1957 It was off to Mt. Hood to take the test.

A certified ski instructor the goal to be the best.

One last gig before I did leave.

Coordinator of Western WA U ski program I did oversee.

Stretch pants were now on stage.

Buckle boots and Lange Flo the rage.

Those 14 years at Mt. Baker were fun.

And was part two of my skiing run.

It was time to move and new places to go.

It was still among mountains with eternal snow.

The slopes at White Pass were new to me.

Timberline at Hood I had to ski.

Again a ski school I did seek.

Joined up with other instructor geeks.

Then, I decided skiing the slopes was for me.

So I gave up my duties and became free.

Early 90's a mountain host I was asked to be.

Take visitors on ski point out what to see.

As the years rolled on I do recall.

Skiing with my children and grandchildren was best of all.

Legends I do remember: Stein Erikson, Elf Engen, Otto Lang and Warren Miller was some of the best.

They have now been laid to rest.

In these twilight years, how many more ski days.

This I do not know but hope many more I will say.



Jane
At
90

Jim and Jan Leigh: We hosted a family reunion in June at Eagle Crest resort where we live. The group that gathered included 42 family members from eight different states. For the weekend we were able to gather in the clubhouse in our neighborhood and during the week folks golfed, shopped, hiked, swam, and just enjoyed many conversations. The photo is just Jan's immediate family gathered on the Leighs' patio.



In late March/early April **Tom Horsley & Cheri Brennan** spent almost two weeks at their timeshare on Kauai. They said it's been sad to follow the devastation to the Garden Island (especially the North Shore) from Hurricane Lowell, but commented, "Fortunately, our timeshare in Lihue sustained only minor damage."

The second getaway, around Labor Day, was to Tom's two family cabins in the Gallatin National Forest near West Yellowstone. These rustic gems along the South Fork of the Madison River, were built by the Union Pacific Railroad as summer homes. They have no electricity, but the weather was warm most of the time. The tracks were removed many years ago, but have been converted into a paved trail, the Yellowstone Shortline Trail. It's a 9-mile non-motorized track developed from 1998-2025 that runs from West Yellowstone, past the cabins, to the Montana-Idaho state line. It was a laid-back trip with only one trek into the park. Tom and Cheri had a great time visiting with many cousins (and their dogs) in the cabin next door.

In August, "Team Cheri & Tom" completed a 5K walk as part of Obliteride, an annual fundraiser for The Hutch (the Fred Hutch Cancer Research Center). It was a major feat for Cheri who is rehabbing from injuries from some falls. Another milestone for her: reaching the two-year mark since her last cancer treatment!

Ruth Heathman recently enjoyed a Cruise in the Northwest. Columbia & Snake Rivers Cruise on American Cruise Lines. Eight of us from Heron's Key flew to Portland to begin the trip. Some of the Highlights were Multnomah Falls, Astoria, and the museum in Richland. I enjoyed going through the many locks. A very pleasant trip close to home. We flew home from Lewiston.



Seabeck Match Game Results

Did You Know

Jane Rosi-Pattison	Taught synchronized Swimming
Mike Robinson	Worked at 12 years old at a pool continuing through high school
Gary Huff	Was on the high school boxing team and this person knocked out the class bully at the first round of a boxing match
Lony Huff	Was a good runner in high school-could beat all the girls and all the boys
Cheri Brennan	Victim of an armed robbery in San Francisco
Tom Horsley	Pumped gas at W. Yellowstone
Rich Wallis	Played baseball with the Chicago Cubs
Jim Leigh	Lettered in Tennis in high school
Michael Hallin	Kissed a Big rock
Sharon Robinson	Hunted Bull Frogs, cooked and ate them
Jill Hallin	Has never gone bowling but has gone hang gliding
Joyce Leak	Babysat all the way from Indiana to Florida for a family
Jan Leigh	As a toddler until 3 years old, this person and family lived in 2 big Army tents for 18 months while parents built a small block home



Spokane Y Retirees gathered together with Rich. From front left and going clockwise around the table are Cara Weipert, Colleen Lynn, Rich and Diane Wallis, Sherry and Bob Milton, Alan Leshner, Bill and Bev Reed, Linda Greasley and Brenda Zehm.

PORTLAND NEW EVENT 2027

A proposal for a chapter event to be held in Portland, Oregon in 2027 was given by Gary Huff.

Dates would be Sept. 14-16 or Sept. 15-17.

Portland Oregon River Place Hotel on the SW edge of downtown Portland.

Tentative schedule : Dinner first night in hotel; Second day: Group lunch cruise on the "Spirit of Portland". There is much to see and do around the area including river walk, shops, cafes, Portland Art Museum etc. Plans are being refined.

Watch for further details and registration to come later.

Stay Tuned:

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

2026 HOLIDAY ZOOM GET TOGETHER
APRIL OR MAY OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
AMBASSADOR LUNCH IN Seattle, WA
AMBASSADOR LUNCH IN Southern Oregon
JUNE 2027 SPOKANE EVENT
SEPTEMBER 2027 PORTLAND EVENT
FEBRUARY 2028 MAUI, HAWAII CHAPTER GATHERING



Welcome to the YMCA Alumni Travel Club, powered by Go Travel. Our long-time partners at Go Travel carefully curate and power our Travel Club experiences.

Book group cruises and specialty trips, plan family reunions and personal travel, and organize custom trips for groups of any size you may wish to form. You'll benefit from competitive pricing and special perks, making

booking through us easy and rewarding.

If reviewing this on line, place your cursor on the link below with a CTRL click and visit the website. Lots to see and do.

[TRAVEL CLUB | YMCA Alumni](#)

NEWS DEADLINE

Deadline for articles/news for the Next Chapter newsletter is

December 20, 2026

Email TO:

pattisonjane1@gmail.com

Or Send to:

Jane Rosi-Pattison

2940 Harris St. Road

Kelso, WA 98626



FIRST YMCA ALUMNI NATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT CONCLUDES **'TWIG' Y BRANCH TO OPEN NEXT YEAR**



Architect's Rendering

YMCA Alumni's first **National Service Project** has concluded. In the past six weeks, significant progress has been made toward completing a "Twig," a *prototype small Y branch, in the outlying community of La Plant on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation in South Dakota.*

"Work on the Twig by some 23 YMCA Alumni volunteers along with professional contractors was the last phase of

our commitment," said **Steve Rowe** of the **Marston Chapter**, *who chaired this phase of the project.*

Remaining work to winter-proof and completely finish the building will move forward with the contractors, Rowe said, under the continued supervision of YMCA of the Seven Council Fires CEO **Andrew Corley**. The Twig is constructed from large shipping containers used primarily for storage during the project's first phase.

Our vision: YMCA Alumni inspires its members, who have dedicated much of their lives to the programs and services of YMCAs throughout the United States, to benefit from companionship, camaraderie, and connection by building and strengthening relationships with one another and the YMCA Movement.

CONNECT

We connect through chapter gatherings, national reunions, travel newsletters and video calls.

TRAVEL

Join in the YMCA Alumni Travel Club adventures here at home and across the globe.

SERVE

Members plan, fund and participate in national, international and chapter service projects.

Check these Websites Out:

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

YMCA Retirement Fund — [PARTNERS & PROGRAMS | YMCA Alumni](#)

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



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 or Mike. Or call Mike at 541.840.8168



Allen-Stone Chapter

Serving
Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana
And Hawaii

October 2026

Welcome Fall!

It is October and it is time for **Allen-Stone's Annual Campaign**. It's our way of inviting our 590+ fellow YMCA Retirees in the Northwest (Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Alaska and Hawaii) ...to support our Allen-Stone YMCA Alumni Chapter.

Your charitable contribution allows both the operation of our chapter and financial support we provide groups approved at our annual meeting. Our chapter has no membership fee. Your generous contributions allow us to include all our YMCA Retirees in our communications (quarterly newsletters, e-mails, etc.), and offer you a chance to participate. We want all our retirees to be part of the life of Allen-Stone Chapter.

Examples of our consideration for financial support include groups like: YMCA of Seven Council Fires (formerly the Sioux YMCA), YMCA Alumni National Service Projects, YMCA World Service, Jerusalem International YMCA, Emergency Assistance Fund, Seabeck Conference Center (where we hold our annual meeting in September), the Maui YMCA and now communities of Fires and climatic weather.

We appreciate your consideration of a gift to support Allen-Stone in 2027. Our average individual gift for 2026 was about \$75.00. Gifts of any amount are welcome.....

We also hope you might be further involved by sharing a bit of your YMCA history with the Chapter – ensuring that our newsletters provide interest to our members and opportunities for others to keep in touch with each other. We encourage you to consider participating in one of our events or Ambassador Gathering luncheons around our region.

You may also be contacted by the National YMCA Alumni Board by mail as well. They offer membership opportunity to National for a fee. At the website you will have access to YMCA Travel Club and Annual Reunions, National Service Project and other chapter newsletters and events.

WE ARE ALL ONE TOGETHER

Mike Robinson, Membership Chairman

Allen-Stone Membership Team

Tom Horsley Gary Huff Jim Leigh Dave Mercer

Please note:

We encourage you to also join National by going to [JOIN US | YMCA Alumni](#)

No national dues for members 90 years and older or for 1st year Y Alumni



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

Allen-Stone Annual Campaign 2027

Yes, count me in. Please fill out the form below and mail along with your contribution to Allen-Stone YMCA Alumni.

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Preferred phone number(s) _____ Email Address(es) _____

Date of Birth _____ Spouse Date of birth _____

Donation to Allen Stone YMCA Alumni \$ _____

Please mail form & gift to: Mike Robinson , Membership, 850 Sonoma Ct, Medford, OR 97504

*If you already contributed to Allen-Stone using the National Membership Form, we request notification using this form or email Mike Robinson at mikiee.mike@gmail.com