 CRONE BULLETIN

Sept 2019/Volume 5

From the Board:

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |

***What is a Crone?*** *(first verse of seven)*

*“A little old lady who refuses to shrink,*

*Who continues to say whatever she thinks,*

*Who hasn’t a feeling she tries to disown-*

*That’s what it means to grow into a crone.”*

*-Linda Weltner*

 The Poem, *What Is A Crone*, by Linda Weltner, appeared in a pamphlet celebrating the 10th anniversary of **Crone of Puget Sound.** This was 23 years ago when **Crone of Puget Sound** was in full swing as an active, ahead of the curve nonprofit organization for women! Membership was at an all-time high. Members were actively engaged in promoting the value of older women who demonstrated growing old with power, passion and purpose.

Boy have we changed over the years since **Crone of Puget Sound** was established as a nonprofit organization in 1986. Women have seen steady progress in all areas of society – government, industry, the military, education, heath/medical, finance, and most recently in the service industries. Women who were in their forties and fifties 33 years ago have, as the poem says, “grown into” crones. The power, passion, and purpose are as strong today as in those earlier years. However, today our organization has fewer members to draw on for leadership roles, and ***we need leaders now*.**

**FACT**: 4 of 6 current board members are retiring in March, 2020. The board is legally required to staff 5 elected board members.

**FACT:** To remain a legal 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization, we need a minimum of 3 current Crone members to step forward and serve in board leadership roles for 2 years beginning with election in March, 2020.

At last count we have 65 registered members in Crone of Puget Sound. If we do not have at least 3 of these current members volunteer to serve on the board for 2 years beginning April, 2020, Crone of Puget Sound is in jeopardy for remaining a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. We strongly urge those of you who are active, participating members on committees, in groups, or as individuals to step forward and be counted on a roster of board candidates that is slated to be presented at the March 2020 Membership Meeting. **Will YOU commit?**

**Board Requirements:**

* Commit to serve for a 2 year period beginning April, 2020 – March, 2022 (election at annual Membership Meeting in March 2020)
* Attend monthly board meetings on the 2nd Friday of each month (July exempt) from 10:30 AM until Noon at Foundation House in Northgate (subject to change as required)
* Take a turn serving on Troika – the board leadership team consisting of 3 board members. Troika meetings are almost all by email on or around the 1st Friday of the month. Troika keeps track of current issues that need board review.
* Liaison with a committee or two (committee chairs report to board members) and communicate findings at board meetings.
* Computer use for email, updates, communication with committees, and other functions as necessary. We do telephone at times but discourage doing business by phone. Computer communication is timely, responsive, and establishes a paper trail for documenting business.

The Crone of Puget Sound board works for you, **Crone of Puget Sound**. ***Please join the leadership team***. You will never regret lending your time and a helping hand where it is most needed. Contact any of the board members listed below regarding serving on the board of directors.

**Current Crone Board of Directors**

Mary Cowger, Troika *Inactive March 2020*

Nina Pruneda, Troika *Inactive March 2020*

Hallie Olson, Troika *Inactive March 2020*

Donita Payne, Secretary/Treasurer Active

Nancy Curtis *Inactive March 2020*

Marcia Sill Active

**CRONE OF PUGET SOUND CURRENT AFFAIRS**

* CRONE BULLETIN is published and emailed bi-annually in October and February. Content, provided by the Crone Board, includes information received from group and committee chairs as well as members. Content is limited to event announcements, membership activities, group information, and noteworthy news items.
* UPDATES is a brief communication emailed to members for the purpose of announcing important items and membership activities as necessary.
* New Website Design! The Recruitment Committee and the Board are very excited to announce that our professional web developer has posted the redesign of our website on the internet. We think you will be pleased with and proud of the new look. The format is modern, lively, colorful and easy to page through. Simple corrections will be made in order of priority. Content changes will take time and first be submitted to the board for review. Take a look at your new website! [www.croneofpugetsound.org](http://www.croneofpugetsound.org)
* NEW Scholarship Winner: congratulations to Perlina Escribir-Sparenberg, the winner of the 5th annual Crone of Puget Sound Scholarship. Perlina was born in the Philippines where she earned a degree in Chemistry. She then worked there for a number of years in Agriculture. Her first decade in the United States was spent in a variety of retail and health care jobs. She is now attending North Seattle College taking prerequisites for the Pharmacy Technician program.
* Marcia Sill has agreed to assume the New Membership Committee chair position replacing Nancy Curtis. We extend Nancy our sincere thanks for her many years of selfless Crone volunteer leadership.
* Shirley Nelsen has stepped forward to chair the Groups committee. She replaces Mel McConnell. We are grateful to Mel for a job well done as a dedicated Crone volunteer leader.
* Announcing a NEW group. Downtown Crone Writers will meet to help each other improve writing skills. Open to all Crones but will remain small.
* Announcing two distinct and celebratory ceremonies to honor Crones: (1) an Honorary Ceremony that welcomes women into the ***oldest age*** of a woman’s life; (2) a Croning Ceremony that represents the transition of women into the elder-wise status of womanhood. Let us know if you are interested in attending or helping put on one or both of these ceremonies
* The Board Nominating Committee, Nina Pruneda and Nancy Curtis, are eagerly seeking new Board Member nominations now. March 2020 will end board terms for four of six current board members who will not re-seek election: Nina Pruneda, Nancy Curtis, Mary Cowger, and Hallie Olson. Donita Payne and Marcia Sill will continue to serve. Therefore, we must find 3 leaders from among the 65 current members to satisfy the five-member board requirement. Election to a 2 year term of office takes place in March 2020. Contact Nina or Nancy ASAP to volunteer your leadership or to submit your nominated Crone member! Who will step up to be counted as new leaders for our wonderful organization?

**2019 ACTIVITY CALENDAR**

October 19th, Saturday **Potluck**, 12-3pm

Sunset West

November 16th, Saturday **Asian Art**, 1-3pm

Sunset West

December 14th, Saturday **Holiday Potluck**, 12-3pm

Sunset West

**CRONE GROUPS**

Movie Group gathers on the 4th Wed of each month at a member’s home to discuss 2 previously selected films.

Memoirs and More: Writers and would-be writers meet monthly to share their original work---memoirs, poetry, essays, and fiction.

Rolling Crone Singers, the official singing group of Crone of Puget Sound, is open to all Crone members. Practice is weekly with performances over the greater Seattle area, except in summer.

Downtown Group meets monthly to explore events, exhibits, and attend lectures. All Crone members welcome..

Walking Group meets Tues, 8am by the Green Lake wading pool. New walkers (or coffee drinkers) welcome around 9am at the Urban Bakery, Green Lake Drive.

West Seattle/Burien Conversation Group meets 2nd and 4th Fridays, 12:30pm in various member’s homes

Scrabble Group – generally meets twice a month. Time and date to be determined. New members welcome. Learn words your mamma never taught you

Current Affairs - meets 1st Tues of the month to discuss relevant topics in the news.

# CRONE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bulletin - Hallie Olson (pro tem) Groups – Shirley Nelsen

Program Committee - Mary Cowger Recruitment – Sonja Larson

Finance/Treasurer - Donita Payne Membership – Marcia Sill/Nancy Curtis

Nominating – Nina Pruneda Website – Sonja Larson
Volunteers – Sonja Larson
Hospitality – Betsy Page (assisted as needed by Board members)

Additional Resources:
Assistant Treasurer - Barbara Stilson
Archives Storage – Helga Forhan
Directory/Mailings - Susan Forhan
Packets – Marta Creswell