



# CRONE CONNECTION

Summer 2024, Issue No. 3

## ADVICE FROM A GLACIER

Carve your own path

Go slow

Channel your strengths

Smooth the way for others

Keep moving forward

Avoid meltdowns

Be cool!

from Your True Nature, Inc. cards



### FROM THE Advisory BOARD

Plans were made at the June 15 Monthly Meeting for the months of August through Jan. See the list of Coming Monthly Meetings on page 5. In particular, the group called for a Membership Meeting for Nov. 16 to discuss and decide on a motion presented by two members to change the Crone 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation status to an informal social club and disperse all the funds in savings.

After meeting in public library meeting rooms several times, members were unhappy with the institutional environments of these locations. Mary Cowger has offered her cozy home for monthly meetings for many of the future months. We met there for the June meeting and will be in her garden for the August picnic. See the photos below from last year's picnic, also in Mary's garden, and the June 15 Monthly Meeting.



Picnic Aug. 2023



Refreshment time, June 15 in Mary Cowger's kitchen

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## How to Apply for a Senior Citizen Exemption on WA State Property Taxes

**For the application form go to: Form 64-0002 - Washington Dept. of Revenue, Senior citizens ages 60 and over and people with disabilities may qualify for an exemption (be careful not to click on "deferral" if you don't want that)**

The tax year is the prior year, and to find the figures for the 3 income thresholds that designate how much of an exemption you qualify for, find the link near the top of the form's page 4, "[dor.wa.gov/incomethresholds](http://dor.wa.gov/incomethresholds)," and click on 2024-2026 to find the income thresholds for your county for those years.

These income thresholds will be your federal adjusted gross income *after* you've subtracted deductions. There is a whole list of deductions. Most are different from your income tax deductions. Some examples are:

- prescription drugs
- Medicare Part B premium
- medicines prescribed, administered, dispensed by a naturopath

But a warning - there are many documents you would need to send, including:

- a copy of your federal income tax report of the prior year
- the filled-out form (above) with the Combined Disposable Income Worksheet that also lets you insert your deductions
- receipts for prescription drugs
- a copy of your Social Security Benefit Statement (you will have to claim as income that portion that wasn't taxed for your federal income tax)
- this form sent to you will also show how much Medicare Part B premiums that were deducted (you paid) from your benefits
- a printout of medications a naturopath prescribed

Find the address of your County Assessor's office. Send to Property Tax Exemption Division. You have until Dec. 31, 2024 to ask for a refund for 2023.

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# ROLLING CRONES SINGERS

## FALL/WINTER PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE 2024

Director, Marge Hampton, said, "We love having Crones in our audience."

*Time listed is our performance time. Please be there at least 30 minutes early.*

October 30	(Wed)	2:00	Boulevard Place 9920 Main St, Bothell
<i>Please check with Diane Farber or the locations if the following Nov. venues have room for visitors.</i>			
November 20	(Wed)	2:00	Sunrise Senior Living 750 Edmonds Way, Edmonds
November 25	(Mon)	10:20 AM	Edmonds Landing 180 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave S, Edmonds

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From the news magazine, "The Week," Aug. 2, 2024, on growing old

### Editor's letter

When I took my mother's car keys away, she cursed at me. I'd never heard my sweet, churchgoing mom use language like that in my life, but she couldn't accept that at 85, her fading vision, hearing, and memory made her unsafe at any speed. I was reminded of the day Mom followed me to the door, shouting "Give me those #@ \$&%! keys back," when Joe Biden spent several weeks insisting against all evidence that he was fit to serve four more years (see Best U.S. Columns, p.12). Giving up the most powerful and prestigious job in the world, obviously, is more painful than losing access to the Camry. But the denial and the anger are fundamentally the same. Getting old, I've found, demands a succession of surrenders. You can accept these losses with some grace and rueful resignation—or go to war with the inevitable. Pro tip: You can't win.

I'm still more than a decade from Biden's stage of life, but if I put on my glasses, I can see the shape of it on the horizon.

Behind me, the path is long and littered with losses large and small. Joints worn out from years of running, basketball, softball, and typing take turns complaining, and the mirror reveals a graying old guy I sometimes do not recognize. Too many loved ones and friends are gone. Last year, after 22 years as editor-in-chief of this magazine, I stepped down from full-time work so I could have more time to travel, to enjoy our new home in our new community, to kayak and cycle and walk and play more, to savor the passing days and sunsets over the river. Fortunately, I still get to continue to contribute to this fine magazine. It's worked out as I hoped, but the surrenders continue. The best strategy, it appears, is to accept them and fall back behind a new line of defense, and prepare for the next assault. I know how you feel, Mr. President. When they come for my car keys, I suspect I, too, will curse.

**William Falk**  
Editor-at-large



# Writings

## Where Are the Faeries these Days?

*by Florence Sibley, mother of Crone Mary Sibley  
Copyright 1993 by Florence Sibley, written in 1976*

Where are the faeries these days?

The Wee Ones  
The Shy Ones  
The Elders and the Wise Ones?



Are they in health  
And just waiting it out?

Are they still holding court  
And dancing on the moss?

Are their diamonds pure dew drops  
With no hidden flaws?

Are their garments untarnished  
Web-woven--no soot?

Do their homes in the tangle  
Have trees over root?

Who are the faeries?  
Bits of ourselves  
Precious fragments of spirit  
Grown into elves.



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# COMING MONTHLY MEETINGS

**August 17 12:00 Backyard potluck at Mary Cowger's**

**Sept. 21 1:00 TBD**

**Oct. 19 1:00 Mary Sibley's writing on "Suffering" will be used to spark a discussion**

**Nov. 16 1:00 \*Membership Meeting\***  
**Discussion and vote on a motion to withdraw the Crone 501(c)3 non-profit corporation status and become an informal social club. We would have to decide on what to do with our saved money. Small groups would continue, but without any organizational support.**

**Dec. 14 12:00 Holiday potluck at Sunset West Condominiums**

**Jan. 18 12:00 Potluck lunch at Mary Cowger's house**

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Crones celebrating birthdays,  
lf. to rt. Jean Chen, Marcia Sill,  
Anne Boher

