Lyonses, Kriegshauser added to Seaside Volunteer Wall of Fame

Service to community leads to significant honor

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Winning a spot isn't easy, but the Seaside Volunteer Wall of Fame grew to 22 members Sept. 26 with the induction of Stubby and Sharee Lyons and Larry Kriegshauser, who have contributed a great deal to the community over the years.T he wall includes the "people you see every place doing something to promote the city," Mayor Don Larson said.

The Lyonses and Kriegshauser were selected for their exceptional dedication to the community and volunteerism.

Since its inauguration, the Wall of Fame has accumulated 22 names, starting with Joyce Williams and Byron Meeks in 2004. Two individuals — or sometimes married couples — were added annually until 2011, when new inductions took place every two years. Last year, Ruth Johnson and Judy Shook were inducted.

Larson and Stubby Lyons were critical in establishing and maintaining the wall. Other individuals have participated in nominating individuals at times in the past. As mayor, Larson approves the final selections.

"We pick people that are givers, that give of their time, their talents and their financial resources," he said.

Larson selected Stubby and Sharee Lyons to be inducted this year. Both individuals have served the community in various capacities.

DON FRANK PHOTOGRAPHY/SEASIDE SIGNAL

Sharee and Stubby Lyons.

Stubby Lyons moved to Seaside in 1980 and worked as a coach and teacher for Seaside High School. He has accumulated a great deal of love and respect over the years because of his caring approach to teaching and coaching youth, according to Larson.

"Stubby has a following that won't quit," he added.

Lyons served on City Council for about 14 years and was instrumental in putting together a time capsule in 2009 to commemorate the sesquicentennial of Oregon's statehood.

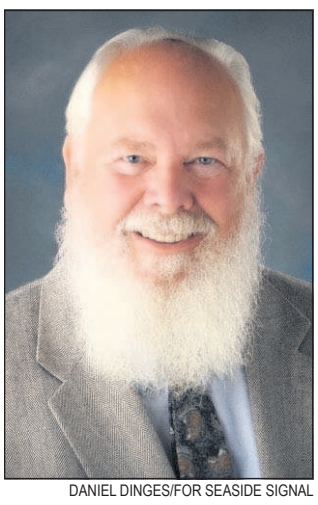
In October 2013, the couple gave $26,000 to the city to pay off remaining costs on Broadway Field — one example of their financial support of Seaside's activities and institutions.

They both help with the Seaside Hight School Hall of Fame.

To be added to the Wall of Fame, Stubby Lyons said, "was quite a big deal."

"It was great. I didn't expect that," he said.

Kriegshauser has produced Seaside's Fourth of July fireworks show for 15 years. The show, which is set to a musical score, is a big tourist attraction. He also organizes for drum and bugle corps, including the Oregon Crusaders, to participate in the Fourth of July parade and put on a show for the holiday.



DANIEL DINGES/FOR SEASIDE SIGNAL

Larry Kriegshauser, Wall of Fame award winner.

He plays Santa Claus in the Seaside Chamber of Commerce's annual Parade of Lights. He is a lifetime member of the chamber.

Throughout the years, he's done many other projects for the city and various organizations.

"He's just one of those men who is behind the scenes doing absolutely vital, important things," Larson said. "He just does and does and does and does."

Kriegshauser enjoys being a part of Seaside, which he said has "a very close, caring community." He said he believes it is important to give back through volunteering and participating in community events, a lesson he learned from his father.

"I think I would be lost if I couldn't be involved with the community and the other people that are involved," he said. "It's just a great reward."

The Lyonses and Kriegshauser received plaques, and their photos now hang at the convention center on the Wall of Fame.

Auction fundraiser is Seaside Rotary's largest

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cities and towns and communities that make a difference, and that's what we're doing here tonight."

The theme of the annual dinner and auction was "Let's Go to the Hop," and guests entered the center sporting bobby socks, leather jackets, penny loafers and bowling shirts. The Rev. Rob Sachs gave a "Wolfman Jack" howl, and an Elvis impersonator crooned and posed for photos with fans young and old. Seaside's Sandy McDowall was the chairwoman for the event.

The audience was quick on the uptake with bidding paddles as auctioneer Rick Little fielded a steady stream of bids for everything from a commercial crabbing experience in the Columbia River to a week at an Irish cottage in County Kerry, situated on the Kenmare Bay as it meets the Atlantic.

A popular auction item was dinner with Rotary-sponsored exchange students at the home of Suzanne Deshon. The two winners will share an evening dining experience with Alina Habeggar from Switzerland and Seong Jin Kang from South Korea.

Little himself was awarded the club's Paul Harris award, which recognizes his contributions to Rotary International. Owner of Poor Richard's Auctions and Antiques in Tacoma, Washington, Little has been a part of the Seaside auction event since its inception.

The auction is the largest fundraiser of the year for the Seaside Rotary Foundation. Rotary sponsors scholarships and international youth exchanges, aquatic equipment for senior citizens with Sunset Empire Park and Recreation, Helping Hands to aid senior citizens, Seaside Kids and other causes. Rotary International supports Polio Plus to eradicate polio worldwide.

A big winner Saturday night was Spay and Neuter Thrift Shop of Seaside. The nonprofit organization, located along the Necanicum River, offers discount certificates for spaying and neutering of cats and dogs within Clatsop County.

"Back in the 1960s, there was a group of concerned citizens that started the North Coast Animal Haven," shop volunteer Cheryle Barker said. "What they wanted to do was have a home for unwanted pets. In 1965, they started a little thrift shop in a shed. By 1973, they registered as a nonprofit organization. In 1980, they built the Haven in Gearhart."

In 1988 the focus of the North Coast Animal Haven group changed to providing spay and neuter certificates to not just Seaside, Cannon Beach and Gearhart but also the entire county. That same year the small thrift shop moved from its shed to its current location at 600 Broadway in the historic Gilbert block. The shop now offers coupons for spay and neutering, as well as gently used and repurposed items. All those who work at the thrift shop are volunteers. In 2014 they were able to fund 970 certificates at a cost of $29,100.

"Our goal is to be able to increase the amount of our discount certificates, so more people can afford to do the spay and neutering," Barker said.

By the end of bidding, Johnson had helped raise nearly $8,000 for the shop.

Ghosts and goblins to get an early start at Thriller and Fall Fun Fest

Haunted house, Fall Fun Fest scheduled ahead of Halloween

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Kids are invited to break out their costumes a week early. The Sunset Empire Park & Recreation District is giving the community a jump-start on celebrating Halloween with the annual Sunset Thriller and Fall Fun Fest on Oct. 24.

The thriller will take over the Sunset Pool and Seaside Youth Center from 6 to 9 p.m. with scenes involving zombies, creepy clowns, a mad doctor's laboratory and Dracula's living room, among others.

Dozens of volunteers, primarily high school students, will dress in costumes to play roles in the scary scenes. Additionally, the students will assist in handing out fliers prior to the event and setting up and tearing down sets the day of the event.

"They're a super, super important part of this," said Grace Smith, the district's fitness and special events coordinator.

At the nearby Broadway Middle School's cafeteria, the carnival begins at 5 p.m. with games, activities, a cakewalk and costume contest. The contest will be judged at 7 p.m. during the carnival and includes five age categories: children up to age 3; 4- to 6-year-olds; 7- to 9-year-olds; 10- to 12-year-olds; and 13-year-olds and older. A themed backdrop will be set up at the cafeteria for families to use in taking photos.

Smith said both the carnival and the thriller will be "pretty much the same format" as previous years. Last year, the district moved the annual event to the Saturday before Halloween, instead of the holiday itself. The date change seemed to work well — about 600 people attended, although the district received mixed reviews — so the district decided to keep it the Saturday before Halloween again this year, Smith said.

"On actual Halloween, people often want to go trick-or-treating or do things as a family," she said.

Also, holding the event the Saturday before Halloween makes it easier to get volunteer help.

The cost is $2 per person or two cans of food, to be donated to the South Clatsop County Food Bank. A ticket gets patrons into both events and may be purchased at either location.

Sunset Pool will be closed Oct. 24 so staff can prepare. For more information, call 503-738-3311 or visit www.sunsetempire.com.

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