



Planning Association of Washington

## Message from the President



As we enter the new year and a new decade the feeling of being refreshed and overwhelmed wash over me. I'm grateful for the support of the PAW Board as we work diligently on crafting timely training opportunities for our members and members to be!

This newsletter features some new opportunities to meet member of our Board at "Hoppy Hours" throughout Washington State. If one is in your area, I hope you take advantage of this social opportunity and invite others to come with you. I fondly remember the Happy Hours I helped organize when I worked for Yakima County and how uniting (and therapeutic!) it was to discuss planning issues with both county and city folk. We also role out our Boot Camp dates and rough topics and introduce the topic of our annual conference that will be April 22-24<sup>th</sup> in beautiful Chelan this year.

As ever, we encourage ideas from our membership. Please reach out to us if you have ideas for social outings, training requests, or need help seeking a specialist for a project you are working on.

We look forward to meeting you at one of our Hoppy Hour events, Boot Camps, the annual Conference, or other event that brings us together. Here's to wishing you a fantastic 2020! Remember, "Good planning doesn't just happen..."

Cheers,

Marla S. Powers  
PAW President, Conference Chair  
Board Member since 2015

## Board Member Spotlight



**Kevin Johnson** is one of our newest chairs on the PAW board. He was elected to the board at the 2019 PAW annual conference in Chelan after being nominated by a previous board member.

Kevin began his path towards a planning career with his education at Western Washington University where he graduated with a degree in Urban Planning and Sustainable Development. Currently he is an Associate Planner with the City of Mountlake Terrace where his primary focus is on current planning review while also assisting with long range planning for the coming light rail station and town center plan update.

As a new planner and new to the PAW board, Kevin is looking to focusing on helping provide opportunities to new planners or those still in school. He is looking to add topics to the PAW boot camps and conference that cover topics that are either not covered in the academic environment or that need additional emphasis to help new planners succeed as the step into the field and through their first few years as they develop.

When Kevin isn't busy serving the citizens of Mountlake Terrace he is found traveling both locally and abroad, hiking in the summer or skiing in the winter. In addition to staying active and exploring, he also enjoys staying home with his fiancé and their cats and working in the garden or on his car.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

# Save the Date! 2020 Annual Conference at Campbell's Resort in Lake Chelan April 22-24, 2020!



PAW is pleased to introduce our annual conference theme, "Sound Planning, Strong Economies". This topic promises to be timely, targeted, and fun. Sessions are anticipated to include recreational economics e.g. ski resorts, public/private partnerships, trail development, agri-tourism, downtown revitalization stories, and economic development initiatives. The conference will also include our acclaimed Planners Skills Camp as a separate tract. Save the Date for April 22-24<sup>th</sup> in Chelan, registration will be opening soon!

## 2020 Boot Camp Schedule

### **Friday February 21<sup>st</sup> Lacey Community Center**

*Topic:* Tiny Home Legislation, How to evaluate technical reports, and the Case Law Update

### **Friday September 25<sup>th</sup> in the Dayton/Walla Walla area**

*Proposed topic* of focus involves recreational economics and trails

### **Friday November 6<sup>th</sup> location to be determined**

*Proposed topic* of focus involves economic development

**WCIA members** are eligible for one reimbursed registration per member. WCIA members must register and pay PAW first. Then, after the Boot Camps reimbursement can be requested by going to this [link](#) prior to December 13, 2019.

**RMSA Scholarship Program:** The Risk Management Service Agency (RMSA) provides scholarships to help its members attend pre-approved workshops and trainings. RMSA Scholarships are only available to current members of the RMSA.

Members must submit an application, prior to attending an event, for consideration of scholarship approval by RMSA staff. RMSA Scholarships provide reimbursement of registration costs only for trainings intended to

improve risk management skills or reduce liability and property risk exposures and are available on a first-come-first-serve basis. To find out if your city or town is eligible, please contact [rmsa@awcnet.org](mailto:rmsa@awcnet.org) , (360) 753-4137.

**WCRP members:** The WCRP will be offering 10 scholarships for the upcoming PAW Land Use Bootcamp. Scholarships will be awarded to WCRP members on a first come first serve basis and will reimburse the cost of registration only. We ask that you contact your county's designated Risk Manager to request a scholarship.

## Thank you to Our Sponsors!



Department of Commerce



Washington Counties Risk Pool  
Created by Counties for Counties

## Hoppy Hour



PLANNING ASSOCIATION  
— OF WASHINGTON —  
**MEET & GREET**

Hoppy Hour! Please join a PAW Board member near you for a fun night of planning and hoppy beverages. One lucky attendee will go home with a Hoppy Hour t-shirt! Oh Ya! Whoop.

### **Locations and Dates:**

- Join Board Member Charity Duffy at [Saddlerock Brewery](#) at **5:30 pm on January 23, 2020**. This event includes pizza!
- Join current PAW President Marla Powers at [Seven Seas Brewery](#) at **5:00PM on Tuesday, January 28, 2020**.. Family friendly establishment! First rounds on PAW!
- Join Board Member Kevin Johnson **Friday, February 7, 2020 from 5-7 pm at [Hemlock State Brewing](#)**.
- Join former PAW President Alex Wenger for PAW Hoppy Hour from **4:30 to 6pm on Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at [K2 Taproom and Brewery](#)** on Kentucky Street in Bellingham. One lucky, radical planner will go home with an exclusive Hoppy Hour t-shirt! This location is 21+.



Thanks to Kevin McCoy at SCJ Alliance for designing the PAW Hoppy Hour logo! Kevin is a creative designer and illustrator at SCJ Alliance by day and freelance artist/illustrator by night.

When he is not working, he loves spending time with his wife and finding new creative adventures. Keep rockin' Kevin!

## Planners Corner

### DEAR PLANBBY

Dear Planbby,

Planner in need: When I go to work, I don't know what to expect. Somedays customers are so nice, and I go home loving my job. Other days everyone is viscous, I get quickly overwhelmed, and I feel like crying. I often think about quitting because the job carries a lot of personal risk because most of my decision-making isn't verified by legal. Planbby, I want to be a happy planner but feel the urge to quit.

Planbby: We all know planning can be fun but also very difficult emotionally and psychically. One minute you are being greeted at the counter with smiles and a cheerful "thank you" and the next with anger and straight-up harsh words. The roller coaster of being a planner is what it is – up somedays and well, cruddy others. Our mission remains the same, provide the best customer service we can, model the behavior we expect from others (including co-workers), and always remember that even though someone is angry don't internalize it – oh and you are probably not a licensed attorney so don't play one at work. Final advice, do your best, ensure you are taking care of yourself in/outside of work, and most of all remember everyone has a bad day so don't take that baggage home with you. Your Planbby!

### POETRY FOR HAPPY PLANNERS

*Today I saw a site plan that I quite enjoyed*

*It was missing the north-arrow but it still complied*

*The applicant was a joy and even smiled as he walked*

*Until of course I told him he can't build that on that block*

*He shook his cane in the air and snarled through his white beard*

*To all a good night he yelled to the office below as for me he said*

*"nothing but coal" – C.D.*

## Planning News

### REGIONAL PLANNERS FORUM

Please join RJ Lott, Assistant Director, Chelan County



Community Development Department to learn how to write an effective staff report. RJ will be speaking on January 22, 2019 at:

Big Bend Community College  
7662 Chanute St NE  
ATEC Building #1800 – Room 1870 A/B  
Moses Lake, WA 98837

Other Regional Planning Forums dates are listed below and will be located at Big Bend Community College:

- April 22, 2020 – Room 1870 D
- July 22, 2020 – Room 1870 D
- October 28, 2020 – Room 1870 D

All forums are from 9:30 am – 3:05 pm (sessions are at 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, and 2:00 pm)



#### AN INTERVIEW WITH ONEONTA STARR RANCH'S VERY OWN ELLIE TUCKER!

Q: How long have you been in the fruit industry? What is the history behind Starr Ranch?

ANS: I have been in the fruit industry for 16 years now and going on my 7<sup>th</sup> year at Oneonta Starr Ranch Growers. Starr Ranch growers was founded in the heart of the apple country here in Washington in 1934 by Paul Thomas and still ran by the Thomas

family.

Q: Is your company planning to expand to meet the growing demands for fruit?

ANS: Yes- over 85 years of continuous operation as a vertically integrated grower, Packer, and a shipper and continuously updating our operation to better our pack outs for the grower and our customers.

Q: Are you now or do you see any challenges with rules, regulations, and/or policies in the new future that could impact operations?

ANS: (1) We will need to monitor the pending federal trade agreement with China. Initial information states China will purchase \$35 billion worth of ag products in the next two years however these purchases will likely center around soybeans, wheat and rice but may also have lasting impacts to tree-fruit, (2) Minimum wage continues to increase. L & I is required to make yearly cost of living adjustments which will affect our industry, (3) Electronic data logs in the over-the-road trucking industry will better monitor freight hauling but will restrict the hours per day a truck can operate. This could limit their daily mileage and decrease efficiencies, and (4) Container shipping vessels will be required to use low sulfur fuel in 2020. This will likely increase transportation costs to foreign destinations and could decrease our export

volume.

Q: Where is your biggest market and what tools do you use to track/respond to trends in the marketplace?

ANS: My biggest market is New York city area. Daily communication with my customer is HUGE! I also follow the weather in New York area and know when it's raining or snowing it is usually slow in the produce market. We also get a lot of data from Neilson which tracks what apple or pear is moving the most in a certain market area and the price the per pound sold.

Q: Starr Ranch is known for supporting various community events. Do you have any community events that Starr Ranch is involved with that you would like to share?

ANS: Here at Starr Ranch we are not only dedicated to our customers. We are also committed to our community and our planet. We focus on three areas of responsibility for our program initiatives:

### **1. Giving Back**

Every quarter, we select local charities and groups to support with donations. We're happy to play a part in bettering our community and fully intend on keeping it that way for generations to come.

Christmas family adoption foundation  
Mission Ridge ski team  
Hood river athletic teams

### **2. Sustainable Orchards**

And

### **3. Green packing facilities**

Q: What inspires you to keep doing what you are doing?

ANS: I love the interaction with my customers and the daily challenges we have moving our entire manifest. I want to get top dollar for our growers! That means we are selling it all! From the top premium box to our lowest grade box. It definitely has its challenges but it's FUN!

Q: Any words of advice to planners in the State of Washington?

ANS: Water conservation and protecting our soil is HUGE for us. Sectors of the ag industry have experienced downturns in profitability over the last several years. In some varieties of tree-fruit we are at a point where production costs have exceeded sales prices and growers may be on the verge of bankruptcy. The upper Wenatchee River Valley is dotted with pear orchards, many of which could better serve the public as residential /commercial developments. I'm not sure what PAW can do but please be aware of these farms in relation to the need to stabilize land prices in Chelan county and provide farming families with a viable option to unprofitable production.

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## **Annual Planning Awards Program**

The Planning Association of Washington (PAW) and the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA-WA) will be accepting nominations for planning awards starting in early January 2020. For the 34<sup>th</sup> year, the associations will jointly honor outstanding contributions to the field of Planning in Washington State. Our joint awards program goals are to recognize great planning efforts in the state, to promote excellent planning in government and

the private sector and to increase public awareness of the roles of PAW and APA-WA in supporting outstanding planning in Washington.

Please note: In 2020, the Awards Program Winners will be recognized at the PAW Annual Conference in Chelan, which will be held April 22-24. The gathering is two weeks earlier in 2020 than in previous years. Therefore, the program schedule is accelerated, with nomination due by Friday, February 20, 2020.

Start thinking of potential nominees for the joint PAW APA-WA 2020 Planning Awards! More details will follow, along with a link to the online form and instructions, in the first week of the new year. Award winners are posted on our web site, click [here](#) to see previous winners.

## Learn to Run Great Meetings Using Parliamentary Procedure

January 28 | Olympia

<https://wacities.org/events-education/Upcoming-AWC-events/events-details?ID=2006>

[Watch this video](#) of Ann Macfarlane discussing the ultimate purpose of a city council meeting. Then, register for her workshop taking place in tandem with City Action Days. During this fun and informative event, Macfarlane covers motions, amendments, and voting and gives her best tips on effective responses to rudeness or obstruction.



Interested in writing an article for the next newsletter? If submitted by **March 1, 2020** we will mail you an official PAW T-shirt!

**Planning Association of Washington**

1-877-460-5880

[info@planningpaw.org](mailto:info@planningpaw.org)

[www.planningpaw.org](http://www.planningpaw.org)