

Past First Citizens

1939 Richard Eugene Fuller
1940 Dr. Wendell Fifield
1941 William O. McKay
1942 Kenneth Colman
1943 Phil Johnson
1944 Children's Orthopedic Hospital
1945 W. Walter Williams
1946 Royal Brougham
1947 John H. Reid
1948 Ernest Skeel
1949 Dr. Raymond Allen
1950 Thomas M. Pelly
1951 George Gunn, Jr.
1952 Henry Broderick
1953 Frank E. Holman
1954 William M. Allen
1955 Deitrich Schmitz
1956 Rev. A.A. Lemieux
1957 Gordon N. Scott
1958 Nat S. Rogers
1959 Mrs. A. Scott Bullitt
1960 Michael Dederer
1961 Ben E. Ehrlichman
1962 Joseph E. Gandy
1963 George F. Kachlein, Jr.
1964 H.W. McCurdy
1965 Edward E. Carlson
1966 Milton Katims
1967 Mrs. Henry B. Owen
1968 James R. Ellis
1969 William B. Woods
1970 Norton Clapp
1971 G Lynn Ross
1972 John D. Ehrlichman
1973 Dr. Dixy Lee Ray
1974 Ned and Kayla Skinner
1975 Dr. Wm. B. Hutchinson
1976 Rabbi Raphael Levine
1977 W.J. "Jerry" Pennington
1978 John M. Fluke
1979 Gordon H. Sweaney
1980 James M. Ryan
1981 C.M. "Mike" Berry
1982 Dr. Dale E. Turner
1983 T.A. Wilson
1984 Victor Rosellini
1985 Fredric A. Danz
1986 Robert W. Graham
1987 John W. Ellis
1988 Samuel Stroum
1989 R.C. "Torchy" Torrance
1990 The Rev. Wm. J. Sullivan, S.J.
1991 Buster and Nancy Alvord
1992 Lester R. Sauvage, M.D.
1993 Constance W. Rice, Ph.D.
1994 Phil M. Smart, Sr.
1995 Mary Gates & Family
1996 Stanley O. McNaughton
1997 Walter B. Williams
1998 Jack A. Benaroya
1999 Paul Brainerd
2000 The Bullitt Family
2001 Herb M. Bridge
2002 Scott and Laurie Oki
2003 Dan and Nancy Evans
2004 The McCaw Family
2005 Jeffrey and Susan Brotman
2006 Dale Chihuly
2007 James and Sherry Raisbeck
2008 Paul G. Allen
2009 Gerard Schwarz



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.....Nov. 4, 2009
FOR INFORMATION

Val Towler, Director of Member & Community Relations, (425)974-1011
Online.....www.seattlefirstcitizen.org

Self-described "Passionate Moderate" is 72nd Seattle-King County First Citizen

BELLEVUE, Wash. (Nov. 4, 2009) -- While best-known for a half-century career in politics, the 72nd Seattle-King County First Citizen also counts military service, lawyer, member of the 9/11 Commission, college instructor, runner, and grandfather among his achievements. In recognition of an exceptional public service career and his dedication to various community and nonprofit interests, former U.S. Senator **Slade Gorton** will be honored at a civic banquet on May 27, 2010.

The First Citizen Award, created in 1939, celebrates community leadership, volunteerism and public service. Past recipients hail from humanitarian organizations, charitable and educational institutions, arts groups, environmental causes and other civic endeavors.

Past recipient James R. Ellis, who was honored in 1968, praised the selection of the 81-year old Bellevue resident. "Slade Gorton's footprints are large on the paths of progress in King County, the State of Washington and the United States," he remarked, adding, "As Majority Leader of the State House of Representatives, he passed an 18 bill legislative miracle for Forward Thrust. As State Attorney General, Slade took legal action that saved major league baseball for Seattle. As a United States Senator, he successfully preserved thousands of acres of forest land to create the Mountains to Sound Greenway across the Cascades. Each of these efforts was a historic walk-off home run for the public."

Gorton's dedication to public service dates to 1959 when he began a 10-year stint in the Washington State House of Representatives. He currently serves in an of counsel position with K&L Gates, having joined the firm in 2001.

In 1969, Gorton was sworn in as the state's Attorney General, a post he would hold for three terms. During his tenure, he argued 14 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, prompting commendations from the Chief Justice. "[Slade Gorton] makes the best arguments before the Supreme Court of any Attorney General in America," Chief Justice Warren Burger stated.

-more-

While Gorton's legacy as state Attorney General also includes the distinction of being a staunch "friend of the consumer," he is remembered by sports fans across the state for "Saving the Mariners." He sued the American League successfully in 1970 to keep baseball in Seattle.

One of Gorton's successors as state Attorney General heaped praise on him. Commenting on plans to honor Gorton as 2010 First Citizen, current AG Rob McKenna said, "Few leaders in Washington's history have contributed as much to our state and its people as Senator Slade Gorton. He served as a distinguished leader in the state legislature. He was recognized by his peers and by the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court as the finest Attorney General in America during his 12 years in that role. And Slade was an impact player in the U.S. Senate, rising to the rank of Counsel to the Majority Leader. Since leaving the Senate, he has continued to distinguish himself as an effective leader, serving on the 9/11 Commission and in many other key positions. More than 50 years ago, Slade and Sally Gorton chose to make Washington their home. We all are fortunate that they did."

Gorton, a native of Chicago with ties to New England, traces his interest in politics to his youth. Upon graduating from Columbia Law School in 1953 but finding the field crowded on the East Coast, he decided his prospects would be brighter on the West Coast. With \$300 and a one-way ticket on a Greyhound bus, he moved to Washington. He was admitted to the Washington State Bar the same year.

Five years after moving here, Gorton won his first election, launching an illustrious career that Sen. Patty Murray, in a tribute published in the Congressional Record, proclaimed, "Throughout his career in both Washingtons, Slade defied labels."

In that tribute, Sen. Murray also stated, "Within the Senate, Gorton has been a grand force for reasoned bipartisanship, never afraid to take a strong stand but also willing to work graciously and effectively with members of the opposition even at the tensest moments."

During his 18 years in the U.S. Senate (twice as both Senior Senator: 1983-1987, 1993-2001; and Junior Senator: 1981-1983, 1989-1994), Gorton was considered to be the region's "go-to guy" because of his unique ability to get things done for the state and the Pacific Northwest region.

Among Gorton's achievements, he successfully steered the region through timber harvest battles, and tackled the Department of Justice's attack on Microsoft. Other Senate career highlights to his credit include being the prime sponsor of the 1983 budget resolution, playing major roles in crafting the Shipping Act of 1984, and the Telecommunications Act of 1996 as well as championing wide-ranging reforms of the Federal Aviation Administration.

Gorton's distinguished political career was preceded by impressive educational and military accomplishments. Before earning his law degree, he graduated *magna cum laude* and was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Society at Dartmouth College. He served in the United States Army, 1945-1946, United States Air Force, 1953-1956 and United States Air Force Reserve, 1956-1980, where he achieved the rank of colonel.

Since leaving the Senate, Gorton has been active with a number of organizations. In 2002, he became a member of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (popularly known as the "9/11 Commission"), which issued its final report in 2004. He has served (or currently serves) on boards of several corporations and nonprofits, including Republican-leaning Discovery Institute, Microvision, the Electricity Innovation Institute and the Miller Center of the University of Virginia.

-more-

In 2005, Gorton became the Chairman of the Constitutional Law PAC, a political action committee formed to help elect candidates to the Washington State Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. Other affiliations include being a member of the Markle Foundation's Task Force on National Security in the Information Age (2002-2006, 2008-present) and service on the Miller Center National Commission on War Powers, (2007-2008).

Gorton is an Advisory Board member for the Partnership for a Secure America, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to recreating the bipartisan center in American national security and foreign policy. He also serves as a co-chair of the National Transportation Policy Project of the Bipartisan Policy Center.

The Seattle-King County First Citizen Award is the latest in a number of prestigious awards bestowed upon Gorton. Others include:

- 2006 Community Leadership Award from The American Jewish Congress, an association of Jewish Americans organized to defend Jewish interests at home and abroad through public policy advocacy using diplomacy, legislation, and the courts;
- Discovery Institute Statesmanship Award (2004);
- 1st Class Order of the Cross of Terra Mariana, awarded February 2003 by the President of the Republic of Estonia. Gorton was the first non-Estonian to receive this country's highest national award, an honor that recognized his many years of support of Estonia and two other Baltic states.
- Wyman Award (1980), the highest distinction offered by the National Association of Attorneys General.

Gorton and his wife of 51 years, Sally, have lived in Clyde Hill since 1995. They have one son, two daughters and seven grandchildren.

An avid runner, Gorton once delivered his filing fee via a 60-mile relay run from Seattle to Olympia. That trek, for the 1980 campaign when he unseated longtime incumbent U.S. Senator Warren Magnuson, provided footage for TV ads depicting himself as more healthy and vigorous than his opponent.

About the First Citizen Banquet

In October, Gerard Schwarz, Seattle Symphony's internationally acclaimed music director who is stepping down after 25 years with the symphony, was honored at a civic banquet as the 71st Seattle-King County First Citizen. In 2010, the First Citizen banquet will revert to a springtime event

The Seattle-King County First Citizen Award and civic banquet, believed to be this region's most senior citation of its kind, has no fund-raising expectation, but instead is designed solely as a not-for-profit celebration of community involvement. Banquet details, including ticket information, will be finalized in the next few months. The May 27, 2010 event will be held at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel.

About the Seattle *KingCounty* REALTORS®

The Seattle *KingCounty* Realtors is a nonprofit professional trade association whose goals include promoting business practices that reflect a strict code of ethics and supporting policies that preserve and expand real property rights and housing affordability. Based in Bellevue, SKCR has approximately 6,000 members and is one of 1,800 local associations of the National Association of Realtors.

###