

Officers 2015 - 2016

President:

Jane Manzer

President-Elect:

Kathryn Pacelli

Secretary:

Kathy Purcell

Treasurer:

Karen Renk

Assistant Treasurer:

Kathy Cunha

**Directors: 2 year
(one year remaining)**

Jeanne Martin

Directors: 2 year

Gena Royal

Directors: 1 year

Sandy Hutter

Directors: 1 year

Paulette Hill

Past President:

Sandy Lawrence

Newsletter Staff

Kathy Purcell

Sally Sue Barry

Pat Willis

*“Let yourself be
silently drawn by
the stronger pull of
what you really love.”*

~ Rumi

Message from the President

As I watched an interview of the founder of Women for Women International, Zainab Salbi, I felt such a kinship with her humanitarian spirit. And I thought of all of you, wishing that you were all in my living room to share in the program and to talk about it with me! Seriously. I think stuff like that!!! Though it isn't possible to be in my living room with me, it is heartwarming to know that you belong to Soroptimist because we do share that humanitarian spirit and we do desire to serve women throughout the world.

I continue to be amazed at the amount of club work going on behind the scenes and the variety of ways in which members serve. To highlight only a couple of members, even though there are many similar story lines, Barb Thompson and Deborah Carlson have each found ways to contribute even though they've had challenges in being able to be at meetings or to contribute in ways other members do. Every member can know that whatever happens in our personal lives that may take us away from what we would normally do for the club, there's always a way for us to contribute and there's always someone to step in to help us or to take our places on a short- or even long-term basis. I love knowing that even though we're all unique individuals, we come together as one in our service to our club and therefore our community and the world.

In this season of giving, that is a gift from each one of you that I cherish.

President Jane



The Nicest Present

Under the tree the gifts enthrall,
But the nicest present of them all
Is filling our thoughts with those who care,
Wanting our Christmas joy to share.
To you, whom we're often thinking of,
We send our holiday joy and love.

By Joanna and Karl Fuchs



Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

It's December—the Christmas holiday has started. We see it all around us—from the TV and radio, to the grocery store, to the streets. We hear holiday music; we see twinkling lights. We are programmed to look for the perfect gift for everyone on our holiday list. What is the perfect gift? If each person is different, then is the perfect gift for each person different also?

Speaking of gifts, our annual Gala Gift Show was held yesterday. We brought together over 45 vendors, each with unique items to sell. There were countless opportunities for shoppers to purchase the perfect gift.

This year at the Boys and Girl Club we expanded to the game room and kitchen. This gave us a place to offer food, a raffle and a walk-thru bake sale. It also gave us space for more vendors than could fit in the gym. The game room booth area was marked off in a linear manner. We only had four (gym overflow) vendors. The layout looked unbalanced—there was a lot of open space.

I was one of the vendor support people, so Friday evening during setup time I gathered the four vendors and asked if they would like to collectively rework the layout. Each one gave some input and they came up with a better design—somewhat of a semi-circle. It made the area inviting and added to the smooth flow for shoppers. Here were vendors who didn't know one another, but together they found a way to set things up so it was a benefit to all. It was a great example of what can be accomplished when we work together.

An hour or so before the end of the show, I noticed Gloria Robinson, one of our new members, near the Soroptimist table. I went up to chat with her. I had a taste for something sweet but the bake sale items were all gone. Gloria said she had been given a square of fudge and asked if I would like part of it. She said I'd have to figure a way to break some off—perhaps find a knife. I set off to look for one. By the time I returned—with a spoon, not a knife—Gloria handed me the entire square and said to keep it. I was touched by her generosity. I took the spoon and cut off a small part of one corner. The fudge melted in my mouth—the flavor so much richer because of the way it was offered. The gift wasn't merely the fudge—it was the caring that was behind it. It was the perfect gift! I didn't know I was on Gloria's list—she might not have known it either.

This brings us back to the question about the perfect gift being different for each person. I think the way a perfect gift is packaged may be different for different people, but the gift is the same for everyone. The gift is the meaning behind/intent of what is given—the caring, the friendship—love. The gift comes from within us. This reminds me of our Soroptimist members and what we do. Each of us has different talents. When we offer them with caring and dignity of service, we present a gift that impacts our world. Thank you all for sharing your gifts!

Light and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor



“Everyone has a purpose in life...a unique gift or special talent to give to others. And when we blend this unique talent with service to others, we experience the ecstasy and exultation of our own spirit, which is the ultimate goal of all goals.” ~ Deepak Chopra

CALENDAR

DECEMBER, 2015

- 4 Board Meeting
- 5 GALA GIFT SHOW
- 8 Business Meeting
(GOM Nov & Dec)
- 12 Family Day/Healthy
Family
- 22 Holiday Party

JANUARY, 2016

- 8 Board Meeting
- 12 Business Meeting
- 26 Program Meeting
- 28 Human Trafficking
Awareness Event



***EVENING MEETING**

Helping
Others
Live
In
Dignity
All
Year

Love
Impacts
Situations
Totally

Celebrate Life!

DECEMBER, 2015

- 5 Deborah Carlson
- 11 Kecia Gilliam
- 28 Sandy Lawrence
- 31 Jenni Dix

JANUARY, 2016

- 6 Rose Jaeger
- 10 Kate Creasey
- 17 Kathy Cunha



Note the phone number for our
MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

504-0231



HOLIDAY JOY



Family Day
at Healthy Family
Saturday,
December 12.
Any questions,
contact
Kathleen DeJong.



Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 22, 2015

Sunland—our regular location

7:30 a.m.—our regular time

\$14—a special price for a special holiday breakfast!

We will be meeting at our regular time and place,
but the meeting will be anything but regular! It will
offer opportunities to share, laugh, and celebrate!
You don't want to miss it! Come join us!

SIGNATURE PROJECT

You were expecting another Survey Monkey to choose the umbrella
name for our signature projects, but some questions were raised
regarding trademarks, etc. That is being researched at present, so the
survey has been delayed. Stay tuned, you'll get it.

~President Jane



SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER

Area Meeting

February 20, 2016

Greater Bremerton Area



NWR Conference

Spokane, WA

Davenport Hotel

April 21-24, 2016



44th Biennial SIA Convention

Walt Disney World Dolphin Hotel

Orlando, FL, U.S.A.

July 20-23, 2016

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

LIVE YOUR DREAM —A Soroptimist International Program

The deadline for submitting applications has come and gone. We have four qualified applications in the hands of the judges. It will be January when we announce the names of the two applicants who will each receive a \$2,000 award from our club.

A requirement for eligibility to submit an application is that the woman provide primary financial support for her family and be enrolled in a training or undergraduate program. The women seeking this award have overcome obstacles in their effort to improve the lives of their families. The \$2,000 cash award can be used for any expense related to education.

Betty Osborn, LYD Award Chair



The Awards and Scholarships Committee would benefit by having a few more members. Please consider joining us!

“When we recall Christmas past, we usually find that the simplest things—not the great occasions—give off the greatest glow of happiness.” ~*Bob Hope*

A.I.M. HIGH...REACH FOR THE STARS

The Fall AIM High Book Clubs for Helen Haller and Greywolf are finished with rave reviews all around.

Elaine will continue at Helen Haller with the 5th grade girls' book club. In January, the committee will have a training session for members interested in leading a book club. We are negotiating with the schools for the following activities:

- * 4th grade book club at Helen Haller
- * 4th and 5th grade book club at Greywolf
- * Tutors for both schools (current volunteers have been contacted—there is space for more.)
- * Heart Kids Rag Dolls—hoping for late January or February.

We encourage volunteers to step-up for these fun and rewarding activities. It is the goal of the AIM High Committee to engage the 4th grade girls, continuing our relationship through 5th, and send the girls to the Middle School Program knowing about Soroptimist and our mission.

Please contact Amanda for Greywolf or Elaine Churchill for Helen Haller.

Many, many thanks,
AIM High...Reach for the Stars Committee!



“For somehow, not only at Christmas, but all the long year through, The joy that you give to others is the joy that comes back to you.”
~ *John Greenleaf Whittier*

MEMBERSHIP

“These days it seems like everyone is busy all the time—we have hectic schedules, and every moment is precious! While recruiting new members, you’ll often hear women saying they don’t know whether they’ll have the time to commit to Soroptimist. You may have run into scheduling conflicts yourself that prevented you from attending a Soroptimist event!” [An excerpt from *SIA Recruitment Tip: The NO GUILT Soroptimist Club*]

Being flexible in the ways members can participate promotes a positive and healthy club environment. There are neither negative attitudes nor resentment amongst the more active members toward those who may be less available. We all realize that a member’s ability to participate may change over time.

Many clubs have adopted this new philosophy that is more positive, flexible, and better aligned with today’s lifestyles. We want to promote a more welcoming environment without having to tract attendance. However, when talking to women about Soroptimist, we need to emphasize the balance between flexibility and responsibility. We all have core responsibilities such as paying dues and participating in key club events; e.g. Gala Gift Show, Gala Garden Show.

“When you recruit someone to join our club, remember that she may have family, work, and other community responsibilities on her plate already. But if she’s willing to give some of her time to help our club in its mission to improve the lives of women and girls, that’s what makes her a great potential member.”

~Sandy Lawrence, Membership Chair



“Christmas - that magic blanket that wraps itself about us, that something so intangible that it is like a fragrance. It may weave a spell of nostalgia. Christmas may be a day of feasting, or of prayer, but always it will be a day of remembrance—a day in which we think of everything we have ever loved.” ~*Augusta E. Rundel*

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

VICKI McCORMACK



I am a 4th generation Alaska girl who got tired of the cold in the winter and moved to Sequim. I am grateful for my husband and four grown boys, two grandsons and a granddaughter on the way. Most of my interests center around being outside including gardening.

I believe it is the sun that I cherish so much and the flowers are the garnish. I love the water and beaches. Other hobbies include walking, skiing, reading, and traveling. I am a bit “techy” and try to keep up, but that’s an uphill battle.

I’m always fixing someone’s phone or computer or learning a new program.

I love animals and currently have two little critters who keep us laughing. They are long haired dashchunds and they take good care of us.

My heart’s desire has always been to help others, and I hope to be a blessing to others through Soroptimist. I was a single Mom living in a city with no family, so I know how difficult single parenting can be. Life is not always easy but God takes us through the ups and downs if we lean on Him. Together with prayer and laughter, we can climb any mountain together.

JOAN MILLER



My early years were happy, spent on farms in the Kent area. I was raised with three brothers so I was, naturally, a tomboy and loved it!

After graduating from high school, I began a long career of working as an administrative assistant for various universities, beginning with the

University of Washington Law School, then at UW Marine Labs in Friday Harbor, where I lived on my 33 ft. wooden boat and commuted by row boat. This was followed by two years in the Geophysics area at the University of Honolulu, and I retired from the Science Dept. of Bellevue College in 2006.

My son, David, daughter-in-law, Susan, and teenage granddaughters, Naomi and Rachael, all live in North Seattle. I met my husband, Dave, of 18 years, through a newspaper ad (that he wrote) while living in Friday Harbor. We retired to Port Angeles in 2006, bought a boat and cruised many years through the San Juans and Canada. I volunteer for PFOA as a transporter of cats with medical issues to a veterinarian in Port Hadlock. Our Persian cat, Winston, rules our world at home.

My other activities include knitting (many socks), needlework, and quilting. I very much look forward to sharing the camaraderie and goals of this group.

GLORIA ROBINSON



Born April 7, 1938, my name is Gloria Robinson, married for 57 years to Jim Robinson. We have two sons and four beautiful grandchildren all of whom are in their 20s. We lived in six states and overseas, three years in Paris and four in Hong Kong. After I retired from several careers we moved to Sequim ten years ago. My mother

came with us and we cared for her at home with the assistance of the Soroptimists' medical loan closet.

My skills may be rusty but I am eager to help others using my varied experiences which include: teaching, elementary school guidance counselor in public, private and parochial schools; social worker holding positions as health educator, youth services director and elderly activities coordinator for several towns in Connecticut.

It has been a wonderful experience and I am eager to move forward and support the goals of Soroptimists.

LAURA RUNDLE



My name is Laura Rundle and I currently live in Sequim, WA. My husband, Chuck, and I moved to Sequim, in 2006 and have been enjoying this beautiful part of the country. Chuck and I were both born and raised in Northern California but when Freeman Companies asked us to move to Seattle to help the office

there with the Microsoft Account, we decided to make the leap—and we have never regretted that decision.

I currently work as a contractor for the Freeman Companies. For the last 30 years I have helped produce national tradeshows, meetings and conferences throughout the United States.

I have recently decided to cut back a bit so that I can enjoy my community and start giving back. I am very athletic and I love to work out and run with my dog any chance I get. I dabble in gardening and every year I plant a vegetable garden and every year I say I shouldn't plant so much. My friends and neighbors always share in the bounty. I love to travel and visit exciting new and old places throughout the world and look forward to many new adventures.

McCORMACK, Vicki
360-808-9810
Cents Ability, Inc.
PO Box 2375, Sequim
vicki8586@gmail.com
Birthday: 6/1



MILLER, Joan (Dave)
360-775-5111
501 S. Blue Water View, Port Angeles
paquilter@olypen.com
Birthday: 2/17



ROBINSON, Gloria (Jim)
360-681-4675
141 Fairway Place, Sequim
glojob@aol.com
Birthday 4/7



RUNDLE, Laura (Chuck)
477-4208
40 Plum Tree Lane, Sequim
laura@nu-west.com
Birthday 3/21



SEASON OF GIVING

In this season of giving and receiving gifts, we would like to thank each of our wonderful Soroptimist sisters who are helping with the Medical Loan Closet this year for the gift of your time and effort. You are a blessing—not only to the operation of the closet, but to every single person who has received our services! You are the ones who take the time to meet these folks, face to face, at a time when they need assistance and compassion most—and you do it with grace and love. Thank you. We appreciate you.

~Gena Royal, Sally Sue Barry and Su Howat, MLC Co-Chairs



**“I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy.”
~ Rabindranath Tagore**

PRESIDENT’S APPEAL *(taken from soroptimist.org)*

You may (or may not) have noticed the December 10th President’s Appeal on our budget, but you may not know what it is. Whoever is the International President for the current biennium (2015-2017) chooses a specific need in the world to which Soroptimists throughout the world can lend their monetary support. The current President, Yvonne Simpson, took office at the 2015 Convention in Istanbul, Turkey and hails from SI Westland, New Zealand. She chose to fund



projects addressing the specific educational needs of women and girls in earthquake-ravaged Nepal. Eligible projects will include building schools, providing scholarships, teaching income-generating skills, educating girls and women to prevent trafficking, etc.

The aim is to focus on helping to rebuild lives in Nepal, whilst providing educational opportunities which may not have existed prior to the earthquakes of 2015. Following disaster, the immediate needs are great and include water, shelter, healthcare and safety. Women and girls have specific needs and of course these need to be addressed during the current relief phase. However once we move into the rebuilding phase, it is vital to ensure that women and girls have access to the one thing we all agree can lift them out of poverty and transform their lives: Education.

Why December 10th? In 1950, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed it Human Rights Day and that is the day Soroptimists worldwide focus their support for the President’s project.

You can read more about this at:

<http://www.soroptimist.org/members/program/programdocs/soroptimistintl/december-10th-appeal.pdf>.

“The joy of brightening other lives, bearing each others’ burdens, easing other’s loads and supplanting empty hearts and lives with generous gifts becomes for us the magic of Christmas.” ~ W.C. Jones

WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL

As you know, our club elected to sponsor a woman survivor of war in Africa and we've recently learned her name. We were introduced to our sister, Betty Sadia, a woman living in South Sudan and we were told that she has begun a year-long program to help better her life and help rebuild her community—thanks to us!



South Sudan had decades of civil war, declared independence in 2011, yet continues to be mired in violence. 81% of births are unattended, women's ability to obtain basic healthcare services and education is limited, and there are still patriarchal practices like early and forced marriage ongoing. By participating in the program we're funding for Betty, women report positive changes in earning and saving money, becoming more healthy, participating in household financial decisions, and creating and connecting to networks for support and advocacy for women.

Deborah Carlson will be communicating with Betty on our behalf, via an online system through Women for Women International. Stay tuned for communication from Betty and to learn more about the program she's in, thanks to us sharing our funds.

~President Jane



“Self-study, self-exploration, self-empowerment — these are the virtues of a great education.” ~ *Shimon Schocken*

SERVING UP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The clubs on the Olympic Peninsula are again collaborating on a human trafficking event. It is scheduled for **Thursday, January 28, 2016**, at **Peninsula College** during **the Studium Generale** class held around **noon** on that day. Martha Hurd from the Port Angeles Jet Set club has contacted Megan Bruneau, who works in the human trafficking section of the Seattle Police Department, to be our speaker. Megan has also lined up to accompany her a partner who works in the federal arm of human trafficking. Some of you may know or remember Megan. She was our human trafficking speaker four years ago. Megan grew up in Port Angeles. She plans to cover the topic of trafficking related to servitude of victims being forced to work.



SAVE THE DATE
January, 28, 2016
Peninsula College
Studium Generale
Noon

The PA Jet Set club is checking with the college to see if we can put out a donation jar and have a table with Soroptimist handouts about human trafficking. They think Megan may be connected with a safe house or training center for victims coming out of human trafficking and we are thinking that is where any donations would go to this year.

“The whole idea of compassion is based on a keen awareness of the interdependence of all these living beings, which are all part of one another, and all involved in one another.” ~ *Thomas Merton*

THE SEASON FOR SEE'S CANDIES

See's is gearing up for the holiday season and had its first Walmart sale of the year on Friday, November 20th—it was a great success! Colleen Blazier and Judy Field were the star saleswomen for this sale; thank you both for the great job. They sold over a \$1,000.00 worth of candy, including some special orders that will be picked up at Sequim Spice & Tea, next week.



Sales at Sequim Spice & Tea are increasing, which is to be expected because of the holiday season. Marty, Char and Anthony are really into the spirit of selling See's and are also taking special orders from customers, which will be available next week for pick up. The store is currently being remodeled and they hope that by the end of the year they will be able to open a tea room at their location—not just offer the tremendous amounts of spices and teas as they do now.

~Sandy Hutter, See's Candies Chair



Christmas gift suggestions:
To your enemy, forgiveness.
To an opponent, tolerance.
To a friend, your heart.
To a customer, service.
To all, charity.
To every child, a good example.
To yourself, respect.”
~Oren Arnold

DIPPING INTO SERENDIPITY

I love the word “serendipitous.” I love when you least expect it, something serendipitous happens. Whether it is on a trip, to a restaurant, in a store or with a friend—when you least expect it—something unexpected happens. It is in that moment you experience something happy and wonderful. I believe that is what happens when you open yourself up to the possibilities through conversations. At least that is what has occurred each time I go in and chat with Kate, the owner of Lucky Star Consignment. I have learned that this wonderful woman is a giver and doer. She gives and does for those less fortunate—whether it is taking in a teen whose parents just up and left their responsibility, or collecting blankets for someone in need. When I have dropped off our donations, I have learned so much from her, and each time I find that it was another serendipitous moment. I leave her shop feeling I discovered something wonderful by chance.

We are collaborating with a young woman who cares about her community and those who live in it—which leads me to share about one of my most recent visits. Yes, I experienced another serendipitous moment! Kate shared that she graduated from Quilcene High School in 1987 and she was a recipient of a scholarship from Soroptimist International of Port Townsend. Their wise choice is our gift 28 years later! I hope as a member of Soroptimist International of Sequim, you will go in and tell Kate “thank you” for her contributions and her collaboration with us. You also might find something you would like to purchase, as she has some wonderful items that could be your serendipitous moment.

If you have any donations, please call (460-5522) and check with me to see if I will be at the meetings in December. Santa and Mrs. Claus are very busy this time of year!

~Linda Klinefelter, Lucky Star Chair





Gala Gift Show

Additional pictures at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/108582458@N03/albums/72157661973782631>



GARDEN SHOW 2016 UPDATE . . .

As the garden show planning continues, don't forget:

Newspaper articles for the Sequim Gazette insert are due to Kathy Purcell by January 31st.

Sponsorship dollars donated to the Garden Show are a tax write-off, so you may want to consider pointing that out to anyone you might talk to about being a sponsor . . . or if you'd like to be one yourself!.

~Jan Chapman & Elaine Churchill, 2016 Gala Garden Show Co-Chairs



EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

Thank you for your sympathy and support during this difficult time...and for honoring Pete with your love and friendship.

To my wonderful SIS Sisters...thank you for the beautiful flowers for Soropti-Mister Pete.

Love you all.
Missy



Dear Soroptimists,

I can't think of anything better than a greeting to say you were thoughtful with your help in such a fabulous way!

Your donation will help support getting books in the hands of our struggling readers.

Thank you!
Krista Chatters
Elementary Literacy Specialist
Greywolf Elementary

To Our Wonderful Friends at SI Sequim!

Thank you so much for your recent gift in celebration of SI Seattle Metro's 90th Anniversary. Your gift will be used to continue to improve the lives of women and girls through our local scholarship/awards and shelter programs. We are very grateful for our sister clubs and we appreciate your generous donation!

Kathy Koehle, SISM President

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." ~B.B. King



SOROPTIMISTS BOOKED

We were recently visited by members of the SI of Port Angeles noon club. They did a little song and dance and sold their Elegant Gourmet books. They gave a book to our club because we bought an ad in. That book was one of the prizes given out at our November program meeting.



December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 BOARD MEETING	5 Deb Carlson  Boys & Girls Club 9am-3 pm
6	7	8 Business Meeting	9	10	11 Kecia Gilliam 	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 	22 	23	24	25 	26
27	28 Sandy Lawrence 	29	30	31 Jenni Dix 		

January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 	2
3	4	5	6 Rose Jaeger 	7	8 BOARD MEETING	9
10 Kate Creasey 	11	12 Business Meeting	13	14	15	16
17 Kathy Cuhna 	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Program Meeting	27	28 Human Trafficking Event Peninsula College Noon	29	30
31						

BESTOWING KINDNESS by: Nette Onclaud

Simple treasures enshrine the heart
bestowing a glee pure with delight;
goodies wrapped in foil thrill carolers
on a breezy night, sweet lyrics glow...
Merry the friendship when long talks bind
enchanted hours of sweet reveries,
as cheers are shared with honeyed tea
while neighbors join to say hello...

We flock 'round Grandma's homemade pies
then offer tidings for everyone;
beneath a pine's star glazed by joy
with gift of thanks for blessings' grace...
Along the blue of bluest night
prayers spill for world unity
when gratitude finds the loving,
the yearning of tender spirits
a promise where kindness resides.



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Soroptimist International of Sequim
PO Box 126
Sequim, WA 98382

*improving the lives of women and
girls through programs leading to*

To a Woman Making a Difference for Women