



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Soropti-SCOOP

*A Communiqué by
women dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls
through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.*

Vol. 20, Issue 7

Soroptimist International of Sequim

January, 2016

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

**“Those who danced
were thought to be
quite insane by those
who could not
hear the music.”
~Angela Monet**

Message from the President

Happy New Year!! I hope everyone had a wonderful couple of holiday weeks. We sure started off nicely with our special breakfast and social time on the 22nd of December! I loved hearing the laughter and seeing members truly enjoying one another. For my family, Christmas was one of the best gatherings we've had in years! However, it started out kind of rough when it took four of us about 12 hours to make a trip we usually make in half that time. Just the portion from Bellevue to Cle Elum over the pass took almost five hours—and then the pass was closed behind us. The following day our oldest son and wife were unable to take Snoqualmie Pass—normally a 4-hour trip—so they had an 11-hour trip over a very circuitous route to my mom's. But Christmas/Birthday dinner finally found 18 of us gathered—my 89-year-old mom with her children, grandchildren, and her one great-grandchild. (Well, 19 if you count our first grandchild expected in June 2016—smiley face). The fact that family members made it from New Hampshire, Indiana, California, and five places in Washington to a very wintery Grand Coulee Dam was pretty amazing in itself!

Also amazing is this club! It's so heartwarming to look back on the past six months and picture all of you “doing your thing.” We've worked hard to raise more funds—we've distributed almost all of our \$11,000 of committed funds (budgeted amounts to designated programs and other non-profits), we've participated and served with dignity in several community projects and awareness events, we're sponsoring a woman survivor of war in South Sudan so that she can have a better life, we're building relationships with young girls in our community through book clubs and tutoring, and we've also done some fun things for ourselves and learned more about each other in the process. In the *Giraffes Can't Dance* children's book I read at installation, Gerald the giraffe found out he could dance once he found his own special music. I think each one of you has found your “music” and you are “dancing” for the good of the club.

Looking back makes looking forward to the next six months very encouraging. We know we will be doing some major fundraising, but we'll have fun in the process, and it's my hope we will also find a couple more projects to work on before my term is up. As you know, my heart is in doing things hands-on. Join me, keep “dancing” to your own music, and let's continue *Reaching Higher Through Dignity of Service!*

President Jane



Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

Soroptimist used to have an award titled Making a Difference for Women. In 2009 the name was changed to the Ruby Award—in honor of the first federation President, Ruby Lee Minar. I often see meaning in words/phrases that others do not. In Make A Difference I saw MAD. What does it mean to make a difference? How do we know if we are MAD?

One morning in early December I went into Safeway to pick up a few things. The gal who scanned my groceries was a past recipient of one of our club's scholarships. She asked if we were going to be singing soon. I told her we weren't and she said that was too bad because we were the only group who sang.

She was referring to our club doing bell ringing. For years, one Saturday between Thanksgiving and Christmas, some club members volunteered to ring bells outside of Safeway for the Salvation Army. They even had aprons made up with the word Soroptimist on them. Eight years ago Safeway said they would not allow the ringing of bells. It was never clear why. Not to be deterred, our club decided to **sing** instead of ring. Kate Creasey and Barb Thompson—two of our club's primo singers—put together a collection of songs and made books for the club to use. The no-ringing bell ringing went on for two years. Then Safeway said they would again allow the ringing of bells. Our club so enjoyed the singing that we decided to continue it—and intersperse some ringing.



Singing is not my strong suit. I can carry a tune—if it's in my pocket. I would sign up for the same time Kate or Barb would be there because I could follow along with them. There were some shoppers who would sing with us as they walked from the parking lot into Safeway—or as they exited the store and walked to their cars. It was a lot of fun! It put people into the holiday spirit.

We haven't done the bell ringing/singing since 2012. I was surprised when the clerk asked me about it. After three years, she still remembered our singing. It shows we did make a difference.

At our holiday party last month I sat at a table with Barb Thompson. Part of the festivities was to sing Christmas carols. There were books on the table—the same books Barb and Kate had made back in 2008. Barb picked one up and commented about that—and then she asked why we don't do bell ringing anymore. I replied that during the summer of 2013 the club held a brainstorming meeting where members voted for their favorite activities. The top few were chosen to keep; bell ringing wasn't one of the top few, so the club stopped doing it. Barb said it doesn't take the entire club to do the activity and she'd like to see it make a comeback.

Kathryn Pacelli, our President-elect, was sitting across the table from us. She is a musician in her own right. We talked about the possibility of bringing the bell ringing back. I (half) jokingly said that Barb could spearhead the comeback of our singing/ringing. We'll see how the spirit moves us for next year. A seed has been planted for us to be MAD.

One of the definitions of **mad** is: *overcome by desire, eagerness, enthusiasm, etc.* When we give from our hearts—when we share our passion for life—we make a difference. Sometimes that difference is something we don't even know (unless someone tells us)—such as with the gal at Safeway. Imagine how many other lives we have influenced and how many more lives we will influence as we reach higher with dignity of service!

Light and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor



“Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.” ~William James

CALENDAR

JANUARY

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

FEBRUARY

- 5 Board Meeting
- 9 Business Meeting
- 20 Area Meeting
- 23 Program Meeting
- Live Your Dream Award Recipient



***EVENING MEETING**

“The essential difference between emotion and reason is that emotion leads to action while reason leads to conclusions.” ~Donald Calne



Photo by Cindy Rhodes

**“Knowing that we can make a difference in this world is a great motivator. How can we know this and not be involved?”
~Susan Jeffers**

Celebrate Life!

JANUARY

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

FEBRUARY

- 2 Becky Archer
- 2 Cindy Rhodes
- 11 Missy Church-Smith
- 12 Su Howat
- 17 Joan Miller
- 22 Jan Chapman



Note the phone number for our MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

504-0231



REMINDER:

When sending an email to a large group, please do so with **Bcc** instead of the **To**.

“I have always been delighted at the prospect of a new day, a fresh try, one more start, with perhaps a bit of magic waiting somewhere behind the morning.” ~ **J. B. Priestley**

PROGRAM FOR JANUARY 26, 2016

Our Program for January will be speakers from Habitat for Humanity of Clallam County (HFHCC). Colleen Robinson is the *Community Outreach Director for Habitat for Humanity of Clallam County*. She came on board with HFHCC in January of 2015! You may remember Colleen from her years working with the North Olympic Foster Parent Association (NOFPA) and their collaboration with our club.

Also, the Executive Director, Cyndi Hueth, will be accompanying her. They would like to speak to our group about HFH’s new program in Sequim...*Neighborhood Revitalization!*

We look forward to learning about this vital organization and how we can help!

~Kathryn Pacelli, Programs Chair



MORNING INSPIRATION

This is a cup given to Sally Sue’s daughter, Lin, by one of her coworkers. Sally Sue thought it was worth sharing in the newsletter. The photo, taken with a cell phone, shows the cup on the kitchen counter in Bellingham—with Sally Sue’s toast just behind it.

“The woman who does not require validation from anyone is the most feared individual on the planet.” ~ *Mohadesa Najumi*

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

GIRLS OF THE MONTH

Kaylee Lofstrom



Kaylee Lofstrom is 17 years old, and a senior at Sequim High School. She has lived in Sequim her whole life. She is hugely involved at Sequim High School, has been on the Varsity Swim team for four years and a participant in school clubs. With Be the Change Club, she has volunteered with Sequim's Bell Creek Project and helped fundraise for girls who lack education in Sierra Leon and India. Kaylee also has a love for hiking and exploring the Pacific Northwest, and has gone on an annual 2-week family sailing trip for the last seven years. As Kaylee continues on to a 4-year university in the upcoming year, she hopes to study abroad and discover new places, cultures, music, food and people.

Amanda Sanders



Amanda Sanders has lived in Sequim for about six years. She is a senior at Sequim High school. She is also a Sequim irrigation princess, and a varsity cheerleader. Once she graduates Amanda plans to attend Peninsula college to get her AA and Early Childhood Education certificate. She has a real love for children and would like to work with them in her future. After Amanda gets her AA she plans to attend Western Oregon University to get her ASL interpreting degree. Amanda enjoys American Sign Language and the culture!

“Education is the movement from darkness to light.” ~Allan Bloom

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Two charts outlining the timeline, criteria and activities for each of our awards and scholarships now appear on the SIS website, members' section. They can be found at:

<http://sisequim.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/forms/Chart-Awards-Given.pdf>

<http://sisequim.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/forms/Chart-Scholarships-Cont-Ed.pdf>

~Pat Willis and Shelle Paulbitski
Awards and Scholarships Co-Chairs



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

There will be an A.I.M. High Book Club leader training directly after our meeting on Tuesday, January 12th—at Jeanne Martin's office. If you are interested in doing a book club, please contact Elaine Churchill before the SIS meeting. It's a wonderful experience and one you will never forget! Heart Kids Rag Dolls will be at Greywolf on January 19th and 26th at 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. If you are interested and have not signed-up to help the 4th & 5th grade girls make the dolls, please contact Amanda Beitzel—no training necessary.

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



SOCKS FOR SOCKS

During this past summer, a lady in Port Angeles called me explaining that she had, for 11 years, been furnishing a live Christmas tree for the Healthy Families gathering room and covering it with teddy bears.

She was doing this all on her own—for the joy of knowing children in crisis could take a bear from the tree and have something cuddly to hold onto. After 11 years, she was looking for someone else to take over and Becca gave her my number!

Becca shared that she would like to see warm socks, a year round need at Healthy Families, on the tree instead of bears. After speaking with President Jane, we decided it would be a "side" club project, only participate if you feel the urge, not club budgeted.

Well, I'm happy to report that many of you felt the urge, because Jan Chapman and I hung more than 100 pairs of bright, warm, fluffy socks—for all ages, for boys, girls, men and women. Individually tied with pretty gold ribbon and easily accessible for picking, the cozy foot love dressed a beautiful, live tree and has been greatly appreciated by all. We will continue to make the Soroptimist Sock Tree an annual giving event. So, if you feel more urge—and we hope you will—keep an eye out for sales year-round. Now is super sale time; if your heart drags you over to the sock aisle, don't fight it! Use your Penney's "\$10 off \$10" coupons. If you don't feel like shopping, call me; I'll pick them up and use them for you.

Joan Miller, one of our newer members and knitting goddess, has generously been donating her beautiful handmade socks to our club for us to sell. Proceeds from her socks are going into a newly formed "Socks for Socks" fund to purchase more socks for Healthy Families. All of us together, buying something as simple as a few pair of socks, are warming feet and hearts and bringing comfort to our community in a most needed way. Thank you all for your generous hearts and Happy New Year!



~Deb Carlson



"I'll tell you one thing you can't do: you can't put your shoes on, then your socks on." ~*Flavor Flav*

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 a partner to accompany her 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.

HOLIDAY JOY 2015

I think this is our club's sixth year of helping Healthy Families of Clallam County and Beverly Hoffman with her Christmas program called Holiday Joy. As most of you know it consists of sponsoring a family for Christmas and also helping with Family Day. In Beverly's thank you note she indicated that Holiday Joy sponsored 130 women, men and children, encompassing 44 family units this year.

I would personally like to thank all of you who participated in some way, either adopting a family or helping with Family Day. I know it's a busy time of year for everyone, so your efforts are doubly appreciated. Without your help most of these children would have received very little if anything for Christmas.

This project fits our Soroptimist goal of improving the lives of women and girls (children).

~Kathleen DeJong



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



We presented Becca Korby with a check for \$1,200.



MUJERES UPDATE

Dear Soroptimist Sisters,

I hope you all had good holidays. As you know, I missed the summer trip to Chiapas due to a head injury, but am happy to report that I am traveling there the end of January. I will be attending the bi-monthly meeting of the cooperative, presenting two new scholarships (this is usually done in the summer, but these two girls are starting mid-year), and making visits to communities.

We are delighted to announce two new programs!! One is our 4th Saturday Children's Program that will start in January in the city of Yajalon. The second is a comprehensive series of workshops that will take place between March and December. These workshops will deal with literacy training for volunteers, accounting and managing bank accounts, the importance of community participation, gender equity, health, marketing their weavings and problem solving. A total of 200 workshops will take place.

I will be taking a suitcase full of over 100 toothbrushes, floss and hard glasses cases with me. Thank you for this!

I wish you all a very Happy 2016.

Judith Pasco, Board Chair, Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation

mujeres@olypen.com

www.MujeresDeMaizOF.org



FIRST STEP TOUR

First Step Family Support Center has been one of the recipients of our Committed Funds for many years. When the Finance Committee reviewed their annual request for funds and compared it to our Rubric, First Step Family Support Center met all of our requirements. Their mission is “to promote the healthy development of children and families in Clallam County.” In the past, one of the members of their organization has visited our meeting to receive a check.



This year, on December 9th, President Jane Manzer, new member Joan Miller, and I scheduled an appointment at their facilities for a tour and to present our check at their Board meeting.



Executive Director Nita Lynn gave us a tour of their amazing facilities encompassing three buildings. They provide an entire spectrum of offerings including cooking classes, maternity support services, parent-child assistance program, first books program, infant case management, and much more. Their website at www.firststepfamily.org is an excellent site to see more about the programs that they provide.

We toured rooms where families and their children can drop in weekday afternoons to connect with staff or to share experiences with other drop in clients. They offer nursing and nutrition counseling as well as cooking classes with fresh produce provided by the Port Angeles Farmer’s Market. They have a well-organized clothing locker with everything from women’s to children’s clothing, sorted by size. Anyone can come and help themselves, or recycle clothing that children have outgrown or other clothing no longer needed. There are both outside and inside safe play areas for the children while parents are taking a class or receiving counseling.

After our very enlightening tour of their facility (it’s both attractive and functional) we were introduced to their Board and we presented them with our check for \$1,200. Nita indicated that our check would be used for the drop-in center in Sequim. We were delighted to get a glimpse of their facility and see the many programs that they offer to the parents and children in our community. We are confident that our committed funds are well used. In 2015 they served 5,000 adults and children in Clallam County.

~Jeanne Martin



“Things that I grew up with stay with me. You start a certain way, and then you spend your whole life trying to find a certain simplicity that you had. It's less about staying in childhood than keeping a certain spirit of seeing things in a different way.” ~**Tim Burton**



Here is a link to more pics: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/108582458@N03/albums/72157662173554820>

**THANK YOU — THANK YOU — THANK YOU
THANK YOU, DEAR MEMBERS!**

We can't say it enough, so once again, **THANK YOU** to all members for your enthusiastic help making the 2015 Gala Gift Show a huge success. Our profits were up and the shoppers came in spite of the weather. The majority of the vendors were happy with their sales. It was heart-warming to witness the amazing **YOU** as you jumped in to help when others couldn't, used your creative spirit to overcome obstacles, and were at the show in force to show your support and to help. At our wrap-up meeting, the 2015 Gala Gift Show committee unanimously recommends that our **Gold, Black and White Gala** shine again in 2016 to bring holiday joy to the shoppers of Sequim.



~Gala Gift Show 2015 Chairs, Amanda, Kathy and Missy



SOME VENDOR COMMENTS

- Very helpful and quick response with good communication.
- Well-orchestrated process/event.
- Was very appreciative of the variety of items that the show had, too many of one kind of product will bore the customer.
- I thought all the people were great and very helpful.
- I really enjoyed meeting the members.
- Organization of whole event and communication with vendors was great. Your commitment to improving the event every year is commendable and customer support was awesome.
- You all made us feel very welcome!! We love your show!
- Everyone is friendly, helpful, responsive— as a vendor, I give you my gratitude for your great attitude.
- Great job with the production of this event. I look forward to it every year.
- My customers continue to remark about what a great ("the best!") show this is during the holiday season!
- Overall the ladies and organization was over the top. I had fun. Thank you for inviting me.

SEE'S CANDIES

See's sales were outstanding for December—the best that they have ever been! Santa delivered an exceptional amount of candy to all the good boys and girls on his list this year. We have developed a loyal following of customers in the past, and have gained and continue to gain many new customers—which is contributing to the overall wonderful See's sales. A special thank you from myself and our See's customers, for those of you who picked up candy—and also to Marty, Char, Antony and Hillary at Sequim Spice and Tea for their contribution to making it such a successful Christmas for Soroptimist.



~Sandy Hutter, See's Candies Chair



STARRING ROLES

Here it is 2016! When did that happen? While we all try to figure out where the year went I want to thank all of you who have donated to Lucky Star. So that brings me to future donations. I do appreciate your efforts when you drop things off yourself to the store, but sometimes that complicates things a little. If the owner is not there, often times, things are not credited to the correct account. If you have something to donate, give me a call and make sure I will be at the meeting. If I am not attending, I will be happy to drop by your home and pick up. I am just a phone call away. Again, thank you for all that you do to support this seemingly silent fundraiser. It may be small, but it supports our mission.

Linda Klinefelter, Lucky Star Chair
360-460-5522



GARDEN SHOW UPDATE

- ◆ Members of the GARDEN SHOW CORE COMMITTEE, keep an eye out for a call to meeting in January. A notice will be coming out that will include the timeline; please review for any tasks you are responsible for.
- ◆ Vendor booth spaces are a HOT commodity! There are only 14 spaces left, with four of those spoken for but not paid for. We are way ahead of where we were the past two years at this date!
- ◆ Remember, if you plan to be a sponsor, send/give your paperwork to Kathy Purcell, who will pass it along to Shelle & Colleen.



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



"Sow good services: sweet remembrances will grow from them." ~ Madame de Stael

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

Dear Soroptimists,

Thank you so very much for your generous donation to the Helen Haller Library. With your donation, books for girls in grades 3–5 were purchased for the collection. These books will be read by multiple students for many years to come! Thank you again!

Sheri Krackeberg
Teacher-Librarian
Helen Haller Elementary



Dear Soroptimist Ladies,

I want to thank each and every one of you for taking the time to nominate me as Girl of the Month for December. It means so much. You are all wonderful women, and I am blessed to have met you all.

Thank you.
Sincerely,
Amanda Sanders

Dear Friends at the Soroptimists,

It is with sincere gratitude that we send Soroptimists this letter of appreciate to you for your recent donation of four Gala Garden Show tickets for our annual Visitor & Information Center (VIC) Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.

Without your membership and your donation, we wouldn't have been able to create such a warm and inviting event in which to appreciate our volunteers. And for that, we are grateful to you!

We thank our lucky stars for you!

Sincerely,
The team at Sequim-Dungeness Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitor & Information Center

“Make it a habit to tell people thank you. To express your appreciation, sincerely and without the expectation of anything in return. Truly appreciate those around you, and you'll soon find many others around you. Truly appreciate life, and you'll find that you have more of it.”

~Ralph Marston

Dear Soroptimists,

Thank you so much for inviting us to the Soroptimist Gala Gift Show and supporting Girl Power Campaign. Hope you have a joy-filled Christmas.

Blessings,
Brian and JoEllen Redmond

Dear Soroptimists,

Thank you for your recent generous gift of \$1,000 to the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Olympic Peninsula. Your commitment to help the children in our community is appreciated by us and most importantly, by those who benefit from our services—especially those who need us the most. Thanks to donors like you members are given expanded learning opportunities, pursue physical activities and participate in activities centered on teamwork and citizenship. Please accept our heartfelt thanks for being a most consistent and caring supporter. Great Futures Start Here!

With Appreciation,
Mary Budke Janet Gray
Executive Director Resource Development Director

Dear Soroptimists,

Because of your generosity [\$2,000 Scholarship], we want to keep you informed of our family.

Thank you again for helping our daughter, Sarah.
Dawn Thomas

Excerpt from the family holiday letter...

Sara graduated from Sequim High School with Honors this past June. She is soon to be in her second quarter at Peninsula College. She would love to pursue something in photography but she knows that photography is a very hard career to support a family. She is thinking about a career in Early Education with a minor in Learning Disabilities. Another thought is Sport Physical Therapy. Sarah was awarded several scholarships adding up to \$12,000 from the Albert Haller Foundation, SSD Rowland Memorial Foundation and Sequim Soroptimist. All were from our location community. Without them and God's favor, Peninsula College wouldn't have been possible for our family!

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 12:25 p.m.	29	30
31						

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Becky Archer Cindy Rhodes 	3	4	5 BOARD MEETING	6
7	8	9 Business Meeting	10	11 Missy Church-Smith 	12 Su Howat 	13
14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i> 	15	16	17 Joan Miller 	18	19	20 Area Meeting Greater Bremerton
21	22 Jan Chapman 	23 Program Meeting Live Your Dream Award	24	25	26	27
28	29					

Irrevocable Verge *by by K.D.*

Comes nearer, the irrevocable verge,
Irresistible, circling surge.
Vortexing voice quickens apace,
Daunting, approaching embrace.
Time to blindly, boldly leap,
Searching within one, go deep.
Not to falter or fall but to ascend,
Inner soul to answer and mend.
Truth brings sweet healing and grace,
Occupy this entire space, this very place.
Newness and calling, step into the light,
Feeling happy, being me, feeling right.

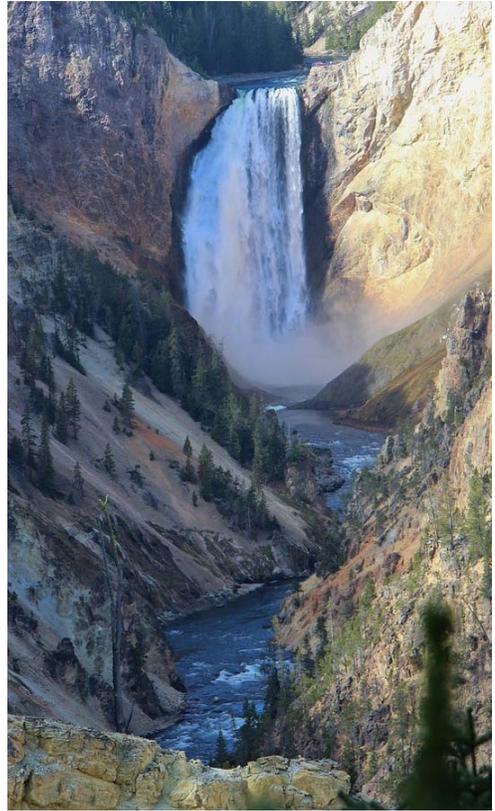


Photo by Cindy Rhodes



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

*improving the lives of women and
girls through programs leading to
social and economic empowerment.*

Soroptimist International of Sequim
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Sequim, WA 98382

To a Woman Making a Difference for Women