

Officers 2016 - 2017

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Gena Royal

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Kathy Purcell

Treasurer:

Karen Renk

Assistant Treasurer:

Kathy Cunha

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(one year remaining)**

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Director: 2 year

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Director: 1 year

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Director: 1 year

Elaine Churchill

Past President:

Jane Manzer

Newsletter Staff:

Kathy Purcell

Sally Sue Barry

Pat Willis



Message from the President

Dear Soroptimist Sisters:

We had a very successful Gala Gift Show and the comments from the vendors were outstanding. First and foremost I hope you were able to get to know each other a little better as you served on the various committees.

As someone mentioned, clubs usually only have 20% of the members doing the work, but I know for a fact we always have 95% participation in all we do.

The Holidays are coming and many of us will be traveling or having our loved ones come here. It is a hectic but a blessed time to reflect on the many things we have to be grateful for.

Here are some quotes about gratitude that will not only remind you that what you have is pretty awesome, but will also, I hope, spur you to express that **gratitude** to the people who deserve it most.

1. "Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things." *Robert Brault*
2. "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them." *John F. Kennedy*
3. "Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has plenty; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some." *Charles Dickens*
4. "If a fellow isn't thankful for what he's got, he isn't likely to be thankful for what he's going to get." *Frank A. Clark*
5. "Gratitude turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion into clarity...it makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow." *Melody Beattie*
6. "The way to develop the best that is in a person is by appreciation and encouragement." *Charles Schwab*
7. "He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has." *Epictetus*
8. "At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us." *Albert Schweitzer*
9. "The deepest craving of human nature is the need to be appreciated." *William James*
10. "You cannot do a kindness too soon because you never know how soon it will be too late." *Ralph Waldo Emerson*
11. "It is impossible to feel grateful and depressed in the same moment." *Naomi Williams*
12. "Things turn out best for people who make the best of the way things turn out." *John Wooden*



~continued on page 3

Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

December is here, and with it some holidays. It is a time of family, friends and food, light and love—and gift-giving. Most of us have some holiday tradition or meaningful memory—maybe it is a special dinner where we lit the menorah or kinara or Christmas tree.

Some people say Christmas has become too commercial—there's too much emphasis on presents and Santa Claus—and the real meaning has been lost. My mind flashes to images of children. Some parents take their kids to see Santa. The child sits on the lap of a guy—usually a chubby one—dressed in a red suit with a white beard—and tells Santa what is on his/her wish list. Santa listens intently and may give the child a toy or a candy cane. How does this fit in to the meaning of the season?

Often there is a line of people waiting, which to some might seem like a burden. But while they wait for Santa, parents talk and their children interact. Many say it is all worth it because it brings everyone together. Those who were once strangers in line, may even become good friends.

Another image comes to mind—children receiving a gift. There is a look of wonder and excitement on a child's face when handed a present. There is the anticipation of what's inside. They may shake the package or try to guess what it is. Then there's the tearing off of the wrapping paper—another visual example of their enthusiasm. Finally the box is opened and pure joy radiates in the atmosphere.

Children also like to give gifts—especially ones that they make. And we, as adults, like to receive these handmade gifts. They have special meaning to us. How does one determine the meaning in a gift?

Once a month I am a greeter at Sunday service. Recently a gentleman came up to me after service and thanked me for the wonderful hug I gave him a few weeks prior. He commented about how it made him feel welcomed and centered. With arms outstretched in gratitude, we joined in an embrace and together breathed a few deep breaths. For that brief moment we connected in spirit—we could feel the energy shared. We both said thank you after the hug. I told him I am a word person and I have an acronym for **HUG—Healing Universal Gift**. He smiled.

I was thinking about the story of Santa Claus and some questions arose. How can this jolly, roly-poly man in red visit all the children of the world on one night? Also, how can he know what each child (young and not-so-young) wants? Some say Santa Claus is just something we made up in our heads. What if that's true? What if Santa is in our mind? What everyone wants is love, and the gifts we present to our family and friends come from love. If we are thinking loving thoughts regarding those for whom we care, we are delivering that gift. Our loved ones are only a thought away.

This holiday season may we recognize the love behind the gifts and may we feel the unbridled enthusiasm of a child as we continue to work together to improve the lives of women and girls.

Wishing you all a holiday filled with meaningful memories and many genuine hugs.

Light and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor

“Love is, above all, the gift of oneself.” ~*Jean Anouilh*

CALENDAR

DECEMBER, 2016

- 3 **Gala Gift Show**
- 9 Board Meeting
- 13 Business Meeting
- 27 Christmas Party

JANUARY, 2017

- 6 Board Meeting
- 10 Business Meeting
- 24 Program Meeting
- 27 Deadline for articles
for the Gazette Tab
- *31 5th Tuesday
Chinese New Year
Party



***Evening Meeting**

“Holidays have been commercialized. It has become about material things. But the holidays are about sharing stories and being in each other's presence.” ~*Malcolm D. Lee*



“It's not about presents but it is about your presence. Therein lies the spirit of the holiday season.”
~*Julianne O'Connor*

Celebrate Life!

DECEMBER, 2016

- 5 Deborah Carlson
- 12 Kecia Gilliam
- 23 Cindy Bidegary
- 28 Sandy Lawrence
- 31 Jenni Dix

JANUARY, 2017

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



Note the phone number for our
MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

504-0231



“Celebrate the happiness that
friends are always giving,
make every day a holiday
and celebrate just living!”
~Amanda Bradley

President’s Message ~continued from page 1

13. “No one who achieves success does so without the help of others. The wise and confident acknowledge this help with gratitude.” *Alfred North Whitehead*

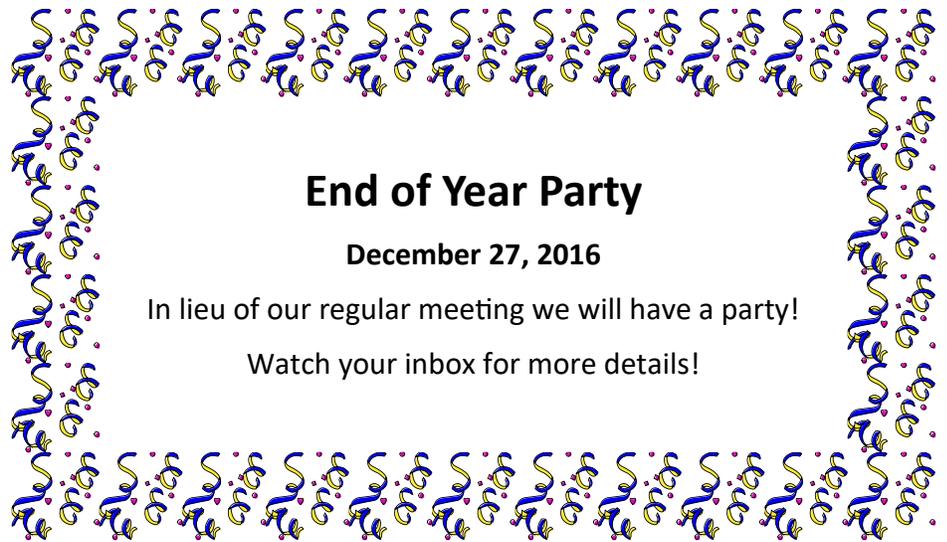
14. “I truly believe we can either see the connections, celebrate them, and express gratitude for our blessings, or we can see life as a string of coincidences that have no meaning or connection. For me, I'm going to believe in miracles, celebrate life, rejoice in the views of eternity, and hope my choices will create a positive ripple effect in the lives of others. This is my choice.” *Mike Ericksen*

15. “Gratitude and attitude are not challenges; they are choices.” *Robert Braathe*

16. “Keep your eyes open and try to catch people in your company doing something right, then praise them for it.” *Tom Hopkins*

May you all have a safe and happy Holiday Season! Our Holiday party is on December 27, 2016 at our regular meeting time. We will have a special menu and caroling. We can all express our gratitude to each other for a great year of service.

All my very best,
Kathryn Pacelli, President 2016-17



End of Year Party

December 27, 2016

In lieu of our regular meeting we will have a party!

Watch your inbox for more details!

SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER



Peninsula Area Meeting
February 25, 2017
SI of the Olympic Rain Forest



NWR Conference
Vancouver, WA
Hilton Vancouver
April 27-30, 2017

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

CARSON, Donna



Donna and her husband, Jeff, moved here in April from Central Pennsylvania. After visiting Sequim in 2009 and 2010, they bought a house in 2010—which they rented out in anticipation of moving here after their retirement.

For 35 years Donna worked for several large, international companies as a commercial underwriter in the insurance industry. Finding a lot of time on her hands since retirement, she feels blessed to have found a position in the office at Sunland Golf and Country Club. Another benefit of her new position is that, as a resident of Sunland, it has made it easier to get to know her new neighbors, make new friends, and of course, find Soroptimist.

With a love of singing, Donna sings in her church's choir. She was the local coordinator for the American Heart Association's Heart Walk and that volunteer position was a labor of love for Donna as heart disease has impacted her family. She, at one time, was a foster parent and her passion is to advocate for the less fortunate and is considering giving of her time and energy to the Guardian ad Litem program in the very near future.

FASCHING, Mary



Mary was born in Minnesota and after graduating from the University of Minnesota, worked in Human Resources for seven years at Syracuse University and then at Stanford University. During her 35 years in the San Francisco Bay area, she also did H.R. consulting in the

private sector, owned and operated a retail shop in Palo Alto—finishing her working career as a Property Appraiser for the County of Santa Clara.

Mary and her husband, Robert, moved to the Olympic Peninsula in 2010, and love the area, the people, and her neighborhood—she considers them her “Washington family.” She wants to be a member of another family as well—a family that gives back to the community—and that's why she wanted to join another family...our Soroptimist family.

GILLIAM, Marie



Marie, her husband Grant, and their 3 children moved to Sequim seven months ago from Houston where she volunteered with church groups, teens and as a Scout den leader.

Marie is a former Special Agent with the FBI, forensics investigator for Dell, network security manager for Hewlett Packard and currently a co-owner of Secure VP/MacTraders in Sequim. She enjoys kickboxing, martial arts, event and wedding planning, as well as computers and networking.

Marie's favorite quotation is “*No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.*”

– Eleanor Roosevelt

NICHOLLS, Sara



Originally from California Sara married her husband, Kennis, in 1987. They have 2 sons, Aaron and Blaine, who live in Seattle and Los Angeles. Kennis is retired Air Force so they've lived all over the county including

California, Washington, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Hawaii and Idaho.

Sara has worked in the medical field since age 15 beginning with long-term care, followed by medical offices, owning a medical billing company—as well as non-profit experience with Transplant Recipients International Organization, United Way of Kootenai County and now Dungeness Valley Health and Wellness Clinic.

Sara moved to Sequim in April, 2015 to take a job. That job didn't work out, but she believes she was meant to be at the Free Clinic all along. She enjoys reading, needlepoint, and boating—and for the past 12-years has indulged her love of acting. She started out at Spokane Civic Theatre and has done one show at Olympic Theater Arts since coming to Sequim.

SNOW, Chris



Chris and her husband, Rich, moved to Sequim in May of this year from Silverdale. Employed by the U.S. Navy for 36 years and MacLaughlin Research Corp. for three, Chris spent the first half of her career in I.T. computer systems analysis, and the second half in logistic management.

A former President and current Board Member of Kitsap Computing Seniors—who enjoys helping people learn computer skills—she established partnerships between KCS and non-profits providing computer resource centers at emergency housing shelters, group homes and at other non-profits. She was also instrumental in securing computer donations which were ultimately refurbished and given to people who couldn't afford computers.

Chris volunteered for several years with an organization that provided no cost emergency housing and mentoring to homeless families with children. She is looking forward to finding niches in Sequim where she can help people learn skills that will help them move forward in their lives.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The warmest of welcomes to our newest members: Donna Carson, Mary Fasching, Marie Gilliam, Sara Nicholls and Chris Snow.

According to my figures we're now at **70 members!**

New members, please take a look at our six committees: Finance, Public Awareness, Medical Loan Closet, Membership, Awards & Scholarships and Programs. Please sign up to work on at least one of them. Fundraising (Gala Gift Show and Gala Garden Show) is for every member.

~Elaine Bradford, Membership Committee

Member Roster changes can be found on the members' only site:
<http://sequimsi.org/members/roster-changes/>

“To many people holidays are not voyages of discovery, but a ritual of reassurance.”
~Philip Andrew Adams

SHOWING UP IN THE COMMUNITY

Back in October our Soroptimist club member Gwyn Wessel was one who helped make applesauce from apples as a volunteer with the Washington State University Clallam County Extension Office. They turned 1,500 pounds of apples into applesauce to help those in need.

What a wonderful gift to our community! To read it visit:
<http://sisequim.org/GwynApplesauce.pdf>

When life hands you apples ...



Joan Mason (P) / Peninsula Daily News

Cindy Birdsall, left, and Gwyn Wessel mill cooked apples into applesauce as volunteers with the Washington State University Clallam County Extension Office turned 1,500 pounds of apples into applesauce Tuesday. Below, Patty Lebowitz pours cooked apples into a food mill.

Volunteers make applesauce to help those in need

By JESSE MAJOR
PENINSULA DAILY NEWS

PORT ANGELES — The smell of freshly cooked apples filled the air in the Elvha Heritage Center on Tuesday as volunteers turned 1,500 pounds of apples into applesauce that will be distributed to those in need around Clallam County.

It's the first year the Clallam County Washington State University Extension Office has held the program and organizers hope to see it grow into the future.

“The goal of this project is to test the waters and see what's possible in the community and ... to provide nutritious food to a vulnerable population,” said Karlena Brasley, nutrition and physical activity coordinator for the extension office.

TURN TO SAUCE/A7



SHE-SOROPTIMIST HELPING & EMPOWERING

A.I.M. High - Reach for the Stars - Elementary & Middle School Committee

The A.I.M. High Committee is definitely reaching for the stars with a full agenda for the Sequim schools starting January 2017.



BOOK CLUBS—Elementary Schools

2016-17 Book Club Schedules (each runs on Tuesday for 6 weeks)

Greywolf Elementary—Tuesdays, 3:15–4:00 p.m., School Library

February 21-March 28, 2017 Gloria Robinson, Because of Winn Dixie

April 11-May 16, 2017 Gloria Fitzpatrick, Cloud Climber

Helen Haller Elementary—Tuesdays, 2:45-4:00 p.m., OrangePod

Spring 2017 (dates TBA) Judy Field, Because of Winn Dixie

February-March 2017 (dates TBA) Elaine Churchill, Tuck Everlasting



DAYS FOR GIRLS—Sequim Middle School (SMS) The hygiene kit construction

has been approved by the SMS Principal.—Date & time TBA

Training Session in Poulsbo, Tuesday, **December 13, 2016**, 10:00a.m.–1:00 p.m. Attending: Amanda Beitzel, Sandy Lawrence, Jane Manzer, Missy Church-Smith

There will be opportunities for everyone to be involved. Sign-up sheets will be passed at appropriate times.

Note: All facilitators and guests must complete Sequim School District Volunteer Application on-line or at the administration office.

~Amanda Beitzel, Elaine Churchill, Missy Church-Smith, Kecia Gilliam, Amala Kuster, Co-Chairs A.I.M. High



“This is my wish for you: peace of mind, prosperity through the year, happiness that multiplies, health for you and yours, fun around every corner, energy to chase your dreams, joy to fill your holidays! ~D.M. Dellinger



Sequim Knitting Club completed the six weeks course. Beverly Hoffman received a stack of washcloths for Healthy Families. The girls learned the basics and each girl started a scarf to keep for herself or give as a gift.



TEA with SHE

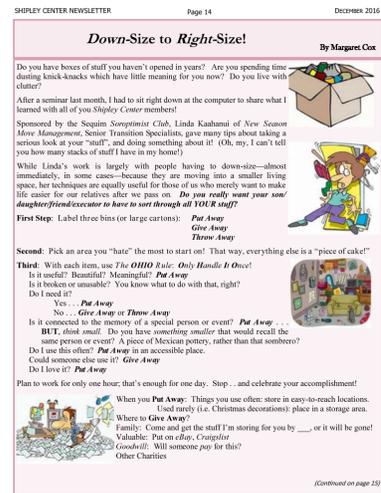
SOROPTIMIST HELPING AND EMPOWERING—SHE

There was a nice article in the December Shipley Center newsletter about our Tea with SHE held last month.

To read it visit:

<http://sisequim.org/Tea-w-SHE-article.pdf>

**“Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.”
~Hamilton Wright Mabie**



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

It's food gift card season for our girls.

- A few gift cards for Subway or Safeway would be very welcome.
- Also, Anna (you supply the bus pass for her) could use
- a new top or two and a new coat—women's size medium. She loves the color blue and is very fond of white fur around the hood or collar.
- athletic clothes, warm-up type pants (with side leg stripes)—women's size medium. Quick dry (dri fit) shirts, and hoodie sweatshirts—women's size M.
- Underwear (size 7) hipster.
- She badly needs new shoes, men's size 11 (Boys & Girls Club can probably help with these through Brooks or New Balance).

~Gail Watson, Liaison with Boys and Girls Club



“Christmas is a whisper of peace and a sigh of hope on the lips of love.” ~Richelle E. Goodrich



CLUB HISTORY

Christmas Giving, 1987

In 1987, Soroptimist International of Sequim participated in the Caring Trees program coordinated by Sequim Community Aid and hosted by five local banks. Each of the banks set up a Christmas tree decorated with names of local nursing home patients. Sequim residents chose names from the tree, purchased and wrapped a present, and placed the present under the tree to be delivered to the patient. In the photograph, Soroptimist Dorothy Herrett collects names for gifts from the Caring Tree at SeaFirst Bank.

SeaFirst Bank, after two mergers, is now 1st Security Bank. Dorothy Dey Herrett (1921-2000) was a Sequim native who worked as a bookkeeper at the Bank of Sequim.

~Pat Willis, Club History



MUJERES CONNECTION

Dear Soroptimist Sisters,

I hope you all had a lovely Thanksgiving. At this time of year, we are perhaps more aware of what we are grateful for. Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation would like to take a moment to thank all of you for your continuing support these past 11 years. Loyal, generous supporters, like you, have afforded Mujeres the chance to improve lives of indigenous girls and women through education possibilities.

We are also grateful for the 100 toothbrushes that we carry every time we travel south, as well as the hard glasses cases. (No more of the latter, please, we have enough for the next two years!) When I am in Chiapas, I explain to the women that there are many people who work hard so that scholarships, workshops, children's programs, eye exams, etc. are able to be funded. I tell them about the events we put on, the fundraising we do, and I always mention Soroptimists, and tell them about your organization and your purpose. On behalf of the Mujeres' Board, and of the women and children in Chiapas, we say "Gracias" to each of you.

All for now,
Judith Pasco
Board Chair, Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation



*"May your walls know joy, may every room hold laughter, and every window open to great possibility."
~Mary Anne Radmacher*

WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL

Dear Deborah,

I recently wrote to tell you about the resurgence of violence that has forced WfWI to suspend our sponsorship program in South Sudan. Despite the instability, our sisters in the region have not been harmed; however the situation makes it difficult to bring them together for training.



Your sister, Betty Sadia, was very close to completing her training when we were forced to temporarily suspend our program. We have placed your previous contributions on her behalf in reserve until we can safely resume training. Your prior support will enable her to complete her program as soon as the situation stabilizes.

Our hope is that peace and stability will quickly return, and allow us to reach these women and complete their training.

In the meantime, your continued support is critical. Enclosed, you will find the name and profile of a woman who needs your support. Like Betty Sadia, she has come to WfWI looking to build new skills to improve her life and create a hopeful future for her family. Please support her, as you've supported your sister in South Sudan.

I will send another update on the situation in South Sudan in the coming weeks. Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,
Laurie Adams, President



Meet your new sister:

Dyelmun Ayuba

Dyelmun lives in Nigeria, where women like her have survived war, hunger and abuse. Today, thanks to your sponsorship, she is on the path to a new life.

She is 31-40.

She is married.

She has no children.

And she is grateful for you, her new sister, for your caring and generous support.



5th TUSDAY / POUR, SIP, DRAW



GIVING IDEAS (excerpt from Northwestern Region *Soroptimist WOMAN*)

By the time this article hits the stands Giving Tuesday has passed. But, this does not mean that you cannot ask those around you to donate to Soroptimists directly—or better yet in your name in lieu of a present!

Give them some stats (couldn't help that one!)

- \$25 Would help a woman purchase part of a textbook for her class
- \$50 Would help a woman afford child care so she could attend a class
- Or Would cover the costs for a girl to attend a Dream It, Be It session
- \$100 Would help a Soroptimist club aid women and their families living in a domestic violence shelter
- \$500 Would help a Soroptimist club fight sex trafficking in its community
- \$1,000 Would help a woman pay her mortgage or rent for a month

HOW CAN THEY GIVE?

Monthly Giving

For as little as \$1 a day or \$30 a month, they can help a woman learn a new skill to support her family, improve the self-esteem of a girl struggling at school, or enable a club to support women experiencing domestic violence. Simply indicate on this online contribution form <https://secure.etransfer.com/EFT/custom/Soroptimist/donation480/donation1.cfm?d2org=Soroptimist&d2tool=donate> that the gift should be made either monthly or quarterly, or complete the form and return it to headquarters to enroll.

Planned Giving

Make a bequest, arrange for a charitable gift annuity or give a gift of stock. When they include Soroptimist in their will or estate plans, they can continue helping women and girls live their dreams beyond your lifetime.

For more information and links to these documents go to: <http://www.soroptimist.org/donate/donate.html>

More Ways to Help

Are you a Laurel Society member? How about asking them to put money towards your next level upgrade? If you are not, how about asking them to start! For more ideas go to: <http://www.soroptimist.org/members/fundraising/fundraisinghome.html>

And, do not forget to remind them that Soroptimist is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that relies on private donations, corporate support and foundation grants to support programs that help women and girls worldwide!

2017 GALA GARDEN SHOW NEWS

January 27th is the **deadline** for newspaper articles to be submitted to Kathy Purcell. Just so you know, it's perfectly OK if you want to get them to her earlier—the earlier the better. Please review the garden show Master Timeline, under NOVEMBER, for the list of committees that have article responsibilities. If you have any questions about your article, please contact Kathy, or Jan & Elaine.

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



“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

SEE'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

There are still open shifts to sell See's candy at Sequim Spice & Tea on the following dates and times. It is imperative that all these shifts be filled. Please let me know at your earliest convenience which date(s) and time(s), you will be able to work. My email address is bearpatch@olypen.com.

December 15th —12:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.
December 17th — 3:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.
December 20th— 3:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.
December 21st—3:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.
December 22nd—12:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.
December 23rd—12:30 p.m.– 3:00 p.m.
December 23rd— 3:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.
December 24th—10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Thanks in advance.

~Sandy Hutter, See's Candies Chair



This appeared in the November 23, 2016 edition of the *Sequim Gazette*



Secretary of State Kim Wyman honored several Washington companies during the Corporations for Communities Awards ceremony in her office November 15. One of the companies that Wyman recognized with an honor roll certificate for contributions to its community was Fit 4Life Studio in Sequim. Fit 4Life's Pauline Geraci accepted the award from Wyman.

Photo courtesy of Office of Secretary of State

5th ANNUAL SOROPTIMIST GALA GIFT SHOW

My dear Soroptimist Sisters,

Just when I think we've done all we can do, we do more. This year's Gala Gift Show was so beautiful and put together, all hands working together to create a beautiful venue for our vendors and shoppers. I am very grateful for the hard working women in our club—all of you. It's common knowledge that "most" organizations have the same complaint, 10% of the membership does 90% of the work. WE ARE ODD!! We're backwards! Everyone works hard!



*"Wherever you are, you have to be joyfully alive."
~Lailah Gifty Akita*

I wish I could have heard the comments when shoppers entered the front lobby. Elaine Bradford and her team of decorators went way over the top, the lobby was gorgeous! Each year it bumps up a notch, I expect live, golden reindeer next year!

The bake sale was fabulous, the packaging elegant and enticing, as always. Sandy Lawrence and Kathleen DeJong and all of their wrappers and couriers, and ALL of our bakers, thank you! The line at the front door 45 minutes before opening is testament to our reputation for baked goods and wonderful shopping. The ads this year said "get there early for the best," and they did! Great publicity, Cindy and Amanda!

Laura Rundle had the raffle area sparkling high with her glittery shepherds hook sign and a beautiful display of gifts donated by our vendors and generous businesses around town. The Christmas tree in the gym was so beautiful, decked out in new ornaments; thanks to Kris Osborne and Gena Royal for leading their team to enhance the main focal point of the gym; it makes the room.

Our Soroptimist table with Jenni Dix and Betty Osborn and their team, ever present to let others know what we do and invite them to join, let them know that they, too, could be a part of this fabulous group of women who work and laugh and enjoy each other while making a difference in our community and around the world. I hope you all got to imbibe of our soups at the cafe. Paulette and Rick made two delicious soups, donating their labor and delivery! Monica Dixon, a prior member, popped in early to bake cookies for us.

Sandy Lawrence, Amanda Beitzel and crew delivered lunch to all of the vendors—and being one—I can tell you it was a very pampered feeling to be working in your booth and have hot, delicious, homemade soup delivered to you. I'd read it in previous surveys, now I know for sure, that it is an extra nice touch. See's candy went flying out the door. Signs went up early all over town. Floors and bathrooms were cleaned. Vendors were assisted by our members unloading and reloading. Jane Manzer stayed with me to the wee hours on set-up night. I saw Soroptimist roaming the rooms offering assistance and breaks all day long.

The vendor team starts in the spring and doesn't let up until after the show when the last thank you has been sent out. They definitely have the longest, hardest, most detailed job of all. The team of Linda Chapman, Laura Rundle and Kathy Purcell were a trio of experience and perfection. Many thanks because, as Linda said, without the high quality of vendors that are sought out and courted, no Gift Show.

We did good ladies. We can be proud of the event we present and of the service we provide in all we do. I LOVE being part of this group and it's because of all of you! Thank you!!

~Deb Carlson, Gala Gift Show Co-Chair





GALA GIFT SHOW



For more pictures visit:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/108582458@N03/albums/72157677686821755>



Gala
 Gift Show

PUBLIC AWARENESS

FOOD BANK PROJECT

Join us in our one-time food bank drive. We put a call into our local food bank asking if they had any specific needs. Below is a list of items they gave us and we are asking our members to bring one, two or even three items to our December 13th meeting. If you participate, we will put your name in for a prize and at the end of the meeting draw a winner...you are already a winner if you participate.



- ◆ Healthy Choice Soups—these go into the back pack program for children
- ◆ Peanut Butter
- ◆ Various types of pasta
- ◆ Tuna Fish
- ◆ Cereal—healthy varieties-Cheerios, corn flakes, Raisin Bran, etc.
- ◆ Rice—(1lb bags)
- ◆ Checks to Sequim Food Bank

WRITING STYLE FOR THE NEWSPAPER

I am often asked why, when we submit articles to the paper, do they use the first and last name of the person in the article and then revert to last name only. This, as well as other questions, often comes up! Presently, I submit the articles to the newspaper; I want to share a little information and some example of guidelines that are used when something goes into the paper.

Guidelines for newspaper writing styles are generated by the Associated Press. One of the first things a student in a beginning journalism course learns is **Associated Press style**, or **AP style** for short. It dictates the rules for writing! A good example is the use of the last name. AP says when you first talk about the person, you use the first and last name and then henceforth, you use the last name. Another example is the use of acronyms. When mentioning a project, etc. which is identified with an acronym, you spell out the acronym. It is then allowed to use the acronym when referencing later in the article, but do not use parentheses with the acronym.



These are just a few small examples of how some of the articles that are submitted to me take on some change. It is not that the person submitting the article didn't do a bang up job—it just takes on change to meet the paper's guidelines.

~Linda Klinefelter, Public Awareness Co-Chair



“I like to compare the holiday season with the way a child listens to a favorite story. The pleasure is in the familiar way the story begins, the anticipation of familiar turns it takes, the familiar moments of suspense, and the familiar climax and ending.” ~Fred Rogers

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

Dear Soroptimist of Sequim,

We appreciate the confidence you have placed in the Kathleen Sutton Fund.

We look forward to using this donation to provide Clallam County women with cancer the best financial travel assistance possible in their fight against this disease.

Thank you again for this generous donation.

Sincerely,
Valerie & Linda Rotmark and KSF Board Members

Dear Friends,

Thank you for responding to our fundraising outreach in a most generous way. I wish you could have seen the reaction to your gift from our staff in Children and Family Services. It has been a particularly challenging year for all of the agency, and we are utterly grateful that you came to our rescue. As you can imagine, we are working with some of the most heartrending cases in our community, and you help us provide necessary assistance.

If you would like to hear more about our services, CEO Wendy Sisk and I would love the chance to talk to your group. Few people are aware that we're the largest nonprofit in Clallam County and served almost 4,000 residents last year with a staff of over 100.

Peninsula Behavioral Health acknowledges your contribution of \$600.00. Your gift will be used to provide food and art supplies for our Children and Family Services. Peninsula Behavioral Health is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit agency.

Again, thank you very much for your generosity.

Warm regards,
Rebekah Miller, Development Coordinator

Dear Friends in Soroptimist,

Your on-going support of Mujeres means the world to us. Our shared vision is challenging, but together we are making a difference. Your \$1,000 gift is greatly appreciated.

Muchisimas gracias.
Cathy Van Ruhan
Board Secretary

Dear Soroptimist International of Sequim,

THANK YOU for your recent donation of \$1,000 and your continued support of First Step Family Support Center. Due to the support and generosity from donors like you, First Step was able to serve nearly **4,000 adults and children** in 2015!

Your funds will be used to serve women and children in Sequim. Currently in Sequim we offer a Drop-In Center, and several home visiting programs such as Parents as Teachers, Parent-Child Assistance Program, Maternity Support Services, Infant Case Management and Supportive Parenting. Sequim families make up about one-third of our clientele. Your gift will allow us to continue to do good work on your behalf.

It is an honor to continue to serve our community. On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff and clients, **THANK YOU** for your support of Clallam County families and children through First Step Family Support Center. We hope that you will continue to keep up on our news and progress, and see your donations at work on our website (www.FirstStepFamily.org) and our Facebook page.

Sincerely,

Venita Lynn
Executive Director
First Step

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

Dear Soroptomists,

Thank you for your recent \$500 funding. Having involvement from supporters is a critical ingredient in any successful program. Your committed funds for 2016-2017 to Parenting Matters Foundation was well received and certainly help us and the families we serve. Without your help, our annual events, fundraisers and materials we are able to provide for families in need as well as incentives for participation in parenting workshops would not have been nearly as successful. We look forward to continuing our relationship with you in the future as well.

In the past year, we had over 450 people attend one event and over 850 for our second annual large family event. We have provided nine BLOCK Fest™ events throughout Clallam County. We had three parenting classes. We are able to provide our drop-in room, which can act as a parent support group where families get to engage in social play, connect with community guests, and work on family bonding weekly during the school year and monthly newsletters with your financial support.

The end result of all this means we can continue to provide services and materials for parents of young children. The First Teacher program reaches out to parents from the time their child is born and gives the family ideas, materials, and tools to make the early years most successful. Parents tell us that the monthly newsletters are a help to them and they are grateful for them.

Please know how much we appreciate your support of our efforts.

Cynthia Martin, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Parenting Matters

Nicole Brewer
Program Director

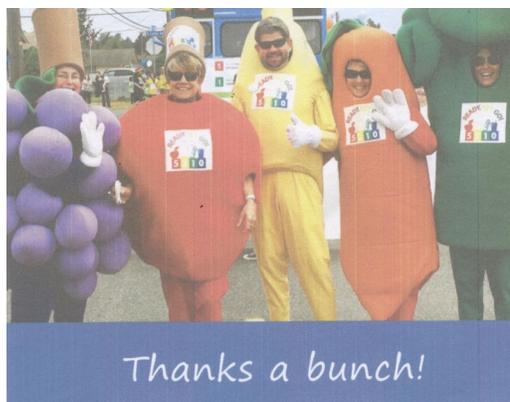
**“A Christmas candle is a lovely thing;
It makes no noise at all,
But softly gives itself away.”
~Eva Logue**

Dear Soroptimist Friends:

Thank you all for your generous donation of \$250 to our Thanksgiving celebration! We served almost 150 in our very first year and your help made this event much easier for us. We look forward to growing this each year!

Blessings to you all!

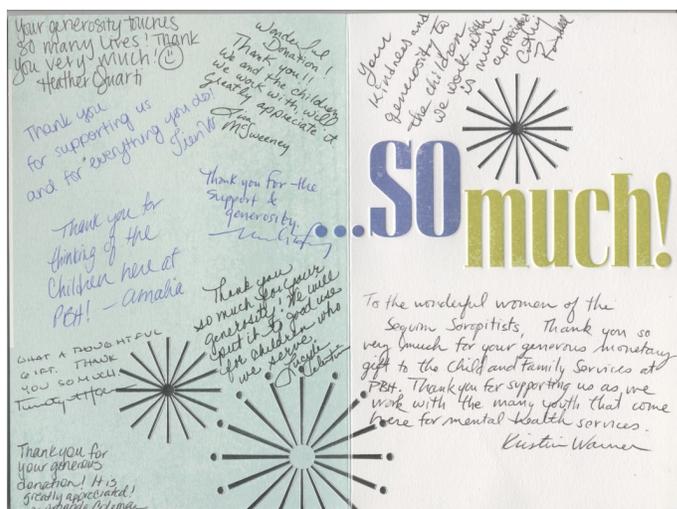
Monica Dixon et al



Dear Friends,

I am enclosing a card that our Children & Family Services staff wanted me to give to you. Your donation was truly appreciated!

Thank you again,
Rebekah Miller
Peninsula Behavioral Health



WHO AM I? TEN FUN FACTS

Board Secretary Kathy Purcell

1. Some of my poetry was published in a local magazine when I was 18.
2. I danced on a TV show—yes, I was on Kiddie-A-GoGo.
3. I tried to join Soroptimist in 1992 but was told I wasn't eligible.
4. I am the youngest girl (middle child) of seven.
5. I waited in line outside Wrigley Field for five hours one opening day. Go CUBS!
6. In high school my nickname was Sunshine.
7. I have lived in Sequim for almost 26 years.
8. I wrote and paid for the hosting of the club's first website—in 1998.
9. I grew up in a family of punsters; it seems it's embedded now in my DNA.
10. I taught the purchasing department how to use our first software program after 15 minutes of training.



Member Elaine Bradford

1. I was a contestant on a short-lived game show called “Hit Man.”
2. I have a passion for interior design.
3. I enjoy crossword puzzles and word games.
4. I represented Harrah's Casino, Reno, in the 1st Millionaire Maker Slot Tournament held in New Orleans.
5. I'm related to the former governor of Florida (Doyle E. Carlton 1929-1933). His great grandfather was my great-great-great-grandfather.
6. I worked as an elf at Santa's Village.
7. I love DIY (Do It Yourself).
8. I, too, danced on a TV show (The Lloyd Thaxton Show) when I was a freshman in high school.
9. I have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.
10. My first name is Kathleen, as was my grandmother's and my mother's. It was always intended that I be called Elaine.



“Our many different cultures notwithstanding, there’s something about the holidays that makes the planet communal. Even nations that do not celebrate Christmas can’t help but be caught up in the collective spirit of their neighbors, as twinkling lights dot the landscape and carols fill the air. It’s an inspiring time of the year.” ~*Marlo Thomas*

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Deborah Carlson 	6	7	8	9 BOARD MEETING	10
11	12 Kecia Gilliam 	13 Business Meeting	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Cindy Bidegary 	24
25 	26	27 Christmas Party	28 Sandy Lawrence 	29	30	31 Jenni Dix 

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2	3 Rose Jaeger 	4	5	6 BOARD MEETING	7
8	9	10 Kate Creasey Business Meeting 	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 Kathy Cunha 	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Deadline for Garden Show articles to Kathy for the <i>Gazette</i>	28
29	30	31 5th Tuesday Chinese New Year Party 				

Handle With Care

by N'Zuri Za Austin

"Twas the night before Christmas
And the moon was sitting high.
The kids were in bed,
Kissed and snuggled in tight.

The gifts were all wrapped.
There was love in the air.
It only came once,
So it was handled with care.

The curtains were drawn,
The cookies were bit.
It was time to blow out
All those candles we'd lit.

The kids would soon wake
With laughter in their hearts.
We had a big day ahead
And early it would start.

Laughters and squeals,
Jumps on the bed,
Screaming, "Get up!"
"Get up!" as they fled.

Wrappings and ribbons
Thrown everywhere.
"Oh, I love you Mom and Dad!"
Neither did spare.

Family arrives, Carolers sing.
Stories were told
Of childhood memories.
This was true love;
True love was in the air,
And it only came once
So it was handled with care.

Now the gifts have been opened
And the food is all gone.
The songs were all sung
And the guests have gone home.

It was time to get back
To life's normal things.
It was time to put away
All that the holidays bring.

You'll go to your office.
She'll go to her room.
He'll reach for his game.
I guess I'll grab the broom.

Christmas had come
And Christmas had went.
It only comes once a year
But it is time well spent.



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

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

Soroptimist International of Sequim
PO Box 126
Sequim, WA 98382

To a Woman Making a Difference for Women