



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Soropti-SCOOP

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

Vol. 22, Issue 3

Soroptimist International of Sequim

Celebrating 70+ Years of Service

September, 2017

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*“The informality
of family life is
a blessed condition
that allows us
to become our best
even while
looking our worst.”
~Marge Kennedy*

Message from the President

See you all at the September business meeting!



Onward and upward,
President Gena



“The world is so empty if one thinks only of mountains, rivers & cities; but to know someone who thinks & feels with us, & who, though distant, is close to us in spirit, this makes the earth for us an inhabited garden.” ~Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

It's September. The month starts with Labor Day weekend. What is Labor Day and when did it start? The US Department of Labor website states: "*Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.*" The first Labor Day was celebrated with a parade on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City. In 1884, the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday.

Some people say Labor Day is the unofficial end of summer. This is understandable because the sun is setting earlier, and many students—who left the halls of learning in June—are returning to school. Similar to those students, we haven't had regular club gatherings since the business meeting in June. Our first regular meeting for the 2017-2018 Soroptimist year is September 12.

Although we have been on hiatus as a club, over the summer many committees have been active. Proof of it can be found in this edition of the *Soropti-Scoop*—and I'm sure this doesn't represent all that has been happening behind the scenes. What is reported here is a good example of how much work gets done at the committee level.

The **Awards & Scholarships** Committee has been busy, reviewing applications to choose recipients of funds; reaching out to areas in the community with Live Your Dream Award info; working with Sequim High School to determine Girls of the Month.

The **Membership** Committee has strategized and come up with some exciting new things! This includes mentors for all new members, as well as monthly mingles at Solana in months without a 5th Tuesday. The committee has decided to provide a new column in the newsletter: Membership-Cool Stuff. This is a place to share member accomplishments in other areas beyond Soroptimist. You'll be happy to know member roster books will be available at the September business meeting.

The **SHE** (Soroptimist Helping & Empowering) Committee now has its own webpage: <http://sisequim.org/what-we-do/she-project/>. Jan Chapman and the mature women segment already have the next Tea with SHE planned!

Club fundraising efforts are in the works with both our Galas—**Gift Show** and **Garden Show**. The seeds of glitz have been planted.

I was thinking of September. I noticed that the word September contains most of the letters of the word *member*. How fitting that our members come back together in September to begin the new year. The dictionary shows September as: the ninth month of the year. Nine is a symbol of wisdom and good leadership. This reminds me of Soroptimists.

Our days of labor have started—many committee journeys have begun. We are part of a movement dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls thru programs leading to social and economic empowerment. Our contributions make a difference. We enhance the strength, prosperity and well-being in our community and in the lives of everyone we meet on our Journey to the Mountaintop.

Light and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor



"Fires can't be made with dead embers, nor can enthusiasm be stirred by spiritless men. Enthusiasm in our daily work lightens effort and turns even labor into pleasant tasks." ~**James A. Baldwin**

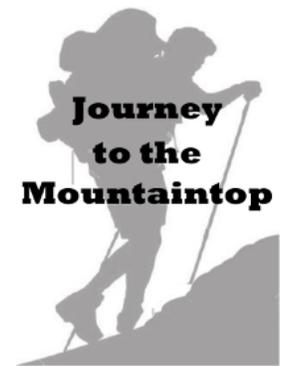
CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- 8 Board Meeting
- 12 Business Meeting
- *19 Solana Social
- 26 Program Meeting
- 27 Finance Committee Meeting

OCTOBER

- 6 Board Meeting
- 10 Business Meeting
- 24 Program Meeting
- 25 Finance Committee Meeting
- *31 5th Tuesday



*Evening Meeting

"All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence."
~**Martin Luther King, Jr.**



Photo from Cindy Rhodes

"Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous." ~**Confucius**

Celebrate Life!

SEPTEMBER

- 14 Paulette Hill
- 21 Pat Willis
- 26 Elaine Bradford
- 27 Gail Watson

OCTOBER

- 20 Jeannie Blaurock
- 24 Jeani Penn
- 26 Shelle Paulbitski



Note the phone number for our
MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

504-0231



“We know that in September, we will wander through the warm winds of summer’s wreckage. We will welcome summer’s ghost.”
Henry Rollins

MAD HATTERS’ TEA

The Mad Hatters’ Tea is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. The Tea was started to raise awareness about breast cancer, support survivors, and commemorate those who succumbed to the disease. The proceeds go to the OMC Cancer Center and Operation Uplift. I am looking for Soroptimist members to join me, Kathleen DeJong and Pat Willis—four more would fill a table. The cost is \$35.00. The Tea will be held at the Sequim Community Church on Friday, October 6, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and catered by Sweet Beginnings. Music will be by the Sequim High Jazz Band; there will be raffle prizes. Those who would like to join us can send a check to me, made out to Mad Hatters’ Tea, and I will send in the registration. I’d like to know who plans to join us at a Soroptimist table, so please contact me by September 15. I have made the centerpieces for this event for the last four years.

*Mad Hatters' Roaring Twenties
20th Year*



~Kate Creasey



“Courage doesn’t always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I’ll try again tomorrow.” ~*Mary Anne Radmacher*

SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER

D1

District 1 Meeting
Ferndale, WA
Silver Reef Casino & Resort
October 20–22, 2017



NWR Conference
Coeur d’Alene, ID
Coeur d’Alene Resort
April 20–22, 2018



45th Biennial SIA Convention
Yokohama, Japan
July 30–August 2, 2018

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Awards and Scholarships is a committee that never sleeps! With seven separate categories on different timelines, something is always in the works. This summer Jeani Penn and Becky Archer selected our Vocational/Technical Award winner; Kathleen DeJong and Susan Meches have just selected five Continuing Educational recipients; Elaine Bradford, Susan Meches, and Betty Osborne are advertising and physically scouting other organized venues for Live Your Dream applicants. Girls of the Month start in September; eight high school seniors, selected by the high school, will be awarded a certificate for their scholarship notebooks and a small gift by our club. This occurs every other month throughout our club year; this year Joan Miller will chair this category. More to come during the year!

Remember, our high school scholarship notebook reading will be in early April. Everyone is encouraged to join in, there are LOTS of notebooks to go through—and it's so rewarding to have a hand in selecting these fabulous young women and know that you're helping to propel them forward in life! Our scholarships are a large portion of our committed funds—be involved in where that hard earned money goes! You don't have to be on the A&S committee to participate in notebook night and we feed you! You get out of the club what you put in; have a fabulous year!!

~Deb Carlson, Awards & Scholarships Chair



“To the uneducated, an A is just three sticks.” ~A.A. Milne

Continuing Education Scholarships Awarded

We had 15 very good applicants this year for our four \$2,000 and one \$2500 scholarships. The \$2500 scholarship was made possible by a donation from Colleen Blazier to go to a student pursuing the medical field.

Sunma Agostine has been awarded the \$2,500 scholarship for an applicant in the medical field. She has her Associate Degree of Nursing and is going for her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing at the University of Washington. Sunma is a 2009 graduate of Sequim High School. She is currently working in the ER at Providence St. Peter hospital in Lacey, Washington. Sunma’s goal is to become a Nurse Practitioner.

Deanna Kubas has completed two years at Peninsula College and been accepted into the Nursing program. Deanna is a single mother with a 12 year-old son. Deanna plans to stay in the Sequim area once she gets her degree and work as a Hospice Nurse.

Victoria Cummins is in her third year at the University of Washington majoring in Business. In 2014 she was our October Girl of the Month. Her father has passed away and now it is just she and her mom. Her mom is disabled and unable to work so Victoria is paying her way through school on her own. She hopes to go to law school and eventually practice as an attorney for workers’ and animal rights.

Alexis Thill is a 2015 graduate of Sequim High School attending Cottey College in Nevada, MO. She is majoring in Psychology and hopes to not only obtain a bachelors degree but a masters and doctoral degree. Alexis plans to go into the military as a Department of Defense civilian counselor, helping families and children of those serving.

Madison Morris is a 2016 graduate of Sequim High School attending Peninsula College studying for an AA degree in Early Childhood education. She plans to continue college to get her BA in Elementary School Education. Her goal is to become a third grade teacher. She has paid for all of her college expenses on her own except for the Soroptimist of Sequim Scholarship she received in 2016.

*“Education is only a ladder to gather fruit from the tree of knowledge, not the fruit itself.”
~Author Unknown*

FAIRING WELL AT THE BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR

The Live Your Dream Award was represented at the Back to School Fair on August 26. Feedback about the award from the attendees and other organizations at the event was extremely positive. In addition to the individual mothers attending with their children, flyers were welcomed by Country Acre Child Care, The Boys & Girls Club, The Parenting Matters Foundation and Clallam County 4-H Program. The latter two organizations also indicated they would like to announce the award in their newsletters. We're very hopeful that we'll get some great applications for LYD this year.

~Deb Carlson



“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.” ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Soroptimist Helping and Empowering—SHE

The Mature Woman's Committee met on August 28 to start the planning of our October 17th event. The topic for this program is **“Making Sure Your End-of-Life Wishes Are Met.”** The speakers will be **Teresa Neudorfer**, Elder Law Attorney and **Janet Popelka**, SIS member and retired Social Worker. The goal of the program is to educate on how to make sure your end of life wishes are carried out. The program will give an in-depth look at Advanced Directives, Powers of Attorney, and quality & dignified end of life care. The event will take place at Trinity United Methodist Church on Blake Ave. in Sequim. Sometime in September, we will be asking for volunteers to help distribute posters in the Sequim area.

~Jan Chapman



AMBASSADORS FOR SOROPTIMIST

My overview of the Public Awareness Committee is not just work done by a handful of members. I believe it is to be a concerted effort of the entire membership. We, as members, should be ever vigilant to share what Soroptimist International of Sequim does for our local community and county. It should be done with family, friends, co-workers and casual acquaintances. The more we share the word of our work, the more aware we make the community. Look for opportunities to share and educate—whether it is the scholarship and awards program, our reading program, Tea with SHE or fundraising. These opportunities create a link in the community that not only educates and informs, it open doors for new members to bring their talent and skills to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

~Linda Klinefelter, Public Awareness Co-Chair



MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER

OLSON, Jodi (Taylor)



Our newest member, Jodi Olson, moved to Sequim for her husband Taylor's job 14 years ago. Formerly an elementary school teacher in North Kitsap and Sequim, Jodi is currently the Executive Director of Sequim Education Foundation.

Jodi has volunteered for Sequim Education Foundation, Sequim School District, Boys & Girls Club of the Olympic Peninsula, Feiro Marine Life Center, Helen Haller PTO and been a member of Olympic View Community Foundation, Saint Mary's College and various other organizations.

The mother of 15-year old and 12-year old daughters, Jodi enjoys volunteering, being of service and helping others succeed. She also enjoys taking on new projects and challenges. Education is her passion!



VAN ROSENDAAL, Connie (Bruce)



Connie and husband, Bruce, were brought to Sequim by the beauty of its water and mountains three years ago.

A former Escrow Officer for a title company, Connie has also volunteered with reading programs, as an art docent and has worked with young children. She also previously belonged to Women In Business and the Boys & Girls Club in Sandy, Utah.

A mother of two sons and three grandchildren, she enjoys crafts, gardening, remodel work and working with young people.

The best advice Connie has received is to treat others as you would like to be treated.



"If you have a great day at work and you've been hit with all these great ideas and there's a lot of excitement on your team, your mind doesn't turn off. For years I've kept a pad of paper and pen by me at night, because things just occur to you."

~Anne Sweeney

MEMBERSHIP

New member Orientation is scheduled for October 3, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Solana Clubhouse, and will be led by Mary Fasching, Dave Fickes and Sandy Lawrence.

2017-18 new members will wear blue name badges during their first year. This will make them easier to identify; they'll also receive a coupon for a free "Flower Power" t-shirt (it sure pays to be a new member this year).

Open to ALL members is a new opportunity to mingle; Solana Social (at Solana Clubhouse) will be held on September 19, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. This is a time for getting to know each other with no planned agenda. Solana Social will be held monthly except 5th Tuesday months. There will be limited snacks and it's BYOB (anything not consumed must be taken home with you).

SIS will be represented on September 30, 2017, at the Prairie Grange "Things to Do" event where community members can learn about different clubs and organizations.

We currently have 64 members and an additional nine who have expressed interest.

~Elaine Bradford, Membership Committee



MEMBERSHIP—COOL STUFF

The Membership Committee would also like to acknowledge our members for their accomplishments outside of Soroptimist. Please let us know if you know of any member who has earned an award, commendation or is involved with other “cool stuff.” It doesn’t need to be serious, it can be a fun thing too.

Our first **Cool Stuff** story is the Andrea Gaxiola Memorial Scholarship in the words of our own Deborah Carlson:



As Soroptimists, we are privileged to stumble upon unexpected opportunities, if we keep our eyes open.

Last spring we had finished our scholarship notebook review. I always ask Mitzi Saunders, the fabulous high school guidance counselor, to keep us informed in case anyone slipped through the cracks. One did, and she did. Mitzi called and told me “Harley Davidson received nothing.”

She told me the quick version of Harley’s story: diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia at age 8, a type of cancer that renders your body able to produce NOTHING. She was near death on many occasions. She spent her childhood and teen years isolated due to immune suppression. No friends, no outside activity, in the hospital many times for long durations, online school WHEN she was able.

But this girl is a fighter. She wants to be a scientist, always has—an astrobiologist no less. She’s a voracious, deep thinking reader, skilled in language and arts, artist, poet. She’s from a single, disabled parent household, grandparents provide housing. At 18 she was able to enter public high school for the first time and complete her high school with straight A’s, taking the hardest AP science classes offered. She’s tiny, lovely, funny, quirky, grateful and kind.

When I heard Mitzi’s story I immediately took it to the club and, having extra funds at that time, we were able to give Harley a 5th, \$2000 scholarship (we normally give out four, \$2000 high school scholarships each year).

But, while listening to Mitzi’s story, I also heard many similarities that reminded me of my sweet best friend, Andrea, who had just passed from cancer in the winter of 2015. She and Harley were ill during the same nine years, both brilliant, funny, writers, thinkers, caring, giving, FIGHTERS.

Andrea had left me some money and I felt her poking me in the ribs as Mitzi spoke, saying “Hey, let’s help her too,” so we did. We finished paying for Harley’s first year at Peninsula College, everything covered. I mentioned her story to two of my friends who also knew and loved Andrea and they said, unprovoked, “We’re in, what else can we do?” So we gifted Harley with a second year fully paid at Peninsula College.



That sparked “what ELSE can we do?” So we created the Andrea Gaxiola Memorial Scholarship. With the generous help from Jeanne Martin to implement a non-profit 501(c)(3), which we did, we are now seeking applicants in Clallam County, Pierce County and San Diego County (where the founders live and where we have boots on the ground to personally approach all guidance counselors who will know the backgrounds of potential applicants).

~continued on page 8

~continued from page 7

Our website is Andreas-Hope.org (<http://andreas-hope.org/>). Harley Davidson, our inspiration, designed our logo. This, all because I'm a Soroptimist.

Mission Statement

1. To partner with young women who have faced adversity (health, emotional, economic) to reach their higher, college or vocational/technical educational goals.
2. To be an example to scholarship recipients of generosity, kindness and acceptance.
3. To positively affect the lives of young women, one at a time, on a grassroots level.
4. To encourage these young women to “pay it forward” when they are able.
5. To show gratitude for the unique blessings given to each of us by reaching out and empowering young women.



“The work of the individual still remains the spark that moves mankind ahead even more than teamwork.” ~Igor Sikorsky

WOMEN FOR WOMEN

Our club is currently supporting two women, one in Afghanistan and one in DR Congo, through Women for Women International. Our support enables these two women, who live in war-torn areas—and most likely are survivors of war, hunger and abuse—to learn skills they need to change their lives and those of their family members. Deborah Carlson and I write to these women and let them know of our support and encouragement.



We recently received a greeting from our sister in Afghanistan, Spogmai Roz Gul, who is a mother of 10 children. It was written in her native language, but has been translated by Women for Women International staff. Following is her note:

Hello and respect to my dear sisters. My name is Spogmai, daughter of Roz Gul. My place of birth is Nangarhar Province. I am forty-five years old. I joined Women for Women International to learn some things. Thank you Women for Women for help Afghan women.
Best Regards.

According to Women for Women International's introduction of Spogmai to me, as her correspondent, “to say Spogmai has survived against all odds is an understatement. She has experienced poverty and violence that you or I couldn't possibly imagine.” Whether we hear anything else from Spogmai, I think we can be assured that our \$420—for an entire year of support for her health education and skills training—is an honorable example of the Soroptimist world mission of empowering women socially and economically.

~Jane Manzer



SPORTING A NEW BAG

A perfect team of twelve Soroptimist met at All Safe Mini Storage on August 19 to pack/repack backpacks; it's the ninth year that we have participated in this event. NFL and Seahawk fans realize the importance of the twelve members on a team. It certainly wasn't a coincidence that we had over 200 packs donated by the Seahawk cornerback Richard Sherman.

Not only were the packs filled with school supplies—inside each one was a personal note of encouragement from the Richard Sherman Foundation helpers. The foster children received their new bags at the annual Back to School picnic on Sunday, August 27.

All Safe Mini Storage donated a storage unit to secure the supplies until we could pack the packs. A special thank you to Vern Frykholm, plus Tom and Ryan Schaafsma; they are the owners of All Safe Mini Storage. The Sherman Foundation formed Blanket Coverage in 2013 to provide students in low-income communities with school supplies. The students will be sporting new bags when school starts, thanks to the generosity of the Sherman Foundation and United Methodist Church. The church has donated scientific calculators for several years for the high school students.

When Richard Sherman was in high school, Magic Johnson (Sherman's idol) came to his high school in California. Johnson spoke to the students about the importance of setting and achieving their goals. The seed was planted for Sherman to help students achieve their fullest potential.

The twelve members on the Soroptimist team were: Amanda Beitzel, Elaine Bradford, Deb Carlson, Linda Chapman, Missy Church-Smith, Maureen Gebbia, Linda Klinefelter, Susan Mensches, Monica Ostrom, Shelle Paulbitski, Kathy Purcell, and Pat Willis. The coach was Carol Pope, the president of the Foster Parent Association of Clallam County. Special thanks to everyone for their team spirit.

As one of the members said, "Many hands make light work." Some members also generously donated school supplies. Please accept my heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you.

~Colleen Blazier



*"Each day of our lives we make deposits
in the memory banks of our children."
~Charles R. Swindoll*

More photos at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/108582458@N03/sets/72157685296626820>



PROGRAMS

The S.T.A.R.T. meeting may not have been typical, as meetings go, but the food was ever so tasty, the fellowship was wonderful, and we got through it. We missed President Gena and send our best to Stephanie and baby Baylee Rose.

New and potential new members, Susan Kalmar, Jodi Olson, Sylvia Olster, Connie Van Rosendaal and Janie Williams were introduced and welcomed. Several committee chairs provided summaries and updates of committee activities.



We're looking forward to seeing all of you at our first business meeting on September 12.

Elaine Bradford, Programs Chair



START MEETING PHOTOS

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/108582458@N03/sets/72157688339392655>

MUJERES UPDATE

Dear Soroptimist Sisters,

Board member Linda Finch and I were in Chiapas for our annual summer trip the first two weeks of August. It was a very good and productive trip, with many heart-warming experiences. We have 21 girls and women on scholarship, three of whom were new recipients. There is detailed description of the trip on our website blog. Here's the link: <http://www.mujiresdemaizof.org/blog/>



Please read it and see what we are up to. Also on the website are photos of the new scholarship girls, as well as information on our new, 5th children's program, now in operation in Huixtan.

The toothbrushes you provided us were happily received, as were the hard glasses cases you donated. (We still have a very good supply of these, so we'll let you know when we start to run low.)

The photo at right shows our coordinator, Carmen, starting to distribute the toothbrushes.

Also, please mark your calendars for our 12th annual Dia de Muertos dinner and auction on October 28. We brought back many wonderful things from Chiapas this year for the auction.

All for now,

Judith Pasco
Board Chair, Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation



"A good head and good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special."
~Nelson Mandela

REORGANIZING THE MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

Recently some changes were made at the medical loan closet. We now color-code the checkout sheets—with each month getting a different color so that it is easier to find equipment that has been out past the expected 90 day loan period.



Each month, for any equipment that has been out more than 90 days, a postcard is sent. It gracefully reminds the user that equipment is loaned out on a short term basis and states what equipment they checked out. It also requests them to call and make arrangements to either return the equipment or make other provisions. In early August, I sent out 32 postcards. Of those, we had approximately an 80% response—with a lot of equipment being returned—or arrangements being made to extend, or donation being made to keep the equipment. The postcard system is proving to be a great way to get our equipment returned before it gets lost. As we keep up with past due equipment returns, we will also be more aware of our current inventory and what our specific needs for new equipment are.

The increase in returns then required a review of our equipment because we were over-capacity for our storage units. So on Saturday, September 2, Kate Creasey and Su Howat performed a major clean out and re-organization of the three storage units the medical loan closet occupies. The surplus goes to another storage unit held by our member, Colleen Blazier, who coordinates for it to be picked up and sent overseas. (See page 12.) This is how our little loan closet has a global impact. Isn't it awesome to consider what is accomplished by this wonderful service that we provide?

We also want to thank the Mead family, who requested contributions in memory of their loved one be made to our closet. Their recommendation brought the total donations to \$776.00 for the month of August. It felt really good to see the main unit so neat and tidy once again, even if we know it won't stay that way.

~Kate Creasey



“Organizing ahead of time makes the work more enjoyable. Chefs cut up the onions and have the ingredients lined up ahead of time and have them ready to go. When everything is organized you can clean as you go and it makes everything so much easier and fun.” ~Anne Burrell

GARDEN SHOW



Over the summer the Vendor Registration team has been visiting Garden Show vendors. Chris Snow and Sharron Gerardi are new to the club, and new to the Gala Garden Show Core Committee. They felt meeting the vendors face-to-face was a great way to show our club's continued partnership with them. A special Save the Date card was designed, highlighting our Keynote Speaker, Dan Hinkley. Chris and Sharron left some cards with the vendors to hand out to their customers. Early this month an email was sent to last year's vendors reminding them the registration documents for the 2018 show will be out October 1. Vendors who want the same booths they had last year will have until October 31 to send in their paperwork. Additional vendors will be invited after November 1.

We are working with Diana Politika from The Greenhouse Nursery regarding her selling Dan Hinkley's books at the show. Patrons who purchase the books can then have them signed by Dan.

A Gala Garden Show Core Committee meeting will be scheduled for later this month.

~Kathy Purcell & Su Howat, 2018 Gala Garden Show Co-chairs



THE REST OF THE STORY

For 14 plus years, Soroptimist International of Sequim has shared the wealth of excess medical equipment/supplies with people around the world. Many years ago, I was able to partner with Imbert Mathee who operated Clear Path International in Seattle. He provided medical equipment to victims of landmine accidents in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Iraq and Iran. When he lost his storage facilities, he had to cease sending the supplies.

As we all know, we live in a very generous community. When people return medical equipment to our Medical Loan Closet, they frequently have other items to donate. We started out with one storage unit, with overflow in Marcia Beggs' or my garage. Now we have three storage units—plus the overflow storage. If we wanted to keep the equipment out of the landfill, it was essential to find other options.

Fortunately, I discovered Gateway Medical Alliance (GMA) in Kent. Dr. Michael Spiger, the founder of GMA, began his quest of “Partnering to Serve the Poor” as a child when his father was stationed in Morocco. Read the rest of their story at: <http://www.gatewayma.org/>. For several years, we have been able to coordinate with GMA; they send a truck from Gateway Medical Alliance when our storage units are full. In the process, Dr. Ed Hopfner and his wife (Phyllis) have become fabulous workers behind the scenes. When the truck is scheduled, they sort and pack equipment and supplies from the Volunteer Hospice of Clallam County. Ed has been the director of hospice for over 30 years and is very well-known along the peninsula. Phyllis has packed as many as 100 boxes with everything from medical reference books to burn supplies. They have had donations that range from x-ray tables to artificial limbs.

Our Medical Loan Closet is well-known to all the people that have had the need to borrow items. What is unknown to most is the far reaching impact of equipment that is no longer wanted/needed locally. Everything is taken to the maintenance crew at GMA. They make the necessary repairs—or sometimes just use all the pieces/parts for other repairs. The treasures are packed into containers and shipped to Morocco. From time to time, I am also able to send bags of toys—mostly stuffed animals for the children. When the containers are unpacked, the children wait in anticipation that they will get a toy while the medical staff shares the medical resources. We certainly can be proud of the international impact that our Medical Loan Closet has and how it has improved the lives of others.

You can see our efforts from the pictures showing Gena Royal, Paul Pacelli, Phyllis and Ed Hopfner—plus the two Crate Tech workers who unloaded the two storage units and packed the truck. Su Howat and Kate Creasey were instrumental in this entire process too. It is such a pleasure to see how swiftly everyone works to make these miracles happen.

~Colleen Blazier



“All our relationships are person-to-person. They involve people seeing, hearing, touching, and speaking to each other; they involve sharing goods; and they involve moral values like generosity and compassion.” ~*Brendan Myers*

September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 	5	6	7	8 BOARD MEETING	9
10	11	12 Business Meeting	13	14 Paulette Hill 	15	16
17	18	19 Solana Social 4:30 p.m.	20	21 Pat Willis 	22 Fall Begins 	23
24	25	26 Elaine Bradford Program Meeting 	27 Gail Watson Finance Committee Meeting 	28	29	30

October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1  OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH	2	3  OCTOBER NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH	4	5	6 BOARD MEETING Mad Hatters' Tea	7
8	9	10 Business Meeting	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Jeannie Blaurock District 1 Meeting  	21 District 1 Meeting 
22 District 1 Meeting 	23	24 Jeani Penn Program Meeting 	25 Finance Committee Meeting	26 Shelle Paulbitski 	27	28
29	30	31 5th Tuesday				

To the Light of September by W. S. Merwin

When you are already here
you appear to be only
a name that tells of you
whether you are present or not

and for now it seems as though
you are still summer
still the high familiar
endless summer
yet with a glint
of bronze in the chill mornings
and the late yellow petals
of the mullein fluttering
on the stalks that lean
over their broken
shadows across the cracked ground



but they all know
that you have come
the seed heads of the sage
the whispering birds
with nowhere to hide you
to keep you for later

you
who fly with them

you who are neither
before nor after
you who arrive
with blue plums
that have fallen through the night

perfect in the dew



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
social and economic empowerment.*

To a Person Making a Difference for Women