



SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

# 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.*

Volume 24, Issue 10

Soroptimist International of Sequim

**Celebrating 70+ Years of Service**

April 2020

## Officers 2019 - 2020

### **President:**

Kathy Purcell

### **President-Elect:**

Kris Osborn

### **Secretary:**

Sandy Lawrence

### **Treasurer:**

Shelle Paulbitski

### **Assistant Treasurer:**

Caroline Smith

### **Director: 2 year (one year remaining)**

Dave Fickes

### **Director: 2 year**

Jan Chapman

### **Director: 1 year**

Melody Albertson

### **Director: 1 year**

Cat Xander

### **Past President:**

Gena Royal

### **Newsletter Staff:**

Kathy Purcell

Rose Jaeger

Jane Manzer

Pat Willis

**“Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation’s compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain love for one another.”**  
~Erma Bombeck

## Message from the President

It's April—Prevention of Cruelty to Animals month. What a perfect time to honor our pets (see pages 15-17). Pets give us unconditional love. They listen without interrupting or criticizing. They accept us for who we are.

Pets are good for our health. Studies show people who have pets live longer. Pets lower our risk of heart disease; they reduce stress and anxiety. Also, who of us can watch a dog or cat video and not smile?

Our pets give love to others too—many of them know no strangers. Some pets have an actual job—they become therapy animals and offer comfort to those who are dealing with a health issue or those who just need a little cheer. Some animals are service animals—providing support—and sometimes life-saving assistance.

Pets tug at our heartstrings and remind us who we are. They bring out the best in us. Their love lives on in us even after they have crossed over the Rainbow Bridge. Love is the bridge that connects us. Our pets volunteer to show us the way.

Speaking of volunteers...April 19-25, 2020 is Volunteer Appreciation Week (see page 8). Soroptimists are no strangers to volunteering. It seems it is something in our DNA. When a need is made known, a Soroptimist will volunteer to assist. This is especially prevalent right now during this Stay-at-Home time due to COVID-19. Many members are sewing masks and gowns and donating them. Others are picking up and delivering prescriptions and/or groceries for the neighbors and others who cannot get out to do it themselves. Many of those members sent emails to me listing what they are doing; you can see their responses on page 14.

I am so very grateful to all our members for all you do. Mere words cannot convey enough of that gratitude. I trust you will recognize it by my level of commitment to you and to the Soroptimist mission.

Speaking of commitment...April is the month we vote for the officers and board members for our next Soroptimist year. The Nominating Committee has been busy contacting members and offering each of you the opportunity to serve on the board. They have at least one nominee for all positions except club Secretary. If this is something you would like to fill—or if you need information about the job before deciding—please contact Kim Renfro, Sandy Lawrence or Shawn Dredla.

Our members are very committed—to our mission and to one another. Our in-person meetings won't be happening for a bit—but that won't stop us! We can still meet. We will have our April business meeting online using **GoToMeeting**. An email will be sent to all members with information on how to log in.

While others may be practicing 'social' distancing, we choose to practice 'physical' distancing. Staying connected is important for all of us—especially now. We are planning an evening social for next Saturday, 6:00 p.m. via **GoToMeeting**. Information will be sent out in an eblast early in the week, so watch your inbox.

As we are practicing physical distancing this month, let us take time to hug our pets—or ourselves. Let us feel the love that connects us all, as we move through this experience together Discovering and sharing our Inner Treasures. Stay well.



~President Kathy

**Discovering Our Inner Treasures (DO IT!)**



## This month we hear from Kathleen DeJong President 2008-2009



My presidency came about in an unusual way. Kathy Purcell was about to be President and she did not have a President-elect. I felt bad that she didn't have a backup so I volunteered to be President-elect to help out. I wasn't really thinking I would be President of our club the next year, but one thing led to another and before I knew it, I was being sworn in.

I was not sure what to expect but it turned out to be a very rewarding experience. My Board of Directors were the best; they consisted of, Rose Jaeger, President-Elect; Nina Jones, Secretary; Kathy Purcell, Treasurer; Betsy Johnson, Asst. Treasurer; Willadee Tallman, Director; Missy Church-Smith, Director; Louella Hanson, Director; and Peg Rinker, Director. Willadee Tallman and Peg Rinker have both passed away and they will always hold a special place in my heart.

Kathy Purcell always had my back. She made sure I stayed on track and didn't forget anything. I had a lot to learn because I had not been a member very long—just three years. Sally Sue Barry gave me a book on *Roberts Rules of Order* but I didn't really need it because if I slipped up she would set me straight in short order.

I was worried about the Garden Show, who would chair it? Jan Chapman volunteered to do that job—for about the third year in a row—with Jane Manzer as her co-chair. What a team.

One of major projects was WIN (Women in Networks) Co-chaired by Missy Church-Smith and Alana Schmicker. We mentored high school girls by hosting luncheons with a panel of speakers from various occupations; Just Yell Fire self defense program; college campus visits; ROPES Challenge Course at Peninsula College and more. We had a benefactor who was very generous in helping us fund this program.

~Kathleen DeJong



## CALENDAR

### APRIL

- 10 Board Meeting
- 14 Business Meeting via GoToMeeting
- \*18 Wine/Cheese Gathering
- 28 Program Meeting

### MAY

- 8 Board Meeting
- 12 Business Meeting Program (TBD)

**All Meetings are via GoToMeeting**



**\*Evening Meeting**

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**“The thing about performance, even if it's only an illusion, is that it is a celebration of the fact that we do contain within ourselves infinite possibilities.”**  
**~Sydney Smith**

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**“What we find is that if you have a goal that is very, very far out, and you approach it in little steps, you start to get there faster. Your mind opens up to the possibilities.”**  
**~Mae Jemison**

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*Celebrate Life!*

**APRIL**

Linda Rotmark  
Chris Snow

**MAY**

Barbara Brenner  
Marti Campbell  
Judy Field  
Pauline Geraci  
Shirley Huntley  
Linda Klinefelter  
Cynthia Martin  
Jeanne Martin  
Sandy Reed



Note the phone number for our  
MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET  
**360-504-0231**



*"I can't change the direction  
of the wind, but I can adjust my sails  
to always reach my destination."  
~Jimmy Dean*

**APRIL BUSINESS MEETING—ONLINE!**

With the current situation due to COVID-19 we are unable to meet in person. We are going to have our April Business meeting online.

We will be using **GoToMeeting**. An email will be sent to you by Monday with instructions on how to join the meeting. We trust all of you who are able to, will attend.



**SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, APRIL 18, 2020  
6:00 p.m.**

**Wine and Cheese Gathering online  
with GoToMeeting  
Watch your inbox for the invitation!**



**SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER**

**CANCELLED**

**NWR Conference**  
Hyatt Regency Lake Washington  
Renton, WA  
April 16-19, 2020



**SIA 46th Biennial Convention**  
Hyatt Regency Bellevue  
Bellevue, WA  
July 22-25, 2020

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS—GIRLS OF THE MONTH

### Kimberly Perez



I am involved in my community through volunteering at a local food bank, tutoring the Helen Haller Elementary Students at their reading program, and I serve as president of the LaCima Club at Sequim High School. In 2019 I was selected to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine at George Mason University. I am on the honor roll. I plan to attend the University of Washington with my major being nursing.

*“Volunteers are love in motion!” ~Author Unknown*

### Vita Olson



I volunteer at the Dungeness River Audubon Center as a student representative board member and camp counsellor. I also volunteer with events with Sequim High School A.S.B. such as beach clean-ups, and Breakfast with Santa. I have been chosen as Student of the Month by both Sequim Rotary Clubs, as well as the Sequim Elks. I received a Washington State Science and Engineering Fair Grand Award and Genius Olympiad Honorable Mention. I am active in independent science research, Future Business Leaders of America, and Health Occupation Students of America. I plan to major in Business Economics and Environmental Science.

## MEMBERSHIP

In this corona virus crisis, our Soroptimist sisters are stepping up to meet our community’s needs, just as they always have done. During a time of anxiety, it’s always helpful to know what positive actions will be helpful. Here are just a few of the things that individual Soroptimists are doing:

- ⇒ Contacting other Soroptimists, neighbors and friends to find out who might need help with groceries, prescriptions, or just a friendly phone call.
- ⇒ Assisting in getting masks and other equipment to our First Responders.
- ⇒ Supporting local restaurants who are providing take out/curb service meals.
- ⇒ Helping elderly acquaintances to negotiate websites that may provide services or funds for those in dire need.

I know there are many other things that our members are doing. Thank you to everyone for helping our neighbors and the community. Here is a thought as we make our way through these uncharted waters.

*“Never have I felt so grateful for a walk. There’s solace in knowing that as long I put one foot in front of the other, I will keep moving through this particular world. It might not be the same world tomorrow or next week, so I take a moment to feel lucky for every walk, every waft of jasmine, I have now. And I feel grateful for everything else I have, too—health and happiness, my job, loved ones to laugh with. I notice the buds on my favorite tree are bigger than yesterday. I give it another week, and then the buds will be leaves, and then everything will be green. I know this to be true, too: Life renews.” ~Lena Felton*



~Mary Fasching, Membership Co-chair





## TEA WITH SHE—UPDATE YOUR CALENDARS!

Due to the COVID-19 stay-at-home order, Tea with S.H.E.'s May program, Retirement on a Budget, is postponed until **Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>** from **noon to 1:30 p.m.** The program will be held at **Trinity United Methodist Church** in Sequim. Most of our panel members have confirmed their ability to be with us on that date. We'll update you with more details at the end of the summer.



~Connie VanRoosendaal and Janet Popelka, Co-Chairs of Tea with S.H.E.

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## DIGNITY FOR WOMEN PROGRAM

Dignity For Women has come to a halt like everything else. The Food bank will not accept donations from the community until this crisis has passed. We delivered feminine products in March and will purchase and deliver more products when possible.



~Elaine Churchill and Becky Archer,  
Co-Chairs for Dignity for Women Program

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*“Life it is not just a series of calculations and a sum total of statistics, it’s about experience, it’s about participation, it is something more complex and more interesting than what is obvious.” ~Daniel Libeskind*

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## MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

We had **100** calls and received **\$455** in donations to the Medical Loan Closet from March 1 to the 19<sup>th</sup>. On March 19<sup>th</sup> we closed the MLC until at least May 11<sup>th</sup>, and potentially until June 1<sup>st</sup>. We contacted all of the health facilities that provide MLC brochures to their patients to let them know we are closed until at least May 11<sup>th</sup>. We will let these health facilities know when we re-open.

The MLC call-in line greeting has been changed to let callers know that we are closed and to please call back after May 11<sup>th</sup>. We are returning calls to the few people who have left messages to let them know that we will contact them when we re-open. If you know anyone who needs equipment in order to stay at home and NOT go to a nursing home, please let Chris Snow know and she will make arrangements to meet their needs.



~Becky Archer and Chris Snow, MLC Co-Chairs



## BUDGETING PROCESS

Last month, the Finance Committee had an article in the newsletter describing the draft budget process for FY 2020-2021. We informed you that after the Garden Show was cancelled we had to make some changes to the draft budget we had developed and named it “Plan B.” Then at the April Finance Committee meeting we came up with a Plan C. After the board votes on a budget, you will be presented the proposed budget before the next business meeting, however it’s held.

To expand on how we came up with Plan B, it was basically a formula for reduction based on the shortfall that would be created if the Garden Show was cancelled. Best articulated by Kathy Cunha, “We took that shortfall and divided it by 4 with the hopes that we:

1. could spend down a bit of our excess
2. spread the impact out over 3-4 years
3. become creative in how we could fundraise this year”

That one-fourth of the shortfall, approximately \$5,200, was basically spread out between the parts of the budget where we allocate the funds we earn from the public—our community service (committed and uncommitted funds) and awards & scholarships. There were other factors and small changes, but it’s difficult to relate those without the visual aid of spreadsheets!!



The main difference between Plan B and Plan C is in projections of membership. It’s impossible to know what the future holds for our club generally, but especially with regard to our ability to have fundraisers and programs. Hopefully our healthy bank account, donations, and creative fundraising will allow us to maintain our programs and community service at a reduced level for next year at least.

Once you receive the proposed budget, you can compare it with the 2019-2020 budget and see where the differences are. If you have questions, please feel free to contact any one of the Finance Committee and we’ll do our best to explain where each figure came from.

Treasurer Shelle Paulbitski, President-elect Kris Osborn, Kathy Cunha, Janet Popelka, Janet Real, and Jane Manzer

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*“The budget is not just a collection of numbers, but an expression of our values and aspirations.” ~Jacob Lew*

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## AD-HOC FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT

Since the last SIS meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup>, this committee has emailed and conference-called to brainstorm ideas for new forms of fundraising this year.

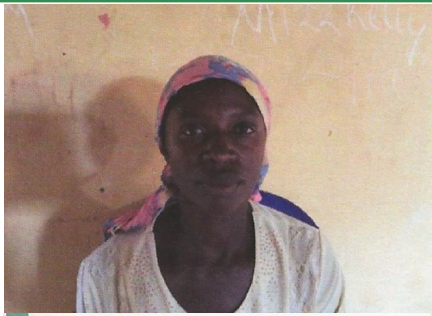
The following is what has been put in place so far:

Our websites, both the Soroptimist home page and the Gala Garden Show page, have been thoughtfully updated and the “Donate” buttons on each have been placed prominently. (Our thanks to Kathy Purcell for her hard work on this.)

Our Soroptimist Gala Garden Show Facebook page has been updated with a March 23<sup>rd</sup> post acknowledging our vendors and sponsors, and includes a direct link to our Garden Show website as well as mailing information for donations. (Our thanks to Linda Klinefelter for her hard work on this.)

Our thanks go to our Board of Directors for their mindful consideration of our ideas so far. We WELCOME input from our club membership, and we will continue to pursue additional ideas. Stand by – we’ll keep you posted!

Janet Popelka and Paulette Hill, on behalf of the Ad Hoc Fundraising Committee: Shawn Dredla, Sandy Lawrence, Chris Snow and Jennifer Weir



### Meet Your New Sister Jummai Rotji

#### JUMMAI IS ONE OF MANY WOMEN LIVING IN NIGERIA

who have survived war and overcome hunger and abuse. Your sponsorship will help lead Jummai on a path to a better, brighter and happier future.

- She is 31-40.
- She is married.
- She is the proud mother of 2 girls.

And she is grateful for your support.

### A few reasons to write your sister

1. **She could use your encouragement!** Your sister is starting a new life, and words like "I'm so happy to help" or "You can do this" let her know that she is not experiencing this on her own.
2. **She wants to get to know you!** You may live thousands of miles apart, but you probably share more in common than you think. You've learned a bit about her, and she wants to learn a little about you.
3. **You'll form a stronger bond than you imagined!** You are more than friends—you are sisters, connected forever by this life-changing experience.

Your sister would love to see you:

Include a picture of yourself with your note!

## WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL NEWS!!!

We have a new sponsorship and just received some information about her. JUMMAI ROTJI, a 30-something married woman, mother of two daughters, in Nigeria. She has survived war and overcome hunger and abuse. She is just beginning her year-long path to a better future for her and her family, thanks to us. I will be communicating with her through Women for Women International's online Sponsor Portal. We look forward to hearing back from her also, especially since Nigeria's official national language is English, so our communications probably won't have to be translated.



**Nigeria** is the largest **maize** producer in Africa, with South Africa holding the second place.

Sorghum, also known as "**guinea corn**," is a cereal grain that originated in Africa and is eaten worldwide. It is especially valuable in arid terrain because of its resistance to drought. **Guinea corn** is a nutrient-rich grain that is often ground into flour to make bread, porridge and pancakes.

With regard to the other woman in Afghanistan, Husna Qadoos, she is completing her yearlong training and is ready to start her new life with new skills and tools for living a better life.



~Jane Manzer

WFWI - Nigeria  
 Name: Jummai Rotji  
 ID #: 489402  
 Group: Panikshan 76

Dear Sponsor

I pray my letter reaches you well.

My name is Jummai Rotji, I am 32 years old, married and blessed with two children, all girls, their ages 7 and 4 years. My husband and I are farmers, we cultivate maize, guinea corn and millet.

The reason why I joined the program is to learn on business and business stalls, so I can start my own business.

I am very grateful for your sponsorship

Your Sister  
Jummai Rotji

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

April is National Volunteer Appreciation month. Soroptimist around the world are making a tremendous difference in the lives of women and girls. We can all be proud of those accomplishments. Our club is very well known here in Sequim especially through the efforts of a great team that runs the Medical Loan Closet. The Gala Gift Show and Gala Garden Show are very well-known and well-attended events where the community shows its appreciation by supporting these fund raisers.

I was reading a newsletter from the Dungeness Valley Health & Wellness Clinic (DVHWC) and an article caught my eye. It noted that “the DVHWC Board of Directors and staff celebrated National Volunteer week by honoring its many volunteers and generous donors at the annual reception. One of the highlights of the event was the presentation of the John and Amanda Beitzel Award. This award was created to recognize those who display leadership, innovation and who have made a significant impact on the clinic achieving its mission.”



Amanda has been a Soroptimist for over 12 years and I never heard mention of her dedication and/or involvement in the free clinic. When I called to ask her for more details, she was reluctant to discuss her tremendous impact on the clinic plus its ability to provide care to the needy in our community. She finally admitted to starting the “Fun Walk” (the only fund raiser) where 15 individuals initially hiked from the Dungeness Valley Lutheran Church to the Olympic Medical Center complex on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Over time, the walk was extended to Carrie Blake Park where some of our members participated and even brought their dogs. Amanda certainly raised funds and awareness of the benefits the clinic provided. She stated that “When they needed a financial expert, I turned over my duties to John.”



Fast forward to September 14, 2019 (the 15<sup>th</sup> annual event) had 125 walkers and 40 volunteers who made the walk a great success. The fundraising goal was \$35,000.00 and they raised over \$41,105.00 to help fund medical and dental care plus promote community health and make residents aware of area health resources. The list of sponsors is most impressive and can be seen at: <https://sequimfreeclinic.org>. I also learned that the celebrity starter for the walk was none other than John Beitzel. Another recognizable name on the Board of Directors is Dave Salmon who is married to one of our Golden Girls—Ann Salmon—who’s been a Soroptimist for 37 years.

Reading the Testimonials was heart-warming as it is so evident that the clinics beacon of health truly delivers a beacon of hope as noted on their webpage. One patient wrote, “THANK YOU for being so kind and for leaving me with my shred of dignity. Somehow, I will find a way to pass it on and return your care (to others). Your remarkable services for the past 19 years make Sequim an outstanding place to volunteer and live.”



~Colleen Blazier



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“The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others.” ~*DeAnn Hollis*

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## GALA GARDEN SHOW—SUPPORTING OUR VENDORS

On March 4, 2020, the Gala Garden Show Core Committee made a recommendation to the club board to cancel our 2020 Gala Garden Show. This was due to our concern for the health and safety of our community. On March 6, our Board of Directors decided to cancel the show because the situation with the coronavirus was uncertain. It wasn't an easy decision at the time.

Then on March 12, Elizabeth M. Lucas, the Executive Director and CEO of Soroptimist International of the America sent an email to all Soroptimists saying: **“In view of the seriousness and risks associated with coronavirus (COVID-19) infection—if you are in North America, Japan and Korea, you must postpone or cancel all club events through at least April 15.”**

Cancelling the show had an effect on many people—especially the vendors. We can help mitigate some of the adverse effects by supporting them. Below is a list of the local vendors who originally were going to participate in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gala Garden Show. Please reach out and consider purchasing from them.

Thank you all for your understanding.



~ Kathy Purcell and Kim Renfro, Gala Garden Show Co-Chairs

### WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SUPPORT THE LOCAL VENDORS WHO ORIGINALLY WERE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2020 GALA GARDEN SHOW

[Airport Garden Center](#)

[Alluvial Stone Nursery](#)

[Dungeness Gold](#)

[Fleurish Lavender of Lost Mountain](#)

[Fresh Hats – Love on Your Head](#)

[Fullness of Joy Floral](#)

[Jolene's Watercolors](#)

[Kepley's Resonance Cards](#)

[Links & Logs Fence Company](#)

[Mama Gnomes Best & Sara's Rustic Wreaths](#)

[Mike's Cedar Works](#)

[Naturally Sooz Leaf Pottery](#)

[Pacific Northwest Naturals](#)

[Peninsula Nursery](#)

[Port Townsend Garden Center](#)

[Roji Home and Garden, Inc.](#)

[Sequim Bee Farm](#)

[Sprouting Hope Greenhouse](#)

[The Bamboo Nursery](#)

[The Co-Op Farm and Garden](#)

[The Family Farm](#)

[Vonnie Voris, P.T.](#)

[Whimsical Woods](#)

[Wild Birds Unlimited](#)

A spreadsheet with their info can be found here:

<https://1drv.ms/b/s!Av2m1DQm7D7GgpAEto097D1pEhq-Bw?e=Thobo2>

A full list of vendors who were scheduled to participate in the 2020 Gala Garden Show can be found at:

<https://sequimgardenshow.com/vendor/>

## SEQUIM EDUCATION FOUNDATION



As you know, one of SIS’s Committed Funds recipients is Sequim Education Foundation (SEF). Wanting to learn more about the Foundation and what it does, I originally planned to do face-to-face interviews with individuals from SEF. But threat of the COVID 19 virus changed all that. Instead, a great team of SEF colleagues—our own Jeanne Martin, Co-Founder, Honorary Member of the Board of Directors, and CPA; Jodi Olson, Director; and Merissa Koller Williams, Executive Director—provided written answers to my questions, allowing us an even broader understanding of the Foundation beyond what one finds on their informative website.

### History

Formed in 2001 as a non-profit public charity by a small group of concerned business and community leaders, the Foundation’s focus was on the education of the youth of Sequim.

#### **Jeanne Martin writes:**

Back in 2001, Sequim School District had failed to pass two levy’s that support ongoing operations, teacher’s salaries, etc. The impact to the students and teachers was that there would be layoffs for some teachers, and pay-to-play for all sports, cheerleading or any other student enrichment programs. Lee Lawrence, who then lived in Sequim and worked as a financial advisor for Morgan Stanley, met with me to say “as the parent of three children in the Sequim School District we need to do something.” So I met with Walt Schubert, then a member of the Sequim City Council, and Alan Millet, a local attorney. Walt, Alan and I formed Sequim Education Foundation, Alan donating his services as the Attorney. I prepared and filed the initial paperwork to become a Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization. Guy Horton and Jim Picket were also very supportive and active on the initial board of directors. Guy especially was an enthusiastic and supportive fund raiser to get this off the ground. Katie Gilles, Liz Klippert, Walt Johnson, Candyce Jack, Patsene Dashiell and many other community members have provided their support and guidance for SEF serving on the board and giving generously of their time and expertise. Many Soroptimist members have participated in a “STEAM [Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics] Powered Saturday” event for younger students for several years.

### What This Foundation Does

The Foundation’s mission is to be a catalyst for vibrant growth of each student in the Sequim Community. It strives towards achieving its mission by awarding teacher grants, academic scholarships, sponsoring programs, and assisting in creating opportunities for those students. *Sequim Education Foundation’s vision is to inspire and support a lifelong love of learning.*

SEF funds collaborative projects that will result in expanded, well-coordinated learning opportunities for Sequim students. These projects will promote vibrant learning environments where students actively participate in creative problem solving and engaged learning, supported by the tools and teaching expertise that make learning meaningful and inspiring.

### Programs and Events include:

- ◆ Teacher grants—for supporting classes, STEM, Science Fair Club, Knowledge Bowl Team, Robotics Team, Film Fest, etc.
- ◆ Scholarships—Seven available, for qualified graduating Seniors pursuing continuing education. Amounts range from \$2,000 to \$2,500; some are renewable for up to three years.
- ◆ Student Representatives are given the opportunity to serve on the SEF Board of Directors.
- ◆ Science Café—an educational and social opportunity to meet our local scientists and learn about and discuss advancements and discoveries in the STEM fields.

~continued on page 12

## In Their Words

The following are my questions to Jodi Olson and Merissa Koller Williams, and their responses:

**Are the funds provided by Sequim Soroptimists to SEF used for a specific purpose/program? If so, which one(s) and how?**

### Jodi and Merissa responded:

SEF has always kept in mind the Soroptimist's mission of "Improving the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment" as it utilizes donated funds for the Teaching Grant program. Thanks to Soroptimists' hard work and generosity, countless grants have been funded that have provided for unique new experiences as well as funding to continue treasured recurring events. Among the many have been: Enabling an all-girl team to compete (and win!) at the State level for Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA); encouraging students and their families to learn about STEM through activities such as the annual STEAM Powered Saturdays and now the monthly STEM Nights at the elementary schools; students in grade K-12 are each given the gift of a book and participate in activities to build a love of literacy at the annual Family Reading Night; and elementary students have been able to learn about science through hands-on activities provided by Pacific Science Center. By partnering with SEF to fund Teaching Grants, Soroptimists have touched and improved the lives of each student in the Sequim School District.



**Is there a specific grant, scholarship or Science Café event this year that is particularly exciting for SEF, about which you would like the Sequim Soroptimists to know more?**

### Jodi and Merissa responded:

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, SEF has extended its deadline for Teaching Grants until June 1 and has canceled the remaining Science Cafes until the Fall. SEF is looking forward to sharing the Teaching Grant requests with Soroptimists so they may choose the project that best meets the mission of the club.



In addition to providing an opportunity for the community to come together and learn about the latest STEM advancements and discoveries, Science Cafe provides funding for STEM activities and Clubs in the Sequim School District. The June Science Cafe is one of the most rewarding Science Cafes to attend as it is where students talk about their experiences and original research presented at the Washington State Science Fair (and often beyond to other competitions) and the Robotics Club demonstrates their robot and shares their experiences with building, testing, and competing with other Clubs from around the State. SEF is looking forward to showcasing our students and their accomplishments with the community in the fall.

**“Education is great...but it’s really my creativity that’s taught me that I can be much more than what my education told me I am.” ~Raghava KK**



## What future programs/events might SEF be looking into?

### Jodi and Merissa responded:

We are constantly developing our community partnerships to increase visibility and understanding of SEF, our mission and the purpose of an education foundation. Once it is safe to resume socialization, we intend to continue our efforts by providing organizations with an opportunity to learn more about SEF, our programs, and meet our dedicated Board and staff, in an effort to maintain existing relationships, create new ones and expand our teaching grant fund availability.

## Is there anything else you would like our membership to hear about regarding SEF?

### Jodi and Merissa responded:

SEF has been extremely fortunate to have a long-standing close partnership with Soroptimists which is not surprising given our shared mission of improving the lives of others. SEF's board has included at least one Soroptimist from its inception, providing both groups with the opportunity to share resources and knowledge to make the greatest impact on our community.

Soroptimists such as Jeanne Martin, Shelle Paulbitski, Missy Church Smith, Linda Rotmark, Jodi Olson, and now Kathryn Pacelli have helped shape and build SEF into the organization it is today. SEF hopes this close partnership will always continue and welcomes Soroptimists to our meetings anytime!

My hope is that by reading these responses, you feel the joy and 'uplift' that supported education can give. It benefits all of us!



~Paulette Hill, Public Awareness Committee



*“The aim of education should be to teach us rather how to think, than what to think – rather to improve our minds, so as to enable us to think for ourselves, than to load the memory with thoughts of other men.”*

*~Bill Beattie*



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

When there is a need, Soroptimists respond. Many members are making masks and donating them: Melody Albertson, Amanda Beitzel, Deb Carlson, Paulette Hill, Linda Klinefelter, Kris Osborn, Shelle Paulbitski, Janet Popelka, Gena Royal, Jennifer Weir. Elaine Bradford is making ties for the masks.

Below are comments I received via email. I'm sure there are even more members assisting in the community. We are all in this together. Thank you all.

**MELODY Albertson**—Also am sewing masks, I have turned in two dozen to the Trinity church with the Soroptimist name on the tag. Didn't have a name to contact for pickup. Will call Marti when the second two dozen is ready (gave away some to neighbors, so have to catch up).

**COLLEEN Blazier**—I delivered two boxes of material; 100 6X9 squares were cut for mask making. I don't sew but I can cut up.

**PAULETTE Hill**—I miss everyone too, but staying out of trouble/keeping busy by sewing masks and gowns (several of us Soroptimists are involved); and making whole wheat rolls for the B&GC each week during our 'stay-home' order. The B&GC loved the 10 dozen rolls Sequim Fresh Catering had made for the Café and gave to the Club a couple weeks ago—the whole wheat satisfies a nutritional/grain requirement from the County that the Club kitchen has in feeding its kiddos. Who knew?

**LINDA Klinefelter**—I am picking up and delivering prescriptions besides sewing masks.

**GENA Royal**—I have been sewing masks and picking up groceries for several older neighbors. It has been wonderful to have the opportunity to serve them and I think I will be able to give them extra needed assistance after the isolation is over.

**JOLENE Sandborn**—Mike and I are working at the ECC to assist the City government and CCFD 3 with emergency operations.

**CHRIS Snow**—spoke with Dana Clark, CERT member with Clallam County Fire Dept 3, about loaning MLC items to people who needed medical equipment to either avoid going to a nursing home or to have what they need in order to return home from a nursing home. She was not aware of the MLC and will pass the offer along so the others in her emergency response circle will know. Chris also talked with Christy Smith at United Way, who said she will pass the MLC info to the community call center.

**GAIL Watson**—I've transported and run errands for friends who don't drive.

**JENNIFER Weir**—I am sewing masks. There is an organized group working with the county, which is collecting and distributing sewing supplies and acting as drop points for finished masks and gowns. It's a Facebook group called Sequim Masks Challenge. They get them to our first responders. I have also been making masks for other essential workers and friends and family. The other day I delivered masks to the post office. That is how I am spending much of my rainy days.

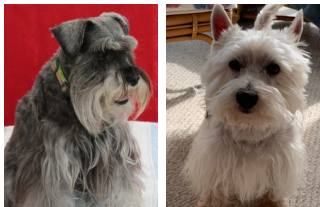
I am also pushing a little campaign on the local community Facebook pages to post Spring flowers. I shared a shot of 7th Avenue that went viral and I realized how desperately people need to see some little daily bits of colour. I encourage everyone to join in and post their spring and flower photos with the tag #flowersforthepeople. I am also planting an extra-large garden with the intent of being able to donate to the foodbank later this year.

**HONORING OUR PETS** (more pics at: <http://sisequim.org/news/2019-20/SIS-Pets.pdf>)



**Mollie Albertson...** Doggy Angler - printed in the Eastside Reporter in 2004. "Mollie caught her limit the other day. The sheltie/mix dog always goes fishing with her owner Dean Albertson. Mollie rides in the bow of the boat, intently watching the scenery and the fishing. She gets excited whenever the gear and boat are packed. During a recent week-long trip to Eastern Washington waters, Mollie sat in her usual spot. Without warning or even a bark, she ducked her head, right up to her ears, under water. Albertson was even more startled when Mollie came up with a trout in her mouth. Albertson and his fishing buddy told Mollie to drop the fish. She obediently released it. The men returned the unharmed fish to the water. Although Mollie carries a license, it doesn't cover fishing. And the experienced fishermen in the boat knew by looking the trout wasn't legal. It was only about six inches long." ~**Melody Albertson**

**Gracie Archer...**First encounter with snow--12/31/2008  
First encounter with baby--8/13/2013  
~**Becky Archer**

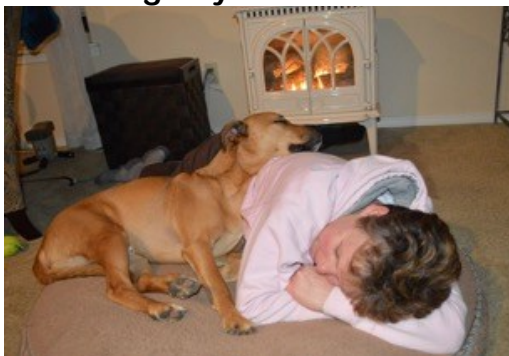


**Silke and Daisy Blazier...**I had a long walk down Memory Lane looking at pictures of Silke & Daisy. They start out when they met for the first time (eight years ago) and then end up in romper room. ~**Colleen Blazier**

**Wabbit Bradford...**Since it's the Easter season, I give you Wabbit, our rescue, female, blue-eyed, angora rabbit. She was likely an Easter gift last year and left to fend for herself about six weeks later. I found her in my front yard and while trying to find an organization to take her, I fell in love and now she's a family member. She lives in a 2-story hutch (Wascal Flats) every night and during the days when the weather isn't optimal. She spends the nice days in her large playpen in the grass of the backyard. Of course, her playpen is covered to protect her from predators. ~**Elaine Bradford.**



**Brewer Carlson with Deb  
Dog Days of Winter**



**Pete Carlson with Deb  
Best Date Ever!**



**Brewer Carlson with Deb  
Music in the Park**







**Rowdy and Penny Chapman...**Attached is a photo of Rowdy, little gray kitty (and, yes he is) and Penny, big fluffy kitty—she loves to play with her toys. **Jan Chapman**



**Miss Kia Hill...**  
Studio Supervisor for **Paulette Hill**

**Kona...4-year old male** **D** **Beloved Mr. Tibbs...16-year old male...Gone but not forgotten** **P**



**a**



**v**

**e**

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**Walter Jensen...** Walter the Timidly Brave Heart...In 2005, I worked as an associate veterinarian. A field adjacent to the practice was mown one day and a feral queen (female cat) had a litter in that now bare field. It seems that the mother had dashed for her life from the mower and the kittens were remarkably spared, nestled deep in a weed patch. A child brought them to the clinic.

What to do? We had a litter of eight young kittens, still nursing and eyes barely opened. The practice owner was not pleased when I told the child we would take responsibility for the kittens. I struck a deal with my boss to keep the kittens from the humane society. I took responsibility for the kittens' care, neutering them when appropriate and lacing them all in their forever homes. Oops. Eight bottle dependent kittens. A busy vet.



After appealing to the hearts and minds of the staff, we set up feeding schedules and at eight weeks of age, I found them homes. Two went with one receptionist, five to clients and one came home with me.

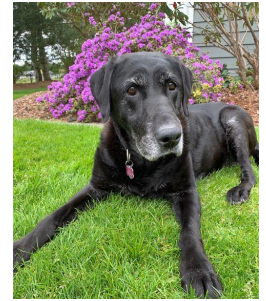
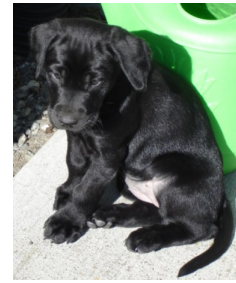
Walter is a brave big little guy with a scary story to tell. He is intensely bonded to me and I am equally bonded to this older fella who will always remain a squalling baby to me. ~**Sharron Jensen**



**Katey Klinefelter...**is a rescued American Eskimo! She is sitting on her favorite chair. When I tell my husband and Jess dinner is ready, Katey immediately jumps up on the chair. She knows the words “dinner is ready” and she knows, if she waits patiently, my hubby will reward her. ~**Linda Klinefelter**



**C.J. Manzer** (short for part of her AKC name—Cool Jazz) will be 14 on May 2nd! This is also our club's birthday. Not bad for a used-to-be 80-pound dog! ~**Jane Manzer**



**Andy Paulbitski**...is no longer with us, but I love this picture of him. At the RV resort that we would go to in the winter they had agility training for the pets. Andy was pretty good and I think you can tell by his face that he enjoyed it. At the end of "the season" there were agility trials. Andy came in second in his class. I thought that was really good and I would tell people about his accomplishments. Bill would always pipe up, though, and explain there were only two in Andy's class!

I have another story about Andy. I had gone shopping and had a \$100 bill in my pocket. I didn't find anything I wanted and came home, leaving the money folded up nice and neat in my pocket. The next day I was getting ready to venture out again and laid my jeans on the bed, jumped in the shower and afterwards got dressed. When I searched for my money it wasn't there. I couldn't believe it. At first I thought perhaps it dropped out of my pocket at the stores I had visited the day before so I went back to ask the sales persons. No, nobody had seen a folded up \$100 bill. After a few days of looking high and low, I finally told Bill. I said I thought Andy probably ate it—it wouldn't be the first time. Every day either Bill or I would check Andy's deposits on the lawn to see if there was any green in it. After about a week I was ready to quit checking when lo and behold, a little bit of green could be seen. Sure enough, I found my \$100 bill still folded up just as it was when I put it in my pocket. I only had to clean it up a bit before I could go shopping again! ~**Shelle Paulbitski**



**Merlin Renfro**...is 9 years old. He knows he is cute and uses it to his advantage! ~**Kim Renfro**



**Ms. Missy Salmon**....  
**Ann Salmon**



**Holly & Buddy Snow**...Meet Holly, the newest addition to our family. She was a pregnant stray that the Humane Society trapped under a house. She weaned her kittens at the Humane Society and was ready for a new home. We adopted her on Christmas Eve, thus the name "Holly." In the last three months she has learned that she doesn't need to worry about where her next meal is coming from, laps are a good place to sleep, and chasing a catnip mouse is almost as much fun as real one. We can tell from the way she acts that she is a survivor. She is scary smart and knows when she has been bad, which has made teaching her house rules easy. The last house rule she has yet to master is "Don't chase/hunt Buddy." His life has gone from being the one spoiled cat to sharing his domain with this little diva. ~**Chris Snow**

# April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Linda Rotmark Chris Snow						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
					10 BOARD MEETING via GoToMeeting	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Business Meeting Via GoToMeeting				Wine/Cheese Get-together Via GoToMeeting
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
						
26	27	28	29	30		
		Program Meeting Via GoToMeeting				

# May 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH</b> Barbara Brenner Marti Campbell Judy Field Pauline Geraci Shirley Huntley	Linda Klinefelter Cynthia Martin Jeanne Martin Sandy Reed 				1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 BOARD MEETING Via GoToMeeting	9
10 	11	12 Business Meeting Via GoToMeeting	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Program Meeting Via GoToMeeting	27	28	29	30
31						

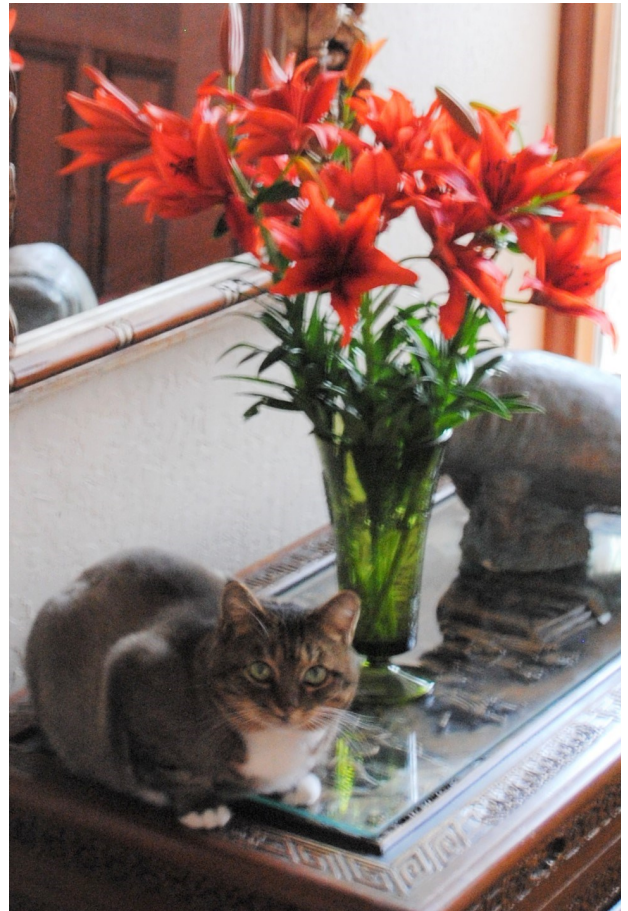
## CATS RULE

Cats rule the world.  
But of course you knew that.  
Dogs might dispute it.  
But it's an undeniable fact.  
Humans think otherwise.  
They think they're in control.  
But who responds to "meow"  
And fills up the bowl?

From Tabitha-Marie

### About the Author...

Tabitha Marie was rescued by Marion and David from the Humane Society; she was selected to be a companion for Henry (the great) their other cat, but she had plans to capture Marion & David's hearts. She is so talented and writes great poetry. When I visit, Tabitha Marie graces me with her presence and hops in my lap. Marion tells me that this is most unusual behavior; she doesn't allow many people in her circle of friends.  
~Colleen Blazier



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