

## 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 2

Soroptimist International of Sequim

## **Celebrating 70+ Years of Service**

August, 2019

## Officers 2019 - 2020

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Secretary: Linda Chapman

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Assistant Treasurer:
Caroline Smith

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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

"Every creator painfully experiences the chasm between his inner vision and its ultimate expression."

\*Isaac Bashevis Singer\*

## Message from the President

Did you ever notice that after we purchase a new car we see that make and model a lot on the road? We become more aware because we're focused on it.

This year's theme is **D**iscovering **O**ur **I**nner **T**reasures—**DO IT**. The theme came to mind in a non-Soroptimist situation last month. It started with a call on a Monday from a potential new customer. He purchased a new computer, which of course has Windows 10. He said he has a little bit of trouble breathing and his hearing and memory aren't as good as they used to be. I spoke slowly and clearly, asking him many questions and answering those from him. He mentioned he had some shortcuts on the desktop of his current Windows 7 computer—one was to his email. He didn't have any data on the old computer to be moved.

Late that day he brought in the new computer—still in the box. I barely noticed the small oxygen canister in a sling around his chest. It was late on Tuesday by the time all the setup was done so I waited until Wednesday to call him. I planned to setup the computer on the front counter and go over a few things with him—which would take a little time.

When he walked in he noticed many cards on my desk. I told him it was my birthday. He wished me a happy birthday. We stood at the front counter and I explained many things to him. One was how to setup a shortcut on his desktop. He had brought a notebook with him and asked me to write down the steps so he would have a reference. When all his questions were answered, he sat down to write out his check. He asked me to go out to his car and bring in a plastic bin that was on the floorboard behind the driver's seat. I dutifully did that.

When I came back in, he took the bin to the front counter and had me take off the top. Inside there were small framed watercolor paintings that he had done. All but one were neatly protected in bubble wrap. He asked me to unwrap and look at each one. Again I dutifully did this. A few of the paintings had mountains and water. As I got to the fourth one he said he wanted me to choose the one I liked best and that was my birthday gift. My eyes started to leak. What a surprise!

The painting I chose was of three flowers. What struck me about them was how the white stood out—it was like they were illuminated from within. This is where the theme came to mind. I commented to Chris about this. He asked me to name the painting. Without hesitation I said Inner Essence. Then he asked me to take it out of the frame and turn it over. He had me write Inner Essence, Original Watercolor by Chris Minard—and he signed it. (See picture of the watercolor with the poem on the back page.)

I commented that a lot of his watercolors seemed to catch the inner beauty of things. He said that wasn't how he saw it. I said I thought he did see the inner beauty, but maybe just didn't realize it—that's how he was able to do such beautiful paintings.

Chris then said the previous week he was driving home late in the day. He looked up and saw such a lovely sunset he had to pull over and let himself experience it. I told him that was a perfect example of how he sees the beauty around him.

We all have inner treasures. Sometimes we don't recognize them. Keeping this year's theme in mind is like having a new car. It is a vehicle for discovery. We start to become more aware of the inner treasurers—of our members, ourselves and even new customers.



~President Kathy **Discovering Our Inner Treasures (DO IT!)** 



## This month we hear from Kathryn Pacelli, President 2016-2017



I am Kathryn Pacelli and I was President in the year 2016-2017. I was fortunate to be President in our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. Because I am a musician my theme for the year was "A Symphony of Service."



My year started off with a fabulous installation party. I am always amazed how

clever and resourceful the installation committees are. <u>Pics from Installation</u>. The party kicks off the Presidency and sets the tone for the year.

My term celebrated 70 years in Sequim for our club. Because this was a birthday (anniversary) year we had many special events. Our goal was to increase the awareness of our club and our mission. Also for the first time we allowed men to join our club. This was met with a mixed reaction, but the men were enthusiastic and willing to help where needed. Now the men are a part of us and have integrated into our club.

Our biggest event that year was our float that we designed and built for the Irrigation Parade. We won the mayor's award. The parade route is fairly long and we weren't sure we could walk the entire way—but we did! We walked alongside of our float. We had an original song professionally recorded, and sang along as we walked. I think the best memory of that event was people yelling from the crowd, "Thanks, our family was helped by your Medical Loan Closet," or "Your club helped me with tuition for college." On and on it went. We were deeply touched as people yelled out their gratitude for the charitable programs that touched their lives.



As part of our "Birthday Year" we had a special reception to which we invited the public and dignitaries from Sequim and Port Angeles. We had displays for each of our major events and programs. We also sang our Soroptimist Song from the parade which was met with thunderous applause.



I have found the women and men in Soroptimist to be very inclusive and welcoming to all members. We become sisters and brothers in the true sense of the words. We comfort the broken-hearted. We rejoice in our members achievements and milestones. We lend aid when and where it's needed. Everyone joins in and works to assure our events are a success.

I have great memories of my year as President. I had an exceptional board to help me. I thank each of you for your hard work. It is much appreciated.

## **CALENDAR**

## **AUGUST**

\*27 S.T.A.R.T. Meeting

## **SEPTEMBER**

- 6 Board Meeting
- 10 Business Meeting
- 24 Program Meeting

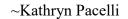
\*Evening Meeting



"When you work you are a flute through whose heart the whispering of the hours turns to music. Which of you would be a reed, dumb and silent, when all else sings together in unison?" ~ Khalil Gibran



"Music expresses that which cannot be put into words and that which cannot remain silent." ~Victor Hugo





## Celebrate Life!

## **AUGUST**

- 2 Sara Ellen Peterson
- 4 Janet Popelka
- 4 Janet Real
- 19 Colleen Blazier
- 23 Amanda Beitzel
- 24 Connie Van Roosendaal
- 29 Cat Xander
- 30 Betty Osborn
- 30 Ann Salmon

## **SEPTEMBER**

- 2 Mary Fasching
- 14 Paulette Hill
- 21 Pat Willis
- 23 Jennifer Weir
- 26 Elaine Bradford
- 27 Gail Watson



Note the phone number for our MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

360-504-0231



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

## S.T.A.R.T. MEETING Soroptimist Team and Reunion Time

Coming on Tuesday, August 27, 2019! 5:30 PM at Solana

The Soroptimist Team and Reunion Time is scheduled for Tuesday, August 27th, at Solana. It's our **kickoff** and **first social** for the new club year. Bring your favorite summertime potluck dish, your personal refreshment, and high hopes that the weather is nice enough to be able to utilize the wonderful patio!!



"All motion is cyclic. It circulates to the limits of its possibilities and then returns to its starting point." ~*Robert Collier* 

## **NEW MEETING LOCATION**

Club Meetings will be at the Holiday Inn Express

Next to Black Bear Diner 1441 E. Washington Street, Sequim

## SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER

D1

**District 1 Meeting** 

Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort Suquamish, WA October 25-27, 2019



**NWR Conference** 

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

## **AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

An Awards and Scholarships Committee meeting was held on July 27 and we have the following members taking the leads on various awards. Janet Real and Rita McCabe will handle the Live your Dream Award, Deb Carlson is doing the Vocational Technical Award for 2019, Jennifer Weir and Ann Salmon will take care of the 2019 Continuing Education Award. We still need leaders for the Girl of the Month Award and possibly the Youth Community Service Award. Thanks to each of you who have contacted me and stepped up to help.



~Melody Albertson, Awards & Scholarships Chair 🥻



## The Education of the Young Mind by Peter Stavropoulos

The education of the young mind

Took place

Behind closed doors

Because that mind -

Initially free -

Had to be

Taught

The value of freedom.

The education of the young mind

Took place

In an open space

Because that mind -

Once closed -

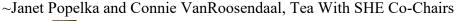
Had to be

Set free

To explore itself.

## TEA WITH SHE-SOROPTIMIST HELPING AND EMPOWERING

The Tea With SHE Committee will be meeting on **Wednesday**, **September 11**, **2019**, **8:30—10:00** a.m. in the First Security Bank Community Room in Sequim. We will be starting to plan our next event which is scheduled for **October 24**, **2019**, at noon at **Trinity United Methodist Church**—the subject is: **keeping our balance** and will be presented by our speaker: **Michael Siegel**, Physical Therapist and Tai Chi instructor. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss it!









## 2019-20 SIS MEMBERSHIP TEAM

You are all amazing! Thanks to your enthusiasm, dedication to the Soroptimist mission and generous hearts, our club reached record total membership of 86 for the 2018-19 fiscal year...24 of the 86 were new members. We anticipate a modest attrition rate every year, as life circumstances and priorities change...but the good news this year is that 75% of new members and 89% of longer-term members renewed for 2019-20! We begin the year with a headcount of 75—including 2 new members for 2019-20...**PRETTY COOL!** 

Membership goals for 2019-20 focus not on numbers, but rather on ensuring that potential member goals align with those of SIS...in terms of mission, as well as commitment to the organization and community. You are the key to this match, as you share your experiences and club information with friends who express an interest in possible membership.

If you have a friend/neighbor/acquaintance who may be interested in SIS, invite him/her to a meeting/social event/fundraiser to test the waters. If their experience is positive and piques his/her interest, encourage him/her to check out our club website, as well as attend another meeting/event. Be sure to introduce your guest to a Membership Team member, and to share your guest's contact information if he/she would like to learn more.

Upon request, an application will be e-mailed to the interested person, cc'ing you, the Sponsor; after the application has been processed, you will become the new member's Mentor, offering advice and guidance throughout the year. Watch for more information in the September Soropti-Scoop about guidelines for Mentors.

Looking forward to another wonderful and exciting year!



Missy Church-Smith 2019-20 Membership Team Co-chair 🛛 🕶



"Choose to focus your time, energy and conversation around people who inspire you, support you and help you to grow you into your happiest, strongest, wisest self." ~Karen Salmansohn

## **CLINIC FUN WLK**

Our club will be participating in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Dungeness Health and Wellness Free Clinic Fun Walk to be held **September 14. 2019**. Team members are encouraged to wear their Flower Power t-shirts. We'll meet at **Trinity United Methodist Church**, 100 Blake Avenue in Sequim at **8:30 a.m.** The 1 mile or 5 mile walk begins at 9:00 a.m. If you are bringing your dog, plan to stay outside with him/her and send someone in to sign in for you. Closing ceremonies begin at 10:30.

A signup sheet will be available at the S.T.A.R.T. Meeting and also at our September 10 business meeting. ~kp





## **MLC STATS**

The Medical Loan Closet has become so busy that we are now keeping records of our activity. We have four storage units now and all are in full use. Two are working units, one is overflow, and one is used for the equipment that is going to be forwarded to Tacoma for repair and recycle. The stats for the month of July are: 169 phone calls received, 89 pieces of equipment loaned out and 54 returned, and we received \$415 in donations. Pretty good for our little group. People in the community are more and more dependent on us. I can tell from seeing the same names repeating on our call list. I think all Soroptimist of Sequim members should be proud.



Jeani Penn, Becky Archer, Chris Snow, MLC Co-Chairs



"One of the marvelous things about community is that it enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn't as individuals. When we pool our strength and share the work and responsibility, we can welcome many people, even those in deep distress, and perhaps help them find self-confidence and inner healing." ~Jean Vanier\_

## **MUJERES UPDATE**

Hello Soroptimist sisters,

Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation recently received the scholarship proposals for the girls and women in the cooperative for the 2019-2020 school year. There are 19 in all: 3 are at the university level, 4 are in preparatory (grades 10-12), 7 are in secondary (grades 6-9), and 5 are working on earning a 2-year certificate in computer studies. The families of the scholarship recipients contribute as they can, paying for supplies or food, etc. Our goal is to provide the girls with the opportunity to continue their education, whether



for just a year or two, or all the way through university. Even one extra year of education is worthwhile. We are delighted that the majority of the recipients stay on scholarship for several years. Almost all participate in running the children's programs in their respective communities, and in doing so, provide good female role models and inspire others to follow their lead.

I am heading down to Chiapas the first of August as I do every year, to visit communities, handle Mujeres' business, give a workshop, and catch up with everyone. It's such a privilege to work with these amazing women and girls. Thanks to all who contributed toothbrushes. As most of you know, I take down 100 toothbrushes each time I go.

For more information on what we do and to see photos, please check out <a href="https://www.MujeresDeMaizOF.org">www.MujeresDeMaizOF.org</a>. Cheers, Judith Pasco, Board chair

## TEAM LAVENDER SALES THRU LAVENDER WEEKEND

The Soroptimist Lavender Team had another fun and successful fundraiser at the Fleurish Lost Mountain Lavender Farm over the lavender weekend in July. In addition to Lost Mountain having a new owner and a new name, Team Lavender also had new items to sell for the fundraiser.

Members of Team Lavender went all out in the baking department. Linda Rotmark made 400 lavender biscotti. Kathy Cuhna made cute, tiny lavender lemon cupcakes. Pauline Geraci made 40 buckwheat lavender scones. In addition to the tasty baked goods, Dave Fickes made his world famous lavender lemonade—and Pauline made lavender sangria. Like last year, the Port Townsend Vineyards provided Discovery Red and White wine to sell. Once again, **Jennifer Weir** provided her decorator talents to dress up the tent with swaths of lavender scarves.

Team Lavender did a remarkable job considering they required no meetings to put this event together. All coordination was done a few months before the event by email. "This was my second year as part of the production and sales crews for our wine garden during Lavender Weekend. I think it's a wonderful team building experience for volunteers and a great way to reach out and promote our club in the greater community," remarked Jennifer. Other members of SIS volunteered to work in 4-hour shifts for the 3-day event. Last year Team Lavender represented SIS Friday and Saturday, but the previous owner asked for a third day of commitment. Team members worked from 9 am until 6 pm each day. The main contingent: Dave, Linda R, and Pauline provided support for the full three days.

The vineyard provided the tent, table and red and white wine. The new owner, Susan Steffes, "was great to work with," commented Pauline. "For just taking over the farm about 10 days ago she was upbeat and motivated to take on the task." Susan has invited Team Lavender again for next year in what is promised to be a bigger and better event.

















More pics: https://www.flickr.com/photos/108582458@N03/albums/72157709785892006

## **OLYMPIC CELLARS SUMMER CONCERT**

Saturday, July 27, 15 Soroptimists—and one husband—showed up at The Olympic Cellars Winery at 4:30 p.m. ready to work. We helped get Olympic Cellars Winery ready for that night's concert. We wiped down tables and chairs, directed cars for parking, took tickets at the admission table, poured wine, drew beers, popped corks, and opened bottles. There was also plenty of time to dance to the music of the band, Sway. (They were GREAT!) We all had a good time but we also raised money for our club. Olympic Cellars chose our club to be the recipient of some of the profits for that night. We had the opportunity to earn half the ticket sales up to \$1,000, plus all the proceeds from the dollar dance and all the tip money. Thank you to Lisa Martin from the winery and Sandy Lawrence for letting the concert goers know more about Soroptimist and what we strive to achieve. We should know in a week or so just how much we were able to raise. A huge thank you to all who helped.



~Kathleen DeJong and Susan Mesches, Olympic Cellars Co-Chairs

"Music in the soul can be heard by the universe." ~Lao Tzu





More pics: https://www.flickr.com/photos/108582458@N03/albums/72157709950101022

## PUBLIC AWARENESS COMMITTEE—SEE WHO IS PART OF THE PAC

Just a quick acknowledgement to the 2019-20 Public Awareness committee from the Chair of Public Awareness. Thank you to **Pat Willis, Kathy Purcell, Cat Xander, Paulette Hill, Linda Chapman, Kathryn Pacelli** and **Rose Jaeger** for volunteering your talents, time and effort to this committee.

We are off and running with our first meeting (held on August 7, 2019) under our belts—where we made plans for 2019-2020. Throughout the year, you will read articles written by these members as we bring awareness to our projects, members and to the goals of Soroptimist International. If you enjoy reading something written by these members, let them know. Kudos go along way when we give of our time.



~Linda Klinefelter, Public Awareness Chair



**PAC focus**: We are raising awareness of SIA's mission to improve the lives of women and girls and club work that supports the mission. This is less about promoting one event or project, but about the club's collective efforts to raise awareness throughout the year.

## **GALA GIFT SHOW FILLED WITH OPPORTUNITIES**

The Gala Gift Show (GGS2) planning is underway with all major core positions filled. There are plenty of worker opportunities available: we'll have a signup sheet at our first meeting in September. This is one of our club's two major fundraisers; a one day show that brings in about 700 shoppers.

The best way to get the most out of our club is to jump in and immerse yourselves in our activities. We have the lovely reputation of this show being the best of all of the holiday bazaars, due in part to our elegant decor and mostly to our smiling faces and exuberant camaraderie.

We will be at the Boys & Girls Club. The road construction will be dealt with when we get to that point. The city has assured us it should not be a deterring factor. Soroptimist will once more be required to park off-site to save preferred parking for shoppers. We'll explain our options later.

**BAKE SALE. BAKE SALE.** The nagging, I mean encouragement, has officially begun!! Our bake sale is famous!! The shoppers wait at the door and RUN to the bake sale table upon opening. Typically, we are sold out by noon. So ladies, plan your baking strategy. Freezer space is available with several members so bake early and often. Gluten free and sugar free are popular items. Remember, nothing that needs refrigeration.

This year, for the first time, we will seek fiscal sponsorship for this event. We are targeting primarily female-owned or -partnered businesses and are not approaching any Garden Show sponsors. If you know of a local, woman-owned business, please send their contact info to Deb Carlson.

Our theme decor is "Elegant Black and Gold." Please dress to fit the theme, the glitzier the better! Come and stay all day. Get all of your holiday shopping done, jump in and help where needed, smile all day, help our vendors have their best experience ever. Off we go on another fabulous year! Thanks to all of you for making this club the cohesive, productive, meaningful organization that it is. It takes each and every one of us.

~Deb Carlson and Sandy Lawrence, Gala Gift Show Co-Chairs





## GALA GARDEN SHOW CORE COMMITTEE UPDATE

On Wednesday, July 31, 2019, members of the 2020 Gala Garden Show (GGS) Core Committee met to review and vote for the featured artwork for the upcoming show. There were a dozen entries; we thank all the artists who shared their inspired designs. The winning artwork, a photograph titled, "A Ride Through Fields of Color" was submitted by Melody Albertson. Below are some comments about the artwork from the voters. Congratulations to Melody!

- The art represents a simple quiet time of open fields and beautiful weather to bike, it speaks volumes of what Sequim is all about and has to offer.
- The colors were so clear and the lavender in the background seemed fitting.
- I chose this picture because it spoke 'Sequim' to me...the lavender, the bicycle, the country fence and wild flowers. Many of the wonderful sights we are blessed to see every day.



Three other announcements were made at the meeting.

- 1) The 2020 GGS will once again be held at the **Boys & Girls Club**. The city assured we would have 100% access to the B&G Club for the show.
- 2) We have a Keynote Speaker: **Christian Pfeiffer**.
- 3) Kathy Purcell and Kim Renfro will be co-chairing the 2020 GGS.

There are a few other things going on behind the scenes. Sponsorship letters are being prepared by Sponsorship Chair **Athena Dunn** and will be going out early next month. **Chris Snow** is preparing Vendor Registration documentation. **Jenniefer Weir** and **Chris Snow** will be measuring the vendor areas at the B&G Club so there is more precise layout documentation.

We still have a few slots to fill on the GGS Core Committee and we'll be reaching out to some of you with these opportunities. Remember, EVERYONE works on the Gala Garden Show.

Looking forward to a great show!

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





"A garden is a complex of aesthetic and plastic intentions; and the plant is, to a landscape artist, not only a plant—rare, unusual, ordinary or doomed to disappearance—but it is also a color, a shape, a volume or an arabesque in itself." ~*Roberto Burle Marx* 

## **2019-2020 COMMITTEES**

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Chair: Melody Albertson Marti Campbell Athena Dunn Rita McCabe Betty Osborn Janet Real Kim Renfro



Ann Salmon Caroline Smith

Connie VanRoosendaal

Gail Watson

Jennifer Weir (Cont.Ed)

## **SHE—Soroptimist Helping & Empowering**

Chair: TBD

## AIM High—Middle School

Co-Chair: TBD

## **Tea With SHE**

Co-Chairs: Janet Popelka, Connie VanRoosendaal

Elaine Bradford Kathleen DeJong Wendy Duede Judy Field Gloria Fitzpatrick Pauline Geraci Rita McCabe Susan Mesches Linda Naylor Sara Ellen Peterson Dorothy Ward





## **DREAM IT BE IT**

Pat Willis

Chairs: TBD

## **PATHWAYS**

Chair: Missy Church-Smith Melody Albertson Marti Campbell Dave Fickes Sherry Lacey Jane Manzer Jeani Penn Elaine Powlesland

Anji Schalf

## **FINANCE**

Chair: Gena Royal Kathy Cunha Dave Fickes Jane Manzer Kris Osborn Shelle Paulbitski Janet Popelka Janet Real Linda Rotmark Caroline Smith



## **FUNDRAISING**

Chair TBD





Gala Gift Show:

Co-Chairs: Sandy Lawrence and Deb Carlson

Gala Garden Show:

Co-Chairs: Kathy Purcell and Kim Renfro

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Co-Chairs: Missy Church-Smith, Mary Fasching

Becky Archer

Amanda Beitzel (New MemCmte)

Elaine Bradford Barbara Brenner Jan Chapman Elaine Churchill

Athena Dunn (NewMemCmte)

**Dave Fickes** 

Wei Lindstrom (NewMemCmte)

Susan Mesches Ann Salmon

## **2019-2020 COMMITTEES**

## PROGRAMS (General/VIP Luncheon/Human Trafficking Awareness/Domestic Violence Awareness)

Chair: Kris Osborn

Becky Archer (VIP)

Collen Blazier (HTA & DVA)

Marilyn Buffer (VIP)

Marti Campbell (HTA)

Deb Carlson (G)

Elaine Churchill (VIP)

Kathleen DeJong (G)

Wendy Duede (HTA)

Jan Durham (HTA)

Mary Fasching (VIP)

Mayme Faulk(G & VIP)

Linda Klinefelter (HTA)

Sandy Lawrence (G &DVA)

Jane Manzer (DVA)

Rita McCabe(G)

Karin Pease (DVA)

Jeani Penn (VIP)

Joan Plumb(G & DVA)

Gena Royal(G)

Anji Scalf (HTA)

## **HOSPITALITY—BREAKFAST MEETINGS**

Chair: Jan Chapman, Amanda Beitzel Elaine Churchill Dave Fickes Paulette Hill Linda Naylor Linda Rotmark

## MLC

Co-Chairs: Jeani Penn, Becky Archer, Chris Snow

Marti Campbell

Kathleen DeJong

Jan Durham

Judy Field

Gloria Fitzpatrick

Su Howat

Linda Naylor

Gena Royal

Jolene Sanborn

Connie VanRoosendaal

**Dorothy Ward** 

Cat Xander



## **PUBLIC AWARENESS**

Co-Chairs: Linda Klinefelter

Linda Chapman

Paulette Hill

Rose Jaeger

Kathryn Pacelli

Kathy Purcell

Pat Willis

Cat Xander

## Newsletter





"The first follower is actually an underestimated form of leadership in itself. ...

The first follower is what transforms a lone nut into a leader." ~ Derek Sivers

## Janet Popelka Janet Real = Sun Colleen Blazier Mon ü Tue Cat Xander Wed 굺 Betty Osborn Ann Salmon Sara Ellen Peterson Amanda Beitzel Ξ. AREA PICNIC Connie Van Roosendaal 81 SEQUIM Picnic/BBQ Sat

## August 2019

## Sun Jennifer Weir Mon Program Meeting Business Meeting Mary Fasching Tue 18 Gala Garden Show Core Committee Meeting 8:30 a.m. First Security Community Room ⇉ Wed Elaine Bradford 굺 Gail Watson BOARD MEETING ದ Ŧ. Paulette Hill Pat Willis Sat

# ptember 2019

## **Essence Of Being** - by RoseAnn V. Shawiak

Flowers breaking through a mind of thought, blossoming with ideals and untried concepts. Prepared for an onslaught of edited criticism and narrow points of view; standing firm and bendable like a willow in a storm.

Reaching for strength of character that has grown and matured within, allowing it to take hold and become what it is.

Open, filled with life, hope and strength. The essence of my being—me.



Watercolor by Chris Minard



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