



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 6

Soroptimist International of Sequim

Celebrating 70+ Years of Service

December, 2019

Officers 2019 - 2020

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Kathy Purcell

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Assistant Treasurer:

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Director: 2 year

(one year remaining)

Dave Fickes

Director: 2 year

Jan Chapman

Director: 1 year

Melody Albertson

Director: 1 year

Cat Xander

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Gena Royal

Newsletter Staff:

Kathy Purcell

Rose Jaeger

Jane Manzer

Pat Willis

“Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most.”
~Ruth Carter Stapleton

Message from the President

Lights...I have been thinking about lights. It's partially because the holiday season has begun, and it is often referred to as the Season of Light. We see lights in many places this time of year—framing the windows of shops and of homes. Looking through those windows we see lights on trees inside—also some lights on trees outside. It's December—the month with the fewest hours of daylight—another reason for more lights.

A week or so ago Blue and I went out for our morning walk. It was early and the darkness prompted me to wear my headlight. On our return trip the light on my headlight went off momentarily and came back on at a lower intensity. That meant the battery was getting low.

There was enough light for me to see. In fact, by the time we got back to the house I didn't even notice the reduction in light. My eyes had adjusted, and I'd forgotten about it.

After dinner that night I put on my jacket to get ready for my evening walk with Blue. I realized my headlight needed to be charged. Rob put the battery from my headlight into the charger and handed me his headlight. And off we went.

We are a bit like headlights. We light the way for others by providing them with resources to improve their lives. For example, the Soroptimist Dream programs—Live Your Dream Award and Dream It, Be It, empowering women and girls to become all they can be. Our club gives scholarships and awards, encouraging continued education. We also provide funds to local organizations whose mission aligns with ours, making life a little easier for those in our community.

Even the best headlight can only perform at the highest capacity for so long. After a time, the intensity is lessened until it turns off completely, or until it is recharged. We work at our highest performance possible and sometimes don't see when our energy level drops. We adjust just like I did on that morning walk with Blue.

During this Season of Light let us take some time to recharge our spirits, and when we can, let us shine our light so others can take the time to recharge theirs. The Light is within us and can't help but increase as we join together and continue to Discover Our Inner Treasures.

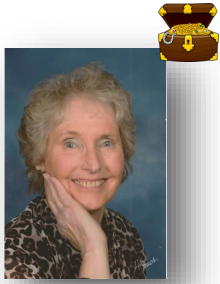


~President Kathy

Discovering Our Inner Treasures (DO IT!)



**This month we hear from Colleen Blazier
President 2006-2007**



As I take a walk down Memory Lane, it seems like a lifetime ago that I served as President of Soroptimist International of Sequim. Every step of that journey was an opportunity to reach for my zenith of potential. Back in the “olden days,” we held our meetings at Danny’s Restaurant; it was located in the building that is now KSQM. We have been on the move as a club—as I truly believe that Soroptimist are movers and shakers.

As the Christmas season peeks around the corner, I can’t help but recall and cherish the memories of what we did especially at Christmas. One of our members (Sherry Schubert) was very involved with the foster children in the area. She and her husband (Walt--former mayor of Sequim) had numerous foster children. We would collect clothing and Sherry would make the deliveries. As she became more involved with her restaurant, I started to take the donations to Carol Pope who served as president of The North Olympic Foster Parent Assn. She was also the business manager at All Safe Storage where she had a storage unit with clothes for the foster children.

In 2006, she asked if any member would be willing to serve a Christmas meal for the children and foster parents. It was as much of a treat for us as it was for them. Over the years, members would not only volunteer to serve at the buffet, but also cook the turkeys. We wore Santa hats and reindeer horns for extra holiday cheer. It was such fun to see the children dressed in their very finest clothes but we also marveled at how polite they were to us. When asked if they wanted green beans, many would reply, “Yes Ma’am or No Ma’am” with a smile. That experience started our years of packing backpacks as the children started back to school.



A short time later, we began our partnership with Healthy Families of Clallam County. Deb Carlson had already opened the door for us as she began the painting project in the children’s playroom at the agency. When distressed parents came to seek help, Deb wanted a cheerful place for the children. She served as our link to Holiday Joy which was started by Beverly Hoffman and Judy Gates in 2007 while I was president. Holiday Joy branched out with another Christmas event—Family Day. According to Beverly, “Missy Church-Smith was my initial point of contact and she was amazing with her support plus her enthusiastic heart.” She also said, “Deb, and then Jane Manzer, did the first sock tree while Kathleen DeJong was my Girl Friday as she provided a list of members who wished to sponsor families” (for Holiday Joy). Beverly notes that, “nearly a third of all sponsors are Soroptimist, which is beyond amazing. Some members have been sponsors each year since Holiday Joy began.”



~continued on page 4

CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2019

- 6 Board Meeting
- 7 Gala Gift Show
- 10 Business Meeting
- 17 Christmas Party

JANUARY 2020

- 10 Board Meeting
- 14 Business Meeting
- *20 Human Trafficking
101
- 28 Program Meeting



***Evening Meeting**

Colleen’s Theme

Make Dreams Happen

“Dreams are renewable.
No matter what our age or condition,
there are still
untapped possibilities within us
and new beauty
waiting to be born.”
~Dr. Dale Turner

Celebrate Life!

DECEMBER 2019

Wendy Duede
Jan Durham
Dave Fickes
Sandy Lawrence
Karin Pease
Elaine Powlesland

JANUARY 2020

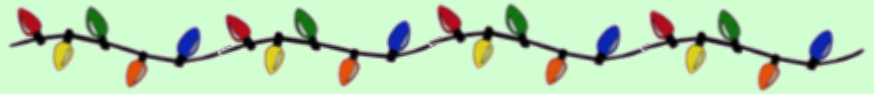
Kathy Cunha
Rose Jaeger



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



“Holidays are about experiences
and people and tuning into
what you feel like doing at that moment.
Enjoy not having to look at a watch.”
~Evelyn Glennie



CHRISTMAS PARTY—POTLUCK

DECEMBER 17, 2019

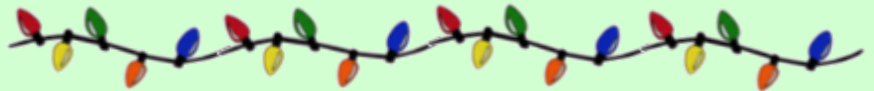
SOLANA

5:30 p.m.

We will supply two soups.
Please bring a salad or dessert.
Maybe you would like to share
your favorite Christmas cookies.

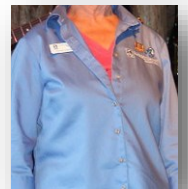
Christmas Trivia by MC—Dave Fickes

Join us for a fa-la-la-lovely holiday celebration!



CLUB PICTURE RESCHEDULED

We are having our pictures taken by
Ernst Schafer of Ernst Fine Photography
at our **January 14** business meeting.
There will be another reminder in the January
Soropt-Scoop, encouraging members to wear
their “**Blues.**”



SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER

Peninsula Area

Peninsula Area Meeting
Location TBA
February 22, 2020



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

~continued from page 2

Family Day is a magical time when parents and children come to Healthy Families and select pre-purchased items that are donated. Jan Chapman has made cookies for most of the thirteen years according to Beverly. One of the things that is so inspiring about how we tackle our projects is that nobody takes credit for the impact they have made on so many lives plus how they continue to improve our community. Our members work behind the scenes without any fanfare.



As I reached the end of my term, I had advised the board that we needed updated By-Laws. With the same spirit that we tackle most challenges, that project was completed and presented to the membership for approval at the very last meeting before we installed new officers. I can honestly say that the spirit of cooperation was essential but revising the By-laws honestly lacked luster in comparison to the Christmas events. As Sally Sue Barry (God rest her soul) would often say, "The By-laws are the backbone of our club" and I would counter with the members are our backbone.



~Colleen Blazier 

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

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

GIRLS OF THE MONTH



ALISSA and EVA LOFSTROM

How many remember the advertisement for Doublemint Gum...double your pleasure, double your fun? We got a little of that fun and pleasure when we recognized Alissa (left) and Eva (right) Lofstrom with our Girls of the Month Awards. These young women are twins and they are a double-delight. Both are active in school government, volunteering in the community and have a keen interest in the environment. These ladies are taking their academic interest and will pursue their higher education at a Pacific Northwest Institution.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Continuing Education Scholarship is for \$2000 to a female graduate of Sequim High School or living with a Sequim address. The applicant must have completed one year of post-secondary education and will be continuing their education in the fall of 2020 (2019 is complete). Jennifer Weir is this year's chairman, as she was last year. If you have someone interested, please contact Jennifer.

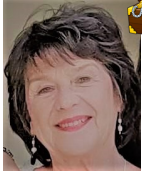


~Melody Albertson, Awards & Scholarships

"The one real object of education is to have a man in the condition of continually asking questions."
~Bishop Mandell Creighton

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER

PAT ZETTAS



Pat retired to Sequim in 1991 from Fresno, California. She was a registered X-ray Technician, and later became a Medical Office Manager. Her participation in several medical auxiliaries included president and fund-raising chair. The skills learned in these organizations are certainly an asset for SIS. Pat's other interests and talents include gardening, creating greeting cards, and love of nature and the outdoors. Her advice to talk problems out, share ideas and learn to listen are certainly applicable to all of us.

NEW MEMBER COMMITTEE NEWS

The New Member Committee met on November 6 and discussed various organizations that SI/Sequim invests in. We will be doing a needs assessment on some of these organizations and a few additional ones to see what they need as it relates to the Soroptimist mission of improving the lives of women and girls. We will meet after Thanksgiving and determine our direction. This committee is for members who are new this year and also last year (2018/2019). Please come join us as we get to know each other!!



~Shawn Dredla, New Member Committee Chair



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

The Sunshine Lady has now morphed into a committee and remains part of the Membership Committee.

In previous years we had a "Sunshine Lady." Our most recent Sunshine Lady was Dorothy Ward—and what an outstanding job she did. Dorothy has moved out of the area and we wish her well. Since her departure there are now two of us, Barbara Brenner and me. We are responsible for making sure that each member receives a birthday card. Also, when we are made aware, we will also send members cards for other events in their lives.



Barbara is spreading her sunshine until January 31, at which time I will step in until August 31, 2020.



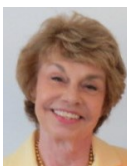
~Elaine Bradford, Sunshine Committee Co-Chair



"But friendship is precious, not only in the shade, but in the sunshine of life, and thanks to a benevolent arrangement the greater part of life is sunshine." ~Thomas Jefferson

DIGNITY FOR WOMEN

We have purchased feminine products and wipes totaling \$810 since July for the Food Bank for this very worthwhile program. I, personally, and all of us, owe a big thank you to **Jeani Penn** for initiating the Dignity for Women project last year. Jeani has decided to step down as Co-Chair and will move on to other activities. **Elaine Churchill** will Co-Chair with me. Thank you Jeani and welcome Elaine.



~Becky Archer, Co-Chair Dignity for Women



SPONSORSHIP/MENTORSHIP

The following is a guideline for sponsoring a prospective member and the duties of a Mentor when a person joins SIS. If you know of someone who might be interested in SIS, encourage them to attend one of our meetings.

If you need a copy of these tips, please ask Elaine Churchill.



2019-2020 MEMBERSHIP TIPS

HOSTING A PROSPECTIVE MEMBER:

- ◆ Notify Jan Chapman that you will bring a guest
- ◆ Check in with guest evening prior
- ◆ Day of Meeting:
 - Guest receives name tag and trifold
 - You may opt to pay for guest first meeting
 - Sit with guest and introduce to membership
 - Review trifold info: costs, steps to join, responsibilities, commitments
 - ◆ After three meetings or when guest is ready to join:
 - Notify Membership Chairs, application will be emailed
 - When application/dues are received, guest may attend all functions
 - Official induction next meeting

NOW THAT YOU ARE A SPONSOR/MENTOR:

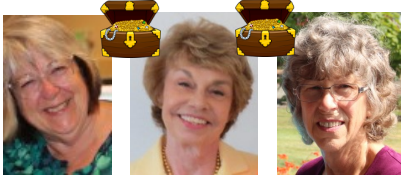
- ◆ At induction stand as Sponsor/Mentor
- ◆ Make time to review with new member:
 - Roster Information
 - Expectations at Fundraisers
 - Answer questions or direct them to answers
 - Invite new member to join you in events
 - Provide tools for active membership and participation
 - ◆ Inform new member:
 - They are expected to be active members of the New Member Committee during their first year of membership.
 - The main purpose of the committee is to help new members feel like a contributing member of SIS from the start.
 - Those on the committee consist of new members from this year and last year.
 - This committee will decide on a project or projects to work on together, keeping with the Soroptimist mission of improving the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET STATS FOR NOVEMBER

The Medical Loan Closet continues to be busy. We had **180** phone calls, loaned **83** pieces of equipment and, ironically, had **83** pieces of equipment returned. We received **\$725** in donations. Our crew is getting smaller so **we could use a couple more people**. This is truly a labor of love and I think I can speak for all the committee that the appreciation we see on a weekly basis is awesome. Please think about joining us. It takes one week out of every 13, so the demand is not that great.



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



"Love so easily understands what you can see is the smallest part;
you don't need Christmas in your hands
when you have Christmas in your heart." ~Anonymous

Dear Soroptimist sisters and brothers,

Mujeres was delighted and honored to have a number of you as volunteers at our dinner/auction on November 2. Many thanks to Elaine Bradford, Marti Campbell, Sharon Cochran Jensen, Linda Klinefelter, Jane Manzer, Sandy Reed, Kim Renfro and of course Kathy Purcell in her dual role as our board member and your president.



On behalf of the Mujeres' board, we wish all Soroptimist members a warm and joyful holiday season.

Judith Pasco
Board Chair
Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation
www.MujeresDeMaizOF.org
[mujeres @olypen.com](mailto:mujeres@olypen.com)

Let Every Day Be Christmas

by Norman W. Brooks

Christmas is forever, not for just one day,
for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away
like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf.
The good you do for others is good you do yourself.



PROGRAM AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Every year, Soroptimists around the world put on a programs to educate the public about Human Trafficking. Our program this year is on January 21, 2020, 6:30 pm at Trinity United Methodist Church on Blake Ave in Sequim. It will be presented by Washington Trafficking Prevention.



I have had the opportunity of attending many of these events and I strongly urge each of you to attend. It is an eye-opener, I assure you. It is happening right here in our back yard and we need to learn everything we can so we can be effective advocates for the victims of this heinous crime.

What Constitutes Human Trafficking?

“Trafficking in Persons”... mean[s] the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, **by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.**

Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

The average age of an identified victim of trafficking is 26 years old (at the time of assistance) and half of those identified are between 18 and 34 years old.

The average age of victims identified in 2015–2016 was 29 years old, with male victims being, on average, older than female victims. **At least 16 per cent of identified victims in the same period were children.** On average, a victim is trafficked for approximately two years, therefore the average age of entry into trafficking is below 26 years.

Top Types of Trafficking Cases in 2018:

- Escort services
- Residential-based
- Pornography
- Illicit massage
- Domestic labor

Who Are The Survivors?

Every year, more survivors are reaching out to the **National Human Trafficking Hotline** and more people are seeking help for survivors they know. The data on these pages are not based on a systematic survey, but are analyzed from the information received about **23,078 survivors in 2018.**

~continued on page 9

“Love is what’s in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen.” ~*Author Unknown*

~continued from page 8

As people disclosed more detailed information about their own trafficking experiences or about potential victims for whom they were seeking support, Hotline staff noted key elements.

Traffickers frequently prey on an individual's vulnerabilities, and the data spotlight factors that may have placed these victims at risk—as well as the variety of tactics used to recruit and keep them in a trafficking situation.

RISK FACTORS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

- Recent migration/relocation
- Substance use
- Unstable housing
- Runaway/homeless youth
- Mental health concerns

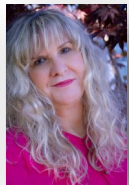
METHODS OF FORCE, FRAUD, COERCION:

- Isolation/confinement
- Economic abuse
- Threats of any kind
- Emotional abuse
- Physical abuse

POINTS OF ACCESS TO POTENTIAL HELP:

- Family/friends
- Law enforcement/criminal justice system
- Health services
- Mobile apps or social media
- Child welfare system

Join your fellow Soroptimists in helping fight Human Trafficking. See you at the January 21st. meeting.



~Kathryn Pacelli



SAVE THE DATE

WHAT: Human Trafficking 101 Presentation
WHERE: Trinity United Methodist Church (Sequim)
WHEN: January 21, 2020 / 6:30 p.m.



“Hope is the strongest driving force for a people. Hope which brings about change, which produces new realities, is what opens man’s road to freedom. Once hope has taken hold, courage must unite with wisdom. That is the only way of avoiding violence, the only way of maintaining the calm one needs to respond peacefully to offenses.”

~Oscar Arias Sanchez

GALA GARDEN SHOW CORE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Over the last two months (in particular), we have been concentrating on our Gala Gift Show. Now that it is history, it's time to take a breath, enjoy our success and decompress.

We have another gala on the horizon—the Gala Garden Show, and we will be picking up speed on that in early January. We are seeking to fill the following positions:

- ◆ **Volunteer Coordinator:** this position organizes sign-ups and ensures we have all positions covered for the days of the GGS. Missy is available for mentoring
- ◆ **Vendor Support—two persons:** this position assists vendors during the show, including covering their booth temporarily if necessary.
- ◆ **Raffle Co-chair:** Linda Klinefelter has been busy finding raffle items—it almost seems it is in her DNA to do this. She has done a lot of the “ask” part of the GGS Raffle and has agreed to be designated as a Raffle Co-chair. We are looking for another person to Co-chair with her and assist with setup at the show.
- ◆ **Sponsorship Solicitation:** Someone to coordinate follow-up of the sponsorship letters.

While you are relaxing and celebrating the holidays please consider volunteering to fill one of the above positions. Our success is ensured when everyone participates where they can. Thank you all for being part of it.

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



WORDS OF GRATITUDE

Dear Kathy and Soroptimist Members,

Thank you very much for your continued support of the Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation. Your \$750 gift will provide life-changing educational support to women and children in Chiapas.

We are very grateful.
Cathy VanRuhan,
Board Secretary

‘I love everything about the holidays: the decorations, the parties, and spending time with friends and family. What I love most is that feeling of giving back. Every bit counts.’ ~Brad Goreski

Dear Members of Soroptimist International of Sequim,

We appreciate your generous donation and all the support you give to the Kathleen Sutton Foundation yearly.

Thank you!



Valerie Rotmark
Maggaret Clausless
Cheryl Bloom?
Allison Hillman

Sueky Bryan
Chief Carlson
TJB
Virginia Powell
Julianne E. Kelly Silman

December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 BOARD MEETING	7 Gala Gift Show 
8	9	10 Business Meeting	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 Christmas Party 	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas 	26	27	28
29	30	31 Happy New Year! 			BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Deborah Carlson Wendy Duede Jan Durham Dave Fickes Sandy Lawrence Karin Pease Elaire Powlesland 	

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Kathy Cunha Rose Jaeger 					
5	6	7	8	9	10 BOARD MEETING	11
12	13	14 Business Meeting	15	16	17	18
19	20 Human Trafficking 101 Trinity United Methodist Church (Sequim) 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Program Meeting	29	30	31	

Candlelit Heart

by Mary E. Linton

Somewhere across the winter world tonight
You will be hearing chimes that fill the air;
Christmas extends its all-enfolding light
Across the distance...something we can share.

You will be singing, just the same as I,
These familiar songs we know so well,
And you will see these same stars in your sky
And wish upon that brightest one that fell.

I shall remember you and trim my tree,
One shining star upon the topmost bough;
I will hang wreaths of faith that all may see —
Tonight I glimpse beyond the here and now.

And all the time that we must be apart
I keep a candle in my heart.



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

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

Soroptimist International of Sequim
PO Box 126
Sequim, WA 98382

To a Person Making a Difference for Women