



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 25, Issue 10

Soroptimist International of Sequim

Celebrating 70+ Years of Service

April 2021

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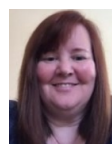
Message from the President

April showers bring May flowers . . . I don't see a lot of rain in our near forecast though! Looking forward to seeing the "smiling faces" of the flowers however, so I guess I may be watering at Creekside Haven! As a child it always amazed me how flowers opened and closed with sunlight. I used to tell my mom they were smiling at the sun when they opened up under the bright light. Makes me smile to this day to see happy flowers beaming in the sunlight.

What also made me happy was seeing all of the optimism and hope in our members' faces on the last program meeting as Cat was polling members on vaccine recipients. Hearing that members are able to see family members face to face, attend book clubs (all members vaccinated) and leave their house without fear of COVID putting them in the hospital made my heart so happy. As I type this, there's been no communication from SIA releasing us from the mandate of no face-to-face contact with each other or the public, but I hope that we hear something soon given the continual rollout of vaccines across the country. We've been fortunate that Clallam County has embraced the responsibility of getting their residents vaccinated as quickly and efficiently as possible (and they've kicked butt doing it!) while other counties and states haven't been so effective in their directive. I, like you, want SIA to release us to begin "normal" club life or some other form of it and I hope they will soon. In the meantime, I ask that you have patience while we wait, and I'll try to as well!

The good news is we are resilient as a group and we're not going to let a mandate keep us from making some money to fund our dreams for women and girls! The Virtual Garden Show committee and the Auction committee have been hard at work to get ready for the upcoming NO CONTACT events coming up next month. The "Outside the Box" thinking that the committee members did to stay true to SIA's mandate and pull off the events is nothing less than extraordinary! I'm looking forward to seeing the fruits of their labor roll in soon!

Wishing you all a happy April!



Hugs,
Kris
Outside the Box



**"Work is an instrument
through which
you carry out
your life mandate."
~Sunday Adelaja**

"Sustainable change, after all, depends not upon compliance with external mandates or blind adherence to regulation, but rather upon the pursuit of the greater good." ~Douglas B. Reeves

Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

Have you ever noticed how much you notice while taking a walk? It might happen even more while walking a dog; dogs notice a lot of things—not just with their eyes, but also with their noses. They have heightened senses.

While on a walk we might notice a single leaf blow across the trail—maybe it was the dog who noticed it first. A spot of yellow shows up in our peripheral vision; it is a daffodil pushing up from the underbrush. We notice a blade of grass reflecting light off the morning dew that nourishes it.

In each of these instances, the instant we notice them, all other thoughts disappear; our full attention—for that moment—is on the leaf, the flower, the blade of grass. Each of these scenarios involves nature, and it is natural for us to become focused on something that draws our attention. Sometimes the draw is temporary; other times it is more permanent.

Speaking of drawing—or perhaps I should say coloring . . . there is currently a coloring contest happening for children ages 0 to 10—as part of our Virtual Garden Show! It is a collaboration between our club and First Teacher, a nonprofit agency we support through our committed funds. A special picture was designed by artist Natalie Martin just for the contest. This is an opportunity for children to use their creativity with colors. Club member and artist, Jolene Sanborn, will be the judge. The contest is being promoted on the SIS and First Teacher Facebook pages and websites. Check out the details at <https://sequimgardenshow.com/>. As of this writing, our coloring contest Facebook post shows 2,518 people reached, with 158 engagements! It is getting people's attention.

While visiting the website for First Teacher to look for the coloring contest, something else got my attention. It mentioned that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. That led me to look up the topic online.

The Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) website, <https://preventchildabuse.org/latest-activity/april-is-child-abuse-prevention-month/> states: This year's national campaign theme is "Every day, we help positive childhood experience take root!" We encourage our chapters, affiliates, and stakeholders to use a garden metaphor to reinforce this message.

Their Action Guide says: "Science shows that providing supportive and positive conditions for early childhood can prevent or even reverse the damaging effects of early life stress, with lifelong benefits for learning, behavior, and health. Addressing community adversities and providing concrete supports to families and children is more effective and less costly than attempting to address the consequences of adversity later in life."

This year's PCA theme seems to tie in with our coloring contest and our Virtual Garden Show. It also reflects the tie between SIS and First Teacher.

The scenarios with the leaf, the flower and the blade of grass above were all first-hand experiences for me—while taking a walk with my dog, Blue. The take-away for me was, when we pay attention, we sense the ties that appear before us naturally. Sometimes those show up Outside the Box.



Light and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor



"Children are not things to be molded,
but are people to be unfolded." ~*Jess Lair*

CALENDAR

April

- 9 Board Meeting
- 13 Business Meeting
- 27 Program Meeting

May

- 7 Board Meeting
- 11 Business Meeting
- 25 Program Meeting

All Meetings are via
Zoom



"Children are like wet cement
whatever falls on them
makes an impression."
~*Haim Ginott*



"I continue to believe that
if children are given
the necessary tools to succeed,
they will succeed
beyond their wildest dreams!"
~*David Vitter*

Celebrate Life!

APRIL

Linda Rotmark
Chris Snow

MAY

Marti Campbell
Judy Field
Pauline Geraci
Shirley Huntley
Linda Klinefelter
Cynthia Martin
Jeanne Martin



Note the phone number for our
MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET



“A pearl goes up for auction.
No one has enough,
so the pearl buys itself.” ~Rumi

Five Days of Fun



Save the Date



Garden Show Online Auction May 12 - 16, 2021

Preview and Registration begin May 7, 2021



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Making a difference for Women, Girls
and the Community

charityauction.bid/gardenshow

PLANT SALE



The **Clallam Co. Master Gardeners** will have a Spring Plant Sale, but it is going to look a little different than in past years. **Online orders start May 1** with pickup at Woodcock Garden on May 14/15. Additional plants will be available to purchase on the day of your scheduled pickup. For more info see the Master Gardener Foundation website, clallammgf.org or <https://master-gardener-foundation-clallam-county.square.site/>

Lots of veggie/herb starts, perennials, natives, garden items and more are available.

Woodcock Garden is always open to the public during daylight hours, visitors are welcome!

SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER



NWR Conference
Via Zoom
April 22-25, 2021



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

SIA CONVENTION
Virtual!
October 1-2, 2021

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS GIRL OF THE MONTH

GRETA CHRISTIANSON—April



Soroptimist International of Sequim recognizes **Greta Christianson** as Girl of the Month for April. Greta is a highly active senior at Sequim High School, volunteering in a variety of activities that include working the Boo Hunger Food Drive, math tutoring for 5th graders, and Wreaths Across America. She also volunteers in a variety of other community events as well. She has lettered in Fastpitch Softball, FFA Trap Shooting—and held the role of manager for wrestling and football. In addition, Greta is employed at Project Scrubs and is a dispatcher for Security Services Northwest. She will be attending Peninsula College to obtain a degree in nursing.

“Find something that you are passionate about in making a difference and you’ll find a waiting kinship of people willing to unite for the cause.” ~*Wes Adamson*

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Tips that will make assimilation into the club easier (post COVID restrictions)



ATTEND REGULARLY!

At the meetings, arrive early and select a seat near someone you don't know. Long-term members have a responsibility to help you to feel welcome. Just make yourself available and allow them to fulfill their obligations. By arriving a few minutes early, you will have the opportunity to visit with new friends. (Remember, sometimes longer-term members are just a tad shy, too. Don't hesitate to introduce yourself first.) Make it a point to meet someone new each week.

Volunteer at the first opportunity. It is a great way to meet members and get to know them. It will also ensure that long-term members

remember your name. After all, you are not really a Soroptimist unless you are in there doing something!

Wear your name tag.

Stand and give your name any time you speak to the group. It's of no value to hear a name if there is no face to attach to it.

Be dependable. Arrive on time; be prepared for what you are supposed to do.

ENJOY YOURSELF!

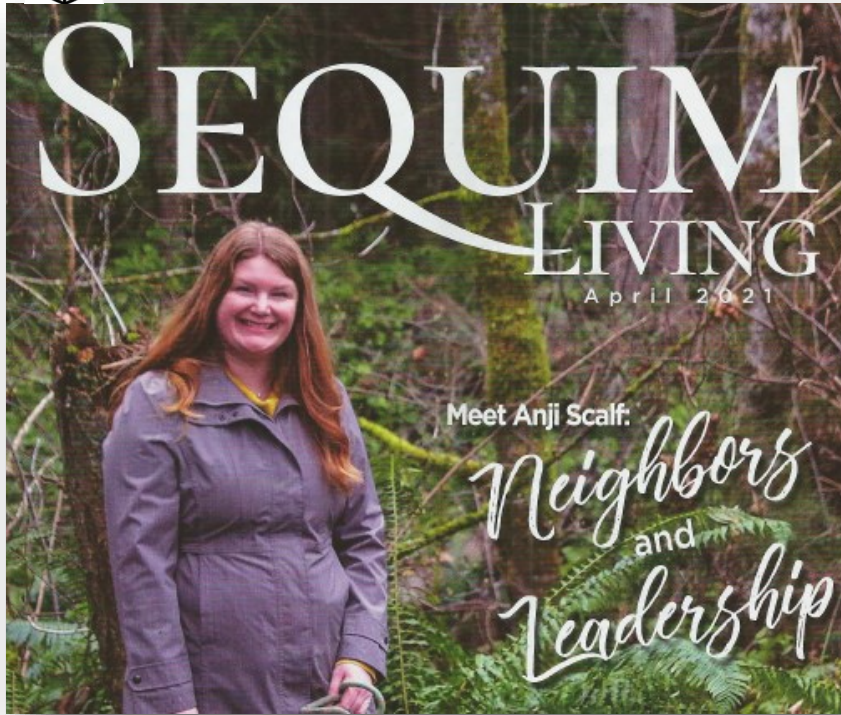


~Elaine Bradford, Membership Committee



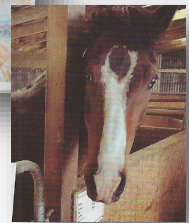


MEMBERSHIP—COOL STUFF . . .



Member **Anji Scalf** made the cover of Sequim Living magazine's April 2021 edition! You can read the story here: <http://sisequim.org/news/2020-21/anji-scalf.pdf>.

Way COOL, Anji!



MLC—UPDATE

We were able to reopen the Medical Loan Closet on March 15 after the Board approved a contact-less equipment donation and return process. The MLC had been closed since January 23 by order of Soroptimist International of the Americas, which closed all in-person Soroptimist meetings, events, and community services due to concerns over the spread of COVID-19.

The contact-less process has been going very well with the Sequim community understanding our need to restrict contact and following our specific procedures to return or donate equipment without contact with volunteers.

We wish to thank long time volunteers Judy Field and Jolene Sanborn for helping many people at the Closet over the past years. They are stepping back for a short time and we are looking forward to having them return in the near future.

Although the MLC was open for only two weeks in March, our hardworking volunteers were very busy. While we were closed, **72** people contacted us either to return or donate equipment. Our volunteers reduced the backlog to **21** at month end. We received **124** pieces of equipment and **63** calls were answered by our volunteers after we reopened. The generous Sequim community donated **\$435**.



~Becky Archer and Chris Snow, MLC Co-Chairs



RECOGNIZING THE CRY

This past year, I have written avidly about the perils of human trafficking. As a former foster parent, I understand the effects of vulnerability when someone lacks self-esteem and love. My memories of the girls that came through my home often remind me of why I took on this task. One young girl who is no longer a teenager, reminds me of why I do what I do.

The call came one evening—they always seemed to come in the evening! The social worker asked would I take a placement of a 15-year-old girl who had lost all hope; she herself called Children Services. She arrived dressed entirely in black, flip-flops on her feet and carrying a plastic garbage bag containing her belongings. She might have been crying out for help, but she was defiant, angry, and belligerent. This new foster child had been abused, neglected, subjected to drunken violent outbursts from her mother and boyfriend. She had moved so many times while in grade school, that high school was another obstacle course she was struggling to maneuver.

The first year with us was filled with challenges! Food was a constant issue and sometimes carried Oscar winning dramatics because she was only accustomed to pizza, hot dogs, spaghetti, and hamburgers. She tested the waters with being promiscuous around young men, not to mention, with breaking house rules and curfews. The rule breaking resulted in her being in a horrendous car accident and she had to be air-flighted to a trauma facility. It was from that accident, she learned there were people in her life who loved and cared about her. We were not discarding her because of her choices! She had value and worth; she was most important to us and despite everything, we loved her.

Now let us fast forward thirty-five years . . . That 15-year-old girl is now approaching her fiftieth birthday. She is a mother to three wonderful boys – 23, 19, 15 and she just celebrated her 26th wedding anniversary. Sometimes we talk about the past, but rarely do we go there because she expressed years ago—she might have been someone’s trick or the possession of some John, had she not made that call. Why she made that call years ago, even she doesn’t know! Yet not all who experience neglect and abuse have the foresight to cry out for safety. Some fall prey to the trafficker who sees what the “vulnerable” can do for them.

If you would like information on myths, facts, and statistics on human trafficking you can visit the Polaris Project at www.polarisproject.org and while you are visiting the site, think about making a donation.



~Linda Klinefelter, Human Trafficking Awareness Chair



“Safety and security don't just happen, they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear.” ~*Nelson Mandela*

MUJERES UPDATE

Dear Soroptimist Sisters and Brothers,

Now in our 16th year, our work in Chiapas continues. Obviously, we are still dealing with pandemic issues. The girls and women on scholarship are all working online, but hope to be going back into the classrooms in the fall. The children's programs are operating and workshops with limited attendance are taking place. Among other things, we are working on replacing laptops that we supplied many years ago, but prices have skyrocketed due to the increased demand due to online learning. Our coordinator is waiting until prices go down. The board and I are pleased that our programs are continuing and it's just a matter of time before some kind of "normal" resumes.

I, myself, am hoping to travel to Chiapas in June. It's been almost two years since my last visit, and I am missing the contact with the members of the cooperative. Of course, my trip will depend on the situation there.



Our small online auction was well-received, and if you participated, thank you very much. We may do it again later in the year. Our annual breakfast is still on hold until such time as it's allowed and folks feel comfortable attending such an event.

As always, we on the Mujeres' board thank you for your continuing support.

Cheers, Judith, Board Chair

www.MujeresDeMaizOF.org / [mujeres @olypen.com](mailto:mujeres@olypen.com)

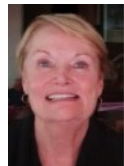
"As long as we are persistence in our pursuit of our deepest destiny, we will continue to grow. We cannot choose the day or time when we will fully bloom. It happens in its own time." ~Denis Waitley

SHREDDING EVENT UPDATE

The Shredding Event was scheduled for May 1st to start off Garden Show month, but the SIA mandate forbidding a face-to-face event was still in force until too close to that date to get out the necessary publicity in time.

Kitsap Bank had agreed to sponsor the truck for the Shredding Event and allow us to use their facility again. We have notified them that it will have to be delayed.

We plan to re-schedule later in the year because this is a quick one-day event that should earn us some cash and raise the profile of Soroptimist International of Sequim in the community.



~Cat Xander, Shredding Event Chair



YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO MAKE THE WEBINARS AND AUCTION SUCCESSFUL

We have been used to people eagerly awaiting our March Gala Garden Show, and ready to come as soon as they see signs and banners around town. It's a little harder to promote events that happen online. We will use Facebook, the Sequim Gazette, flyers, and KSQM—but the most successful way is still person-to-person.



Will you invite people to participate in our Garden Show Auction and Webinars? If each member reaches out to just five people, that's over 250 people who will know we care enough to invite them personally!

Who should you contact? Any group you belong to—like your book club, pickle ball or golf group, sewing or quilting friends, hiking or exercise partners, bunco or mah-jong group, or neighborhood friends. If you can talk any gentlemen you know into sharing this information with his friends and groups he belongs to, all the better.

Person-to-person invitations work best, and they can be phone calls, emails, and most impressive—hand-written notes! Most of your notes should probably be to local friends, especially those you think might not use Zoom very often, because they will need the most encouragement to participate.

But don't neglect the friends you left behind when you moved to Sequim. They can still attend our Virtual Garden Show Webinars or donate during the auction from anywhere in the country.

Here are the facts to put in your note or letter:

The Virtual Garden Show webinars will be May 8, 15, 16, 22, and 23 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 each. Registration opens April 18th; the direct link to registration will be posted that day at: sequimgardenshow.com/.

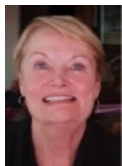


The Garden Show Auction will have more than 100 items up for bid at all price points. It will preview May 7-11, and open to bidders at noon on May 12th. It will run until 5 p.m. May 16th. Winning bidders can pick up their items on May 17th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or 18th from noon to 6 p.m. Visit sequimgardenshow.com/ to find the auction preview information.

What is special about our events:

No other group has been doing webinars, and these presentations by the Master Gardeners of Clallam County are longer and more in-depth than the hugely popular ones at the in-person Gala Garden Shows.

There have been a lot of raffles and auctions in our area lately, and ours will be helping to provide the opportunities and resources that help women and girls to succeed: scholarships, Tea with SHE seminars, the Medical Loan Closet and community agencies with the same mission.



~Cat Xander, Fundraising Chair

THE AUCTION IS GOING TO BE AMAZING!!

Members and businesses have been generous and the Auction Committee has worked hard to put together a great menu of choices for the upcoming auction. There are around 100 items and baskets at all price points! Here are a few highlights:



A Romantic Getaway Basket with two nights at the Holiday Inn and Suites, gift cards for Rainshadow Cafe, Adagio Bean and Leaf, and Sofie's Floral



Cessna 172 Skyhawk

A flight from Sequim to the Port Townsend airport and lunch at the Spruce Goose Cafe

Two potting benches by Steve Segle

A three-foot cedar bench from Mike's Cedar Works



Two nights at Creekside Haven and breakfast or lunch at the Oak Table

A
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Miss Piggy Sips and Sews—a tea and quilting basket with a Pig theme



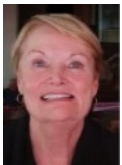
Gorgeous artistic tiles and glass cutting boards by Jolene Sanborn



At least ten planters with different flowers or succulents

The previews start on May 7th in time to pick out what you want for Mother's Day. We are hoping to get folks looking and deciding there is something they would like to have so they will bid on it when the auction opens.

If you wait for the auction, you won't get your gift on the actual Mother's Day. However, you will be able to pick out a couple of things you would like to have and, if your significant other is like my husband who never knows what to get me, you will get something you will like.



~Cat Xander, Auction Co-Chair

“Nothing will teach you more about perceived value than taking something with literally no value and selling it in the auction format. It teaches you the beauty and power of presentation, and how you can make magic out of nothing.” ~Sophia Amoruso

2021 Virtual Garden Show Update

The VGS team continues to work toward the May 1 through May 23rd event. So many things are in the cue; we're preparing to hit the ground running once the VGS begins. Below are some highlights.

- The Master Gardeners (MG) gave us permission to use one of their educational videos. We separated it into two parts, with the first part being posted on March 20 [the date our in-person Gala Garden Show would have taken place] and the second part on March 27. Our partnership with the MGs is priceless and we're extremely grateful.
- The Speakers Committee has purchased the Zoom Webinar option and Registrations will be available beginning April 18. We will promote registrations on our Facebook page and on the website. There will be a \$5 fee per webinar.
- The Vendors Committee has 16 vendors who have paid. One of the benefits to the vendors is Facebook posts. The committee has obtained pictures from the vendors to be used in creating the posts. [Those posts have been created by Elaine Bradford.]
- The total cash sponsorship to-date is \$8,552.00.
- There is a coloring contest going on until April 23. It is a collaboration between our club and First Teacher, a nonprofit agency we support with our committed funds. Natalie Martin, a local artist, has created a design for kids to color. Jolene Sanborn will be the judge. For more info: <https://sequimgardenshow.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/sorop-web-submission.pdf>
- The featured artwork—Come Sit With Me—will be on display at the Blue Whole Gallery in Sequim from May 1 [the beginning of the VGS] through May 16 [the end of the Online Auction]. The painting is one of the items available in the auction. Member and featured artist, Jolene Sanborn, made this arrangement so people can see the painting up close—adding to the interest and desire to have it in their own home. Printed sheets with info about the painting and the Online Auction will be with the displayed artwork.
- The Garden Show website is updated as there is a new component, or information changes to the VGS or Online Auction: www.sequimgardenshow.com.
- The Facebook Committee has been busy designing phenomenal videos and Facebook posts. These are already scheduled in Facebook and will be posted as per the schedule.
- Linda Klinefelter will be recording additional PSA's closer to the VGS.



Although the Online Auction has its own committee, they are tied to the VGS Committee. Many vendors have donated items to the auction and the auction will take place during the VGS. The Auction Committee has been very busy also. We are grateful to them for all their work and collaboration.





















THANK YOU to a tremendous Virtual Garden Show Committee for your creativity and energy!





























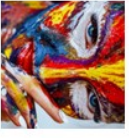

~Kathy Purcell and Janet Popelka, 2021 VGS Co-Chairs

“How does the Meadow flower its bloom unfold? Because the lovely little flower is free down to its root, and in that freedom bold.” ~*William Wordsworth*

April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Linda Rotmark Chris Snow</p> 				<p>1 April Fools Day</p> 	<p>2 World Autism Awareness Day</p> 	<p>3 National Find a Rainbow Day</p> 
<p>4 Easater</p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>6 National Siamese Cat Day</p> 	<p>7 National Walking Day</p> 	<p>8</p>	<p>9 BOARD MEETING</p>	<p>10 National Hug Your Dog Day</p> 
<p>11 National Pets Day</p> 	<p>12 National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day</p> 	<p>13 Business Meeting</p>	<p>14 National Gardening Day</p> 	<p>15 National Laundry Day</p> 	<p>16 National Librarian Day</p> 	<p>17 National Husband Appreciation Day</p> 
<p>18 National Animal Cracker Day</p> 	<p>19 National Garlic Day</p> 	<p>20 National Look-Alike Day</p> 	<p>21</p>	<p>22 EARTH DAY</p> 	<p>23 National Picnic Day</p> 	<p>24 National Skipping Day</p> 
<p>25 National Telephone Day</p> 	<p>26 National Pretzel Day</p> 	<p>27 Program Meeting</p>	<p>28 International Guide Dog Day</p> 	<p>29 International Dance Day</p> 	<p>30 International Jazz Day</p> 	

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Marti Campbell Judy Field Pauline Geraci Shirley Huntley Linda Klinefelter Cynthia Martin Jeanne Martin</p> 				<p>MG Speakers Muriel Nesbitt, Jeanette Stehr-Green, Audreen Williams, Keith Dekker</p> 	<p>1 Virtual Garden Show begins</p> 	
<p>2 VGS</p> 	<p>3 VGS</p> 	<p>4 VGS</p> 	<p>5 VGS</p> 	<p>6 VGS</p> 	<p>7 BOARD MEETING VGS Preview + Registration for Online Auction begins</p> 	<p>8 MG Panel on <u>Veggies</u> and <u>Berries</u> Questions & Answers (Muriel, Jeanette, Audreen)</p>
<p>9 VGS Auction Registration</p> 	<p>10 VGS Auction Registration</p> 	<p>11 Business Meeting VGS Auction Registration</p> 	<p>12 VGS Online Auction Begins</p> 	<p>13 VGS Online Auction</p> 	<p>14 VGS Online Auction</p> 	<p>15 Guest Speaker, Christina Pfeiffer, "Month-by-Month Gardening in the <u>Pacific Northwest</u>" Online Auction</p>
<p>16 Keith Dekker, <u>Pruning Tips</u> for the <u>Home Landscape</u> Online Auction Ends</p> 	<p>17 VGS</p> 	<p>18 VGS</p> 	<p>19 VGS</p> 	<p>20 VGS</p> 	<p>21 VGS</p> 	<p>22 Let's Talk <u>Tomatoes</u> Jeanette and Audreen</p>
<p>23 VGS Ends MG Panel on Gardening Q & A (Muriel, Jeanette, Keith)</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>25 Program Meeting</p> 	<p>26 National Paper Airplane Day</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>28 National Hamburger Day</p> 	<p>29 National Paperclip Day</p> 		
<p>30 National Creativity Day</p> 	<p>31 National Smile Day</p> 					

I relish, I cherish by Anisha Dutta

All my happy happenings
turn delicate saplings
to be planted in my memory garden.
I nurture and nourish,
keep them fresh to flourish
spreading branches of joy,
rejoicing me off and on or all of a sudden!

I cherish happy happenstances,
those stirring emotive instances
of blissful bygone days!
So many lovely memories
flash, sparkle in bright rays,
chasing present wearies-worries.

My dreamy desires look behind
rapturous reminiscences to rewind.
Posy of sweet stories in series
blooming as flowers of memories.
I relish
to ruminate long-lost past
I cherish
tidbit fragments of events
with Grandparents, Parents,
my siblings, my friends, and my love,
dearest children over above!
I cherish all memorable moments.



Soroptimist International of Sequim
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Sequim, WA 98382

SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

Soroptimist®: a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

To a Person Making a Difference for Women