



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 7

Soroptimist International of Sequim

Celebrating 70+ Years of Service

January 2021

Officers 2020— 2021

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Cat Xander

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(one year remaining)

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Director: 1 year

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Kathy Purcell

Newsletter Staff:

Kathy Purcell

Susan Coffee

Jane Manzer

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**“A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.”
~Christopher Reeve**

Message from the President

As I personally begin the new year, it’s a time for me to reflect on not only the crazy that was 2020, but the tenacity and drive that I saw from so many given the obstacles that we faced as a society. Yes, some humans showed us the underbelly of what they’re capable of. Others, however, stepped up in ways that made me tear up and applaud.

* Nurses and doctors have worked tirelessly to care for the sick, putting themselves at risk at times.

* Police & first responders have put themselves in harm’s way to protect our streets and citizens during unsettling times.

* Store clerks and restaurant workers continue to work to keep our supply chains running since our society has moved so far away from growing our own food.

While all of this has been happening, SI of Sequim could have easily said “we’ll wait until all this is over to continue our mission,” but that was never even mentioned as an option that I ever heard. We adapted. We got creative. Most of all, we showed our community what leaders do in tough times . . . step up as an example. I’m so proud of the hearts of our members who continue to look “Outside the Box” to be an example to others around us.

2021 will be a year of challenge and patience. We all want “normal” to come quickly but know it’s only with a solid plan that will we come out of this on the other side. I ask that you all continue to support each other and our Board in our decisions to keep our members safe while continuing our mission, not only as we conclude the 2020-2021 year but as Cat begins the challenge of the 2021-2022 year as well. Unfortunately, this isn’t a sprint we’re in, it’s a marathon so we’re in it for a while. The good news is we’ve got a heck of a good team to run the race with . . . one I’m very proud to say I’m part of!

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!



President Kris
Outside the Box



“Nothing is given to man on earth—struggle is built into the nature of life, and conflict is possible—the hero is the man who lets no obstacle prevent him from pursuing the values he has chosen.” ~Andrew Bernstein

Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

It's January. That means winter is here. We haven't had snow like other parts of the country, but there has been a bit of rain and wind in our area. While Rob and I were on a walk with Blue over the holidays, it was quite blustery outside. Rob held the leash and Blue was leading the way. He would speed up and slow down, speed up and slow down. Rob said Blue has two speeds—slow speed and fast speed.

When we were on the way back and a short distance from home, I heard a noise. It sounded a bit like a flat tire flapping on pavement. I looked around for a vehicle or bicycle but didn't see anything. As quickly as it started, it stopped. Then I heard it again. This time even Blue must have heard it because he stopped and turned around. Noticing this, Rob commented that it was the leash blowing in the wind. Indeed, the Flexi-leash was fully extended—Blue had been in fast speed. The wind was hitting the leash at just the right angle that it made the unusual sound. Mystery solved.

It's January. We've turned the calendar page, moving out of 2020. When last year began, we didn't have 2020 vision. No one knew what things were about to happen that would change our lives—some temporarily, others forever. Who knew how many heroes we have right in our midst? Our first responders were never more needed, never more important, never more valued. There are also the other essential workers—including those at the grocery stores; they put themselves at risk for us. Then there are those who have made masks and PPE; those who have done things to inspire and boost the spirits of others: perhaps by encouraging them to take and post pictures of flowers; dropping off small gifts on someone's porch; calling someone to keep in touch via voice. This includes many members of our club. Our activities show what we're about.

It's January 2021. A new year is beginning, but some things from 2020 are even now with us. The pandemic didn't leave with the old year. That means we need to remain doing things differently than before COVID-19. We might be used to working at a fast speed, fully extending ourselves. When we try to do that now, we might hear an unusual sound—flat or no responses from outer resources. When that happens, we can look around and realize we have all the needed elements within us.

We can be like Blue and do slow speed for a while. We have the ability to see just the right angle and make the perfect sound, while finding new ways to accomplish our goals.

It's 2021. Add those numbers together $[2 + 0 + 2 + 1]$ and you get five. We have five fingers, five toes, five senses. These are all resources for us to use. We can choose to give a *high five* to 2021 and continue living the Soroptimist mission with ideas Outside the Box.



Light and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor



“A moving body whose motion was not retarded by any resisting force would continue to move to all eternity.” ~Hermann von Helmholtz

CALENDAR

January

- 8 Board Meeting
- 12 Business Meeting
- 26 Program Meeting

FEBRUARY

- 5 Board Meeting
- 9 Business Meeting
- 23 Program Meeting
- 27 Area Meeting

**All Meetings are via
Zoom**



**“We have to continue to learn.
We have to be open. And we have to
be ready to release our knowledge
in order to come to a higher
understanding of reality.”
~Thich Nhat Hanh**



**“Success is not final;
failure is not fatal; it is the courage
to continue that counts.”
~Winston Churchill**

Celebrate Life!

JANUARY

Kathy Cunha
Susan Coffee

FEBRUARY

Becky Archer
Jan Chapman
Missy Church-Smith
Sherry Lacey
Joan Miller



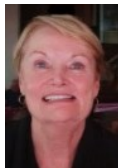
JANUARY—HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

I always go to the doctor’s office and the infusion center with my husband and stay there with him. I’m his medical advocate, and I’m the one who takes notes and answers a lot of the doctor’s questions. The other day his infusion had started, and I left him while I ran an errand. His medications cause a lot of bruising, and while I was gone, the staff quizzed him on whether he felt safe at home and whether he was doing anything against his will.

When he told me, it really hit me hard because January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. I had been researching the topic and realized that my behavior could be construed in that way: I never left him alone, I answered questions for him, he was badly bruised.

It’s not true, and I was very glad that the medical staff had asked him those questions, because medical personnel are one of the groups most likely to spot human trafficking and be able to help. Other key groups are educators and law enforcement. But we, the public, are responsible to be aware too.

The January Program meeting will be on the topic of Human Trafficking. We will take a look at the trailers on a couple of the films Linda Klinefelter summarized in the last issue of the SoroptiScoop, and we’ll see another short video about what is being done and what we can do.



~Cat Xander, Programs Chair



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



“The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches, but to reveal to him his own.”
~Benjamin Disraeli

“The odds of producing an influential or successful idea are a positive function of the total number of ideas generated.” ~Dean Simonton

SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER

Olympic Peninsula Area Meeting
Hosted by SI of Sequim
Via ZOOM
February 27, 2020



NWR Conference
Davenport Hotel
Spokane, WA
April 22-25, 2021



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

SIA CONVENTION
100th Anniversary
Fairmont Hotel
San Francisco, CA
October 1-2, 2021

DECEMBER GIRL OF THE MONTH

ALEAH CHEN



Soroptimist International of Sequim is proud to announce Aleah Chen as their choice for December Girl of the Month Award. Chen actively volunteers with Peninsula Friends of Animals and has a history of volunteering for the Sequim Lavender Festival, our local food bank, and the City of Sequim. She has been a member of Girls Scouts of America for the past ten years and is the recipient of their Silver Award. Chen will be graduating as a member of National Honor Society and has been accepted to Washington State University. She will be majoring in Animal Science.

“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.” ~Mahatma Gandhi

LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARDEE ANNOUNCED



AMANDA McKOIN



SI of Sequim is happy to announce that we have chosen Amanda McKoin to be our Live Your Dream Award recipient for 2020. This year’s award is a check for \$1,500.

The LYD program aids women who, as heads of their households, must enter or return to the workforce in order to support themselves and their families.

Amanda is a native of Texas. While in her early 20’s she worked two jobs to help her sister by taking care of two of her sister’s four children, aged 13 and 6 at the time. At 25, as the result of an injury, she lost both her jobs. Amanda brought the children to Forks to live with their grandmother and was able to find work in the local vicinity. Amanda now lives in Sequim and loves the area.

Last year, at age 30, Amanda became a single mother. Her dream is to do everything she can to raise her daughter in a happy, stimulating and encouraging environment. Amanda is attending Peninsula College starting in January. She plans to get an associate degree in Computer Science/ Information Technology and pursue a career in IT Security and possibly Criminal Justice.



~Janet Real, Live Your Dream Award Chair



“Learning is not attained by chance. It must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.” ~Abigail Adams

2020-21 MEMBERSHIP Update



As we enter the New Year, membership is holding steady at 59. Certainly, COVID restrictions have impacted recruitment and interest in club activities, but we are still growing and attracting wonderful women who want to be engaged and active! Our three new 2020-21 members have already been *tapped* by committees and are sharing their expertise and experience in areas such as fundraising and finance . . . as well as bringing fresh new perspectives to activities.

Just a reminder . . . be sure to check out photos and biographies of new members in the Members Only/Roster Updates page of our website.



May we experience health, happiness, and return to being together!



Missy Church-Smith
2020-21 Membership Team



“It is not memories but the person we have become because of those past experiences that we should treasure. This is the lesson these keepsakes teach us when we sort them. The space in which we live should be for the person we are becoming now, not the person we were in the past.” ~Marie Kondō

PATHWAYS CONTINUES WITH ALL SORTS OF MEMBERS

Pathways welcomed Missy Church-Smith, Jane Manzer, and Deb Carlson as new volunteers for First Step sorting clothes. Shirley Legg, Jane Manzer, and Elaine Churchill volunteered on Wednesday, January 6 and Amanda Beitzel and Deb Carlson volunteered on Thursday, January 7. We had a lot of fun sorting, and it's so easy. We encourage members to join us anytime!

Janine Bocciardi has recently joined our club, and we are emailing her orientation information. Welcome Janine!



~Amanda Beitzel and Elaine Churchill, Co-chairs of Pathways

MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

In December we welcomed Shirley Legg and Jane Manzer to the MLC team. We are looking forward to working with them and know they will do a great job at the Closet!

In December, a total of **170** calls were answered by our volunteers. We lent **143** pieces of equipment and received **86** items. This last month the recent trend of receiving more items than lending reversed, and the cupboard was starting to look a little bare, so we are accepting equipment donations again. The Sequim Community continues to amaze us! We received **\$755** in donations which is significantly more than the amount generally received in a month. Truly an appreciative community!

By way of wrapping up a year that we are all glad to have behind us, our 2020 tallies are: **1,643** calls answered, **1,111** pieces of equipment loaned, **977** items received and **\$5,635** donated. Quite a year! We could not do this without the support of our volunteer team and this awesome organization! Thank you!



~Becky Archer and Chris Snow, MLC Co-Chairs

“Give yourself entirely to those around you. Be generous with your blessings. A kind gesture can reach a wound that only compassion can heal.” ~Steve Maraboli

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

How knowledgeable are you with human trafficking in the United States? We hear about how traffickers exploit those in other countries outside of the US, but do you know what occurs here, in our own backyard?

Human trafficking victims have been found in communities nationwide. Even in our own county! They include those working in agriculture, hospitality, restaurants as well as domestic workers. It operates in prostitution, on the street corner and massage parlors in metropolitan areas. Human traffickers recruit through on-line methods preying primarily on abused children, teens, and young adults. Reporting your suspicions is one of the ways to help end human trafficking and you can do so through Homeland Security.

Are you aware that Homeland Security works with over 120 trafficking agencies across the United States and in countries overseas? They collaborate with code inspectors, labor officials, and child welfare investigators who are likely to come across trafficking or indications of trafficking in their course of work. Homeland Security also partners with victim services organizations that provide case management and social services that help stabilize victims. If you become aware of what appears to be suspicious activity in our community or a community you may be visiting, please call Ice Tip Line at 1-866-DHS-2-ICE.



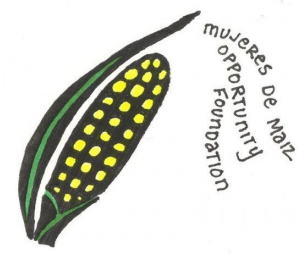
~Linda Klinefelter, Human Trafficking Awareness Chair



MUJERES UPDATE

Dear Soroptimist Sisters and Brothers,

The indigenous women with whom we work have had a tough time in 2020. No tourists in their region meant that there were no customers for the weavings and handicrafts that make up a large part of their income. And while our mission is education, students and families struggle if there isn't enough food or money for medicines. We asked permission of a few donors to use their contributions for humanitarian aid. So, in July and December we sent down \$200 to each member of the weaving cooperative with whom we partner. Sixty-five women received this assistance, and it was greatly appreciated and very much needed.



The scholarship recipients have been able to continue via online learning, but they all agree that they are looking forward to being in the classroom again. The children's programs we fund are resuming. Workshops are also being scheduled, but not as many as usual and later in the year. We are all looking forward to life coming back to normal. I personally am hoping to be able to travel to Chiapas this year, but it will depend on what's going on with the virus and the vaccines.

Thanks once again for your continued support. The Mujeres board sends all of you good wishes for the coming year.

Judith Pasco, Board Chair
www.MujeresDeMaizOF.org / [mujeres @olyphen.com](mailto:mujeres@olyphen.com)

WORDS OF GRATITUDE

Dear Friends:

There are far too many hungry people in Sequim, and your thoughtful support makes a difference. Your support of our work—most recently your November gift of \$500.00—is most appreciated. It is what allows us to do everything we can to ensure "No one goes hungry in our community."



As we enter the holiday season, the need for food increases. This year it is especially true. We are seeing more families than ever before and the numbers continue to increase. The holidays bring an additional expense to families who already see their budgets stretched. Your gift provides much-needed food to those who need it most—food like milk, eggs, bread and fresh produce. We are grateful and humbled that our community continues to support our mission: ensuring we are able to help everyone who needs food.

Thank you again for your generous gift. We cannot continue to help our hungry neighbors and friends without your support. Please know your gift is making a difference in our community.

Sincerely,
Andra Smith
Executive Director, Sequim Food Bank

Dear Soroptimist International of Sequim:

On behalf of the Sequim Education Foundation, let me express our sincere appreciation to you for your generous donation of \$500. Your contribution enables the Foundation to continue its mission of inspiring and supporting students within our community.

Since 2001, the Sequim Education Foundation has been able to provide Sequim's public school children with grants, activities, and scholarship programs proven to inspire them to achieve excellence. This is all due to the ongoing support of our generous donors and community who share our goal of enriching and enhancing the quality of education for students and educators in the Sequim School District.

Gratefully,
Philip Trowbridge
President Sequim Education Foundation



FUNDRAISING

WE ARE GOING TO BE HOLDING OUR FIRST EVER ONLINE AUCTION IN MARCH—JUST TWO MONTHS AWAY! WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

The VGS (Virtual Garden Show) has moved to May. But it can't be the third weekend in March without a Soroptimist Gala Garden Show! We'll hold the date this year with an auction that includes as many plants, planters, and garden-related items as we can find, and you can create.

We are looking for members who can create a planter—something that people would love to have on their front porch or inside their house to say Spring! Or perhaps a planter filled with succulents that can grace a coffee table. Or construct a piece of garden art that will spice up a flower bed.

But the auction will have more than just plants. Lots of you told the Survey Monkey that you would be interested in putting together baskets for an auction. Here's your chance. We'll provide themes, and you can see if you have anything you would like to donate to one or more themes. You can design a whole basket or turn your items over to the wrapping team who will make it beautiful.

Here's a sample of themes, with possible names and a few possibilities for contents:

Book basket: (Snuggle Up With a Good Book)
Variety of books, teacup, herbal teas, cookies, bookmark, reading lamp, lap blanket

Tea Party: (Mom & Me Tea Party)
Teapot, cups, herbal teas, cookies, tablecloth, napkins, stuffed rabbit, fancy sugar, scone mix, jam

Dog basket: (Best Dog Ever)
High quality plush toy, dog treat made in the United States, dog poop bag holder with bags, dog tennis ball toy, ball thrower

St. Patrick's Day: (St. Patrick's Day in a Basket)
Everything green, leprechaun, four leaf clover, decorations, Guinness, fun green recipes

Wondering where you would get things for a theme basket?

Do you cook anything special? Stollen, jams, divinity, etc. *Perfect for a baking, tea, goodies basket.*

Do you have a hobby that creates something? Quilting, paper craft/scrapbooks, jewelry or beading, photography, art, masks, baby bibs, aprons, yard art, etc. *Larger items perfect for sale alone. Smaller things could be part of a New Baby basket, or Mommy and Me tea, or Bling, or My New Mask Wardrobe.*

Do you have a hobby that you have abandoned but still have all the supplies? *Start Something New Basket.*

Do you have any items around your house that you made, purchased or were given and have never used? Things like journals, art, picture frames, cookware, dishes, travel souvenirs, jewelry, etc., *Around the World Basket, Cooking Up a Storm, Let's Play Dress Up.*

We can also use items or services.

Do you have something valuable that is used but is in excellent condition that you think would sell? Jewelry, timeshare nights, art, etc? Do you sell any products that you could donate? Mary Kay, Pampered Chef, Scentsy, etc.

Cat Xander and Shirley Legg will co-chair this event. Send the names of basket items to Jane Manzer so they can be passed on to the person in charge of the appropriate basket. Auction dates are March 14-23, and all items need to be ready to be photographed by March 1.



~Cat Xander, Fundraising Chair



“We are told that talent creates its own opportunities. But it sometimes seems that intense desire creates not only its own opportunities, but its own talents.”
~Eric Hoffer

2021 VGS—VIRTUAL GARDEN SHOW BEING PLANNED

Many thanks to the 18 ladies who joined with the 2020 Virtual Garden Show (VGS) Committee of seven to make a formidable team! Working closely with the Fundraising Committee and pending Board approval, this year's VGS will unfold as follows:

- January 10th – Announcement of the 2021 Featured Artwork and Artist. We received 22 excellent entries from nine Soroptimists. The full VGS Committee is voting to select the winner. Come to January 12th Business Meeting for the reveal!
- Third weekend in March – The online auction committee plans to utilize the newly [to be] purchased Auctria software to host an auction (dates TBD) that will include plant and gardening baskets among other enticing offerings. The VGS Gold and Platinum Sponsors will be featured. Details about the May Virtual Garden Show will be announced.
- May 1 through May 23:
 - ◆ Shred Event on May 1: Our fingers are crossed that the club will kick-off May with a shredding event. Those of us working will wear our Flower Power T-shirts and promote the VGS.
 - ◆ Gardening webinars on May 8, 15, 16, 22 and 23: Last year's scheduled Keynote Speaker, Christina Pfeiffer, will join us virtually on May 15 (time TBD) for "Month-by-Month Gardening in the Pacific Northwest." We hope to have a Platinum Keynote Speaker Sponsor. The Speakers Committee has reached out to the Clallam County Master Gardeners for presenters for the additional dates.
 - ◆ Vendor promotion: We will showcase local vendors—and other vendors further away who have shipping ability already setup—on our Soroptimist Gala Garden Show Facebook page via posts and videos.
 - ◆ Mission-Centered Facebook posts: We will feature our scholarship award recipients and the Medical Loan Closet, as well as the organizations that receive our committed funds.
 - ◆ Matching Funds Appeal: Our Sponsorship Committee is seeking one (or more!) Platinum level sponsors to provide matching funds for the appeal.
- KSQM committed to be a Platinum In-Kind Sponsor and will promote our webinars, including speaker interviews, as well broadcast a myriad of PSAs for us.
- The Marketing Committee is in discussion with the Sequim Gazette to advertise the Show with prominent exposure of our Sponsors.

There are so many details to be worked out yet, but we are ALL hard at work!



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

“Gardening is about enjoying the smell of things growing in the soil, getting dirty without feeling guilty, and generally taking the time to soak up a little peace and serenity.” ~Lindley Karstens

CHRISTMAS PARTY

SI of Sequim held our Christmas Party via Zoom. Members were encouraged to dress festively. There were prizes for Most Elegant [Chris Snow], Most Fun [Elaine Churchill] and Queen of Bling [Deb Carlson]. We had a Christmas trivia contest and the one[s] with the most correct answers received a prize. Members were invited to share a Christmas item—holding it up to their camera, or to share a Christmas memory. The name of each member who participated was put into a raffle. The prize was a wonderful basket put together by Paulette Hill and her husband, Rick. The basket included item from their business, Sequim Fresh Catering, and jewelry from Paulette’s by Design. Also, Rick went around town and purchased items from local businesses, which was a way to support our community—and fill the basket. Jane Manzer won that big prize! A friend of Kathryn Pacelli’s led us in Christmas carols—her voice was the only one heard, as the 28 of us muted during that part. With their beverage of choice in hand, our members toasted the holidays, friendship, and Soroptimist. In some ways, it seemed more intimate than our in-person Christmas parties. Our sharing brought a lot of Joy to the World that evening. I am so grateful to be part of this club.



~Kathy Purcell



100%

1. WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER

See colors no one else can see 100%

Smell scents no one else can smell 0%

MOST FUN

QUEEN OF BLING

shirley

Janet

















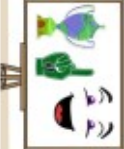





Paulette

Share a Favorite Christmas item or memory

A Toast to the Holidays, Friendship and Soroptimist



















More photos at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/108582458@N03/albums/72157717812135001>

January 2021

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat					
	BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Susan Coffee Kathy Cuhna											
3	Festival of Sleep Day 	4	Trivia Day 	5	6	National Shortbread Day 	7	National Bobblehead Day 	8	Happy New Year 	9	National Science Fiction Day 
10	National Bittersweet Chocolate Days 	11	National Human Trafficking Awareness Day 	12	Business Meeting	13	National Sticker Day 	14	15	National Bagel Day 	16	
17	18	National Thesaurus Day 	19	National Popcorn 	20	National Cheese Lover's Day 	21	National Hugging Day 	22	Celebration of Life Day 	23	National Pie Day 
24	National Compliment Day 	25	National Opposite Day 	26	Program Meeting	27	National Chocolate Cake Day 	28	29	National Puzzle Day 	30	National Croissant Day 
31	National Backward Day 											

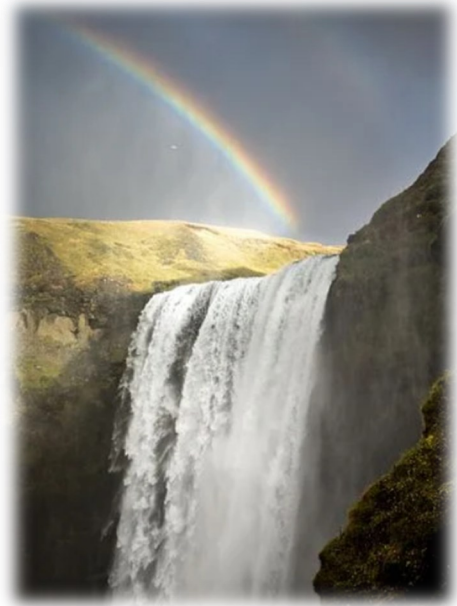
February 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Becky Archer Jan Chapman Missy Church-Smith Sherry Lacey Joan Miller</p>	<p>1 National Get Up Day </p>	<p>2 National Ground Hog Day </p>	<p>3 National Women Physicians Day </p>	<p>4 </p>	<p>5 BOARD MEETING</p>	<p>6 National Frozen Yogurt Day </p>
<p>7</p>	<p>8 National Kite Flying Day </p>	<p>9 Business Meeting</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 National Inventors' Day</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 National Cheddar Day </p>
<p>14 Valentine's Day </p>	<p>15 PRESIDENTS' DAY </p>	<p>16 National Almond Day </p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 National Drink Wine Day </p>	<p>19 National Caregivers Day </p>	<p>20 National Love Your Pet Day </p>
<p>21</p>	<p>22 National Margarita Day </p>	<p>23 Program Meeting</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 National Clam Chowder Day </p>	<p>26 National Toast Day </p>	<p>27 National Strawberry Day </p>
<p>28 National Floral Design Day </p>						

Creativity Is by Zac Baker

Creativity is
a wellspring of ideas
crisp, sweet water
gushing forth
thoughts flowing.
Creativity is
a guiding breeze
brisk, yet soothing
words of wisdom
whispering which way to go.
Creativity is
a blazing flame
smoke, showers of sparks
glowing embers remain
burning images.
Creativity is.



Soroptimist International of Sequim
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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