



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 1

Soroptimist International of Sequim

**Celebrating 70+ Years of Service**

July 2020

## Officers 2020— 2021

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Kris Osborn

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Cat Xander

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**Director: 1 year**  
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Kathy Purcell  
Jane Manzer  
Pat Willis

**“Refuse to  
be average.  
Let your heart soar  
as high as it will.”  
~Aiden Wilson Tozer**

## Message from the President

It's the first day of July as I write this. We've spent more days of 2020 in our altered lives dealing with COVID than we have being "normal." I wish for all of our sakes that I had a crystal ball to assist us in foreseeing what the rest of the year holds for us, but I don't.

Here's what I know though:

- Our members rock! President Kathy challenged us to open our minds to new ideas to continue supporting our community during these trying times in lieu of our traditional Gala Garden Show after it was cancelled. We stepped up in FORCE! A special thank you goes out to the ad-hoc Shredding Event Committee. The time (hours and hours!), the energy and most of all the patience as you tirelessly worked through all of the details to pull off a very profitable event didn't go unnoticed or unappreciated! So many smiling Soroptimist faces (ok smiling eyes given the wonderful Soroptimist masks!) that I've missed so much during lockdown...it was great to see you all! I look forward to adding hugs to the smiles as soon as we possibly can!
- The feedback I got after my challenge to each of you during installation was inspiring! For those of you who weren't able to make it, I challenged everyone to reach out to at least two members a week to check on them, to say hello, to send a verbal smile, to be a lifeline to normalcy for a member who may need it. Many members live alone, have limited access to friends and family right now and are slow to ask for help. The fortunate thing for all of us though is that I know our members' giving hearts are BIG! The calls, the offer to pick up things at the store when we're going for ourselves, the flowers from your gardens left on a porch...all of these things and more make the craziness of the world a little more bearable to those that need the pick-me-up. Won't you accept my challenge too?
- While there are more unknowns than knowns for the upcoming Soroptimist year, I know without a shadow of a doubt that we will continue to look for ways "Outside the Box" to carry on our mission to support our community, both locally and globally. Our incoming Board of Directors is up to the challenge of the year ahead and I look forward to their spunk and humor as we attempt to weather the storm.

I know so much more and can go on and on about how wonderful you all are, but Kathy will shoot me if I take up half the Scoop space, so for now I'll wish you all a wonderful July. Please keep you and yours safe. Know you're surrounded by members that care and that are there for you...just ask.



Much Love,  
President Kris  
**Outside the Box**



## Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

Have you even thought about glasses? I have been thinking about them recently. Some glasses are designed to hold a beverage. In addition to normal drinking glasses, there are white wine glasses, red wine glasses, cocktail glasses, highball and lowball glasses, Irish Coffee glasses, margarita glasses, martini glasses, snifter glasses. Wow! I didn't realize how many types of glasses there are! After all that, it is time for a tall glass of lemonade. It is so refreshing this time of year.

Another thought came to mind. What if we have a beverage that fills only part of our glass? This brings up the proverbial question: Is the glass half-full or half-empty? It is something to contemplate as I refocus.

Some glasses are designed to help us see better. Spectacles might be reading glasses, magnifying what we see and making it easier for us to read. There are sunglasses which let us see better in bright sunlight. There are also prescription glasses with lenses that compensate for what our eyes might be lacking.

There is a certain kind of lens called transition that can serve both as regular prescription glasses and as sunglasses. The transition lenses are photochromic. Wikipedia says *"A photochromic lens is an optical lens that darkens on exposure to light of sufficiently high frequency, most commonly ultraviolet radiation. In the absence of activating light, the lenses return to their clear state."* Prescription transition lenses darken when we walk outside—protecting us from ultraviolet light, then lighten when we go indoors—allowing us to see clearly.

It is July, a time where our new board is transitioning into leadership. I see Soroptimists as a bit like ultraviolet light—we have a high frequency. We vibrate to the pulse of the needs in our community as we radiate compassion and caring. We are a positive activating light.

An article from HuffPost states: *"The higher the frequency of your energy or vibration, the lighter you feel in your physical, emotional, and mental bodies. You experience greater personal power, clarity, peace, love, and joy. Your energy is literally full of light! Overall, your life takes on a positive quality."*

I was thinking about the glass that is only partially full. Years ago, I heard someone say they don't see the glass as half-full or half-empty—they see it as replenishable. Individually we may not know from where the beverage is going to come, but collectively we know we have what it takes to refresh—to quench the thirst—and provide what is needed to assist women and girls. This is true regardless of the changes due to COVID-19.

It's July 2020. We have the freedom to choose what our 2020 vision will be. Even if we meet virtually for a while, we can raise one of the glasses listed above and via GoToMeeting reflect our mission together—Outside the Box.

Light and Love,  
Kathy Purcell, Editor



**"Strategic planning is worthless—  
unless there is first a strategic vision."  
~John Naisbitt**

## CALENDAR



### SUMMER HIATUS

**All Meetings are via  
GoToMeeting**

**\*Evening Meeting**



**"Your vision will become clear  
only when you can look  
into your own heart.  
Who looks outside, dreams;  
who looks inside, awakes."  
~Carl Jung**



**"The vision must be followed  
by the venture. It is not enough  
to stare up the steps—we must  
step up the stairs." ~Vance Havner**

*Celebrate Life!*

## JULY

Athena Dunn  
Sharon Jensen  
Jane Manzer  
Kris Osborn  
Kathy Purcell  
Kimberly Renfro  
Gena Royal  
Jolene Sanborn  
Janet Wicker

## AUGUST

Amanda Beitzel  
Collen Blazier  
Sara Ellen Peterson  
Janet Popelka  
Janet Real  
Cat Xander



Note the phone number for our  
MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

**360-504-0231**



*“There’s one thing worse than change  
and that’s the status quo.”  
~John le Carre*

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

### CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP \$2000

The Continuing Education Scholarship is advertised in **May**. Applications must be postmarked by **August 15**. Applicants must be female graduates of Sequim High School OR have a legal address within the Sequim School District. They also need to have completed one year of post-secondary education and will be continuing their education in the fall of this year. This award is for \$2000 and applicants are solicited through the newspapers and Peninsula College. [Click here](#) for an application. The application is also available on the club

website: <http://sisequim.org/what-we-do/awards-and-scholarships/> .

*“Escape competition through authenticity. When you’re competing with people it’s because you’re copying them. The more authentic you are the less competition you’re going to have.” ~Naval Ravikant*

Don't adapt to the  
energy in the room.  
Influence the energy  
in the room.

### SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER



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

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

### SIGN OF THE TIMES

In June, member Shawn Dredla (a transferee from SI of Corona) shared that her previous club had yard signs made for their club's scholarship recipients. There was still money in the Public Awareness Committee budget, so Linda Klinefelter and Kathy Purcell went to work to design signs and have them printed. Linda contacted the two recipients for approval of placement. After the signs were printed Linda delivered them and took photos of the girls with the signs. We are proud of the accomplishments of these girls and delighted to honor them with the signs – in addition to the scholarship money. These placards are also a bit of PR for our club. Thank you, Shawn, for sharing the idea! ~kp



**Samantha Church**



**Kjirstin Foresman**

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*"All real education is the architecture of the soul." ~William Bennett*

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### MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER

#### Susan Coffee



Susan moved to the Sequim area 3 years ago from Republic, WA. She became interested in SIS after using the Medical Loan Closet.

For 25 years, Susan has been teaching at the Community College level, while also fulfilling other roles there such as student body advisor and funding coordinator. Her volunteer experience includes both her professional life, as treasurer for the Business and Professional Women, as well as her personal life as Church treasurer. She loves organizing and learning new technical skills, while being supportive and helpful to others.

Family and friends (chosen family) are very important in Susan's life. We welcome Susan into our family of friends and look forward to working together.

*"Thinking outside of the box allows you to get rewards outside of your reach." ~Matshona Dhliwayo*

## MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

The Medical Loan Closet had a busy June! We loaned **80** pieces of equipment and received **113** items. We received **161** calls from the community. We also received **\$715** in donations.

We are excited to welcome six new MLC Volunteers! Susan Coffee, Shirley Huntley, Paulette Hill, Elaine Powlesland, Kim Renfro and Gerry Sladowski have joined our four sustaining members, Marti Campbell, Judy Field, Jolene Sanborn and Chris Snow. In addition, Becky Archer, Cat Xander and Linda Naylor are not volunteering on-site with clients at the MLC but are taking care of other MLC tasks. We would like to have four more volunteers at the closet in order to return to a full quarter rotation schedule. Please contact Becky Archer or Chris Snow if you would like to discuss volunteering at the MLC.



We wish our longtime MLC volunteers the very best as they pursue other interests as we said goodbye to Gena Royal, Jan Durham, Connie Van Roosendaal, Sharron Empens, and Kathleen DeJong.

We received a couple of interesting calls from the community in response to the MLC article that ran in the Peninsula Daily News and Sequim Gazette—including a person interested in volunteering at the MLC and Volunteer Hospice of Clallam County (VHOCC). VHOCC has had a Medical Lending Closet for many years but it was not widely advertised. They have decided to actively promote their lending closet in the Port Angeles area. We visited the VHOCC warehouse in Carlsberg and educated ourselves about VHOCC resources and how we can communicate better with each other when needs from the community arise that one of us cannot meet. VHOCC will lend to our clients equipment that we do not stock, such as hospital beds and transfer boards, depending upon availability. They will also provide people with consumables. In return, we will lend excess equipment needed by VHOCC to their clients when they cannot meet the need.



~Becky Archer and Chris Snow, MLC Co-Chairs

**“Communication leads to community, that is, to understanding, intimacy and mutual valuing.” ~Rollo May**

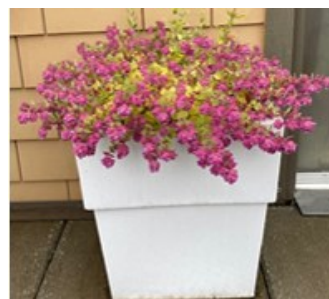
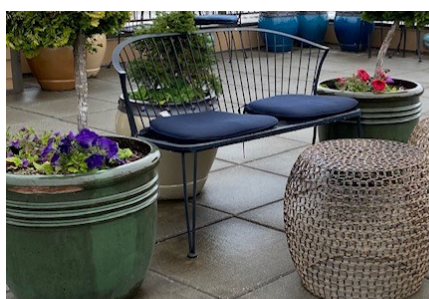
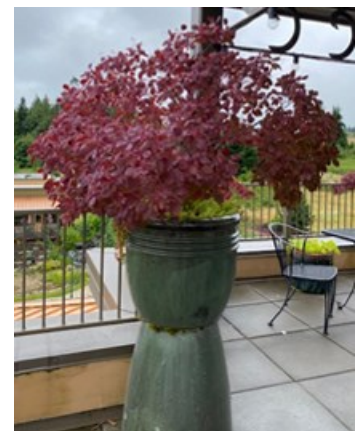
## ROOFTOP GARDEN

We may not be there, but they know who we are....

Yes, we may not be meeting at the Holiday Inn but our efforts maintaining the roof-top garden have brought us lots of accolades and recognition. Namaste Cousins, Hotel Manager, indicates they have received numerous compliments on the garden. The green thumb endeavor could not be done without the efforts of Paulette Hill, Melody Albertson, Linda Naylor, Janet Popelka, Shawn Dredla and Jess McNeil. Hats off to the roof-top crew.



Linda Klinefelter,  
Roof-top Garden Aficionado



**“How deeply seated in the human heart is the liking for gardens and gardening.”**  
**~Alexander Smith**

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

In January 2020, our club collaborated with our sister clubs in Port Angeles to present a very successfully attended Human Trafficking event. Six months have passed, and it is important, even during the effects of COVID19, we continue to be aware of those around us and be willing to protect and if necessary, speak out. Learn where you might see someone who is being trafficked –

- **Healthcare** – Victims often seek medical care for injuries or for reproductive services. Healthcare workers will often encounter the exploited.
- **Hotel & Motels** – Hotels and motels are common venues for trafficking either for prostitution or labor trafficking.
- **Truck Stops** – Sex traffickers often set-up shop in and around truck stops in hopes of capitalizing on potential customer base.
- **Nannies, domestic help and/or home health aides** – They are isolated from the public and often could be immigrants who do not know their rights.
- **Familial Trafficking** – Often goes undetected because things appear normal. Globally, almost half of child trafficking begins with an adult family member.
- **Agriculture, Forestry and Construction** – The majority of labor trafficking cases learned about on the U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline involve immigrants; many of whom are in the United States on legal temporary work visas, some of which require that employers provide housing. The housing may include but is not limited to crowded sleeping environments, unsanitary conditions or living at the construction site.

Need help or encounter someone who needs help – Polaris Project operates the US National Human Trafficking Hotline – 1-888-373-7888 or Text “BeFree” 233733.



~Linda Klinefelter, Human Trafficking Aware-



ness Chair

## A VIRTUAL INSTALLATION



## SHREDDING EVENT

We held our first Shredding Event on June 27<sup>th</sup> from 9-12 and it was amazingly successful. Not only did we collect \$7320.05 in cash and checks, we received lots of positive comments in person and online. “This was desperately needed.” “It was so much fun. People were so friendly.” “Thanks to the Soroptimists for doing this. You do such good things.” “I couldn't believe how well organized it was and how quickly it all went.”

We decided to do this event because people had spent so much time cleaning out old files during the stay at home order that they were urgently looking for ways to shred these sensitive documents without spending a fortune. Recipients Healthy Families of Clallam County, St. Vincent de Paul Society, and First Step Family Support Center have been on the front line of dealing with community needs exacerbated by loss of income and the need to stay at home for an extended period of time.

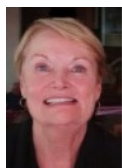
Kitsap Bank (thanks to a Port Orchard Soroptimist connection) partnered with us, and they provided the venue and \$500 of the \$825 needed for the shredding truck. They even negotiated for a larger truck for the price of the small one. It was a good thing since we overfilled the big truck!

The organizing team consisted of chair Cat Xander (Shredding Captain), co-chair Colleen Blazier (Donation Captain), Paulette Hill (Signage Captain) and Shawn Dredla (Traffic Captain).

Designed to take into account the regulations for COVID-19, new President Kris Osborn had Soroptimist masks made and donated them to the club. All volunteers wore gloves. To manage the need for social distancing, we came up with strategies to keep people six feet apart. The donation team was the biggest challenge because they had to be able to ask for donations and receive them. They used badminton rackets with buckets on the end so that they could receive money without getting too close. The person handing out the receipts used one of the reacher/grabber devices from our Medical Loan closet—all decked out in tinsel by Captain Shawn. People placed their documents in their car trunks so we could get them without engaging.

Each team had great volunteers making things happen. The Signage team made and placed signs directing participants so we could funnel cars through without backing up traffic. The Traffic team kept cars going in the right direction (even though that group almost froze on the overcast and windy day). The Donation team cheerfully asked people for money in such a polite way that most were happy to donate. The Shredding team grabbed bags and bags and boxes of documents from trunks and the back ends of trucks and filled 57 rolling bins, 12,740 pounds—an amount that almost overfilled the truck! Kitsap Bank representatives, Carrie Heaton, Branch Manager, Tammy Armacost, VP & Regional Manager, and Julie Hatch, VP, Business Development Officer helped out a lot by breaking down all the boxes people left with us.

On Monday we presented the checks to the three organizations. Rebecca Korby was stunned by our generous gift of \$4428.58 to Healthy Families. She said she thought they might get \$500 and this donation was far above her expectations. She also said it was truly needed as there was a huge demand for their services; there were more reports of child abuse in Clallam County recently than anywhere else in the state. Mike Finn and Ella Sheppard picked up a check for \$1904.86 for St. Vincent de Paul Society and they too were overcome by the size of their check. They have been providing support for people in the community, including meeting them at the gas station to pay for fuel so they have transportation. Elisia Fernandez represented First Step and they received \$986.61. First Step has been meeting all kinds of needs, even doing out of the box things like meeting people at a gas station to pay for the gas when they couldn't afford enough gas to get to work.



~Cat Xander, Shredding Event Co-chair

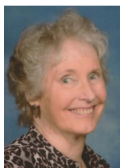


## WHAT IS ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY?

As we prepared to select community service agencies to receive funds from our shredding event, I did some research on St. Vincent de Paul Society. I learned that volunteers work in teams of two for one-week intervals. The volunteers elected to meet individuals that needed assistance (as opposed to telephone interviews) because of concern that domestic violence and child abuse has escalated during COVID-19. Their rationale was, “children were not in daycare or school, so it was basically undetected.” The Sequim service organization is considered a local conference with approximately 20 volunteers. They routinely make same day appointments with 20-30 people per week and spend an average of \$2,000.00-4,000.00 weekly. “No form of charity is unknown to St. Vincent de Paul as people need money primarily for rent and utilities, but we also provide assistance for telephone service, gas money, and car repairs” according to Mike Flynn, a dedicated volunteer. He also stressed that they work in collaboration with other agencies and organizations to provide intervention, consultation, or direct dollar services.



According to their website, members of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul offer person-to-person services to individuals in need regardless of race, religion or creed. The Society has provided services to the most vulnerable in communities throughout the United States for over 175 years. There are over 100,000 trained volunteers in the US providing 12.5 million hours of assistance that helps more than 5.4 million people through visits to homes, prisons and hospitals at a value of more than \$1.1 billion dollars.

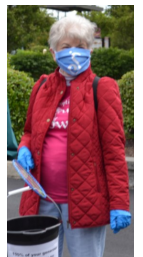
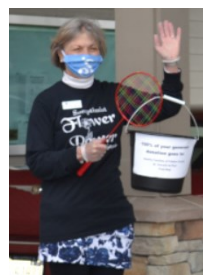
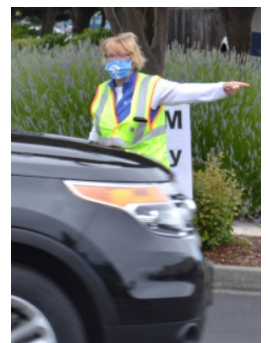
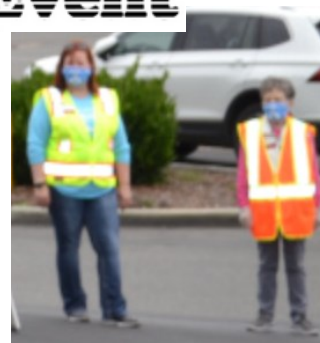


~Colleen Blazier, Shredding Event Co-chair



**“I am a huge believer in giving back and helping out in the community and the world. Think globally, act locally I suppose. I believe that the measure of a person's life is the affect they have on others.” ~Steve Nash**

## Shredding Event



More pictures: [Click here](#)



## ARE YOU READY FOR A VIRTUAL GARDEN SHOW?

The Virtual Garden Show Core Committee met weekly throughout June (virtually, of course!) to plan a Facebook fall-themed garden show. We are learning a lot about using technology to make this happen. The Gala Garden Show website now has a live feed of the Garden Show Facebook page. You can see posts in two places!

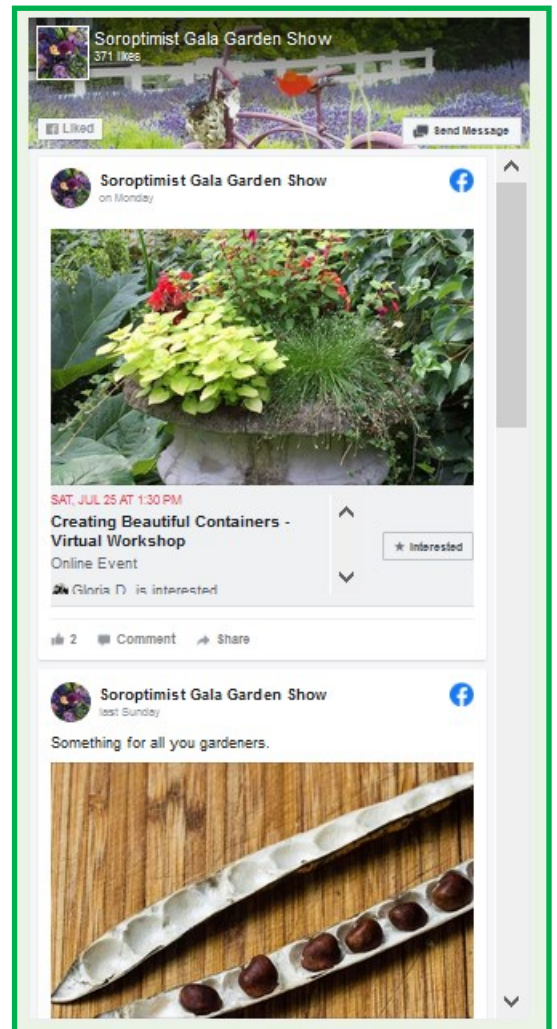
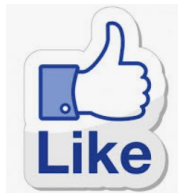
Here are some of the ways we plan to utilize Facebook:

- Feature videos of our 2020 High School Scholarship recipients and testimonials from Committed Fund recipients — this helps educate the readers about where our fundraising dollars go.
- Feature two 2020 vendors—these were in the Gazette insert, and more.
- Promote our 2020 vendors and sponsors.
- Host webinars with Master Gardener speakers.
- Offer online auctions of items donated last spring for the Garden Show Raffle.

We hope to begin our posts in a few weeks. If Facebook approves us to do so, we will culminate the show by asking for donations during the last two weeks of September.

Here's how you can help:

- If you are on Facebook, "LIKE" both the Soroptimist Gala Garden Show page and Soroptimist International of Sequim. Please do this even if you are not on Facebook very often.
- Once you've liked both pages, invite your friends to "LIKE" the pages, too. Who knows, maybe your friends are avid Facebook users! Right now, we have approximately 400 people following the two SIS Facebook pages. WE NEED TO INCREASE THIS NUMBER! If you do not know how to "LIKE" a page, call Linda Klinefelter at 360-460-5522 or Janet Popelka at 314-719-7933 and they will talk you through the process.
- If you are "techy," let one of us on the Core Committee know. We can use your help!



The Virtual Garden Show Core Committee -

Shawn Dredla, Paulette Hill, Linda Klinefelter, Janet Popelka, Kathy Purcell, Linda Rotmark, and Chris Snow



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*"In my garden there is a large place for sentiment. My garden of flowers is also my garden of thoughts and dreams. The thoughts grow as freely as the flowers, and the dreams are as beautiful." ~Abram L. Urban*

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## 2019-2020 CLUB WOMEN OF DISTINCTION AWARDEE



Dear Soroptimist Sisters and Brothers,

*It is not often I experience a lack of words, but our recent installation rendered me speechless. Thank you for the honors you bestowed on me. I am humbled, honored, and appreciative! It is experiences from years gone by, as to why I uphold and promote the work of Soroptimist. May we all continue to be the best and give the best for women.*

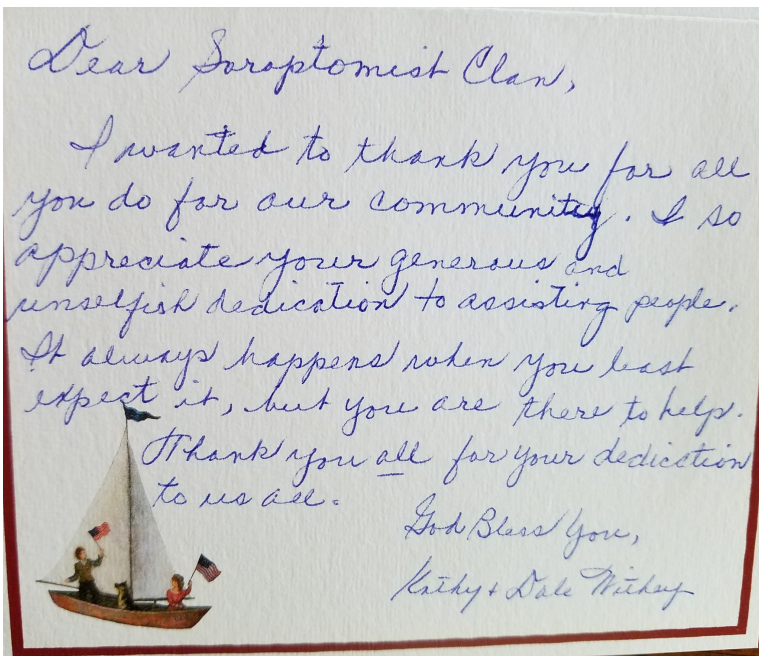
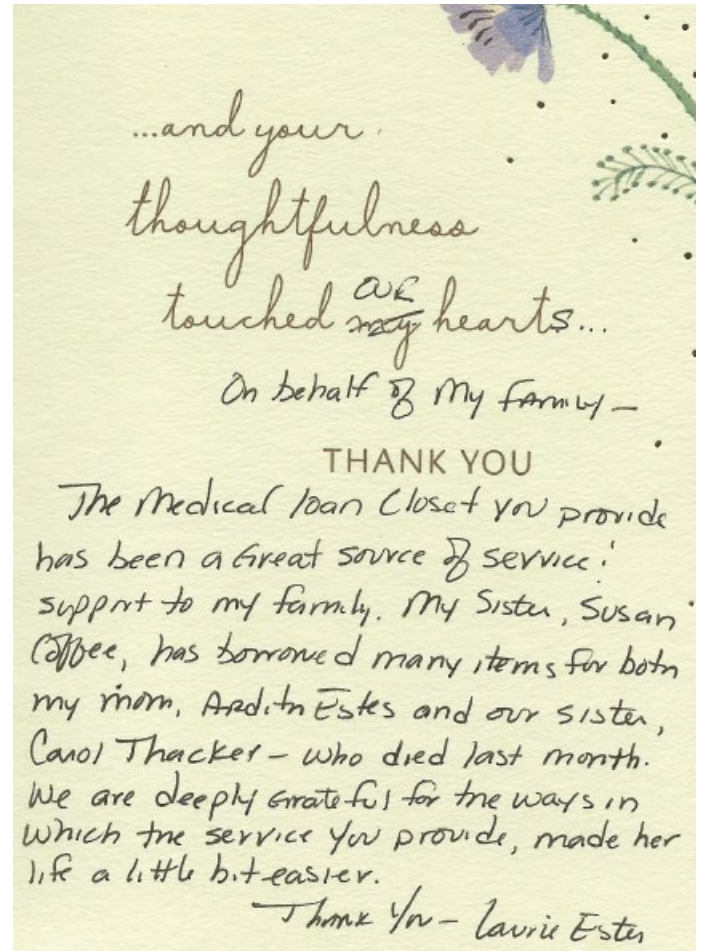
*Thank you again,  
Linda Klinefelter*

## WORDS OF GRATITUDE



Dear Soroptimists,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$1,904.86 to our St. Vincent de Paul Conference. Your Shredding Event was truly a success and this contribution will provide relief and hope to those in need here in the Sequim area. The need is great due to the effects of the Covid 19 virus.







Yours in Christ,  
Barbara Pollock  
Treasurer



# July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH</b> Athena Dunn Sharon Jensen Jane Manzer Kris Osborn Kathy Purcell Kimberly Renfro Gena Royal Jolene Sandorn Janet Wicker 			1	2	3	4 
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 National Friendship Day 	3	4 BIRTHDAY'S THIS MONTH Amanda Beitzel Colleen Blazier Sara Ellen Peterson Janet Popelka Janet Real Cat Xander	5 	6 13 International Lefthanders Day 	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 International Lefthanders Day 	14	15
16 National Tell A Joke Day 	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 National Just Because Day 	28	29
30	31					

## Let Laughter In by Deb Wilson

Let laughter fill my very soul  
Seek out my every need  
That's why I choose clown as my role  
This is my living creed

When life has given those hard knocks  
Just tell me something funny  
I want to think outside the box  
That's worth much more than money

There's something humorous each day  
To give us light within  
Just watch your kids or pets at play  
It's bound to make you grin

If circumstance is gripping you  
Let laughter in, find peace  
Let go the pain that's riding through  
And all that angst will cease



**SOROPTIMIST**  
Best for Women

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