



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 26, Issue 1

Soroptimist International of Sequim

**Celebrating 75 Years of Service**

July 2021

## Officers 2021— 2022

**President:**  
Cat Xander

**President-Elect:**  
Kim Renfro

**Secretary:**  
Missy Church-Smith

**Treasurer:**  
Shirley Legg

**Assistant Treasurer:**  
Open

**Director: 2 year  
(one year remaining)**  
Linda Rotmark

**Director: 2 year**  
Sandy Lawrence

**Director: 1 year**  
Marti Campbell

**Director: 1 year**  
Shelle Paulbitski

**Past President:**  
Kris Osborn

Newsletter Staff:  
Kathy Purcell  
Susan Coffee  
Jane Manzer  
Pat Willis

*“I skate to where  
the puck is going to be,  
not where it has been.”  
~Wayne Gretzky*

## Message from the President

The theme I chose for this year is A Brand New Normal.

We all want to go back to “normal,” but this past year has made us realize how ephemeral that term is. The dramatic upheavals we experienced in health, politics, and the social order have meant re-thinking our histories and our expectations. It’s never going to be the same normal it was, and we will have to find what the new normal entails.

SIA studies discovered that, “When clubs and members are asked what they want most, they say—more members and greater recognition. The only way to accomplish this is by having a strong brand...That means all SIA clubs should implement our brand-unifying Dream Programs, which economically empower women and girls who face obstacles.”

So I added “Brand” to “A New Normal” and came up with A Brand New Normal! The goal is that by next June everyone in town will have heard the words “Live Your Dream,” and will know they connect to Soroptimist International of Sequim.

What does that mean for the coming year? More outreach, especially through our committed funds recipients, to find the women and girls who are candidates for the *Live Your Dream* award. Developing a *Dream It, Be It* program for younger girls. We need to strengthen these elements in Sequim during the next year, and join Soroptimists all over the world who are focusing on helping women and girls, especially those facing obstacles, to achieve economic empowerment and live their dreams.

And economic empowerment doesn’t end with finding a job; many women in Sequim need to understand and be able to cope with finances when they suddenly become single, through death or divorce. Our Tea with SHE program has done an excellent job beginning this type of support, and I hope we will be able to build on this in new and innovative ways.

The term Live Your Dream starts with Living—and that’s where our Medical Loan Closet comes in. Sequim has an older population, and our Medical Loan Closet support to the community is incredibly valuable here and will continue to be.

This coming year has two excellent opportunities for expanding our brand in the community—the SIA 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and our own club’s 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We will be looking for exciting and fun ways to publicize the Live Your Dream slogan, to connect with women and girls, and to be a vital part of creating A Brand New Normal here.



President Cat  
**A Brand New Normal**



## Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

It's July, the beginning of a new Soroptimist year. President Cat's theme is **A Brand New Normal**. This seems so fitting after our year of thinking Outside the Box (but seemingly working inside the box, i.e., the computer screen).

In her acceptance speech at installation, President Cat presented us with a poll. It consisted of a list of dreams—one from each of the board members. We were asked to guess which dream belonged to which board member. A few were easy, but a few were difficult and surprisingly unexpected. I thought this was a great way of introducing her vision—it made all of us think.

Have I had a dream? I started contemplating this. . . I think I had a dream—but I didn't realize it was a dream until after it was achieved. The dream was to become a published author, and it happened when I was 17. Some of my poems were published in a magazine. I wasn't astute enough back then to keep a copy of the publication.

I believe that experience helped shape my future. Writing is an important element of my life—it is like a part of my DNA. I am fortunate to have the privilege of writing an article every month for our club newsletter. I am ever grateful for that opportunity. So, in a way, I am still living that dream. Writing is branded into me; it is my normal. As a club we are embarking on a new year with A Brand New Normal.

*A Brand New Normal* is more than a group of words. It is more than a wish for better times. It is a call to action—a call to make the Dream Programs more integrated into our lives. It is a call to educate the public and to have Live Your Dream be more recognized by the community.

The way to start is to educate our members and to present a united, consistent message. That is part of branding. You might ask why branding is important. Let's take a look at one example.

What comes to mind when someone mentions facial tissue? Most likely it is Kleenex. There are other facial tissues available, but Kimberly-Clark did such a great job of marketing Kleenex, it is branded into our brains. Today we often refer to Kleenex even when we are actually buying Puffs, Scotties or even a generic tissue. This did not happen overnight. It happened over time because of their consistency of message.

I was thinking about the word **consistency**. One definition is: "*conformity in the application of something.*" But consistency has another meaning: "*the way in which a substance, typically liquid, holds together; thickness or viscosity.*"

Our members are a bit like the second definition above. We are the substance that holds our club together. Like liquid, we are fluid; what each member gives sometimes changes depending on what is happening in her/his life. But in the end the consistency of the whole remains intact.

We will probably continue to think Outside the Box, even as we move forward together, shaping A Brand New Normal.



Light and Love,  
Kathy Purcell, Editor



"Freedom means the opportunity to be  
what we never thought we would be." ~**Daniel J. Boorstin**

## CALENDAR

### August

\*24 S.T.A.R.T. Meeting

### Summer Hiatus



**\*Evening Meeting**  
**All Meetings are via**  
**Zoom**



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**"It's not what we do once in a while  
that shapes our lives.  
It's what we do consistently."  
~Anthony Robbins**

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**"With consistency, we become  
one step closer to our dreams  
and while witnessing  
small victories on the way!"  
~Purvi Raniga**

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*Celebrate Life!*

**JULY**

Sharon Jensen  
Jane Manzer  
Kris Osborn  
Kathy Purcell  
Kim Renfro  
Jolene Sanborn  
Janet Wicker

**AUGUST**

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



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



“Every woman that finally  
figured out her worth, has picked up  
her suitcases of pride and boarded  
a flight to freedom, which landed  
in the valley of change.”  
~Shannon L. Alder

**SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR  
CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS**

Soroptimist International of Sequim is now accepting applications for our Continuing Education Scholarship. Two scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$2000.00 each for the 2021/2022 school year.

Applicants must be female graduates of the Sequim High School or GED program, or have a current legal address within the Sequim school district. Applicants must have completed at least one year of post-secondary education and be enrolled, or planning to enroll, in college for the 2021/2022 school year.

Applications are available online at: <http://sisequim.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/ContinEdApp2021.pdf>. Completed applications must be postmarked by **August 31, 2021**.



~Linda Rotmark, Awards and Scholarships Chair



**SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER**



SOROPTIMIST®  
Investing in Dreams

**SIA CONVENTION**  
Virtual!  
October 1-2, 2021



**SI 100th Birthday Event**  
Virtual  
October 1-3

**D1**

**District 1 Meeting**  
Shilo Inn  
Ocean Shores, WA  
October 15-17, 2021



**NWR Conference**  
Hilton Vancouver  
Vancouver WA  
April 28 - May 1, 2021

## MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

### ATHENA DUNN



**Athena** was raised in Washington State and has spent time living in both Idaho and North Dakota. Her parents retired to Sequim in 2000. Knowing that Sequim is one of the best places to live, Athena set her sights on job opportunities in the area. She was able to relocate to Sequim in 2015 after accepting a Commercial Loan Officer position with Sound Community Bank. Her career paths include positions within the transportation industry, as well as wind farm development, economic development and most recently commercial lending. Volunteer experience focuses on nonprofit boards, fund raising, and a host of leadership positions in various organizations – Lions Club, Relay for Life, Cystic Fibrosis Great Strides, Tri-County Tourism, Napoleon Airport Authority, Napoleon Ambulance, Napoleon City Council, Logan Council Inter Agency, Chrysalis/Dream Catcher Balloon. She describes her strength...***in the organization/coordination area, but passion is for creating memories by spending time with friends and family.***

- Best advice she received: ***Invest in your future retirement as early as possible!***  
Welcome back to **Athena!**

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### PATTY LEBOWITZ

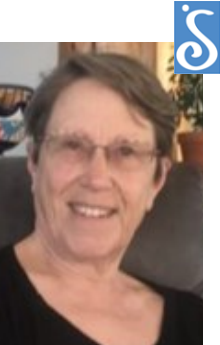


**Patty** left the state of Maine in July 2002 to return to the west coast...and landed in the perfect spot...Sequim! After retiring from a career in the insurance industry, she and her husband John partnered in an antique business. Her knowledge base in both arenas will be put to good use as she settles into membership! Volunteer experience includes fund-raising for the V.F.W., as well as board positions with Sequim Food Bank, Dungeness Valley Free Clinic and Olympic Peninsula Healthy Community Coalition. Talents/skills/passions are diverse – doing good for others, brainstorming, raising funds for others. She describes herself as a small-town girl.

- Best advice she received: ***L.A.M.O. Learn and Move On!***  
Welcome to **Patty!**

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### NATASHA MERKULOFF NICHOLS



**Natasha** and her husband, Jim moved to Sequim 2 years ago – after a 9-year road trip across the country in their motorhome! Originally from California (Calistoga and Napa), they were lured to the Olympic Peninsula by Sequim's small-town atmosphere, mild weather, water, family and friends! Her career paths were administrative: Child Support Director, City Administrator, City Clerk, Public Works Manager and Newspaper Editor! Volunteer experience includes: Napa County Commission on the Status of Women, Napa County Mosquito Abatement District Board, North Bay Aqueduct proponent, Calistoga Centennial Celebration coordinator, The Table, service for the hungry, and Calistoga Athletic Boosters. **Natasha** already has ***SIS Golden Girl*** status, as she has been an active and devoted member of *Soroptimist International of the Americas* since 1986 (SI/Calistoga; 1991 transferred to SI/Napa). Her experience, enthusiasm and knowledge base will be such a benefit to our club! Talents/skills/passions are diverse – hiking, walking, traveling, reading, cooking.

- Best advice she received: ***You can't change other people; you can only change how you react/treat them.***  
Welcome to **Natasha!**

## MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

### KAREN TYSON



**Karen** and her husband Jon enjoyed 25 years of living in Kentucky...but one day sold everything, bought an RV, and traveled around the United States for 2 years! After reading about Sequim on *Katy Bowman's blog*, they decided to put down roots and move to the Peninsula in June 2019! **Karen** worked as a computer consultant for 20 years, but following 9/11, reevaluated her career path and became a massage therapist. And now, she works in the non-profit world with *Parenting Matters Foundation!* Volunteer experience includes church activities, America Reads Program, PTA, BOD positions, Foster Care respite and Red Cross. **Karen** recently joined the Prevention Works BOD, SKWIM Toastmasters BOD, and is in training to be a puppy raiser for Guide Dogs for the blind. Talents/skills/passions – reading, connecting people with each other, swimming, helping others.

- Best advice she received: *Just keep putting one foot in front of the other.* Welcome to **Karen!**

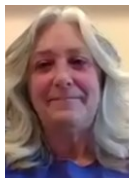
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“She is free in her wildness, she is a wanderess, a drop of free water.  
She knows nothing of borders and cares nothing for rules or customs. ‘Time’ for her isn’t something to fight against.  
Her life flows clean, with passion, like fresh water.” ~*Roman Payne*

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### MEMBERSHIP—LOOK AHEAD

Hello all! I am so excited to be the Membership Chair for the year 2021-2022 (Cat’s year). I look forward to seeing what the “brand new normal” looks like for all of us and doing this together as a Club. Kris taught us a lot about thinking “outside the box” and I know that this pattern will continue into this next year. During your summer, as we come in contact with friends, keep an eye out for those who you think would make great Soroptimists!



~Shawn Dredla, Membership Chair



“Far away in the sunshine are my highest aspirations. I may not reach them, but I can look up and see the beauty, believe in them and try to follow where they lead.”  
~*Louisa May Alcott*

## MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

We are excited to announce that we currently have **13** SIS members on the MLC Team! Team members include Melody Albertson, Becky Archer (Co-Chair), Marti Campbell, Susan Coffee, Judy Field, Paulette Hill, Shirley Legg, Jane Manzer, Linda Naylor, Janet Popelka, Elaine Powlesland, Jolene Sanborn, and Chris Snow (Co-Chair). This brings us back to pre-pandemic support and allows us to return to a quarterly rotation for our volunteers (one week per quarter to volunteer at the MLC).



Full MLC staffing is perfect timing as our client calls and equipment loans are approaching pre-pandemic volume. We loaned **94** pieces of equipment, received **47** pieces of equipment, and answered **146** calls in June. Pre-pandemic monthly average was **108** loans, **77** returns and **184** calls. The generous Sequim community donated \$370 in June.

We will continue to operate the Closet throughout the summer and are looking forward to seeing everyone in the fall.



~Becky Archer and Chris Snow, MLC Co-Chairs

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*“Our task must be to free ourselves . . . by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and its beauty.” ~Albert Einstein*

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## ROOFTOP GARDEN—WATERING FOR GROWTH

Watering Schedule for the Rooftop Garden: The watering hose is on a wheel. There is a valve on the left side of the hose wheel that you use to turn the water on and off. Please dead-head and check for weeds in the containers. Any weeding of the side areas is done by Jess as he is an employee and is allowed to climb over the fencing. If there are problems, please let me know and I will address it as quickly as possible. THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING!



~Linda Klinefelter, Hotel Rooftop Garden Chair



July 1 – Melody Albertson  
July 8 - Jan Chapman  
July 15 – Paulette Hill  
July 22 – Shirley Legg  
July 29 – Pam Hursey-King  
August 5 – Linda Klinefelter  
August 12 – Melody Albertson  
August 19 – Jan Chapman  
August 26 – Paulette Hill

September 2 – Shirley Legg  
September 9 – Pam Hursey-King  
September 16 - Linda Klinefelter  
September 23 – Linda Rotmark  
September 30<sup>th</sup> – Melody Albertson  
October 7 – Jan Chapman  
October 14 – Paulette Hill  
October 21 – Shirley Legg  
October 28 – Pam Hursey- King  
November 4 – Linda Rotmark

## WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL

Our club recently received a thank you for our support from Women for Women International (WFWI). Here are the impacts listed:

- WFWI reached 23,653 women, providing life-changing training and resources
- Women's DAILY earnings went from an average of \$0.80 at enrollment in the program to \$2.00 upon graduation. Their savings also grew from an average of \$13 to \$88.
- The number of women who reported practicing family planning more than doubled.
- Upon graduation, 79% more women reported being involved in household decisions about having more children, and 56% more reported being involved in financial decisions.

Along with the report on the impacts of our support, I also noted that Women for Women International received the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize, which is presented annually to an organization that “significantly alleviates human suffering”. Even more notable, WFWI is the first women's organization recognized with this honor!

In the Spring 2021 publication by Women for Women International, *Outreach*, there was a celebration of the organization's impacts in Rwanda, where they have served women survivors of war since 1997. Twenty-six years after the genocide, Rwanda has found stability and peace. And unlike the other countries where Women for Women International serves, Rwanda has a robust government that actively invests in marginalized and forgotten women. Women for Women International believes “that a major force behind Rwanda's recovery is Rwandan women.” In addition, WFWI's program is becoming an affiliate NGO, which means that they've gone from conflict-response to supporting long-term development and stability for all women and girls during times of peace.

I, for one, am proud our club's history of sponsoring women through Women for Women International. In the 2021-22 budget year, we will be sponsoring two women. Currently we support a woman in Nigeria, but WFWI also operates in Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Rwanda, and South Sudan.



~Jane Manzer



“Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom.” ~Viktor E. Frankl

## MUJERES UPDATE

Dear Soroptimist Sisters and Brothers,

I am just finishing a 12-day trip to Chiapas, and it's been so rewarding. (Plus I am missing most of the extreme heat in the Pacific Northwest!) I've had good talks with scholarship recipients, both current and former, and am happy to report that they are excellent role models, inspiring other girls and showing boys that women can shine in leadership positions.

Our children's programs are running well, and I visited one of them. There were 11 children and three scholarship girls teaching, so each child was getting help at the level she/he needed. Whether I was taking girls to the optometrist, buying laptops, or meeting with our coordinator, every day provided me with more reasons to be grateful for those who support the work we are doing to educate indigenous girls. They are grateful (and never fail to tell me this) and so are we.

If you haven't had the chance to leave a short recommendation for Mujeres de Maiz on the Great NonProfits website, please do so and help us get the 2021 badge. Information on this is in last month's Soropti-Scoop.



With thanks,  
Judith Pasco, Board Chair  
[www.MujeresDeMaizOF.org](http://www.MujeresDeMaizOF.org)  
[mujeres @olypen.com](mailto:mujeres@olypen.com)



**AFTER VIRTUAL GARDEN SHOW / ONLINE AUCTION MEETING**



**The Twins**





A BANNER SUCCESS FOR THE VGS AND ONLINE AUCTION



**VIRTUAL GARDEN SHOW**

May 1 – 23, 2021

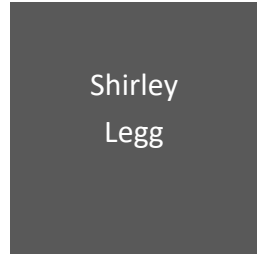
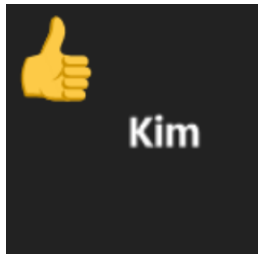
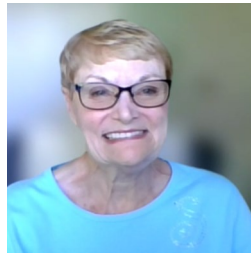


Thank You  
to the Virtual  
Garden Show  
and

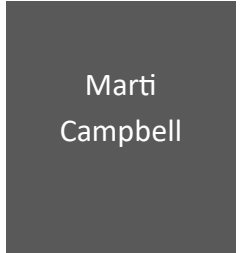
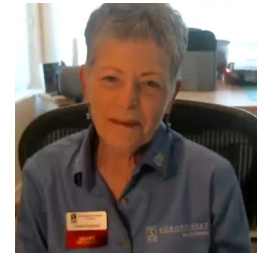
Online Auction  
Teams!



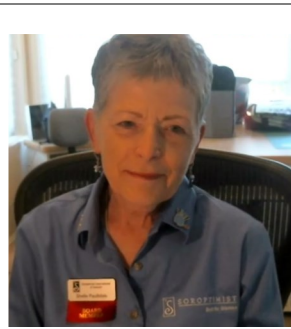
**ONLINE AUCTION**



**INTALLATION OF  
SI of Sequim's  
2021-2022  
BOARD MEMBERS  
Officiated by  
NWR GOV-ELECT  
KAREN MARSHALL**



Year-in-Review Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FVLstYIDQx4>



**2020-2021  
PRESIDENT'S AWARD  
RECIPIENT  
SHELLE PAULBITSKI**



**2020-2021  
CLUB'S WOMAN OF  
DISTINCTION AWARD  
RECIPIENT  
JANET POPELKA**

More photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/108582458@N03/albums/72157719520695203>

## 24<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GALA GARDEN SHOW—MARCH 19-20, 2022

### *Calling All Artists: We Are Looking For The Next Featured Artwork*

Yikes, here it is July already! Where has the year gone? We look forward to the summer, the barbecues, and the state opening up, after a very long 15 months of Covid. People are starting to travel again and meeting family and friends in person. It appears that we are going back to normal.

In the meantime, whether we have a Virtual Garden show or an In-Person show, we need to start planning now! We are not only looking for Committee Members, but we also need to find the next Featured Artist. The 2021-22 Soroptimist year is starting, and we need to get planning. We need to get the word out that we are having our Featured Artist Contest for the GGS 2022 year.

The Featured Artwork logo will be used on 2022 Gala Garden Show and Soroptimist marketing and publicity materials. The artwork is a visual icon for the show. The image of the art is used to promote the Show on all written and published materials. Members of the art community locally and beyond will be canvassed for donations.

#### Criteria for Artwork Submissions

- Subject Must Be GARDEN-Related
- Art Forms Eligible:
  - ◊ Drawings & Paintings—all mediums (oil, watercolor, pencil, pen, acrylic, chalk)
- Computer & Digital Art
- Photography
- Visual & Graphic Design Images
  - ◊ Size of artwork / image (without matting or framing) must be no smaller than 8 x 10 inches and no larger than 17 x 24 inches

Digital representation of entries must be submitted via email to: [artwork@sequimgardenshow.com](mailto:artwork@sequimgardenshow.com).

**DEADLINE** for completed applications is **August 15, 2021**. The artwork contest form and full instructions can be found [here](#).

We are also looking for Committee Members for the GGS 2022. Feel free to contact Kim Renfro for questions or to sign up for a committee. It is going to be a great year with your help, and I can't wait to hear from you.



~Kim Renfro Co-Chair GGS 2022



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**“Make a pact with yourself today to not be defined by your past. Sometimes the greatest thing to come out of all your hard work isn't what you get for it, but what you become for it.  
Shake things up today! Be You...Be Free...Share.” ~Steve Maraboli**

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EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION EXTENDED TILL JULY 15, 2021—ACT NOW!



A GLOBAL VOICE FOR WOMEN

**100**

FOR ONE HUNDRED YEARS

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT  
EXTENDED  
TO 15 JULY**

THE SI 100TH GLOBAL  
CELEBRATION  
1-3 OCTOBER

A little more time to spread the word!

100.SOROPTIMISTINTERNATIONAL.ORG/SI100

Soroptimist International's Global 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration is scheduled for October 1-3. If you haven't registered for this virtual event, there is still time to get in at the early-bird rate of \$40. You can find out more about the virtual event and register for the party in October at this link. <https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/members-area/100th-si-birthday-the-big-event/>



~Sandy Lawrence



"How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes!" ~*Maya Angelou*

SI OF SEQUIM TURNS 75 ON MAY 2, 2022



Your ideas of how to celebrate are needed!

## WORDS OF GRATITUDE

Dear Soroptimists,

Thank you so very much for your thoughtful March gift of \$935.75 to the Sequim Food Bank!

There are far too many hungry people in Sequim, and your support makes a great deal of difference in their lives. As we move through the winter and head into spring, the number of family visits remains steady. We are not seeing the increase we have in the past months, which is good. But there is still a great need for basic food like milk, eggs, meat and produce.

As great as the need is, our amazing community always finds a way to come together to meet it with a spiriting of love and caring. You are an important part of that community!

Thank you for your support, for caring about others, and for thinking of the Sequim Food Bank. Please know your gift is making a difference.

Thank You  
Andra Smith  
Executive Director



Dear Soroptomist of Sequim Members:

On behalf of the North Olympic Foster Parent Association (NOFPA) and all foster children, we thank you for all that your organization has done for NOFPA in the past years. We have had a long partnership with Soroptimist of Sequim, and we are hoping that we will be able to continue to share helping our Clallam County foster children.

NOFPA is so appreciative for the \$1,000.00 that Soroptomist of Sequim has sent to us for our continuing effort to help our Clallam County foster children girls. These funds will go towards and help our foster girls benefit and achieve additional self-esteem as they will feel more comfortable in their classroom and have the needed resources to benefit their further education through school supplies and clothing.

Please feel free to contact me for any further comments or questions concerning the above.

We appreciate all of the time, effort and contributions from organizations and people such as you in helping our foster children in need.

With our blessings and many thanks again,  
Carol A. Pope  
Grant Coordinator


























Hello there! My name is Audrianna Bennett and I am a recipient of a \$2000 Soroptimist International of Sequim scholarship. I was writing to both share the information you require as well as insure you that I will write again with the details of my schooling. I am so grateful of the opportunities & support you have given me to continue fulfilling my education goals!

Best,  
Audrianna Rose Bennett

(Again, thank you so much! I can't wait to see what lies ahead!)

# July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4 Independence Day</p> 	<p>5 BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Sharon Jensen Jane Manzer Kris Osborn Kathy Purcell Kim Renfro Jolene Sanborn Janet Wicker</p> 	<p>6 National Fried Chicken Day</p> 	<p>7 Tell the Truth Day</p> 	<p>1 International Joke Day</p> 	<p>2 National Sugar Cookie Day</p> 	<p>3 National Compliment Your Mirror Day</p> 
<p>11</p>	<p>12 National Simplicity Day</p> 	<p>13 Cow Appreciation Day</p> 	<p>14 National Tape Measure Day</p> 	<p>15 National Give Something Away Day</p> 	<p>16 National Amelia Earhart Day</p> 	<p>17 National Emoji Day</p> 
<p>18 World Listening Day</p> 	<p>19</p>	<p>20 National Lollipop Day</p> 	<p>21</p>	<p>22 National Hammock Day</p> 	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 National Wine &amp; Cheese Day</p> 	<p>26 National Coffee Milkshake Day</p> 	<p>27 National Scotch Day</p> 	<p>28 National Milk Chocolate Day</p> 	<p>29 National Lasagna Day</p> 	<p>30 International Day of Friendship</p> 	<p>31 National Mutt Day</p> 

# August 2021

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	<b>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH</b> Amanda Betzel Colleen Blazier Sara Ellen Peterson Janet Popelka Cat Xander					
2	International Friendship Day					
3	National Watermelon Day					
4	National Coast Guard Day					
5	National Oyster Day					
6	International Lefthanders Day					
7	International Root Beer Float Day					
8	National Happiness Happens Day					
9	National Book Lovers Day					
10	National Lazy Day					
11						
12	International Youth Day					
13	International Lefthanders Day					
14						
15	World Honey Bee Day					
16						
17	National Nonprofit Day					
18	National Fajita Day					
19	World Photography Day					
20						
21	World Senior Citizen Day					
22						
23	National Sponge Cake Day					
24	S.T.A.R.T. MEETING					
25	National Banana Split Day					
26	Women's Equality Day					
27	National Just Because Day					
28	National Thoughtful Day					
29	National Sports Day					
30						
31	National Trail Mix Day					

## Learn From Nature by: Arnov Sett

I see a mountain and I wonder,  
I see a river and I wonder,  
What permeates their instincts?  
Is it some permutation,  
Or some ever-pertaining philosophy?  
The consistency to flow,  
The consistent grandeur,  
The consistent magnanimous posture,  
Instils in me a supreme passion,  
A determinant instinct to pursue,  
And paint the world with such a beauty,  
And fill it with the essence of purity,  
The glory of truth and an inspirational glow.



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To a Person Making a Difference for Women