



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 4

Soroptimist International of Sequim

Celebrating 75 Years of Service

October 2021

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**“You learn something
every day if you
pay attention.”
~Ray LeBlond**

Message from the President

I spent the last weekend of September at the Soroptimist International 100th Birthday Celebration. It has allowed me to step away from thinking about club operations or daily worries about COVID to a much larger and more hopeful world. What an amazing organization we belong to! Soroptimists are making a difference all over the world.

Close to home is the IF project that started in Seattle. Seattle Police Detective Kim Boguki asked women inmates “if there was something someone could have said or done that would have changed what led you to prison today?” The IF Project has now grown tremendously. It has been turned into a full-length film documentary and numerous youth and community outreach programs that focus on prevention, a Reentry Mentoring Program for incarcerated women, as well as writing workshops inside prisons.

In Vancouver, BC, Soroptimists are on the verge of building an amazing residential space with 130 long-term affordable housing units designed by women for senior women, workforce women and women led families. This was financed, in part, by legacies from members.

Soroptimist International of Europe is “oranging” [orange-ing] the world advocating for women. They are wearing orange and taking action with marches and banners and other projects to raise awareness by openly denouncing violence against women, and by showing films which take up women’s issues and which are afterwards discussed with the public.

In Vietnam, Soroptimists partnered with Children of Peace International to build a shelter for those rescued from sex trafficking and sex slavery as well as war and mixed-race parentage. They are educating the girls. One woman had been a nurse before she came there. Soroptimists helped put her through all six years of medical school and she has returned to take care of the medical needs of the facility.

In Italy, Soroptimists partnered with the carabinieri to put “Pink Rooms” in every precinct. These are spaces that are starkly different from the surrounding official police spaces; they are painted soft colors, equipped with comfortable furniture and toys for kids who may come in with their mothers. These Safe Rooms are used for women who come in to report domestic violence, rape, or other crimes against women.

~continued on page 3

Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

How many times has something been happening around us that we didn't notice or realize—until we did? Sometimes it appears in a 'Duh!' moment. The method of awakening comes in many different forms. I have experienced this a couple of times recently.

It's October—the first full month of fall. The season is recognizable by the darker, cool early mornings. It has been in the 30s several days this last week when I donned my heavy jacket and headlight and headed out with Blue for our morning walks. The ground is looking less green and more orange, yellow and red from the leaves that have fallen.

Seeing all those colors made me think about leaves. How many types of leaves are there? That prompted me to do a little research online.

I have always thought of leaves as things that grow on trees. I had somewhat of a 'Duh!' moment when I read the following: "A grass plant is composed of a root, a stem, leaves and a seed head. The root is fibrous or composed of many small roots that move out in all directions . . . Roots develop from nodes along the stolons and rhizomes to produce new grass plants." Yes, grass has leaves.

Like the leaves on a tree, grass leaves serve to collect energy from sunlight through photosynthesis. A grass plant's backbone is its root system. The roots soak up water, collect nutrients, anchor the plant and, in some species, spread out to grow new plants. A plant can only do these things effectively if the soil is right.

Speaking of spreading out . . . those who attended the September 28 Program meeting were awakened to a program that most of us were hearing about for the first time. Our speaker was Merrin Packer. She is the liaison for the McKinney-Vento Program provided by Sequim High School. According to Merrin's presentation, "Under the McKinney-Vento Act, every local educational agency is required to designate a liaison for homeless children and youth. The liaison coordinates services to ensure that homeless children and youths enroll in school and have the opportunity to succeed academically." See her full presentation here: <http://sisequim.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/McKinney-Vento.pdf>

Merrin spoke with such clarity, strength and resolve. We could tell she is genuine and cares about the students. The school has a clothes closet where students can come pick out their own clothing. The school also offers school supplies, feminine hygiene products, toiletries and more. Merrin said when homeless students have what regular students have, they feel normal, and their learning proficiency increases. After Merrin left the Zoom meeting, we had an impromptu fundraiser; individual members pledged a total of \$1,300 to go to the program. Our club recognizes the importance of educating women and girls. We did not leave the meeting the same as we arrived—the sunlight of awareness changed us.

Similar to leaves, we take what's around us and use it as nutrients to enhance our energy and move us into new directions—like the impromptu fundraiser. Our root system runs deep, and we soak up information which further anchors our mission. We have the right soil for even more growth. Even more awakening is happening as together we continue to discover A Brand New Normal.



Light and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor



I am learning all the time.
The tombstone will be my diploma."
~Eartha Kitt

CALENDAR

October

- 8 Board Meeting
- 12 Business Meeting
- 15-17 District 1 Meeting
- 26 Program Meeting
GOM Sept & Oct

November

- 5 Board Meeting
- 9 Business Meeting
- 23 Program Meeting
- *30 5th Tuesday

*Evening Meeting



*"We are shaped by our thoughts;
we become what we think.
When the mind is pure, joy follows
like a shadow that never leaves."*

~Buddha



*"Once again...welcome to my house.
Come freely. Go safely;
and leave something
of the happiness you bring."*

~Brian Stoker

Celebrate Life!

OCTOBER

Melody Albertson
Jeanne Blaurock
Shawn Dredla
Linda Naylor
Shelle Paulbitski

NOVEMBER

Mayme Faulk
Marilyn Hooser
Shirley Legg
Wei Lindstrom
Karen Tyson



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



MLC Closed. We will reopen once the infection rate reaches the "Moderate" range.

*"When a hundred men stand together, each of them loses his mind and gets another one."
~Friedrich Nietzsche*

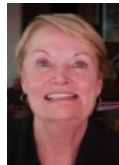
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At the UN, where Soroptimist International holds "consultative status," we help affect accords, legislation, and projects all over the world.

In Kenya, money was not the way to change the culture—it took local action. A Soroptimist-funded project with six young Kenyan women trained in the use of media and working locally in villages managed to drop support of female genital mutilation from 89% to 5%.

In The Netherlands, Young Soroptimist Clubs are springing up all over. Groups of friends are discovering the value of Soroptimist. The clubs have formed within the last two years, and their thinking is that members will move to the more established clubs when they reach 30 years old.

As one attendee put it: "This event has made tangible the global aspect of Soroptimist. It has been inspiring to hear and see women around the world engaged in projects that are uplifting and empowering other women and girls. Thank you all for showing me just how much is being accomplished to improve the lives of women and girls and ultimately their communities. I am overcome with pride to be a Soroptimist."



President Cat
A Brand New Normal



"Global actions require local and national participation. International cooperation and action requires community perspectives and legitimacy if it is to be effective." ~Jan Goldin

SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER

D1

District 1 Meeting
Embassy Suites by Hilton
Lynnwood, WA
October 15-17, 2021



NWR Conference
Hilton Vancouver
Vancouver WA
April 28 - May 1, 2022

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

Rylie Booth-Roberts and **Julie Haley** were the top picks for the Continuing Education Scholarship this year and they have a lot in common. Both are Sequim High School graduates, with Rylie graduating in 2016 and Julie in 2001, who are now attending Peninsula College's Nursing Program. They are single moms who volunteer or work while attaining excellent grade point averages. I hope that we will be able to get to meet them at a Zoom meeting soon.

It was so exciting to be able to award an additional three scholarships at \$2,000 through the generosity of our anonymous donor. Those three were: **Elizabeth Sweet**, carrying a double major in biochemistry and political science; **Arianna Flores-Cisneros**, who has a B.A. in Public Health, works at North Olympic Healthcare Network (NOHN) and is now continuing her pre-med studies at San Francisco State University; and **Kianna Miller**, who has only been out of high school since 2020 and already has 93 credits with a 4.00 GPA in Elementary Education/Special Education at Western Washington University.

But Soroptimist International of Sequim didn't stop there. Acting upon the Finance Committee's recommendation, the Board decided to award an additional \$6,000. With this amount we were able to assist the following: **Junko Harbord**, \$2000, Information Technology at WWU; **Brianna Cowan**, \$1500, nursing; **Jessica Furnish**, \$1500, Human Services at WWU; and **Nathalie Torres**, \$1000, CWU, Clinical Physiology.

In total, because of our fundraising successes and our generosity, along with a vision to empower and elevate women in the economy through education, we were able to award \$16,000 in scholarships to nine very worthy women.

Our next award is the **Live Your Dream Award** with a deadline of **November 15, 2021**. If you know of a woman who has primary financial responsibility for herself and dependents, is attending an undergraduate degree program or vocational skills training, and has financial need, direct them to www.sisequim.org and have them click on the right LYDA application link! Let's continue to make a difference in women's lives.



"Beyond an incredible financial relief, being a recipient of a scholarship from Soroptimist has been a morale boost knowing that I have a community that is invested in my educational success."
~Jessica Furnish, Continuing Education Scholarship 2021-22



~Linda Rotmark, Awards and Scholarships Chair



"What sculpture is to a block of marble, education is to a human soul." ~Joseph Addison

MEMBERSHIP COOL STUFF (not scary)

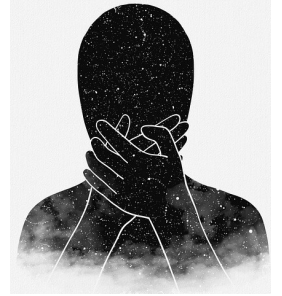
Here's a SPOOK-tacular
Halloween display
done by our own
scarily creative
President-elect Kim!



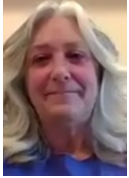
MEMBERSHIP

SECRET PALS

Hello SIS! First of all, I want to apologize for the Soroptimist Secret Pal program being called Secret Sister. I failed to recognize that we have men in our Club. To Dave and Jess, sorry. With that, we have extended the deadline to **October 16th** for those of you who may have forgotten to get the questionnaire in or it got piled up in your email! If you need it again, please email me at shawn1199@gmail.com.



We have a few new prospective members who you have probably seen on our Zoom meetings. Please welcome them with a big Soroptimist virtual hug!



~Shawn Dredla, Membership Chair



“Great hearts steadily send forth the secret forces that incessantly draw great events.” ~*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

Spread the Word! (And Save the Dates...)

The Pathways Committee has selected Sequim Community Aid’s annual **Toys for Sequim Kids Program** as our annual service project for 2021-22. This is a wonderful, heartwarming project that helps make Christmas a little brighter for children in our community. The Toys for Sequim Kids Program will be held at the Sequim Prairie Grange on **December 15th**, with setup taking place on the **14th**. Volunteers will be needed to help sort, set up, and/or volunteer on the day of the event (hours are not yet determined).

We invite all club members to support Toys for Kids by donating the following items for children preschool through high school:

- ⇒ new toys/books/games
- ⇒ new or like new stuffed animals
- ⇒ new or like new books
- ⇒ new clothes
- ⇒ new blankets

Bring donations to Amanda Beitzel’s home (refer to the roster for the address). No need to call in advance, just leave items at the front door.

For all the latest information on our donation drive, check out the Pathways page on the SIS website: <http://sisequim.org/membership-2/pathways/>



Who doesn’t love toy shopping? Pathways member Patty Leibowitz shares the results of her first toy haul.



~Pam Hursey-King, Pathways Committee



“If a child is given love, he becomes loving. If he’s helped when he needs help, he becomes helpful. And if he has been truly valued at home . . . he grows up secure enough to look beyond himself to the welfare of others.”
~*Dr. Joyce Brothers*

MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

The Medical Loan Closet was closed on September 7 due to the extremely high COVID infection rate and several unfortunate events that exposed our volunteers to undue risk. Our plan is to re-open once the infection rate reaches the “Moderate” range as designated by the Clallam County Health Department of 26 to 75 cases per 100,000 people within 14 days. Prior to our closure, we received \$40 in donations from the Sequim community.

MLC committee members held a work party at the MLC on September 29. We identified equipment needing repair (thank you **Rick Hill!**); equipment excess to our needs that will be shipped overseas; and equipment no longer viable to lend to the community. All items were cleaned, labeled, and categorized. In addition, our storage lockers were cleaned and organized. A huge thank you to our clean up volunteers: **Paulette and Rick Hill, Linda Naylor, Elaine Powlesland, Becky Archer and Chris and Rich Snow.**



~Becky Archer and Chris Snow, MLC Co-Chairs

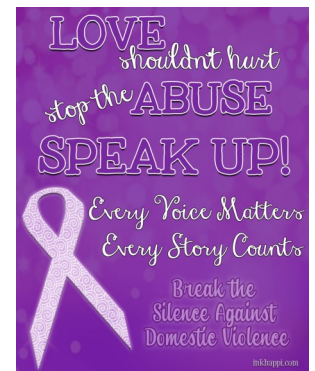
“In a world full of people who couldn’t care less, be someone who couldn’t care more.”
~*Author Unknown*



The Program Meeting for October will be on Domestic Violence

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and we want to give everyone more information on Domestic Violence and where you can obtain help if you know someone or need help. Becca Korby from Healthy Families will speak and give us a short tour, and someone from local law enforcement will attend.

- **National Domestic Violence Hotline** 1(800) 799 7233 <http://www.thehotline.org>
- **Peninsula Behavioral Health** Port Angeles: 360-457-0431 / Sequim: 360-681-0585 <http://peninsulabehavioral.org/our-services.html>
- **Healthy Families of Clallam County** 360-452-3811 <http://www.healthyfam.org>



HOLIDAY JOY:

Just an FYI: Yes, the holidays will be here before you know it. **Jane Manzer** has agreed to be the liaison with Healthy Families/Beverly Hoffman for Holiday Joy this year, so more information will be forthcoming. In the meantime, please be considering whether you’d like to sponsor a family being served by Healthy Families during this tough time of the year for them. You can do it by yourself or you can gather some friends together to sponsor a larger family and shop for them. Eleven families have already signed-up. If you don’t want to participate in sponsorships, gift cards for groceries or gas and Clallam Transit bus passes are always great donations to Healthy Families for them to distribute where the need is greatest. Stay tuned and contact Jane if you already know you want to sponsor a family.



~Kim Renfro, Programs Chair



“You are not the darkness you endured. You are the light that refused to surrender.” ~*John Mark Green*

FINDING THE VALUE OF A PENNY

Each year, Soroptimist clubs make Founders Pennies donations to celebrate the founding of our organization and support its global Dream Programs. Founders Pennies are a classic, time-honored tradition for clubs, and a creative way to help fund life changing programs. Founders Pennies help create a local and global relationship between Soroptimist clubs and members, and the women and girls who need our support.

Founders Pennies are used to fund the Live Your Dream Awards, Dream It, Be It, and other SIA programs that improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. Founders Pennies represent approximately 10 percent of the total \$1.7 million contributed to fund federation programs.

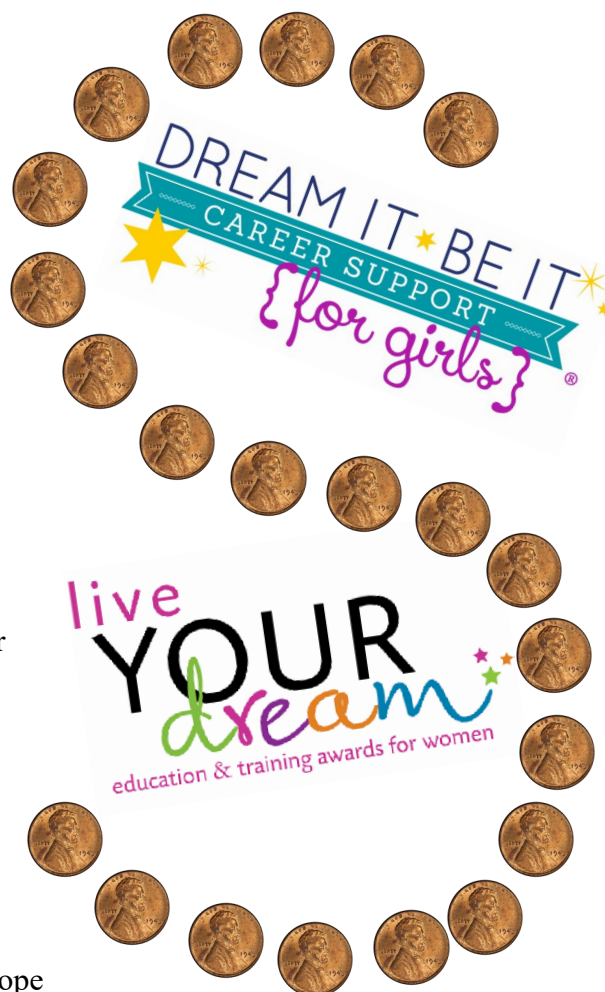
Founders Pennies are set at \$.06 per member times the number of years that SIA has been in existence (1921). For the 2020-2021 club year, $$.06 \times 100 \text{ years} = \6.00 per member.

2021-2022 = \$6.06 per member
2022-2023 = \$6.12 per member
2023-2024 = \$6.18 per member

The tradition of giving pennies began in 1943.

Clubs collected one penny for each year of Soroptimist's existence and used the money to help re-establish clubs in Europe that had disbanded as a result of pre-World War II political conditions and the war itself. In 1946 the fund was renamed the Founders Fund. This fund provided international fellowships, scholarships and other awards to improve the status of women. Beginning in the 1960s, Founders Pennies began funding for the Youth Citizenship Awards, and now the Live Your Dream Awards.

For more info visit: <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/donate/club-gifts/founders-pennies-faq.html> ~kp



“Human beings have the remarkable ability to turn nothing into something. They can turn weeds into gardens and pennies into fortunes.” ~*Jim Rohn*



“If it’s a penny for your thoughts and you put in your two cents worth, then someone, somewhere is making a penny.”
~*Steven Wright*

HOW IMPORTANT ARE YOU?

It's hard to imagine, but just between 2016 and our recent awards to nine women in Continuing Education, we have given over \$70,000 to help women and girls reach their educational goals.

Without your efforts at the Gala Garden and the Gala Gift Shows—and more recently, See's candy sales, the Virtual Garden Shows and the Garden Show Auction—we would not have been able to provide this kind of educational support.

Don't quit!

Starting in November, See's Candies will have their Christmas line out and we need you to reach out to family and friends with their delicious products.

Our online Virtual Garden Show and Garden Show Auction will be held in May. What can you build, grow or donate to make them money-making successes? What committees can you join to share your expertise and advice? Whom can you tell about the event to make sure we have a big audience?

You are important to the success of so many women and girls. Please share your talents so we can continue to send the message that education is important, and that we believe in them.

Be thinking of ideas of what you can do. Expect to hear more about this soon!



~Patty Lebowitz and Cat Xander, Fundraising Co-chairs



“Every individual has a place to fill in the world and is important in some respect whether he chooses to be so or not.”
~Nathaniel Hawthorne

GALA GARDEN SHOW—VIRTUAL GARDEN SHOW and AUCTION 2022

The Virtual Garden Gala and Auction will be held April 27th – May 1, 2022.

Did you forget to sign up for a committee? You have not missed your opportunity to be part of a fantastic journey in making a difference! If you are interested in any of the following: sponsors, marketing, Facebook or the auction, let Kim Renfro know. We want everyone to make a difference!




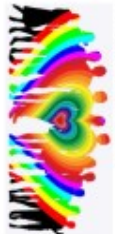




















We will be looking for Garden Items for the Auction which will include potted plants again. So, if you have a Green Thumb, (not like me, who kills everything), start thinking about what you will plant for the auction. It's never too early to think about Spring planting!




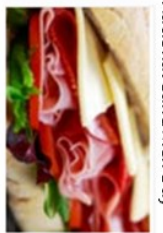
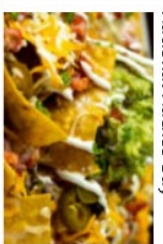











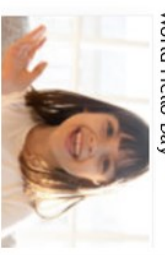
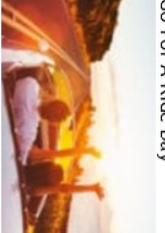



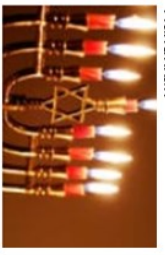
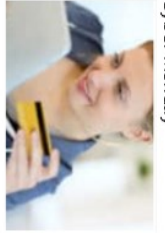
~Kim Renfro, 2022 GGS Chair



October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Melody Albertson Jeanne Blaurcock Shawn Dredla Linda Naylor Shelle Paulbtski</p> 					<p>1  </p>	<p>2  </p>
<p>3 National Unity Day</p> 	<p>4 World Animal Day</p> 	<p>5 National Be Nice Day</p> 	<p>6 National Noodle Day</p> 	<p>7</p>	<p>8 BOARD MEETING</p>	<p>9 Curious Event Day</p> 
<p>10 National Mental Health Day</p> 	<p>11 Columbus Day</p> 	<p>12 Business Meeting</p>	<p>13 Navy Birthday</p> 	<p>14</p>	<p>15 National Mushroom Day</p> 	<p>16 Sweetest Day</p> 
<p>17</p>	<p>18 Health Care Aide Day</p> 	<p>19 National New Friends Day</p> 	<p>20</p>	<p>21 National Apple Day</p> 	<p>22 National Nut Day</p> 	<p>23 National Croc Day</p> 
<p>24</p>	<p>25 United Nations Day</p> 	<p>26 Program Meeting</p>	<p>27 National Mentoring Day</p> 	<p>28 National Immigrants Day</p> 	<p>29 National Cat Day</p> 	<p>30 National Checklist Day</p> 
<p>31  </p>						

November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Mayme Faulk Marilyn Hooser Shirley Legg Wel Lindstrom Karen Tyson</p>	<p>1 Day of the Dead</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3 National Sandwich Day</p> 	<p>4</p>	<p>5 BOARD MEETING</p>	<p>6 National Nachos Day</p> 
<p>7</p> 	<p>8 STEM/STEAM Day</p> 	<p>9 Business Meeting</p>	<p>10 Forget Me Not Day</p> 	<p>11 Veterans Day</p> 	<p>12</p>	<p>13 World Kindness Day</p> 
<p>14 Children's Day</p> 	<p>15 Old Socks Day</p> 	<p>16</p>	<p>17 National Hiking Day</p> 	<p>18 Mickey Mouse Day</p> 	<p>19 National Camp Day</p> 	<p>20 National Absurdity Day</p> 
<p>21 World Hello Day</p> 	<p>22 Go For A Ride Day</p> 	<p>23 Program Meeting</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 HAPPY THANKSGIVING</p> 	<p>26 National Cake Day</p> 	<p>27 Small Business Saturday</p> 
<p>28 Hanukkah</p> 	<p>29 Cyber Monday</p> 	<p>30 5th Tuesday</p>				

Autumn Leaves by: Angelina Wray

In the hush and the lonely silence
Of the chill October night,
Some wizard has worked his magic
With fairy fingers light.

The leaves of the sturdy oak trees
Are splendid with crimson and red.
And the golden flags of the maple
Are fluttering overhead.

Through the tangle of faded grasses
There are trailing vines ablaze,
And the glory of warmth and color
Gleams through the autumn haze.

Like banners of marching armies
That farther and farther go;
Down the winding roads and valleys
The boughs of the sumacs glow.

So open your eyes, little children,
And open your hearts as well,
Till the charm of the bright October
Shall fold you in its spell.



Soroptimist International of Sequim
PO Box 126
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