



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 27, Issue 1

Soroptimist International of Sequim

Celebrating 75+ Years of Service

July 2022

Officers 2021— 2022

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Kim Renfro

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Shirley Legg

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Pat Willis

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(one year remaining)**
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Director: 2 year
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Director: 1 year
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Director: 1 year
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Cat Xander

Newsletter Staff:
Kathy Purcell
Susan Coffee
Jane Manzer
Pat Willis

*“Life’s challenges
are not supposed to
paralyze you,
they’re supposed to
help you discover
who you are.”
~Bernice Johnson
Reagon*

Message from the President

If you missed the installation, it was wonderful. Kathy Purcell did a fantastic job of officiating. And you also would have missed my motto for the coming year, “Change is Always Good.”

People may disagree with change as always being good; I know it would be debatable if you asked a group of people. I look at it as we have been through a lot of changes in the last couple of years, and I am sure we will have many more changes in the future. So why not embrace those changes!

One of the changes that we will move forward with in the new club year is the **hybrid** meeting. What is a hybrid meeting? You can attend the meeting either in person or on Zoom. We will be recording the meetings for those individuals who are unable to attend due to other obligations and want to be kept up to date with the club.

There will be rules along the way as we develop the hybrid meetings because we want to be courteous to others and still have everyone involved. Some of the rules that we need to think about now are:

- Raise your hand, either on Zoom or in person. Once you have been acknowledged you may ask your question or make your statement. This way we do not have multiple people speaking, and we can all hear what is being said.
- **People attending In Person**
 - ◇ You can wear a mask to the meetings if you prefer. Meetings will be held at the Holiday Inn Express at 8 am.
 - ◇ You may be requested to come to the front of the room where the microphone will be located so that you will be heard by all members (in person or on Zoom)
 - ◇ Until further notice: *No breakfast will be available at the meetings.* You can bring coffee or food for your consumption. This will be until we figure out the hybrid meetings and how they will work.
 - ◇ If you are wearing a mask and want to speak, please speak so that everyone can hear you. Since masks do mute your volume, you may be asked to speak up.

This is going to be new for everyone in our club, so bear with us with any technical issues we have along the way and how the set up will look. We may have to play around with how things are set up to accommodate Zoom and in-person members.

I just want to say Thank You up front, for your patience in all the changes with the meetings. I hope everyone is enjoying the summer, what little sun we have had, and I look forward to seeing you all at the meetings.



President Kim
Change is Always Good



Contact email for: eblasts, questions, events,
fundraisers for the club: president@sisequim.org

Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

It's July. Daylight comes early this time of year, though clouds have been a regular occurrence over the last week. There has even been some rain.

This morning, however, it was different. While Blue and I were on our walk, I noticed a bird—a robin—on the path ahead; its chest looked almost luminescent. That's when I realized the sun was out—and it had created the appearance of light being emitted from the winged creature. That part of the trail has a lot of trees and bushes, but the robin was standing in a place where the sun was not blocked by foliage.

We continued on our walk. Suddenly I noticed brightness on my jacket sleeve; then it was gone; then light again; then it was gone; then light again; then it was gone . . . How was this strobe occurring? It was the sunlight streaming through the spaces between branches of the trees as we walked.

A few minutes later I saw something brown up ahead to our right. Actually, it was two brown somethings—it was two bunnies. I cinched up the flexi-leash just a bit. I think Blue saw them about the same time they saw us; they turned and hopped into the brambles. On our way back we saw them again, though one of them was farther down the trail.

The robin was at the exact right spot at the exact right time to draw my attention. Once I saw the robin, my senses were heightened, and I noticed things around me that I might not have. Would I have spotted the strobe effect of the sunshine on my sleeve? Would I have seen the bunnies? I recognize the sun played a factor in all this as well.

The scenario above reminds me of Soroptimist. Sometimes we are the sun shining light on another member, drawing attention to their good efforts. Or like the strobe effect, we intermittently shine our light to draw their attention and give them focus. Sometimes we are like the robin, showing up at the right place at the right time—just being our natural lovely self and inspiring others.

I went online to look up info on the robin. One site states: "Robin symbolism signifies the stimulation of new growth and renewal in many areas of life. Thus, Robin's meaning teaches that you can make changes with joy, laughter, and a song in your heart. This spirit animal shows you how to ride the winds of passion within your heart. You will become independent and self-reliant through this change. The energy of this bird will teach you how to move forward with grace, tenacity, perseverance, and assertion."

It's July and we are beginning a new Soroptimist year. President Kim's theme is **Change is Always Good**. The symbolism of the robin fits right in. Like the robin, we ride the winds of passion within our hearts. We have opportunities to make changes with joy and laughter, working to continue to empower women and girls through access to education. We move forward with grace, tenacity, perseverance, and assertion, knowing we are part of the Good Change.



Light and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor



"Our chief want is someone who will inspire us to be what we know we could be." ~*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

CALENDAR

July

15-17 Fleurish Lavender
Farm Fundraiser

August

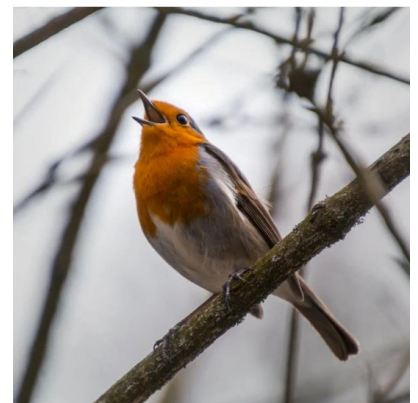
*23 S.T.A.R.T. Meeting



*Evening Meeting



"Use what talents you possess; the woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those that sang best."
~*Henry Van Dyken*known



"It is a fact that in the right formation, the lifting power of many wings can achieve twice the distance of any bird flying alone."
~*Author Unknown*

Celebrate Life!

JULY

Athena Dunn
Pam Hursey-King
Jane Manzer
Kris Osborn
Kathy Purcell
Kim Renfro
Jolene Sanborn
Janet Wicker

AUGUST

Amanda Beitzel
Colleen Blazier
Sara Ellen Peterson
Janet Real
Cat Xander



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



MLC is OPEN

“You gotta make it a priority
to make your priorities a priority.”
~Richie Norton

Dates to Put on Your Calendar:



August 6th – Fundraising Brainstorming
Location: Holiday Inn Express 9:00 a.m. – noon

August 17th – Board Retreat
Location: Holiday Inn Express 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

August 23rd – S.T.A.R.T. Meeting
Location: Holiday Inn Express 5:30 p.m.

August 27th – Volunteer Opportunity: Back to School
Contact: Merrin Packer mpacker@sequimschools.org

“When you streamline your schedule by making deliberate decisions about tasks and activities that are crucially important to you and identify your most important priorities, you give yourself permission to make choices that excite and interest you. You also grant yourself permission to exercise your right to say, “No, thank you.” ~**Julie Connor**

SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER

D1

District 1 Meeting
Semiahmoo Resort
Blaine, WA
October 28-30, 2021

Olympic Peninsula Area Meeting
TBA
February 25, 2023



NWR Conference
Davenport Hotel
Spokane, WA
April 20-23, 2023



SI Convention
Challenge the Future
Dublin, Ireland
July 27-29, 2023

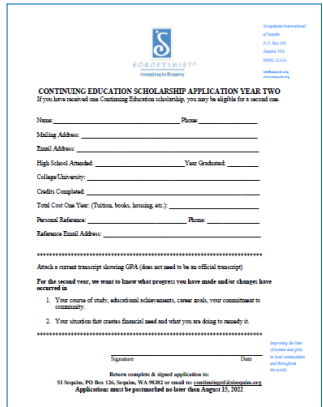
SPREAD THE WORD: WE WANT APPLICANTS!

Last year we had plenty of applicants for our Continuing Education Scholarship, and we gave eight. This year we have our budgeted funds and the mandate from a donor to give two additional \$1000 awards. We need to make sure we get the word out to the women and girls who would benefit from another year of school.

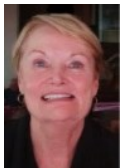
The Continuing Education Scholarship is for a woman who has completed one full year of post-secondary education and is enrolled for the coming year. It doesn't have to be a two or four year degree program—it can be something specialized that will “help them achieve economic empowerment” like nursing or massage—even graduate school. Because we want to help women who face obstacles, they do have to explain why they need the scholarship money on the application.

So—have you talked to anyone who is in school now and may need funds to continue? Think about the clerk at the grocery store, the manicurist, someone in your exercise class, your housekeeper or your favorite server at a restaurant. Who have you chatted with who wants to change their occupation, or who could use some help with school next year? How about children or grandchildren of friends?

Tell them about the scholarship possibility and urge them to fill out an application. They can download it at sisequim.org, or on WashBoard.org. The due date is August 15th. Or have them get in touch with me at continuinged@sisequim.org for more information.



The image shows a form titled "CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION YEAR TWO". It includes fields for Name, Phone, Mailing Address, Email Address, High School Attended, Year Graduated, College/University, Credits Completed, Total Cost One Year (Tuition, books, housing, etc.), Second Reference, and Reference Email Address. There are also instructions for attaching a current transcript and a list of questions to be answered by the applicant.



~Cat Xander, Awards & Scholarships Chair



“You are educated. Your certification is in your degree. You may think of it as the ticket to the good life. Let me ask you to think of an alternative. Think of it as your ticket to change the world.” ~Tom Brokaw

NOTE TO CAT FROM 75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEMBER

You asked me to find some interesting activities we’d done through these years to share, but by the time I’d read all the meeting minutes, I was so blown away by our SISterhood that I have to comment on that instead. We certainly did have many fun and bonding adventures, but I was so impressed by the outpouring of compassion, service, and generosity we’ve bestowed upon this community that I’m quite sure our reputation is based on that.

Every month, requests poured in for assistance with financial needs, and I believe we met those as often as we could. Other needs were also addressed by finding others who could help meet them. From lining up a tutor for a young student who struggled with speech and self esteem, to helping families who had hit hard times or had just moved to our area, to community-wide events and fundraisers, our hands were in the air volunteering.

We’ve consistently invested in our youth, especially through scholarships that give high school grads a start in their next chapter in life, and others who are given a second chance to encourage them that it’s never too late. We’ve spread beyond our own borders to help district-wide, nation-wide, and internationally. Where DON’T we have a presence? We are an **amazing** outreach organization.



~Gail Watson



MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

CHERYL EASTERLING



Cheryl has lived in Sequim since 2017. She moved here because it's the most beautiful place in America, and she absolutely loves the clean air. She works as a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones. Previously Cheryl has been an entrepreneur, owning businesses including Real Estate,

Vacation Property Management, and a Professional Custodial Service. She has been on the mission field helping build communities in the Philippines and involved with pastoral service and team building. She belongs to Regions Beyond, Sequim Realtors Association, and The Gateway Church of Sequim. Cheryl is married to Dana and has three adult sons, a daughter, and five grandchildren. She likes learning and helping others achieve their goals. She enjoys public speaking and serving on team. Welcome Cheryl!!

Best advice received: Listen

Best advice given: Accept others as they are—not as how you want them

LISA MARTINEZ



Lisa has lived in the Sequim area for three years. She relocated from Pasadena, California and lived in Port Angeles and now Sequim. She moved here for the beautiful outdoors. She has been in the

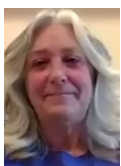
education field for over 30 years. She has been involved with the Olympic Peninsula Humane Society walking dogs and playing with the elderly cats during the summer months. She has an adult son who works for the Sequim PD. He and his family also live in Sequim. She loves her animals: horses, goats, chickens, and dogs. Welcome Lisa!!



MEMBERSHIP IS GROWING

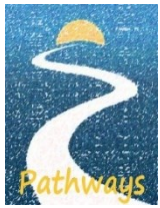
We inducted three new members at the Installation of Officers on June 24th: **Cheryl Easterling**, **Sunni Becker**, and **Rosie Tomlin**. Sunni says, “This is an exciting opportunity.” Cheryl says, “It feels good.” And Roseline says, “Thank you for including me in your organization.” They are so enthusiastic, and we all welcome them.

Well, the surprise is out! The big **Secret Pal Reveal** is over, and everyone was so surprised by who their secret pal turned out to be. It was fun to watch the amazement on each recipient’s face when her secret pal was revealed. Some even said, “I thought it was so-and-so, but it was you.” Sandy Lawrence said that her secret pal, Kris Osborn, had asked her questions pretending that she was asking for someone else. Some of the comments were: “I wasn’t ready for it to end.” “Your gifts brought smiles, joy, happiness, and thoughtfulness.” “The biggest hit was a toy for my dog, Blue!” (Guess who that is.) Needless to say, we will continue the **Secret Pal Program** next year. Please join the fun!



~Shawn Dredla, Membership Chair





PATHWAYS—NEW MEMBERS WORKING AND DISCOVERING TOGETHER

Think back to the year you joined Soroptimist...so many questions...so many new faces...

- ◆ *How can I remember all these names?*
- ◆ *What's the difference between a business meeting and program meeting?*
- ◆ *Where do I find information on dates, events, activities?*
- ◆ *How do I learn about various committees...and how do I join?*
- ◆ *What do all the acronyms mean?*
- ◆ **YIKES!!**

Being the *New Kid* can certainly be overwhelming and confusing. To ensure a smooth transition from *Newbie* to *Seasoned Member*, the **Pathways Committee** offers ongoing support, guidance and orientation for new members as they navigate their first year of membership.

We'll kick off the new year with a casual summer luncheon which will offer an opportunity to get to know each other, discuss expectations, and plan dates for **Pathways** monthly meetings. When we gather, we'll cover such topics as *policies & procedures, the roster, BOD meetings & roles, meeting formats, opportunities for involvement, SI and SLA*. In addition, a group project will be proposed, planned and implemented by new members.

The 2022-23 **Pathways Committee** includes **Sunni Becker, Cheryl Easterling, Jan Hartig, Lisa Martinez** and **Rosie Tomlin**. Their enthusiasm is evidenced by their comments during Installation:

- *This is an exciting opportunity.*
- *It feels good.*
- *Thank you for including me in your organization.*

We're looking forward to an exciting and productive year!



Amanda Beitzel & Missy Church-Smith
2022-23 Pathways Co-chairs

“but remember, nothing comes without a price.
Our paths are not mapped; they're made.” ~**Priya Ardis**

GARAGE SALE

Save July 30-31, 2022 for a Garage Sale to benefit Soroptimist. Natasha Merkuloff-Nichols and Cat Xander have a lot of things they would rather sell to support the club than dispose of some other way. If you have items you would like to include, or would be willing to help price or sell, please email Natasha or Cat. Look for an eblast later this month with the details.

Garage Sale



“Uncommon thinkers reuse what common thinkers refuse.” ~**J. R. D. Tata**

MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

The Medical Loan Closet, and Soroptimist, are losing two very important and hardworking members. We wish **Paulette Hill** and **Janet Popelka** happy and safe adventures during their future travels. We also want to thank them (and **Rick Hill!**) for volunteering at the Closet. Their overall cheerfulness, positive attitude, and work ethic during these trying times of Covid contributed so much to the smooth functioning of the Closet. Please come back to Soroptimist, and the Closet, refreshed and relaxed!

Our volunteers were busy as usual in June. We received **178** calls during the month; lent **83** items; and had **47** items returned. We received **\$465** in donations.

We also switched to new wheelchair and transport chair identification tags. The new tags provide our contact information on one side and the seat width and chair weight capacity on the other side. We hope this will help our volunteers easily select the chair that is appropriate for the client and ensure the chair is capable of safely accommodating the client.

Prior to this, the seat width was on a piece of duct tape that continually fell off the chair and we didn't have any easy access to the weight capacity.



~Becky Archer and Chris Snow, MLC Co-Chairs

MLC Statistics from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

Calls received: **1,295**
Equip Lent: **587**
Equip Returned: **530**
Donations: **\$5,608**

The amazing thing is we received more in donations than we would have expected after being either totally closed or closed except for emergent needs for 6 out of the last 12 months. The calls received are out of alignment with the total number of items lent and received because we were still responding to calls when we were shut down; calling people back in response to their questions/needs.



“Creativity is not the domain of one single person. Through free-association of thoughts and brainstorming, an accidental suggestion can be the best solution.” ~Joshua Fernandez

FUNDRAISING

The July fundraiser on our plate is “wine pouring” on **July 15-17 at Fleurish Lavendar Farm**. Volunteers and bakers are needed. Please contact Pauline Geraci at 360-464-5231 to help with this event.

Additionally, the fundraising committee is planning an **“All Club” Brainstorming** session at the **Holiday Inn Express** at **9am** on Saturday, **August 6th**. It will be in the meeting room. Please join us to help the club focus on fundraising that we all would like to support. RSVP to Natasha Nichols or Sandy Lawrence.



~Natasha Merkuloff-Nichols and Sandy Lawrence, Fundraising Co-Chairs



ROOFTOP PLANTED WITH LOVE

As I write this article it appears summer is upon us and what could be a better time to talk about the rooftop garden at Holiday Inn than now. In addition, I know a little history on this project would be helpful for new members.

Prior to COVID we had an agreement with Holiday Inn. We would maintain the rooftop garden in exchange for the use of their meeting room for our breakfast meetings. Well, COVID came, and we went to Zoom meetings, but we continued maintaining the garden. It has proven to be an excellent marketing avenue and provides a positive public image—and it has held our spot to use the meeting room.

Members have signed up to deadhead and water, and the co-chairs (Linda Klinefelter and Jan Chapman) will be shopping for some replacement plants in the coming weeks. Jess McNeil helps weed the adjoining areas in the flat portion of the roof. Any new members who would like to help and be listed as a substitute in case a member can't fulfill due to illness or emergency, would be appreciated. Please respond to roofgarden@sisequim.org.

A small, but mighty crew (Jan Chapman, Larry Klinefelter and Linda Klinefelter) potted, trimmed and fertilized plants on the rooftop garden at Holiday Inn. A few more plants need to be purchased and planted in the coming weeks but pop by and see the garden. It looks wonderful!



~Linda Klinefelter, Rooftop Garden Co-Chair 




FOURTH OF JULY MEMORIES

July brings us Independence Day. Here are Fourth of July memories sent in by our members.



The Week of 4th of July


As a kid, I hung out with my older brother until he decided he was too big to be with me. We lived outside of Olympia and what was considered a very rural area at the time had an influx of boys and no girls. So, if I wanted to do anything, it had to be with my brother. The week prior to 4th of July, my parents would let my brother purchase Lady Fingers and no, these weren't the finger licking kind . . . they were fireworks! The Lady Fingers were accompanied by One Inchers and off to the dirt pile we went. I was a first class well-polished tomboy and I loved that my brother would include me in his adventures with his soldier collections, trucks, jeeps and tractors. We blew up things! Made roads, tunnels, forts and other structures that could be demolished. This only happened during the week of 4th of July, and it was a time for several years that my brother included me in his recreational time. When 4th of July arrives, I always think about those days, and I think about my brother who passed away this past year. The memories warm my heart!

~ Linda Klinefelter 



4th of July Memory

Laying under the stars during an outdoor symphony with friends and family. Fireworks and the national anthem. Feeling patriotic and feeling so much Joy! Reminded of the freedom I have. Freedom to build community with friends and family. Knowing there are others who may not have what I have and I'm grateful. So Grateful!

~Cheryl Easterling 







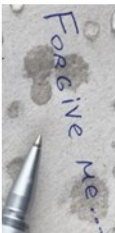






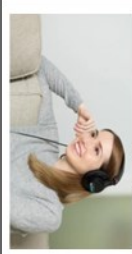
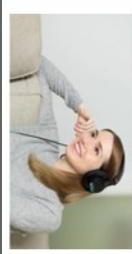





Golden Wedding Memory

Bob and I planned our 1972 wedding for the Fourth of July so that we would always have a holiday for our anniversary. The event took place at five at a friend's house on the mountain above La Jolla and included a potluck dinner. About three, Bob took my salad up the hill and on his way down picked up three teenaged girl hitchhikers. Where can I drop you, he asked? The girl next to him said: We're going to the pet store 'cause we have to get Buddy here some mice. Then she unwrapped a Python from around her neck and pointed its head at Bob. After that, nothing could trouble our happy ceremony.

~Pat Willis 

“The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence.” ~*Denis Waitley*

July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Athena Dunn Pam Hursey-King Jaime Manzer Krys Osborn Kathy Purcell Kim Renfro Jolene Sanborn Janet Wicker					1 International Joke Day 	2 World UFO Day 
3	4 	5	6	7 Global Forgiveness Day 	8	9 World Kebab Day 
10	11 World Population Day 	12 Malala Day 	13	14 LAVENDER FESTIVAL 	15 LAVENDER FESTIVAL 	16 LAVENDER FESTIVAL 
17 LAVENDER FESTIVAL 	18 World Listening Day 	19	20 World Jump Day 	21	22	23
24 International Self Care Day 	25	26	27	28 World Conservation Day 	29 International Tiger Day 	30 International Day of Friendship 
31						

August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Amanda Beitzel Colleen Blazier Sara Ellen Peterson Janet Real Cat Xander</p>	1 International Mahjong Day	2 Nat'l Coloring Book Day	3 National Watermelon Day	4 National Coast Guard Day	5 National Oyster Day	6 Nat'l Root Beer Float Day
7 National Lighthouse Day	8 National Dollar Day	9 National Book Lovers Day	10 National Lazy Day	11 Global Kinetic Sand Day	12 National Vinyl Record Day	13 National Bowling Day
14 National Creamsicle Day	15 National Relaxation Day	16 National Rum Day	17 Board Retreat	18	19 National Potato Day	20 World Honey Bee Day
21 National Spumoni Day	22 National Pecan Torte Day	23 S.T.A.R.T. Meeting	24 National Waffle Day	25 National Banana Split Day	26 National Dog Day	27 National Just Because Day
28 National Red Wine Day	29 National Lemon Juice Day	30 National Beach Day	31 National Trail Mix Day			

Butterfly Wings by Sabina Laura

We all need
some measure of comfort,
the safety of a cocoon,

But I remind myself
that change is good,
that I cannot spend
my whole life
being a caterpillar,

that courage
wears butterfly wings
and the sky has never looked
more inviting.



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