



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 9

Soroptimist International of Sequim

Celebrating 75+ Years of Service

March 2023

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“I have learned over the years that when one’s mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear.”
~Rosa Parks

Message from the President

I originally had another article about things that were historical in the month of March, which I was told was way too long for the newsletter. But I was kindly reminded by our editor that March is National Women’s History Month. Well what do you know, I now have something to write about and celebrate. So let’s celebrate women who have been important in making history and to all those women out there who are making history now.

Here are a few women who have made history and changes:

Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1933-2020)—In 1993 was nominated to the Supreme Court. Ginsburg promoted: financial equality for women, equality in education, LGBTQ rights, civil right for immigrants and undocumented people and rights for people with disabilities.

Harriet Tubman (1822-1913)—She freed around 300 enslaved people via the Underground Railroad. When the Civil War began, she supported the Union, working as spy and a nurse before leading the daring Combahee Ferry Raid, which freed more than 700 enslaved people. Later in life, she became a prominent voice in the abolitionist movement and also fought for voting rights for women, helping to shape a path from slavery and discrimination toward justice in the United States.

Rosa Parks (1913-2005)—During the 1950s, U.S. society was largely segregated between black and white citizens, including on public transport. On December 1, 1955, seamstress Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white passenger on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, for which she was arrested. In response, Parks mobilized the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) to boycott buses and draw national attention to inhumane segregation laws in the Southern states.

Our club is about giving women and girls an ability to become something better. We strive to give women and girls empowerment through education—with education comes knowledge and change. What we do for women today will have a ripple effect in the future for generations to come.

So be proud that you are a Soroptimist, be proud that you are making a change for the future. Who knows, maybe a girl or woman we help now will make history because of what we did. Be Proud!



President Kim
Change is Always Good



Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

It's March—the month that brings us spring, St. Patrick's Day and setting our clocks ahead one hour, giving more daylight hours.

With the weather we've had lately, it's looked like winter isn't ready to leave. Lots of folks are anxiously waiting for it to get warm enough to go out in their gardens. I found some hope for that while on my walk with Blue today.

The trail we walk has a curve to the north just before the area where we turn around to go back home. Today we left the house a little later than usual and I only needed my headlight for a short while. In fact, by the time we neared the curve I was relying on the morning light around me. As we made the turn north I saw it—a patch of five daffodils! I smiled. Moving forward I saw another patch—with nine daffodils . . . and another patch with over a dozen—then two additional patches.

Spring is starting to show up. Soon the green we see will be Mother Nature sprouting new growth—not just for St. Patrick's Day. Green is not the only color that shows up in spring. It starts with the yellow daffodils and continues with a colorful pastel palette.

Speaking of a colorful palette . . . March is Women's History month. There are countless women who have shaped our colorful history. President Kim has shared information about three of them in her article.

Not all women who make history are recognized for the differences they make. All of us make history—in our families, our communities, our world. The work we do as Soroptimists helps shape the history of women and girls. Providing resources for them to access education empowers them to live their dream—to reach their potential—to better their lives—to better our world—to find their direction.

I was thinking about the daffodils and how I saw them when I turned north. When we find true north, we have a point of reference and we can use it as a guide to where we want to go. The Soroptimist mission is our true north.

This is the time of year our club focuses on our true north—organizing and finding our path and leaders for the upcoming year. While some members might feel they are green, the more seasoned members are here to be their learned guides. We all get to determine and be part of our ongoing history.

As we move our clocks ahead, let us move ahead together adding more light and understanding, growing in strength in the process. There will be changes along the way, but Change is Always Good.



Light and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor



“We all carry the seeds of greatness within us, but we need an image as a point of focus in order that they may sprout.”

~*Epictetus*

CALENDAR

March

- 10 Board Meeting
- 14 Business Meeting
- 28 Program Meeting

April

- 7 Board Meeting
- 11 Business Meeting
- 20-23 NWR Conference
Davenport Hotel,
Spokane, WA
- 28 Program Meeting

*Evening Meeting



“The secret to change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new.”
~*Socrates*



“Productivity is never an accident. It is always the result of a commitment to excellence, intelligent planning, and focused effort.” ~*Paul J. Meyer*

Celebrate Life!

MARCH

Kathryn Pacelli
Gerry Sladowski

APRIL

Chris Snow



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



“Any time women come together with a collective intention, it’s a powerful thing. Whether it’s sitting down making a quilt, in a kitchen preparing a meal, in a club reading the same book, or around the table playing cards, or planning a birthday party, when women come together with a collective intention, magic happens.”
~Phylcia Rashad

See's CANDIES.

Soroptimist International of Sequim Storefront

Bag 0 Checkout

Help Us
Reach Our Goal!



Thank you for supporting the Soroptimist of Sequim Sweet Shop!

The Sweet Shop closes March 24.

Ladies! Big push this month for See's Easter sales! If you haven't already done it, send an email to your friends with our poster. Just think about it! Rich creamy chocolates eggs, filled with luscious fillings: Bordeaux, peanut butter cream, chocolate butter... YUM! Toffee, lollipops, pound boxes and small gift boxes full of nuts and chews and soft centers. Our shop ends on March 24th.



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

MARCH PROGRAM MEETING

The guest speaker on March 28 is from Project Lifesaver, Linda Spreine with the Sequim Police Department. This is a proactive program that uses technology to help law enforcement respond more effectively to missing person reports. It is especially useful in locating wanderers who might be affected by Alzheimer's, dementia, autism, Down syndrome, and traumatic brain injury.

SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER



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



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

2023 YOUNG WOMEN EXCELLING IN HIGH SCHOOL

Soroptimist International of Sequim is proud to announce our March selection for the 2023 Young Women Excelling in High School. We are pleased to present **Ruby Coulson** and **Hi'ilei Robinson**.

Ruby Coulson



Ruby is a member of the Washington State Legislative Youth Advisory Council and the Washington State Teen Equity and Inclusion Taskforce. She is also a member of Interact (Rotary) and is the Associated Student Body President at Sequim High

School. Ruby was recognized as the 4-H State Teen Leader of the Year in 2021 and she is recognized locally and nationally in equine presentation. She will be attending Stanford University and majoring in public policy and biology.

Hi'ilei Robinson



Hi'ilei has a volunteer background in ecology and through cleanup of marshes, planting trees, protecting indigenous plants and the removal of trash. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, you will find her volunteering at Helen Haller Elementary in the class-

room. She is a recipient of a multitude of awards including swimming, water polo and track and placed first in track 4 x 400 at the Nike Nationals in Oregon. Hi'ilei is looking at several colleges and when she makes a commitment, she will be majoring in elementary education and theatre arts.

“There is one path in the world that none can walk but you. Where does it lead? Don't ask, walk!” ~Friedrich Nietzsche

MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

Hip, knee, and shoulder surgeries heated up (so to speak) in February. While we have most equipment needed for these surgeries—shower seats, commodes, transport chairs, etc.—we do not stock an ice machine that was requested by one client. Serendipity intervened. Four days later, a gentleman called and wanted to donate an ice machine that his wife used during her hip surgery. We were able to connect the donor and donee and both parties were happy.

We continued to have a busy month at the Closet even though the weather did not cooperate. We received **139** calls during the month of February; lent **72** items and had **62** items returned. We also received donations of **\$310**.



~Becky Archer and Chris Snow,
MLC Co-chairs

“Some people think they are in community, but they are only in proximity. True community requires commitment and openness. It is a willingness to extend yourself to encounter and know the other.” ~David Spangler

NOTES FROM CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Kaelyn Davila is a nursing student who received our Continuing Education Scholarship for \$2000 last year.

“Somehow, I made the President’s list again! It’s hard to believe graduation is just around the corner!

“I think the most exciting things on the horizon are that my son is turning 2 in March, and I’m starting to think about where to interview for nursing positions after graduation—nothing is scheduled yet. I’m also applying to several BSN programs that will either start later this year or Jan 2024.”

Arianna Flores-Cisneros received a second year Continuing Education Scholarship. She is planning to be a doctor.

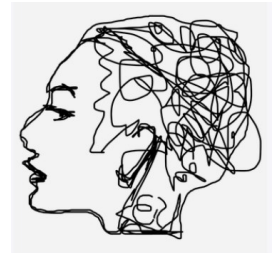
“My Fall semester went very well. I was enrolled in Physics and Biochemistry, both of which were challenging, but I finished with a 4.0 GPA. In addition to school and work, I continued volunteering at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital as a Health Advocate, and I plan to continue this through the spring semester.

“The spring semester will be my last in the post-baccalaureate program. It always amazes me how quickly time passes! This upcoming semester I will be taking two colloquium courses to prepare for applying to medical school while also studying for the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). I will be applying for medical school in May of this year.

“I am so grateful for all the support I have received from Soroptimist International of Sequim! I feel immensely blessed to be a part of such a caring and generous community.”



Nathalie Torres: “This fall quarter went well! I learned a lot and finished my required courses for my Spanish minor. I am now focusing on finishing up my required courses for a clinical physiology major. I am excited for this upcoming quarter because I will be starting my first practicum (job shadowing) with a former professor I had. I can’t wait to gain some field experience in the athletic training realm!!”



Brianna Cowan: “I just completed a quarter abroad in England this fall and started the nursing program this week back at Seattle Pacific University. It has been an amazing school year so far filled with amazing opportunities and adventures.”

“I am a doctor – it’s a profession that may be considered a special mission, a devotion. It calls for involvement, respect, and willingness to help all other people.” ~*Eva Kopacz*

OLYMPIC PENINSULA AREA MEETING

On February 25, four members of our club made the trip to Silverdale for the area meeting. In spite of threatening weather, which never did materialize, Sandy Lawrence drove Jan Hartig, Marti Campbell, and me to the meeting.

It is always fun to go to the area meeting—you have the opportunity catch up with longtime friends and to make new ones. And you have time to talk with your fellow club members as you travel to and from the meeting.

After being welcomed to the meeting with messages from our Region Governor, Karen Marshall, and District 1 Director, Becky Taft, there was a workshop that focused on what does and does not make for a good club. The first question was “What behavior(s) would cause you to leave the club?” And the reverse of that was “What behavior(s) would you like to see more of because it would increase participation or enhance the club or encourage new members to join?”

This exercise gave each of us an opportunity to reflect on both the challenges and successes of creating an environment that is harmonious, recognizes the value of each member, and encourages ideas. As we went around the room, it was not surprising to hear a lot of the same thoughts and suggestions. How would you answer those questions?

Every year, the host club of the area meeting chooses a nonprofit in their area that they want to support. Typically, a raffle is held during the meeting to raise funds for the selected organization.

The chosen organization was Scarlet Road in Bremerton. The keynote speaker for the meeting was Rosie Garbe, executive director of Scarlet Road. They offer care and support for those who have been sexually exploited—whether through domestic violence or human trafficking. They operate from the beliefs that:

- Every life holds value and value is not a commodity;
- Each person deserves an equitable opportunity—moving from harm to what she believes her life should be;
- Best work is rooted in community; and
- You can’t have community if you don’t have relationships.

Following this presentation, a representative from each club in attendance gave a brief talk about what their club has done and is doing. While this might sound boring, it is an opportunity to learn and gather ideas for fundraising and growing your club, as well as celebrating the successes of others!

I came away from the meeting with renewed enthusiasm for the shared mission of Soroptimist and all of the good things we do.



~Shelle Paulbitski



“Friends can be the best co-conspirators in charting the unknown.” ~*Judith Orloff*



Lifelong Friends Jean Hordyk and Martha Hurd



Another of the Lifelong Friends, Becky McGinty



Marti Making New Friends

OLYMPIC PENINSULA AREA MEETING



Olympic Rainforest Members a.k.a. Forks



Jan Making New Friends



Making New Friends



Shredding Event

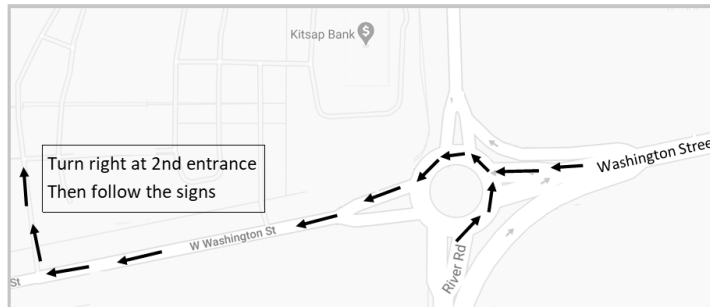
Your generous donation will go toward our mission of providing women and girls with access to education, empowering them to live their dreams.



Saturday, April 29, 2023
9 am - noon
Kitsap Bank
1320 W. Washington Street

Enter only from the traffic circle.
Take the exit going west.

Limit 75 pounds, about
4 paper grocery bags full.



Sponsored by Soroptimist International of Sequim and Kitsap Bank



WORDS OF GRATITUDE

Dear Members of Soroptimist International of Sequim,

We at Sequim Community Aid thank you for your generous donation of \$2,000. Our organization is dedicated to the families and individuals of Sequim. As such, we are there to provide relief to them during unforeseen challenges in life. We are pleased to be able to lift the burdens and help them to get back on track. Your kind donation will go far in our ability to meet our mission.






























Sincerely,
The Volunteers at Sequim Community Aid

*Sequim Community
Aid*
































“Community is not an ideal; it is people. It is you and I. In community we are called to love people just as they are with their wounds and their gifts, not as we want them to be.” ~Jean Vanier

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Kathryn Pacelli Gerry Sladowski</p> 			<p>1 Zero Discrimination Day</p> 	<p>2 National Hospital Day</p> 	<p>3 National Hearing Day</p> 	<p>4 National Grammar Days</p> 
<p>5 National Cheese Doodle Day</p> 	<p>6 National Dress Day</p> 	<p>7 National Cereal Day</p> 	<p>8 National Oregon Day</p> 	<p>9 National Kidney Day</p> 	<p>10 BOARD MEETING</p>	<p>11 World Plumbing Day</p> 
<p>12 National Girl Scout Day</p> 	<p>13 National K9 Veterans Day</p> 	<p>14 Business Meeting</p>	<p>15 National Kansas Day</p> 	<p>16 National Panda Day</p> 	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day</p> 	<p>18 Global Recycling Day</p> 
<p>19 National Let's Laugh Day</p> 	<p>20 National Ravioli Day</p> 	<p>21 World Puppetry Day</p> 	<p>22 National West Virginia Day</p> 	<p>23 National Puppy Day</p> 	<p>24 National Tuberculosis Day</p> 	<p>25 Tolkien Reading Day</p> 
<p>26 National Spinach Day</p> 	<p>27 National Scribble Day</p> 	<p>28 Program Meeting</p>	<p>29 National Nevada Day</p> 	<p>30 National Pencil Day</p> 	<p>31 National Crayon Day</p> 	

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Chris Snow						
2 National Ferret Day 	3 World Party Day 	4 National School Librarian Day 	5 National Flash Drive Day 	6 National Burrito Day 	7 BOARD MEETING 	1 National Handmade Day 
9 Easter 	10 National Sibling Day 	11 Business Meeting 	12 National Colorado Day 	13 National Scrabble Day 	14 National Dolphin Day 	15 Purple Up! Day 
16 National Orchid Day 	17 National Haiku Poetry Day 	18 National Columnists' Day 	19 National North Dakota Day 	20 Volunteer Recognition Day 	21 National Kindergarten Day 	22 National Earth Day 
23 National Talk Like Shakespeare Day 	24 National Bucket List Day 	25 Program Meeting 	26 Denim Day 	27 National Tell a Story Day 	28 National Blueberry Pie Day 	29 World Wish Day 
30 National Pet Parents' Day 						

Daffodils Return

By Bliss Carman

What matter if the sun be lost?
What matter though the sky be gray?
There's joy enough about the house,
For Daffodil comes home today.

There's news of swallows on the air,
There's word of April on the way,
They're calling flowers within the street,
And Daffodil comes home today.

O who would care what fate may bring,
Or what the years may take away!
There's life enough within the hour,
For Daffodil comes home today.



Soroptimist International of Sequim
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SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

Soroptimist®: a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

To a Person Making a Difference for Women