



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 11

Soroptimist International of Sequim

**Celebrating 75+ Years of Service**

May 2023

## Officers 2022— 2023

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*“I think,  
at a child’s birth, if a  
mother could ask  
a fairy godmother to  
endow it with the most  
useful gift, that gift  
would be curiosity.”  
~Eleanor Roosevelt*



## A Mother's Love!

by: Michael Jeffrey Gale

A mother’s love is never faltering.  
A mother’s love is never halting.  
A mother’s judgement is never erring.  
A mother’s dream is to supply all needs.  
A mother’s goal is to instill good deeds.  
A mother’s commitment, is to the one, that  
she loves!

A mother’s reward is thanks, for all of  
the aboves!

This mother says “she will always protect  
you all your life”... “Just to see that there is  
no danger or strife.” “For a sharing of love  
is my duty to you”... “Your happiness, I'll  
guarantee to make, you safe and true!”  
“I'll kiss those owies to make them not hurt”...  
“I'll buy you nice things for school, maybe new  
shoes and a shirt.” “My love will stay forever  
and ever”... “To you I'll never say never!”  
“My love for you shall never fade”... “And  
that’s the promise that I've made!”

## Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

Have you noticed it is getting lighter earlier and staying lighter later? There's more 'day' in each passing day. I was particularly aware of that this morning because Blue and I walked a little earlier than usual, and it was already bright enough that I didn't need a headlight. Along the path I noticed two snails, side by side. I don't know much about snails—except that they move slowly. I wonder what language they use. How do they communicate? A topic I may pursue another day.

It's May—which brings us May Day and Mother's Day. In Sequim it also brings us the Irrigation Festival, which covers more than just one day. There are activities sandwiched between two weekends. The first weekend there is a Kids Parade and an Arts & Crafts Fair with lots of booths. As I write this, members of our club are manning a booth where we're offering a 50/50 raffle. The owner of the ticket pulled at the end of the fair will receive 50% of the amount donated.

Some members of the club are playing an active role today at the Kathleen Sutton Fund Luncheon. This is part of our hands-on support of local organizations whose mission aligns with ours. Our very own new member, Cheryl Easterling, is the MC—see page 5 for more information.

Next Saturday will be the main Irrigation Festival Parade. This year our club will have an entry. Members will walk with wheelchairs and other equipment from our Medical Loan Closet. We will also have a double-sided ¼ page card—with a sweet treat affixed to it—that we will be handing out along the parade route. One side of the card states the dollar amount we've spent this year in support of women and girls in the community. The other side is an invitation to attend a meeting and learn what we do; then picture themselves as part of it.

Not all members are at the booth today of course. Not all members are at the Kathleen Sutton Fund Luncheon. Not all members will walk in the parade next week. Not all members are involved in all the activities of our club. Each member participates at the level she/he can. One thing is certain; you won't find a snail in our club.

I was thinking about the 50/50 raffle. It reminds me of our partnership with organizations in the community—we are both winners when we collaborate. The days staying lighter longer reminds me of how we have opportunities to be the light for others. Members stand side-by-side speaking a language of compassion, consideration and respect. Like mothers we are nurturing by nature—and not just on Mother's Day.

As we move forward knowing Change is Always Good, let us picture where we want to participate for the 2023-2024 Soroptimist year. We then will bring that picture into reality, recognizing our individual contributions add to the overall strength and success of our club as we continue to empower women and girls to live their dreams.



Kathy Purcell, Editor



**“When work, commitment, and pleasure all become one and you reach that deep well where passion lives, nothing is impossible.”**

**Nancy Coey**

## CALENDAR

### May

- 5 Board Meeting
- 9 Business Meeting
- 23 Program Meeting

### June

- 9 Joint Board Meeting
- 13 Business Meeting

**June Installation TBD**

### \*Evening Meeting



**“Participation, I think, is one of the best methods of educating.” ~Tom Glazer**



**“Commitment unlocks the doors of imagination, allows vision, and gives us the “right stuff” to turn our dreams into reality.”**  
**~ James Womack**

*Celebrate Life!*

**MAY**

Marty Campbell  
Pauline Geraci  
Jan Hartig  
Shirley Huntley  
Linda Klinefelter  
Cynthia Martin  
Jeanne Martin

**JUNE**

Elaine Churchill  
Jess McNeil  
Natasha Merkuloff-Nichols  
Caroline Smidth



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



*"If you have the courage to connect with people from different races, nationalities, backgrounds, cultures, and regions, you have the power to bring about a change in the world."  
~Germany Kent*

**YOUNG WOMEN EXCELLING IN HIGH SCHOOL**

Soroptimist International of Sequim is pleased to announce our May 2023 selections of Young Women Excelling in High School.

**Isabella Williams**



Isabella is a member of Honors Society and Interact Club! Her volunteer activities include Sequim Sunrise Rotary Blanket Drive, OMC Foundation's Festival of Trees and 7 Cedars Sonny Sixkiller Celebratory Golf Classic fundraiser, along with 200 hundred service hours as Queen of the Irrigation Festival. In addition to all of her volunteering, Isabella is biliterate, an Advance Placement Student and holds Hispanic Honors. Northern Arizona is her college of choice, and she will be majoring in either mechanical or civil engineering.



**Karlie Viada**

Karlie is extremely active in 4H! She has served as secretary, Equity and Inclusion Ambassador in DC, and 4-H president. In addition she is a member and Peninsula College's co-president of High Reading Society and recipient of art awards presented by 2023 Tidepools Magazine. Karlie has chosen to attend University of Portland and will be majoring in nursing.



**Lauryn Stephens**

Lauryn spends her off hours from school as a coach and referee with Girls Sequim Youth Basketball. It is her goal to help young girls find confidence in whatever they do. She also volunteers her time for school sporting events working in the concession stand. Recognition has been bestowed on her as most improved in the sport of basketball and is a recipient the Academic Scholar Award. Lauryn will be attending Washington State University in Pullman, WA, and will be majoring in nursing.

*"You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives." ~Clay P. Bedford*

**SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER**



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

## PAST SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT MAKES THE NEWS

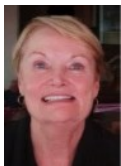
In the April 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Seattle Times*, the lead interview in their education story was with our scholarship and Live Your Dream Award recipient Corenna Messinger. The article is focused on the Washington College Grant, and in it Corenna talks about how important support and additional resources are.

Seattle Times:

*“When Corenna Messinger began her nursing education at Peninsula College, she knew she needed to find a way to pursue her education and career goals while being a present parent for her two children, ages 6 and 13. Juggling both school and full-time work would take her away from time with her kids and put extra burdens on her family. She knew she would need support and additional resources to help make it work. She found a solution in a combination of financial aid resources, including a Washington College Grant. With federal aid covering her tuition, the state grant funding helped cover additional expenses. “The importance of financial aid is not just to pay for school, but allow people to function in their life, and being able to do so in a way that’s healthy for their family is really important.””*

Our Live Your Dream Award judges recognized that Corenna was a great example of someone who really needed help to change her life by training for a new career. She has been smart enough to research and ask for help from federal and state resources, and we were the home town organization who recognized her efforts with financial support.

We know we made a difference to her, because her thank you to us read: *“I am so grateful to you all for choosing me to receive this scholarship! My road to becoming a Registered Nurse has been so much work and the opportunity to receive scholarships while I continue my education is such a blessing. Please send my family’s thanks and appreciation to all who decided this.”*



~Cat Xander, Awards and Scholarships Chair



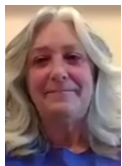
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*“It’s what you learn after you know it all that counts.” ~Attributed to Harry S. Truman*

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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Hello All!! Can you believe that it is already time for membership renewals for the 2023-2024 Club year! Man, how time flies! You should be getting an email with the membership renewal information early this month. Renewals are due by June 1. Instructions are on the renewal form. We have several potential new members and I am very excited! Please be on the lookout for new members as you go about your daily lives! Enjoy the sunshine!!



~Shawn Dredla, Membership Chair



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*“If there is nothing new under the sun, at least the sun itself is always new, always re-creating itself out of its own inexhaustible fire.” ~Michael Sims*

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## PATHWAYS CONTINUES TO DEVELOP ITS PATH

This committee is definitely well-fed with goodies. Elaine brought yummy brownies to tide us over until lunch. The only thing we're lacking at this location is access to a restroom, so we may search for another place to meet in the fall.

President Shirley Legg graced us with her presence and gave us information about the Program Committee, which is usually chaired by the president-elect, with other members being involved also. This year the programs included the 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday events, Holiday celebrations, Domestic Violence Awareness, Human Trafficking Awareness, and the VIP luncheon. Program speakers are invited on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month to speak about a topic that is pertinent to our vision to help women and girls with resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams. President Shirley has taken the role of President sooner than expected and is already forming ideas and plans for the future of our club with great enthusiasm.

The holiday party and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday get-togethers are normally social activities for the members to get better acquainted with each other. Also included in the holiday events is the community-wide Holiday Joy when we purchase gifts for selected families. The VIP luncheon occurs during the Irrigation Festival to provide a place for the royalty from surrounding towns to change clothes and have something to eat.

We reviewed our involvement in upcoming events, the Shredding fundraiser on April 29 and the Kathleen Sutton luncheon on May 6. Eight of us will fill a table at the luncheon: Amanda Beitzel, Sunni Becker, Elaine Churchill, Shawn Dredla, Cheryl Easterling, Jan Hartig, Janet Real and Rosie Tomlin. In addition to getting the word out to the community, we will serve as greeters, help with table decorations, and record bids at the silent auction. Cheryl is the MC for the event.

Since our normal Pathways meeting date falls on the same day as the Irrigation Festival, our next meeting will be a celebratory lunch at the Old Mill Restaurant on June 10, 2023.



~Jan Hartig, Pathways Committee



“Some beautiful paths can't be discovered without getting lost.” ~Erol Ozan

## Rooftop Garden Volunteer Opportunities

We have been maintaining the rooftop garden at Holiday Inn Express since 2019. It is that time of year and we will be needing volunteers—starting in May—to check the containers, water, dead head any of the flowering plants and if necessary, remove any sneaky weeds that show up in the containers. The hose will be accessible and if not, then a quick visit to the front desk requesting they pull it out and over the fencing. We do not want any volunteers climbing over the fencing.

If you volunteer to water, we request that you water either Friday or Saturday. Jess McNeil will water on Tuesdays. Volunteers are needed starting from May 18<sup>th</sup> and continuing to the last week in October (October 27<sup>th</sup>). This job takes about 30 minutes so I hope many of you will consider volunteering twice. You can email me at [ljk1551@live.com](mailto:ljk1551@live.com) and if someone has already selected a date that you want, I will contact both volunteers.



~Linda Klinefelter, Rooftop Garden Chair



“A beautiful garden is a work of heart.” ~Author Unknown



## MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

The Soroptimist year will soon be coming to a close, but the Medical Loan Closet continues to raise the Soroptimist flag and serve the Sequim community throughout the year. We would like to thank our current team of volunteers—Melody Albertson, Marti Campbell, Susan Coffee, Patty Lebowitz, Shirley Legg, Jane Manzer, Linda Naylor, Elaine Powlesland, and Jolene Sanborn for their dedication this year. We are also happy to announce that seven members of our MLC committee will be continuing with the team next year and would love to have at least three more volunteers.



Working at the MLC is very rewarding and such a positive presence of support to our community. A medical background is not needed to volunteer at the Closet. We provide the training needed and will be with you at the Closet during your week of service until you are comfortable with the process. If you have been considering volunteering with the MLC, please give Becky or Chris a call. We would love to talk to you!

The MLC will once again participate in the Irrigation Festival Parade in May. Soroptimist members will walk the parade route pushing wheelchairs, transport chairs, and other medical equipment to celebrate the 75th anniversary of our club and also highlight the important service provided to the Sequim community by the Closet.

We have had several very busy months recently at the Closet and our storage lockers are overflowing with equipment. We had such an abundance of donations and returns that we needed to restrict donations to specific items. We received **178** calls during the month of April; lent **107** items and had **106** items returned. We also received donations of **\$405**.



~Becky Archer and Chris Snow,  
MLC Co-chairs

*“Kindness and a generous spirit go a long way. And a sense of humor. It’s like medicine—very healing.” ~Max Irons*

## EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY

**The back-story:** In last month’s Soropti-Scoop Shawn Dredla reported that our club sponsored the Sequim Chamber Luncheon in March. Sponsoring it was the brainchild of Linda Klinefelter. The intent was two-fold. First, it would educate those in attendance about our club’s history of involvement and commitment to the community (Public Awareness). Second, it would invite attendees to learn more about us and inspire them to join the club (Membership).

Natasha Merkuloff-Nichols has volunteered to chair the 2023 Gala Garden Show. She has been asking lots of questions about how things have been done in prior years and has reached out to past members who have handled specific areas. One of those areas is Public Awareness through the Sequim Gazette. For past shows we have had the Gazette do a tab (insert) that goes into the newspaper.

Linda Klinefelter has worked with the Sequim Gazette for years and has a wealth of knowledge—specifically related to the Gala Garden Show. Linda and Natasha met with John Jaeger and Erin Kennedy from the Gazette last month. Linda had not worked with these particular people before. She explained the history of our collaboration and the timeline for publication of the tab.

John said he had attended the March Chamber Luncheon—the one our club sponsored. He said he had no idea how much we have done for the community and for so many years. He hadn’t realized the scope until he heard about it at the luncheon. This is a great example of the importance of educating the public about who we are and what we do. We all have the ability to spread the word. The Public Awareness Committee’s (PAC) focus for 2023-2024 is going to be on recruiting new members so we can continue to carry on our good work.



~Kathy Purcell, Public Awareness Committee (PAC) Chair



*“Be present in all things and thankful for all things.” ~Maya Angelou*

## SHREDDING EVENT CIRCLES ROUND TO THE COMMUNITY

It happened as planned on April 29<sup>th</sup>. The weather was perfect – sunshine, no wind, and an amazing view of the Olympic Mountains. And it was a HUGE SUCCESS—all because of incredible teamwork!

Kudos to the Team Captains—Shawn Dredla on traffic, Jane Manzer on signage, Amanda Beitzel on Donations, Cat Xander and Sandy Lawrence doing public awareness, and Shirley Legg on shredding. They recruited members, spouses, friends and relatives and explained their posts and jobs. Five Kitsap Bank employees also pitched in to help. It went off without a hitch.

Signs directing traffic were in place by 8 am with volunteers directing the traffic as early as 8:20—even though the event didn't start until 9 am. Everyone was in position and ready to greet potential donors when the truck arrived at 8:50. From then on it was busy, busy, busy directing traffic, collecting donations, and lifting boxes of shredding items out of the vehicle into rolling bins to wheel over to the big shredding truck. I was impressed with smiling faces doing their appointed tasks with determination. Shelle Paulbitski and Colleen Blazier counted \$6,000 in donations!

Well done everyone! If I tried to name each person, I know I'd miss someone. Just know that I appreciate each and every one of you immensely.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU



~Jan Hartig, Shredding Event Chair



Until the next fundraiser!





More photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/108582458@N03/52876845120/in/album-72177720308071750/>



**WORDS OF GRATITUDE**























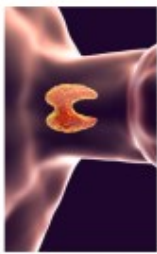






Dear Soroptimists  
of Sequim,  
On behalf of Sequim  
Wheelers, I'd like to  
thank you for your  
generous donation of  
\$250.00. From one  
community organization  
to another, we  
appreciate your

support for  
providing experiences  
and joy.






















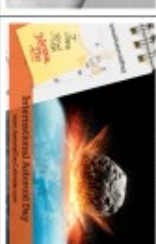
With gratitude,  
Martha Rudersdorf,  
SW Board  
Member



# May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH</b>            Marti Campbell            Pauline Geraci            Jan Hartig            Shirley Huntley            Linda Klinefelter            Cynthia Martin            Jeanne Martin</p> 	<p>1 May Day</p> 	<p>2 National Teacher Appreciation Day</p> 	<p>3 National Specially-Abled Pet day</p> 	<p>4 National Bird Day</p> 	<p>5 BOARD MEETING</p>	<p>6 National Scrapbook Day</p> 
<p>7 National Lemonade Day</p> 	<p>8 National Student Nurse Day</p> 	<p>9 Business Meeting</p>	<p>10 National Shrimp Day</p> 	<p>11 National Twilight Zone Day</p> 	<p>12 National Limerick Day</p> 	<p>13 National Fruit Cocktail Day</p> 
<p>14 Mother's Day</p> 	<p>15 National Chocolate Chip Day</p> 	<p>16 International Day of Light</p> 	<p>17 National Walnut Day</p> 	<p>18 International Museum Day</p> 	<p>19 National Pizza Party Day</p> 	<p>20 Armed Forces Day</p> 
<p>21 International Tea Day</p> 	<p>22 National Solitaire Day</p> 	<p>23 Program Meeting</p>	<p>24 National Wyoming Day</p> 	<p>25 World Thyroid Day</p> 	<p>26 National Road Trip Day</p> 	<p>27 National Cellophane Tape Day</p> 
<p>28 National Hamburger Day</p> 	<p>29 Memorial Day</p> 	<p>30 National Creativity Day</p> 	<p>31 World Parrot Day</p> 			

# June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH</b>            Elaine Churchill            Jess McNeill            Natasha Merkuloff-Nichols            Caroline Smith</p> 				<p>1 National Milk Day</p> 	<p>2 National Donut Day</p> 	<p>3 World Bicycle Day</p> 
<p>4 National Hug Your Cat Day</p> 	<p>5 World Environment Day</p> 	<p>6 World Yo-yo Day</p> 	<p>7 World Caring Day</p> 	<p>8 World Oceans Day</p> 	<p>9 BOARD MEETING</p>	<p>10 National Iced Tea Day</p> 
<p>11 Nat'l Corn on the Cob Day</p> 	<p>12 National Red Rose Day</p> 	<p>13 Business Meeting</p>	<p>14 World Blood Donor Day</p> 	<p>15 Global Wind Day</p> 	<p>16 World Sea Turtle Day</p> 	<p>17 World Juggling Day</p> 
<p>18 Father's Day</p> 	<p>19 World Sauntering Day</p> 	<p>20 International Surfing Day</p> 	<p>21 Summer Begins</p> 	<p>22 National Onion Ring Day</p> 	<p>23 National Pink Day</p> 	<p>24 National Praline's Day</p> 
<p>25 National Catfish Day</p> 	<p>26 National Coconut Day</p> 	<p>27 National Sunglasses Day</p> 	<p>28 International Caps Lock</p> 	<p>29 National Handshake Day</p> 	<p>30 International Asteroid Day</p> 	

## **Morning Has Broken**

by Jonathon Sion

The universe is a harmony  
In which we all have a part.

You don't need to know  
What your part is.

You just need to believe in it:  
Knowing that you belong.

Knowing the universe loves you  
And wants your participation in its song.

Believe it, and you'll be happy,  
Believe it, and you'll be free.

Believe me.



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.*

Soroptimist International of Sequim  
PO Box 126  
Sequim, WA 98382

To a Person Making a Difference for Women