



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 29, Issue 9

Soroptimist International of Sequim

**Celebrating 78 Years of Service**

March 2025

## Officers 2024 — 2025

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Linda Klinefelter

**President-Elect:**

Roxann Harr

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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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**“Planning is bringing  
the future into  
the present so that you  
can do something  
about it now.”  
~Alan Lakein**

## President’s Message

As you read this President's message, we are about a week away from our much-anticipated garden show. It's astonishing to think this marks our 26th show...a milestone worth celebrating!

The garden show represents not just an event, but a year of meticulous planning and unwavering dedication from countless volunteers. Such an extraordinary endeavor can only flourish through our shared commitment to the show and our mission statement.

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to our remarkable co-chairs, Kathy Purcell and Roxann Harr. Their countless hours of hard work and skillful recruitment of committee chairs will play a crucial role in our success. Achieving greatness is never a solo endeavor; it requires the hard work, cooperation, and dedication of many. For that, I extend my deepest thanks to each one of you who has poured your energy into this event.

I take immense pride in what we accomplish together for our community, and I hope that this pride radiates from me to you. So, as you lend your hands to the garden show, let’s wear our T-shirts and badges with joy and enthusiasm, showcasing the spirit that makes this event truly special!

Remember, our program meeting will be dedicated to celebrating our hard work, so please mark March 25<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. Location: Gathering Place, 135 Fairway Drive, Sequim, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. More information to come about food and beverages.



~President Linda



**“Make it a habit to tell people thank you. To express your appreciation, sincerely and without the expectation of anything in return. Truly appreciate those around you, and you’ll soon find many others around you. Truly appreciate life, and you’ll find that you have more of it.” ~Ralph Marston**

## Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

March is here. It's Women's History Month. Is there a woman, or maybe even women, who are an important part of your history? This is a good time to remember them in whatever way speaks most from your heart. Speaking of remembering, did you remember to move your clocks ahead one hour on March 8? Time marches on.

March brings us the beginning of spring—at least according to the calendar. In Sequim, March brings us the Soroptimist Gala Garden Show. By the time this edition of the Soropti-Scoop is published, the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala Garden Show will be days away. There will be returning vendors and some new ones. There will be lots of plants! We have our Speaker Series—a collaboration with the Master Gardeners. Our featured speaker is Sue Goetz who will talk about "Easy Container Gardens for Food and Flavor." We have some fabulous raffle items including a tall handmade birdhouse with a planter at the base! There will be a special floral demonstration sponsored by Sofie's Florist, given by Sharrai Morgan. Local Rainshadow Cafe will be offering delicious soups and salads while SIS will have drinks and snacks for sale. KSQM will be onsite inside broadcasting live and the folks from CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) will be onsite outside directing traffic/parking. Say that three times fast . . . Fun! Fun! Fun!

While visitors are enjoying shopping and learning from our speakers, Soroptimist members will be at work collecting money at the front counter, stamping hands, handing out programs, using a clicker; selling raffle tickets; selling items at the café; doing vendor support; cleaning the bathrooms and roving to see what else might be needed. All the efforts of our wonderful Gala Garden Show Committee will culminate on Friday evening as vendors arrive and setup their assigned booths. None of the above captures the true cohesion of our core committee. But I can give you a couple of examples.

The GGS Core Committee had our last pre-show meeting on March 4. At the meeting each sub-committee had a chance to give an update. When it came to vendors, Shawn asked a question regarding where a vendor wanted to park his truck. Natasha Merkuloff-Nichols (liaison with CERT) was looking for clarification. Before we knew it, Chris Snow (Vendor Team) put a map up on screen and Natasha was able to see the exact spot Shawn mentioned, and confirm it was okay.

We talked about having a clicker at the front entrance so we could keep track of the number of visitors to the show. It was suggested to also have a clicker for the featured speaker. Sandy Lawrence said she would check the storage unit for any clickers. Jan Hartig spoke up saying she has two clickers we could use.

No one asked Chris to put up the map. She is the one handling the hybrid equipment; she had the map handy, and she knew it would be a good reference tool. No one asked if anyone had any clickers, but Jan heard a need that she could fill and she offered to fill it.

I commented on these at the meeting saying it shows how connected, aware and cohesive the committee members are. This gave me great joy. They were paying attention; they were engaged; they were ready. Jeanne Martin (Volunteer Coordinator) reported that not all the slots for Saturday and Sunday are filled, but she was confident that all times will be covered both days. She too saw the cohesion—not only with the core committee, but with our entire club. She knew members are ready.

The level of cohesiveness has an impact on the success of the show, and the success of our club. When thinking about this, the word that came to mind was synergy—from the Cambridge Dictionary online: "the combined power of a group of things when they are working together that is greater than the total power achieved by each working separately." In the word **synergy** I saw **SI Energy**. One of the great things about our members is, we know how to have fun while we are using our energy to work on an activity together.

As we celebrate Women's History month, I give my gratitude to all of you for being part of my history. As we move forward together, the synergy of our SI Energy will continue to Sow Seeds for the Future.



~Kathy Purcell, Editor



**"True excellence is a product of synergy." ~Mack Wilberg**

## CALENDAR

### MARCH

- 4 GGS Core Committee Meeting—1st Security
- 7 Board Meeting
- 11 Business Meeting
- 15-16 Gala Garden Show
- \*25 GGS Potluck Celebration

### APRIL

- 1 GGS Core Committee Meeting—1st Security
- 4 Board Meeting
- 8 Business Meeting (GOM)
- 22-27 NWR Conference Valley River Inn Eugene, OR
- \*29 5th Tuesday

### \*Evening Meeting



**"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts."**

**~Aristotle**

*Celebrate Life!*

**MARCH 2025**

Brandi Larsons

**APRIL 2025**

Christy Holy  
Chris Snow



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



*“Every spring is the only spring  
a perpetual astonishment.” ~Ellis Peters*

## A REMINDER—2024-2025 MEETING LOCATION

We now meet at  
**Fifth Avenue Senior Independent Living**  
**500 W. Hendrickson, Sequim at 8 a.m.**  
Stay healthy;  
wearing masks to the meeting is welcomed.  
See you March **11<sup>th</sup>**.



## **AFTER GARDEN SHOW POTLUCK CELEBRATION**

**March 25, 2025**  
**Gathering Place**  
**135 Fairway Drive, Sequim**  
**5 p.m. – 8 p.m.**

**More information to come  
about food and beverages.**

*“I love spring anywhere, but if I could choose,  
I would always greet it in a garden.” ~Ruth Stout*

## SOROPTIMIST MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER



**NWR Conference**  
**Valley River Inn**  
**Eugene, OR**  
**April 24-27, 2025**

## JANUARY AND FEBRUARY GIRLS OF THE MONTH

### KEYLEE DISINSKI



Soroptimist International of Sequim recognizes outstanding female students enrolled at Sequim High School. Our organization is pleased to recognize **Keylee Disinski**, January Girl of the Month.

Keylee is an honor roll student who has received awards in acrobatics and gymnastics. She is actively involved in the choir and volunteers in the community through the Interact Club. Her goal is to attend college and become a teacher.

### MINA AINSWOTH



Soroptimist International of Sequim recognizes outstanding female students enrolled at Sequim High School. Our organization is pleased to recognize **Mina Ainswath**, February Girl of the Month.

Mina has been recognized as Student of the Month and also volunteers in the community. She expresses a love for U.S. History and has aspirations to study anthropology and graphic design in college.

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*“No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave.” ~Calvin Coolidge*

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## NEW LEGACY MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNIZES A MEMBER’S DEDICATION TO SOROPTIMIST

We’re proud to announce the “**Colleen Blazier Medical Scholarship**” funded by John Blazier, Colleen’s brother, to recognize Colleen’s tireless support of Soroptimist International of Sequim. This will be an ongoing donation by John to SIS of \$5,000 a year to be used to support SIS’s Continuing Education and Professional/Technical candidates with a focus on the medical field. Additional details are being finalized for candidate qualifications, but funds for the next three years of scholarships have been received and are being held by SIS pending final parameters. Additional details will be shared with you all as soon as they’re set.

John has dedicated himself to helping children in various ways including financial support of culinary endeavors, a mechanics building and support of elementary students in various areas including the “John C Blazier Elementary School” aka Blazier Elementary School in Austin, TX. The creation of this scholarship through SIS supports his giving spirit along with Colleen’s.

The Awards and Scholarship Committee is honored that John has entrusted us to find the right candidates for the “Colleen Blazier Medical Scholarship,” and we look forward to making a difference in the lives of medical focused students for years to come!



~Cat Xander & Kris Osborn, Awards & Scholarships Co-chairs

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*“It is the ultimate luxury to combine passion and contribution. It’s also a very clear path to happiness.” ~Sheryl Sandberg*

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## MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

### DEBBIE LINES



Debbie Lines has lived in the area less than a year, moving here from Tucson, AZ, and is a neighbor of Chris Snow. She learned about the club and what we do from Chris and joined in February. Debbie is a retired RN and has volunteer experience in her children's schools and was a Sunday School teacher. She and her husband have two grown children and three grandchildren. She's an artist who loves working with new mediums. The best advice she has received or has given is "Who owns the problem?" She added that solving problems is more successful when the person who owns the problem has input in finding the solution. Welcome Debbie!!

### SANDY MURRAY



Sandy Murray visited our club twice last fall and after being out of the area most of the winter is back attending another meeting and ready to join SI of Sequim. Sandy has lived in Port Angeles for four years, moving here from California. She learned about us from the Peninsula Daily News! Her work experience has been as a counselor and in contracting, with volunteer experience for Salvation Army and Goodwill. Sandy is a gardener, focusing on growing dahlias, and is eager to work at the Garden Show. She lists cooking, growing flowers and gardening as her passions. The best advice she's received or given is "Walk the walk if you talk the talk." Welcome Sandy!!

### GLEN VARVIL



Glen Varvil is our newest member. Glen learned of our club when his wife had need of medical equipment, which our MLC provided. He then came to our club to gift us with some funds to establish a scholarship in honor of his mother. Then he attended Tea with S.H.E., a couple of meetings, and decided he wanted to join the club. Glen and his wife have lived in the area 12 years and Glen has volunteered with the Grange and WAG. He has a varied background as a farmer, teacher, construction worker, and computer programmer. Glen enjoys hiking and yard work. He credits a good education with a good life and "wants to help other people get the same chances." Welcome Glen!!

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**“There are certain things that are fundamental to human fulfillment. The essence of these needs is captured in the phrase ‘to live, to love, to learn, to leave a legacy.’ The need to live is our physical need for such things as food, clothing, shelter, economical well-being, health. The need to love is our social need to relate to other people, to belong, to love and to be loved. The need to learn is our mental need to develop and to grow. And the need to leave a legacy is our spiritual need to have a sense of meaning, purpose, personal congruence, and contribution.” ~Stephen R. Covey**

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## MEMERSHIP UPDATE

Hello All,

Last month we inducted three new members with two more waiting in the wings. Welcome aboard!

The Gala Garden show is right around the corner, and everybody helps. Knowledge is power, and as our master gardeners do their part to teach the community, we too have the opportunity to inform the public about the impact we make and sow seeds for future members.

Remember, to plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow!



~Brandi Larson, Membership Committee



“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*

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## PATHWAYS

Patty Lebowitz was our guest speaker giving us information on the club’s fundraising activities – See’s Candies, Gala Garden Show, and the Shredding Event. Each one of the fundraising events needs the support of all club members. See’s Candies is sold around the holidays in November and December and sometimes Easter. The Gala Garden Show is the major fundraiser for the club on March 15-16 this year with set-up on the evenings of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. All hands on deck for this one! The Shredding Event is a little later this year, not until May 3<sup>rd</sup> at Kitsap Bank. Many volunteers are needed for this event also.

We usually veer a little off topic giving us an opportunity to get to know each other. And Patty politely tried persuading Kelli Ward and Kecia Gilliam to put their names in the hat for Director on the Board of Directors. Time will tell!

Our volunteer project collecting art supplies and snacks for Tim’s Place has been a great success! We had no idea what would happen when Kelli put the boxes out around town. Between our faithful, generous members kicking it off and community support, we collected a plethora of art supplies and snacks to deliver to Trinity United Methodist Church. They were overjoyed and thankful for our contributions! Even though Tim’s Place operates on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the church is always open to accept donations, and they’re always looking for volunteers. People in the community also expressed interest in continuing to support Tim’s Place.

Our little team of **Cheryl Easterling, Kelli Ward, Deb Alwine** and **me** were elated with the success of the project and shout out a huge THANK YOU to the club members.



~Jan Hartig, Pathways Committee



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## REMEMBERING BETTY OSBORN

Betty Osborn was a member of our club far enough back to have received the Life Member designation. She left the club in 2020, but sent her daughter Debbie Cottrell, to fill that void. Sadly, Betty passed away in late December. Some members—past and present—knew Betty only through their association with her in Soroptimist. Some members—past and present—knew Betty both through our club and through her profession as a financial advisor. We invite members—past and present—to share their memories of Betty. We will have a special column for this in the January, February, and March newsletters. Sharing memories helps us to learn more about Betty, allows us to process our sadness and keeps her alive in our hearts and minds. ~kp



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Today as I was thinking about the Region Conference in April, I was reminded of the yellow rose ceremony. Each conference we honor those who have passed away during the year by placing a yellow rose in a ceremonial vase at the front of the room. A slide show runs showing all the wonderful women, their years of service, and the love of their friends.

This year we will honor Betty Osborn. I knew Betty as a quiet, behind the scenes worker. She was well loved by her community and twice loved by our club. She enjoyed the VIP luncheon that we put on each year, raving about the beauty of the girls in their gowns. She always had a kind word to say, and a smile to add joy and gratitude to her words. We will all miss her. It will be a privilege to place a yellow rose in her honor. Rest in peace, Betty.

~Sandy Lawrence

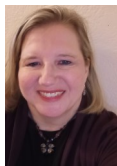
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*“The human contribution is the essential ingredient. It is only in the giving of oneself to others that we truly live.”  
~Ethel Percy Andrus*

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## Announcement: Second Tea with SHE Event

The Spring *Tea with She* event will take place on **Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>** from **1-3 pm** at the **Trinity United Methodist Church**. This event will be a Senior Resources Fair, featuring speakers and tables from local businesses that help seniors. Confirmed speakers include **Mark Karjaleinen**, Mobile Integrated Healthcare Community Paramedic from Clallam County Fire District 3, and **Petra Reininger**, Information and Assistance Specialist from the Olympic Area on Aging. Refreshments will be served.



~Christy Holy, Tea with SHE Committee

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*“No kind action ever stops with itself. One kind action leads to another. Good example is followed. A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves.” ~Amelia Earhart*

## MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET EQUIPMENT REORGANIZED

**Jeff and Shawn Dredla** made additional improvements to two of our storage units. They created more storage space by attaching boards with hangers for the storage of bedrails in Unit 32 and four-wheel walkers in Unit 33. This completes all the safety and storage improvements. Many thanks to **Jeff and Shawn!**

In February we welcomed **Debbie Lines** and **Mark Karjalainen** to the MLC Committee. Debbie and her husband, Chuck, recently moved to Sequim from Tucson. Mark works for CCFD3 as a Community Paramedic. The Community Paramedic Program proactively addresses healthcare needs, helping to prevent medical emergencies and ease the community's reliance on emergency services.

The MLC Committee had their annual meeting in February. We welcomed Debbie Lines and Mark Karjalainen to the committee. We are updating our MLC procedures and equipment loan form as a result of our discussions at the meeting.

In February we purchased two bariatric bedside commodes, a bariatric wheelchair and a standup walker that will accommodate people up to 6'4."

Our call volume was **171** calls in February. We lent **73** items and had **67** items returned. We received **\$807** in donations from our generous community.

Correction to last month's article: It was Rosalie DiMaggio, not Rosalie Gonzales, who was responsible for collecting, packing and sending a container of medical equipment to Guatemala.



~Susan Coffee and Chris Snow,  
MLC Co-chairs



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*"You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it's right." ~Rosa Parks*

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### WOMEN WHO MADE HISTORY



#### CLARA BARTON

With no institutional affiliation or formal training as a nurse, the indefatigable Clara Barton became a one-woman relief agency on the Civil War's front lines. Barton (1821 – 1912) later founded the American Red Cross and headed the organization for its first 23 years.



#### MARIA MONTESSORI

Maria Montessori was the first woman in modern Italy to gain an M.D. degree. Her work with developmentally disabled children led Montessori (1870 – 1952) to experiment with instructional materials, settings, and techniques, and to create a model for a system of education based on fostering a child's individual creative potential and will to learn. The Montessori School system has now long been established worldwide.



## CELEBRATING GALENTINE'S DAY IN A UNITED WAY

As a result of the November presentation by Jaycie Wakefield, Development Director, of United Way Clallam County, eight SIS members attended the United Way Galentine's Day Party on February 7th at the Vern Burton Center. We enjoyed each other's company and had dinner, followed by a Dessert Dash and Silent Auction. United Way of Clallam County reports that the evening raised a record breaking \$46,992!

Three speakers spoke about their life experiences and how they persevered through difficult times. The three speakers were:

- ◆ **Debra Haller**, Co-Owner of NW-LOGistics: Leaving a Legacy While Remaining Rooted in Tradition
- ◆ **Stephanie Polly**, Founder East to West Bakery: Succeeding in Business with Authenticity
- ◆ **Amie Batton**, Dean of Transitional Studies at Peninsula College: Breaking the Cycle of Poverty

~Chris Snow



## WOMEN WHO MADE HISTORY



### ANNIE JUMP CANNON

Astronomer Annie Jump Cannon (1863-1941) scaled the walls of a male-dominated discipline, winning international recognition for her brilliance, describing 225,000 stars, and developing a stellar classification system that is still the standard worldwide. She also won the Draper Gold Medal of the National Academy of Sciences – though that institution never made her a member.



### BERTHA VON SUTTNER

The Czech-Austrian countess, peace activist and author Bertha Von Suttner was the first woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize—and the first to win the Nobel Peace Prize, established as a result of her international activism. A prolific writer, Von Suttner (1843 – 1914) was the author of the influential *Lay Down Your Arms*.

## AREA MEETING — A FIRST-TIMER'S REVIEW

Linda Klinefelter, Sandy Lawrence, Deb Alwine and I attended the February 22<sup>nd</sup> Area Meeting at the Rainforest Art Center in Forks. The meeting started with a Quileute Drummer and Blessing Prayer by local Quileute Tribal members. They followed that with a Welcome Paddle song that was melodic and soothing.

NW District 1 Director Sandy Jennings took us through four steps we should be trying to accomplish:

- Engagement: the goal is to add 4 new clubs this year in the district. There used to be 128 clubs in the region, there are only 68 currently.
- Impact: increase the numbers of Live Your Dream Awards.

Technology: Everyone should be using Teams to communicate for better security. The Soroptimist Region website has had attempts at being hacked in the past and Teams will help prevent future occurrences. Signing up for Teams is a two-step process; first you receive an email invite from Microsoft and then one from Soroptimist Teams. You need to follow the instructions and sign in to both. She encouraged us to have all members go through this process and to add the information in new members packets. If you need the email sent to you again or help, email [support@soroptimistnwr.org](mailto:support@soroptimistnwr.org). There is video from Microsoft explaining the process: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4b5tCmStFhw>

Branding: Speak with one voice and use the new brand “Investing in Dreams.” Sandy Jennings would like all the clubs to create a “Cheer” (i.e. give me a S, give me a I, give me a S, SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF SEQUIM, YAY!) for the regional meeting even if you aren’t going to attend, and send it to her.

Afterwards we got together in our clubs and talked about programs that aren’t necessarily in line with our message and how we brand them to fit the mission. Sandy Lawrence reminded everyone of the 80/20 rule for Mission and Vision: 80% of funds need to go to girls and 20% can be used for families/community/programs with boys that help the mothers. We talked about transitions to Investing in Dreams and shared what services each group offers.

The Rainforest Art Center was comfortable, and the catered breakfast and lunch were great. The drive home in torrential rain was not so great but we all felt it was worth it to attend the meeting.



~Roxann Harr, President-elect



“In learning you will teach, and in teaching you will learn.”  
~Phil Collins

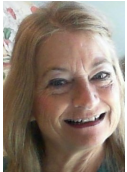


## AREA MEETING DEBRIEF

This year's Olympic Peninsula Area meeting was held Saturday, February 22, in Forks. It was a very rainy day, but the venue was lovely, the breakfast pastries divine, and the coffee and tea were piping hot.

Our District Director and Secretary brought information from our Region Governor Wendy. We are concentrating on bringing in new members, new clubs, and working with the NWR communication tools. We should all have a login to the Microsoft applications provided by SIA. In that access we have Office programs like Outlook, Word, Excel, and we have a group chat called Teams. Rather than emailing an entire club, district, or region, a message can be posted in "Teams" where we can access the information. Each member should have access to Teams. A demonstration will be presented soon so that we all can have access to Region information.

We discussed ways to get our "brand" out. No longer do we want Soroptimist to be the best kept secret.



~Sandy Lawrence



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*"Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow." ~Anthony D'Angelo*

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## WHAT'S UP IN OUR REGION?

The "Call to Conference" is out. I encourage you to open the document and read through it. This is an opportunity for members to be immersed in Soroptimist for a weekend. There will be general session learnings, workshops, Live Your Dream luncheon, and the special rose ceremony to honor those who have passed during the year. This year's conference is in Eugene, OR, April 24 – 27. We are required to pay for two members to attend and they will be our delegates for general session voting. They will be electing a nominating committee who will provide candidates for the next biennium's officers.

Our district (#1) doesn't have a candidate for the nominating committee. If you are interesting in serving at the Region level, this is a good opportunity to get to know others in our Northwestern Region.

We have a room reserved and we also have a VRBO reserved as well. Let me know if you want to attend; there may be registration funds available.

You can find the Call to Conference here: <https://sisequim.org/news/2024-25/CalltoConference2025R1.pdf>.



~Sandy Lawrence



## SOME GALA GARDEN SHOW HISTORY



## ROAD SHOW SINGERS

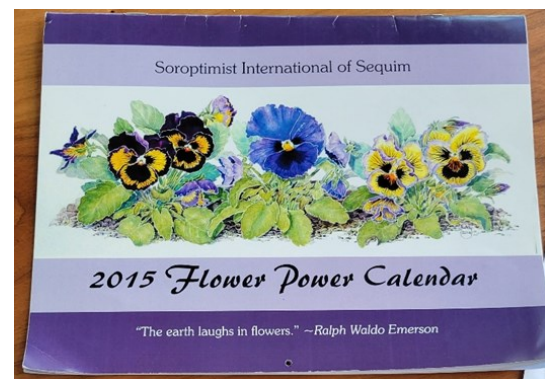
For several years we did road shows. Each of those years we wrote a little ditty; two to four members went to local groups and organizations, dressed in our Flower Power T-shirts and sang our song.

We handed out posters, sold pre-sale tickets, and invited everyone to attend the show. The black and white photo from the March 8, 2008, Sequim Gazette captures Jan Chapman and Deb Carlson (two past members) wearing headdresses and singing at the Elks Club.

## INTERESTING SPEAKERS & TOPICS

That same year we had a variety of speakers with interesting topics. Here's a few speakers: Herb Senft, John and Heather Cerutti, Bob Boekelheide, Judy Larimore, Joe Holtrop, Catherine Mix.

Here's a few Topics: Remembrances and Confessions of a Nurseryman; Septic Fields 101...Installation, Maintenance, Planting; Gardening for Birds & Wildlife on the North Olympic Peninsula; Photographing Your Backyard Plants; Landscaping with Native Plants; Designing and Implementing a Xeriscape Garden.



## CALENDAR WITH FEATURED ARTWORK

In 2015 we created and sold a calendar with photos of the past featured artwork.

## FUTURE GGS MEETING DATES:

April 1st

We will have a debriefing on April 1, 2025, 9:00 a.m. at 1st Security Bank. It will be a hybrid meeting. An email with a link will be sent prior to the meeting

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Dear Soroptimist International of Sequim,

Thanks to you, last year our Club members had a safe, positive place to be when school was not in session. In addition to supportive adult guidance, members were given nutritious meals, homework assistance and access to academic enrichment, healthy living programs and workforce readiness opportunities. Over 1,000 registered members received services last year with nearly 300 children attending daily at our Sequim and Port Angeles Units. Your commitment to help the youth in our community is appreciated.

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for being a most consistent and caring supporter.

Sincerely,  
Janet Gray,  
Chief Development Officer  
Boys & Girls Club of the Olympic Peninsula

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Dear Soroptimist International of Sequim,

Happy New Year! As we step into 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible impact your generosity has had over the past year. Thanks to your support, we've been able to meet growing needs, expand our services, and make meaningful strides toward reducing hunger and improving access to nutritious food across our rural community.

Your generosity also strengthened our Local Farm Purchasing Program, connecting us with six local farms to supply fresh, locally grown produce while bolstering our agricultural community. You helped make possible 35+ partner events, offering vital services and resources to those in need.

At the start of this new year, I am inspired by your kindness and the shared commitment to building a stronger community. Together, we've made incredible strides, and your support gives us the confidence to face 2025 with hope and determination.

Looking ahead, we are excited to grow and innovate further—expanding our programs, deepening partnerships, and ensuring we fulfill our vision: “No one goes hungry in our community.”

Thank you for being such an integral part of this journey. Your generosity has a profound impact, and we are deeply grateful for your partnership.

Andra Smith  
Executive Director  
Sequim Food Bank

Dear Soroptimist International of Sequim,

Thank you for your generous gifts to Trinity UMC in 2024. We thank God for your generosity.

Since 1889, Trinity United Methodist Church has served the people of Sequim as a center for community activities, outreach, and ministries. Your contributions go toward a safe and welcoming facility, making it possible for us to host community events and gatherings. This year alone, we have hosted blood drives, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, Mental Health First Aid classes, Clallam County Hospice, and programs to support Sequim seniors including Tim's Place (for special needs adults) and Lois' Legacy (connecting seniors with resources).

Once again, we give thanks for your gifts that will impact more people than you know in the Sequim community. We are grateful for your faithfulness.

May God richly bless you,

Rev. Desi Larson  
Pastor

Scott Owens  
Finance Chairperson

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Dear Soroptimist friends in Sequim,

On behalf of the Olympic View Community Foundation, it is our great pleasure to thank you for your recent donation of \$1,000.00 to the Clallam County Child Advocates Fund to support local foster children.

As you know, the Clallam County Child Advocates are a volunteer fundraising and support group that provides assistance for foster youth in Clallam County. Funds raised are used for items and programs such as basic necessities, shoes and clothing, sports fees and uniforms, music and art classes, extracurricular activities, Christmas gifts, and many other purposes that allow full participation by foster children. These items and activities help prevent the foster children from “feeling different” from their peers, and support the kids' progress, feelings of acceptance, and self-esteem.

We are very, very appreciative that you care about these vulnerable kids! All of the funds donated for these vital “extras” come from generous community members like you.

With much gratitude and warm wishes for a wonderful New Year!

Jessica Elliott, Executive Director  
Olympic View Community Foundation

Dear Ms. Klinefelter:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Sequim Education Foundation, I send our sincere appreciation to you and your organization for your very generous donation of \$1,000.00 made to our Foundation. The financial contributions of Soroptimist International of Sequim make possible our mission of inspiring and supporting students within our community to realize their goals in life. We applaud that your organization has committed themselves to providing women with educational opportunities that have enabled them to achieve economic empowerment in society for over 103 years.

For over twenty years, the Sequim Education Foundation has been able to provide Sequim's public-school children with grants, activities, and scholarship programs proven to inspire them to achieve excellence.

Our Foundation also enables teachers to develop and implement programs that will inspire their students to experience the possibilities of careers yet to be created. We continue to share a common goal of enriching the quality of education for students and educators in the Sequim School District. We thank you again for your support of the Sequim Education Foundation.

Gratefully,  
Philip Trowbridge, President  
Sequim Education Foundation



Dear Soroptimist International of Sequim,

Thank you again for your longtime generosity and support. You are such an important part of the Kathleen Sutton Fund history and its generous community. Please know we would love to come and share an update on KSF and the impact you make on the women reaching their cancer care.

Thank you,  
Barbara Caro, President

Dear Soroptimist International of Sequim,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$250.00 to the Sequim Library Project. Your support toward crucial facility improvements will have a lasting impact on the library's ability to provide essential services in a safe and modernized space.

We invite you to visit [NOLS.org/Donors](https://NOLS.org/Donors) to view the list that will be proudly displayed near the entrance of the new Sequim Library. The donor wall signage is currently in production, and we are excited to honor your contribution in this meaningful way.





The grand opening of the new library is planned for late spring 2025, and we look forward to celebrating with you. To stay updated on the progress of the project, and learn about construction milestones, please visit [NOLS.org/Sequim](https://NOLS.org/Sequim).

Thank you again for helping ensure the Sequim Library will remain a vital thriving resource for our community.






With gratitude,  
Noah Glaude  
Executive Director  
North Olympic Library System



# March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Brandt Larson						1
2	3	4 GGS Core Committee Mtg	5	6	7 BOARD MEETING	8
9	10	11 Business Meeting	12	13	14	15 Gala Garden Show 
16 Gala Garden Show 	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 GGS Potluck Celebration 	26	27	28	29
30	31					

# April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH</b> Christy Holy Chris Snow 		<sup>1</sup> GGS Core Committee Mtg	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>4</sup> BOARD MEETING	<sup>5</sup>
<sup>6</sup>	<sup>7</sup>	<sup>8</sup> Business Meeting	<sup>9</sup>	<sup>10</sup>	<sup>11</sup>	<sup>12</sup>
<sup>13</sup>	<sup>14</sup>	<sup>15</sup>	<sup>16</sup>	<sup>17</sup>	<sup>18</sup>	<sup>19</sup>
<sup>20</sup>	<sup>21</sup>	<sup>22</sup> Program Meeting	<sup>23</sup>	<sup>24</sup> NWR Conference Valley River Inn Eugene, OR 	<sup>25</sup> NWR Conference Valley River Inn Eugene, OR 	<sup>26</sup> NWR Conference Valley River Inn Eugene, OR 
<sup>27</sup> NWR Conference Valley River Inn Eugene, OR 	<sup>28</sup>	<sup>29</sup> Firth Tuesday	<sup>30</sup>			



**Free to be** by Becca Teagan

There's something hidden in a soul that's aching  
Giving strength to a heart that's breaking  
Search for the reality  
Find your destiny  
Set your heart  
~ Free ~  
Tear apart  
every chain you see  
Be someone you're proud to be  
When you find it, there's no mistaking  
There's something hidden in a soul that's aching



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