



SOROPTIMIST NEWS

Soroptimist International of Port Townsend/East Jefferson County

P.O. Box 624, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Web site: soroptimist.org

July 2008

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

SOROPTIMIST: Best for Women

Our mission is to improve the lives of women and girls.

My theme for this year is: Happily Ever After...Making Dreams Come True.

I remember a time in my life when I was going through a divorce, had three small children, worked a full time job (but was struggling financially to make ends met), felt really sorry for myself, didn't know what to do to dig myself out of the depression I was in and just didn't really feel like doing much of anything. I had no ambition. I was 23 years old.

My mom told me to go and volunteer somewhere. Find a place where someone needs help and do what I could to help them. I remember thinking: what is she talking about? I'm the one who needs help. I really didn't understand what she was saying until years later.

She was telling me to stop focusing on myself and focus my efforts on others. When you give to others it comes back to you in ways that you can't even imagine. That's exactly what Soroptimists do. We give to others and watch their dreams come true and in the process we create happily ever after for ourselves, as the lives of women and girls are improved because of our efforts. Doesn't it just put a big smile on your face when you see the successes?

My Happily Ever After theme comes from my favorite childhood story, Cinderella, and (as I said at installation) I consider each of the members of the board busy little birds fluttering around getting their jobs done efficiently and with enthusiasm; and the President-elect (who waits in the wings to take over at any given moment) is just like Cinderella's faithful dog who always stood beside her, ready to assist.

Schedule for July

- 7-3: Recap of Retreat
- 7-10: Board Mtg- 12 noon
Discovery View
- 7-17: Business Meeting
- 7-24: Dinner Mtg. Home of
Joy McFadden- 6 p.m.
- 7-31: NO MEETING

July Birthdays

- 7-4: Jan Walch
- 7-9: Karen Bednarski
- 7-17: Betty Oakes
- 7-18: Judi Morris
- 7-19: Ruth Gordon
- 7-29: Fran O'Brien



Hostesses for July

- Joy McFadden
- Karen Bednarski
- Betty Oakes

Hostesses for August

- Bickie Steffan
- Jan Walch

There will be croquet at Joy's home on the 24th (if the weather cooperates)

Everyone in the club I liken to mixed nuts. When you buy a can of mixed nuts they are all tossed together into the can in different sizes and shapes, but when you pour them out one at a time they each have their own distinctive flavor. So it is with club. We are many, individual, distinct “flavors” joined together as Soroptimists and collectively we come together to accomplish our missions.

Every member must be plugged in on a committee – which consists of a chairperson and a group of people working to accomplish a task in a given period of time period under the direction of the chairperson.

My main goals for this year are growth and development. We need to; (1) increase and retain our club membership; and (2) we need to become more knowledgeable about all aspects of Soroptimism..the focus groups, the committees, the by-laws, the area, the district and the region.

Communication is key. If you don’t know, ask. If you know, share. This is OUR club.

Kay

FOCUS GROUPS FOR 2008-2009

Public Awareness (Chair, Betty Oakes)

- Publicity Committee – Pat Durbin
- Website- Sandy Hershelman
- Newsletter-Ella Sandvig
- Scrapbook- Kay Pownall

Membership (Chair, Susan Zoya)

- Recruitment and Retention-Christina
- Christmas Dinner-Judi Morris, Sherry Perry
- Installation-Karen Bednarski
- Sunshine Committee-Sherry Perry
- Hostesses-Ruth Gordon
- Meeting Coordination-Ruth Gordon
- Directory-Judi Morris, Sherry Perry

Program

- Human Rights/Status of Women- Women’s Health- DV/Sexual Assault- Foster Children-Sherry Perry, Karen Bednarski, Susan Zoya
- Larry Scott Trail-Ella Sandvig
- Willow Tree Park Maintenance- Karen Page, Diane Kenyon
- Scholarships/Awards Selection; Awards Luncheon-Susan Zoya, Karen Page
- Community Service Day (Foster Kids Closet?) – Judi Morris, Judy Cavett
- Sister Club/International Project – Alyce Hansen

Fundraising

- Golf- Judi Morris, Joy McFadden, Judy Cavett, Sherry Perry
- Coupon Books-Anne Burkart, Diane Kenyon, Fran O’Brien
- Gardening Coupon Book- Ruth Gordon
- Pot Party- Karen Page, Suzan Zoya, Ruth Gordon, Kay Pownall, Diane K
- Fun Events- Lemon Drops – Leavenworth- Judi Morris
- Croquet tournament 2009-Karen Page

As you can see, there are a few empty spots. We still need a Program chair and a Fundraising chair, as well as a few committee chairs and helpers. Please let Kay know where to put your name!!

GOLF TOURNAMENT



Our biggest fund raiser of the year is coming up August 23rd.

Please complete your contacts (as signed up for) ASAP.

INDEPENDENCE DAY COMING UP!!

Have a safe and sane Fourth of July!!



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

We had 36 applications this year. The choices were hard, because we had many worthy students in the county schools.

We met five of the winners at the June 12th meeting. Here is the total list:

Alyssa Giesler – Port Townsend High School
\$500

Jessie Holbrook- Port Townsend High School
\$500

Megan Rae-Quilcene High School
\$1000

Valentina Goularte- Chimacum High School
\$1000

Brianne Rowan-Chimacum High School
\$500

Amanda Johnson- Chimacum High School
\$500

Chelsey Williams-Chimacum High School
\$500



2008 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Note: Our new President wore a tiara! She rules!
Thanks to Sherry Perry for the photo!!

EDITORIAL

We are down to 29 members. I believe we need to concentrate on recruiting new members this club year. There have to be women out there who would like to be a part of our organization. Our mission should be attractive to women who want to serve their community.

How about a luncheon for prospective new members, with our story boards and good information about Soroptimism all over the world. Maybe we could find the funds to pay for this lunch – it would be money well spent if we found a few new members.

I’m sure the board would welcome your ideas. Come to the board meeting on the 10th and let your views be heard.

Ella

1943 GUIDE TO HIRING WOMEN

(excerpt from July 1943 issue of Transportation Magazine)

This was written for male supervisors of women in the work force during World War II.

1. Pick young married women. They usually have more of a sense of responsibility than their unmarried sisters, they’re less likely to be flirtatious, they need work or they wouldn’t be doing it, they still have the pep and interest to work hard and to deal with the public efficiently.
2. When you have to use older women, try to get ones who have worked outside the home at some time in their lives. Older women who have never contacted the public have a hard time adapting themselves and are inclined to be cantankerous and fussy. It’s always well to impress upon the older women the importance of friendliness and courtesy.
3. General experience indicates that “husky” girls – those who are a little on the heavy side – are more even tempered and efficient than their underweight sisters.

4. Retain a physician to give each woman you hire a special physical examination – one covering female conditions. This step not only protects the property against the possibilities of lawsuit, but reveals whether the employee-to-be has any female weaknesses which would make her mentally or physically unfit for the job.

Watch for the August newsletter to see what good information is contained in numbers 5 through 11 of this guide!! You can see how things have changed in 65 years!!!

MEET BETTY OAKES

Betty was born in Los Angeles, California . She lists these as places she has lived: Henderson, Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, cruising about the “Betty Ann” for 18 months, Seattle, Port Townsend and a few winters in Yuma, Arizona.

When asked about jobs she has had, she listed these; Library Intern (at age 12), Conover model (Las Vegas Agency)at age 15; Car-hop at an A&W Root Beer Restaurant (age 16); Civil Service for the U.S. Air Force at Nellis AFD, Nevada; Commercial Fisherman (aboard the Betty Ann) off the coast of Neah Bay; Manressa Castle (front desk and restaurant manager- a year at each), Pioneer Title Company (10 years), Charter Title Company (4 years); Jefferson Title Company (4 years); Escrow Officer, LPO, Title Examiner, Insurance Secretary for fellow Soroptimist Julie Steveley; Legal Assistant for Alexander & Bierman (almost 4 years now).

Betty says her favorite person in history is probably Eleanor Roosevelt. She admires people who have shaped the world to make it the one we live in now.

She came to Jefferson County in 1975. She and husband, Rex, were looking for a nice place to moor their boat because they didn’t like Seattle, where they had been for two years. Rex grew up in Seattle but it wasn’t the same.

Betty’s hobbies are traveling, reading, trying to keep up with her garden, her two kitties and her house.

She became a Soroptimist in 1983 after Marianne Walters brought her to a meeting as a guest. She was a member for four years, then left for traveling, and rejoined in 1997.

When asked what else we should know about her, she responded; “I have practically perfect attendance at Soroptimist meetings. This probably stems back to high school. I had four years of perfect attendance. I played the flute from the time I entered 6th grade until I graduated from high school. I loved traveling with the band! We even played Disneyland for a week as the winner of “the best band in Nevada.”



PUNNY STUFF

Energizer Bunny arrested-charged with battery.

A pessimist’s blood type is always b-negative.

Practice safe eating – always use condiments.

Sea captains don’t like crew cuts.

Without geometry life is pointless.

Dijon vu – the same mustard as before.

When two egotists meet, it’s an I for an I.

When a clock is hungry, it goes back for seconds.

Every calendar’s days are numbered.

Those who jump off a Paris bridge are in Seine.

Acupuncture is a jab well done.

A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.

The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.

He often broke into song because he couldn’t find the key.