



SOROPTIMIST NEWS

Soroptimist International of Port Townsend/East Jefferson County

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

Web site: soroptimistpt.org

May 2009

PRESIDENT: JOY MC FADDEN
EDITOR: ELLA SANDVIG

Schedule for May

- 5-7: Sheriff Hernandez
- 5-14: Program Meeting
- 5-16: Rhody Parade
- 5-17: Rhody Run
- 5-19: Board Meeting-5 p.m.
Pat Durbin's
- 5-21: Business Meeting
- 5-28: Dinner Meeting – Diane
Kenyon's Home



May Birthdays

- 5-2: Kay Pownall
- 5-4: Alice Hansen
- 5-8: Jessie Dover
- 5-14: Anne Burkart
- 5-23: Pat Durbin

Hostesses for May

- Diane Kenyon
- Karin Morgan

Hostesses for June

- Ella Sandvig
- ??

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I am getting excited about our upcoming new Soroptimist year. Betty Oakes and I attended the Regional Conference in Missoula, MT and were energized knowing that We Do Make a Difference. The great ideas we returned home with, we will be sharing with you in our reports. Some of them will be talked about at our upcoming retreat as well, since they are ideas that we may want to incorporate in our plan for 2009/2010.

Our retreat will be held at the Discovery Bay Golf Club House on Saturday, May 9th from 10 am to about 2 pm. Lunch will be a club sub with a salad and beverage catered by Michelle. It is really important that you attend this retreat as your thoughts and ideas are IMPORTANT to the club. Without all the members putting our ideas together, we will be lacking as each of us make a difference in what we do for our community, and each other. Be the Difference – Be part of our planning retreat.

Our club has accomplished many things over the years and I feel the difference to the lives we have touched and to our community. Let's continue our legacy of helping women and children get through the tough times.

Two dates to put on your calendar: June 11 will be our installation dinner. The next evening SI/Sequim will have their installation dinner and would like us to participate. The times and venues will be announced soon – please just save the dates. Always keep in mind that by working Together, We Make a Difference.

Joy

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee (Judy Cavett, Pat Durbin, Ella Sandvig) will present the following names to be voted on as officers for 2009/2010 at the business meeting this month.

- President: Joy McFadden
- Vice President: Pat Durbin
- Recording Secretary: Betty Oakes
- Treasurer: Karen Bednarski
- Assistant Treasurer: Judi Morris
- Director: Fran O'Brien
- Delegate: Pat Durbin
- Life Member Rep: Ella Sandvig

Many thanks to these women for stepping up to club responsibilities.



**Women's Opportunity Award Winner
Linda Shatto / with Karen Bednarski**

This award will allow Linda to continue her schooling. We really make a difference in women's lives with the Women's Opportunity Award.

FOSTER KID'S BIRTHDAYS

Before Sherry Perry left for an extended vacation she sent this message.

"If there are questions about Foster Kid's birthdays, you can either talk to Karen Bednarski or contact Denise Irish at Children's Services. Denise's number is 379 4330.

Mahalo (thank you) and Aloha! "

I believe we know where she is vacationing!!

NEWS FROM THE ISLE OF MAN

You may remember that Andrea Barker and her mother visited us a few years ago. Andrea was president of her club in Clitheroe England before she moved to the Isle of Man. She has been active there in that club. She was the youngest Soroptimist Club President Alyce Hansen and Ella Sandvig had ever met when they visited Clitheroe. About 28 years old they think. You will enjoy what she wrote recently!!

"The new dual gender Rotary Club which I am setting on the island have had the inaugural meeting and we are having our Inaugural Charter Dinner on Friday, 1 May and I will be the first Lady Rotary President on the Isle of Man. It takes a Soroptimist to organize these men!! We have actually more ladies than men now which

shows there is an interest for women in Rotary.

We have met with a lot of obstacles along the way as the other four clubs on the island are not keen on ladies being in Rotary but they have agreed to put up with it.

Best wishes to you all from the Isle of Man.

In friendship, Andi”



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The following is a message appearing in the March issue of the Soroptimist International Magazine, from Carene Davis-Stitt, Editor.

“According to NetAid, an initiative of Mercy Corps, ‘ numerous studies show that educating girls improves the overall economic health of a developing country, promotes healthier and smaller families, decreases the spread of HIV and fosters democracy.’

As evidenced by the reports in this issue, we can be proud of our efforts, as Soroptimists, to support women and girls in their pursuit of an education that will benefit their families, their communities and their world. However, as we strive to give others a hand up through awareness,

advocacy and action, we must also remember to educate ourselves.

If we aspire to be the best women doing the Best for Women then it behoves us to pursue activities that expand our views, open our minds and allow us to explore new ideas. We need to be challenged, to be informed, to think critically and to engage our creative souls. When we push ourselves to learn something new, to try something different, we connect with the feeling that we have no limits. Then there will be no limit to what we can do to improve the lives of women and girls.”

Also in this issue of the International Magazine is an article about the Novato, California Women’s Opportunity Winner.

Excerpts as follows:

“Hannah Njuguna knew that without an education she could never pursue her dreams of a career in health care. Without schooling, she knew she would never be able to return to her homeland of Kenya and help those plagued by disease. But growing up in Africa in extreme poverty as one of 10 children, and being a girl, Hannah was always denied an education.When the family couldn’t afford to eat, Hannah was sent as a manual laborer into the tea and tobacco fields so she could financially support the family. She had to drop out of school.

When Hannah came to America with a green card, she entered the college of Marin in California to study nursing and

was also working full-time as a certified nursing assistant and home health aide. Still supporting the family she had to leave behind in Africa – her aging parents, siblings and five children – the single mother wasn't sure how she could continue to carry such a heavy burden. That's when she heard about the Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Award. Hannah was thrilled when she won, knowing she could finish her associate's degree in nursing without financial pressures."



NO. OUR APRIL DINNER MEETING DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THIS! BUT YOU MISSED A GREAT GET TOGETHER IF YOU WERE NOT THERE!

Our hostess was Anne Burkart, who was the only hostess in April due to a shortage of active members. She provided a great dinner and ten of us enjoyed great conversation as usual.

SENIOR DRIVING

As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang. Answering, he

heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on Interstate 77. Please be careful!"

"Heck," said Herman, "It's not just one car, it's hundreds of them!"

HUSBANDS AND WIVES

"Mr Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully," the divorce Court Judge said, "and I have decided to give your wife \$775 a week."

"That's very fair, your honor," the husband said. "And I will try to send her a few bucks myself."

A blonde calls Delta Airlines and asks, "Can you tell me how long it'll take to fly from San Francisco to New York City?"

The agent replies, "Just a minute.."

"Thank you," the blonde says, and hangs up.

I was shopping for vacation clothes with my husband when we passed a rack of bathing suits.

I asked him if I should buy a bikini or an all-in-one. He said – Better get a bikini, you'll never get it all in one.

He's still in intensive care!