



# SOROPTIMIST NEWS

Soroptimist International of Port Townsend/East Jefferson County

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

Web site: [www.soroptimistpt.org](http://www.soroptimistpt.org)

April 2014

**PRESIDENT:**

Penny Westerfield

**EDITOR:** Betty Oakes

Contributing Editor: Ella

Sandvig

**Meeting Place (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at noon): Highway 20 Roadhouse, Port Townsend**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I have a favorite line from my mother: "Spring has sprung and the grass has risø I wonder where all the flowers is." ☺ All you have to do is look around you for the flowers ó everything is blooming!

**Schedule for April**

4-3: Program Meeting

4-5: Area Meeting, Gig Harbor

4-10: Business Meeting

4-12: Athlete's Symposium, Jefferson

Healthcare

4-17: Dinner Meeting

(Home of Penny Westerfield)

4-25, 26, 27: Region Meeting, Portland OR.

A huge, heartfelt THANK YOU to Ruth for hosting our awards dinner on March 20. Her house is lovely and charming and was the perfect setting to honor our Women's Opportunity Award winner Sophie Nordstrom, and one of our Violet Richardson Award (VRA) winners Rose Ridder. When you finally meet the winners after "seeing" them on paper, it's a wonderful validation of the choices. Rose brought her parents who were fun to be around. I think her mother, Helen, would make a good Soroptimist, don't you?

Our other VRA winner, Anna Moore, will be contacted when she and her family return from a trip with the hopes of getting her to one of our meetings to present her award.

**April Hostesses:** Katy Gifford and Diane Kenyon

Another big thank you to Betty. As the VRA District 1 Representative for the past two years, she and the other District reps each receive ¼ of the club submissions - this year each district rep received 17. A panel of non-Soroptimist judges is then chosen from our community who select their top 3 choices which are then submitted to the Region chair who has judges who select their top choices from the 12 submitted. It's a lot of work and she's done a remarkable job. Thank you!

**April Birthdays:**

Bickie Steffan (April 16)

Penny Westerfield (April 26)

April 5 will see six of us going to Gig Harbor for our Area Meeting. It promises to be a good day full of sharing information and seeing friends.

**May Birthdays:**

Alyce Hansen (May 4)

Katy Gifford (May 4)

Anne Burkart (May 14)

Pat Durbin (May 23)

Improving the lives of women and girls is what we're all about and we did just that in March. Thank you to everyone who helped to make it happen. Let's keep up this valuable work!

**Foster Kids Birthday reminders:**

Bryson (boy) turns 1 on April 2 (Barb)

McKensie (girl) turns 13 on April 20 (Joy)

Colton (boy) turns 2 on April 26 (Ruth)

Best, Penny

**AWARDS NIGHT:** Thank you to Ruth Gordon for hosting our Awards Night dinner in March. Here is a picture of President Penny with WOA winner Sophie Nordstrom and VRA winner Rose Ridder:



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**Recapping our Winners:**

**Woman’s Opportunity Award.**

This year’s winner is Sophie Nordstrom. She plans to study Criminal Justice at Washington State. She has been supporting her young son while working full time and completing a 2 year paralegal program. She would like to continue her education at WSU and this award will help her efforts. Sophie will receive a \$1,000 grant from SI Port Townsend/East Jefferson County.

**Violet Richardson Award.** (A side note this is the last year that this award will be given.) We are giving 2 awards this year each will receive a check for \$500.

**Rose Ridder:** Rose is a 16 year old who volunteers with the YMCA where she is also a board member. She assisted with the summer lunch program and is currently working on a program to make sure children have meals at all times.

**Anna Moore:** Anna is a 17 year old who also volunteers with the YMCA in the Building Futures program which matches a young person with a mentor. She is currently mentoring a young girl who goes to school at Grant Street Elementary.

**ATHLETES SYMPOSIUM:**

Soroptimists will have a table at the April 12 Athletes Symposium being held at Jefferson Healthcare from 11:00 to 4:00. Our table will have save the dates for our Soroptithon event, as well as information on Soroptimist in general.

This is a free event where attendees can learn about benefits of cross training and a multitude of sports medicine information. There will be healthy cooking demonstrations, physical therapy screenings, and sports and chair massages. The keynote speaker will be Barrett Christy, a former Olympian and the most decorated female snowboarder in X-Games history.

Please come if you can and sit a spell at our table, plus you can take in some of the events! Don’t let the title fool you; it’s an event for everyone from walkers and joggers to hikers and bikers!

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**Member News:**

From Katy Gifford: I just have a Huge Thank You to my Secret Sister for the precious silver heart shaped box filled with shamrock chocolates, and card, waiting for me on my doorstep on St Patrick's morning. What a wonderful surprise! She made my day! Thank you, thank you!!

From Ella Sandvig: No events in my life to report. When May arrives, I will have been in this club for 37 years and I think Alyce came in just a little later. Isn't that amazing! I feel so lucky to have all you wonderful Soroptimist sisters! Go blue and gold!!!!

From Janet Jacobs: My news is I'm home! See you soon. Also, I got a new car.

From Wendy Duede: I've been out sick all week, a terrible cold and flu that wouldn't go away. The doctor had me take three days off work. I hope to be up and running soon.

From Judi Morris: It's quiet here in WA. Our action is in AZ. I spent a week there; one day of which was 11 hours in the hospital while Connor began day 1 of Phase 3. They flooded him with chemo. His normal dose is 15mg. That morning he had 15mg in his spine, THEN 1,000 mg through the port in his chest followed by 9,000 mg dripped over 24 hours. Of course he was sick. After 36 hours they began flushing his system so his kidneys were not damaged. He got through that well and went home for 3 days. He began having shortness of breath. He fought through it to go to a birthday dinner with a friend and family. One hour into it they had to call the medics and he went on his first ambulance ride. They found blood clots in both lungs, so he spent 3 days in ICU. As I write he is now at day 4 in the hospital but now back on the oncology ward. Hopefully he can come home in a day or two. He will, however have to have two injections a day in his stomach over the next few months to manage the clots. Mom and Dad have to learn to be nurses until he can do it himself.

God that kid is gutsy! Thank you to everyone for their prayers and donations. Milt and I are truly grateful for our friends.

From Ruth Gordon: I'm headed to beautiful Leavenworth for the annual Washington State Association of County Clerks spring conference March 31-April 1. This is one of the highlights of my year! I am fortunate to belong to an association of (mostly) women who just rock. We have such a good time together and I learn so much from them every time we meet. I also think Leavenworth is pretty cute and I get to go through tulip country on the way, although it's just daffodil country this time of year.

On April 21 (a Monday) some friends are hosting an open house for me at the Courthouse in my new office, which should finally be all put together and ready to show off by then. Although, yes, I hold an elected office (thanks to everyone) I never actually HAD an *\*office\** until about a month ago. It has been a long fight to attain this simple statutory right. But I finally do have an office with a desk and a door (and a fabulous view) and everything. Same fabulous staff, thank goodness. From 9:30 to Noon on April 21 we'll be holding forth in the Clerk's office and you are all invited to come admire how much I have come up in the world. You are all welcome to drop by any time, of course, but there will not be nibbles and punch on the counter most days.

From your Editor, Betty: Penny and I spent a few days in Seaside! our annual eating and shopping tour of this wonderful town. I am getting ready for a week in Old Las Vegas (Las Vegas), visiting with old classmates and relaxing.

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**ELLA'S JOKE CORNER:**

**MEDICAL MISDIRECTORY**

- Artery----The study of paintings.
- Bacteria----The back door of a cafeteria.
- Bariumí .What the doctors do when patients die.
- Cauterizeí Make eye contact with her.

Colicí .A sheep dog.  
D & Cí .Where Washington is.  
Dilateí .To live long.  
Enemaí .Not a friend.  
Hang Nailí A coat hook.  
Caesareaní A neighborhood in Rome.  
Labor Painí Getting hurt at work  
Medical Staffí A doctor's cane

Remember these?

**DON'T STICK YOUR ELBOW  
OUT SO FAR  
IT MAY GO HOME  
IN ANOTHER CAR.  
Burma Shave**

**TRAINS DON'T WANDER  
ALL OVER THE MAP  
'CAUSE NOBODY SITS  
IN THE ENGINEER'S LAP  
Burma Shave**

**SHE KISSED THE HAIRBRUSH  
BY MISTAKE  
SHE THOUGHT IT WAS  
HER HUSBAND JAKE  
Burma Shave**

**DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD  
TO GAIN A MINUTE  
YOU NEED YOUR HEAD  
YOUR BRAINS ARE IN IT  
Burma Shave**

**DROVE TOO LONG  
DRIVER SNOOZING  
WHAT HAPPENED NEXT  
IS NOT AMUSING  
Burma Shave**

**BROTHER SPEEDER  
LET'S REHEARSE  
ALL TOGETHER  
GOOD MORNING, NURSE  
Burma Shave**

**CAUTIOUS RIDER  
TO HER RECKLESS DEAR  
LET'S HAVE LESS BULL  
AND A LITTLE MORE STEER  
Burma Shave**

**SPEED WAS HIGH  
WEATHER WAS NOT  
TIRES WERE THIN  
X MARKS THE SPOT  
Burma Shave**

**THE MIDNIGHT RIDE  
OF PAUL FOR BEER  
LED TO A WARMER  
HEMISPHERE  
Burma Shave**

**AROUND THE CURVE  
LICKETY-SPLIT  
BEAUTIFUL CAR  
WASN'T IT?  
Burma Shave**

**NO MATTER THE PRICE  
NO MATTER HOW NEW  
THE BEST SAFETY DEVICE  
IN THE CAR IS YOU  
Burma Shave**

**A GUY WHO DRIVES  
A CAR WIDE OPEN  
IS NOT THINKIN'  
HE'S JUST HOPIN'  
Burma Shave**

**AT INTERSECTIONS  
LOOK EACH WAY  
A HARP SOUNDS NICE  
BUT IT'S HARD TO PLAY  
Burma Shave**

**BOTH HANDS ON THE WHEEL  
EYES ON THE ROAD  
THAT'S THE SKILLFUL  
DRIVER'S CODE  
Burma Shave**

**THE ONE WHO DRIVES  
WHEN HE'S BEEN DRINKING  
DEPENDS ON YOU  
TO DO HIS THINKING  
Burma Shave**

**CAR IN DITCH  
DRIVER IN TREE  
THE MOON WAS FULL  
AND SO WAS HE.  
Burma Shave I**

**I STILL REMEMBER:**

**He saw the train  
And tried to duck it  
He kicked the gas  
And then the bucket !!**