

# 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)

May, 2015

**PRESIDENT:** Wendy Duede

**EDITOR:** Betty Oakes

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

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Schedule for May

**May 7: Program Meeting**

**May 14: Business Meeting**

**May 21: Dinner Meeting**  
(Judy's House)

May Hostess:

Judy Cavett

May Birthdays:

SI Port Townsend & East Jefferson  
County (May 2)

Alyce Hansen (May 4)

Katy Guthridge (May 4)

Anne Burkart (May 14)

Pat Durbin (May 23)

Foster Kids Birthday reminders:

Marissa (12 on June 2) Katy

Serenity (3 on June 5) Janet

Floyd (5 on June 7) Janet

Steven (5 on June 16) Diane

Ivan (3 on June 21) Barb

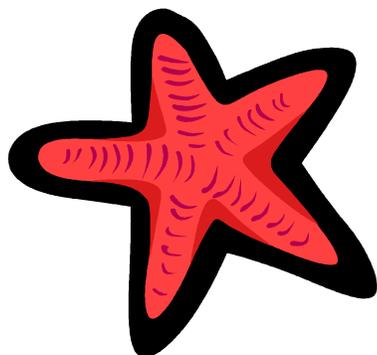
Isa (3 on June 21) Barb

Katy and I were able to attend the Region Conference last month. It was a great opportunity to network with other clubs and hear about their projects and fundraising opportunities.

With the arrival of spring, so has come my one "long" cold of the year. I have been sick for over a week now, so I'm not very inspired to write. I was flat out for three days and then lost my voice for two days. I thought I was better, but it's back with a vengeance tonight. The doctor said it wasn't strep but I'm starting to wonder.

On Thursday I'm headed to Hawaii for ten days, so I won't be at the first two meetings. I plan on continuing to recover from this cold on the beach! Aloha!

Wendy



**Mark your Calendar:**

**2015 SI Convention:**

July 9-12, Istanbul, Turkey

**2015 District 1 Meeting:**

October 9-11, Little Creek Casino, Shelton, WA

**2016 SIA Convention:**

July 20-23, Orlando, FL

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**Program Speaker Notes:**

The speaker for the May meeting is Katy Guthridge who will be telling us about the Region conference in Bellevue which was held last month.

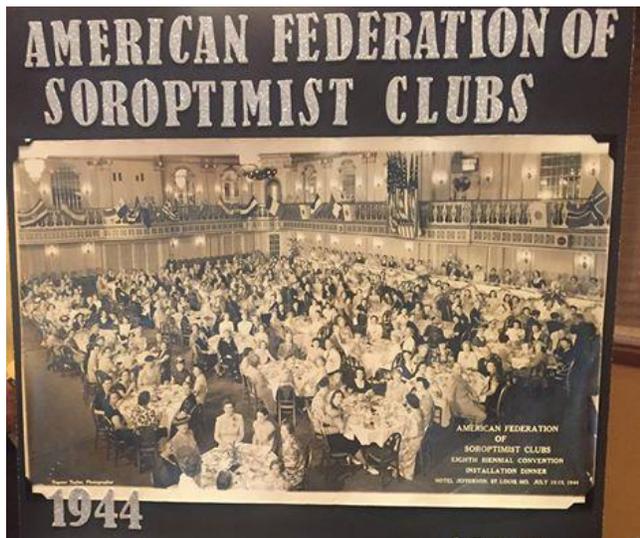
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Happy Birthday to us!! SI Port Townsend and East Jefferson County turned 68 on May 2.

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A blast from the past: A Federation conference in 1944 (not too different 70 years later!)



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This picture is from the Federation Convention in Vancouver last July. Wendy and Betty with our travel buddy, Sandy Lawrence, SI Sequim President:



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Photo from the April dinner meeting at Janet's:



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**Member News:**

From Bickie: We are on our way North and looking forward to seeing everyone soon. 😊

From Alyce: We received an Easter card from Dorothy Dent of Clitheroe, England. The Clitheroe club was started on the same day as ours.

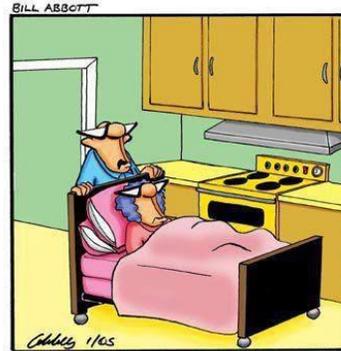
Four of our members have visited there. Several years ago their club joined with another club in the area. Pendleside held their spring meeting inviting other neighboring clubs to share. They held a "Lancashire" Quiz on local knowledge which was most enjoyable and then all had supper. Dorothy sent good wishes to all of us from herself and the Golden Girls in friendship.

From Ruth: Ruth has been busy giving her kitchen an update. She is still painting away. A new floor is just about installed and light fixtures have been purchased and returned and purchased again. The cabinets were shipped from Indiana two weeks ago but no one knows where they are because the factory says they did not give the carrier the correct paperwork. So, don't know what's up there. So very glad not to have a deadline!

From Barb: I wanted to let you know that Bob and I have been able to come home for a couple of weeks from Seattle. We have been there for two months now while Bob has been treated for leukemia. It is a result of all the chemo that he had prior to the stem cell transplant for lymphoma. They tell you that there is a small chance that this could happen--and Bob has been very adept at finding those "small" chances of developing new health challenges. We will be spending a lot of time in Seattle over the next several months as he needs to be close to the hospital after each course of chemo. He's enrolled in a clinical trial through SCCA/UW so he cannot have the drug administered locally. Our dogs are "living" again with our neighbor and sleeping in her bed. It is beyond wonderful being home for a little while. I don't even mind weeding or lawn mowing. I hope everyone is enjoying this absolutely gorgeous weather. Miss you all, Barb

From Betty: I spent a wonderful week in Las Vegas/Henderson, NV, visiting old school buddies. As you know, you can't go home again, especially there where everything gets torn down and replaced to the point that I don't recognize the place anymore. A few days after returning home I developed a fever of 103 and after a visit to the ER at the hospital, was admitted with low blood pressure and a high white cell count. My blood pressure medication was too much and was causing kidney failure. I am back on track after antibiotics and am getting my strength back every day.

I don't have a significant other, but can imagine this happening to those who do:



"I figured you should have breakfast in bed on your birthday. Can you reach the stove okay?"

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### A History of the Brinnon "Loyalty Day" Parade

By: Ruth Gordon

On April 24, Mike McFadden put on his Soroptimister shirt and carried our banner with Alyce Hansen and Ruth Gordon in the annual Loyalty Day Parade in Brinnon. The team was decked out in red, white and blue for the occasion. We looked great.

Our club has been represented in the Loyalty Day parade for several years. For those who have never made it to Brinnon for the occasion you might be wondering, why do they have to have this parade on a work day? Or possibly, why Brinnon? Glad you asked.

Brinnon has a very active and spirited VFW chapter, and the VFW organizes this event. It has been going on forever and ever with little variation through the years and it is a point of pride and cohesion in their town. Generations of little children have waited patiently or otherwise for their turn to sing Yankee Doodle in the patriotic ceremonies that follow the parade, and then they do the best they can to keep it together until they get to line up for ice cream bars courtesy of Johnston Realty after the show is over. It's really sweet. Everyone loves it--so, that's why it happens in Brinnon.

It happens on the fourth Friday of April because Congress made a law. Yes, there is a law about Loyalty Day. You wouldn't really know it from attending the parade in Brinnon. In Brinnon Loyalty Day is focused very much on honoring veterans of military service. But Loyalty Day originated as a response to the "first red scare."

In the 1880's American workers generally worked a 60-hour week in six workdays. In Chicago's factories the wage for those 60 hours was about \$1.50. Unions set May 1, 1886, as the goal for winning an eight hour workday without a cut in pay. That didn't happen. There was a deadly riot at Chicago's Haymarket. Struggle and tragedy ensued and May 1 became a day on which people pressing for workers' rights held events in memory of the Haymarket Riot. There were Socialists among them--lots of these workers were first generation European immigrants. There was a lot of ill feeling on all sides. Loyalty Day was set on May 1 to counter that event, and it was originally called "Americanization Day."

Fast forward to the McCarthy era, and Congress passed a law enacting Loyalty Day to be held on the fourth Friday of April, just before May 1, you'll notice, so it preceded the Socialist parades but they didn't have both sides in the streets en masse on the same day. (They had to officially move "Child Health Day" to October to give "Loyalty Day" that day for its parades.)

In Brinnon Loyalty Day is all about flag waving, neighborliness, honoring the veterans, and giving little kids ice cream, not so much about the other stuff. But now you know why the parade is on a workday, and always will be.

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**Secret Sister News:**

From Penny: I'd like to thank my Secret Sister for the awesome birthday present!! What a wonderful thing to do. I can't wait to find out who you are! Thank you!!

From Alyce: Thank you, thank you, thank you to my Secret Sister for the wonderful Easter Basket. I'll be enjoying chocolate for a while.

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**FROM ELLA'S ARCHIVES:**

**From 1986:**

On March 8, 1986, we provided the community with this program at the Pope Marine Park Building. Ella Sandvig chaired the event. It was free to the public.

**WOMEN: BUILDERS OF COMMUNITIES AND DREAMS**

10-11 AM: DEALING WITH CONFLICT Presenter: Sally Weinschrott, WSU County Extension Agent

11:15-12:15: BUILDING DREAMS AFTER FIFTY Presenter: Ginger White, Geriatric Social Worker

12:15-1:15: LUNCH (Bring a sack lunch. We will provide dessert and coffee)

2:30-3:30: WOMEN AS ENTREPRENEURS Presenter: Lynn Wilson, M.A., and a panel of local women entrepreneurs

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**Ella's Joke Corner:**

Some years ago, there was a Mensa Convention in San Francisco. Mensa, as you probably know, is a national organization for people who have an IQ of 140 or higher.

Several of the Mensa members went out for lunch at a local cafe. When they sat down, one of them discovered that their salt shaker contained pepper, and their pepper shaker was full of salt. How could they swap the contents of the two bottles without spilling any, and using only the implements at hand? Clearly this was a job for Mensa minds.

The group debated the problem and presented ideas and finally, came up with a brilliant solution involving a napkin, a straw, and an empty saucer.

They called the waitress over to dazzle her with their solution. "Ma'am," they said, "we couldn't help but notice that the pepper shaker contains salt and the salt shaker contains pepper." But before

they could finish, the waitress interrupted them. "Oh, sorry about that." She leaned over the table, unscrewed the caps of both bottles, and switched them.

There was dead silence at the Mensa table.

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British Humour is Different: These are classified ads, which were actually placed in UK newspapers:

Free Yorkshire Terrier: 8 years old. Hateful little bastard. Bites!

Free Puppies: ½ Cocker Spaniel, ½ sneaky neighbour's dog.

Free Puppies: Mother is a Kennel Club registered German Shepherd. Father is a Super Dog, able to leap tall fences in a single bound.

Joining Nudist Colony: Must sell washer and dryer--\$100.

Wedding Dress for Sale: Worn once by mistake. Call Stephanie.

For Sale by Owner: Complete set of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 45 volumes. Excellent condition, \$200 or best offer. No longer needed, got married, wife knows everything.

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Some jokes from President Wendy:

Murphy says to Paddy, "What ya talkin into an envelope for?" "I'm sending a voicemail ya fool!"

Paddy says, "Mick, I'm thinking of buying a Labrador." "Blow that" says Mick, have you seen how many of their owners go blind?"

19 paddies go to the cinema, the ticket lady asks "Why so many of you?" Mick replies, "The film said 18 or over."

The Grim Reaper came for me last night, and I beat him off with a vacuum cleaner. Talk about Dyson with death.

I went to the cemetery yesterday to lay some flowers on a grave. As I was standing there I noticed 4 grave diggers walking about with a coffin, 3 hours later and they're still walking about with it. I thought to myself, they've lost the plot!!

My daughter asked me for a pet spider for her birthday, so I went to our local pet shop and they were £70!!! Blow this, I thought, I can get one cheaper off the web.

I was at an ATM yesterday when a little old lady asked if I could check her balance, so I pushed her over.

I was driving this morning when I saw a parked RAC (Royal Auto Club) van. The driver was sobbing uncontrollably and looked very miserable. I thought to myself, that guy's heading for a breakdown.

Statistically, 6 out of 7 dwarfs are not Happy.

My neighbour knocked on my door at 2:30 AM this morning, can you believe that? Luckily for him I was still up playing my Bagpipes.

I was explaining to my wife last night that when you die you get reincarnated but must come back as a different creature. She said she would like to come back as a cow. I said "You're obviously not listening."

The wife has been missing a week now. Police said to prepare for the worst. So I have been to the charity shop to get all her clothes back.