



SOROPTIMIST NEWS

Soroptimist International of Port Townsend/East Jefferson County

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

Web site: soroptimistpt.org

April 2011

PRESIDENT: Pat Durbin
EDITOR: Ella Sandvig
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Each month I ponder what enlightened topic I can relay to you all for the upcoming month.

Many times it's difficult to find something of relevance since we all lead rather comfortable lives in comparison to the women and girls that encompass our mission.

This month, however, I have no difficulty in bringing to mind a startling and frightening scenario.

I have watched television the last couple of weeks, transfixed at how quickly a comfortable, advanced civilization's lifestyle can be wrenched away on the waves of catastrophe. A modern, progressive nation has been brought to its knees by the earthquake and tsunami that have devastated large sections of Japan. As if these twin disasters were not enough, the population is now terrorized by threats of nuclear radiation. How can so much happen to disrupt and destroy the lives of so many in so short a time?

Our little corner of the Northwest seems light years away from the destruction unleashed upon that island nation, but we are continually reminded by scientists around the Pacific basin that a similar nightmare could occur here should the Cascadia plate of the northwest coast erupt in a similar manner. Native tales tell of just such a tsunami in 1700, which are authenticated by written records in Japan where the far reaching effects of the wave wiped out coastal villages.

We can try to plan and prepare to the best of our ability, but are reminded that Japan was a nation in full readiness, and yet it was still not sufficient to prevent massive loss of life.

Schedule for April

- 4-7 : Bunco Party Demo
by Betty Oakes
- 4-9 : Work in the Park
- 4-14: Business Meeting
- 4-21: Lucia Leshner and Diana Seifert re Sacred Comfort Mastectomy Products
- 4-27 : Dinner at Barbara Reavis' Home
- 4-28: Region Mtg in Vancouver

April Birthdays

- 4-16: Bickie Steffan
- 4-26: Penny Westerfield



HOSTESSES - APRIL

Barbara Reavis
Wendy Duede

HOSTESSES-MAY

Penny Westerfield
Betty Oakes

APRIL 15:

Paid your Taxes???

The international community leaped in to assist with every possible manner of aid and volunteer help. As Soroptimists, our International organization set up a donation mechanism almost immediately that you can visit through the SI-Americas web site www.soroptimist.org.

Though it remains painful to watch the devastation on TV, I somehow manage to take comfort in knowing that there are so many people around the world, who, like the members of our little chapter, are willing to extend a helping hand, financial aid, and donations of time and money wherever and whenever it's needed. We go along routinely in our little worlds but are jolted into action when real need surfaces. It truly brings out the best in human nature and gives hope for a world in chaos.

Pat

SECRET SISTER NEWS

Pat Durbin thanks her secret sister for the St. Pats card.

Ella Sandvig says the same!

Penny Westerfield says, "I would like to thank my secret sister for her constant, wonderfully funny and naughty cards! I love them!"

Don't forget to send your secret sister an Easter card!!



OVERHEARD

At this month's board meeting Pat Durbin handed Wende Duede

a sheet of paper and said, "Can we get a thingie on this stuffie here?" The sad thing about it is we knew what she meant!

MEMBER NEWS

by Betty Oakes

Barbara Reavis just returned from a week in Disneyland with her grand-children. Here is what she said: "We had a great time in the happiest place on earth? Twelve and thirteen hour days with the kids – Grandma is a little tired!"

Alyce Hansen spent the last week at the Dungeness Lighthouse-sprucing up some of the elegant handmade quilts that are in the keeper's quarters – it's a labor of love and she wants them in good condition. She says, "Hello to all."

Penny Westerfield and I are off to Seaside for a few days of wave watching, beach walking and just generally having fun.



GARDEN PARTY!

by Joy McFadden

Let's try again! April 9, 9 to noon. We really need to get out there and do some partying. Things look OK but the weeds will be really out of control soon. Pray for the weather to cooperate and join us for a fun time weeding



APRIL DINNER MEETING

The April dinner meeting will be on Wednesday the 26th instead of Thursday, so our delegates can get on their way to the Region meeting. Barbara will be home all day if you want to come early and get started on the scrapbooking.

Directions to Barbara's home: From Highway 20 and 101, take 101west to Diamond Point Road, turn right and go about four miles. You will pass the airstrip on your left and start down the hill. Lupine Drive is the second left. She is about half way down on the left -324 Lupine Drive-and then up the driveway. Limited parking at the top (five cars). Her PH number is 360 681 0337. Don't try her cell number-reception bad.

FOSTER KIDS' BIRTHDAYS

We have one more birthday in April – Megan, who will turn nine on the 11th. Please call Barbara Reavis if you can volunteer to buy a gift for Megan.



No birthdays in May have been reported.

Many thanks to Barbara for handling this very worthwhile project.

BUNCO PLAYERS NEEDED!

We will be playing Bunco at our meeting on the 7th. This is a test run to see if we want to do a Bunco fundraiser.

Betty will be chairing the meeting in Pat's absence. Be sure to attend and help in the fun!!

TWO WEEKS WITHOUT PAT!

We are sorry to hear that Pat's husband, Frank, will be having surgery at Swedish in Seattle soon. Pat will be at Region and then off to Seattle to be with Frank. She will be gone at least two weeks.

We wish our loyal Soroptimister the very best results.

We have instructed Pat to let us know if we can help in any way.

SOROPTIMIST SIGN

Pat says our sign will be up very soon – on Carol Wise's property as you come into Port Townsend.



Watch for it!

We also need to make sure we have brochures at the Visitor's Center –so Soroptimists coming here as tourists know that we exist and who to call.

If you can think of other ways to get our name out there let us know. There are entirely too many people who have never heard of us!



HUMOR:

We all could use a little during this rainy weather!!

HOSPITAL CHART BLOOPERS

The patient refused autopsy.

*

The patient had no previous history of suicides.

*

Patient has left white blood cells at another hospital.

*

She has no rigors or shaking chills, but her husband states she was very hot in bed last night.

*

Patient has chest pain if she lies on her left side for over a year.

*

On the second day the knee was better and on the third day it disappeared.

*

The patient is tearful and crying constantly. She also appears to be depressed.

*

Discharge status: Alive but without permission.

*

Healthy appearing decrepit 69-year old male, mentally alert but forgetful.

*

Patient had waffles for breakfast and anorexia for lunch.

*

She is numb from her toes down.

*

While in ER, she was examined, x-rated and sent home.

EDITOR’S RAMBLINGS

If you want to see a really good TV show on PBS – try New Tricks on Sunday night.

It features three great British actors who are older men, with a younger woman Police Superintendent. They have the job of delving into old cases.

This is basically a mystery, but very funny.

The song they sing before and after is so catchy it runs in my head while I’m trying to get to sleep!!!

It goes:

It’s all right,

It’s OK

It doesn’t matter

If you’re old and gray.

It’s all right

It’s OK

Listen to what I say

It’s all right

I’m doing fine

It doesn’t really matter

If the sun don’t shine. (*I disagree!*)

It’s all right

It’s OK

We’re getting to the end of the day.

Your editor also says – thanks to Frank Durbin for helping me solve my 2010 Word problem today! Otherwise the newsletter would be late!!