



SOROPTIMIST NEWS

Soroptimist International of Port Townsend/East Jefferson County

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

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February 2011

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We're into February and spring is just around the corner (I say this every year but it rarely shows up before May). The good news is that the crocus and daffodils don't know spring doesn't come until May, and they're popping their eager little heads up as the harbingers of a new year, full of hope and promise. The daffodils will bloom soon and will remain to welcome me each time I pull into the driveway, but alas the crocus will doubtless (again) fall victim to the herd of seven deer who enjoy happy hour hors d'oeuvres in our yard every day before moving on to a main course on the bluff across Washington Street.

I hope all of you who were able to attend our retreat on Saturday the 29th, were as energized as I after the meeting. I came away feeling we had reestablished the goals set in June, and relieved to see that for the most part we are still on track.

The few items of concern that we thrashed around prompted lively discussion and we seemed to come away either with solutions or with plans to get together in small groups to consider new ideas to meet the challenges.

I was particularly pleased to see the idea of a Bunco fundraiser gain support, and even more thrilled to learn we have experienced players amongst us. We will try a test game at lunch the first week in March, and if everyone agrees, we may proceed with promoting it as a fundraiser for our organization. It has been a stalwart money maker for several regional clubs, and the added benefit for us is that we will be able to introduce Soroptimists to a wider range of the area population and have a good time in the process.

Schedule for January

- 2-3: Kim Hayden bio plus
Marianne Walters re Know
Your Government program
for 4H teenagers
- 2-5: Area Meeting -Gardiner
- 2-10: Business Meeting
- 2-17: Barney Burke, Photo-
grapher, former Leader
writer and current PUD #1
Commissioner
- 2-24: Dinner meeting at Judy
Cavett's. We will work on
Scrapbooks and have a
Pizza party!!

February Birthdays

2-9: Joy McFadden



HOSTESSES -February

Judy Cavett
Volunteer??

Hostesses- March

Pat Durbin
Volunteer?

To offset all the great vibes that came from our retreat, I returned home that day and was plummeted into despair over the state of the crisis mounting in the Middle East, particularly Egypt. Not being a student of national politics, I can't begin to comprehend the reasons for the unrest aside from what we hear on television, but I live in fear that Egypt and the other Islamic countries currently battling mob rule and riots will fall victim to radical religious leaders who will put women and girls into the same kind of lockdown that currently exists in other countries in the region.

It seems the work of Soroptimism worldwide will never be done. There will always be women and girls who are subjected to conditions that we, as professional women in a free America, can barely comprehend. Perhaps the lives that we touch in small ways, such as the work done in Girls' Circle, will produce one single young woman who will use the chance we have given her to go on and change the direction of another young woman in our community, or on some far distant shore. If through our programs and support we can redirect just one life, and that life redirects another, the chain continues and our efforts are not in vain.

Pat



FOSTER KIDS BIRTHDAYS

- February – Desirae – 2/6/10
- April - (April – 3/18/97)
- Ary - (3/11/09) –Boy
- Evan- (3/12/08)
- Garrison – (3/23/2000)
- Thomas – (3/5/06)

Please call Barbara Reavis if you can provide a birthday present for one or more of these children.

SECRET SISTER NEWS

Pat Durbin would like to thank her Secret Sister for the fun card about texting. She was right on!

Remember your Secret Sister with a card every month! It really is fun to get a card in the mail and try to guess who sent it.

JANUARY RETREAT

Judy Morris prepared a wonderful brunch for us on the 29th. She is a wonderful hostess. Her house is up for sale, and we will miss the many events we have had there.

The meeting was very well attended and the participation was lively.

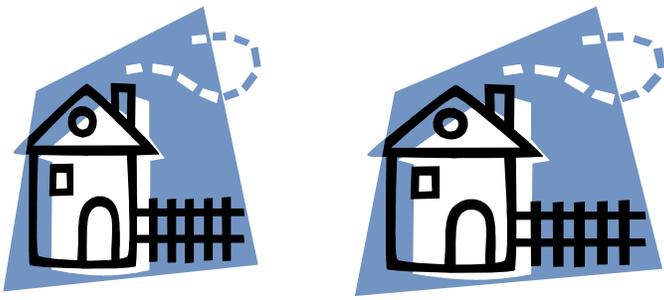


SHOOTING STAR PINS

The pins are here. Pat ordered 10 and only three have been claimed. Please check in with Pat if you ordered a pin.

MEMBER NEWS

Ruth Gordon's surgery went well. No bad news –which is good news. She is recuperating well.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Jamie Maciejewski was our speaker from Habitat recently. If you missed the program you might want to call 379 2827 to sign up for their newsletter.

This is an amazing organization – doing so much in our small rural county.

In the last twelve years they have built 20 houses, 3 in Port Hadlock and 17 in Port Townsend – simple, decent houses in partnership with people in need.

Please consider volunteering, shopping at their furniture store, or donating (or all of the above).

JANUARY DINNER MEETING

We met at Karen Bednarski's lovely home at Cape George.

The meal was provided by Karen and Joy – and was greatly enjoyed.

Attendance was good and we all admired Karen's new fireplace.

Barb Carr brought us up to date on Girls' Circle and thanked us for our participation.

If you haven't been to a dinner meeting lately – you are missing out. We get a chance to share a few laughs and get to know each other better.

COMING EVENTS

N.W Region Meeting:

April 29 –May 1 –Vancouver, WA

District Meeting:

October 14-16 = Blaine, WA (Semiahmoo)

International Convention:

July 10-14 – Montreal, Ontario

These events are wonderful ways to get better acquainted with other Soroptimists and gather valuable information about this organization.

The International Convention has very impressive speakers and usually has about 2000 women from all over the world.

Save your pennies for Montreal!!!!

FEBRUARY HOLIDAYS

2-12: Lincoln's Birthday

2-14: Valentine's Day

2-21: President's Day

2-22: Washington's Birthday

(plus Ella has four family members with birthdays in February! Just so you know.)

WHY TEACHER'S TURN GREY!

Every year, English teachers from across the country can submit their collections of actual analogies and metaphors found in high school essays.

Here are some of the winners...

Her face was a perfect oval, like a circle that had its two sides gently compressed by a Thigh Master.

His thoughts tumbled in his head, making and breaking alliances like underpants in a dryer without Cling Free.

He spoke with the wisdom that can only come from experience, like a guy who went blind because he looked at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it and now goes around the country speaking at high schools about the dangers of looking at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it.

She grew on him like she was a colony of E. Coli, and he was room temperature Canadian beef.

She had a deep, throaty, genuine laugh, like that sound a dog makes just before it throws up.

Her vocabulary was as bad as, like, whatever.

He was as tall as a six-foot, three-inch tree.

The revelation that his marriage of thirty years had disintegrated because of his wife's infidelity came as a rude shock, like a surcharge at a formerly surcharge-free ATM machine.

The little boat gently drifted across the pond exactly the way a bowling ball wouldn't.

McBride fell 12 stories, hitting the pavement like a Hefty bag filled with vegetable soup.

Her hair glistened in the rain like a nose hair after a sneeze.

The hailstones leaped from the pavement, just like maggots when you fry them in hot grease.

They lived in a typical suburban neighborhood with picket fences that resembled Halle Berry's teeth.

He fell for her like his heart was a mob informant, and she was the East River.

The young fighter had a hungry look, the kind you get from not eating for a while.