



SOROPTIMIST NEWS

Soroptimist International of Port Townsend/East Jefferson County

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

Web site: soroptimistpt.org

January 2012

PRESIDENT Betty Oakes
EDITOR: Ella Sandvig
REPORTER: Cammy Brown

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy New Year Greetings after our Christmas break. It is time to get back to work!

Schedule for January

- 1-5 : Mystery Bay Farms**
Rachel Van Laanen
- 1-10: Board Mtg – 5:00**
Pat Durbin's
- 1-12: Slide show of Pat and Frank Durbin's trip to Europe**
- 1-19: Business Meeting -5:30**
Pizza Factory- Happy Hour at 5:00
- 1-27: Dinner Meeting - 5:30**
Ruth Gordon's

The Awards committee has been hard at work while we were on break determining the winner(s) of the Violet Richardson Award as well as the Women's Opportunity Award. I was extremely pleased to see a good showing of VR candidates. I just knew we had highly talented young ladies in our county.

Work is progressing on the Soroptihon and soon letters will be going out to potential sponsors in the community.

The park is wintering over quite well and we will be laying gravel the first week in February thanks to the grant from the Master Gardeners. Kurt at the county has been advised that a crew of his young men able to spread the gravel will be needed that day.

 **January Birthdays**

None!!

JANUARY HOSTESSES

Diane Kenyon
Ruth Gordon

FEBRUARY HOSTESSES

Judy Cavett
Judi Morris

I have spoken to several women who are interested in attending a meeting and finding out about the Port Townsend Soroptimists. Hopefully they will want to join and our membership should start to increase. Don't forget to talk about Soroptimist whenever you can and invite interested women to a meeting—that is the best way to find out what we do.

We want to have a retreat in January and I was thinking the last weekend. Be thinking about this as we would need a good turnout.

On a personal note, I want to thank my secret sister for the beautiful centerpiece delivered in time for Christmas.

My best to you and your families for a Happy 2012!

Betty

SECRET SISTER NEWS

Pat Durbin says: “Thank you to my Secret Sister for the TWO Christmas presents – an Amaryllis that burst into full flower two days after it was delivered and a gift of pampering with great lotions, creams and bath salts.”

Alyce Hansen says: “Thank you to the Santa helper who sent the beautiful red and white centerpiece for my enjoyment. Nice!”

Barbara Reavis says: “ Thank you to my Secret Sister for the gift certificate for a book. I’m a great lover of books, so very, very appreciated.”

Fran O’Brien (all the way from Chandler, Arizona) says: “A big thank you for the great Christmas card and a New Year’s card with a gift certificate from Starbucks. Many thanks and I shall think of you, whoever you are, with each latte I enjoy.”

Judi Morris reports: “My Secret Sister has been amazing this year. Thank you VERY much.”

Cammy Brown says thank you to her Secret Sister for the lovely pendant. “My SS rocks!”

Anne Burkart reports, “My secret sister has been great this year. She is a neat Secret Sister.”



FOSTER KIDS’ BIRTHDAYS

- Rose – 1/31/09
- Havilah – 1/30/10
- Chasydi- 1/22/10

These are all girls. Please let Barbara Reavis know if you can supply a birthday present for one of these girls.



WHAT I DID FOR CHRISTMAS!

Judi Morris was at home for Christmas, with daughter Jenni and granddaughter Amanda home from the Army.

Barbara Reavis reports that her Christmas was fun and very hectic. “My three children and two grandchildren were up for the holiday. We took “Grandpa” home for few hours each day. A great change from the nursing home. I am back to work, sort of, in between visits back and forth to Seattle. He is progressing and we hope to get him home in another week or two. I do hope to be back and attending meetings at some point. It depends on how Bob is doing and managing independently – which he isn’t. Happy New year to everyone and all the best of health and happiness in 2012.”

Betty Oakes reports that she and Penny Westfield along with Penny’s mom went to the Silverwater for Christmas Eve dinner after attending candlelight services at Grace Lutheran Church. “It was a wonderful evening.”

Ruth Gordon spent Christmas Eve and morning with her daughter in Seattle, then drove down to Portland for Christmas dinner with a very precious six- year old friend and his family.

Anne Burkart reports: “ We enjoyed a wonderful Christmas with our kids in Southern California. We are looking forward to a more prosperous peaceful and just New Year.”

Carol Wise says, “A great big giant thank you and love hugs for the dinner certificate that we got when I went down to be with my son, Lance, in Texas where he was having a kidney transplant.”



GOODBY TO MY FAVORITE BUSINESS

By Cammy Brown

Today, December 30, 2011, I walked into one of my most favorite businesses in Port Townsend, Washington. It came as a surprise to me the emotional feelings I experienced as I perused the furnishings and bare walls and shelving. There was very little left of this icon of a business on Main Street.

The Green Eyeshade is closing its doors and its owner, Marilyn Staples, is retiring on December

31, 2012. I decided to do a quick interview with Marilyn.

As a side note, I had interviewed Marilyn for a research paper I had to complete in my marketing class at Eastern Oregon University. I consider it an honor to call Marilyn my friend and colleague. Her comments were as follows: "I wanted to retire. I made the decision to retire sometime this year. Judy, the manager, thought it would probably be a good idea to close around Christmas. We started after Thanksgiving, The sales had continued for three weeks and then we went to 30% and last Tuesday we went to 70%. We felt the shop would be pretty empty by then. Many people have come in and have said they were sad that it was closing. It was a surprise to me how many customers expressed their emotional comments. Judy Rich and I will be closing the store Saturday December 31, 2011, and finishing up with the business by January 14, 2012."

To thank this very successful entrepreneur and friend to many would not do justice to exactly what she and her store were all about. It is not enough to say that this store served our community well. I will miss the convenience of running into the store and purchasing a quick gift for a wedding or bridal shower or to purchase stocking stuffers – and they even wrapped it for me free of charge. Where else does that happen? The customer service was impeccable. I am sad that my favorite store is closing, but I am happy that my friend, Marilyn Staples, gets to retire – not because her successful business is no longer successful, but because it is time – she says. I say so long, sweet lady, but not goodbye.



HOW TO KEEP BUSY

By Alyce Hansen

I just visited by former babysitter, who is 101 and lives in Victoria B.C. When she graduated from High School, she and her new husband headed for Saskatchewan,

Canada to a homestead, making yearly sojourns to North Dakota to buy the next year's supply of flour and sugar. This trip I even read a number of letters she'd written to her mother in Oregon in the 1930's, 40's and 50's. They should be in a museum somewhere in Canada. It was a wonderful week-end which included three of her grandsons and decorating the Christmas tree.

In September I was able to visit my husband's 101 year old cousin in Port Angeles before she went to Arizona for the winter. She is full of good stories too.

I did hikes at Mt. Rainier, Mt. Hood and Mt. St. Helens, as well as a Children's Hospital Walkathon in Port Ludlow, toured a milk goat and goat cheese farm on Marrowstone Island (10 miles from home) but the most laughs came from the PJ breakfast party at the Chimacum Café (5 miles away) where everyone was attired in their PJ's.

I'm very sad to lose a number of friends, a cousin, plus my cat, Pepper. It's quiet around here without him and I talk to myself. I will get another cat soon.

In November I had a train trip to Montana to my cousin, Alan's 90th birthday celebration. I stayed at my Uncle Ernie's 1916 homestead farm (now operated by 3rd generation) and feasted at Thanksgiving and every other day I was there. Yum, Yum! Even walked with a cousin's wife who had done the November 201 New York Marathon. It was an education just to talk with her. She is now qualified for the Boston Marathon due to her placement in NYC. I didn't know it was a lottery system to get to race in NYC and that after you have en-

tered three times and not got called the 4th year- when you are entered you are allowed to go. You sure have to stay in shape for a long time!

I had a nice visit with Joanne Dille and her husband a couple of weeks ago. She is making good progress and sends her hello to everyone. I wish I could do all the exercises she is now doing.

Other than that it is just rake, clip and clean in the garden, and help the weeds grow.

Oh yes, I do find time to knit Christmas stockings, scarfs, you name it. I hope everyone has a wonderful new year. Who knows what adventures 2012 will bring. Nothing is consistent but change!



FIRST GRADERS

A class of first graders were asked to complete these proverbs.

Don't change horses ---until they stop running.

Strike while the ---bug is close.

Never underestimate the power of - Termites

It's always darkest before -Daylight Savings Time.

You can lead a horse to water but---How?

If you lie down with dogs you'll - stink in the morning.

Love all, trust -me.

An idle mind is---the best way to relax.

A miss is as good as a---Mister.

Happy the bride who ---gets all the presents.

A penny saved is ---not much.

Two's company, three's -the Musketeers.

Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and -you have to blow your nose.

If at first you don't succeed - get new batteries. (*I think I'll try that!*)

A bird in the hand ---is going to poop on you.

When the blind lead the blind - get out of the way.

You get out of something only what you—see in the picture on the box.

There are none so blind ---as Stevie Wonder.

Don't put off till tomorrow what ---you put on to go to bed.

EDITOR'S CORNER

Thanks to all who responded with news for me. It makes the job much easier.