



SOROPTIMIST NEWS

Soroptimist International of Port Townsend/East Jefferson County

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

Web site: soroptimistpt.org

February 2013

PRESIDENT: Penny Westerfield

EDITOR: Ella Sandvig

REPORTER: Betty Oakes

Schedule for February

2-7 : Rhody Candidates

2-14 : Business Meeting

VALENTINES DAY

2-21: Dinner Meeting

5:30 at Penny's

2-28 : No Meeting



February Birthdays

2-9: Joy McFadden

FEBRUARY HOSTESSES

Cammy Brown

Diane Kenyon

MARCH HOSTSSES

Anne Burkart

Judi Morris

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings,

I don't know about you but I find it close to appalling that it's February already!

Retreat: It was so great to have Stephanie Smith at our retreat January 12, and thanks to all who attended. It was both comforting and a little sad to learn that our club's woes are the same throughout the area. Not that we have a lot of woes! It's just that getting new members always seems to get pushed aside. Let's make a concerted effort to follow through on those people we connected with at last May's tea, and look beyond those people as well. You never know who will say "yes" until you ask!

As a result of some of our discussions at the retreat, I have contacted the presidents of the Sequim and Port Angeles Jet Set clubs to see about coordinating something on human trafficking on the Olympic Peninsula. It's here, and we need to do something about it. I'll keep you posted when I hear back from Shelle and Martha. If you have ideas or suggestions, bring them on!

Call to Meeting: Our Area Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 6 in Port Angeles, 9:30 – 2:30 at this point. The place is being worked out by the host club, SI Port Angeles Noon Club. The theme is "Let's Talk" and the presenter will give us insights and laughter on communicating with each other both individually and as groups. More on this to come. Mark your calendars! Let's have a good turn out for this.

Triathlon: I'm very excited about our triathlon/Soroptithon this year. I just learned that there are a lot of community forces connecting to provide healthier lifestyles for our youth. Jefferson Health Care is partnering with the County Parks and Recreation Department and is lining up a lot of fun activities for the spring and summer, which will align with our triathlon as a culmination! I'm setting up a meeting for mid-February or so with the PT Marathon and Parks and Rec people to begin work on it. Parks and Rec has an employee who has excelled at setting up a couple of runs this past fall and we will look at the possibility of having her coordinate the run portion and then we will coordinate the paper side of things once again. We learned so much last year and it can only get better moving forward.

I will miss seeing everyone at the program meeting, but will look forward to our business meeting on Valentine's Day!

Until then, best to you all!

Penny

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By: Betty Oakes, Reporter

From Judi Morris:

The only news in my life is the new taxation/assessment system we are converting to at the county. It is going pretty smoothly, with occasional blips on the radar. Learning a brand new system will be the tricky part. Milt and I will be great grandparents for the second time in August. Granddaughter Elisa is expecting.

From Pat Durbin:

My news is that now that I am no longer the driving force in the Victorian Festival, I have returned to trying to sing again. I was a member of Sweet Adeline's (Barbershop for women) in Atlanta before we moved here. I sang in the community chorus in PT when I first arrived in town, but when I got involved with the festival I had to give it up. Now I'm back into it again, but after eight years, I lost my music sight reading ability as well as my voice. The sight reading has come back faster than the voice. They seem glad to have me in spite of that! The spring concert has some beautiful music planned in honor of the anniversary of the Civil War – Spirituals and military songs. Really great stuff and fun to sing!

From Carol Wise:

A great big THANK YOU to my Secret Sister for the birthday gift, it's gorgeous! You are sooo sweet. Lance continues to be on the hunt for a kidney but is doing fine.

From Joy McFadden:

Hi – I'm back from California, Arizona and Nevada. It was a fun time playing poker with my brother and his grandkids for New Years Eve in California. We then went to Arizona and spent some time with Mike's Dad. He's getting frailer every time we see him. Riddled throughout his body with cancer, he is now getting around via wheelchair and is living in a wonderful hospice house. Then on to Nevada to visit my friend Sandy who I've known since high school. Her sister (15 years younger who seemed to always tag along with us) and husband came into town just prior to us leaving – sooo much fun

seeing her too. So a month has gone by and I am very glad to be home.

From Me (Betty):

My news is that Penny and I will be heading to Orlando for a week visiting Disney World, Universal Studios and having a reunion with my brother (who lives in NH) and his wife. Should be fun and I'll tell you all about it at the February 14th meeting!

Also, my duties as District I Rep for the Violet Richardson Region award winner came into play this past week when I received 16 applications from throughout the Region. There were a total of 65 applications submitted to Region and they were split amongst the 4 District reps for judging. I had to get some non-Soroptimist judges, which I did, and we all came up with 3 outstanding finalists for the Region. Now on to Kathy Purcell for inclusion with the final 12 for judging. Kathy can't make it to the Region meeting, so she has asked that I do the presentation at the conference. Looking forward to that!

Changing hats, as your Area meeting rep, and as reported by Penny, the plans are coming together for the area meeting on April 6th. We will need to furnish a Port Townsend/Jefferson County gift for inclusion in the raffle basket, so if anyone can think of something or would like to contribute, that would be great—please let me know.

Foster Kids Reminder:

Joshua turns 14 on February 15th (Barb)
Thomas turns 7 on March 5th (Ruth)
Evan turns 5 on March 12th (Diane)
Cory turns 18 on March 13th (Judi)
Thanks to everyone!!

NEWS FROM FRAN IN ARIZONA

Fran reports that she finally had to buy a new computer. So she can download our

Newsletters now and I don't have to mail one.

She reports the following: All rather humdrum through the holidays here. It was just Brianna, her spouse (Cody), Bill, Jere and me. I started the celebration early by catching a cold, which ended with pneumonia but the super drugs stopped it quite quickly. Everyone stayed up to see the New Year in but only Bri and Jere were up to see the ball drop! They woke us all up afterward and sent us on to bed.

#1 son, James, spent a few days with us prior to New Years and we took him to the Queen Creek Olive Mill while he was here. James is into farming and enjoyed the tour and how olives are grown and processed. They have many varieties of flavored olive oils as well as the regular and extra virgin. Such things as Strawberry olive oil which you use in cooking certain desserts, bacon olive oil which they claimed was good for cooking your eggs in the morning, etc.

Now that shows you what an exciting life I lead at present. The weather here the past three days and for the next two days will be very cold. Our low in the early morning has been in the mid twenties with highs during the day in the mid forties. In a couple more days we will be back in the 70's during the day and lows of 45 at night, so we can uncover our citrus trees as well as some of the garden. Needless to say our landscape as a whole is not looking so good right now.

HONORARY MEMBER JOANNE Dille
by Alyce Hansen

A special toast to our member JoAnne Dille, who suffered a major health problem about five years ago. Now thanks to her determination, the help of her husband, Dennis, a devoted family, and helpful health care providers and friends, she is doing art work and marketing special cards at the Nordland

Store. Her story is quoted below, taken from her seabird cards.

“My name is JoAnne Dille. I had a stroke in April 2007. I was left with little ability to do anything with the right side of my body. I had to learn to do everything with my left hand, my non-dominant hand. It was a challenge to do this. I learned to write, to eat, to wash with my left hand. I am also learning to use the computer keyboard, play drums and relearn the piano.

Within the past year, I started to learn to draw and paint with my non-dominant hand. I never had any art experience before in my life. Using my left hand felt strange to me and still feels strange.

Doing art is very enjoyable to me. My birds are different and each one has their own personality. What attracts me to them is how they look, particularly their eyes. Each eye is different and their beaks and feet are different. I like to work with bright colors. I continue to explore new themes in my artwork and enjoy sharing them all with you.

I hope my images make you happy.”
JD

JoAnne, we congratulate your progress. We love you and your family. Cheers

Next column shows the front of one of her cards.

Sorry I could not reverse the picture – it’s sideways....



Remarkable story JoAnne .

RETIREE HUMOR

Question: How many days in a week?

Answer: Six Saturdays, one Sunday

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?

Answer: Three hours after she falls asleep in the recliner.

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?

Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Question: Among retirees what is considered formal attire?

Answer: Tied shoes.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?

Answer: Normal

Question: What do you do all week?

Answer: Monday through Friday, NOTHING! Saturday & Sunday I rest.

Question: Why do retirees count pennies?

Answer: They are the only ones who have the time.