



SOROPTIMIST NEWS

Soroptimist International of Port Townsend/East Jefferson County

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

Web site: soroptimistpt.org

June 2012

PRESIDENT Betty Oakes
EDITOR: Ella Sandvig
REPORTER: Cammy Brown

Schedule for June

- 6-7: 12:00 Lunch at Hospital
Then a tour of the Swing
Bed Unit
- 6-14: Business Meeting
- 6-23: 9:30 – 11:00 –Retreat
and Installation of
Officers
- 6-28: NO MEETING



June Birthdays

6-16: Diane Kenyon

JUNE HOSTESSES

Ella Sandvig
Carol Wise

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy June everyone! As I write this, it's a glorious Spring day making me look forward to Summer (my favorite season). We are winding down our Soroptimist year and soon I will be turning the gavel over to Penny and her board.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve as your president for the second time and I must say, it does go smoother the second time around, maybe because you learn so much each time. I've enjoyed interacting with the other clubs and with our District and Region officers. Thank you too for sending me and Penny to the District Conference at Semiahmoo and the Region Conference in Spokane. Both were very informative as well as fun. It's always inspirational to hear what the other clubs are doing. Thanks to all who hosted dinner meetings—they were wonderful and also to the hostesses who prepared the meals. Thanks to all who worked in Gateway Park and to Joy for coordinating this project.

We made appearances in all parades (Hadlock Days last July, Brinnon's Loyalty Days in April and the Rhody parade. We also manned the water station thanks to Alyce, Joy, Penny and myself. It was a lot of work for 4 people—hopefully more members will be able to help next year.

We welcomed new member Terri Camp who will be a great addition to our club.

We bought birthday presents for foster kids in Jefferson County. Thanks to all members who volunteered to do this. The kids really appreciate it.

Coupons book sales went well. Thanks to all who sold their books as well as Anne for the printing and coordinating with the sponsors and Judi M. for doing the bookkeeping on the sales. The Garden coupon books are for sale now and hopefully everyone has purchased their 10 for sale. The proceeds of these books will fund a worker for Gateway Park. Sorely needed as we age and are unable to work in the park as much

And then on Saturday, June 23, will be our semi-annual retreat and installation of new officers followed by an installation brunch at Judy Cavett's. Anne, Judy and I are working on this committee.

I think one of the highlights of this year has been the awarding of 3 Violet Richardson awards as well as \$500 to each girl—all worthy young volunteers in our community. We also honored Barbara Carr with a Ruby Award for her work with Girls Circle.

Thanks to Ella for her wonderful job editing this newsletter and to Cammy for her reporting.

And last of all, a huge thank you to my fellow board members for your work this year, especially Joy who stepped up to assume the role of Recording Secretary when Barb Reavis' husband was having health problems and she had to take a leave of absence.

It was sad to lose Life Member Dinah Reed who had been a member since 1985 and to see Fran O'Brien move south to Arizona. We miss her, but know she is enjoying that sunshine!

I'm sure I have missed something or someone and if so, I do apologize!

God Bless and the Best of Luck to Penny and her board.

Betty



I have just returned from a camp of 108 Chimacum School District 8th

graders - Camp Odyssey. I was the "cook" and it was quite the experience cooking for such a large crowd. They weren't too picky though and they were very grateful for any food that I gave them.

There were also high school camp counselors, teachers, bus drivers and nurses. What an amazing group.

It was held at Camp David Jr. on Crescent Lake - beautiful scenery but the weather was not that great until two days before we came home. It rained quite a bit but that did not deter the campers from taking several planned hikes which included a trip into the rain forest. The scenery from the photos that were taken was breathtaking. This is an educational experience that no words can describe.

What I really want to say about my experience was that the students were polite and respectful and they had a great time. The young adults that were counselors demonstrated their leadership skills in such a way as to not be intimidating and they were very respectful of one another and those they were in charge of. This is exactly what we strive to teach our children in the hopes they will become kind and compassionate adults. These attributes were well demonstrated in these fine students who attend Chimacum Schools. We should be so proud.

I have to tell you that I am so impressed with the students, adults and young counselors of Chimacum's 8th grade class. I feel honored that they provided me with this opportunity to be involved. When I told folks that I was doing this they looked at me as if I had three heads and asked the question why would you volunteer to do that? My answer to that question is I should have done this a long time ago - when my children

were in school. I didn't have the chance back then - or rather I didn't have the time. When the opportunity arose I said to myself "why not" - I can do this. I did and I am signing up for next year. Just imagine, you too can have a very small chance to make a student's camp experience positive and powerful. The experience can, for some students, be life changing. It is so cool to say you were a part of that.

I want to thank Shannon Lowrie (Camp Director and an extraordinary leader and teacher) for allowing me to be a part of this phenomenal experience, the students, teachers, young adult counselors, bus drivers, and volunteer nurses of Chimacum Schools. I will continue to support this experience and I would recommend this trip to anyone that wants to make a difference in a child's life. I hope in my own very small way I was able to do this. Wow - what a great feeling.

DINAH'S GOODBYE

by Anne Burkart

On May 6 many of us joined with other friends and family of Dinah Reed at the Elks Club to say a final goodbye to our dear Soroptimist sister. Dinah's support and generosity of so many community causes remain as her legacy. We will all miss her.

It was my joy to host previous Soroptimist, Jan Brooks Walch, her husband Wes, his sister Mae and his niece at our home for 3 days. Dinah was Wes's older sister and Jan's sister-in-law. Dinah introduced Jan and Wes and the rest is history. It was great to reconnect with my long-time friend, and I'm sure many of you who attended Dinah's service were pleased to catch up with Jan.



RHODY FESTIVAL

by Anne Burkart

What a hoot participating in the Rhody Parade on a beautiful day. It seemed the crowd was larger and more complimentary to our entry than ever. Carol Wise and her "beast", Ginger were the hit of the parade.

Foster Kids Birthday Reminder:

June Birthdays

Steven M. (6/16/2010) Wendy

Note: Wendy has volunteered for 4 birthdays this year! Thanks Wendy

GRANT OF FRIENDSHIP VISIT,

by Betty Oakes

On May 11th, Penny and I were privileged to attend a potluck dinner in the home of Shelle Paulbitski in Sequim to honor Grant of Friendship visitor Andrea Sachs from Germany. We had previously met Andrea at the Region Conference in Spokane. There were 4 Grant of Friendship visitors from various parts of the world (Kenya, Australia, Germany and Sweden) and the one assigned to District 1 was Andrea Sachs of Plauen, Germany. While we heard her speak at the Friday night banquet in Spokane and sat at the same table with her on Sunday morning, it was nice to be able to chat with her on a more informal basis.

Andrea's first club visit was Sedro-Woolley which was right after the region conference. From there she visited Oak

Harbor and Forks before going to Sequim. Her next stop was Bremerton. At the potluck dinner Andrea showed slides and told of her hometown of Plauen which makes lace and at once time was behind the iron curtain in East Germany. She grew up in the communist country but never became a member of the communist party. She told a sad story of an uncle who died in a Russian prison camp whose only crime was not joining the communist party. She was a young married woman with a young son when the wall came down in 1989 and she was able to meet, for the first time, relatives who lived on the Western side of Germany. She said there were many, many families who never met one another because of the iron curtain.

It was a nice evening and we thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

YOU CAN'T WIN – A MOVIE

By Pat Durbin

I am participating as an extra in a film this afternoon. VSA-NW was contacted by the film company looking for people who already had Victorian costumes. I am to be traveller in the hotel lobby (Hastings building). Should be fun if I don't wind up on the cutting room floor.

My grandson will take part at the Bartlett House on Friday as part of family having dinner.

Movie Update:

Gay Stover (friend) and I gussied up in our Victorian finery for a 4:00 p.m. 'call' on May 23rd. We had our hair 'done' in the makeup tent, they removed all of

our makeup including my eyebrows (because women didn't wear it in 1890), and we were driven to the set (the 2nd floor of the Hastings building).

There we sat from 4:30 on. The room was littered with piles of debris and downed plaster, the buildings electricity did not work, and we were well out of sight of any of the filming action. We remained there until 11:15 (with just a 1/2 break for lunch at 10:00 p.m. at their caterers site down the street in the old police station) and then were told we could go home at 11:15.

So....we did not wind up on the cutting room floor as expected. We didn't even get filmed!

The scene my grandson was to be in also was altered so that he wasn't needed either. Thankfully, he had not come all the way from Bainbridge before his parents were told.

So goes the movie business. It's highly overrated!

SECRET SISTER NEWS

Penny Westerfield says: "I want to thank my Secret Sister for the AWESOME birthday gifts! She truly knows me and I can't wait to go shopping. I was so surprised! Thank you SS! You rock!"

Anne Burkart says "Thank you so much. Muchas gracias. Merci beaucoup to my most thoughtful Secret Sister! I love the fuchsia hanging basket she sent me for my birthday. I put a fuchsia up on my deck every year and hadn't gotten one

this year. The one that arrived is just beautiful. You're the BEST!"

Alyce Hansen says, "Thanks for the card and the wonderful contents – I'm going shopping!! Also I did so enjoy the beautiful bouquet which you and Santa Claus sent at Christmas time. What a wonderful Secret Sister."

Judy Cavett has a message for us all – please remember your Secret Sister at Installation on June 23rd. You may do this with a card or a small gift. If you are unable to attend please send a note card informing your Secret Sister who you are. We will be drawing names at Installation.



KUDOS TO:

Betty Oakes and Penny Westerfield – our newest members of the Laurel Society (by donating \$ to the cause) They join Alyce Hansen and Judy Cavett as members of this worthwhile endeavor) The funds go to support of our scholarships to women and girls.

OFFICERS FOR 2012-2013

- President: Penny Westerfield
- President Elect: Wendy Duede
- Recording Secretary: Joy McFadden
- Treasurer: Diane Kenyon
- Asst. Treasurer: Anne Burkart
- Director: Pat Durbin
- Delegate: Wende Duede
- Life Member Rep: Ella Sandvig
- Past President: Betty Oakes

MEMBER NEWS:

Judi Morris is giving us a report on the weather in Scottsdale. " It will be below 100 for the first time since we arrived. Cooling off is not a problem, we just jump in the pool. I have to take Dutch on his walk before 7 or the pavement gets too hot for his feet. All is well here. Our grandson, Connor, graduated on the 23rd and will be off to U of A in August. Kendall (11) has a dance recital on the 30th. We travelled on the 31st to Tucson to see Ed and Ally Wilkerson – he was fire chief in Ludlow and now Tucson.

Our son and other grandson, Aidan, arrived from Texas on the first of June. When we leave here we will go to Southern California for five days. I'll see you all on the 14th. I hope the tea went well."

Ruth Gordon flew to Las Vegas recently to visit her Mom and her brother's family at her brother's new home in Vegas. This was the first time they have all been together in the same place since 1994. Until this year her brother and his wife have lived in Fairbanks, and her mom is in Texas, so they have just visited separately over the years. She packed summer clothing we have never seen that she keeps in reserve for emergencies. (note: I think she is saying we never have warm weather!)

"Soroptithon Part C"

By Penny Westerfield

As most of you know, we had no registrations for the Duathlon on June 16 as of May 31. This was really disturbing to

both President Betty and myself. We have lost sleep and nurtured ulcers over this! However, the rainbow showed up in recent discussions with Jeni Little with the PT Marathon Association!

Jeni proposed that we postpone the event until the end of August. We can then do a triathlon as originally thought as the pool will be open until December. The Parks & Rec people really wanted a triathlon, and now we can do it.

Working with Parks & Rec that touches all the kids in the county, we can tag on to their summer camp program and make the triathlon the culmination of the summer camp! A lot of kids learn to ride during the summer camp.

We will send a letter to our wonderful sponsors who have already given money and explain the new approach. We will set up a meeting with the parks and rec people to work on this.

Jeni also suggested that we lower the cost of the fee to \$10 as that's what the Marathon Association charges kids for the Rhody Run.

So... there you have it for now! June 16 is gone. We will aim for August 25 for a triathlon! We have the paperwork and posters in place, we just need to refine them for the new date.

I will be contacting the papers and notifying other people about the "non event" for June 16. I'll be at the Larry Scott Trail the morning of June 16 "just in case" people show up.

This is a good thing and blessing in disguise for the event. We want it to be successful and we can see this happening for the event – as originally planned!



IDLE THOUGHTS

I planted some bird seed. A bird came up. Now I don't know what to feed it!

I had amnesia once – or twice.

I went to San Francisco, I found someone's heart. Now what?

Protons have mass?
I didn't even know they were Catholic.

All I ask is a chance to prove that money can't make me happy

If the world were a logical place, men would be the ones who ride sidesaddle.

They told me I was gullible and I believed them.

Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone.

One thing nice about egotists: they don't talk about other people.

I used to be indecisive, now I'm not sure.

Is it me – or do buffalo wings taste like chicken?

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Thanks to all who sent articles to me for this newsletter. It really helps!

Note: Sell those gardening books!!!