



# SOROPTIMIST NEWS

Soroptimist International of Port Townsend/East Jefferson County

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

Web site: soroptimistpt.org

May 2012

**PRESIDENT** Betty Oakes  
**EDITOR:** Ella Sandvig  
**REPORTER:** Cammy Brown

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy Birthday to us! On May 2<sup>nd</sup> we are celebrating 65 years of Soroptimists in Port Townsend! We've accomplished a lot and have even more to do.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Schedule for May**

- 5-3 : Jefferson Healthcare  
Re New Swing Beds
- 5-10: Business Meeting
- 2-16: NO MEETING
- 5-31: Dinner Meeting - 5:30  
Penny Westerfield's

I just returned from the excellent April dinner meeting at Wendy's. A sumptuous dinner was prepared by Joy and a fun time was had by all.

Some items discussed were hiring someone to work in the park who will charge us \$120 a month. We are going to ask the membership to contribute toward this figure (greatly lessening the time we as individuals will spend in the park! (Also making it fair to those who never work in the park.) We also discussed increasing the lunch price from \$10 to \$12 (dinner would remain at \$10). We have to guarantee 10 lunches at \$11 to Discovery View and we don't always have 10 members in attendance.

 **May Birthdays**

- 5-4 : Alyce Hansen
- 5-14: Anne Burkart
- 5-23: Pat Durbin

### MAY HOSTESSES

Penny Westerfield  
Betty Oakes

### JUNE HOSTESSES

Carol Wise  
Ella Sandvig

### MOTHERS' DAY

May 13<sup>th</sup> is Mothers' Day.  
If you are lucky enough to still have a Mother – be especially good to her!!

Our membership tea has been postponed until June 3<sup>rd</sup> due to the fact that Dinah's memorial service is being held on May 6<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 at the Elk's Club. So an extra month to invite prospective members! Also a date change for our May dinner meeting: May 31<sup>st</sup> (not the 24<sup>th</sup>) at Penny's house.

Penny and I are off to the Region Conference in Spokane, leaving in the morning. When I return I will submit a report to Ella for publication in this newsletter. I may even e-mail pictures to you of Penny and I in our sparkly green hats (we are doing Finian's Rainbow as our Broadway Musical.)

See you on May 3<sup>rd</sup>!

Betty

**MEMBER NEWS**

Fran O'Brien reports that she has now dipped herself into their pool in Arizona. Weather has been hot! She also said she had staples in her scalp due to having a heavy glass picture frame fall on her head while she was dusting a bookcase. I believe they moved the picture frame after this incident!

Pat Durbin reports that she and Frank are going to Los Angeles on May 7<sup>th</sup>. They will be back by Rhody she hopes. They will be joining the whole family there to celebrate her son's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. (She intimated that she was VERY young when he was born.

Carol Wise reports that she is overwhelmed with work and projects but is so glad to be alive!!

Barbara Reavis reports that her husband's PET scan showed that he is now in remission! He will continue his chemo through June and then stay on one drug as maintenance every three months for two years. So good news finally.

Ella Sandvig reports that her broken shoulder is getting better – but now she has Vertigo which is exasperating!

\*\*\*\*\*

**GATEWAY PARK**



On April 21<sup>st</sup> we had a “garden party” at “our” park!

Judi and Milt Morris, Ruth Gordon, Judy Cavett, Joy McFadden and Betty Oakes spent three hours working in the park.

They were joined by Terrill Surratt (a hired worker) and Kurt and his crew of teenagers.

\*\*\*\*\*

**SAD NEWS**

Our beloved Soroptimist Sister, Dinah Reed, passed away in April. A memorial service will be held at the Elks from 2 to 4 on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>. We will always have fond memories of Dinah.

\*\*\*\*\*



**MEMBERSHIP TEA**

The Membership Tea has been postponed to June 3<sup>rd</sup> due to Dinah's memorial at the Elks.

Please invite at least one prospective member to attend with you.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ARE WE ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAL CARE?**

Our club turns 65 May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Let's celebrate by remembering all the good things we have accomplished, as we vow to do even more in the next 65 years. I guess that means we should recruit a lot of young members!

\*\*\*\*\*

**SECRET SISTER THANKS**

Carol Wise says: “Thanks to my Secret Sister for being so thoughtful. I love it!!

## A Report on the Soroptimist 94<sup>th</sup> Northwestern Region Conference

by Betty Oakes

Thursday morning bright and early Penny and I headed off to Spokane for the Region Conference. It was wonderful as always and I am always amazed that every time I attend it seems to be better than the last.

We checked into the Mirabeau Hotel on Penny's birthday. Much to her surprise, Kathy Purcell (of the Sequim Club) and I had planned a surprise party in the Sequim Club's room. After our party, we adjourned to the MAX restaurant for a birthday celebration.

Friday morning we attended the opening ceremonies. A representative from each club walked in with the decorated bra for the club's Broadway show. (Ours was "Finian's Rainbow" and was decorated by the multi-talented Penny.) The reason for the bras is that the women who wear them are considered a higher class, and when faced with a rape situation, if they are found to be wearing a bra, they are left alone! That is why the women who have escaped the sex slave trade can make good money selling them.

True to the theme of the conference, "Do You Hear the People Sing?" the conference was full of song and Broadway-themed events. Sue Riney, the outgoing Governor did a lot of singing, all with Broadway themes. The Keynote Speaker for the Friday morning session was Kimba Langas who runs the organization "Free the Girls." It was so inspiring to hear what she has accomplished in Mozambique. Former slaves/prostitutes in Mozambique are able to sell the bras she provides them in order to become self-sustaining individuals and not dependent on selling their bodies to exist and support their children. We collected bras at the conference and were able to send her home to Colorado with over 8,000 bras. Money was also collected to pay for the transportation of the bras to Mozambique. She told us about the organization of "Truckers Against Trafficking" which

transports the bras to Chicago from Colorado and then to Mozambique.

After lunch we heard the Ruby Award and Fellowship Award winners speak ("And the Tony Goes to....") and then went to one of 4 available workshops. I attended "I Wanna Be a Producer" which was Tips and Tools for Managing Club Finances and Penny attended "Ya Gotta Have Heart" which was Cultivating club membership.

After the cookie break, we attended the Delegates briefing and heard the nominees for various offices that we would be voting on in the morning (polls opened at 7 AM).

That evening was Tell & Sell as well as voting on the "Bra-dway Bras Decorating Contest." We attended the dinner dressed in our "Finian's Rainbow" outfits—green hats and shirts carrying pots of gold. The whole room was very colorful with all the Broadway shows represented. We heard presentations from the 4 Grant of Friendship attendees. They represented Germany, Australia, Sweden and Kenya. All were terrific representatives of their Soroptimist clubs and will be visiting various clubs in the area or have already done so and will be returning home. Then it was ShowTime!! (The Waaaaaay Off Broadway Revue.) About 15 clubs did a skit in honor of the Broadway show they were representing. Two of our favorites—"Hair" and "Cats." After a very long evening, we got a good night's sleep and were up for the voting and Saturday morning session. ("A Wonderful Day Like Today.")

Our Keynote speaker for Saturday morning was Connie Desko, SIA Federation Board Member and she told us about the Celebrating Success Award Region Finalists. After a business session, we from District 1 had to return to the polls for a run-off ballot before lunch. The lunch ("You'll Never Walk alone") featured the Women's Opportunity and Violet Richardson Award winners. They gave very inspiring speeches.

After lunch Penny and I both attended the “Dames at Sea” session which was about next year’s Region conference which will be on Celebrity’s Solstice from Seattle to Alaska. Since Penny and I had already signed up, we were shown which cabin we will have. It’s all very exciting and we can hardly wait! We met up with former Port Townsend Soroptimist member (and past president) Darlene Van Slyke who drove us to her home which is about 2 miles from the hotel. We were able to see her beautiful new home before returning to the hotel to prepare for the dinner and installation banquet. During the program there were 13 members who either joined the Laurel Society or upgraded within the Laurel Society. Penny and I decided on Saturday to take the plunge and we were “pinned” by Federation Fundraising Council Chair Sandra Schultz who had been one of the speakers on Friday. We will be no doubt showing off our new jewelry at the next meeting.

Sunday morning was the “Good Morning Sunshine” breakfast with the Celebration of Life ceremony. It is always sad to see the yellow roses go into the vase representing members who have passed away within the last year.

After the District Director reports and the final tell and sell raffle drawing results (we didn’t win anything—drat!) we loaded up the car and headed back to Port Townsend, tired but very happy!

\*\*\*\*\*



**PUNS**  
(from Joy McFadden)

When chemists die, they barium.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

I know a guy who’s addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop any time.

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I’d never met herbivore.

I’m reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can’t put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a type-O.

PMS jokes aren’t funny; period.

Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.

We’re going on a class trip to the Coca-Cola factory. I hope there’s not pop quiz.

\*\*\*\*\*



**EDITOR’S CORNER**

My thanks to Betty Oakes for doing the newsletter in March and April.

I’m finally able to keyboard with both hands – although the right one has limited motion.. I’m still working on getting the right shoulder and arm stronger.

I’m happy to be back at club meetings. I can’t drive yet – but I can get rides.