



SOROPTIMIST NEWS

Soroptimist International of Port Townsend/East Jefferson County
P.O. Box 624, Port Townsend, WA 98368
Web site: www.soroptimistpt.org
August 2014

PRESIDENT:

Wendy Duede

EDITOR: Betty Oakes

Contributing Editor: Ella Sandvig

Schedule for August

August 7: Program Meeting

August 14: Business Meeting

August 21: Dinner Meeting

Anne Burkart's House

August Birthdays:

None

Foster Kids Birthday reminders:

Kylee (girl) 17 on 8/10 (Wendy)

Morgan (boy) 15 on 8/13 (Barb)

Neveah (girl) 1 on 8/22 (Diane)

Zilly (girl) 4 on 9/15 (**Need someone to buy a present for her**)

Lizzy (girl) 9 on 9/29 (Wendy)

Public Service Announcement:

A Musical Gala: A Fundraiser to Support the Chimacum High School Band Trip to Pearl Harbor, Sponsored by Mary Lou Montgomery and the Choral Belles, will be held on Sunday, September 28 from 2-4 at the Port Townsend Elk's Club. There will be music, a silent auction and a live auction. Admission is by donation.

Meeting Place (1st and 2nd Thursday at noon): Highway 20 Roadhouse, Port Townsend

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Soroptimist Team – Welcome to August, can you believe we are on the last leg of summer?!!

Two weeks ago, Betty and I were able to attend the 43rd Biennial Convention of SI of the Americas in Vancouver, BC. Sandra Lawrence, President of SI Sequim rode along and roomed with us. We had lots of laughs and we all agreed we didn't keep each other awake from snoring. ☺

Penny was unable to attend, so she asked if I could take her place. Penny, there was so much to learn at this conference, and I'm grateful you gave me first chance at the opportunity. By some coincidental changes in schedule, the time became available at work so I was able to attend.

We were there Wednesday through Saturday, and there is so much to share. The first night, we attended a meet and greet social before dinner. We met women from all over, Japan, Brazil, New York, Texas, California, Alaska, I lost track of where they were all from! While at the social, we were presented small gifts like pencils, sticky notes, badges, pens, and pins from our sisters. We now know to bring something representing our club when we go to the 44th Biennial in Orlando, Florida in July, 2016. (Who wants to go say hi to MICKEY?!!)

While attending, we listened to many great speakers and had the opportunity to attend workshops on leadership, membership, and fundraising. We especially enjoyed a class led by Stephanie Smith-- Navigating the Waters of Change.

The most inspiring day was when they presented part of a movie, Girl Rising, which is about six impoverished girls and their dreams to succeed. The part we viewed was about Senna, a girl who lives high in the Andes mountains in South America. The area is a mining village where education is minimal and many of the girls are sold to brothels with no hope of bettering their lives. Senna fought to get an education to get out of that vicious cycle and they share her story. I'm going to see if we can get a copy of this movie to share.

Right now 65 million girls are missing from classrooms. One girl with courage is a revolution. "Educate me because I'm going to triumph and change the world" – Senna

Our call to action this year is in helping girls further their education with a new campaign: **"Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls."** With your help, we will be delving further into opportunities this year to create a project or a workshop to support education for girls. (I will be looking for a chairperson for this very special project if you are interested).

I could go on and on about what we learned--the new friends we met and the successes of what we as a larger group are able to accomplish as Soroptimists. I highly encourage you to attend any of the larger meetings or conferences--the bigger picture of what we can and have accomplished is incredible!

I know this summer has been so busy for everyone. I'm hoping we can all get together for a Saturday morning retreat, probably in September so we can get past summer vacations. We've had July off, let's all try to get to the August meetings and regroup. I've missed you, my friends, hope to see you soon!

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."
– African Proverb.

Wendy



August Program:

The scheduled speaker for August 7 is Janette Force of the:



I'm reprinting this as there are still gaps:

2014-2015 HOSTESSES

Hostesses host the monthly dinners at their homes. As you can see, there are gaps in the sign up. Please let Wendy know if you can fill a gap. If you are unable to host a dinner at your home, a hostess would love your help. ☺

- AUGUST: Anne
- SEPTEMBER: Bickie
- OCTOBER: _____
- NOVEMBER: Holiday
- DECEMBER: Holiday
- JANUARY: _____
- FEBRUARY: Wendy
- MARCH: _____
- APRIL: _____
- MAY: _____
- JUNE: INSTALLATION

Mark your Calendar:

2014 District 1 Meeting:
October 24-26, Doubletree, Southcenter, Seattle, WA

2015 NW Region Conference:
April 9-12, Hyatt Regency, Bellevue, WA
2015 SI Convention:
July 9-12, Istanbul, Turkey
2015 District 1 Meeting:
October 9-11, Little Creek Casino, Shelton, WA
2016 SIA Convention:
July, Orlando, FL

Soroptithon Postponed

We are going to have to move the date of the Soroptithon. At the end of June, I got word that the County Parks & Recreation could not help us with a person because Kaylie Webber had moved to Hawaii and they were not replacing her position. Jeni Little told me that she was working more and would not be able to help, either. Even though Anji was getting married August 23, she had a solid person to back her up.

Then my Mom died, and here we are in August. I apologize profusely. All is not lost, however. We just need to settle on a new date, possibly next spring. Jeni did give me the names of two sports contacts in the school district but because of the loss of my mother, I have not contacted them yet, but will do so when I return to work on Tuesday.

I'd like to have two or three people helping on this, so if you're interested, we can discuss it at the meeting Thursday.

Again, my apologies. We'll get back on track I have no doubt.

Penny

The 43rd Biennial Convention of Soroptimist International of the Americas Report
By Betty Oakes

Wendy and I were lucky enough to be able to attend this event the last week of July. We were

accompanied by Sandy Lawrence, President of SI Sequim, who roomed with us and “hung out” with us. We left early on the 22nd to be in Van-



cover that evening as the convention started on Wednesday, the 23rd. We didn't want to miss anything! We joined 1000 other women in attendance. (The total number of attendees was 1,011.)

We all attended the Friendship Dinner on Wednesday and the cocktail hour prior to it. The ladies from Taiwan were all decked out in beautiful red blazers and as we sat across from them at the cocktail party, I complimented them on their beautiful diamond jewelry or “bling.” They didn't know what that meant and happy to learn a new English word, they were walking around saying “bling—bling—bling!”

The entertainment at the Friendship dinner was a First Nations singing group known as “Spirit Song.” They were dressed in native dress and were very entertaining. Flags from the 19 countries within SIA were brought in and lined up across the stage. It was very impressive.

Thursday was our first business meeting with the usual housekeeping items on the agenda. The guest speaker was Patty Dobrowolski who had us all drawing cartoons showing our present and future with the crayons provided on the tables.

Thursday evening we attended the Northwestern Region get together at the Tap and Barrel restaurant. There were over 100 registrants from NWR and I would guess about 40 were in attendance.

On Friday during the business session we heard from Kayce Jennings, the producer of “Girl Rising” a documentary about girls throughout the world whose lives changed upon receiving an education. Friday afternoon we started the workshops. Sandy and I attended one on Membership which was very good.

Saturday was the final business session and we saw a short film about the upcoming SI Convention in Istanbul, Turkey, in July 2015. We also heard about the next SIA Convention, July 2016, which will be in Orlando, FL, at Disney World.

We attended a few more workshops on Saturday, the best of which was presented by NWR's own Stephanie Smith on “Navigating the Waters of Change,” which was extremely good!

We attended the Recognition Banquet on Saturday night and saw the installation of officers with Poco Davis installed as SIA President 2015-2016. The entertainment was fun and had everyone dancing in the aisles.

On Sunday we returned home, happy and steeped in tons of information!

We all took pictures of ourselves as girls:



And it was fun going to lunch with Sandy and Wendy who did enjoy a good cocktail with the mid-day repast:



Member News:

From Ruth Gordon: It's been a busy summer, but can I remember what I've done....? No, not really! I've traveled back and forth to Seattle and Olympia many times for meetings, Spent three times my monthly budget for long distance calls at the office since I became the clerks' president, hopefully that will level off now! Have attended all the candidate forums locally and I know way more than I need to at this point about the candidates. Have so enjoyed the beautiful summery summer. I hope you have all enjoyed our weather, too. If you have not been to the farmer's market yet the food right now is so abundant and so beautiful; I highly recommend it to you. Miss you all!

From Penny Westerfield: I would like to thank the club for the beautiful flowers sent for my Mom's passing. I was very blessed to have her as my mother, and equally blessed to have such caring friends. Thank you.

From Pat Durbin: We were visited by our grandchildren from Florida last week. They are 15 and 17 and, of course, the most wonderful grandchildren in the world. (Also the most wonderful teenagers in the world....which is saying something.)

From Ella Sandvig: What I'm doing this summer:

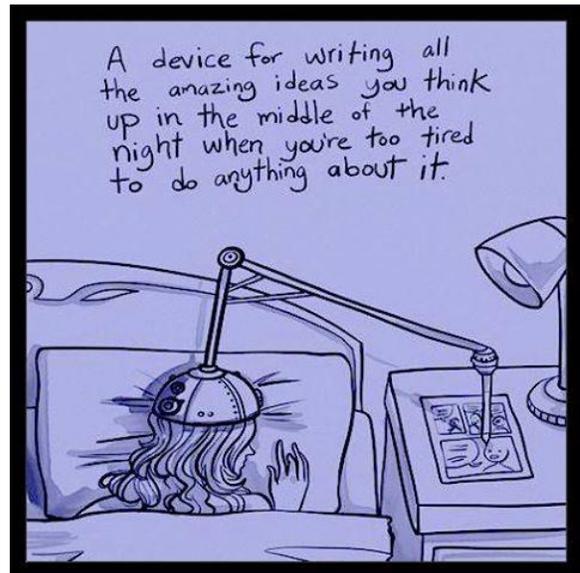
It's summer time in Port Townsend which means company's coming! I have a friend coming to go to the Blues Festival with me. I also have some nieces and nephews coming to visit in August. I love having company so I'm looking forward to this.

Other than that, it's one doctor after another. All my yearly visits are due this time of year.

I am enjoying our wonderful weather-- how about you?

From me (Betty): I want to thank my secret sister for the beautiful bouquet that was sent for my birthday—it was waiting for me when I returned from the convention in Vancouver.

And...here's a device we all need:



ELLA'S JOKE CORNER:

If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains;

If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles;

If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it;

If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time;

If you can take criticism and blame without resentment;

If you can conquer tension without medical help;

If you can relax without alcohol;

If you can sleep without the aid of drugs;

Then You Are Probably The Family Dog!

