



Soropti-SCOOP

A Communique by
women dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls
in local communities and throughout the world.

SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Vol. 9, Issue 10

Soroptimist International of Sequim

May 2006

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Officers 2005 - 2006

President:

Kate Creasey

President-Elect:

Colleen Blazier

Recording Secretary:

Kathleen DeJong

Corresponding Secretary:

Joni McKeta

Treasurer (Service):

Brenda Dunlap

Treasurer (General):

Jane Manzer

Directors: 2 year

Kathy Purcell

Directors: 2 year

Nanc Smith

Directors: 1 year

Marilyn Hooser

Directors: 1 year

Pamela Caldero

Past President:

Sandy Reed

Newsletter Staff

Kathy Purcell
Colleen Blazier
Sally Sue Barry



Happy May everyone!

Let me tell you a little about Regional Conference. There were five of us there for the entire conference, and two others that attended part-time. Janet Wicker and Betty Osborne, we were so glad to have you join us. Your being there really rounded out the group and your enthusiasm was contagious!

We all learned lots of things and the rest of the club will be seeing some of what we learned as we share the ideas with you. We met Joc Hanby (you can see her picture on page 5) and had a chance to chat with her. Those of you who are going to meet her while she is here are going to really enjoy her. We did lots of talking, sharing and brainstorming and everyone came back with several ideas of things they would like to see happen at our club. This is exciting because change, while sometimes scary, is also very stimulating.

I came away actually wishing I was going into the presidency instead of out, because I learned so much. But, that being said, I am also very excited about next year with Colleen and Nanc stepping up. If you get a chance to join in on the next District or Regional meetings you really should try. They are stimulating, clarifying, motivating and FUN.

Looking at the rest of this year, the schedule for Joc is all filled in and you will all get to meet her at our May 9th Meeting. The VIP luncheon is well in hand and we have room for one more on the scholarship notebook night. Watch your emails; there will be announcements coming out about summer events that you won't want to miss out on. Even though we don't have meetings in July and August, business does still go on and President Colleen will be very busy making sure things get dealt with. She will need input and participation from you from time-to-time and email is the best way to accomplish that – so be watching that email box.

Also, the minutes to the meetings and the Treasurers' reports are coming to you via email now, so check in before meetings to make sure you are up to speed with what is going on. I can't believe my year is almost at an end. I look forward to participating at different levels this next year and getting involved in some different projects I hope you are too.

Keep in mind committee choices are going to need to be done before our last meeting, so be thinking now of where you will want to focus your efforts this next year. Three more meetings, VIP Luncheon, Scholarship Notebook night, Scholarship Awards Presentations, and Installation. Oh, that reminds me, we are going to do two new things at Installation Dinner this year: we are installing new club members and we are going to do a recognition of our dedicated members who have been with the club 5, 10, 15 or more years. This is going to be an event you don't want to miss, so put it on your calendars now. See you around.

President Kate

Letter from the Editor

Why does a woman choose to become a Soroptimist? Governor Linette told us, "I joined Soroptimist for the opportunity to give service and stayed because of the friends I made." Many of us feel this in our local clubs, but we experience it more deeply when we attend meetings at area, district, regional and federation levels.

Where else besides at a Soroptimist meeting would a woman you've never seen before ask if she could sleep in your room for the night and you agree without a second thought? (Well, actually I did check with my roommate before saying yes.) Being at a Soroptimist gathering is like being at a family reunion – but without the troublesome Aunt Biddy.

The 2005-2006 NWR Conference was held in Tacoma, Washington on the last weekend in April. There were workshops available for us, and some retail therapy too. We heard the inspiring stories of the winners of the Northwestern Region Violet Richardson and Women's Opportunity Awards. We recognized clubs' successes and honored members for their years of service. We heard some new ideas and offered some of our own. And we had some time to explore.

On Friday several of our club members visited the Museum of Glass. Stained glass wrapped around us as we crossed over a bridge to the museum entrance. What struck me the most in the museum were the sculptures by Karen LaMonte entitled "Absence Adorned." These are life-size dresses done in glass that look like the women are inside the dresses (minus arms, shoulders and heads) but where hips, breasts, and buttocks are apparent. I felt I could see the inside essence of women and I felt a connection to them. This intrigued me a lot. The sculptures were beautiful and thought-provoking.



I walked over to Jane Manzer who was looking at a book about the display. I asked if it included information on how the sculptures were made. All the book said was that they were cast glass. That wasn't enough of an answer for me, so after I returned from the conference, I did a little checking on the internet.

I learned that LaMonte's technique consists of molding sculptures composed of two separate forms. The outside mold (the clothing) is made after a wax shell is made of the figure. The body and clothing are fused together and cast as one final work.

LaMote wrote, "I create clothing in glass to represent animated yet absent beings, a human form without a body." Clothes are mirrors and "mirrors are," LaMonte says, "how the invisible is manifest in the physical."

We are all mirrors for one another. Soroptimists encourage one another to be the best we can be. Like LaMonte's figures, we are more than our outer appearance. Like her beautiful glass artwork, when we allow what's inside us to be seen, others acknowledge and appreciate our beauty. Why does a woman choose to become a Soroptimist? Because while we are giving service, we have the opportunity to discover more of our true self while in the company of friends.

With Gratitude & Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor

CALENDAR

MAY

- 5 Board Meeting
- 9 Business Meeting
- 13 VIP Luncheon
- 15 Scholarship Selection Nite
- 23 Program Meeting
High School Scholarship
Awards

JUNE

- 9 Board Meeting
- 13 Business Meeting
- 16 Installatioan



One of the sculptures by Karen LaMonte from the collection entitled "Absence Adorned." You can see more of work at www.karenlamonte.com

Celebrate Life!

BIRTHDAYS



MAY

- 4 Jeanne Martin
- 10 Sandy Reed
- 14 Marcia Beggs
- 19 Willadee Tallman

JUNE

- 9 Heidi Elston
- 26 Anne Knight
- 27 Heidi Ennes



New phone number for our
MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET
504-0231



To want to be what one can be
is purpose in life.
~ *Cynthia Ozick*

MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

The Medical Loan Committee has two new members. Penny Wolf & Nanc Smith volunteered to serve on this committee and we know they will enjoy serving the public with the six other members.

Two members are stepping down. President Kate Creasey has been serving on the committee for a couple of years, and is ready for a break. President-elect Colleen Blazier has been chairman of the Medical Loan Closet for several years. Colleen will be concentrating on her Presidential duties this upcoming year. We thank Kate and Colleen for their service to the Club and to the public.

SallySue Barry, MLC Co-Chair

PROJECT INDEPENDENCE



Thank you for your support of Zainab Meeohusain, who we helped through Project Independence:

Women Survivors of War. Zainab has graduated from her program. She used her money to buy medicine and start an income generating project. She now has a current source of income – making and selling clothes. As a result of participating in human rights and leadership training, as well as vocational skills, she has gained skills and self confidence and is making changes in her life and in her community. Zainab is eternally grateful for our financial support and of course we all wish her the best.

Now we have a new woman to sponsor, also from Afghanistan. Her name is Shilla Noor Aqa. Shila was born in 1975 and is married. She has no formal education and is currently illiterate. She has five children – four sons and one daughter. Shila is very fortunate in that she has not been forced to leave her home, and currently lives in a house her family owns. However, this meets only very basic shelter needs; there is not electricity or access to water.

Our contribution to Women for Women International will go a long way to provide emotional and financial support, and offer her a sense of stability that will help her overcome the hardship and suffering she has experienced. There will be opportunities to write letters to Shila over the coming months; watch your emails for details on how to do this. I am proud to be part of a club that is so ready and willing to support such a worthwhile endeavor. You should be proud of yourselves as well, for all the benefits afforded to women in our community and around the world, because of the hard work you do.

President Kate



Amanda, Louella, Kate and Heather discuss how the festival works.



Penny and Kathy in between sales.



Janet sharing with some interested attendees.



Kathy & Jane show off the booth.



Mayme explaining about See's Candy.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE BENEFITS OF CHOCOLATE

The Olympic Chocolate Festival, sponsored by the Sequim Chamber of Commerce, was born in April 2005 to promote tourism. What does chocolate have to do with Soroptimist? Our participation in the festival shows our support for our community, a community that supports Soroptimist. It's the Golden Rule in action.

As with most things, there were added benefits to our involvement in the Chocolate Festival. While taking free samples of See's Awesome bars, attendees got to see, face-to-face, some of the faces of Soroptimist. We had hand-out cards stating the projects we support and shared brochures about our Medical Loan Closet and general membership. Selling See's Candy at Pacific Mist Books (121 W. Washington, Sequim) is a year-round fundraiser for our club. Chocoholics stopping by our booth were happy to hear that.

Thanks to all of those who helped with the Chocolate Festival – either before or on the day of: Colleen Blazier, Leah Tuttle, Kate Creasey, Louella Hanson, Janet Wicker, Mayme Faulk, Penny Wolf, Kathy Purcell. And special thanks to Heather and Amanda Cerutti who helped with both setup and tear down. What a team!



Former member Judy Flanders (center) & her team try to keep up with wrapping the candy sent down the conveyer during the Chocolate Factory Competition.



Sherry Schubert reminds us to STOP and taste the chocolate.

GIVING OPPORTUNITES

2006 VIOLET RICHARDSON AWARD



Kristine Janssen
submitted by
SI Port Townsend/East
Jefferson County

The Northwestern Regional Conference is held every April. This year it was close to home – in Tacoma, WA. The highlight of the conference is meeting the winners of the NWR Violet Richardson and Women’s Opportunity Awards and hearing their stories. If you ever questioned if what we do matters, the unequivocal answer is provided by these courageous women. We do make a difference. We improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. This year 80 clubs in the region participated in the Women’s Opportunity Awards giving a total of \$104,099. This is an all time high for the Northwestern Region! Kudos to all who took part in this signature program.

2006 WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY AWARD



Tera LeRay Roberts
submitted by
SI Hillsboro

REGIONAL CONFERENCE



Kate, Jane, Kathy, Colleen & Sally Sue
under the NWR banner. We had to stand
on chairs to get the banner in the photo.



This gentleman bought
one of our bags.



Betty, Janet & Jane look at the prices for
the T-shirts and bags at the Tell & Sell.

Miss Piggy
eyeing some
jewelry at the
Tell & Sell



Jocelyn Hanby, SI Brighton & Southern
Districts, Australia buys a bag from Betty.
Joc is our Grant of Friendship Visitor that
will be with our club the week of May 8.














Grant of Friendship Visitors
Zeinab Laliashvili (left) and
Nunu Zarnadze (center -
with the camera) from
SI Tskhaltubo, Georgia
shop at the Tell & Sell.










Soroptimist
(left and right)
doing the
Macarena
at the dinner
on Friday
night.



May 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
National Book Month 	1	2	3	4 Jeanne Martin 	5 Board Meeting	6
7	8	9 Business Meeting	10 Sandy Reed 	11 Grant of Friendship Visitor Joc Hanby Potluck at Nanc Smith's	12	13 VIP Luncheon 
14 Marcia Beggs Mother's Day  	15 Scholarship Selection Night 	16	17 Budget Meeting at Jeanne Martin's office 5:00 pm	18	19 Willadee Tallman 	20 Armed Forces Day 
21	22	23 Program Meeting High School Scholarship Awards 	24	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day (observed) 	30	31			

June 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dairy Month 				1	2	3
4	5 UN World Environment Day 	6	7	8	9 Board Meeting Heidi Elston 	10
11	12	13 Business Meeting	14	15	16 Installation Dinner  SOROPTIMIST <small>Excel for Women</small>	17
18 Father's Day 	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Anne Knight 	27 Heidi Ennes 	28	29	30	

Before I was myself you made me, me
With love and patience, discipline and tears,
Then bit by bit stepped back to set me free,

Allowing me to sail upon my sea,
Though well within the headlands of your fears.
Before I was myself you made me, me

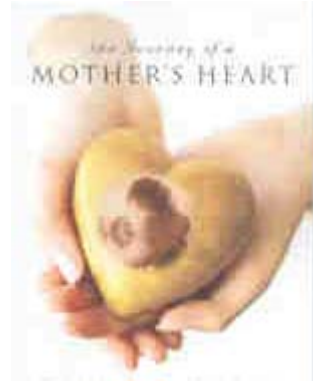
With dreams enough of what I was to be
And hopes that would be sculpted by the years,
Then bit by bit stepped back to set me free,

Relinquishing your powers gradually
To let me shape myself among my peers.
Before I was myself you made me, me,

And being good and wise, you gracefully
As dancers when the last sweet cadence nears
Bit by bit stepped back to set me free.

For love inspires learning naturally:
The mind assents to what the heart reveres.
And so it was through love you made me, me
By slowly stepping back to set me free.

By Dimitri Shostakovich.



Soroptimist International of Sequim
P.O. Box 126
Sequim, WA 98382

SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

*improving the lives of women and
girls in local communities and
throughout the world.*

To A Women Making A Difference For Women