



Soropti-SCOOP

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

SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

Vol. 12, Issue 3

Soroptimist International of Sequim

September 2008

Officers 2008 - 2009

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Rose Jaeger

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Directors: 1 year

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Kathy Purcell
Sally Sue Barry
Colleen Blazier
Nina Jones



“Time is a
dressmaker
specializing in
alterations.”
~Faith Baldwin

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Soroptimists:

This coming Tuesday, September 9 we will have our first business meeting of the year at our new location, the Cedars at Dungeness Golf Course in the banquet room. One of the nice things about this facility is the size. Most locations we looked at were too small for our ever growing club. The Dungeness facility has lots of room to accommodate us and our guests. I hope you all like it.

At the September business meeting we will be installing two new members, Andrea Alstrup and Barbara Thompson. This is my first time installing a new member so I'm sure you will all want to be there to see how I do and to welcome Andrea and Barbara.

Our President-Elect, Rose Jaeger, has some great programs set up for this year. The first program meeting is Tuesday, September 23, at Dungeness Golf Course. Rose has asked me to give a classification talk on myself. She said that the membership may want to know a little about their President. Personally I think it's a little late for that but I agreed to do it. Also attending will be last year's Women's Opportunity Award winner, Calloway Tyree. She was unable to attend our meeting last spring to receive her cash award so she has agreed to come to this program meeting to tell us her story.

Enough from me, continue reading and enjoy the great articles to follow in this wonderful newsletter that the *Soropti-Scoop* Staff puts together for us.

God bless you all,
Kathleen DeJong
President

May you always have walls for the winds,
a roof for the rain, tea beside the fire,
laughter to cheer you, those you love near you,
and all your heart might desire.
~Irish Blessing

Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

What time is it? How often has someone asked you that? How often have you asked yourself that? What does time mean? The subject of time has come to mind because of the recent Summer Olympics.

The first Olympic Games were recorded in 776 BC in Olympia, Greece. At that time participation in the Olympic Games was limited to free born Greeks. The Olympic Games originally featured only one event: a race called the "stade", equal to a distance of about 210 yards.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) was founded in 1894 and has become the conglomeration of sporting federations that are involved in the organization of the Games.

As the Olympic movement has grown, so has the profile and complexity of the Games. Participation in the Games has increased to the point that nearly every nation on earth is represented. Each successive Games attempts to add more events in order to keep up with the ever-evolving advancement of athletic expression around the world.

This reminds me of Soroptimist. We are women from all walks of life, from all over the world, with a common mission: improving the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. We continue to evolve in our methods of accomplishing this.

The Olympic Games are a snapshot in time. The way an athlete performs in 'time trials' may be different than during the actual meet. Look at Michael Phelps. He won a Gold medal in swimming, finishing a fraction of second ahead of the Silver medal winner. Look at Dana Torres. She won a Silver medal, finishing a fraction of a second behind the Gold Medal winner. All of the Olympic athletes are winners; by showing up and participating they honor their countries. They are forever a part of history.



The Olympics bring to mind the upcoming District 1 Meeting. We come together to highlight our accomplishments, to share our ideas, to learn from one another, to show support for our individual clubs and our organization as a whole. If it's all Greek to you, attend the District Meeting and the language barrier will be dissolved. We are all winners when we show up and participate.

What time is it? And what does time mean? We can take a minute and give the seconds of our life a second thought. In this instant we can point ourselves in the direction of expanding ourselves and create moments that last a lifetime. Together we can Imagine the Possibilities.

With Gratitude and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor

"How long should you try? Until." ~ *Jim Rohn*

CALENDAR

SEPT

- 5 BOARD MEETNG
- 9 Business Meeting
- 21 In't Day of Peace
- 23 Program - WOA Winner
Calloway Tyree
- 30* Bowling Night**

OCTOBER

- 10 BOARD MEETNG
- 10 Mad Hatter Tea
- 14 Business Meeting
- 24-26 District Meeting
- 28 Program

* EVENING MEETING



Inspiring Our Clubs



The Olympic symbol, the five interlocking rings, represents the union of the five continents and the meeting of the athletes of the world at the Olympic Games.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT NEWS

Soroptimist International of Sequim announces the award of three \$1,000 **Continuing Education Scholarships**.

Stacia Bibler has earned her status on the President's Honor Roll at Washington State University. Her focused program is landscape architecture.

Carole Kiele is enrolled in the Medical Assistant Program at Peninsula College. Her goal is to continue in the nursing program.

Rondale West is pursuing her plans for a degree in psychology from Central Washington University and will continue with graduate studies in mental health counseling.

All Continuing Education Scholarship winners are graduates of Sequim High School: Stacia Bibler 2007, Carole Kiele 1979 and Rondale West 2005. Congratulations, Stacia, Carole and Rondale!

Betty Osborn
Educational Support Committee Chair

“Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere.” ~*Chinese Proverb*

Project Sierra-Case Study Young Mothers

This project targets vulnerable young mothers who are living alone. The scheme aims to reintegrate these young mothers with their families or to empower them to be independent, active members of their community.



Roseline recently graduated from the Young Mother Support programme. Aged 18 years old, Roseline had been participating in the programme for two years and with support and training she has now become fully independent.

Prior to joining the programme, Roseline and her grandmother lived in dire poverty. They slept in an abandoned house and Roseline had to beg on the streets so she could support her grandmother. It was during this time that Roseline became pregnant.

When she registered to join the programme, Roseline indicated that she would like to undertake vocational training and become a hairdresser. Alongside the healthcare and parenting classes, Roseline learnt her chosen trade.

Roseline now has a regular job in a salon in Makeni and she is reported to be one of the most popular members of the staff. Additionally, Roseline works from home in the evenings. Roseline said, “I have now established a big customer base for myself. At the end of the first month when I received my pay, it was hard for me to believe that I now have such an amount. I have since rented a room for myself, my grandmother and daughter. Above all, my trade has made me more friends in recent days than any other time in my life.” Roseline is now a well respected member of her community and she is able to care for herself, her child and grandmother.



THE WIN (Women in Networks) PROGRAM 2008-09
...opening WINdows to the future!
Mission Statement: Empowering young women through the exploration of non-traditional careers and education.



The *WIN* Program is off to another *WIN*ning year! We have received our funding - \$6,000.00, thanks to the generosity and support of **Carol Sanders** and the *Hastings Trust*! Carol reviewed budgets (past & current), programs (past & projected) and data sent to her over the summer. However the “icing on the cake” (in Carol’s words), was the beautiful Journal that **Kate Creasey** made and the Power Point retrospective created by **Amanda Cerutti**! Many thanks to all of you!

We hope that many of you will come to *WIN* activities this year; we encourage you to join in the fun – whether as an observer or participant! Check the calendar on the new *WIN* web site (www.winprogram.org) for up-to-date information on dates, times, venues, etc. We have currently scheduled 2 programs...and have many others “in the works”:

- *ROPES* – team-building & self-esteem enhancement at Peninsula College - is planned for **Thursday, October 16, 2008**.
- *Just Yell Fire*- self-defense program – is scheduled for **Saturday, February 21, 2009 on the high school campus**.
- *Annual Fall Celebration* will be planned for **October** (date TBA) at the Oak Table Restaurant. We are in the process of finalizing a guest speaker.

Liaisons have been selected from each grade level; these young women will meet with the committee and share valuable input from their peers. In addition they will assist with such *WIN* activities as hosting the Annual Fall Celebration & reporting on trips/programs. Check the *WIN* website for updates...current volunteers are:

- Freshman TBA
- Sophomore **MARGARET NORLUND**
- Junior **CHASE O’NEIL**
- Senior **TEYLOURE RING**
- Roving **ALYSSA STRATTON**
- WIN Reporter **KYLA HALL**

“You don’t understand anything until you learn it more than one way.”
~*Marvin Minsky*

Do you have ideas for activities or programs? If so, contact Alana and/or Missy. We look forward to a variety of offerings throughout the year... and to *opening MANY WINdows to the future!*

Alana Schmicker & Missy Church-Smith, Co-chairs

A very special **THANKS** goes out to Carol Sanders and the Hastings Trust, whose continued support of the *WIN* Program helps ensure the *WIN* Program continues. Carol, thank you for being our partner in opening *WINdows* to the future!

Imagining the Possibilities of Communication/Image

Communications Image committee is off to a great start this year. The goal of our committee is to increase awareness of Soroptimist through proper branding and consistent use of the Soroptimist logo, tag line and mission statement.

At the launching of the Renaissance campaign at the Federation level our club began taking steps to professionalize our image to the public, to make the community more aware of our presence and to take advantage of every opportunity to promote Soroptimism.

To continue with that, we have already had one summer meeting to discuss what we can do this year. We have redesigned the Medical Loan Closet brochure and have designed and printed business cards with the Medical Loan Closet number. We have designed and will have ready, a new rack card with general club info to use for promoting our club. And we've ordered stationery for the coming year.

We are also going to participate in the community health fair again this year on **September 20th**. Last year this proved to be a great opportunity to promote not only the medical loan closet, but our club and Soroptimist as well. We will continue to use the flow chart that Missy put together last year with just one change. We will review that at our first business meeting and then post it on the web site so you can access it at any time.

We want to continue getting as many articles into the newspaper as possible and be more consistent with getting our logo, tag line and club information in the articles. We are in the process of designing a better photo op board and have made the decision to include a Soroptimist member in the photos where a presentation is made, such as Girl of the Month, awards etc.

We will schedule to have our street banner up again in August of 2009 and we are looking into designing something for members to display at their workplace – either a desk top plaque, window decal or wall plaque.

So what can you do as members of the club? Make sure you request and use club stationery for all club communication. Write articles for our newsletter and the newspapers when you are in charge of a program or event. If you take pictures, turn in a copy of them to Kathy Purcell for use in the newsletter, for placement on the web site, for press releases and for the scrapbook. Wear your member pin on the left (near to your heart). Wear Soropti-wear to all Soroptimist events and “just for fun”. Be enthusiastic about Soroptimist, what we do and who we are.

Deborah Groesbeck and Kate Creasey Co-chairs

“Man’s mind, once stretched by a new idea,
never regains its original dimensions.”
~**Oliver Wendell Holmes**

Are you a Website Wizard?

How long has it been since you've visited our club's website? Did you know that it shows:

- Slideshow from Brainstorming Meeting
 - Which members have been in the news
 - Who Hit the Road
- ...and in our Members Only area
- Newest Bylaws
 - Budget
 - Membership Application
 - Check Request Form
 - Meet the Members Directory
 - And much more



Checkout what's new at
<http://www.sisequim.com/>

Take a look and visit often. We plan to update the website regularly with photos from most current events, Minutes of meetings, etc. And there may be some contests. **Our goal is to keep you informed, interested and inspired.**



Members catching up...



President Kathleen starts the Meeting



BRAINSTORMING MEETING



Communication/Image



Finance



Programs



Membership



WIN



MLC



Garden Show



Educational Support

**"None of us is as smart as all of us."
~ Ken Blanchard**

More photos at: <http://www.sisequim.com/>

Fostering Love for Kids

At our Brainstorming Meeting members were invited to get into the spirit of 'going back to school' by bringing backpacks, school supplies, or just general clothing items for our Kids Kloset project. This was our first Kids Kloset collection for 2008 – 2009. Our enthusiastic liaison for the project this year is Colleen Blazier.

The North Olympic Foster Parent Association had a picnic recently, where the children came to pick out clothing, backpacks, etc. You can read Colleen's reflections of her experience with the kids in the article that follows.

Thank you all for your continued support of this project. We help foster the Soroptimist spirit, by giving where we can. The foster kids, their families, and our community reap the benefits of our sharing. Imagine the Possibilities if everyone felt so loved. ~kp



Colleen packing up the Kids Kloset donations

Backpackers Dream

I hope I get a pink one, mine needs to be blue, have they started to call the numbers yet, I'm getting so excited.....

These are just a few of the gleeful comments I overheard on Sunday, August 24 over 100 children gathered around the boxes and waited for the announcement that they could get their backpack and school supplies. The North Olympic Foster Parent Association hosted a picnic at the Prairie Grange and by the smile on the faces I saw, it was a huge success. There were containers of clothing that were neatly separated (with the sizes clearly marked) that several Soroptimist sorted during our Saturday "Day of Service" project.

There were several bicycles that were repaired and donated by Kwanis of Sequim. A steady stream of children took their turn playing in the infallible "Just Jump" castle as the others ate hot dogs and fried chicken. It was a feast for the body and soul – soul food.

A wonderful time was had by all!

All the children will begin the school year with their coveted backpacks and the necessary school supplies. The foster parents expressed their heartfelt appreciation for all the wonderful clothing items, backpacks, and school supplies. Your generosity and thoughtfulness makes me proud to be a Soroptimist.

Colleen Blazier, Kids Kloset Liaison



Except from Peninsula Daily News August 13, 2008

WEAVING NEW LIVES - Scholarship Offers Women Opportunities

By Diane Urbani de la Paz, Peninsula Daily News

Wrapped in a new shawl, she looked as though she'd been draped in the wild orchids and azure sky of Chiapas.

Judith Pasco received a gift this summer from the Mujeres de Maiz – women of the corn – who belong to a sewing cooperative in Zinacantan, a rural Chiapas town near San Cristobal de las Casas.



The shawl is a kind of mantle, embroidered in deep blue and violet. It's the type Mayan women and girls wear when walking to church, to the market, or into the hills above their town.

There could be no better-fitting gift for Pasco, the Sequim Spanish teacher who three years ago formed the Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation, a nonprofit provider of scholarships to young Chiapas women.

FIRST SCHOLARSHIP

Yolanda Hernandez Gomez, 19, was the first to receive a scholarship that's enabled her to attend college in San Cristobal.

Her older sister, Juana, has started classes also, with a scholarship covering half her tuition. The other half is paid with money Juana earns with the women's cooperative.

Yolanda has chosen to study English – she already speaks the Mayan language of Tzotzil as well as Spanish – while Juana is working toward an information technology degree.

When asked what they want to do with their educations, both women said they want to share it with others in their village. Yolanda added that she'd like to use her English to travel – but has no desire to live anywhere but here, where her roots are deep in the rich Chiapas soil.

HITTING THE ROAD

Last year we introduced a new column called "Hitting the Road". Members who travel out of town, or out of the country are invited to share their experiences, adventures and reflections. Through these stories we learn more about one another, and we learn more about our world. This year Nina Jones has agreed to organize the submissions of this column. If you have made a journey and would like to share it with the club, please contact Nina. To get us started, Nina shares a bit of her journal from her recent trip to Peru. Thanks, Nina!

My Trip Of a Lifetime: A Quick Peek at Nina's Peruvian Journal

As most of my fellow SI sisters know, I was finally able to travel to Peru this June with the Project CURE Medical Clinical outreach team. I couldn't have made it without your support and encouragement. I had the time of my life. I'm so glad I went. It was harder than I could have imagined but it was also more rewarding than I ever dreamed.

It's really difficult to explain what it was like in one article. Because I have so many friends and family who asked for full details, I've spent the last month getting my daily journal on-line. I think the best way to give you a glimpse of my experience is to highlight an excerpt from that journal.



Notice Nina is wearing her Flower Power T-shirt...

HITTING THE ROAD - *contunied*

Wednesday, June 27, 2008 – Place: Pucusana, Peru

This morning we had our second clinic at Grano De Oro (Golden Sands) which is THE poorest section of the poorest city in the poorest region of Lima (so I was told).

My job today was simply to play with the children and that's exactly what I did. I had stickers, I had barrettes, I had toy cars, crayons, paper and I had bubbles. I kept those kids going all day (well, maybe I should say they kept ME going.)

The children, for the most part were precious. Some were shy, but the bubbles took care of that. What an experience.

There was one little boy named Javier, maybe 4 years old who was so smart and so advanced for his age. He figured out my name so quickly. He talked and talked and talked. Not that I have any idea what he said, but he didn't care a bit. I have a picture of him showing me his finger prick (maybe checking for diabetes?) He wanted me to join him in feeling very, very sorry for him.

Bill and Devin had brought some Polaroid film and people became so excited - even though the film was quite old and therefore the quality of pics were questionable at best. Many of these people had never had their picture taken before.

There was a boy named Percy. He was a wheeler-dealer. He came mid morning and got just about every present I had in my arsenal – probably twice. He was starting to get on my nerves, I must admit, but he's a survivor. I found out later that Percy has a hidden ailment - he dislocated his knee cap some time ago, and it now sits on the inside of his left leg.



Two of our team members ended looking for a toilet - and were invited into a family's home. The living conditions here are - well - they're hard to imagine. But what is so remarkable is the humility and grace that these people display under such circumstances.

HITTING THE ROAD - *contunied*

After 10 days at Pucusana, we left for Machu Picchu. Here I am in my salute to SI. I had a terrific time seeing this most beautiful of all sights. The photos simply do not do it justice!

I wish I could tell you more, but there simply isn't enough room. All I can do is invite you to view the on-line blog at:

<http://ninainperu.blogspot.com/>

Let me also take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart.



I want to especially thank my most generous employer and friend, Pam Caldero for giving me the freedom and encouragement to go. She is the kindest and most generous of women and I can't thank her enough. Thanks also to Kathy Purcell who attended fund raisers with me and got the word out for me on a number of occasions. For all of you who bought enchiladas or crafts, words cannot express my gratitude. I hope you enjoyed them, because I've been invited back next year. That means those enchiladas sign up sheets are about to get passed around again!

Soroptimists International is an incredible group of women doing incredible things for women. I'm so honored to be a part of this amazing organization. Thank you all again for your support.





“The longest journey a man must take is the eighteen inches from his head to his heart” ~Unknown

PAGING ALL MEMBERS



Who would you call if you needed financial planning help? Or needed a new employee? Or if you wanted to sell or buy a house? Or if you needed to get some glass replaced? What a pain, I mean pain to have to guess at a good source. Wouldn't it be nice to be able to call a Soroptimist for what you need? Several years ago a **Meet the Members Directory** was put together that had info about our members and their businesses – inclusion was not mandatory; only about half of our members participated. The directory was supplied to all members on a CD.

We would like to revamp the directory and put it on the Members Only area of our website. Kathy Purcell and Philippa Manley-Piper have volunteered to organize this venture. Last year Kate Creasey diligently took photos of each of our members, so all of your beautiful faces are ready to be placed on your individual page. In the coming weeks you will hear from Kathy and Philippa. We hope you will join the ranks, and file your form. Together we will Imagine the Possibilities!

September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Sherry Schubert 	3	4	5 BOARD MEETING	6
7 Nina Jones Grandparents Day 	8	9 Business Meeting	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Health Fair
21 UN Int'l Day of Peace 	22	23 Sally Sue Barry Program Meeting Calloway Tyree, Last year's WOA Winner 	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Michelle Barth Rosh Hashanah Bowling Night  				

October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Breast Cancer Awareness Month			1	2	3	4
5	6 Deadline for Newsletter submissions	7	8	9	10 BOARD MEETING Mad Hatter Tea 	11
12	13	14 Business Meeting GOM (Oct & Nov)	15 Judy Ogilvie 	16 WIN sponsored ROPES Challenge Course 	17	18
19	20 Jeanie Blaurock 	21	22	23	24 District 1 Meeting	25 District 1 Meeting
26 District 1 Meeting	27 Cathy Angel 	28 Program Meeting	29	30	31	

GOING TOO FAST ~ Author Unknown

Live your life like the wind.
Speed up when necessary,
And know when to slow down.
Slow down when life pushes so hard and fast,
You cannot consume anymore air.
Slow down when you can't see
Where you're going
Or where you're coming from.
Take time to stop and realize
What you have right in front of you
When you cannot find what you're looking for.
When you cannot find what you want in someone else,
Look inside of yourself.
Don't sweat the small things,
And make the best of the big things.

Cherish the experiences you've had,
And use the lessons you've learned.
Our lives are rubber bands,
Bending and stretching to fit
Even the most awkward situations.
You can adapt to anything,
Regardless of its size or shape.
You just have to realize and use
What you have in your own hands.



Soroptimist International of Sequim
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SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

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

To A Woman Making A Difference For Women