



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. 16, Issue 1

Soroptimist International of Sequim

July 2011

Officers 2011 - 2012

President:

Deborah Carlson

President-Elect:

Shelle Paulbitski

Secretary:

Jane Manzer

Treasurer:

Kate Creasey

Assistant Treasurer:

Pamela Caldero

Directors: 2 year (one year remaining)

Colleen Blazier

Directors: 2 year

Peg Rinker

Directors: 1 year

Andrea Alstrup

Directors: 1 year

Susan Smith

Past President:

Missy Church-Smith

Newsletter Staff

Kathy Purcell
Sally Sue Barry
Colleen Blazier



*"Involvement
begins with I."
~Anonymous*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Soroptimist Sisters,

Four short years ago I sold my home in San Diego, suddenly, and headed north with a trailer and my two wonderful dogs. We headed to a small town with a funny name that I had visited once, 3 years earlier, for about 30 minutes. Long enough to love it. My only concern in my new life's venture was "where would I meet my girlfriends?" Jane Manzer answered that when she introduced me to Soroptimist and invited me to the summer brainstorming meeting. They seemed like a nice, interesting group of women... What an understatement!!

"FULLY INVOLVED" Those are exciting words to me. During my 27 year career as a San Diego firefighter we worked 24 hour shifts and ran calls day and night. The veterans, after about the 4th or 5th call after midnight, developed a skill of responding to calls half asleep. We all wore headsets and could hear the report of the first arriving engine, knowing whether or not we needed to get alert or could stay asleep. Too many times it was nothing of need, another wild goose chase and a sleepless night for us. But, occasionally we would hear the best thing a well trained, hungry for action, bored with station routine firefighter could possibly hear, "FULLY INVOLVED STRUCTURE". That meant we were fighting fire! We'd be working hard for the next few hours, the teamwork between partners and other engine companies strong and unspoken, station pettiness forgotten. Camaraderie for the next few months ran high. It made us feel good, cleared the air and put our attitudes right.

It feels good to be working hard. Like my career in the fire service, I find being in Soroptimist and being part of this amazing group with so many different talents and skill sets – being an active part of our community and doing it all with people I care about, for the greater good – gives me that same, whole, purposeful feeling of being fully involved.

Our logo this year represents what Soroptimist means to me. The laurel branch is on our Soroptimist shield and is the symbol of friendship. The woman's hand and arm shows our support, not handout or rescue, but support and boost for women and girls. The lavender plant is an emblem of our lovely community. The encompassing circle symbolizes the world in which we are making an impact by being part of this great international organization.



I'm looking forward to another great year working with all of you wonderful women. We have full committees, an energetic board and fresh ideas. I'm very grateful to hold this position and invite you all to be FULLY INVOLVED.

President Deb

Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends,

What's in a word? Or maybe I should phrase it differently – what's in a phrase? Each new president decides on a theme – a slogan or a phrase if you will – for her term. Sometimes she chooses a graphic to represent the theme.

Incoming President Deb tapped into her past firefighting career for her theme – “fully involved!” – and she reached into her heart to create a logo to go along with it. Deb explains both in her President's message. Reading it you understand the deep meaning these have for her. Being a word person, I look at the word “**THEME**” and see: “**THE-ME**”; the theme projects the passion and spirit/**THE-ME** of the president.

The evening of Deb's installation was particularly special. One week prior to the installation we got notice that Ann Salmon had a health experience – initially thought to be a stroke. This gave us an opportunity to offer prayers and love to a sister Soroptimist. Later we learned it was a brain aneurism. When Ann and her husband Dave walked into the building that night, there weren't hoots and hollers – at least not out loud.



Members greeted Ann and Dave with hugs and love. When I wrapped my arms around Ann and said how wonderful it was to see her, she said she had to be there to support the club's leaders. Wow! Ann is such a good example of what it means to be a Soroptimist. It's no wonder she is a life member. Her dedication is obvious. Her spirit is fully involved!

What does it mean to be fully involved? It is not possible for every member to take part in every event and activity. So how do we stay true to the theme?

Several of our members were on the fence about whether or not to renew their membership. The schedule in their personal and/or business lives was already looking very full. These women said they believe in the Soroptimist mission, but wouldn't have a lot of time to devote to the club next year. They felt they would not be giving enough.

Some members participate in a lot of events, other members in only a few. Each member is involved to the level that she is able. Whatever that is, it is enough. Sometimes we are the person needing prayers; other times we are the one praying. Through it all we are there to support one another. If we look at “fully involved!” from where it came – from the heart – we see that the spirit of the theme is just as important as – or perhaps more important than – the action it produces. In truth, it is the spirit that guides us to be more fully involved.

Light and Love,
Kathy Purcell, Editor

“Could a greater miracle take place than for us to look through each other's eyes for an instant?” ~ *Henry David Thoreau*

CALENDAR

JULY

15 - 17 Lavender Farm Faire

AUGUST

3 Silpada Fundraiser

6 Packing Backpacks

*24 START Meeting

26 NOFPA Picnic

* EVENING MEETING



“fully involved!”

“In a relationship each person should support the other; they should lift each other up.”
~ *Taylor Swift*



“Every man feels instinctively that all the beautiful sentiments in the world weigh less than a single lovely action.”
~ *James Russell Lowell*

Celebrate Life!



BIRTHDAYS

JULY

- 2 Janet Wicker
- 4 Dale Simon
- 17 Kathy Purcell
- 18 Peg Rinker
- 28 Jane Manzer

AUGUST

- 2 Pat Brown
- 19 Colleen Blazier
- 23 Amanda Beitzel
- 30 Betty Osborn
- 30 Ann Salmon



Note the phone number for our
MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET
504-0231



MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET
Scripps Ranch International of Sequim
504-0231
(This is a local number)
600 N Sequim Avenue
Owned from the Sequim High School Auditorium
(By appointment only)

All time management
begins with planning."
~ Tom Greening

SILPADA FUNDRAISER

The club will be having a special fundraiser on
Wednesday, August 3, 2011. It will be held at
Shelle Paulbitski's home from **4:00 to 6:00 pm.**



© Silpada Designs LLC

The Fundraiser with Silpada Jewelry will have several
elements.

- **First**, everyone is to BYOB. Other refreshments will be provided.
- **Second**, Susan will be supplying the New Catalog which comes out July 29th, along order forms. That way members can take the catalogs and order forms wherever they go, to show their friends and anyone who wants to get a beautiful piece of jewelry. Everyone who chooses can help with the fundraiser.
- **Third**, members can send emails to friends and family wherever they live; those people can order on line through Susan's website: www.mysilpada.com/susan.smith4 or can email Susan directly at silverlady@wavecable.com. All those orders will benefit Soroptimist of Sequim.
- **Fourth**, the jewelry will be shipped directly to the purchaser for a \$4 shipping fee. Sales tax is added to the total of the retail amount and shipping fee.
- **Fifth**, all purchases come with a 100% satisfaction guarantee and a 60 day exchange window (exchanges for equal or greater value only; no refunds).
- **Lastly**, 100% of Susan's profits from the show will be donated to Soroptimist of Sequim!



LAVENDER FARM FAIRE
July 15 - 17, 2011

Sign-Up Schedule posted on the
club website <http://www.sisequim.org/>

Please save the date of **August 24th**
for our **START** meeting and potluck.
We will gather at **Shelle Paulbitski's** home at **6 pm.**

Bring your summer stories,
new ideas, a dish to share
and beverage of choice.



SOROPTIMISTS PRESENT VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL AWARD



At our **June 14th** meeting we presented this year's **Vocational-Technical Award** to **Tatum Harris**. The \$1,000 educational support award is given to a female student enrolled in a non-degree program leading to a certificate or license.

Tatum is enrolled in a full-time Paramedic training program consisting of classroom training, supervised clinical experience in a hospital setting and a field internship with a paramedic-level ambulance service. The program follows the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Paramedic Curriculum. She will be eligible to take the National Registry paramedic examinations upon completion of the program. In her application Tatum stated "caring for someone in need with only the essential materials and minimal staff is a challenging task. Those first critical moments of medical assistance, helping a patient live or bear intense pain, require great skill and compassion."

Tatum has been an EMT with the Clallam County Fire District No. 3 for over a year, and earned praise from her colleagues in the District. She also owns her own home-health aide business, assisting clients with everything from physical therapy to nursing assistance.

Congratulations, Tatum!
~ Karen Kilgore, Vo-Tech Chair

CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Our club is now accepting applications for three, \$1000 continuing education scholarships. Applications are available on our website at www.sisequim.org/education.htm. These scholarships are open to young women who have completed one year of post-secondary education, will be continuing in the fall, and are either Sequim High School graduates or have a legal address in the Sequim School District. Applications need to be postmarked by **July 15, 2011**, so please spread the word to anyone you know who might be eligible for one of these scholarships.

These are our hard-earned dollars we're awarding to someone, so spread the good news!!! If you have questions, or if you'd like to take part in the application review and selection of the recipients, please call Jane at 477-5744. Selection will take place at the end of July or first of August.

~ Jane Manzer, Continuing Ed Chair

"Real education must ultimately be limited to men (and women) who insist on knowing, the rest is mere sheep-herding." ~ Ezra Pound



The **WIN Team** (*Missy Church-Smith, Mitzi Sanders & Cathy Angel*) is already gearing up for the new year!

How wonderful to reunite **Cathy & Mitzi**...the catalysts for the formation of **WIN** 15 years ago!

We met recently to brainstorm...to plan...to create a funding proposal...and to have a wonderful meal at the Oak Table! We hope to provide some new experiences for the girls...while continuing to focus on non-traditional careers and education.

New for 2011-12 is a **WIN Program Facebook page** - check it out & become a "**WIN Program Friend**"! There is also a **WIN** website (www.winprogram.org) with lots of pictures, a calendar and program information.

We're counting on **YOU** to join in some of the **WIN** activities – one of our goals is to connect our Soroptimist Sisters with the WIN Girls...and perhaps facilitate informal mentoring opportunities.

We'll keep you posted! Thanks in advance for your support!
Missy, Mitzi & Cathy

THE LAZY, HAZY DAYS OF SUMMER

As we are now supposed to be enjoying summer, I would like to invite any member who is interested, to participate in the North Olympic Foster Parent Association (NOFPA) "Back To School" project. The children are out of school and the NOFPA has already started to buy school supplies. It seems that the sales start in mid-July so I wanted to let members know what is most in need for the 2011-2012 school year.

The essential supplies needed:

- Backpacks (the ones used by high school students are still \$16.95 at COSTCO). The president of NOFPA (Lori Brothers) is attempting to get a deal through High Sierra Sports Company since they supply COSTCO with the packs.
- Scientific calculators are a requirement for all high school students. Last year WALMART had them on sale for \$12.95.
- There is always a need for 1 inch notebooks.

Members are welcomed to take any items for the back packs directly to All Safe Storage located on Grant Road behind Applebee's. If you prefer you can keep the supplies until **Wednesday, August 3** and bring them to the Silpada Party at Shelle's. There are also opportunities to buy and drop off school supplies at: Walgreen's, Anytime Fitness Center and Sound Bank - in Sequim or Port Angeles.

The packing of the backpacks will be on **Saturday, August 6th** starting at **10 am** at All Safe Storage. We've had fun helping at this event in the past and we need a few willing volunteers again this year. Members who would like to help can reach me at 797-3135 or e-mail: cblaze@olympicwi-fi.com.

The Back to School picnic is scheduled for **Sunday, August 28th** in Port Angeles at Lincoln Park from **1-4 pm**. Anyone who would like to come along is cordially invited. Enjoy your lazy, hazy days of summer.

Colleen Blazier, Kids Klostet Chair



MLC HAD A BUSY YEAR

The past club year, our Closet loaned out almost 800 items. Grateful and generous clients donated \$3,534.00 in cash which helped with expenses for storage and our Vonage message system.

Today, our inventory includes – among other durable items – 85 wheelchairs and 57 Delux transport chairs. We're happy they're not all returned at once!

We made several shipments of excess equipment and nondurable medical supplies to Tacoma, then on to their Morocco clinic, through our association with Gateway Medical Alliance. Just recently we had the opportunity to supply items to the American Red Cross to help outfit a trailer for the west end. We hope to work with them in the future to help supply several stations on the North Olympic Peninsula for use in disaster situations.

As we begin our new year, we have five new committee members coming on board to replace outgoing members. We now number 12, which makes our work easier. We know Missy, Kathleen, Karen, Shelle and Susan will find this service to be extremely rewarding.

~ Sally Sue Barry, MLC Co-Chair

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." ~ Mohammed Ali



SEX TRAFFICKING

Good News!!....That's right. Finally there is good news in the battle against modern-day slavery and both actions have roots in Washington State.

The first is an announcement from Microsoft regarding new technology it created called PhotoDNA. PhotoDNA can identify the origin of a digital photo just as fingerprints can identify a person. It works by carving an image into blocks to identify offending images even if they have been cropped or altered. This means that the photo can then be traced back to the person who took the photo. The courts have ruled that pornographic pictures are child abuse and intend to use this new technology to make online services a hostile environment for child pornographers and pedophiles.



The second comes from State Attorney General Rob McKenna who has been recently chosen as the new president of the National Association of Attorneys General. The PDN reported that during the association's meeting in Chicago, McKenna presented an initiative that will focus on "coordinating data collection, prosecutions of traffickers and buyers, and will mobilize communities to provide support to victims." McKenna went on to state, "*Human trafficking is the only crime I can think of where the victim is more likely to be prosecuted than the perpetrator. We need to end that.*"

Soroptimists took on the challenge of educating the public about Human/Sex Trafficking and we're starting to see results.

Sandy Reed, Human Trafficking Chair

"I find hope in the darkest of days, and focus in the brightest. I do not judge the universe." ~ Dalai Lama

MUJERES de MAIZ OPPORTUNITY NEWS

I've been talking about and hoping for a Soroptimist to accompany me on one of my trips to see first-hand what Mujeres De Maiz Opportunity Foundation is doing. How providential that Kathy Purcell's invitation for me to attend your installation of officers dinner resulted not only in a lovely evening for me, but also with the addition of Sandy and Jim Reed to our December trip to Chiapas! I am excited and delighted to have them on board to have a close-up look at what we are doing. Thank you, Kathy!

On the local front, Mujeres has paired up with Damiana's Best Cellars to auction off a rare bottle of port...a **1966 Quinta do Noval Vintage Port**. The silent auction ran until Tuesday, July 5th. I think it's great to involve and help local businesses profit, so I will also recommend to you the food at Damiana's....it is innovative and delicious!

Linda Finch and I will carry your toothbrushes and paste to the women of the cooperative the first week in August. Thank you again for that support.

We are excited to tell you that we have five new scholarship recipients beginning this fall. I'll have more information after our visit this summer.

So, you wonderful Soroptimist women, I salute you!

Judith Pasco, Board Chair
Mujeres de Maiz Opportunity Foundation
www.MujeresDeMaizOF.org



One of our scholarship girls, Martha from Crucero, selling handicrafts from her community at an exhibition when I was there in April.

GARDEN SHOW EXPRESS FULLY LOADED

We are thrilled to announce that we have a FULL Garden Show Core Committee. We will hold meetings with some of the committees during the summer to get the planning underway. A great, big thank you to the following members who will be chairing committees for the 2012 show:



MARKETING - Co-Chairs - Kathy Purcell & Missy Church-Smith;
sub-committee chairs - Linda Klinfelter, Jane Manzer, Kathleen DeJong, Cathy Angel
GARDEN CAFE - Andrea Alstrup, Lorraine Shore, Pat Brown
RAFFLE - Amanda Beitzel
ROVER - Shelle Paulbitski - Saturday; Monica Dixon – Sunday
SIGNAGE - Deborah Carlson
SIGN-UPS - Missy Church-Smith
SET-UP/TEAR-DOWN - Deborah Carlson
SPEAKERS - Rose Jager & Cathy Angel
SOROPTIMIST TABLE - Kate Creasey
SPONSORSHIP - Rose Jager & Tracy Russell
TREASURER - Sandy Reed
VENDOR SOLICITATION - Kathy Purcell & Jenni Dix
VENDOR SUPPORT - Marti Campbell



Garden by Jan; sign by Deb, oh wait!
Jan is by the sign...

Jan Chapman, Barbara Thompson and Susan Smith , Garden Show Co-Chairs

“Gardening is how I relax. It’s another form of creating and playing with colors.” ~ Oscar de la Renta

SEWESTS EXTRAORDINAIRE



“fully involved!”

PocketPals in the making!

A crew of members met at Amanda’s house on June 15th to cut, iron, and sew. We will be selling PocketPals and Aprons during the Sequim Lavender Farm Faire. Be sure to invite your family, friends, co-workers, neighbors to come visit us at the Cedarbrook Lavender and Herb Farm July 15th thru the 17th.



INSTALLATION DINNER

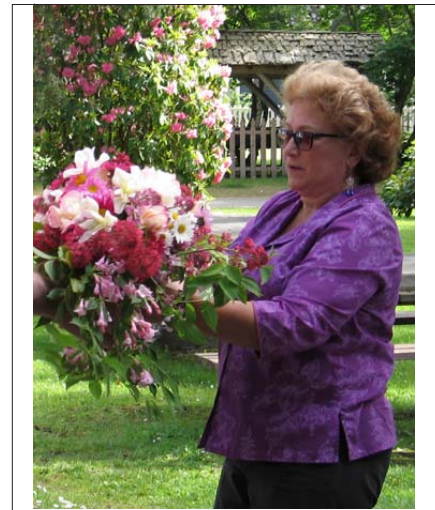


PRETTY IN PINK





SPECIAL GUESTS



**SPECIAL THANKS
to Barb for the
wonderful Flowers!**



INVOCATION



**WOMAN OF DISTINCTION
AWARD**



PRESIDENT'S AWARD



**DISTRICT 1
DIRECTOR
BERNIE
OFFICIATES**



“fully involved!”



**CHANGING OF THE
GUARDS**



MEMBERS LET THEIR LIGHT SHINE



**PRESIDENT DEB SHARES
HER VISION**

GRADUATING GRADUALLY and GRATEFULLY by: Amanda Cerutti



Dates, in general, are very easy to forget, or at least the unimportant ones are. If someone came up and asked me what I had for dinner on May 17th, it's most likely I'm not going to remember. But if that same person came up and asked me what I did on Saturday June 18th, 2011 at 2:00 pm, I could easily tell them: I graduated!

There are many prominent dates that I can remember thus far in my life, two of which are: Friday June 13th, 2008 (the day I graduated Sequim High School), and Saturday June 18th, 2011 (the day I graduated Peninsula Community College). Both of those days are very important milestones in my life, as both were big accomplishments.

Even though, I had taken a two year degree, I finished in three. That was only due to some mishaps that had occurred with the rearranging of my schedule. Other than that, I am on the right track for an A.A.S in Business, with an emphasis in Business Management.

Kathy Purcell, and the many WONDERFUL women of Soroptimist have given so much to me: a wonderful scholarship, guidance, encouragement, and faith – without which, I probably would have had a harder time achieving this goal. Due to these gifts, I was able to walk across the stage, shake hands with the Dean, and get my sought after diploma (Okay, it was the diploma cover, but the diploma will be arriving soon!). So when Kathy asked me if I was willing to write a short story about what it felt like, and what my future goals are, I happily accepted the challenge!



When I woke up on Saturday June 18th, I was excited! Excited because all my hard work had been building up to this point, and I couldn't wait! Arriving at the college, I joined the rest of the graduating class of 2011, and we waited until it was time to go into the gym for the ceremony. Apparently the weather did not want to cooperate, as it was windy and very cold! Nonetheless, when it was time to go through the doors to our seats, I could feel the excitement of my fellow classmates rise up in the air. Sitting down, we had many wonderful speakers talk about our futures and how important it is for us to reach for the stars, dream, and achieve our goals. The Dean of Students spoke about our class, and how it was the largest graduating class that he had seen thus far. He said he was extremely proud of the 2011 class and all that we had done.



Next, the Port Angeles High School band played a lovely orchestrated piece from Pirates of the Caribbean: At Worlds End (Peninsula College mascot's is Pirate Pete, so it seemed only fitting!). I will admit that Pirates of the Caribbean is my favorite movie trilogy of all time! It was really hard for me to not hum along to the tune!

When it came time to hand out the diploma covers, I remember getting up and waiting my turn. Once my name and degree had been read, I walked across the stage, shook hands with the Dean, and accomplished one of the biggest goals of my life. I felt ecstatic, like I was floating. After that, it all seemed to blur by in a daze of black, gold, clapping, and commotion. Outside, I was surrounded by hugs and congratulations from my family, friends, and fellow classmates. I was officially a college graduate!



~continued on page 11

Grateful Graduate...

It's been a few weeks now, and I've finally caught my breath and taken it all in. And I am looking forward to this new chapter in my life, which does include going back to school! After taking a year or so off, I plan to enroll in Peninsula College's Bachelor program in Business with an emphasis in Business Management. I've found out there are at least two different ways to achieve it: via online classes or night classes, and I can be finished in two years (or three in my case).

Sitting here at the computer, writing this, it feels great getting back into writing; it was something that I greatly enjoyed doing for the Soroptimist Newsletter and the WIN program. As most of you know, I was the "WIN Reporter" for at least 3 years during my time at the high school. Getting to know all the girls, and all the fun activities we did were a big highlight of my years in high school.

In ending this little story, I want to give a big thank you to all of you for the scholarships that aided me through college. Thanks too, for the encouragement to go for my dreams and achieve my goals, and for helping me to become the person I am. Thank you!

WORDS OF THANKS

Dear Soroptimist Int'l of Sequim,

I cannot thank you enough for the opportunities and honors that this wonderful club has presented me with over the past four years.

First, I would like to express how grateful I am to have received a \$1,000 Academic scholarship. I really appreciate this award, and I enjoyed attending the breakfast meeting with other recipients and their families.

Soroptimist has been a shining light in my life through Girl of the Month Award, the Violet Richardson Award, volunteering at the Garden Show, and endless awesome adventures through the WIN Program.

I truly appreciate the \$1,000 scholarship and all that the Soroptimists of Sequim have done.

Thank you again.
Sincerely,
Fallon Schneider

Women of Soroptimist,

I would like to thank you for your most generous 2011 Ruth Mogan Memorial Scholarship. It will greatly assist me in my post-secondary education at the University of Victoria. It was a honor for my mom and me to attend the breakfast ceremony. Thank you for your kind introductory words and for presenting my WIN poster.

Sincerely,
Margaret Norlund

Dear Soroptimists,

Thank you so very much for the \$1,000 scholarship. I am truly honored and grateful that you chose me for this award. It will be tremendously helpful as I embark on this new educational journey.

Sincerely,
Amy McAndie

Dear Soroptimists,

I cannot thank you enough for generously awarding me with a scholarship. It will really help me as I begin my journey through college. It was so wonderful getting to see you all at the scholarship breakfast and I will certainly try my best to keep you updated with my college adventures.

Best wishes,
Rachel Chumley

Dear Soroptimists,

Thank you very much for the \$1,000 scholarship! It will help me dramatically on my way to success! I wouldn't be able to do it without you! You are the reason my dreams will come true!

Again, thank you.
Always,
Kim Duce

Dear Soroptimists,

Thank you so much for awarding me the 1st place in the Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award. I really appreciate the money and the \$250 to the Sequim Food Bank. I know Stephen Rosales can really use the money – especially this time of year. My college plans are to go to medical school and become an orthodontist. The money will greatly help with that.

I will keep you posted as my college plans continue. Thank you again so much for your generosity.

Sincerely,
Samantha Schock

Dear Soroptimist of Sequim,

Thank you very much for choosing me to be Girl of the Month! I am honored and really appreciate the strong women who set the Soroptimist standard.

Sincerely,
Rachel Hughes

(VIP LUNCHEON)

We would like to thank you for the lovely buffet you sponsor each year before the Irrigation Parade. We enjoy getting together with the other royalty and VIP's. Thank you for all you do.

Lynanne White
Director, Miss American Rose
& the American Rose Girls

To all the wonderful Soroptimist,

Just want you all to know how grateful I am that you received my letter and received it in your heart! I feel so blessed to have your support and to be a part of a community with its wonderful organizations such as yours. Thank you for all your love and support, not only to me but to all the boys and girls lives you have helped sponsor. Thank you for recognizing and supporting educational growth and change in the upcoming generations of our community. Thank you so much for embracing my goals and dreams and helping them come to life.

With the utmost respect and love,
Alicia Dawn Potswald

Dear Soroptimists,

I would like to thank you for your generous gift of the scholarship for our special rider. Although she cannot be identified without permission I do want you all to know how important this is. Because of your kindness, this troubled young lady will be able to continue her therapy through horses. This seems to be one of the best ways to unlock her potential and lift her self esteem. With the recent state budget cuts she was in danger of loosing her funding to participate. Thanks to you we have one more girl who, instead of reaching for garbage, can reach for the stars.

Bless you and thank you again.
Yvette TwoRabbits Ludwar,
President Native Horsemanship Riding Center

June 1, 2011

Dear Soroptimists,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers of Gateway Medical Alliance, thank you for your generous support of our work in Morocco.

Mejada received a power wheelchair on Christmas Eve, 2010 through the collaboration of many people on two continents. Mejaa, age 46, has had to crawl on her hands and knees ever since she contracted polio at age 4. Before she received the chair Mejada was limited to moving about the house or being carried by someone else for limited excursions. Now her mother often doesn't even know where she is.

Mejada, having gained mobile independence, can be found going to the store, the cafes, the neighbors' homes and all over the village. This simple story is but one of the hundreds where a life is transformed for the better in Morocco. Thank you to everyone who is making stories like this possible.

Thank you again,
Michael J. Spiger, MD
President

**“Gratitude makes sense of our past,
brings peace for today,
and creates a vision for tomorrow.”
~ Author Unknown**



A QUESTION OF QUESTIONS

The July Newsletter Question is: **What is a hot weather experience you've had?** Maybe you went somewhere that is usually cold, packing accordingly – only to find it was so hot you had to buy new clothes once you arrived. Share your adventures with us!

The first memory that came to mind when Kathy asked for hot weather experiences was a “hot” double date back in my teen years. I spent summers in Nebraska, working on a farm during the week and spending weekends with my grandmother and cousins. My cousin Cindy and I were invited on a double date to go to the drag races in Marion, South Dakota, not realizing how far it was or knowing how hot it was going to be.

The trip was over 200 miles and the temperature was around 100 degrees that day. Her boyfriend's car was a 1968 Pontiac GTO - no air conditioning as we know it these days, but they called it 480 air (four windows down, 80 miles an hour) AND the interior was black vinyl. In every little town we came to (no bypasses those days), we'd look for yards being watered, stop the car, and all four of us would run through the sprinkler then jump back in the car. Cindy and I both had naturally curly hair so you can imagine what we looked like by the time we got there!! Further frizzing and “melting” took place while at the drag races, but thankfully it was dark, and a wee bit cooler by the time we headed back for the 4-hour trip home.



~Jane M.

“Ah, summer, what power you have to make us suffer and like it.” ~ **Russell Baker**

During the summer of my 16th year, I decided to take Driver's Education. In Illinois if you were over the age of 16 (but under 18) and wanted to drive, that instruction was required. The high school that offered it – which wasn't my own – was quite a distance from my house. Luckily the CTA (Chicago Transit Authority) had a bus that went very close to the school. It was 82 degrees when I left home that morning to walk to my bus stop. I was wearing shorts, a t-shirt and sandals. Even with those bare essentials, with the humidity and sun, it felt very hot.

I've heard it said if you don't like the weather in Chicago, wait 20 minutes. Well, the class was more than 20 minutes but by the time I came out, the temperature was 60 – a drop of over 20 degrees! The sky was overcast and the wind was making it a bad-hair day. It was a chilly wait for the CTA. When I got off at my bus stop there was a light drizzle. I walked home not quite singing in the rain. A short time later the sun was back streaming its rays – Mother Nature's hair dryer.



~ Kathy P.













“Life is a pure flame, and we live by an invisible sun within us.”
~ **Thomas Browne**

AUGUST NEWSLETTER QUESTION









The Lavender Festival and Lavender Farm Faire are July 15 -17th. The August Newsletter question is: Do you have a Lavender Festival or Lavender Farm Faire story? Perhaps a guest came to visit during that time? Or you helped a stranger find their way? Maybe you were a dog-sitter at the street fair? Please submit your replies to kathpur@roxum.com by **Saturday, July 30th**. We'd like to hear about your experience.



July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Janet Wicker 
3	4 Dale Simon  Happy 4th of July! 	5	6	7	8	9
10 SI Convention 	11 SI Convention 	12 SI Convention 	13 SI Convention 	14	15 Lavender Farm Faire 	16 Lavender Farm Faire 
17 Kathy Purcell 	18 Peg Rinker 	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Jane Manzer 	29	30
31						

August 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Pat Brown 	3 SILPADA Fundraiser 	4	5	6 Stuffing Backpack (Kids Kloset) 
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Colleen Blazier 	20
21	22	23 Amanda Beitzel 	24 START Meeting & Potluck 	25	26	27 NOFPA Picnic (Kids Kloset) 
28	29	30 Betty Osborn Ann Salmon 	31			

Lavender *by: Gil Saenz*

The unforgettable beauty of lavender
Occurs in both the earth
And in the colors of the sky.
An aromatic flower,
As well as part of the many changing
Shades of the daily heavens on high.
The creamy color of the sky—
Color of orchid dawn—
Is quickly there, and then is gone.
Light violet, lavender,
How unique is its special glow,
Colored in nature in light lilac,
Amethyst, and airy, purple indigo.



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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