



President's Message

Welcome to 2010; it's a new year and a new decade! Much of what inspires all of us to move forward and make a difference every day is remembrance of the good times as well as personal perseverance through challenging times. As we look forward to the new year, the memories yet to create include family, friends, and fellow Soroptimists.

As Soroptimists, this new year (and decade) presents us with an incredible opportunity to help better the lives of women through our continued community service, education and awareness. Our club is small - yet strong, and each of you is an integral member contributing to our club's successful difference that we make every day, month, and year. We have many club activities upcoming, so get involved with a committee if you haven't already! Here's some highlights: Human Trafficking Awareness Campaign (Jan) - Intl. Human Rights/Status of Women; VRA/WOA/Ruby Awards Recognition Breakfast (Feb) - Federation, Red-Set-Go - Health

Spelling Bee - Education, Annual Dinner/Dance/Auction - WNM Other, Regional Meeting Anchorage, Begin Counting (WNM ONP), Garage Sale - Health



Santa and his helpers at the Boys and Girls Club Christmas Party.

With all of these (and many more) opportunities to make a difference in the lives of women locally and globally, it is important for you to know, that each and every one of you is appreciated for the talent, knowledge, strength and time you contribute to your fellow Soroptimists! It is together, that our club is at it's best! As the 2009-2010 President - from the bottom of my heart, I need to thank our Board Members, all of you, and especially Laurie (pres-elect), Jill (secretary) and Becky (treasurer) and Ruth (past-pres). Without all of you, I would not have been able to continue my membership (let alone any level of leadership of the club) remotely from "across the water". You've made a difference in my life, and in turn through your teamwork - have allowed me to make a difference in others' lives. Thank you!

I'm looking forward to 2010, knowing that together - we'll be able to overcome challenges and continue to make a difference - in each other's lives as well as those of other women in our community and globally!

Here's to a bright new decade - bringing us all good health, happiness, and strength in ourselves & our relationships with family, friends and fellow Soroptimists!

Anna L. Shields - President

Soroptimist Jet-Set Highlights

Boys & Girls Club Port Angeles hosts a special evening of outreach for youth

Article submitted by George N. Rodes

Boys & Girls Club Port Angeles - Director

It was an amazing night for kids recently at the Port Angeles Boys & Girls Club. If you wanted to see Christmas spirit first hand, this was the place. The Club was cheerful with lights, ambiance, and an exciting stir of kids anticipating the fun and excitement of the evening. As we have been faced with the many difficulties of recession and the loss and cutback of jobs, it has taken a toll on everyone, especially on the kids during the holidays. To help bring some holiday cheer and fun the Boys & Girls Club had games, music, fun projects you could eat (artist cookies), pizza, pop, sandwiches, the Peninsula College Men's Basketball Team, snacks.... (yes you heard right, the P.C. men's basketball team!), a miniature horse dressed in the coolest Santa outfit, and of course Santa Claus himself.



After practice, the men came to the Club and what a sight it was. The kids absolutely loved it. The kids were asking for autographs, asking questions, and were all looking up to the team as they towered above. The kids were put into teams with each of the players as a team captain. The Club was divided into seven zones, and each team captain made sure that all the kids got to each of the zones. Coach Stuart was great as he interacted and played with the kids. It was really awesome how the team really got into the spirit of things with the kids. The kids were completely enthralled with the everything that was going on. After a little and some holiday cheer Santa came by and the cheering could be heard for miles. He had a beautifully decorated room and chair, where he spoke with the kids and gave gifts to ALL. There were over a hundred kids that participated as well as parents and siblings. I would like to give many thanks to the Port Angeles Jet Set, Peninsula College Men's Basketball team and staff, Native Horsemanship Center Sequim, Wal-Mart, Port Angeles Food Bank, Gordy's Pizza, All About Pizza, and Drake's sandwich shop all for coming together to help make an incredible experience for the kids! I have an awesome job to be able to know so many tremendous people who love and care about the kids of our community. As the new year approaches we are looking forward to the many positive and rewarding experiences we will be sharing with the kids! Happy Holidays!



This is your year. Make it a standout by following a fitness routine that works for you. Schedule in great nutrition, regular exercise and enough rest so you can be your vibrant best each day. Get the health screenings your healthcare practitioner recommends and, if you use tobacco, resolve to quit for life. Give yourself plenty of support when making lifestyle changes, then keep your eyes on the prize and make yourself proud!

SOROPTIMIST CLUBS IN PORT ANGELES AIM TO STOP TRAFFICKING

STOP is what Port Angeles-based Soroptimists say to trafficking. Members of SI Port Angeles Jet Set and SI Port Angeles (Noon Club) are a part of Soroptimist International of the Americas, an international volunteer organization for business and professional women that recently launched an awareness campaign called Soroptimists STOP Trafficking to shed light on its negative impact on women and girls.

Soroptimist, whose mission is to improve the lives of women and girls, launched the campaign on January 11—the National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness. The U.S. Senate passed a nationwide resolution in June 2007 designating this day to acknowledge that the techniques used by traffickers to keep their victims enslaved severely limits self-reporting; thus, it is imperative there be increased public awareness and advocacy on behalf of the voiceless women and girls held captive. To raise awareness of trafficking, Port Angeles Soroptimists will distribute printed cards, entitled “The New Face of Slavery,” to the public that contain information about the sexual trafficking of women and girls.



Lori Oakes (noon club), John Miller (Community Development, Clallam County), Billie Grauberger, Jean Schneider, and Laurie Fineout braved the rain handing out brochures and flyers to passing community members on the trafficking concerns locally and throughout the world. Ruth Thomson and Marsha Robin joined as well. The Jet-Set team was joined by members of the noon club at the ferry dock in the morning to bring awareness to the travelers enroute to Victoria, Vancouver Island, B.C. Great job, ladies!

Sexual trafficking is the movement of people, within national or across international borders, for the purposes of prostitution or other forms of commercial sexual exploitation. Port Angeles Soroptimists want the public to become aware of its depth, and to be able to recognize a woman or girl—perhaps a neighbor—who may need help getting out of a dire situation.

Approximately 75 percent of all human trafficking victims are trafficked for sexual exploitation. Each year, between 800,000 and 900,000 people are trafficked across international borders—80 percent of whom are women and children. An estimated 14,500-17,500 people are trafficked into the United States each year. There are reports of sexual trafficking in at least 20 states, with most cases occurring in New York, California, and Florida.

Soroptimist also encourages people to visit its website for more information about sexual trafficking and what individuals can do to stop it. The sexual trafficking white paper located on the site provides those who know little about the problem with detailed information.

Soroptimist International of Port Angeles Jet Set and Port Angeles (Noon Club) are part of Soroptimist International of the Americas, headquartered in Philadelphia, PA. Soroptimist is an international volunteer organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world. For more information on how Soroptimist improves the lives of women and girls, visit <www.soroptimist.org>.

Award Recognition Breakfast Planned

The SIPA Jet Set award recognition breakfast will be held at a regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, February 4, 2010. At that time, we will honor our three award recipients. Aishia Dueno was selected as our Violet Richardson Award winner and will receive \$500; Katherine "Mandie" Hawkins was selected as our Women's Opportunity Award winner and will receive \$1,000; Becca Korby was selected as our Ruby Award winner and will receive \$500 for Healthy Families.

The **Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award** is a recognition program for young women ages 14-17 engaged in volunteer action within their communities or schools. The award is given to young women whose activities make the community and world a better place. This year's award winner, Aishia Dueno, is a member of Clallam County Teen Court.

The **Women's Opportunity Awards** program was established in 1972 to assist women with primary financial responsibility for their families to obtain the skills training and education necessary to improve their employment status and standard of living for themselves and their family. During the 2008-2009 club year, more than US \$1 million in club, region, and federation funds were awarded to more than 1,000 women in SIA's 19 member countries and territories. The women receiving these financial awards may use them for any costs associated with their educational efforts, including tuition, books, child care, and transportation. This year's award winner is Katherine "Mandie" Hawkins who will be attending the nursing program at Peninsula College.

Formerly the Soroptimist Making a Difference for Women Award, the newly-named **Soroptimist Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women** recognizes and honors the first federation president, Ruby Lee Minar. A ruby is also a deep red gemstone associated with wisdom, importance, vitality, strength, vivacity, power and love: all words embodying the strong and compassionate women who are our award recipients. The Soroptimist Ruby Award honors women who have worked to improve the lives of women and girls through their professional and/or volunteer work. The program begins at the local-level where clubs recognize a woman in their community. Clubs submit their entry to the region-level where the region selects a woman to honor at the region conference. At the federation-level one woman is selected to receive a \$5,000 donation to her favorite charitable organization. This year's winner is Becca Korby, Executive Director of Healthy Families. Becca's name was submitted to the Northwestern Region in partnership with SI of Port Angeles (Noon Club).

HOLIDAY WHITE ELEPHANT PARTY



Venture Update

Venture ended 2009 with adopting a family for Christmas with the money they raised from Bunco. They also gave quilts to Rose House, First Step and Serenity House. The quilts were donated by a local quilting club to Venture to give to needy children.

2010 is starting with Venture making a commitment to provide dinner one Saturday, every other month, to the homeless youth center in the old church near Swain's. They are also continuing to work with First Step to paint some of the rooms in their new building. Providing breakfast to Soroptimist continues to be the largest fundraiser for Venture.

President Melissa Waggoner is looking forward to another busy year. Venturists are still waiting to hear if Soroptimist International is going to continue sponsorship of the Venture Clubs.



Tina Smith-O'Hara gives Sequim Rotary Member Jim Pickett a warm welcome before his Shelter Box presentation.

Attitude

by

Charles Swindoll

“The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past...we cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude...I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you...we are in charge of our attitudes.”

NW Region Conference Plans Taking Shape

It's time to start planning for Northwestern Region Conference in Anchorage, Alaska, April 23-25, 2010 (a no-host day tour is being planned for Thursday, April 22, so you will want to arrive early if you wish to participate). More info on the conference itself will be in the Official Call that will be available on February 19.) We are planning a conference filled with opportunities to learn, to grow personally and professionally, to be inspired, to have fun and to laugh and cry with your Soroptimist friends. We will also be electing and installing our Region and District Officers for 2010-2012. Be a part of it! Be there! Be the BEST!

Calendar of Events

- Jan 14 Fowler Straton
Friends of the Library
- Jan 21 Taylor Schraudner
Youth Corp/AmeriCorp
- Jan 28 TBA
- Feb 4 Federation Awards Breakfast



Laurie Fineout joined meeting guest Anne Peacock from EdenScapes.



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
PORT ANGELES—JET SET

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