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KUDOS KORNER

This month we give Kudos to our Region Public Awareness Team (Kathy Purcell, Heidi Gordon Helene Jensen, Linda Simpson and Becky Taft) who have done a fabulous job with redesigning *The Soroptimist WOMAN* newsletter! Stay tuned for the updated website.

From the Heart of the Governor

You asked. We listened. It is with great pleasure and excitement that we bring you the first issue of the NWR newsletter for the biennium. One of the waves of change comes to you in print form with a new *innovative* and *engaging* format we're sure you're going to love. Simply, it's a newsletter *for you, about you*. It's about Soroptimist members connecting, celebrating, and networking with one another. With your contributions each month, it's going to be fantastic!

The region theme "*Our Love Lifts Us Higher*" is about each of us striving to reach a little higher in thought and in deed as we share our passion for Soroptimist. The Public Awareness team took this theme to *heart* as they created a newsletter that allows information to rise from the club level and soar around the region. I want to especially thank them for their dedication to

this endeavor, which represents many hours of collaboration in designing and publishing this newsletter especially *for you*. Please lift them up by sending a note of thanks!



As you will see, the new format depends on *member* and *club participation* to grow and develop into the information sharing tool you asked for. Be sure to read the category descriptions and send information regularly to the editors to fill its pages. Celebrating your successes, milestones, and best practices will *inspire* and *lift* one another. It is exciting to celebrate the launch of their creative efforts. Enjoy!

~Carol Hansen, Governor

New WOMAN

It's a new biennium with new leadership. You'll notice a new look for the region newsletter. This publication is meant to be a way to share who we are—not just what we do. We have collective impact, but it's you—the individual members who make it happen. It's you who inspire others to reach higher. The newsletter has been redesigned. We have some new

columns and we're introducing them in this issue of *The Soroptimist WOMAN*. The newsletter is a living form of communication. It will grow and mature over time as we nurture it with our sharing. We invite you to contribute to *The Soroptimist WOMAN*.

The Region Public Awareness Team

KUDOS

ORNER



Kudos Korner

This is for giving a ‘shout out’ to a specific group/person. It is a place to mention members who have let their Soroptimist spirit shine and have made a difference. One example is shown in the sidebar on the front page. Submit your Kudos to: nwrsia@gmail.com. Be sure to include KUDOS in the subject line of the e-mail.

“Love is but the discovery of ourselves in others, and the delight in the recognition.”

~Alexander Smith



Reaching Higher

This is for sharing a Club achievement/recognition. Here is a chance to tell the rest of the region what you’ve attained. One example is this notice of congratulations to SI of Greater Hermiston Area. OR – see below.

As individual clubs reach higher, we are all inspired to reach higher. Send your Reaching Higher notices to: nwrsia@gmail.com. Be sure to include REACHING HIGHER in the subject line of the e-mail.

Email Contest Part 1

Every club has a designated email account: your-club@soroptimist.net. To encourage you to use this account we have an enticing contest.

On **September 1** an email will be sent to all designated club email accounts. Those who respond from that address **by October 1** will get a **shout out** at their respective District Meetings and will be mentioned in the next **Soroptimist WOMAN**. Part 2 will be explained in next month’s newsletter. Stay tuned...



Milestone Mentions

If your club is having an anniversary (multiple of 5 years) we'd like to know about it! And if you have a particular celebration activity scheduled, please tell us what you have planned. Let the region celebrate your milestone! Joy shared is expanded and multiplied. Send your Milestone Mentions to **nwr-sia@gmail.com** along with MILESTONE MENTIONS in the subject line of the e-mail.

SI of Kent celebrated their **50 years Anniversary** at the Soos Creek Botanical Gardens late last month.

SI of Kent
celebrated
50 years of
service to
their
community.



Events

Is your club planning an event or activity? Provide us with the who, what, when, where and why and we'll have it listed in *The Soroptimist WOMAN*. Be sure to include contact information. Send your events to **nwrsia@gmail.com** with EVENTS in the subject line.

Coming Up:

District Meetings
District 4 call is out.
Stay tuned for the Call for
Districts 1, 2, & 3 !

**What's
Happening**

Leading with Leadership

I read an article on leadership in Forbes magazine by Kevin Kruse and it made me think about how we should define leadership in Soroptimist. Leadership isn't about a person's title, seniority, or hierarchy— because we are all leaders. Kruse states that *“Leadership is a process of social influence, which maximizes the efforts of others, towards the achievement of a goal.”* Isn't that what we do every day as members? We use our influence to impact change by leveraging the talents and skills of those around us to achieve our mission to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

In Soroptimist, we are all empowered leaders. We lead committees, projects, tasks on a project, meetings and/or the club. We lift each other up with our shared passion for the organization's mission and by mentoring those new to leadership roles. One of the best ways we lift each other up is through our ability to delegate. The best leaders are not hoarders of information or tasks! They spread the wealth so others can learn and grow.

Effective delegation occurs when a leader shares the work with members in a way that allows their skills to be enhanced— increases their ability to make strong, correct decisions and contributes to the club's success. Delegation IS NOT about passing the buck or sharing just the tough, unpopular tasks that the leader doesn't want to do. Delegation should be treated as an opportunity to teach as well as learn.

Governor Carol has provided us with an inspirational theme, *“Our Love Lifts Us Higher”* and as leaders there are so many ways we can lift our clubs and members up so they in turn can lift others up. During the biennium you can look forward to receiving leadership tips, information and resources from your Professional Development Committee members Sandy Lawrence/SI of Sequim, Kathy Sechrist/SI of Coupeville and Stephanie Smith/Governor Elect, SI of Oak Harbor. Let us know how we can help lift the region higher!

~ Stephanie Smith
Governor Elect/Professional Development Chair

Region and District Leadership 2014-2016

Governor **Carol Hansen**
(SI of Pasco-Kennewick)
Governor Elect **Stephanie Smith**
(SI of Oak Harbor)
Region Secretary **Marti Crook**
(SI of McMinnville)
Region Treasurer **Carla Tucker**
(SI of Burlington)
Dist 1 Director **Nancy Buechner**
(SI of Friday Harbor)
Dist 1 Sec **Renee Recker**
(SI of Oak Harbor)
Dist 2 Dir **Dawn Christiansen Cuellar**
(SI of Lake Oswego/West Linn)
Dist 2 Sec **Theresa Heidt-Vanderschoot**
(SI of McMinnville)
Dist 3 Dir **Tamra Smrekar**
(SI of Newport)
Dist 3 Sec **Kathi Hanson**
(SI of Three Rivers)
Dist 4 Dir **Melissa Domme**
(SI of Helena)
Dist 4 Sec **Cindy Zimmerman**
(SI of Helena)

Networking News

What do we do when we're looking for help on a project? We check with a friend. We network. As Soroptimists we've discovered that tapping into our members' talents produces success. We're taking it a step further by providing a place for everyone to tap into the resources of our members' businesses.

We are offering networking opportunities for our members on the NWR website. We will be having a dedicated page for members to share their business cards. Members must complete and submit the Member Networking Opportunity Form (last page of this newsletter). The price is **\$30/quarter**. These funds will help offset costs associated with the NWR website.

If you are interested, please send your ad (JPEG or PDF) to: **nwrsia@gmail.com**. Payment should be made to: **Soroptimist Northwestern Region** and mailed to **NWR Treasurer Carla Tucker at 23153 Buchanan Place, Mount Vernon WA 98273**. The ad form is attached.

Due Date:

Submissions to *The Soroptimist WOMAN* are due by the first of the month. Publication is distributed by the 10th of the month.

Connecting at the Convention

What I liked best about this year's meeting was two things. One was the Laurel Society gathering. This was a fun planned-out event where you got to come and share energy and do some really fun activities too. The costume contest and the photo flip books gave us a chance to laugh and interact with fellow members. But at this event the most honoring part is to know that our Northwestern Region has such a strong membership in this group of caring people. To be invited to this event you had to do more than give the one time contribution— every two years you have to continue to give in support of the most important part of Soroptimist, Our Programs.

The second thing I found to be great was the planned morning walks. It was great for me to get up and walk with fellow members. When I did this the first morning of conference, it gave me a safe area that I could walk every morning. Some mornings due to NWR Photos, I got up a little earlier than the scheduled walk and did it on my own.

On these walks every day, I brought my camera and got some great local shots. Being introduced to the local area makes it easier to get around even during the days for lunch.

~ *Becky Taft, SI/Sedro Woolley*



Our Alaska Club member with President Elect Poco Davis.



MEMBER NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY FORM

What do we do when we're looking for help on a project? We check with a friend. We network. As Soroptimists we've discovered that tapping into our members' talents produces success. We're taking it a step further by providing a place for everyone to tap into the resources of our members' businesses.

We are offering **networking opportunities** for our members on the NWR website. We will have a dedicated page for members to share their business cards. The member must submit the business card as a jpeg or PDF file. The price is **\$30/quarter**. These funds will help offset costs associated with the NWR website.

What a great idea! **YES!** I am interested in promoting my business AND supporting Soroptimist! I understand I will have my business card on the NWR website for three months.

Business Name: _____ Type of Business: _____

Contact Information:

Member Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone: Daytime: _____ Evening: _____

My payment of \$ _____ payable to: **Soroptimist Northwestern Region** is attached.

_____ I have emailed a file (JPEG or PDF) to nwrsia@gmail.com.

Payment should be made to:
Soroptimist Northwestern Region
and mailed to
NWR Treasurer Carla Tucker
23153 Buchanan Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Specify which quarter.
____ Oct thru Dec
____ Jan thru Mar
____ April thru June

Business Card—2" h x 3 1/2" w

*All advertising should be professional in nature.
We reserve the right to refuse any advertising that is deemed inappropriate.*