



### President's Message

This club year, SI-Ashland has managed to facilitate making happy and significant experiences come together for other people and, hopefully, for ourselves. In meeting our goals, we were able to improve the lives of others, and, as President, it has been rewarding to be involved in facilitating this and watching it happen through your successes.

This year, I had three simple objectives: KEEP LAUGHING, INVITE OTHERS, AND SET INDIVIDUAL GOALS. From what I have seen, all of your combined passion and commitment to our projects has been inspiring



and these goals were met on many levels. As President, it emphasizes to me how important it is to be "women at our best, helping other women to be their best." This year came together because of your effort, flexibility and follow through on committee work and it is appreciated.

The project of this year was to lay out and present a strategic plan for club input. As the Board mapped this out for club, we had in mind for it to serve as a guide for SI-Ashland to use now and into the future. It is hopeful that by implementing this document, we will keep our workload focused and in balance, meet federation goals and understand the benefits of membership as we move forward. As President, it was a pleasure to see the willingness of members to take on new challenges and bring this project to this point.



We wrap this year up now and June will be a month of celebrating our successes and getting in position to go forward with new leadership. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as SI-Ashland 08-09 President. You have all been wonderful and I am truly glad for the support you have given me and for the many laughs we have shared as we accomplished our goals.

Keep smiling,  
Debbie, SI-A President

**Sign up for the 2009 parade NOW!**

*The pictures are intended to illustrate Debbie's goals: Invite others with our 3 new members, set goals with our July 4th parade entry; and keep laughing. --Ed.*

COMING ... This Month	
Tue Jun 2 7:30 pm	Pillow Booth BEGINS
Wed Jun 3 noon*	Business Meeting
Wed Jun 10 noon	Picnic @ Garden Way Park
Mon Jun 15 5:30 pm	Installation Banquet Ashland Springs Hotel
Wed Jun 17 noon tba	Co-Chair Training
Tue Jun 23 5:30	BOARD Review
Sat Jul 4	Ashland Parade
*La Casa del Pueblo 1209 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland	



## Book Sale



Our Book Sale raised \$230 for Operations by selling our books among ourselves! Left over books were sold to used book stores for \$97 credit for SSGSW. The remainder went to the Goodwill to benefit Dunn House.



## Spring Road Cleanup



Seven Soroptimist and 2 soropti-husbands cleaned 1.8 miles of East Main Street from Walker Avenue to Hwy 66, collecting nothing super interesting or art worthy but filling 14 bags and leaving 7 flagged items.



Despite what may sound like an uneventful day,

there are awards: Honorable Mentions go to **Mavis Cloutier** for having completed more road clean up sessions than anyone in club (She confesses to missing two!); **Carolyn Johnson** for having the husband who has the record in clean up sessions (We know her efforts are a big part of his being there.); **Linda Anderson** and **Sue Kurth** were fastest finishers coming in at just 1 hour; **Judy Faulkner** has the diversity award for being able to work with a partner other than her long time cohort Wendy who managed to be out of

country when we needed her.

The Grand Prize goes to: a first time cleaner; a “foxy” lady who collected a dead fox rather than leave it at the roadside as others of the group did and one who was so enamored with the experience that she brought home souvenirs in the form of 2 ticks! Congratulations! **Roberta Broadie!**

Thank you all participants and we hope you other club members are encouraged to join the fun in our fall clean up.

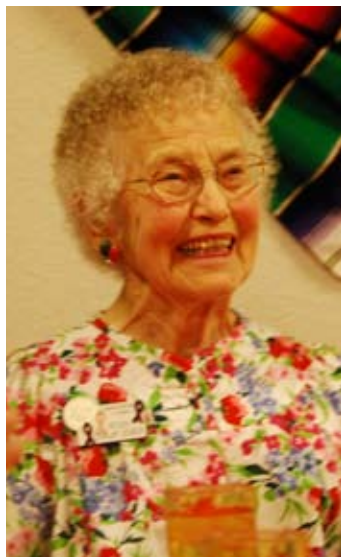
## New Members:

**Marion Boenheim, Janet Leifur, Joy Dobson Way**





## In Memorium: Helen Sieber



Helen Sieber

I already miss Helen; she was my friend. You will miss her too, even if you do not realize it or didn't know Helen. Many of you did not know her as it has been three years since she was driving and attending regularly. I will tell you something of her.

She came as a new member in 1980. We were meeting at the Jackson House then: it was crowded and it was difficult to mingle, so I only saw her and had some incorrect assumptions. She had only one arm and seemed little--could she dig in and do our good works? Several of our members then had a classification only because their husbands owned a business and the wife had a peripheral interest. Surely she was one of these. No, Helen was newly divorced and fully involved in property management.

Helen kept her properties going, scrubbing, hauling trash, finding carpet to upgrade, hard physical work. In proving to herself and others that she could keep up with others, she surpassed most of us.

At age 7 she had fallen from a tree and injured her right arm. Her father was an optimist and

thought the arm could be saved so had it treated for a year before giving up and releasing her from the pain. This was in 1926-27 so there was little medical ability in this area.

In the midst of the Great Depression the family moved from Arkansas to California. At 14 she looked for work and found it in a large poultry processing plant, plucking chickens: One hand, boiling water, Bakersfield heat! She had never mentioned this as Helen always spoke of the positive. Her daughter told me this last week.

As a young woman she swam, she played tennis, got a college education, won the heart of a tall handsome man and began teaching small children. Her daughters were born 10 years apart and she took the entire care of them: yes, with one arm. At this time she was the complete housewife and also the partner in the small grocery stores she and Al had and, later, a gun store. Oh yes, fishing and hunting trips as well.

In twenty-five plus years in Soroptimist of Ashland she did the things you will miss. Declining offices, but working on all

committees she felt SIA was a vital part of her life. During the booth months she was available as substitute and worked two or three times the suggested nights. Coming early, with extra change, in case it was needed, she pulled blankets and pillows from cupboards, ready for her partner to show. In other areas she was always there. Always driving herself, with backseat full of items someone needed.

She might have started the birthday card sending as a corresponding secretary. In those years everyone received cards and still, now, she was thinking of each birthday as the day came. In so many small ways she did fill in for all of us. That is what you might not know you were missing since Helen passed away a few months ago.

Virginia Vogel

*Ed: And we had the pleasure of having Helen (and Virginia) come to our Valentine's party, where her daughter was part of the entertainment.*



Virginia Vogel



# Human Rights and Status of Women Committee

Our committee decided to use our unspent budget monies along with your donations to support our Making A Difference Award Winner, Sudy Storm's, request for items to help the women and children in the village she is working at in Sierra Leone. Sudy had requested help to obtain Mama/baby packets (blanket, onesie, cap and socks), children's vitamins, travel toiletries, etc.

Mavis put together 30 Mama/baby packets and we have also gathered a large bag of personal items (all donated) for the moms. Peggy was able to purchase 30 bottles of children's vitamins. The mama/baby packets came to \$164.48, the vitamins were \$99.90 for a total of

\$264.38. This was ALL funded by your generous donations. The committee is providing \$90.00 to help with shipping of the packages and to purchase any items still needed by Sudy that she will buy in Africa. A HUGE THANK YOU goes out to all you wonderful Soroptimist women for supporting this great, impromptu project. Many thanks also goes out to Mavis and Peggy for spearheading this project.

~~~~~  
On a different topic, another \$100.00 has been repaid to our Soroptimist of Ashland KIVA account and we will turn it around and re-loan it to another woman. Our original loan has been completely

paid back and we have used those monies to lend to five other women. That makes 6 women we have helped around the world with our original investment of \$400.00. We will continue to just keep rolling the funds over to help more women. If you want to find out more about KIVA, perhaps to become a private lender and join the Soroptimist lending club, go to [www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org). You can also ask me (Kathy Mooney) about it.

THANK YOU ALL AGAIN! DON'T YOU JUST LOVE BEING A SOROPTIMIST?

Co Chairs Kathy and Peggy

## Awards Luncheon

Award Winners:

First Row: Emily Tess McWhorter, Tanager, Tania Quispe, Auika Muragin, Sandra M Lawyer, Alaina Joy Barrett, Corey Anderson.

Second Row: Whitney Scott, Katya Ludwig, Allison Krevitz, Lindsay Stone, Rosie Converse, Meghan Laughlin.

Their stories were inspiring!





## Pillow Booth 2009 Season Begins

The Calendar can be found at:  
[www.soroptimistRV.org/siashland/pillowbooth2009.html](http://www.soroptimistRV.org/siashland/pillowbooth2009.html)



Tuesday, June 2nd, is the opening of another exciting year. At our Awards Ceremony last Wednesday, we saw, firsthand, our Pillow Booth profits being used to promote our goal of improving the lives of women and girls. So let's get starting earning money for the future!

If you have not signed up for at least 6 sessions, now is the time. Remember, you can trade or substitute dates with other SIA members if your

plans for any date change. I hope to see June 2nd through September 10th completely staffed before we break for the summer!

Peggy Cossolias will be June's monthly chair. Please call her, Kay Lynne or myself if you have any problems or suggestions when you work the booth. Your updates give us a chance to make sure that we keep things running smoothly. When you are unable to leave the startup cash reasonably accurate, call one of us.

Thank you all for your hard work over the years on this great project, and welcome to the new members who will join the project this season. I am sure you will agree that this is a fun, relatively easy way to make this volume of money when we spread the work throughout the membership of the club. It is also a great way to get to know each other.

Cynthia  
535-2528  
324-8371

## Wine Walk for Women's Health

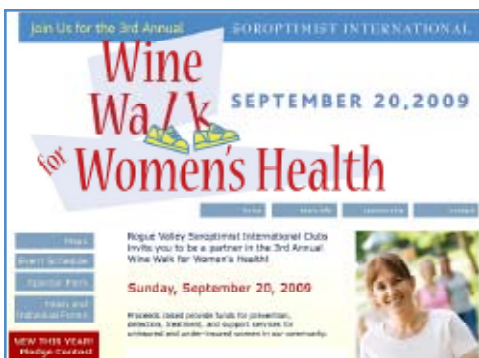
[www.siwinewalk.org](http://www.siwinewalk.org)

The 3rd Annual Soroptimist International Wine Walk for Women's Health will be September 20, 2009. Save the date.

vidual, Community Team and Sponsor Registration forms.

Last year SI Ashland had a team of walkers. Let's get a team this year too. We will also need some volunteers to help during the event; we will have a sign-up sheet soon.

Currently we have approximately 100 people registered for the wine walk.



This year's event will have the same course but in reverse order from last year's event, walking from Wooldridge Creek Winery to Troon Vineyard

where there will be a snack served, then down to Bridgeview Vineyard.

The limit of wine walkers is 350. The vineyards think that's all they can accommodate. We are going to ask the vineyards if they would allow us to have an additional 50 walkers that would just walk and not sample the wines. These walkers would receive a special participation wrist band. We will update you when we get this information.

New this year is a Pledge Contest: For every \$50 you raise in pledges we'll enter your name in the special prize drawing!

List of prizes coming soon! Pledged funds may be mailed with your registration or turned in on Walk Day. The drawing will take place at the final winery. You need not be present to win. This is a great way to win prizes and help raise funds for women in need in our community.

Georgina Holderness

Wine Walk committee Chair  
Melanie Madden  
[winewalkforwomen@aol.com](mailto:winewalkforwomen@aol.com)  
541.621.8219

We are going "green" this year by limiting the number of printed material. Please refer to the official website [www.siwinewalk.org](http://www.siwinewalk.org) where you will be able to download Indi-



# Christmas in May

*It was a spectacular day and we had a fantastic time.*  
--Kathy

At our Christmas auction, I offered a wildflower hike, which Kathy Mooney bid successfully on. And so last weekend, we had our outing on the Rogue River trail. We had a great time poking along and looking at the

wildflowers and the river and the lizards and the hikers etc etc. It was an absolutely gorgeous day -- couldn't have been a more perfect temperature. After our walk, we found a very sweet place in the shade along a beautiful

creek to put out our lawn chairs and have a picnic lunch. Kathy wore her Soroptimist hat to make it an official event, too!

Mel





# Soroptimist International of Ashland

meets at noon on Wednesdays from September through June at  
La Casa del Pueblo, 1209 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland.  
Please contact Debbie Jones at 482-9450 for additional meeting or  
club details or send us an email at [siashland@gmail.com](mailto:siashland@gmail.com).

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## Thank You

Thank You to Life Member Elysia Iverson for her \$20 donation to our Operations Fund.

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