



President's Message

Spring is always a time for renewal. One thinks of ways to do something better or with a new flair, or try something new, or re-think ways to lead a more balanced life in terms of work and play. I am reminded that if you have your health and know how to laugh, you just about do have everything.

How good it is that we are in a position to promote health, education and the betterment of lives. I look back on the three goals I had for this year, that is: 1- Enjoy the comradery of being part of a committee and remember that the fun starts with you! 2- Invite others in the community to share in our experiences. 3- Set individual goals that embrace flexibility and the willingness to take on new challenges, such as the lay out of a strategic plan for club. I think we moved in this direction and welcome your input.

SI-Ashland Club took a fresh look at what we do and produced a Strategic Plan that we hope to integrate into what we want to accomplish now and in the future. In working through the details, it is apparent that our group is committed to action that is worthwhile in our community. It is evident that fellowship and diversity are important to all, and also international goodwill and understanding. As individuals, it seems essential to aspire to live our own dreams and inspire others to live theirs. As a group, we want to focus on actual work that impacts lives. We grasp that attitude, enthusiasm, new ideas and diverse skill sets add to the culture and success of our club. We strive to get the word out about what we do so that others, who share our interests, will want to join our organization. All feel privileged and fortunate that we are able to produce sufficient funds to accomplish our service program goals that clearly make a difference to women and girls in our community and throughout the world. SI-Ashland strives to be seen by others as a relevant and modern force of women impacting lives. This is the essence of the SI-Ashland Strategic Plan.

We have enjoyed several excellent programs this year and the committees accomplished all goals and then some. We wrap up April with the Once-in-a-Blue-Moon "Twilight Vineyard Party" and that is sure to be a nice evening. As of this writing, we are pleased to welcome new members this year including Chris, Joy, Janet and Marion. Our roster also shows new members since 7/1 as Jenni, Susan, Patti and Erin. So we continue to grow, have fun, and make a difference. All these women add wonderful energy, friendliness and additional perspective to our club as we accomplish our objectives.

It is now time to spring into the next phase. We look forward to setting up new committees, the pillow booth roster, the May book sale and the Recognition & Awards banquet. At the center of all we do is the feeling that "making the world a more fair, just and safe place for women" will benefit all society. Your good energy and enthusiasm this year for activities towards this end are appreciated and make a big difference in the lives of women and girls.

Laugh and be happy!

Debbie, SI-A President

COMING ... This Month	
Wed May 6 noon*	Business Meeting Approve Budget
Mon, May 4 5:30	Board Meeting @ Debbie's
Thu May 7 noon	Lunch Buddies Helman School
Wed May 13 noon*	Cynthia & Kay Lynne PILLOW BOOTH
Thu May 12 noon	Lunch Buddies-Makeup Helman School
Sat May 16 8:30 am	ROAD CLEANUP
Mon May 18 3:00 pm	LAUNDRY PARTY Laundramat on Lithia Way
Wed May 20 noon*	BOOK SALE SSGSW Year End Recap
Tue May 26 5:30	Joint Board Meeting
Wed May 27 noon*	Awards Luncheon Ashland Springs Hotel
*La Casa del Pueblo 1209 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland	



## Pillow Booth Season Begins!



On May 13th there will be a brief presentation on the upcoming Pillow Booth Season. I hope to see all of our new members. In the meantime, look for the signup sheet for the Laundry Party on May 18th. The first one is the easiest one!

Signups for the season

are in full swing on the website thanks to Linda Anderson and Kay Lynne Sherman.

Mavis has been sewing new pillow cases again this year. Our inventory is looking better than ever! Thank you Mavis.

Cynthia

## Fund Raising Successes



**GARDEN COUPONS:** Raised \$260 for Operations by selling 52 coupons!

**EMPTY BOWLS:** Net: \$5,696, to be distributed to Food Banks.

**VODKA TASTING:** \$1,030 with \$50 of expenses for a Net profit of \$980, to be used on AHS Scholarship this year.



## Spring Road Cleanup

This spring event will be **Saturday, May 16th**. We will meet in the parking lot of Ashland Middle School at 8:30 AM. We clean East Main from

Walker to its intersection with Hwy 66.

Sign up at club or email Polly Arnold ( [parnold@jeffnet.org](mailto:parnold@jeffnet.org) ) or call 488-

2215. Please come. The more the merrier and it is finished faster! Wear foot covering shoes, old clothes and bring gloves.



## New Member: Chris Dodson

Welcome Chris!

She works at the Ashland Senior Program as Director, Social Services. Her interests are Family, Travel, and Cooking.

Welcome Chris!





## Regional Meeting in Missoula, Montana



Top: Barbara Oldfield, Vicki Smith, Sara Brown; Bottom: Mel Bailey, Kathy Mooney at Regional Conference in Missoula, Montana.

Kathy Mooney, Vicki Smith, Sara Brown, Barb Oldfield and I just returned from Region Conference in Missoula. We had a great, exhausting, energizing, demanding, and relaxing time—yup, all of that and more. There were some very good workshops that gave us all ideas and information about becoming better members and clubs—we tried to spread ourselves out and take in nearly all of the offerings.

The keynote speakers were excellent, ranging from a Federation board member to a representative from the Central Asia Institute, but the highlight (for me anyway) was the presentation of the Region-level awards for Making a Difference for Woman, Violet Richardson, and Woman's Opportunity Award. This is the session that really stretches your ability to even imagine the obstacles that women (more

commonly than we'd like to think) have to overcome.

The \$5,000 Region award for WOA went to a remarkable young woman who was brought forward by SI of Keizer (near Salem); she made a presentation that was deeply, deeply moving as she is overcoming a life that nobody should ever have to experience. SIA's first-place WOA winner received a second-level Region award of \$3,000, so it was nice to hear her name and story along with the other winners. The young high school senior from Spokane who received the Violet Richardson award was tremendously inspiring as she told us about helping build a high school in El Salvador. And the MAD-FW recipient was a woman who, again, overcame huge obstacles in her life, including growing up in foster care, to live of life of exem-

plary service and personal commitment to helping others—particularly through a domestic abuse organization.

SIA should be VERY proud that of the five attendees at Region, three (Vicki, Kathy & Sara) are chairs of Region committees. I don't think any other club could boast that level of participation! Sara also conducted a workshop on PR.

And... we won a prize! Hhhmmm, what does a club WIN at Region Conference, you might ask. Well, we won M&M's—you'll have to come to club to find out what THAT stands for!

I'm sure there will be more reports to come, but know that our club was well-represented and the conference VERY worthwhile.

—Mel

## May 20th Book Sale



**Bring 10 good books to club by May 13th. Bring the best book you read this year. Bring the best book your book club read this year. Attach a post-it-**

**note saying why you liked it. Bring romance, mystery, travel, history, politics, self-help, fiction, non-fiction, cookbooks, crafts, gardening, etc.**

**Then...**

**On May 20<sup>th</sup> BUY BOOKS**

**for your reading pleasure!**



# SSGSW Update: Final Lunch Buddy is May 7th

May 7 (or the May 21 make-up) will be our last lunch for this year with our girls. I'd like to encourage you to bring your girl a card that includes a few words about what you will remember most about your time with her this year or your fondest memory of being with her this year. That will be a nice way to leave her with a tangible memory over the summer. —Sara

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President	Mel Bailey	Assist Treasurer	Georgina Holderness*
President-Elect	Barbara Oldfield	Director (year 2)	Polly Arnold
Vice President	Kay Lynne Sherman*	Director (year 1)	Sara Brown
Secretary	Susan Hollandsworth*	Past President	Debbie Jones
Treasurer	Linda Anderson		<i>*new to board</i>

## Twilight Vineyard Party



**Thistlecroft Vineyard**  
in the Pompadour Neighborhood  
with vistas of Mt. Ashland and Pilot Rock





# 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 Polly Arnold for her \$50 in memory of Helen Seiber to Soroptimist Strong Girls Strong Women for the 2009-10 school year!

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