



## PRESIDENT BARB O TEES OFF

### CALENDAR

Sep 8* noon	Business Meeting
Sep 15* noon	Federation Conv Recap
Sep 19	WINE WALK
Sep 20	Deadline for Dis- trict 2 Signup
Sep 22* noon	Det. Carrie Hull, SART
Sep 29* noon	Service Comm
Sep 30 5:30 pm	SSGSW Lunch Buddy Orientation @ Helman Library
* La Casa del Pueblo	

**W**ow, here we are at the end of summer and a new club year getting ready to start. I hope everyone had a good summer and relaxed with family and friends ready to jump in for another productive Soroptimist year.

Kathy Mooney, Barb Stout, Peggy Cassolias, and I had a wonderful time at the Federation Convention in July in San Francisco. All attendees were asked to dress in something representing our country or area for the Meet-and-Greet networking reception. We rented hats from the Shakespeare Costume department and we were a hit. (Check out SI facebook pictures, there is one of Kathy in her hat). We voted to recommend approval of the proposed SIA resolution on "Prostituted Women and Girls." (Final approval will depend on club votes via a mail ballot that will be sent out soon.) We will be giving a review of all that went on the Convention at a club meeting on September 15th.

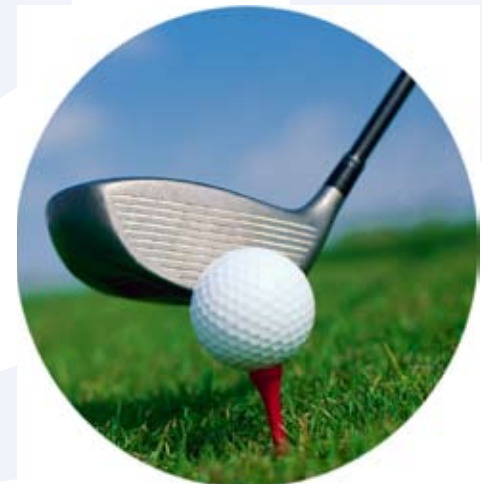
Cynthia and Kay Lynne have been busy in August testing out a new project: renting blankets during the matinee at the Bowmer Theater. The Theater is kept at a cool 65 degrees and there had been some complaints, so we were asked to try it out. It is an August trial and we will discuss where to go from here at our September business meeting. Thanks for all of you who helped with this trial run.

I would have never believed that I would become President of Soroptimist when I joined. I have learned and grown so much having you all in my life. I am looking forward to the fun and friendships we will all share this year. Just remember:

*You can have anything you want in life if you just help enough other people get what they want.*

*- Zig Ziglar*

President Barb O



# Know Your BOARD



*Janet Leifur*  
co-Secretary

Primary responsibilities: to prepare and distribute minutes of board and club business meetings.

by Sue Kurth

Janet, a new SI Ashland board member, is sharing the job as club secretary with Sue Kurth. She was born Janet Dobson in Newport, Rhode Island, the fourth of six children. She has wonderful childhood memories growing up in her Irish-Catholic family surrounded by loving parents and siblings. Her parents moved their family to Ventura, California when Janet was ten. Her father had a strong desire to improve his family's quality of life by living in a warm, sunny environment and where the community college system would allow for his children to obtain an affordable college education.

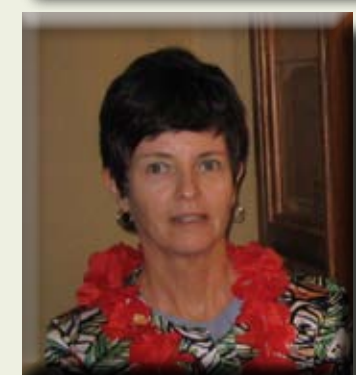
It was in high school that Janet met Gary Leifur on a blind date. They dated for 4 ½ years and after Janet obtained an associate of science degree in nursing they were married. Gary and Janet lived in the Ventura County area all their married life, most recently in Camarillo. During their 33 years of marriage the couple had two children, Michael and Amy.

During her nursing career Janet obtained both a bachelors and masters degree in nursing. She has worked as a staff nurse, nurse manager and most recently as a nursing professor at the community college where both she and her sister, Joy Dobson Way, obtained their basic nursing education. In memory of their mother, Winifred Mary Amis Dobson, also a nurse and recipient of the Garretson Medal, an award for the most excellent nursing student in her class, the two established the Dobson Medal for Clinical and Academic Excellence Award at their school. Established by the two in 2003, the annual award honors the most excellent nursing student in the Ventura College School of Nursing.

After the sudden, unexpected death of Gary in October, 2005, and a breast cancer diagnosis 17 months later, Janet relocated to Ashland in 2008, to be closer to her sister, Joy, and brother-in-law, Tony Way. The process of leaving her family home and many good friends during this very trying time has been challenging.

Inspired by the completion of her sister Joy's book entitled *Splendid People: a family memoir*, Janet set out to write a biography about her beloved husband. "It is important to me to preserve Gary's memory and some of our family stories for Michael and Amy, their future children and grandchildren. Gary was such a wonderful person and a great guy. I want everyone who reads this book to appreciate him the way that I do." With the writing nearing completion, Janet has elicited the help of fellow Soroptimist Linda Anderson, for some computer support.

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## KNOW YOUR BOARD...

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"I'm not a professional writer but I want this book to look good!"

During her two years in Ashland, Janet has been active in several volunteer groups in addition to Soroptimist, including CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children), Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Church Health and Wellness Ministry, the Jackson County Medical Reserve Corp and Living Opportunities. "These various activities have allowed me to get to know the Rogue Valley a little bit."

Moving to Ashland has placed Janet "in the middle" of her children. Michael lives in Seattle, WA and is the general manager of two restaurants, King's Hardware and Linda's Tavern. Amy is entering her second year of law school at the University of San Francisco. Although both of her children maintain ties to their childhood town, they both have made a good effort to visit Ashland. "It's always nice when they come to visit."

"Being a mom has been my greatest joy and greatest challenge," said Janet. As a young mother working outside the home, she often felt guilty about not devoting enough time to our children. "Juggling work, family and school was sometimes difficult. We made that choice so that we could maintain a lifestyle that we wanted for our children. They have become wonderful, caring, supportive adult children."

"My parents were exceptional role models to their children during their 61 years of marriage, and I have strived to emulate their example. They were wonderful parents. Their marriage, their family and God were their priorities. They instilled in me the importance of faith in God. Thanks to their examples, my faith continues to be strengthened in the good times and the difficult times."



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SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

## Wine Walk for Women's Health

September 19, 2010

The 4th annual Wine Walk is at Del Rio Vineyard & Winery in Gold Hill:

Sunday, September 19

Registration at 12:30 pm

Souvenir Wine Glass

Team Photos 12:30 - 1:30 pm

Walk starts at 1 pm

3.5 mile route with

tastings of 5 premier vineyards;

Honey Baked Ham Snack 2 - 3 pm

Entertainment by "Hired Gun"

Two Raffles

Club will be paying for a team sponsorship which is a 5 person team. We can add more people at \$35 per person—we will prorate the costs across all that sign up. I will bring the sign up sheet to the September 9 meeting. Every team member must sign the release form and list a snack choice; regular or vegetarian. We can car pool to Gold Hill.

Learn more at:

<http://www.siwinewalk.org/>

—Georgina Holderness



## PARTY OF PARTIES

The bazillionth annual Soroptimist River Trip on the Klamath River took place last week. Barb and Carlyle Stout were the victims - oh, no, I mean lucky recipients, riding along with Mel and her trusty hubby, Jim. It really was a great day - perfect weather (not too hot, not too cold, juuusstt right) and just enough fun whitewater splashes to make Barb giggle. After all, we billed it as a "Splash and Giggle" trip! We lolled along enjoying the sun and birdlife, saw a few turtles, saw ZERO other boats, ate a big lunch, yakked about this and that, and generally had a classic summer day on the river. Don't forget about this in December when we have our Party of Parties/Holiday Auction: YOU could be next!

—Mel Bailey



## NEW NWR WEBSITE

Please bookmark

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

in your favorite places. This is our new revitalized and updated Regional website. To enter the MEMBER'S LOUNGE, simply use the password "best4women". All members will use this password. Just remember to log out when you leave the site. Also, it is very important for each of you to register your e-mail address and personal information in the Member's Lounge so that you will receive the Northwestern Regional e-mail newsletters and other important mailings. Linda sent out the instructions in August. Once you log into the Member's Lounge, scroll down a bit to "All Members Please Register with us today!" and click on: "Register with SI Northwestern Region." This takes you to a page that asks for your email address--enter it and "Submit". Confirm your email address--enter it again and "Submit." You will be sent by email instructions for updating your profile.

—Kathy Mooney, Internet Coordinator



**BEST** for Women

There is a great article in the June/July/August issue of BEST FOR WOMEN. The article is titled "An SIA Snapshot" by Executive Director, Leigh Wintz. The article is all about our Federation, Soroptimist International of the Americas. Leigh covers all the 30 countries in our Federation and the 28 Regions within it. It is a good reference tool to prepare yourself for the Federation Report that President Barb, Barb S, Kathy and Peggy will present to club in September.

—Kathy Mooney, Convention Attendee

## FEDERATION REPORT

What can I say? The Soroptimist International of the Americas convention in San Francisco was wonderful – and I have attended a few in my 25 years in Soroptimist. I encourage all of you, and especially new folks to our club, to attend one. I believe it helps us to appreciate the Breadth and Depth of the Soroptimist organization. We are getting better (if that is possible). I was pleased, proud, and so satisfied with this convention. Our employees from the home office in Philadelphia are excellent: along with association officers and members, they know how to put on a great convention. It was well organized and jam packed with information, awards, and good food.

Workshops were well planned and scheduled several times so that we could actually attend a majority of them if we chose. Some of the interesting titles were Leading Strategically; Leading Collaboratively, Building Coalitions; Public Relations; Conducting Effective Meetings; Sex & Labor Trafficking. Kathy and I attended a workshop on “Soroptimist International and the United Nations.” Kathy said this needs to be a program at one of our meetings so keep posted for the date. It is most

impressive and we think, very exciting.

One of the benefits of Soroptimist is friendships and when you attend SIA you are with women from at least 20 countries. One of the fastest growing is Japan with somewhere around 75 in attendance for this convention. One of them had visited my club in San Diego a few years back and our eyes met at the Opening Get Together and Wow. While we were in a hug a group from my San Diego Club joined us. And, you know how women are. It was like we never parted. We also got to know our own club members better by sharing the trip and comparing notes on who you talked to what you learned etc. All clubs are just a tad different. We can be proud to say we have a very strong club with great organizers, leaders and workers. Let's keep rolling along. And, start thinking about attending the Soroptimist International next July. That will be a big one and it's close to us this time--in Montreal. Soroptimists from all over the world!!

—Peggy Cossolias



Left to right:

Paul McCartney concert;  
Kimberly, with Anissa, receiving her WOA  
Federation award;  
our dinner cruise on San Francisco Bay;  
BarbO, Barb Stout, Peggy Cossolias, and  
Kathy Mooney.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBER: KATHY GARRETT CANAPE

Hi, my name is Kathy Garrett Canape. I have just recently transferred my membership to SI/Ashland. I am the Founding Director of Youthworks, Inc., which was the fore runner to Community Works, Inc. I also managed volunteers for the State of Oregon Volunteer Program, including the Big Brother/Big Sister services and Lunch Buddies in the Medford and White City schools. Since my job with the State was not full time, I also had my own career counseling and resume service for 20 years. You will find me a very enthusiastic Soroptimist – my greatest passions are recruitment and getting the word out about Soroptimist.

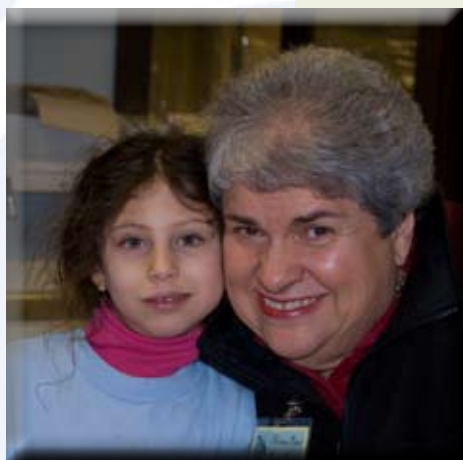
—Kathy GC

### Note:

Kathy was initially inducted into Soroptimists in October 1983.

Our membership is now 40, including 3 life members and 2 new members (Kathy GC and Sheila Maher). We lost 4 members (Marion Boenheim, Theresa Bilodeau, Patti Michiels, and Nikki Jo Kehoe).

—Linda Anderson



## I BELIEVE IN MUSIC: DISTRICT 2 MEETING

The Call is posted on the NWR website and on our home page.



When:	Oct 8-10
Where:	Red Lion Salem, OR
Registration Fee:	\$20
Deadline:	Sep 20
Meal Package:	\$85
Lodging:	\$121/room

## LINDA IN GREEN SHOW

If you attended the Green Show on 7/21, you saw me ON STAGE, shaking my booty! No doubt, you were very disbelieving. What we won't do for our grandchildren!

Ainsley LOVES attention and was noticed by Chick, the amazing performer (guitarist in *Ruined*)



when she spontaneously stood to dance to his music. He had several "helpers" from the audience who sang at the mic, so when Ainsley got to be OnStage for the final number, she grabbed the mic. Chick saw

potential disaster, so asked Ainsley to select someone from the audience to assist her--that would be ME! I was able to step back and encourage her manic dancing until Chick sang "Shake your Booty!" and insisted that grandma shake her booty.

I survived it all, my dignity in tact, and Ainsley loved every second of it!

—Linda

## PILLOW BOOTH

Georgina Holderness shares her picture of a Laundry Party. Financially, we are tracking slightly ahead of last year for each month.

—Linda



# Sara's Saga

The ongoing story of WhoNeedsNewspapers as Sara and Paul drive across all 50 states.

**Life on the RV:** Essentials--- an electric frying pan, shorts and tank top, clean showers and a daily walk: When I was picking out my summer trip wardrobe, that had to fit in one drawer and one-half of a small closet, it was still cool in Ashland so I took too many cool weather clothes. This is to explain that when you go to our website blog,

[www.whoneedsnewspapers.org/blog](http://www.whoneedsnewspapers.org/blog)

you'll mostly see me in what has become my hot weather uniform: tan Tilley shorts and blue Chico tank top. It didn't take long to give up my old habit of wearing something different every day. The shorts and tank top have been perfect for the hot/humid Midwest. Former Soroptimist and neighbor, Susan Yarne, told me that her electric frying pan was an essential item in her RV kitchen. So I dashed out and bought a Presto frying pan at Bi-Mart and sent away for a recipe book and rack. Voila! I have even baked muffins in my frying pan. We do have a small oven, but it's been too hot to use it. Our routine is to find a RV park close to the newspaper we plan to visit in each state, set up there and visit interesting places within an easy drive. So far we've stayed in 20 parks. I'm getting quite good at knowing what to look for: flat sites, water/electricity/sewer, Wi-Fi, and CLEAN bathrooms and showers. With one exception, they've all been pretty good. The exception was in Sallisaw, OK. When we arrived on a Sunday afternoon, we were told that our week-long

reservation had been cancelled—no phone call—just cancelled because a road crew wanted to take all the spaces.



We settled for a very less than desirable spot with buggy bathrooms. Paul and I committed to daily exercise on this trip, so we take Tallula on a walk every morning early enough to beat the heat. These have become special times.

**Memorable things we've seen:** Little Rock, AR--- Sue Kurth recommended the Central High School museum (operated by the National Park Service). This was the school integrated by nine very brave African American teenagers in 1957. Memphis, TN—the National Civil Rights Museum that is wrapped around the Lorraine Motel where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated. The motel room that King and 2 other preachers were in just before King walked out on to the balcony of the motel has been preserved. It is very moving. Bristol, TN—the Bristol Herald Courier arranged a VIP tour of the Bristol NASCAR track, which seats 160,000 people and is 22 stories high.

This structure rises like a mirage in the small town of Bristol. The noise from one car (testing racing tires) was so loud, we couldn't hear each other—imagine the noise of 43 cars on the track. Harlan County, KY—various museums that document the bloody union organizing of the coal mines. Lexington,



## SARA'S SAGA CONTINUES.....

KY—the Kentucky Horse Farm (thank you Cynthia for suggesting this) with its beautiful rolling hills and thoroughbred horses was a treat. Only problem was that it was so hot, we couldn't stay long. Chicago, IL—an architectural tour



via boat on the Chicago River. Grand Rapids, MI—Grand Rapids is the furniture capital of the country and their city museum has a marvelous interactive exhibit of the history of furniture making from individual craftsmen to assembly line production to office furniture as the South usurped their role in wood furniture. Cincinnati, OH --- the Underground Railroad

Freedom Museum sits on the bank of the Ohio River looking across the river to Kentucky. Kentucky was a slave state; Ohio was a free state. The Underground Railroad was a movement whereby slaves were helped to cross

the Ohio and escape to the north and Canada. There have been many everyday pleasures like finding farmers' markets and quirky local cafes for lunch such as the Road Kill Café on Route 66.

The "Who Needs Newspapers?" project: So far we've visited 11 newspapers, including the Anchorage Daily News in April when we were there for the Soroptimist region conference. We skedaddled out of Ashland on 6/15 and went directly to Oklahoma. At each newspaper (one in each state) Paul and I conduct individual video interviews of the paper's publisher, editor and online manager. The newspapers are a mix of dailies, weeklies,

independently and group owned. We can tell you one thing for sure: these newspapers are not dying but they are transitioning and trying a variety of strategies to stay afloat in this economy just like most other businesses are doing. The interviews will start to appear on our website week-by-week around the third week of September. I am biased, but I think they are extremely interesting and convey great passion for their communities.

### **Mortality and a bittersweet beginning:**

On the first evening of our journey, 6/15, we were in Fernley, NV when I got the call that my mom had died. She was 96 and had suffered from dementia for several years. We cut our Oklahoma time short so I could fly back to Portland for the funeral.

**The next leg** of our journey will take us to West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont and New Hampshire. Check our website for more pictures and Tales from the Road by Sara, Paul and Tallula.

—Sara Brown



## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF ASHLAND

meets at noon on Wednesdays  
from September through June.

Please contact Barbara Oldfield at **541-488-6768**  
for additional meeting or club details  
or send us an email at **siashland@gmail.com**.

Our mailing address is:  
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## SOROPTIMIST 101

Committees are where things happens so if your committees haven't already started working, they soon will be. It is vital that all members of the committee participate so the work doesn't get left to a few. Other club members may be called on to help with such things as reviewing scholarship applications and working the attendance desk. Committee chairs, as a courtesy, please invite President Barb to your meetings. She won't be able to attend all of them, but she may be able to attend some and will appreciate the notice.

We have two new members in our club. Sheila Maher who was attending before summer break and Kathy Garrett-Canapy who transferred from the Medford Club. Kathy has been a lunch buddy since we started that program. Welcome both of you.

If any of you know of a good prospective member, please talk with me and we'll get them some information and set a time to talk more in depth. Last year we brought in a number of new hardworking members. Let's do that again this year.

—Mavis Cloutier



## COLLECT BOX TOPS



Helman Elementary School collects Box Tops for Education. For any products (cereals, other boxed things) that have this logo on

the box top—clip and save. Janet Leifur is our point person—bring them to her and she'll take to Helman.

You can learn more about this campaign at:  
[www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).