



*Soroptimist International of Medford
PO Box 645 • Medford, OR 97501*

Northwestern Region, District 2

February 2008

FEBRUARY - BIRTHDAY

Diane Cowan ~ 2/5

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Donna Darnell ~ 11 years

Marie Quinn-Cabler ~ 4 years

Shirley Parke ~ 4 years

**IMPORTANT DATES
TO REMEMBER**

FEBRUARY

20TH Business Meeting

27TH Young Life - Emilie

MARCH

1ST Saturday of Service
Community Baby Shower

4TH Venture Meeting, 6pm
Bella Union Restaurant-J'ville

5TH Climate Changing Road show
by Jim McGinnis

6TH Making A Difference for Women
Recognition Reception

8TH International Women's Day

12TH Helping Women Adjust to Life
After Drugs by Sue Densmore

18TH Venture Meeting, 6pm
Bella Union Restaurant-J'ville

19TH Business Meeting

26TH 40TH Anniversary Gala
NO NOON MEETING!

**PLEASE
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Kudos to the area meeting team that did such a great job organizing and implementing a successful day. From what I've heard, we have the best area meetings in the district and that can be attributed to the hard work that our representatives put in. We thank them for their dedication and wish them well for next year. If you haven't been able to attend an area meeting, put it on your calendar now for next year. Our area meeting is always scheduled for the first Saturday of February.

Other upcoming events you don't want to miss are: the Saturday of Service, which is planned for March 1st at North Fred Meyer in Medford; we will collect baby items to be donated for mommy's who are unable to secure items for their little ones. Next, we'll be celebrating 40 years of Soroptimist and 20 years of Venture in Medford Wednesday, March 26th. There will NOT be a noon meeting that day, but I hope that every one of you will attend and bring guests to help us celebrate. We have much to be proud of for all the years of service, not the least of which is sponsoring a Venture club for 20 years! Then, on to the Pear Blossom baby contest, one of our most fun and crazy fundraising and community service events. Don't miss this one.

We have a busy schedule and not a moment of boredom, so plan to be a part of as much of it as you can. Your life will be enriched because of your participation.

See you all Wednesday noons at the Hungry Woodsman.

Sherrie

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January 2008 Attendance

100%ers - 11

Lou Dierieux

Karen Gale

Kathy Garrett Canape*

Sandy Lowman

Therese MacGregor*

Sherrie Messer

Claudette Moore

Mary Ann Ramsden

Alicia Speidel

Debbie Wheeler

Ruth Wooton

*Makeups - 3 makeups to qualify for 100%

Average January Attendance - 24

High Jan 30TH

Low Jan 16TH



Special Thanks to January Helpers

Greeter: Claudette Moore

Inspiration: Shirley Parke

& Ruth Wooton

Reception Desk: Lou Dierieux

February Schedule

Greeter: Mary Ann Ramsden

Inspiration: Karen Gale

Reception Desk: Lou Dierieux

March Schedule

Greeter: Cecelia Obeso

Inspiration: Alicia Speidel

Reception Desk: Lou Dierieux

**FEBRUARY NORTH MEDFORD
STUDENT OF THE
MONTH HONOREE**



Kyle Jolley, daughter of Alex and Pete Jolley, was honored at our February 13TH noon meeting as our North Medford High School Student of the

Month for February. She is a senior at North Medford High School, graduating next June with the Class of 2008. Her academic career has included Honors classes in Chemistry, English and World Studies, AP Calculus, US History, Literature, Government, as well as Spanish 1, 2 & 3.

Kyle's higher education plan is to attend Oregon State University and earn a degree in education, and ultimately a masters in teaching. Her ultimate goal is to be happy with her life when she gets older!

She has played JV&Varsity Volleyball, and been a member of Student Government, the National Torch Honor Society, the Buddy Program, STARS and Link Crew.

Kyle credits both of her parents as being the positive influences in her life. In her words, "They are always proud of me, and stick with me through everything. If I have a problem they always manage to put a smile on my face."

Kyle was presented with a framed certificate and a \$50 US Savings Bond by Youth Service Committee Chair, Karen Gale.

Congratulations, Kyle!

**FEBRUARY SOUTH MEDFORD
STUDENT OF THE
MONTH HONOREE**



Taylor Harrington, daughter of Bill Harrington was honored at our February 13TH noon meeting as our South Medford High School Student of the

Month for February.

Taylor is a very active young lady. She is the president of the Torch Honor Society and a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She is the captain of the cross country track team and got first team all conference and went to the State meet last year. She is a scholar athlete with a 3.98 gpa.

Taylor is looking forward to attending college and going into teaching or pre-med. She will also be participating in cross-country while in college.

Taylor's also very involved with our community. She is the ASB Secretary for the Medford Rotary Club, cooks and serves at the Annual Christmas Feed for the Salvation Army, is a Track Official at the annual Bob Newfield Invitational, works with children with disabilities in the TOPS Soccer program, helps with the Applegate Harvest Festival and the Work Retreat for the Applegate Christian Fellowship Church, and helps with Neighborhood Tree Plantings. Her senior project is the Princess for a Day event, helping girls with prom dresses. During the summers she attends several track camps, a Christian camp and is also a nanny for three children.

Taylor was presented with a framed certificate and a \$50 US Savings Bond by Youth Service Committee Chair, Karen Gale.

Way To Go, Taylor!



Area meeting attendees, from left, SI River Valley President Gwen Luhring, SI Medford President Sherrie Messer, Northwestern Region District 2 Director Wanda Costi and Venture President Destiny Fugate.



SI Medford Club President Sherrie Messer and Venture Club of Medford's Rachel Moore.

NORTHWESTERN REGION DISTRICT 2 LOCAL AREA MEETING

The Annual Area Meeting was held February 2ND in Grants Pass. The committee did an outstanding job organizing this event, attended by over 50 Soroptimists and Venturists from 7 area clubs.



District 2 Director Wanda Costi welcomes everyone and gives a "State of the District" report.



Some of the SI Medford members attending the meeting, from left, are Mary Ann Ramsden, Louise Holmes, Kathleen Scepan, Alicia Speidel, Shirley Parke and Anna D'Amato.



SI Medford member and Area Rep, Kathy Garrett Canape, visits with members of SI North Valley and Linda Garrick (standing), Sandy Lowman's mother from SI River Valley.



SI Medford members Ruth Wooton, Mary Ann Ramsden, Louise Holmes and Kathleen Scepan.

NORTHWESTERN REGION DISTRICT 2 AREA MEETING REPORT

By District 2 Director Wanda Costi

We've all been talking about our clubs and your successes and the wonderful service that you provide to your communities and to Soroptimist programs. To start today, I'd like to give you some quotes that I found relating to service that, to me, relates to us as professional business women in an organization that works to improve the lives of women and girls.

My philosophy of leadership is to surround myself with good people who have ability, judgment and knowledge, but above all, a passion for service.

Governor Sonny Perdue, of Georgia

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

Mahatma Gandhi, Indian Political & Spiritual Leader

To give real service you must add something which cannot be bought or measured with money, and that is sincerity and integrity.

Douglas Adams, Author

These quotes have ties to our pledge ... sincerity of friendship, joy of achievement, dignity of service, integrity of profession. I will put forth my greatest effort to promote, uphold, and defend these ideals ... We want to be the voluntary service organization chosen by all business and professional women.

Let's talk about one of my favorite subjects: Membership ... As part of the SIA Renaissance Campaign, membership is one of our club goals to be a thriving, dynamic, progressive and relevant organization with members committed to the mission of improving the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. In order for us to be effective, we need strong, healthy clubs with new members to continue our mission. We need to attract new members that are younger in age but mature in the knowledge and spirit of helping others. We need to keep our existing members, motivating them to higher levels of leadership and empowerment, in order to promote our programs and mentor our new members. We are forward thinkers and dedicated through service to creating a better world. Let's bring more women into our clubs to experience this passion for humanity and service.

We have heard about your recruitment efforts, and I applaud you for your efforts. One way that has worked in our club is to "court" new members. As we learn of women who are interested in giving their service, and many more are wanting to do that lately, we take them to lunch or out for coffee to talk about this fabulous organization and its mission. With enthusiasm, it doesn't take long to tell our stories and have new interest in club events and activities.

The membership goal of our region this year is to increase our clubs with one net new member. Many of you know that when we start our fiscal year on July 1st, we always lose members. Some do not get their dues in on time and are reinstated later, and some decide to take a break and will not renew. As a result, we start the year in a deficit position. If there were five members who did not renew in your club, then six members need to be recruited in order to meet the goal of one net new member. As we increase the number of members in our clubs, there are more hands on deck for the fundraising events, more interest in working on the program goals, and more skills and awareness for initiating media contact, all focus points of the Renaissance Campaign. This campaign can fall into place with great success with the strength of our members who want to participate in committees to do their part.

**SATURDAY OF SERVICE
COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER**

WHEN: Saturday March 1ST, 2008

PURPOSE: To gather donations of baby essentials and provide them to low-income mothers

WHAT WE CAN DO: Our club will be at the North Fred Meyer. Louise Dix is our committee chair. Please assist in distributing flyers, seeking donations, sign up on the ACTION clipboard at club for a 2 hour shift at Fred Meyer or to help sort donations at Community Works after the event.

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE
FOR WOMEN
RECEPTION**

**Thursday, March 6TH
5:30 pm- 7 pm**

**Wild River Brewing Company
2684 N Pacific Highway • Medford**

**\$12.50 per person
Finger Foods, Music
No Host Wine Bar**

Sign up deadline Feb 27TH!

There is a signup sheet on the clipboard. If you want to attend and cannot make a noon meeting to sign up, please contact Marie Quinn-Cabler at 857-0947 or via email to digdablues@charter.net



HEART AUCTION

We held the first "Heart Auction" at our February 13TH noon meeting and raised \$180 for our club!

**SLAVERY'S NEW FACE: SEX
TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN & GIRLS**

By Alicia Speidel

Human trafficking is an issue we, as Soroptimists, need to talk about. It impacts women and children in the United States and around the world. We need to raise our own awareness and call other people's attention to it.

One way the United States is doing this is by creating January 11 as the National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness. It was established by the U.S. Senate in June 2007. "In establishing this day, the U.S. Senate acknowledges that the techniques used by traffickers to keep their victims enslaved severely limits self-reporting, thereby acknowledging the imperative for increased public awareness and advocacy on behalf of the voiceless women and girls being held captive."

What is human trafficking and sexual slavery? It is "the movement of people within national or across international borders for the purposes of prostitution or other forms of commercial exploitation." It is a serious and potentially dangerous crime organized by professional criminals, making it the third largest moneymaker, following drugs and arms. It is fueled by poverty and gender discrimination. One trafficker states, "You can buy a woman for \$10,000 and you can make your money back in a week if she is pretty and young. Then everything else is profit."

How does human trafficking happen? Individuals are offered legitimate and legal work, promised marriage, given educational opportunities or sold by someone in their life. One story told of a family selling their child for a new tv. Overall all of the individuals are promised a better life.

*information contained in this series of three articles was provided by SIA and "The Christian Century"

**SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL
OF MEDFORD
and
VENTURE CLUB
OF MEDFORD**

**INVITE YOU TO AN
ANNIVERSARY GALA**

***Celebrating SI Medford's
40TH Anniversary and
Venture's 20TH Anniversary***

Wednesday, March 26TH

***Rogue Regency
Cocktails at 6pm
Dinner at 6:30pm***

\$32 per person

***Please sign up on
clipboard at club.***

**ONLINE REGISTRATION IS NOW
OPEN FOR THE 40TH BIENNIAL
CONVENTION, JULY 16-19, 2008 IN
TAIPEI, TAIWAN!**

View the information to register and plan your trip. Take advantage of this rare and unforgettable opportunity to attend a Soroptimist convention in Taiwan.

Register prior to the May 9 early deadline and save!

www.soroptimist.org



2008 VIOLET RICHARDSON AWARDS

Our 1ST Place Winner is **Stephanie Risner**. Stephanie is being recognized for her involvement with the Children's Advocacy Center. Stephanie and her brother have been building backpacks since 2006 for every child that visits the Center. They collect cans and bottles and secure donations to buy the items for the bags, which contain basic toiletry items, books, toys, and treats. Stephanie was presented with a \$500 check for the contributions she makes to our community at our January 30TH noon meeting.

We have a tie for our 2ND place honoree. **Michelle and Lisa Sanderson**, twins who volunteer for many organizations, were both selected for their passion and dedication to Easter Seals. Both girls were presented a \$250 prize at our January 30TH noon meeting.


Lisa devotes most of her volunteer time to the Easter Seals Recreation and Respite Program, providing fun activities for special needs children in a safe environment. This program provides relief for the family members for about four hours every other Saturday. She enjoyed doing this so much she also volunteers for their Summer Day Camp.

Michelle also is closely involved with Easter Seals. She helps with the day camps, dances and also volunteers for the Recreation and Respite Program, giving four hours every other Saturday.

The Violet Richardson Award is an annual recognition program honoring young women ages 14 - 17 for their volunteer work in the schools and our community.

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