



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY

- 16TH Business Meeting
See page 3 for NEW location
- 21ST Martin Luther King, Jr Day
- 22ND Venture Meeting, 6pm
Bella Union Restaurant
- 23RD Children's Theatre by
Shoestring Productions
See page 3 for NEW location
- 26TH Victoria Tea Benefiting KidSpree
see page 3 for details
- 30TH Social Meeting

FEBRUARY

- 2ND Local Area Meeting
- 5TH Venture Meeting, 6pm
Bella Union Restaurant
- 6TH Dr. Dan Smith - Naturopath
- 13TH Student of the Month
Heart Auction
- 14TH Valentine's Day
Board Meeting - noon
at Marie Callenders
- 18TH President's Day
- 19TH Venture Meeting, 6pm
Bella Union Restaurant
- 20TH Business Meeting
- 27TH Young Life - Emilie

**PLEASE
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

It's a new year, it's a new day, all is good in the world of Soroptimist.

Good? Can we make it better? How can we do that and why should we do something? Well, we can make a bigger difference if we have more members to help us do the work. So that's why. How is by EACH of us bringing in one new member. Have you brought in your new member this year? If each of us can extend the opportunity of community service to another, we will double our membership. That will result in many new ideas and projects to help others, will give us a broader perspective of our community, will make the work load lighter as it is spread to more people, will give us opportunities to make new friends. All positive aspects of recruiting new members. It is not about growing the club, but about making our community better by involving more in our service work. Same idea with our Venture club; they are small but mighty. They could do more and have more of an impact if they had more members, too. We can help them by supporting them financially and through recruitment of members to their club.

Let's be advocates of change this new year. Let's get more people involved in giving service and making a difference. Let's EACH of us get ONE new member to join SI Medford!

*Much love,
Sherrie*

2007/2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Sherrie Messer
solshcsher@rio.com

President - Elect

Alicia Speidel
pastoralicia@qwestoffice.net

Second Vice President

Loretta Livaudais-Mapes
scoveor@wave.net

Treasurer

Therese MacGregor
theresem@cbprowest.com

Assistant Treasurer

Kathy Poland
kathypoland@cbprowest.com

Secretary

Donna Darnell
donnacme4loans@hotmail.com

Director - 2ND Year

Kathleen Scepan
kjmscepan@charter.net

Director - 1ST Year

Kathy Barnett
kbarne7917@earthlink.net

Local Area Representative

Kathy Garrett Canape
Bkgco2@aol.com

Past President Director

Kay Brown
kay_brown_cpa@juno.com

Immediate Past President

Shirley Parke
wsparkeplace@msn.com

December 2007 Attendance

100%ers - 14

Kathy Barnett
Kay Brown*
Donna Darnell*
Lou Dierieux
Karen Gale
Kathy Garrett Canape
Louise Holmes
Therese MacGregor
Sherrie Messer
Claudette Moore
Shirley Parke
Mary Ann Ramsden
Alicia Speidel
Ruth Wooton

*Makeup - 2 makeups to qualify for 100%

Average December Attendance - 19

High: Dec 12TH Low: Dec 5TH



Special Thanks to December 2007 Helpers

Greeter: Claudette Moore
Inspiration: Kathy Garrett Canape
Reception Desk: Lou Dierieux

January 2008 Schedule

Greeter: Kathy Poland
Inspiration: Shirley Parke
Reception Desk: Lou Dierieux

Footnote to

President Sherrie's Message. . .
Our next member recruitment event will not be until May, so it is extra important we try to bring potential members to our weekly noon meetings.

JANUARY -BIRTHDAYS

Kathleen Guidry ~ 1/2

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Sherrie Messer ~ 28 years

Claudette Moore ~ 22 years

Karen Gale ~ 19 Years

Kay Brown ~ 9 years

JoAnn Lund ~ 4 years

Therese MacGregor ~ 3 years

Kathy Barnett ~ 1 year

AFTERNOON VICTORIAN TEA TO BENEFIT KIDS SPREE

TREAT YOURSELF!

Fountain Plaza's annual benefit Afternoon Victorian Tea for KidSpree will be Saturday, January 26TH from 2pm to 4pm.

Assorted Scones and Danish, Finger Sandwiches, Sweet Desserts, Teas and Champagne will be served.

Music by Lionel Nightengale.

\$10.00 per person

Tickets on sale January 16TH, please call 772-6005 for reservations.

If we want to reserve an SI Medford table for 8 to 12 people, please contact Kathy Garrett Canape - right away!

This is a really fun and yummy event - the local Red Hat Societies love it!!!

POTENTIAL NEW MEETING LOCATIONS

The Board of Directors, at their January meeting, discussed that we need to find a better place for our weekly noon meetings.

President Sherrie Messer has contacted several places and we will hold our meetings at the following to see if they are suited to meet our needs:

January 16TH we are meeting at Habeneros, on Front Street in downtown Medford, just down from the Far East and across the street from Porter's. They have a small parking lot along side their restaurant and there is a free city parking lot right beside it. The food is good, the place is clean and bright, and they have a room that will hold us. The meeting room is separate; to find it walk straight back from the front door. There will be an all-you-can-eat-buffet for \$12.92, including drink and tip, consisting of: salad, chicken fajitas, ground beef fajitas, soft and hard tortillas with all the fixin's for tacos.

January 23RD we are meeting at the Hungry Woodsman in the Ramada Inn behind Food 4 Less on Biddle Road. We will order off the menu and have separate checks. We were cautioned that it will take some time to check out the entire group separately but we are used to that.

**PLEASE ATTEND BOTH THESE
MEETINGS. WE NEED TO
MAKE A DECISION ABOUT A
BETTER MEETING PLACE.**

YOUR INPUT IS CRITICAL!

A SOROPTIMIST CELEBRATION!

We are pleased to announce the wedding of Sandy Jensen and Jeff Lowman on December 29TH at the Grants Pass Center for Spiritual Living, with our own President-Elect Alicia Speidel presiding. Congratulations Sandy & Jeff! Here are some pictures of the beautiful bride taken by Claudette Moore.



The Lowmans, shown from left; Sandy, Ryan, Jeff & Miranda.



The bride and groom, with the Sandy's good friend Sandi Furman, creator of this gorgeous and delicious looking wedding cake!



The newlyweds with guests Dennis & Mary Ann Ramsden and Kathy Garrett Canape.



The happy couple with President Sherrie Messer, Claudette Moore and Ron McKinley

JANUARY NORTH MEDFORD STUDENT OF THE MONTH HONOREE



Kaleigh Powell, daughter of Bill and Kitty Powell, was honored at our January 9TH noon meeting as our North Medford High School Student of the Month for January. She is a junior at

North Medford High School, graduating with the Class of 2009. Her academic career has included classes in Honors English, Honors Science, AP Biology, AP Calculus, Spanish, Industrial Design, Computer Arts, and Marketing.

Kaleigh's immediate goal is to do well on the SATs at the end of this month and get a "B" in Advanced Placement Biology for the rest of this school year. She also hopes to be re-elected as a member of her Student Government class for her senior year. Her long range goal is to attend a great college or university and major in architecture.

She has been in the Buddy Program for three years, is in her first year of the Links Crew, and been elected to the Student Government for three years. Even though she enjoys school, Kaleigh says Student Government is one of her favorite things and is a big part of what makes her who she is. Everything about Student Government helps her in daily life, from the planning skills she has learned to the communication skills she has acquired.

Kaleigh credits her dad as being the biggest influence in her life, because he taught her everything she knows. She knows she can go to him for anything, it doesn't matter what the topic is, because he always listens.

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

Congratulations, Kaleigh!

JANUARY SOUTH MEDFORD STUDENT OF THE MONTH HONOREE



Stephanie Olsen, daughter of Kevin and Karen Olsen, was honored at our January 9TH noon meeting as our South Medford High School Student of the Month.

She is a junior at South and will graduate with the class of 2009.

Stephanie is taking Spanish, English, Math, Science, Anatomy, Culinary Arts, Chemistry, Office and Teacher Aid, and Health. She is a member of the Color Guard.

Her goal for the future is to go to college and earn a medical degree. She is "just a normal girl" that enjoys shopping with friends and her big sister. Stephanie likes almost all sports, but is not competitive enough to play on High School teams.

Stephanie said many people come to mind when asked who has had the greatest influence on her life, but mostly gives credit to her entire family. Her mom for showing her about medical careers and how she can some day get a degree in medicine; her dad for helping her to push herself to be a better person; her brother, Shawn, for showing her the importance of being responsible and honest in everything she does; and her sister, April, for teaching her to enjoy life and have fun.

When asked what she would like us to know about her, Stephanie replied; "I work very hard and hope to be able to help save lives."

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

Way To Go, Stephanie!

SIA LAUNCHES NATIONAL TRAFFICKING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Trafficking is a very unpleasant subject, but not one that can be ignored. Human rights groups estimate 20 million women and children are enslaved in forced or bonded labor, sexual servitude, and involuntary servitude at any given time. One form of slavery and exploitation that continues to proliferate at an alarming rate—and that has a particular relevance to women and girls—is sex trafficking/slavery.

In 2007, Soroptimist International launched a project to create awareness about this heinous practice with a special event on December 2, 2007, the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery. In the United States, the program launched on Friday, January 11, the first National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness. On both days, club members placed sex slavery awareness cards in visible locations throughout their communities—police stations, women's centers, hospitals, etc.

President-Elect Alicia Speidel, our club chair for *Soroptimist's STOP Trafficking*, gave a program on Trafficking at our January 9TH noon meeting. With guest speaker Tim Doney of the Medford Police Department, the club listened to alarming facts on the horrors of human trafficking.

Around the world, individuals and organizations are raising awareness about trafficking and slavery, and working to end it forever. Beginning with our February club newsletter issue, Alicia will provide us with a series of articles on trafficking and how we can help ensure that women and girls live free from violence and slavery by raising public awareness, advocating for stronger laws and enforcement in our community, and finding out what our elected officials are doing to end slavery.

WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY AWARDS

The SI/Medford First Place winner of the 2008 Women's Opportunity Award is **Leah M. Cupp**, 42, of Grants Pass. Leah is a student at Rogue Community College. She plans to eventually become a Special Education Teacher after finishing at Rogue Community College and transferring to Southern Oregon University. She not only attends college, but is also a part time teacher's assistant. She has a special place in her heart for special education students, as her oldest son is autistic. Her son graduated last year, and Leah says, "...I couldn't have been more proud. I learned to appreciate even the littlest accomplishments. I can only imagine what an unbelievably rewarding job it would be to help challenged kids reach their potential." Leah overcame a very difficult domestic violence situation with her husband of 24 years. Leah also has a 13 year old son. Leah will receive \$1,000 from SI/Medford and will go on to compete for additional funds at the Regional level.

Sheri L. Goss, 47, is our second place winner and will receive \$500. She is also a student at Rogue Community College, and lives in Grants Pass. She is working, eventually, to get her bachelor degree in Human Services, so that she can become a counselor for young girls. Sheri has had tremendous turmoil and abuse in her life, and has overcome some serious situations to now be a stable support for her family. She has a full time job during the day, and goes to school at night. Her son and 2 year old grandson live with her. She feels that getting her bachelor's degree in Human Services and helping young girls get on the right path is a way to apologize to her community for her past behavior. Sheri says, "If I would have had a counselor in my early life, I believe my life would have been different. Education is empowering. I will take my degree and make a difference in their young lives. I will show them and teach them how to be productive women in the world."

WHITE PAPER: REACHING OUT TO WOMEN WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

On any given day, natural disasters—floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis or wild fires—can strike any area of the world. Disasters result in property damage, loss of life, and the creation of displaced persons or refugees needing assistance with safety, housing, nutrition and health care. When disaster strikes, relief organizations work to ensure that people are safe and have access to basic necessities.

While disasters create hardships for everyone, women and children are disproportionately vulnerable. During natural disasters, women and children are 14 times more likely to die than are men. Following the 2004 Asian Tsunami, Oxfam found that women made up more than 70 percent of the dead. Women lack mobility and access to resources, have increased family responsibilities, and are susceptible to physical danger. Despite the vulnerable position of women prior to and following a disaster, their special needs are often ignored.

Women suffer more in disasters for two main reasons: women occupy a more tenuous position in society prior to the disasters, and they have additional burdens as caregivers to children and the elderly. After studying the 1995 earthquake in Colima, Mexico, Researcher Carolina Serrat Vinas concluded that disaster “magnifies women’s responsibilities and impedes their activities.”

During and after disasters, women and girls also suffer from a heightened risk of physical and sexual violence. Women and girls’ vulnerability increases when they are left alone because male relatives leave to migrate for work or are killed. The likelihood of sexual violence grows when women and girls are living in shelters or refugee camps.

The stress and economic uncertainty that results from disasters can also translate into increased domestic violence, which has been documented after natural disasters in several areas of the world. Domestic violence is not a priority for overburdened police and disrupted courts.

Soroptimist has a long-standing Disaster Relief Fund, which is supported by voluntary donations from members. Prior to the 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States, funds were disbursed to general disaster relief efforts—regardless of whether these efforts specifically targeted women. The special challenges of women were particularly evident following the terrorist attacks in New York City. Even with the enormous outpouring of financial support, it became clear that women’s needs were not being met. Therefore, Soroptimist sent donations that it had received from around the world to four domestic violence agencies operating in lower Manhattan.


In response to the December 26, 2004 earthquake and tsunami in Asia, Soroptimists from around the world donated money to help women and girls in the affected areas rebuild their lives. In January 2005, Soroptimist made an initial \$10,000 donation to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in response to its appeal to meet the urgent health, hygiene and protection needs of women in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Maldives—the three countries affected most by the disaster. The UNFPA plan was to assist women with childbirth and emergency obstetric care; provide psycho-social support to women who had become heads of households as a result of the disaster; promote the access of unaccompanied women to basic services including water, sanitation, food and healthcare; prevent and treat cases of violence against women; and distribute tampons and sanitary napkins.

In August 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast. SIA made a \$10,000 disaster relief donation to the Louisiana Coalition against Domestic Violence, a non-profit network that works to end domestic violence against women, to help women and their children with basic needs such as food, diapers, clothing and prescriptions. In addition, the group, which lost three shelters and closed four others due to the hurricane and floods, relocated domestic violence victims who were staying at the shelters prior to Katrina.

The Insurance Center, Inc.
Home of Old Fashioned Service
 240 West C Street • PO Box 1857
 Jacksonville, Oregon 97530

DEBBIE WHEELER
 Auto • Home • Life • Business • Bonds

541-899-9535
 888-699-9535
 FAX 899-9532
 insurew@charter.net



Broker, Life Member Million Dollar Club

(541) 941-4881 CELL
 (541) 773-6868 BUSINESS
 (541) 779-3192 FAX
 (800) 888-1341 TOLL FREE
 Cmooretrf@aol.com

COLDWELL BANKER
PRO WEST
 REAL ESTATE
 1301 Poplar Drive
 Medford, OR 97504








Each Office is Independently Owned And Operated

State Farm
 Providing Insurance and Financial Services
 Home Office, Bloomington, Illinois 61710

Sharon Walker
 Agent
 1365 Poplar Drive, Medford, OR 97504
 OH, 541 779 3545 Fax 541 772 3023
 24 Hour Road Neighbor Service®

Sandy Jensen
 Office Associate

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®



MARY KAY
 Kathleen Scepan
 Independent Beauty Consultant

3061 Rudy Drive
 Medford, Oregon 97504
 541-770-5036

KIMScapan@charter.net
 marykay.com/kathleenscepan



KATHY POLAND
 Broker

(541) 608-2045 DIRECT
 (541) 261-0295 CELL
 (541) 773-6868 BUSINESS
 (541) 779-3192 FAX
 (800) 888-1341 TOLL FREE

COLDWELL BANKER
PRO WEST
 REAL ESTATE
 1301 Poplar Drive
 Medford, OR 97504








Each Office is Independently Owned And Operated

kathypoland@ci.epiconet.com

Rogue Valley Habitat for Humanity
 Medford, Oregon

PO Box 688
 229 W. Main St.
 Medford, OR 97501-0048
 (541) 773-3411
 (541) 772-2808 fax

Denise James
 Executive Director

hfhiv@charterinternet.com
 www.roguevalleyhabitat.org



100% Provide the Top in Connecting Your Subscribers

Loretta Livaudais-Mapes, M.S.
 Master Hypnotist

HYPNOSIS WORKS
 Hypnotherapy for Fears, Phobias Smoking, Weight

P.O. Box 1224
 Snoddy Cove, Oregon 97539
 Phone: (541) 978-3165
 Email: mscapeng@charter.net



SOUTHERN OREGON PRINTING
 Quality Printing & Copying Service
 Since 1979

Ray & Karen Gale, Owners 817 N. Central Avenue
 Medford, Oregon 97501
 (541) 779-0544 rgale@southernoregonprinting.com
 Fax 779-9584

Quality Tax Preparation
 At Affordable Prices

Kay E. Brown
 Certified Public Accountant
 E-mail: Kay_Brown_CPA@juno.com
 Cell Ph. (541) 601-9002

Office (541) 855-2009 • 9351 Carolina Drive
 Fax (541) 855-2009 • Central Point, OR 97502

THERISE MACGREGOR, GRI
 Broker

(541) 773-6868 BUSINESS
 (541) 846-2708 CELL
 (800) 888-1341 TOLL FREE
 (541) 779-3192 FAX
 theresem@dpirowest.com

COLDWELL BANKER
PRO WEST
 REAL ESTATE
 1301 Poplar Drive
 Medford, OR 97504








Each Office is Independently Owned And Operated

Southern Oregon Lions SIGHT & HEARING CENTER, INC.

Sherrie Messer
 Executive Director
 smesser@uicr.net

228 North Holly Medford Oregon 97501
 541/770-3053 FAX 541/857-0747



Soroptimist International of Medford Marketplace

I assist in funding our newsletter, members may purchase a one year ad for only \$150. If you are interested, please contact Treasurer Therese MacGreror and supply a business card to Marie Quinn-Cabler.