



MARK CALENDARS FOR GARDEN PARTY AUGUST 27

The biggest social event of the year - SMA's Annual Dorthea Drake Pennington Garden Party - will be held this year on Saturday, August 27 beginning at 6 pm. It will be held at the home of Sally and "Judge" Hicks in Oregon City. The annual event is a fundraiser for the Blankets & Books for Babies project. Guests are asked to bring a bottle of wine and a dish to share while contributing an amount they might spend on a restaurant meal. Suggested donations are \$50 per person; \$100 per couple. Donations above this amount are warmly welcomed and even if you are unable to attend, members are encouraged to support this long-time charitable SMA project. Invitations with details will be sent soon.

Your tax deductible donations can be made at the event or they can be made in advance by check or credit card. If you wish to send a check, please make it out to: OHSU Foundation and mail to Treasurer Anne Yoo. If you prefer to make your donation by credit card you may do so from the SMA website beginning the first week in August.

ANNUAL MEETING

SMA President Pam Berg opened the Annual Meeting held in May at the City Club and presented a report of the group's activities and accomplishments over the past year. Among the year's highlights was a successful Garden Party, Valentine's Chocolate sale and the work of the Gwyn Dockery Bequest Task Force. The Dockery Task Force arranged for a thank you luncheon for the B3 committee as well as the many volunteers who knit and crochet the blankets included in the packages distributed to needy families. The Task Force also made purchases of approximately \$15,000 for special equipment and enhancements in OHSU's NICU (neonatal intensive care unit) for the most medically fragile infants. Task Force members have also worked with faculty, staff and administrators in identifying the need for a family lounge area in the NICU. Once approved, approximately \$45,000 from the bequest will be used to renovate and furnish a family lounge.



Pam Berg presented a plaque to Joan Foley in thanks for her many years of service to SMA.

Joan Foley was recognized by Pam Berg for her many years of devoted service to SMA with a special plaque. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Carole Starr for her three year leadership of B3 and to Pam Anderson for her organization of the luncheons and arranging for speakers in addition to co-chairing the Garden Group. Retiring board members Vice President Susan McAnulty and Secretary Ginny Brooks were also recognized.

The nominating committee presented a slate of officers for 2016-17. Nominated were: Pam Berg, President; Mary Carr, Vice President; Treasurer, Anne Yoo; and Secretary, Marjorie Grafe. The slate of officers was unanimously approved by the membership.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear SMA Friends,

May and June have produced some very changeable weather this year in Oregon but Micki Sparr and Leslie Robinson, this year's Garden Party co chairs are busy planning another wonderful event for late August, by which time we shall all enjoy the sun and being outside. Our B3 (Blankets & Books for Babies) program is going strong, and as usual will be the beneficiary of this event. We ask members who are unable to attend to make a donation to this worthy, long running SMA project. I look forward to seeing many of you there and at that time will have an update on our NICU project. If you have time on July 25, we are in need of a few more helpers on B3 Packing Day, 9:30 am at CDRC. Contact me if you can help out preparing blankets, layettes and books for needy families at OHSU.

Pam Berg

•**Membership Renewals Due Now.** If you haven't yet renewed your SMA annual membership, please do so soon. Your membership must be current by September 1 in order to be included in the Member Directory distributed this fall. Go to our website, www.sma-ohsu.org, where you can complete the online form or download a paper copy. You can request a form be mailed to you by contacting Membership Chair, Hilary Almers. Your dues (\$35) can be paid by mailing a check to our Treasurer, Anne Yoo, or you can choose to pay by credit card on our website.

•**More photos.** Please visit our website for photo galleries from past luncheons, interest group events, garden parties and fund raisers. Scroll to the bottom of the Members Only page to find buttons that will take you to photo archives.

•**MahjongAnyone?** One of our members is hoping to start a Mahjong group among SMA members. If you are interested in learning or playing, please contact Coco Brush (check your directory for contact information). She hopes to hold the first gathering in August or September.

INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES and COMING EVENTS

*Interest Group contacts can be found in your Member Directory. Contact them for details on the groups' activities, meeting locations, etc.

July

4	Movie Group
12	AM Book Group, <i>Brooklyn</i> , by Colm Toibin, 10 am
13	Threads Group, 9:30 am
14	PM Book Group, <i>Our Souls at Night</i> , 7 pm
25	B3 Packing, 9:30 am, CDRC

August

1	Movie Group
9	AM Book Group, <i>American Nations</i> , by Colin Woodard, 10 am
10	Threads Group, 9:30 am
11	PM Book Group, <i>The Invention of Wings</i> , 7 pm
27	Dorthea Drake Pennington Garden Party, 6 pm

September

5	Movie Group
7	SMA Board mtg, 12 noon
8	PM Book Group, Annual Book Selection Meeting, 7 pm
13	AM Book Group, 10 am
14	Threads, 9:30 am
26	B3 Packing, 9:30 am, CDRC

2016-17 SMA Officers

President: Pamela Berg
Vice President: Mary Carr
Treasurer: Anne Taylor Yoo
Secretary: Marjorie Grafe
Member at Large: Sarah McCarty

SMA newsletters are published quarterly and sent via email to our membership. More photos and other information is available on the website. Click "Members Only" tab, the password is "smamember".

www.sma-ohsu.org

Send articles, photos or calendar events to:
smaohsu@gmail.com

In an effort to help our members get to know each other a little better, we are offering some short profiles of SMA members.

*Our thanks to **Pam Anderson** for conducting interviews, writing the profiles and supplying photos.*

If you would like to join Pam in providing these popular profiles, please contact her for more information.



Joan Kruse member since 2008

What does synchronized swimming, the ukulele and the SMA have in common? This profile on Joan Kruse who joined the SMA in 2008.

Joan grew up in Mt. Angel, Oregon, her grandparents having moved there from St. Cloud, Minnesota. She attended Oregon State University and then spent a year traveling in Europe and East Africa. Poverty and politics drew her back home, realizing how fortunate she was to have the option to continue her education at the University of Oregon. U of O in the 1970's were the days of Prefontaine and lots of Vietnam veterans on the campus.

She moved to Portland in the '80's and worked at PSU Campus Ministry before completing a graduate degree in Social Work. Her first job was case management with seniors. In 1991 Joan began working with families and children at the OHSU Child Development and Rehabilitation Center, a job she held for three years. She said, "Those were the heady days when many innovative treatments and special education was employed for all children of the State". She then transferred to Doernbecher Pediatrics, where she stayed for thirteen years. She noted that both institutions were full of amazing people and stories of both courage and despair. "It was a time of extremes and I enjoyed working where every day was new and challenging."

Joan worked for the Casey Eye Clinic the last four years of her career. It was there she met Pam Berg who introduced her to the SMA. Joan was drawn to the organization as it was both social and raised funds for projects like BBB that benefitted infants and families in need. She was warmed by the rich heritage of the SMA, especially the mixture of what were formerly exclusively the wives of doctors to now

having doctors themselves as members. Her SMA activities include Vice President in 2010-2012, Bridge Group, Garden Group and profile writer for our newsletter from 2013 - 2016. [A side note. It was a pleasure having Joan join me in this endeavor. She brought her own warm and witty style to each article, which showcased her unique writing skills. Thank you Joan for the time you spent with each member and their profile!]

Retirement in 2011 gave Joan more time to pursue her bucket list activities: trying to learn the violin (gave it up due to slow fingers), the ukulele, art classes, writing, Bridge and synchronized swimming. She said she doubts she will reach the 10,000 hours needed to be competent as a synchronized swimmer, yet enjoys the process of learning and so remains committed to the pool.

Twenty-six years ago Joan started a book group with about twelve members. The group is still together and their most recent read was *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen. She said it has been a wonderful support group sharing births and deaths, new beginnings and retirements, children, grandchildren, medical issues, food and recipes. "Little has changed in women's groups", Joan says.

Joan and her husband Barbee recently travelled to Japan. It was a unique experience, and they met very caring and polite people. Surprises included noticing that all of the bikes in the city were unlocked, and on one occasion Barbee dropped his cell phone on the street and a man ran after them to return it!

Her favorite place in Oregon is travel to the beach. The ocean waves resonate as she feels the connection to the memories of her life. Said Joan, "Those memories remind me that everything changes, but I am constant as the waves until I am no longer". A heartfelt statement from her writer's voice within.

Joan says she is grateful to be associated with the SMA and OHSU. We are grateful to have her as well. Perhaps someday she will give us a private ukulele concert!