



Soroptimist News

Newsletter of Soroptimist International of Long Beach January, 2008

SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women



Happy Birthday!

Martha Block 1/1
 Lori Brault 1/3
 Terri Nikoletich 1/3
 Esther Ross 1/5
 Mary Rosendale 1/8
 Robin Thorne 1/8
 Charlotte Berry 1/16
 Rachel Potucek 1/29

Happy Birthday all, now get out your checkbook – Birthday “fine” is 50c per year!

January Programs and Menus:

January 2 Dark- No meeting
 January 9 Business Meeting
 Tostada Supreme – Ice Cream
 January 16 Speaker; Nelson Kerr, REHS, MPA, DHHS, Long Beach Water Quality
 Chicken Caesar Salad – Chocolate Dessert
 January 23 League of Women Voters: Discussion of Ballot Propositions
 Chef’s Vegetarian Lasagna w/ Bechamel Sauce – Apple Crisp
 January 30 Board Meeting – No regular club meeting

Important Dates to Remember:

January 7 Deadline for Violet Richardson Award Applications/Contact
 Shirlee Jackert/562-421-2725
 January 9 WWMAD Liason Meeting – 11:30 at The Grand
 February 21 SILB Book Club Meeting – Home of Judy Hirsch
 Book Discussion: “The Nine” by Jeffrey Toobin
 May 2-3 Camino Real Region Spring Conference/Woodland Hills
 June 20-21 Camino Real Leadership Training
 July 16-19 Soroptimist of the Americas 40th Biennial Convention -Taipei, Taiwan

APRIL 5

WOMEN WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

LUNCHEON!

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2007-08 Officers and Board of Directors

President: Judy Hess
 President-Elect: Margie Videtto Hersh
 Recording Secretary: Robyn Thomas
 Corresponding Secretary: Annie Koo Thornquist and Jaye Johnson
 Treasurer: Michele Wilkosz
 Assistant Treasurer/Meals: Kathy Ward
 Assistant Treasurer/Events: Margie Hersh
 Immediate Past President : Judy Pedneault
 Community Outreach: Sally Lane
 Fund Development: Minnie Douglas
 Institutional Affairs: Monika Diekmann
 Member Services: Lori Brault
 Philanthropy: Denice Lanuti
 Finance Committee: Charlotte Berry and Josephine Fitzpatrick

Happy New Year!

It's 2008! I can't believe it! Did we even have an '05 and '06? I barely remember '07! Is it just me, or are the years flying by with great abandon?

New Year's resolutions? Well, I'll just recycle my usual ones – eat healthier, exercise more, organize my garage, whatever. My favorite New Year's saying is “ A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other”!

Again, I would like to express appreciation to Lori Brault and her committee for coordinating our Christmas gift-giving effort for the four families we adopted. I have had wonderful feedback from members on how much they enjoyed it. So I think we have a keeper. Thank you all for your wonderful generosity.

We have some great activities in the SILB hopper. WWMAD is busy planning our event. Awardees have already been selected. Data-base people are working on the list so invitations can go out soon. Violet Richardson Award will be presented at the event. The date is Saturday, April 5 at the Airport Marriott. Hopefully, we will have 100% attendance this year.

Applications are coming in (slowly) for our philanthropic awards that benefit women and girls. If you know an organization that fits our criteria, please encourage them to apply.

Shopping with Soroptimist, our annual event to assist sheltered women, is scheduled for Saturday May 17th. If you haven't participated in the past, put it on your calendar. Guaranteed fun!

Also a “must do” is the 2-day Spring Conference scheduled for May 2nd and 3rd (change in the roster) in Woodland Hills. As encouragement for our newer members to attend, we will provide financial assistance and transportation. It is a wonderful experience and a great way to understand the “ins and outs” of Soroptimism, as well as an opportunity to meet Soropti-gals in other clubs.

Stay tuned. There is much more coming down the pike. You know our Social Chair, the Mistress of Fun; I am sure she has some surprises up her sleeve!

Your Pres,

Judy



MORE SOROPTIMIST RESOURCES:

Websites: www.si-longbeach.org, www.caminorealregion.org, www.soroptimist.org

“Best for Women” - Soroptimist International Quarterly Magazine

For those of you who missed it, the Dec 19th Holiday Party was truly a "hands on" event.

Four families were adopted for our project. Some members donated dollars for other "shoppers" but many members shopped for a particular family member which made you feel a lot closer to the project.

We used decorated baskets, boxes, colorful bags even giant laundry baskets to carry all our gifts. Special thanks to Rick Johnson and Scott Burchard who provided assistance getting items to the Grand. In one case we even used a flatbed truck Anita Gibbons helped us borrow from LBCC for a particularly large delivery. The families all had great needs; there were 19 children in our families. We included gift cards and food coupons for the family gifts. One family even got 4 new bikes (great work by Pamela and Michele).

There was wrapping paper, gift tags and ribbon strewn all over 1/2 of the garden room while we created wonderful packages for the families. Erin Holloway, our creative Program director brought Gingerbread cookies for us to decorate and package for all the baskets. One or two very cute cookies may have been devoured by the decorators!

Erin even managed to squeeze in some Holiday games for members. Money from buying chances for the games was donated to the family of the three Long Beach Girls who died in the fire last week (Minnie's "on the spot" idea). Denice made sure that cash got into the right (fireman) hands to give to the family. Oh I forgot to mention the grand did serve a lovely lunch and we were serenaded by yours truly with Holiday music provided by my husband's boom box.

INTRODUCING...Terri Nikoletich!

Welcome to SILB Terri!

Terri Nikoletich, RN, MSN, MPH, CNS, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Director, City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services

Terri was born and raised in Long Beach. She grew up in a house located around the corner from her husband Chad's home. They began dating one month after graduating from high school, and this year celebrated their 29th anniversary. Terri and Chad have been blessed with seven children (six daughters and one son), who range in age from 20 to 28 (yes, there's a set of twins in there!). They also have a sweet little grandson Isaac, (aka "little man") who is 16 months old. Terri has been an R.N. since she was 21. She has graduate degrees in nursing, and in public health, and has worked for the City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services for 5 1/2 years. She is currently the Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health Director. Terri enjoys spending time with her family, working in the garden, baking, sewing and crafts

Day Two - A New Year's Poem

by Linda Jensen

No parades

A day to clear away the remains

No feasting

And find room in the closets

No guests

Begin the count up

No football

Time to pay the bills

The tree lingers in the living room

Holiday pleasures

Shedding needles on the carpet

Still whisper in memory

In limbo between

As I turn to embrace

Ornament and trash

Another new year

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Website: www.SI-LongBeach.org



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WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE LUNCHEON

by Michele Wilkosz

The Women Making A Difference Luncheon will be held on Saturday April 5, 2008 at the Long Beach Airport Marriot Hotel, 4700 Airport Drive, Long Beach. Our wonderful winners are:

Making a Difference for Women Award

Audrey Stephanie Loftin, Attorney at Law

Businesses and Organizations Advancing the Status of Women

WINTER Training Women in Non-Traditional Careers, Founder Lynn Shaw

Women of Distinction

Education

Christi Wilkins, Executive Director of Dramatic Results

Environment

Mary Blackburn, Director of the Long Beach Nature Center at El Dorado Park

Human Rights/Status of Women

Kate Marr, Attorney with the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

Economic and Social

Monica Stel, Executive Director of Harbor Area Halfway Houses

Got NEWS? ANNOUNCEMENTS? GOOD GOSSIP? JOKES? - Email the Editor: Linda.jensen6@verizon.net

OR send by regular mail: 3529 Olive Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807