



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Soroptimist News

Newsletter of Soroptimist International of Long Beach
May 2009 Edition

May Happy Birthdays!

Judith Pedneault
May 2

Arlene Sellers
May 6

Minnie Douglas
May 7

Maria Cochran
May 9

Josephine Fitzpatrick
May 11

Gwendolyn Matthews
May 21

Nancy Freeze
May 23

Erin Holoway
May 27

Robyn Thomas
May 27

May/June Programs and Menus

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| May 6 | Business Meeting, Tostada Supreme, Ice Cream |
| May 13 | Philanthropy Scholarship & WOA Luncheon
Asian Chicken Salad, Chocolate Cake |
| May 20 | Soroptimist Archives, Chef's Lasagna, Fresh Fruit Desert |
| May 27 | Dark |
| June 3 | Chef's Salad, Cheesecake |
| June 9 | Grilled Chicken and Fettucini, Sherbert |
| June 16 | Chicken Caesar Salad, Peach Cobbler |

Important Dates:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| May 13 | Philanthropy Scholarship & WOA Luncheon
(regular meeting) |
| May 19 | ExPros Meeting, 12:00pm at Buster's Beach House |
| May 20 | SI's History in Print and Pictures from the Past to the Present -
presented by the Archives Committee |
| May 30 | Shopping with Soroptimists at Working Wardrobes
SAVE THE DATE |
| June 24 | SILB Installation |

Calendar

President's Message

Program News

*Announcements &
Upcoming Parties*

*Successful Events
& Congratulations*

Community Events

Donations & Ideas

Board of Directors

MORE SOROPTIMIST RESOURCES

www.si-longbeach.org, www.caminorealregion.org, www.soroptimist.org
"Best for Women" - Soroptimist International Quarterly Magazine

WOW, what a great WWMD luncheon event! Everything about it was outstanding and our attendance of 430 (yes can you believe it we were hoping for 225!) was the best ever we exceeded our budgeted income by approximately \$6,000. The whole program was wonderful with a great selection of honorees a great venue and the smooth running of the program. A great big thank you to Lynn, Louise and the entire committee for all their hard work to bring about this tremendously successful event.

Denice Lanuti, Judy Hess, Monika Dieckmann and I had a great time at this years Spring Conference. Joining us for the Friday night Awards Dinner were Jane Barrett receiving her 25 year service pin, Michele Wilkosz receiving her 5 year service pin, Jaye Johnson, Linda Jensen, Rosalie Rowe, Nicolassa Galvez and Jean Barrett-Graham. A great time was had by all and we had the honor of receiving on behalf of SILB a Certificate of Recognition for our participation in the Newsletter Competition and a donation to SIA was made in our honor by Camino Real Region and we received the Governor's Club Pin for our achievement of excellence with a score of 199 in the Annual Governor's Club Award Program.

The Making a Difference for Women Award winner was Nina Smart, Nina is the founder of the Los Angeles based organization, Servicing Wild Flowers International. SWF's focus is to eradicate female genital mutilation (FGM), and it is the vision that fires Nina's passion every day.

The Region had 100% participation in the Woman's Opportunity Award and Violet Richardson Award Programs this year. Roxanne Cooperstone was the WOA winner, Kristi Robinson First Runner-Up and Cynthia Zamudio Second Runner-Up. The Violet Richardson Award winner was Ernestine Fu, a senior at North Hollywood High School, Ernestine founded Visual Arts and Music for Society International (VAMS). VAMS consists of high school artist and musicians who use their talents to organize performances and events at hospitals, orphanages, homeless shelters, and convalescent homes.

Saturday morning at the Memorial Service Breakfast we were honored to celebrate the lives of our members, Jacquelyn Dodge a 26 year member of SILB, Dorothy K. Matteson a 47 year member and John Phipps Cannady the beloved husband of Blanche Cannady.

In the business session of the meeting the by-laws were approved as presented and the Nominating Committee comprised of Pam Cady, SI Oxnard, District 1; GEM Sandy Shultz, SI Glendale, District 2; Donna Bartch, SI LA West/Santa Monica, District 3; and Lisa Schuman, SI Santa Clarita Valley, District 4, received unanimous approval. There are 27 clubs in Camino Real Region; with 68 delegates registered; our delegates were Judy Hess, Monika Dieckmann, and me. Total conference attendance was 241.

I would like to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to represent our club at this outstanding event.

If you haven't already done so, mark your calendars for **May 13th**, you don't want to miss our Scholarship and Awards Luncheon.

Margie Hersh
President



Back: Nicolassa Galvez, Margie Hersh, Michele Wilkosz, Linda Jensen, Jean Barrett-Graham
Front: Jaye Johnson, Monika Dieckmann, Jane Barrett, Rosalie Rowe, Denice Lanuti, Judy Hess

S-Club News

Heading towards the end of the year things are starting to slow down and take a break but not the Poly S Club girls. In mid-March our co-president Denise St. Jean and co-vice presidents Jazmine Mayfield and Divya Kernik attended a retreat with the Mira Costa S Club at the Manhattan Beach Mall. The two clubs spoke with a representative from the newly created Fillmore S Club and shared with her what we do as an S Club. The two clubs shared service project and fundraiser ideas, and spent time performing service projects for the Crown Jewel Club (clipping pictures for dream books) and also clipped coupons for military families to use (one of the Poly S Club projects that we encouraged some of the others to help out with). The S Club girls were taken on a tour of the mall and got the chance to learn about the workings of the mall and to meet some of the workers. President Margie Hersh of Soroptimist International of Long Beach (SILB) was also in attendance. The Mira Costa club showed interest in possibly doing a joint project with the Poly S Club, for which the details will be finalized later.

In other Poly S Club news, our school had its Intercultural Faire on March 27, 2009. The Poly S Club sold individual bags of chips and cold sodas. The fundraiser was a success and the club raised almost \$200. On April 4, 2009, some of our girls went to the Women Who Make A Difference Luncheon, an event sponsored by SILB. Thanks to Lynn Shrum of SILB, our girls had the opportunity to attend the event and not only did they sell opportunity tickets, but thanks to Ms. Shrum's generosity, they were able to sit down and watch the awards being handed out. Our girls would just like to say thank you for the opportunity and that they enjoyed themselves. Due to outside events, like the ACT standardized test that some of the girls were signed up to take, fewer girls were available, but this was an opportunity for some of the younger girls to attend an event and get involved. Another service project we completed just recently is Operation Easter Basket, where a few of our girls went shopping for goodies to put into Easter baskets for young girls ages five to nine, ten to fourteen, and fifteen to sixteen. We chose the higher age groups because those are the kids that tend to not get as many baskets because people prefer to shop for the younger age group of two to four. The baskets were filled with toys, school supplies, art supplies, hygiene products, and (for the oldest) makeup. The club voted to spend \$30 per basket (there were three baskets total), and on April 8, 2009 we delivered them.

As the year winds down, we prepare to have elections, to select next year's officers, and research new service projects we may be interested in for next year. We are nearing the last couple of meetings and, before the school year comes to a close, would like to have our new officers selected so that they can get together in the summer and come next year we can get the ball rolling right away. We are in the process of organizing an end of the year celebration later in May in honor of another school year of hard work.

New Member Welcome

Maria Elena Cochran

I am excited to be a new member of Soroptimist and enjoy meeting and getting to know all the wonderful members of this organization. I've lived in Long Beach most of my life. I attended Jordan High, Long Beach City College and received my BA degree in Women's Studies from CSULB. What most people don't know is that I am a recent graduate from CSULB – receiving my degree in 2004. This was a personal goal that I wanted to accomplish so I quit my job and returned to college as a full-time student. I received my degree in record time – attending Summer, Spring, Fall and even Winter sessions. My greatest academic accomplishments were graduating Magna Cum Laude, being awarded the Liberal Arts Distinguished Academic Student Award twice and being a member of an honor society. Attending college was a thrilling experience and I enjoyed interacting and becoming friends with the students – I didn't even mind being the oldest student in the class – even older than the professors!

I have been married to a wonderful man – Don – for forty-three years and we have one daughter Shelly Anne and a son-in-law Brian. Don is also active in the community and currently serves on the Board of Food Finders as President.

I have worked in the non-profit sector for over twenty-five years in fundraising development – most currently the Director of Development at Dramatic Results that is a non-profit educational arts agency in Signal Hill. The purpose of Dramatic Results is to improve students' academic confidence and performance through the power of art. I have also worked at Long Beach City College Foundation, Long Beach Symphony Orchestra, Casa Youth Shelter, NCCJ (NCCJ stood for the National Conference of Christians and Jews and is now called CCEJ = California Conference for Equality and Justice), and as Development Director of the Boy Scouts of America – Long Beach Area Council.

Organizations I am involved with:

Newly elected Governor to Long Beach City College Foundation

Member of Long Beach Chamber of Commerce
Past member of Board of Directors for the Long Beach Symphony Orchestra

Sustaining member of Junior League of Long Beach
Past member of Assistance League of Long Beach
Past member of John Tracy Clinic League – Long Beach
Past member of Board of Directors at Dramatic Results

I joined Soroptimist because I believe in the advancement of women, whether personal or professional. I support and believe in the efforts of women to improve themselves in the face of adversity and in recognizing the courageous achievements of women.

In my spare time I am an avid reader and belong to a book club. My favorite TV channels are Animal Planet (love Orangutan Island), National Geographic, and the History channel.

2009 WWMD Awards

The 2009 WWMD Event was FABULOUS!

Many thanks to all of you who helped make this year's event so wonderful.

The "It Takes a Village" concept is how I view the WWMD luncheon. It takes efforts from all of our SILB members to make this luncheon be successful

From the start of the nomination process, the judging, the planning, the invitations, the liaison work with the honorees, the ad sales, the press releases, the program, the flowers, opportunity tickets sales, setting up the luncheon site, the honorees posters, the cute S candies and almond rocas, and all of the day of the event tasks—in some way each of our SILB members pitched in to make a great day.

We will be having a wrap up/review of this years WWMD luncheon once the new Chairperson for next year is selected. I have offered to do a lasagna, salad, wine meeting. More details when the 2010 luncheon Chairperson is announced.

Again on behalf of Louise Cunningham and I, heartfelt thanks for your support of this years Women Who Make a Difference luncheon. You made a difference to us!

Best regards,

Lynn Shrum



WWMD Winner Virginia DeMoss

Outstanding Older American

Soroptimist Dr. Hazel Wallace

Soroptimist Dr. Hazel Wallace has been selected as Signal Hill's 2009 Outstanding Older American Volunteer. Annually, this honor is bestowed upon individuals who best exemplify outstanding volunteer service to the community. The announcement was made at the City Council meeting on April 21. She will be the guest of honor on Thursday, May 21st at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. She will be honored along with other Outstanding Older Americans from the Los Angeles County 4th District. On Thursday, May 28th, the Signal Hill, Chamber of Commerce will honor her at their luncheon with an award for her many hours of volunteer service. Dr. Wallace was honored by Soroptimist International of Long Beach in 1996 as a "Woman of Distinction." Congratulations Hazel!

Interservice Club Luncheon

Soroptimist played host for the 39th Interservice Club Luncheon held this year at The Grand. The event was Wednesday April 15th in the Grand Ballroom with 175 in attendance (42 Soroptimists). We tried a new entrée on the Grand menu – pot roast with garlic-mashed potatoes. Everyone was very impressed! Have to get that on our lunch menu! The centerpieces were done in the beach theme – very cute!

Aside from the usual clubs – Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Jaycees, Altrusa, Optimists, Exchange, and Soroptimist, we also had attendees from LB Memorial Foundation, Assistance League, LB Rescue Mission, LB Cares, and California Conference of Equality and Justice as well as many of our own guests.

The guest speaker was Justin Rudd, Long Beach's renowned community activist, who spoke about all the different programs he has brought to Long Beach and continues to coordinate them. If you were unable to attend the luncheon, go to www.justinrudd.com and be amazed!

The event was a huge success! Thanks to Judy G for printing programs, Mary for registering, Jaye for running interference, Judy P. for publicity, and Cheryl for the centerpieces.

Judy Hess

Inaugural Scholarship Luncheon

*** MAY 13 ***

Don't miss this meeting!

This is the program that defines Soroptimist International's mission and vision. This is an opportunity for you to see and hear, first hand, from the beneficiaries of the funds that are donated to Soroptimist International of Long Beach. You'll be inspired by their stories, as well as their courage.

It's your chance to see in person the lives your volunteerism impacts. It's their chance to meet the women who have made a difference in their lives.

All year we buy tickets, we make baskets, and we work on committees and at events. Why? To fund our service projects, scholarships and awards. So, come to the meeting on May 13 and enjoy the fruits of your labors! And, better yet, bring a friend. This is the best showcase of our club you could provide to a potential new member or donor.

Please join us.

The awards and scholarships that will be presented at this luncheon are:

Violet Richardson Award

Helen Diamond Scholar Award

Dr. Katherine White Award

Gladdes Neff Award

Women & Philanthropy

Women's Opportunity Awards

**S-Club at Poly High School Continuing
Education Award**

Long Beach City College Scholarships

**Inaugural Scholarship
Awards Luncheon**

May 13, 2009 at 12 p.m.

The Grand

4101 E. Willow St. Long Beach

Afghanistan Women

SIA has been following the story in Afghanistan with increasing concern for the rights of women there. For those of you who do not know, the Afghan Parliament passed a law depriving Shiite Muslim women of their basic human rights in Afghanistan. The law was signed by President Karzai. However, the law does not go into effect until it is published in the "official gazette."

SIA is taking action in several ways. First, we are sending this information to ask you and your club members to respond by sending letters to President Obama, the UN Secretary General and President Karzai of Afghanistan. Second, President Alice is sending similar letters to each of these people expressing the outrage of Soroptimist International of the Americas to the passage of this law. Third, information and these letters are now on the Act Now section of the SIA web site at www.soroptimist.org.

Archives Committe

*** MAY 20 ***

**The Archives Committee is
planning something special for us.**

Come and join to celebrate SI's History in Print and Pictures, Past to Present, on May 20th. You'll see documents and pictures from the first SI Club in California. There will be a roster of the first members showing their occupations – remember we are talking about 1924. Then there is information on the beginning of SI Long Beach and their activities. These are just a few of the items of interest – there is so much more – through the decades and up to the present. Don't miss this entertaining and informative program.

85 New Members for our 85th Anniversary

In a special Installation Business meeting on March 11th our 84th and 85th members were installed. 2008-2009 was a great recruiting year with 8 new members. Thanks to all of you for finding and recruiting our wonderful new members. In addition to our newest members our 2008-09 new Soroptimists include: Dana Walch, Jane Benson, Maria Cochran, Mary Steele, Gwen Mathews, Dawn Morishige and Nicolassa Galvez.

Shopping with Soroptimists

*** MAY 30 ***

Shopping with Soroptimists
Saturday, May 30, 2009
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please sign up to assist at the lunch meeting or contact Robin Thorne at chemeng97@verizon.net

Danielle before and after!



The women who made it possible!



LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS from OUR SOROPTIMIST SISTERS

ART SHOW * MAY 16 *

BuyArt Studios is preparing to have its Spring Show for 2009. Presented will be the art of Daswn Morishige and Steven Looman. Pamela Seager discovered Steven Looman and since he has done a commission for The Rancho Los Alamitos of their Native Garden. We hope you will be able to attend this wonderful event and support local artists in your town!

Reception is
May 16, 2009 from 3pm to 7pm
at
BuyArt Studios
2828 East 10th Street
Show will run through June 13, 2009.

for more information contact
Dawn Morishige
562-856-9095 or by email,
buyart@earthlink.net



Relay For Life of Long Beach

* JUNE 5 *

June 05, 2009 at California State
University Long Beach

Want to help?

We need you on the team – Jaye Johnson is the team captain. SILB will be on the t-shirts – we'll be there as a group and need YOU.

One in three people will be diagnosed with cancer during their lifetime. The American Cancer Society Relay For Life® unites communities across the country each year to celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against a disease that takes too much.

This year marks the beginning of our celebration of 25 years of Relay For Life®. Won't you join us this year and be a part of Relay? Help us mark this milestone and celebrate the successes we've achieved together during the last 25 years.

Be a part of the fight against cancer - Sign Up or Donate today!
Thanks for being a part of Relay For Life!

Learn more about Relay For Life® and how together we can celebrate, remember, and fight back against cancer!
Log on to www.main.acevents.org - Click on Sign Up, then SI Long Beach (team name) and click on join.

Long Beach Bayou & Mardi Gras Festival

* JUNE 27-28 *

Party at a festival and support deserving families!

Long Beach Bayou & Mardi Gras Festival
June 27 – 28

Gates open at 11:00 a.m.

Music starts at 11:30

Saturday ends at 9:00 p.m. – Sunday ends at 8:00 p.m.

Rainbow Lagoon Park

Shoreline Drive/Pine Ave.

(Behind the LB Convention Center)

Special group offer exclusively for Soroptimists:

General Admission \$35 –

Group Rate \$25 (\$10 savings)

VIP Tickets \$60 –

Group Rate \$50 (10 savings)

VIP Includes: Admission, access to Backstage, Reserved Seating, one meal, beer/wine, sodas and water.

Two Stages with Live Music featuring Blues, Jazz, Cajun & Zydeco. Delicious Food, Free Dance Lessons, Music Workshops and Free Arts & Crafts for Kids. Bring Mask or Costume and join the Mardi Gras Parade!

This is the annual fundraiser for Comprehensive Child Development and programs for the children of low-income working parents.

Questions:

Call Louise Cunningham – 562-427-8834

Group Code: Soroptimist

To order tickets: call 562-427-8834 and ask for Group Discount Department.
Offer ends June 12th – though there will be tickets at the gate at regular price.

2009 SOROPTIMIST HALL OF FAME

★Call for Nominations★

Since 1984, Soroptimist International of Long Beach (SILB) has recognized one of our outstanding members with its highest honor, the Hall of Fame Award.

This award recognizes the contributions and accomplishments of one or more of our members as a Soroptimist, for her service to the community, and to her business or profession.

(There is no other award as special as an award by your peers!)

Our Committee depends on your thoughtful consideration of our members and your nomination of a woman (or women) from our Club who deserves this award.



**This year, our award will be presented on
September 16th, 2009.**

Please review the criteria on the attached form and submit your nomination no later than June 24, 2009, via fax (562)430-9694, email to Pamela@rancholosalamitos.com or by snail mail to Pamela Seager
6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA 90815

**Remember that part of the thrill of this award is that it is a secret!
(like our Big S!)**



SILB's Small Ways Projects are another way we support our mission of "Best for Women". Besides grants and scholarships, we help year-round with smaller projects. Please bring your items to the Business Meeting on the first Wednesday of the month. Since we have limited storage at The Grand, please do not bring these items and simply leave them on the back table. Give your goodies to the "collectors" and they are:

Toiletries – Judy Pedneault

Greeting Cards - Jane Barrett and Mary Soth

Used Cell Phones – Lori Brault

Eyeglasses—Jane Barrett

Coupons (either cut or uncut) – S Club—Jana Martin

Biographies—Denice Lanuti

Clothing for Working Wardrobes – Lynn Hermstad

(Please have items clean, pressed, on hangers and covered with plastic. Working Wardrobes also accepts shoes and other accessories and men's clothing. No rummage or other clothing stuffed in bags!) If you have any questions, talk to, call or email Lynn Hermstad

Submission Specifications for Soroptimist Newsletter:

1. Garamond Typeface in 12 point
2. Plain text in a word document or an email - NO FORMATTING
3. Flyer submissions MUST be either PDF or JPEG
4. Deadline is the 25th of every Month.

Soroptimist News Editors: Dawn Morishige & Nicolassa Galvez

Email the Editor: buyart@earthlink.net OR send by snail-mail:

BuyartStudios, 2828 E. 10th St., Long Beach, CA 90804



2008/2009 Board of Directors



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