

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Greetings from the President	1
The Run 4 Independence	1
Lunch Bunch	2
Planning Retreat Deemed a Success	2
Where is Theresa?	3
SOLT Notes	3
I'm Just Saying..."	4
Thank You, Mary Lewis & EG Citizen	4
Carnitas Revisited	4
On the International Front	5
Grant of Friendship	5
Soroptimist Development Retreat in Reno	6
Child Spree	6
SIEG Officers	6
Websites	6

Special points of interest:

- CSD Hot Summer Night Concerts - Aug. 17th, 24th & 31st
- August Birthday: Leigh Nurre, Aug. 24th
- Spotlight Elk Grove, September 12th

Greetings from the President



Leigh Nurre, President

Dear SIEG club members,

This has been a busy time for our members. Our July activities started with providing support for the Run 4 Independence. The next major activity was our well-attended member retreat in Lodi and then came the Soroptimist Development Retreat in Reno on July 26-27, SIEG member who attended were very pleased with the infor-

mation they took away from the conference. Its focus was membership recruitment and retention- perfect when you consider our main goal this year.

I'll be sending out committee sign-up sheets soon. Please pick a committee and then look forward to a meaningful, productive year.

All the best,
Leigh

The Run 4 Independence

This year's Run 4 Independence was held on July 2nd at Elk Grove Regional Park. Some of our members supported the Run by helping out in the Registration Tent. They handed out race bibs and shirts to the many runners. Others supported the Elk Grove Food Bank's efforts to get the word out.



Kristine Smith and Genny Fulp at the Registration Table. Now, that was an early morning!



Karin Lindner helped pass out T-shirts to late registrants.



Betty Hall worked the Food Bank table.

2nd Wednesday Lunch Bunch



Join us this **Wednesday, August 13th** at Wonderful Chinese at 11:30 a.m. They are located at 9163 E. Stockton Blvd in the Elk Grove Marketplace.

Last month we had a wonderful time at El Meson Mexican Grill. We were joined by Margaret Walubengo, our Women's Opportunity Award winner. Here's a picture from that lunch; we hope you'll join us this month!



Planning Retreat Deemed a Success

"Another Year Better"

The month of August features only one member birthday, and that's for **Leigh Nurre** on the 24th. That's a Saturday, so we hope she (and Charlie) have something planned to mark the special occasion. Happy Birthday, Leigh!



Seventeen members gathered in Lodi on July 21 to review what tasks we set for ourselves last year and discuss what we wanted of the club for this coming year. The quarters were a bit tight, but the enthusiasm was high as every member weighed in on everything from expectations for the day to fundraising to new member recruitment.

Once again, **Betty Hall** provided skillful facilitation using the "Interest Based Approach" where everyone has an equal say, and she really kept us on track and on time! **Diana Holcomb** recorded the "minutes" of the not-really-a-meeting, and **Peggy Ursin** provided "sound bites" for all to see on a flip chart at the front of the room. **Kristine Smith** saw to it that snacks and beverages were available

to all, and had lunch items ready to go.

This year, the process went more smoothly than ever. President **Leigh** and **Betty** created an agenda that addressed concerns but also created enthusiasm for participation. A big task is always the issue of committees. "Which committee does what, and where do I fit in?" is a common question.

For our 2013-2014 year, every member shall participate on one of the three committees: Service, Operating, or Public Relations. We all have such varied skills and interests, but there is an opportunity for every single one of us to capitalize on her strengths in one way or another. Watch for updates each month on news from each commit-

tee. And when you're asked to be involved, and you're not sure just what you can do to help, you might be surprised at how much you can contribute to the function of a committee and overall success of our club!

So if you didn't attend the retreat, prepare to be contacted about where YOU can help on a committee.

Note: a large thermal cup was left at the retreat; if you think it might be yours, contact **Peggy Ursin**.



Where is Theresa Now?

We received an update on our “distance member” **Theresa Thurman**.



You’ll recall she’s been living in Reno the last few years. Her latest message tells us: “At the end of May I was notified that

I was selected for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Health System Management Training program. Acceptance into this program brought with it a transfer to the VA in Phoenix, AZ. I had to be on station by July 1st, so needless to say all of June involved finishing up projects at my old job and packing and arranging a move to my new place. I’m still kind of

surprised, as only fifteen people are selected each year across the VA system. I would like to continue my membership and please let me know if you’re ever in the Phoenix area.” Well, we say, “Congratulations Theresa, and all the best in your new location. We might visit, but not in the summertime!”

*We would love to hear from you!
Here’s our 411:*

*Soroptimist International of Elk
Grove
P.O. Box 881
Elk Grove, CA 95759*

*Email us at:
hello@SoroptimistElkGrove.org
www.SoroptimistElkGrove.org*

S.O.L.T. Notes

Seasoned members know that SOLT stands for Soroptimist Orientation and Leadership Training. But then, that’s what the July event up in Reno covered as well, though now it’s known as the Soroptimist Development Retreat. But the idea is the same: learn about Soroptimist so YOU can be both a better member and, in turn, a more effective leader. We started labeling our SOLT article as “Some Other Little Things” to provide information about our organization to members both new and “not so old.” In that vein, this month’s SOLT note is to once again plug **Cathy Sandiford’s** blog at the SIA website, www.soroptimist.org.



Cathy Standiford

Cathy is a past Federation president, and she tells it like it is. Sort of like the incoming SIA President-Elect, **Poco Davis** from Las Vegas. Cathy provides links to articles about gender equality, education, health, and everything else that affects women throughout the world. There’s a nice big “button” to click on the SIA home page to see Cathy’s latest blog, and all members are urged to check it out. The notes are short, informative, and provide

links to more info if you so desire. So this month’s SOLT tip is to urge every member to be aware of what’s happening outside our club by clicking regularly on the Cathy Standiford blog! You’ll be in a better position to understand and respond to even a casual discussion of women’s, and, in turn, Soroptimist issues.

*“Service is the rent
we pay for being. It is
the very purpose of
life and not something
you do in your
spare time”.*

Marion Wright Edelman

MEETING CALENDAR

- Aug.12 Board Meeting
- Sept. 6 Program Meeting
- Sept. 9 Board Meeting
- Sept. 19 Business Meeting

SOCIAL CALENDAR

- Aug.14 Lunch Bunch
- Sept. 10 Tour of Edible Gardens in Sacramento, 10am-4pm, 4201 H Street, Sacramento (Here’s the [Link](#) for more information - SIS)
- Sept. 11 Lunch Bunch
- Sept. 12. Spotlight on Elk Grove

“I’m Just Saying...”

Here is the link to the Monday, July 29, 2013 Sacramento Bee’s article, “Sex-trafficking sting sweeps 76 US cities, rescues 105 teens”:

<http://bit.ly/137MU8C>

With this issue, we begin a new feature where every member can express an opinion, provide a few words on a topic of your choosing, brag about grandchildren or anything else you want to say (keep it clean!). Please don’t be shy. We agreed at the retreat that more members will be contributing to the newsletter from now on, and that means YOU, too! So here’s two cents worth from **Peggy**....

We all hear the statistics at Soroptimist gatherings about the number of girls ensnared in sex trafficking across the

country, but it doesn’t really affect us in any way. It’s not close to home. Well, surprise! Just a few weeks ago, the FBI removed from forced prostitution a 14-year-old girl from ELK GROVE. Ladies, that’s definitely “right in our own backyard.” Another girl, age 14, was from Sacramento, where I (and three other members) live. She was found in Reno. And who was arrested: two women, ages 19 and 22, from Sacramento. So what are YOU doing about it? Are you leaving Teen Dating Violence book-marks around in public places? Are you casually drop-

ping the little “Massage is legal, human trafficking is not” slips of paper in restrooms? We’ve got the materials; but, are we using them at all? Or, are we just going “Tsk, tsk, isn’t that awful? Thank goodness I don’t live in THAT neighborhood.” Well, guess what – you DO! I sincerely thank the Sacramento Bee for the enhanced publicity about rescues, arrests, and hometowns of the girls found in prostitution, because it’s another step in “Breaking the Chains.”

Thank You, Mary Lewis and EG Citizen!

Our club is fortunate to have Charter Member **Mary Lewis** in our midst. As a dedicated Soroptimist, and also the Society Editor of the Elk Grove Citizen, Mary always sees to it that our Soroptimist events and achievements receive coverage in the paper. But her article and photos of the June installation of officers and induction of new members was really “frosting on the cake.” An entire one-third page, including three color photos, in the July 24 edition was wonderful to behold, and sincerely appreciated.

President Leigh’s focus this year is on increasing membership. What could be a better plug than the picture of our Fabulous FIVE beautiful women inducted at the dinner? Denise, Tracey, Marie, Janet and Sherry – we are thrilled to welcome you to Soroptimist. And Mary, we once again thank you ever so much for the great publicity!

Carnitas Revisited

No, that headline doesn’t refer to heartburn from too much Mexican food – it’s a quick word on profit from our June 21 event after our partners in the project, the Elk Grove Lions Club, tallied up income and expenses. They presented our club with \$3039. Total revenue from the drawing was nearly \$1,400 (thank you, **Karin Lindner** and others!). After bills were paid and the monies SIEG both brought in and spent on supplies was taken into consideration, our portion of the net profit was presented. Way to go, ladies!



July 18th we got together to “bag & tag” stuffed animals and blankets for Elk Grove’s Police Department to give to children who need them.

A fun time was had by all. And, our very gracious hostess, **Betty Walters**, provided scrumptious refreshments!



We’re on Facebook. Are you? Find us here:
www.Facebook.com/SoroptimistElkGrove

On The International Front

Soroptimist International (all five of our Federations) reminds us that International Day of Peace is observed around the world on September 21 (or as they say at the SI website, 1 September). This year, the United Nations has adopted the theme *Education of Peace*. Soroptimist International (SI) is launching a "Peace One Day" campaign to promote peace-building and reconciliation around

the world. Will there suddenly be world peace? Not likely. But more awareness of the millions of women working toward that goal is an excellent step.

Peace Day isn't just about reducing violence in areas of conflict, but it's also about reducing violence in our homes, communities and schools. We all have a role in building a more peaceful world. As the SI Peace

One Day committee asks, "Who will you make peace with?"

"It is not enough to teach children how to read, write and count. Education has to cultivate mutual respect for others and the world in which we live, and help people forge more just, inclusive and peaceful societies." - *UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon*

For Soroptimist International, the International Peace Day will be an opportunity to showcase and build on the work that many Clubs and Federations are already doing to promote peace and reduce violence through education. August is a good time to start thinking about something in September as important as peace.

"A woman is the full circle. Within her is the power to create, nurture and transform".

Diane Mariechild

Grant of Friendship

Soroptimist International of Rocky Mountain region is offering an opportunity for a Soroptimist to visit and share experiences for a period of two- three weeks on April 2014.

Western United States, the Region covers the Malheur County in Oregon, the States of Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, and the Panhandle of Nebraska. Rocky Mountain Region is a paradise for outdoor enthusiasts, home of many National Parks, The greatest snow on earth, lots of ski resorts, mountain views, golf courses, incredible outdoor adventures and welcoming towns in every State.

A personal itinerary and program with specific objectives within SI's

Programmed Action areas will be arranged to allow the successful applicant the opportunity to:

- Make professional visits of interest
- Learn more about the Program Action work being undertaken in the Region and SI
- Meet members of the 27 clubs in the Region to share and exchange knowledge and experiences of their Soroptimist life.

The successful applicant will be required to:

- Attend the Spring Conference in Laramie, WY as a silent observer on April 2014
- May give a presentation at any of the clubs visits

She will be responsible for her own flights to and from the Region. The Grant of Friendship will cover the costs of the visitor attending spring conference (registration and fees and possibly hotel room during conference) Hospitality will be provided by the Region's members facilitating hosting the visitor in our homes, meals, transportation from club to club during her stay. She must provide her own personal spending money.

Preference will be given to someone who has never visited the Rocky Mountain Region. Knowledge of Projects on her own Region and can speak and write in English.

Please contact our Regional Governor Jonnie Jenkins at jonnie-esirmr@gmail.com and provide a brief description of your role in SI in your State/Province, Region or Federation. Closing date for all applicants is this NOVEMBER 1st, 2013

You will find information about the clubs at the R M Region website www.soroptimistrockymtn.org

If interested, contact: Jonnie Jenkins, CPA 2012-2014 Governor SI Rocky Mountain Region

NOTE: Salt Lake City and the Northwestern Region (SI) are also offering a Grant of Friendship.

SIEG OFFICERS

Leigh Nurre
President

Genny Fulp
Vice President

Peggy Ursin
Treasurer

Lorna Buechler
Asst. Treasurer

Diana Holcomb
Recording Secretary

Leslie Konopinski
Corres. Secretary

Annajean Neill
Karin Lindner
Delegates

Diane Hollingshead
Club Ambassador

Betty Hall
Parliamentarian

Tracey Edwards
Newsletter

Sierra Nevada Development Retreat

Four of our Members attended this informational and educational retreat – **Betty Hall, Lorna Buechler, Janet Brabender and Tracey Edwards**. They all came away with enthusiasm to start our new year and with great ideas for member recruitment and retention.

They have tips on “How to Have a Successful Pro-

spective Membership Mixer,” and “Retreat Readiness” for next year’s Retreat, (although, we have to say that this year’s was fabulous!) Workshops were offered for: Presidents, Secretaries, Hands on Retreat Training, and WOA, VRA & Ruby Applicants, Social Media and Advocacy at the Club Level. The event was packed with information, so much

so, that it can’t be included here. Knowing that you wouldn’t want to miss it, here’s the link to [Tracey & Betty’s Notes](#).

Next year, plan on attending and getting a refresher course on Enthusiasm and Re-invigoration!

Mark Your Calendar – July 25-26th, 2014.

Child Spree 2013

On July 28th more than 100 children from local needy families gathered at Kohl’s store on Bruceville Road **very** early in the morning. There they were provided with school clothes, backpacks, school supplies, haircuts, eye exams, bicycle helmets, and a pancake breakfast. Prior to that gathering, members of SIEG gathered at Ramona Johanson’s home to break bread, food provided by John Pickett of Tuli Bistro), catch-up with one another, and stuff over 100 backpacks with school supplies. The pic-

ture doesn’t do the food justice!!



Backpacks for Child Spree

*Don't judge
each day by the
harvest you
reap, but by the
seeds you sow.*

Robert
Louis
Stevenson

Soroptimist Websites

SIERRA NEVADA REGION
WWW.SOROPTIMISTNR.ORG

User Name: Soroptimist
Password: Synergy

Governor: Janice Labadie

SOROPTIMIST INT’L OF THE AMERICAS
(FEDERATION)

President: Raquel Arreola-Ruiz

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
WWW.SOROPTIMISTINTERNATIONAL.ORG

User Name: Member
Password: Cambridge

President: Alice Wells