



SOROPTIMIST  
Best for Women

SI Rio Cosumnes  
P.O. Box 881, Elk Grove, CA 95759

## Special Interest Article:

Greetings From  
The President

## Individual Highlights:

Page 2

See's for Soldiers

Program Meeting

Birthdays

Page 3

SOLT

Conference

Calendar

Page 4

Past President Blog

Lunch Bunch

Book Club

Page 5

We Have Winners

Bunco Success

Page 6

Officers

Bunco Pix



Leigh Nurre, President

We had a great time Saturday at the Bunco event. Everyone worked very hard, but it was the most pleasant kind of "work" we can hope for. We had a wonderful turnout and most of the 64 guests were warm and friendly and very happy to be at beautiful Camden Springs. It is very gratifying to have a fundraiser whose attendees are as expressive in their appreciation as the ones we had on Saturday, February 23.

Diane did a fantastic job as chairperson. I know from experience that the endless details of Bunco could drive a sane person to throw up their hands in frustration. As the event gets closer and closer, the number of items that have to be handled multiplies rather than

## Greetings From The President

shrinks. This was our 4<sup>th</sup> Bunco but it was still a tremendous effort to plan successfully.

Committee members Leslie, Karin, Annajean, Marie, Sandi, Diana, Genny, Betty Walters, and yours truly worked our hardest to match Diane's pace, picking up one assignment after another until every task was completed. It was worth the effort because the outcome was what I consider to be near perfection. Plus it was lots of fun.

Warmest appreciation goes to Cathleen, Peggy, Betty Hall and Holly for volunteering at the event. Your presence made a huge difference. Nice job everyone!

On April 26-28, the Sierra-Nevada Region conference takes place in Reno. I want to encourage you to come. The weekend is a bonding opportunity with your SIRC friends. It's also an opportunity to meet women from other SI clubs and to learn more about Soroptimist at a grand scale. The club pays for your lodging (if you share a room) as well as the cost of the conference. We carpool so the 2.5-hour drive

passes in no time. Attending a conference is a fun learning experience so I hope all of you will give it consideration.

We have numerous activities coming up this spring. The opportunities for your participation are huge and your help is going to be very valued and appreciated. Nominations are coming up for Board membership and I hope you'll think about joining.

All the best,

Leigh Nurre  
President



*Happy Easter!*



President Leigh and Sgt. Partak with candy for soldiers.

## See's For Soldiers Appreciated

Once again, the membership and community supported our See's for Soldiers donation site at the Christmas Store. Our last shipment was sent to the Blue Star Moms and was then sent to the soldiers overseas. We were forwarded a great note expressing appreciation for our efforts via the mother of U.S. Army Capt. Jon Plundo. Jon's mother is one of the Blue

Star Moms.

He wrote:

"Ma, please thank everyone who sent all of this fantastic candy to us!!! I have a number of soldiers who live in a remote outpost in the mountains. I had two boxes of candy flown to them by helicopter!! As you can imagine, everyone loves it!! Big thanks from me to them for making our soldiers' day!! Love you!! Jon"

It's always exciting to learn that what we did actually made a difference. Please remember to spread the word among friends and family at THIS year's holiday season that giving either candy or money to purchase candy definitely brightens the lives of our military personnel who are a long way from home at holiday time.

## Program Meeting – New Place!

The March Program Meeting will move to a different site, and we need YOU to attend and provide feedback on the venue. Friday, March 1, at 7:30 a.m. we meet in a newly created space at La Bou Bakery & Cafe, 8694 Elk Grove Blvd. Be sure to arrive early enough to purchase a beverage (and maybe one of their luscious croissants?) at the front

counter before the meeting (they open at 6:00 a.m.). There is plenty of parking, and we're anxious for your impressions.

The speaker for the day will be Christine Thomas, Dean of Student Services and Enrollment Management at Cosumnes River College. She will discuss the current

support services for veterans on campus. So make a note of **new place, same time**, and hope to see you there. Remember, your Soroptimist pin – over your heart!

---

**Program Meeting:  
March 1st<sup>d</sup>  
7:30am  
LaBou Bakery  
and Cafe**

## Birthdays and Other Observations

March brings us the beginning of Daylight Saving Time once again (on the 10<sup>th</sup>). Enjoying the longer hours of sunshine on their birthday will be Diane Hollingshead on the 16<sup>th</sup> and Janet Hume on the 20<sup>th</sup>, which just happens to be the official First Day of Spring. Happy Birthday wishes to both of you!

We all know about the "Wearin' O' the Green" in March, but it's also Women's History Month, and March 8 is designated International Working Women's Day. Remember the ambition of Soroptimist clubs worldwide is to help women, whether in the 'official' workforce or not!



## SOLT – Some Other Little Things

With the SOLT category, we inform readers about Soroptimist practices as well as other little things. This month's notes:

- There are 12,771,000 American women over age 25 who do NOT have a high school diploma or equivalent. That's 12.1% of all American women over the age of 25. Aren't you glad we sponsor a scholarship for a graduating high school girl?
- If you think our meeting schedules/dates are confusing, ponder a note from Elizabeth Pinkerton's column in the Elk Grove Citizen: In 1880, the Elk Grove Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons met on "the Saturday preceding the full moon." Now THAT could get confusing!
- Cheri Fleming has been elected SIA president-elect, and will take office in September. Cheri is from Valencia, California (by Magic Mountain Amusement Park), and it will be exciting to have a "local" person at the Federation helm!
- Check the note elsewhere in this edition about the SNR Conference. Soroptimists refer to the Sierra Nevada Region annual gathering as "Conference." The gathering of all SIA regions every two even-numbered years (biennial) is referred to as "Convention" as is the gathering of all five Federations from throughout the world every two odd-numbered years. Got that?!?

## Thinking About Conference?

The annual gathering of the 59 Soroptimist clubs in the Sierra Nevada Region will be on April 26-28 at the Atlantis in Reno. All the details will be coming soon, but it's definitely time to review your calendar and consider attending. For a number of years, our club has been able to finance the registration fee, all meals, and the two nights of lodging expense, as long as a room is shared by two members. If someone prefers a single room, she would pay half the room rate. Members carpool to Reno, generally contributing toward the gas expense of those driving.

Conference is a wonderful opportunity to participate in the annual business of the region, meet and share notes with members from many other clubs, celebrate the awards given to women and girls from throughout Nevada and Northern California, and get updates on Soroptimist issues within our Region and Federation. This year's featured guest and speaker will be Alice Wells, past president of Soroptimist Int'l of the Americas AND current President of Soroptimist International. Grab the chance to visit with this dynamic woman who is doing so much to support women and girls throughout the world. We must have all fees paid and rooms reserved very early, so watch for email news with details. Please consider attending – it's fun!



### CALENDAR SNAPSHOT:

Friday, March 1: Program Meeting, 7:30 a.m., LaBou Bakery and Cafe

Saturday, March 9: District V Winter Meeting, Davis

Wednesday, March 13: Lunch Bunch, Velvet Creamery, Galt

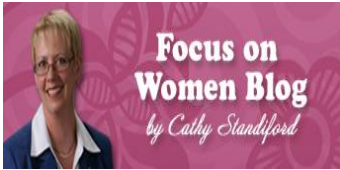
Thursday, March 21: Business Meeting

April 26 - 28: SNR Conference, Reno

***"Walk with the dreamers,  
the believers, the  
courageous, the cheerful,  
the planners, the doers,  
the successful people with  
their heads in the clouds  
and their feet on the  
ground. Let their spirit  
ignite a fire within you to  
leave this world better  
than when you found it."***

*Wilferd Peterson*

## Past President's Blog



Have you taken a look at the blog posted by Federation Past-President Cathy Standiford at the SIA website ([www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org))? Cathy's posts are short, easy to read, and touch on timely issues all over the Soroptimist world (wait, that would be the entire world!). Check her notes posted in February on why gender equality has stalled. She

also reprinted a quote from departing U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton as she addressed her colleagues just before leaving office. It said in part, "If women and girls everywhere were treated as equal to men in rights, dignity, and opportunity, we would see political and economic progress

everywhere." Gee, Hillary, we're already on it. Just who do you think is at the United Nations, constantly pushing for that equal treatment? A bunch of dedicated Soroptimist members, that's who!!

## The Lunch Bunch Goes to Galt



We had a GREAT time for the past two months gathering at Jane's home for our monthly "lunch bunch" outings. Good news is that Jane is up and ready to travel. The bad news is, we will miss her stories and songs, unless we can talk her into one or two at the restaurants.

Plan to join your fellow members for the March 13 lunch gathering at the Velvet Grill and Creamery at 400 Fourth Street in Galt at 11:30 a.m. This is not a meeting; just a chance for members to enjoy getting together for fun and frolic (or at least lunch). Want to carpool? We will meet in the

parking lot at "our" See's Store, 11:15. Questions? Call Betty Hall at 685-5170.

## Book Club, Anyone?

Of the 76 most literate US cities of 250,000 or more in population, Sacramento recently came in at a not-very-impressive #42. No California city placed in the top ten. We don't have any statistics on the top ten most well-read Soroptimist clubs, but a number of clubs DO have a book group for members.

Some of you ladies may already belong to a book club (or two). If you aren't part of a group, how about starting one within our club? It could be fun, with no pressure, and mind-expanding at the same time. Give it a thought and contact Peggy Ursin at 682-7247 if you're interested!



***Life is like a novel. It's filled with suspense. You have no idea what is going to happen until you turn the page.***

*Sidney Sheldon*

## We've Got Winners!

A big thank you to Annajean Neill and her judging crew for selecting this year's winners of our annual awards. The Women's Opportunity Award winner is Margaret Walubengo and the two young ladies selected for Violet Richardson Awards are Teresa Nguyen and Shelby Wood. At the February business meeting, members voted to increase the Women's Opportunity Award to \$2,000 as we only had one winner, but had budgeted for two. Each of the Violet Richardson Awardees will receive \$250, and \$125 will be given to the specific organization where each girl volunteers. The checks will be presented at a business meeting later this spring.



## February Bunco a Great Success

We're getting pretty good at this Bunco business! The February 23 event at Camden Springs had great attendance, excellent refreshments, an amazing array of drawing prizes, and netted approximately \$1,900 for our treasury! A huge thank you to everyone who bought a ticket, encouraged friends to play, helped with set-up the night before, assisted that day, and donated wonderful gifts for the drawing. There were eighteen gorgeous baskets in the drawing which brought in over \$600. Thank you to Diana Holcomb for once again offering her office for gift basket assembly, and Karin Lindner for spearheading that assembly. And in a generous move, the first prize winner for most Buncos, Marilyn Holmes, donated her \$100 cash prize back to the club. Thank you, Marilyn!

Event chair Diane Hollingshead was her usual enthusiastic self when it came to planning meetings, garnering donations, and announcing drawing winners. Her excitement is infectious! The Camden Springs staff was once again so accommodating and generous with food, beverages, monitoring the tables for trash, and helping ready the room for their luncheon hour as we finished. All in all, a very successful event; those members playing at the tables reported that guest satisfaction was outstanding! Way to go, ladies!

Check out the pictures on the next page.



### Important Reminder:

**The March 21st Business Meeting is very important because**

- The nominating committee is elected
- We distribute funds for this year

**We need your vote - please try to attend the meeting.**

## SI Rio Cosumnes 2012-2013 Officers

President  
Leigh Nurre

Vice President  
Sandi Russell

Treasurer  
Peggy Ursin

Asst. Treasurer  
Kristine Smith

Recording Secretary  
Diana Holcomb

Corresponding Secretary  
Leslie Konopinski

Delegates  
Lorna Buechler  
Betty Hall

Newsletter Editors  
Betty Hall  
Peggy Ursin

Email us:

[siriocosumnes@soroptimist.net](mailto:siriocosumnes@soroptimist.net)

## Bunco was a BLAST!



### SIERRA NEVADA REGION

[WWW.SOROPTIMISTSNR.ORG](http://WWW.SOROPTIMISTSNR.ORG)  
(USER NAME: SOROPTIMIST /  
PASSWORD: SYNERGY)

GOVERNOR: *Janice Labadie*

### SOROPTIMIST INT'L OF THE AMERICAS (FEDERATION)

[WWW.SOROPTIMIST.ORG](http://WWW.SOROPTIMIST.ORG)

PRESIDENT: *Raquel Arreola-Ruiz*

### SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

[WWW.SOROPTIMISTINTERNATIONAL.ORG](http://WWW.SOROPTIMISTINTERNATIONAL.ORG)  
(USER NAME: MEMBER /  
PASSWORD: CAMBRIDGE)

PRESIDENT: *Alice Wells*

*"Imperfection is beauty,  
madness is genius and it's  
better to be absolutely  
ridiculous than absolutely  
boring."*

*Marilyn Monroe*