



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Sorooptimist International of Elk Grove

P.O. Box 881, Elk Grove, CA 95759

"Improving the lives of women and children locally and throughout the world."

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May Observations



Leigh Nurre, President

SNR Conference. Diane and I decided to take the train this past weekend to the 37th annual Sierra Nevada Region Conference in Reno. We had a wonderful time. The train ride was comfortable, we met some fantastic people, and the scenery was beautiful. We had breakfast in the dining car and the vegetable omelet and potatoes were delicious. If you've never taken the trip, I recommend it. It does take 6 hours to get to Reno (versus 3 hours in a car), but it was worth it.

Membership. We have four strong possibilities for

Greetings From The President

new members. They're terrific, interesting women who would bring a lot to our club. Please remember when you're at a party or event to talk up the good works of our club and the benefits of membership. Maybe we'll get a few more new members in the coming year.

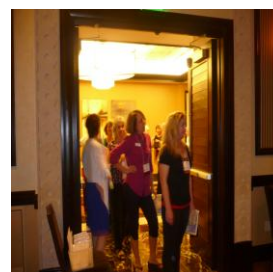
Please ask for business sponsorships and donated items when you can. I know we can count on all SIEG members to help make this festival a successful endeavor.

Thank you for all of your help,

Leigh Nurre
President

Retreat. This is a reminder that we're having a retreat this summer. It should be around July 20th. We'll let you know as soon as a rental is found. I hope all of you will be able to attend the retreat. We need the participation of the whole club so that we make next year as successful as possible.

SIEG-Lions event. The Margarita-Carnitas Festival on June 21st will be here before we know it. So please get out there and sell tickets! If you email a flyer to your circle of friends, your friends will be happy to forward the invitation to their friends and, without too much stress, we'll have a successful turnout. We also need raffle prizes.



Prez Leigh waiting for the "Parade of Presidents"



International News

Sunday, May 5, in addition to being Cinco de Mayo, is International Day of the Midwife, and will feature a special “virtual” conference on Birthing in the Pacific (remember, SI President Alice Wells’ project?).

Beginning at 10:00 a.m. New Zealand time, (18 hours ahead of us) there will be hourly events for viewers to watch. For information and details on how YOU can see this novel approach to a conference, check at <http://vidm.wikispaces.com/> How cool is that to have a virtual conference so that anyone can participate?!?

Program Meeting

This Friday, May 3, is the monthly Program Meeting at La Bou on Elk Grove Boulevard. Start time is at 7:30 a.m. Arrive early so you can pick up a coffee and yummy pastry item! Our guest speaker is well known to us, Elk Grove Food Bank Services Executive Director Marie Jachino. As you know, our club has close ties to the Food Bank,

and it will be great to get updates from Marie on what’s happening within that far-reaching organization, the programs offered at the Food Bank, funding sources, and future plans for the organization.

**Program Meeting:
Friday, May 3rd
7:30am
LaBou**



Carnitas, Margaritas, Ole’!!

You surely have Friday, June 21 on your calendar, don’t you? That’s when we team up with the Elk Grove Lions Club for a fun and exciting fundraiser at the Pavilion at Elk Grove Regional Park. There are tickets to sell and drawing items to procure (LOTS of items) – a chance for every single member to take part, and we need YOU. This is a new venture for our club, and we’re lucky that the Lions will do the “heavy

lifting” with labor and food prep. Our club will handle the auction/drawing and other support tasks. And **everyone** will sell tickets! Watch for regular bulletins via email, updates at meetings, and prepare to be contacted by committee members. What a great opportunity for partnership, fun, music, terrific food, fun, and some dandy margaritas. Even if you

can’t attend, purchase several tickets and give them to friends – it’ll impress the heck out of them!



Sierra Nevada Region Conference

Six members trekked to Reno for the annual region conference this year, which was packed with information, updates, celebrations, some business and elections, and an all-around good time. Betty Hall and Lorna Buechler were voting delegates, as was President Leigh, by virtue of her office. They voted on proposals for bylaw changes and participated in the democratic processes. We'll have more updates and impressions from those delegates in future newsletters.

The featured guest this year was Soroptimist International President Alice Wells, an entertaining and engaging lady who is traveling the world as the leader for all five Federations. She spoke about her designated project, Birthing in the Pacific, which you'll recall we have already financially supported. Our Region Governor Janice Labadie was her usual outgoing, fun, impassioned and eloquent self – not letting **anyone** forget what we do, why we do it, and why we need to do MORE of it. Another special guest was SIA Board Member Paula Voerding from the Rocky Mountain Region. She's a member of SI Cody, Wyoming, and seemed to really enjoy her time meeting members from California and Nevada.

Our own Women's Opportunity Awardee, Margaret Walubengo, received her region-level award and made quite an impression in a stunning ensemble made from fabric she brought from Kenya. The entire assembly of 350-plus people sang "Happy Birthday" to Margaret!



The "Conference Six"



Isn't She Beautiful?

SOLT (Some Other Little Things)

- 1- We're officially Soroptimist International of Elk Grove now, and members approved the re-wording in the Bylaws at the April business meeting.
- 2- Your delegates at Conference distinctly heard some people end the day by reciting, "I pledge allegiance to Soroptimism..." (which you know is incorrect – thanks for saying "Soroptimist").
- 3- Governor Janice's theme for this biennium is "Soroptimist – Bringing out the best in their communities and themselves." What examples of that can YOU think of? We need your thoughts for a public awareness media piece – call or email Peggy Ursin with any and all ideas.
- 4- Next year's SIA Conference is in Vancouver, Canada in July 2014. The 2015 Soroptimist International Conference is in Istanbul, Turkey. Is your passport up to date?

CALENDAR SNAPSHOT:

Thursday, May 2 - Spotlight on Scholarships, Baptist Church (Decorate at 12 noon)

Friday, May 3 - Program Meeting, 7:30 a.m., LaBou

Wednesday, May 8 - Lunch Bunch, 11:30 a.m. El Jardin Restaurant

Thursday, May 9 - Foster Youth ILP Dinner, Holiday Inn Express

Monday, May 13 - Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Sandi Russell's Home

Thursday, May 16 - Business Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Jesse Wright Suites

July (TBA) - Club Retreat

July 26-27 - SNR Development Retreat, Atlantis, Reno

The road of life twists and turns and no two directions are ever the same. Yet our lessons come from the journey, not the destination.

Don Williams Jr.

We Bought The House!

You'll recall that at the March meeting, the membership approved a \$1,500 expenditure to provide a house for a single mother in Concepcion de Ataco, Elk Grove's sister city. It was wonderful to present the check to Oscar O'Con and Bob Lent at our April business meeting. They will provide photos of the woman selected for the dwelling when they return from their May trip to El Salvador. We have in this purchase an opportunity to truly make a difference for a woman and her family – the true spirit of Soroptimist. Talk about a great project!



Walk to Remember

For the fourth year, members assisted with the annual walk honoring members of the military, both past and present. The Hall family put in an enormous amount of work with organizing, and it's a pleasure for our club to help with preparation and registration. Maybe we need a class on untangling balloons, but it's always a pleasure to help with such a special event. Once again, our SNR Governor Janice Labadie supported the Walk in both labor and song. She also shared her wonderful performance of "Amazing Grace" at the Soroptimist Conference's Celebration of Life on Sunday morning, honoring deceased members, and it moved attendees there in the same way it touched everyone gathered at Elk Grove Park. Thank you Janice!



Foster Youth News

We must all suffer from one of two pains; the pain of discipline or the pain of regret. The difference is that discipline weighs ounces and lasts a moment while regret weighs tons and lasts a lifetime!

Jim Rohn

May is Foster Care Month, and our friends Mike Jones and staff at the school district are busy! A kickoff event on May 1 will find some SIEG members pouring wine and assisting at the festive event featuring Elk Grove Mayor Gary Davis and other dignitaries. Then our members really get involved on May 9 at the Recognition Dinner for

students completing the Independent Living Program classes. We will be serving the dinner much the same as we did in December. If you signed up to assist, watch your email for additional details about the dinner at Elk Grove's Holiday Inn Express.

Lunch Bunch Goes Mexican for May

The second Wednesday lunch bunch gathering tries a new place this month - El Jardin Restaurant in the Bel Air shopping center at E.G. Boulevard and Waterman Road. Meet at 11:30 a.m. on May 8 for lunch, visiting, and fun. The lunches are a great way to enjoy time with Soroptimist friends outside of regular meetings.



Dues News



Start gathering your nickles, dimes and dollars, because it's time once again for club dues. We are supposed to have all monies sent in to Philadelphia by July 1. Many members consider the Installation Dinner the time to pay, but that June 20 date is cutting it pretty close for checks to clear, completing the forms and getting

everything sent off. So if you can please pay your \$148 annual dues closer to June 1, it will be very much appreciated. Dues have not gone up for multiple years, and they're not changing now. Consider this notice your bill, your invoice, or whatever you want to call it. Our two Life Members (an option no

longer available in Soroptimist) have a different amount due, and they'll get a separate email statement. But the bottom line is this: It's time to pay that \$148 – which supports Club, Region, Federation and International Soroptimist efforts.



SI Elk Grove 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

Immediate Past
President/Club Ambassador
Diane Hollingshead

Newsletter Editors
Betty Hall
Peggy Ursin

Email us:

hello@SoroptimistElkGrove.org

Website

www.SoroptimistElkGrove.org

Stop acting as if life is a rehearsal. Live this day as if it were your last. The past is over and gone. The future is not guaranteed.

Wayne Dyer

Poco for Prez

Remember Poco Davis, past Governor of Sierra Nevada Region? Remember the "Poco's Panties" campaign for underwear for young women in Africa? Remember her red sequined hi-top tennies? Amidst all the fun and laughter, Poco is one of the most dedicated Soroptimists you could ever know. To a great round of applause, it was announced at the SNR Conference that Poco has been selected as President-Elect for Soroptimist International of the Americas – what we refer to as "Federation." Watch out Philadelphia, Poco's coming to town!



May Observations

It seems we don't have any members with May birthdays! But in addition to Mother's Day on the 12th, May does mark the birth of Dr. Spock, Audrey Hepburn, George Clooney...and Tammy Wynette arrived on this earth to tell us to "Stand By Your Man" back in 1942. May is also National Salad Month, National Blood Pressure Month (eat more salad) and Foster Youth Month (noted in article elsewhere). May 18 is Visit Your Relatives Day, and we honor those relatives and others who served on Memorial Day, May 27.

SIERRA NEVADA REGION
WWW.SOROPTIMISTSNR.ORG
(USER NAME: SOROPTIMIST /
PASSWORD: SYNERGY)
GOVERNOR: Janice Labadie

SOROPTIMIST INT'L OF THE AMERICAS (FEDERATION)
WWW.SOROPTIMIST.ORG
PRESIDENT: Raquel Arreola-Ruiz

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
WWW.SOROPTIMISTINTERNATIONAL.ORG
(USER NAME: MEMBER /
PASSWORD: CAMBRIDGE)
PRESIDENT: Alice Wells