



October 2010

Improving the lives of women & girls in Whittier, CA, USA

Mark Your Calendars	
Tues. Oct. 5 th	Business Meeting
Tues. Oct. 12 th	SOLT, Orientation & Leadership Training
Tues. Oct. 19 th	Ways & Means, Wed. Night Live
Fri. Oct. 22 nd	Board Meeting
Tues. Oct. 26 th	Martha Wade, Stopping Childhood Sexual Abuse
Soroptimist Village Events	
Tues. Evening Oct. 26 th	Annual Meeting 6 to 8pm (\$20ea)
Thurs. Evening Nov 18 th	Village Thanksgiving dinner
Thurs. Evening Dec. 9 th	Village Christmas dinner
<i>Location: 12657 Foster Road, Norwalk, CA 90650</i>	
*** 2011 ***	
Fri.-Sun. May 13 th to 15 th	DCR Spring Conference
DCR = Desert Coast Region, 43 Soroptimist Clubs	
Sun.-Thurs. July 10 th to 14 th	Soroptimist Int'l Convention
in Montreal, Canada.	
SI = 3,000 Soroptimist Clubs	

Our annual fundraiser is around the corner, January 26th. Please get out the word, start telling friends & family. Jane Dicus and her sponsorship committee need your help. If you know someone who can sponsor please get a sponsorship flyer from Jane & let's bring in the money!! The more we raise, the more we can help needy women and girls. We are one for all and all for one!!! We are the 54 musketeers!!

Mary V.

Mary Rawalt...president's note

Our Club has been very busy enhancing programs to reach more women and girls in our community and help to transform their lives to live their dreams. It has been extremely rewarding to see this process unfold with so much enthusiasm.

While reviewing some of the Soroptimist Int'l White Papers on Women's issues I realized how many of those topics we are currently exploring for our own Signature Projects i.e., Women and Education on how schooling impacts a woman's financial status, Health and Social well-being, Domestic Violence, Teen Dating Violence and Breast Cancer and Low-Income Women just to mention a few. All of these are projects have been a topic for many of our committee discussions.

The "Remodeling" project allows our Club to reach many more women and girls to fulfill our mission. Plans are underway for our major fundraising efforts that will be held January 26th.

The SIA Renaissance Campaign 2011 will be on Strategies for Progress. The focus of the Renaissance Campaign 2011 is to have happy, healthy Soroptimist clubs with members engaged in select projects that advance the mission and who truly enjoy their club experiences. SIW is out front in making this happen and something that all of us can be pleased to be a part of the success. Thanks to all for Serving with Style!

President Mary Rawalt

Birthdays

Julie Hockett	3-Oct.
Suzie Mohler	11-Oct.
Judy McAlister	13-Oct.
Diana Gonzalez	13-Oct.
Carolyn Reggio	17-Oct.

Anniversary

Jane Dicus	10-10-10 40 years!!!
Nancy Meschuk	24-Oct. 40 years!!!
Sandy Gelmini	15-Oct. 38 years
Cynthia Nickell	18-Oct. 24 years
Judy McAlister	21-Oct. 15 years
Yani Felicano	23-Oct. 11 years

Congratulations Ladies!!!



New member biography

Hello, my name is Linda Amodeo. I was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. I have lived in Whittier for over 37 years....and have owned and operated our family Real Estate Companies in Whittier for several years.

We are co-owners with our son Anthony and daughter-in-law Claudia Amodeo. We operate as Platinum Real Estate & Investments, on Whittier Blvd., Whittier.

Tony & I have been married for 43 years and have two grown children. We are also blessed with two wonderful grand children. We are members of Whittier Area Community Church.

I have been a member and served in local, state and national offices in the Women's Council of Realtors since 1974. We've been members of the Hacienda Heights City of Hope Chapter since 2000. I was a member of the SI-East Whittier back in the late 80's which I found very rewarding in being with such great women.

In 2005 I started up a home-base business, Daisy's Bracelets For Hope, and from each bracelet we donate a portion to the City of Hope (www.daisysbraceletforhope.com). During the company's first year, I was invited to open a Kiosk at the Commons in Calabasas, to display and sell my bracelets. While at that location I was asked to design a special bracelet by and for the Talbert Family Foundation to support families with Cancer.

I have recently discovered and joined Mary Kay as an Independent Beauty Consultant. I love the fact that this company also has the "Mary Kay Foundation" for Breast Cancer. I plan to develop my new business and my two most important goals, one is to enable other women a future with Mary Kay and the second to earn my "Pink Cadillac".

I am very excited to have been invited to SIW by Dr. Yani; "Thank You"! I'm looking forward to being a member and working with all these dynamic ladies in helping other women and young girls and making a difference in their lives.

Linda Amodeo



Yani, Linda, President Mary & Teresa



**SIW is on FACEBOOK,
join us today!!!**

If you are on Facebook and you didn't get an invitation to join, please go into your Facebook account and pull up

"Soroptimist International of Whittier"

..... in the search field towards the top of your Facebook page & then hit "**Join**" once on the actual SIW page.

Here is a link to the group (but it will only work if you are logged into Facebook):

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/group.php?gid=115452825170575&ref=ts>

For help or more info call our Facebook Master: Stephanie Frymyer at (562) 355-8120

Sandy Thorstenson receives 2010 Patriot Award

Our very own Sandy Thorstenson was one of six people to be honored the 2010 Patriot's Award at a 9/11 Memorial Observance Event. The 7th Annual Award Breakfast & Charity Banquet was held on 9/11/10 at the American Red Cross Rio Hondo Chapter in Whittier. She was presented the award by councilmember Cathy Warner.

The program read, "Sandra Thorstenson is serving in her 9th year as Whittier Union High School District Superintendent having spent her entire 33 year career in Whittier Union serving as teacher, Asst. Principal, Principal and Asst. Superintendent. Whittier Union High School District has demonstrated remarkable gains in student achievement at every school. The District's commitment to do "**whatever it takes**" to ensure student achievement for all students has resulted in state and national recognition."

Sandy is an amazing woman whose love & dedication to our kids is overwhelmingly obvious. She's just as beautiful inside as she is outside. You make us proud, Sandy!!!



OCTOBER IS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



Soroptimist has formed a partnership with the Love/Avon Army of Women, which seeks to recruit one million women to help researchers learn what causes breast cancer and move beyond a cure to prevention. By partnering in this effort, Soroptimist members will be recognized as a powerful example of women helping women. For more information or to become a member go to www.ArmyofWomen.org.



Are you a Laurel Society Member?

What is the Laurel Society and why was it established?

The Laurel Society was established in 1994 as a permanent recognition program to honor individuals dedicated to the Soroptimist organization and its mission. Soroptimist International of the Americas had just completed the Five in Five campaign, which exceeded the goal of reaching \$5 million in five years for a reserve fund to secure the long-term financial health of the organization. Many members wished to continue their financial support for Soroptimist after the close of the campaign. The Laurel Society was created to effectively show appreciation to donors for gifts that would ensure continued funding for Soroptimist programs.

What meaning does the Laurel Society pin hold?

The Laurel Society pin was designed to include the laurel leaves from the Soroptimist emblem. The laurel leaves are symbolic of victory and typify friendship and success, much like committed Soroptimist members. Diplomatic terms were chosen to describe the levels of membership because international goodwill and understanding is the cornerstone of Soroptimist service. Members of the Laurel Society are emissaries of the Soroptimist mission to improve the lives of women and girls. Soroptimists, and friends of Soroptimist, who are committed to the mission, who have extended international friendship, and who have demonstrated success in their personal, career and club endeavor are ideal candidates for recognition in the Laurel Society. The Laurel Society pin holds SIA's "S" logo because the Laurel Society is a recognition program of Soroptimist International of the Americas.

How does someone become a member of the Laurel Society?

Normally individuals make a personal contribution to Soroptimist Int'l of the Americas to become a member of the Laurel Society (Minimum \$1,000 & you can make payments). An individual can also be honored with Laurel Society membership by her family, her club or her friends as recognition for exemplary service, leadership recognition and special life events.

What kind of recognition is given for Laurel Society contributions?

All Laurel Society members are acknowledged with a thank you letter and pin representing their membership level. Recognition is also given at region conferences. Laurel Society members receive exclusive invitations to SIA functions, such as the Laurel Society event at convention. Please note that because of the large number of Laurel Society members, invitations will be extended to active Laurel Society members - those who have contributed an additional \$250 or more to their Laurel Society in the current biennium.

The recognition levels are:

\$1000-\$2,499
\$2,500-\$4,999 Envoy Ruby
\$5,000-\$9,999 Diplomat Diamond
\$10,000-\$24,999 Ambassador Pearl
\$25,000 or more Inner Circle Custom Pin



How are Laurel Society contributions used?

Laurel Society contributions are used to fund Soroptimist programs and awards: Women's Opportunity Awards, Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls, Soroptimists STOP Trafficking, Violet Richardson Awards, Ruby Award and the Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence. For more information about how contributions are used, review SIA's Annual Report and the Program Impact Report.

Soroptimist of Whittier has two Laurel Society members: Elizabeth Camp is an Envoy Ruby member & Rebecca Eberle-Romberger is an Attaché Sapphire member. Diane Liberti is a Laurel Society Legacy member (where you include Soroptimist Int'l of Americas in your Will).

For more information go to www.soroptimist.org or better yet ask a fellow Member.





Soroptimist International of Whittier
P.O. BOX 468, Whittier, CA 90608-0468
www.siwhittier.org www.soroptimistdcr.org
www.soroptimist.org



Happy Halloween. It's **SCARY** how much fun
I am having doing our Newsletter!
Email me your suggestions.

Mary L. Venegas / SIW Editor 2010-2011
marylvenegas@yahoo.com

Recent Donations to SIW



Posada Whittier Retirement Community on Painter donated **\$102.01** to SIW. Their residents collected loose change in hopes of helping women & girls in our community. Thank you Posada!!!



Good Job Sisters!!! Maggie & Betsy raised \$290 in confession money on Sep. 21st. Remember ladies...what happens at club stays at club.



NATIONAL
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS
MONTH

