



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

Soroptimist International of San Francisco Newsletter

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"...the 3 most important requirements for happiness... (1) a feeling that you have been honest with yourself and those around you; (2) a feeling that you have done the best you could both in your personal life and in your work; and (3) the ability to love others. BUT there is another basic requirement: that is the feeling that you are, in some way, useful.

Eleanor Roosevelt, "You Learn by Living" (1960)

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President Dee's Message:

"A Time to Make a Difference"

February 3, 2011 is the Chinese New Year. The new year is a time for reflection on past days and planning for new days.

It is past days that make history. We can look at them at our leisure – see where we have made progress, and also see where we have made mistakes. By consulting our past – the days that have gone – we can know to some extent where the path that we are now on will lead. It is only by an intelligent study of the past that we can hope to do better in future days.



What shall the new day bring? Who knows? Yet you and I, by our acts today are laying the foundations on which will be built the answers for tomorrow.

THE YEAR OF THE RABBIT

"Rabbit's" were born in 1915, 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999



According to the Chinese Zodiac, the Year of 2011 is the Year of the Golden Rabbit, which begins on February 3, 2011 and ends on January 22, 2012. The Rabbit is the fourth sign of the Chinese Zodiac, which consists of 12 animal signs. The Rabbit is a lucky sign.

According to Chinese tradition, the **Rabbit** brings a year in which you can catch your breath and calm your nerves. It is a time for negotiation. Don't try to force issues, because if you do you will ultimately fail. To gain the greatest benefits from this time, focus on home, family, security, diplomacy, and your relationships with women and children. Make it a goal to create a safe, peaceful lifestyle, so you will be able to calmly deal with any problem that may arise.

SOROPTIMIST INT. of SAN FRANCISCO'S 89th ANNIVERSARY & AWARDS DINNER

Saturday, March 19, 2011 at Hotel Whitcomb



Sponsorship Opportunities are still available.
Please contact Cheryl Addleman, 415-850-9989 for details or visit us online at: www.sfsoroptimist.org

Soroptimist is an International Volunteer Organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world.

Soroptimist International of San Francisco
236 West Portal Ave., PBN #352
San Francisco, CA 94127
A 501(c)3 non-profit organization
Tax ID number is 94-6080050

Soroptimist International of San Francisco
89th Anniversary & Awards Dinner

Yes, I would like to attend the SISF 89th Anniversary Dinner. You may also purchase tickets and tables online at www.sfsoroptimist.org (Half of the ticket price is tax deductible)

_____ Tickets \$110.00 per person
_____ \$195.00 per couple
_____ Individual Table Sponsor: \$1000.00 (Includes tickets for 10, table sign @ program listing)

Enclosed is my check or credit card payment for \$ _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

No, I am unable to attend the SISF Anniversary Dinner, but would like to make a donation of \$ _____

Please make all checks payable to SISF and mail in enclosed self-addressed envelope.

For ticket purchases and donations via credit card, please visit our website at www.sfsoroptimist.org for all credit card options.

Reservations will be held at the door. Please provide your seating requests on the back of this card. To meet your seating requests, we must have your reply no later than March 1st. For more information, please call 415-850-9989. For tax purposes, our Tax ID number is 94-6080050

A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS!

SISF NEWSLETTER

Editor: Gail Dekreon

Contributors: Dee Schoen, Dianne Sharples, Eva Walter, Sharon Fisher, Yvonne Machuk,

Our Mission:

To improve the Lives of Women and Girls in local communities and throughout the World.

SISF Board of Directors:

President	Delores Schoen
Vice President	Cheryl Addleman
Treasurer	Carla Armstrong
Directors	Judy Lee Nanell Mawbey Kris Wong
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Event Committee:

Cheryl Addleman
Carla Armstrong
Gail Dekreon
Diana Owyang
Delores Schoen
Eva Walter

You are cordially invited to attend the 89th Anniversary & Awards Dinner for Soroptimist International of San Francisco

"Make a Difference in 2011"

Saturday, March 19, 2011

Hotel Whitcomb
1231 Market Street (at 8th)
San Francisco

"2011 Soroptimist Ruby Award Winner"
&
Keynote Speaker
Jennifer Siebel Newsom
Former First lady of San Francisco
Producer/Director of "Miss Representation"

6:00pm
Cocktails – Silent Auction

7:30pm
Dinner – Awards – Raffle

Cocktail Attire

All Proceeds Benefit SISF Service Programs

JENNIFER SIEBEL NEWSOM WINS S.I. of SAN FRANCISCO'S RUBY AWARD and will be the KEYNOTE SPEAKER at the 89TH ANNIVERSARY & AWARDS DINNER MARCH 19th



The Soroptimist Ruby Award:
For Women Helping Women

The Soroptimist Ruby Award honors women who, through their professional or personal efforts, are making extraordinary differences in the lives of women or girls. Honorees are women who have worked to improve the lives of other women or girls. Their work has had a significant impact, and also inspires and encourages other women.

“Consider this, in G-rated movies, the female characters wear the same amount of sexually revealing clothing as the characters in R-rated movies. So what message are we sending to both girls and boys at a very vulnerable age...if the female characters are one-dimensional, sidelined, hyper-sexualized or simply not there at all? What we’re saying to them is that women and girls have far less value in our society than men and boys.”

Geena Davis, Actress & Miss Representation Panelist at Sundance Film Festival 2011

For more on Girls Club Entertainment, go online to girlsclubentertainment.com.

For more on “Miss Representation,” see missrepresentation.org.

If America’s media outlets constantly tell girls and women that they are only valuable for their looks and not for who they are or what they can achieve, do the women and girls start to buy into it?

“*Miss Representation*,” Ms. Siebel Newsom’s new documentary that premiered Jan. 22 at the annual Sundance Film Festival argues that women and girls do buy that negative message.

Siebel Newsom encountered such issues when she started acting at 28; she was told to lie about her age and to remove from her resume the fact that she had earned a master’s degree in business from Stanford University. While in Hollywood, she founded [Girls’ Club Entertainment LLC](http://GirlsClubEntertainment.com), an umbrella entertainment company to develop and produce independent films with strong social, political, and cultural significance, focused on empowering women.

Her focus on the need for change arose when she became pregnant with her daughter Montana. “I want a different world for my daughter and her generation,” she says in the film.

The United States ranks 90th in the world for women holding legislative office. At a young age, an equal number of boys and girls in the U.S. want to be president but by age 15 many more boys want to be president than girls. “You can’t be, what you can’t see,” says Marie Wilson, founding president of The White House Project, which seeks to enhance the public’s perception of women as leaders.

Jennifer Siebel Newsom’s film includes interviews with role models such as **Katie Couric, Jane Fonda, Lisa Ling** (OWN Producer), **Dr. Condoleezza Rice, Margaret Cho** (Comedian), **Daphne Zuniga, Paul Haggis** and others. “Why not focus on being a leader, why not focus on effecting change, why not own your own power as a woman and try and make a difference in the world?” Newsom asks.

Social Change Campaign: The distribution of the film will coincide with a social change campaign to re-envision women as leaders in society. Film proceeds will be donated to women’s leadership programs led by our partner organizations, which include **Girls for A Change, Girls Inc., The International Museum of Women, Step Up Women’s Network, The Women’s Media Center, and The White House Project**. The nation-wide, multi-generational effort will create an [educational curriculum](http://educationalcurriculum.org) for middle and high school students and directed action to demand media responsibility. [Donate to the campaign](http://donatetothecampaign.org) to help us achieve social change for women and girls.



Geena Davis, Gloria Steinem and Jennifer Siebel Newsom were panelists at the Sundance Film Festival screening of the film “Miss Representation”.

VICTORIA PEREZ, STUDENT OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT, WINS S.I. of SAN FRANCISCO'S 2011 WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY AWARD

The Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Awards program is Soroptimist's major project. The program provides women with cash grants to offset costs associated with their efforts to attain higher education and additional skills training. The ultimate goal of the program is to help women improve their economic status by preparing them to enter or re-enter the workplace.

S.I. of San Francisco selected VICTORIA PEREZ as our 2011 Women's Opportunity Award Recipient. Ms. Perez will be honored at our 89th Anniversary and Awards Dinner on March 19, 2011 and will receive a Certificate acknowledging her hard work and dreams as well as a grant of \$2000.00.

Ms. Perez has survived two abusive relationships while raising three children. Her lack of English skills causes her to work in menial jobs with no health benefits. She realized education was the best answer to become self sufficient in order to take care of herself and her children. She is currently attending City College of San Francisco taking ESL classes, studying for her GED and has started child development courses. Her goal is to open a day care facility to help other women who are trying to make their way to a better life.

City College Dean Jorge Bell wrote in his support of Victoria, "She is an amazing example to me of the power of hope and perseverance." In Carlota del Portillo's statement of support she says, "Helping [Victoria] is investing in a woman with a bright future."

Congratulations Victoria, we look forward to introducing you to our club on March 19th.

Since 1972, Soroptimist has been helping women the world over **reclaim their dreams** through the Women's Opportunity Awards program. This program provides cash grants to women who are working to better their lives through additional skills training and education.

You are eligible to apply if you are:

- A woman with primary financial responsibility for yourself and your dependants
- Attending an undergraduate degree program or a vocational skills training program
- Have financial need

Are you trying to improve life for yourself and your family?

Are you going back to school?

Do you need financial assistance to complete your education?

S.I. of San Francisco Embrace the Jared Box Project



Barbara Russell, Carla Armstrong and Courtney Fossatti at Pres. Dee's house ready to fill boxes.

The Jared Box project was started in 2001 by the children at Our Lady of Victory School in State College, PA to honor their classmate and friend, Jared. He was a brave little boy who battled cancer with courage and faith that continues to inspire us all. **Since the Jared Box Project started, over 50,000 Jared Boxes have been made and delivered in 38 States!**

A Jared Box is a shoebox size plastic storage box filled with small gifts, toys, cards, and games. Each box contains items selected for a specific age and gender. The boxes are delivered to hospitals and are given to chronically ill children. The Jared Boxes provide a special diversion for young patients as they receive chemotherapy and other medical treatments.

Barbara, Carla, Courtney and Dee filled up boxes for babies and for elementary aged girls at Pres Dee's house in November. They were delivered to UCSF by Kris. We will be doing it again around May or June if you want to join us.



Sherry Pearson,
Region Governor
2010-2012

Soroptimist International of the Americas SIERRA PACIFIC REGION

"Soroptimist: The Treasured Gem of Women & Girls"

DISTRICT II



Gail Dekreon,
District II Director
2010-2012

NEWS FROM THE SIERRA PACIFIC REGION

SIERRA PACIFIC REGION FELLOWSHIP AWARD 2011 Calling for Applications, due February 15, 2011

The Sierra Pacific Region Fellowships are offered to Doctoral students entering the last year of study. Applications are available in school's financial aid offices for graduate students or by writing to **Dianne Sharples, Fellowship Coordinator, c/o SI Visalia, P O Box 747, Visalia, CA 93279-0747**, or by going on-line to www.sprsoroptimist.org.

Fellowships in amounts of up to \$5,000 are offered to doctoral candidates for the purpose of encouraging students to prepare for fields that support the Soroptimist mission of *"improving the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world."*

The Fellowships will be awarded at the **35th Sierra Pacific Region Conference** at the Santa Clara Marriott in Santa Clara, CA on **April 15-17, 2011**.

SPR Board 2010-2012

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Pat Jones - Governor Elect
Debbie Jensen - Secretary
Ora Hoover - Treasurer

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Angie Muhlenhaupt - District I
Gail Dekreon - District II
Nancy Lilly - District III
Pam Taylor - District IV
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Jo Ann Vear - Parliamentarian



SAVE THE DATE!!!

Soroptimist International of the Americas
SIERRA PACIFIC REGION

35TH Annual Spring Conference -- April 15-17, 2011

Santa Clara Marriott in Santa Clara, California

Hosted by S.I. of SAN FRANCISCO

Soroptimist International
of the Americas
1709 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-6103



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"I am sincerely grateful to this board and all the women leaders with whom I have had the pleasure to work. Each board of directors not only permitted, but encouraged me to become the professional that I am."

Leigh Wintz

Nov. 22, 2010

**Executive Director
Leigh's video blog!**

August 2010: Executive Director Leigh provides a tour of



SIA headquarters in Philadelphia and introduces staff.



PRESIDENT SHARON'S SPOTLIGHT

SIA'S COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL ITEMS: What's in Your Closet?

October 3rd is Founders Day, recognizing the call to order of the first meeting of the first Soroptimist Club in Alameda County, California. **Violet Richardson Ward** was in the chair.

Did you know that at Soroptimist Headquarters in Philadelphia, (SIA-HQ) our staff member **Lisa Mangiafico** manages an impressive array of history dating right back to those early days? She is able to produce minutes of those earliest meetings, calls to the early conventions, photographs and many other items of interest that preserve our history.

She is always on the lookout for missing historical items. I was lucky enough to come across a storage unit from one of those early clubs and was able to fill in some of her missing items from back in the 1920's. Those of us with that history bug like to see things where they should be. I am sure that Violet Richardson Ward would be impressed with the massive collection of information that started with nothing more than a vision all those years ago.

News Releases: LEIGH WINTZ RESIGNS EFFECTIVE SEPT. 1, 2011

It is with mixed emotions that we announce that Executive Director Leigh Wintz has tendered her resignation, effective Sept. 1, 2011. Leigh has decided that it is time for her to change direction in both her professional and personal life and she plans to pursue consulting on a full-time basis. We wish her well in future endeavors and are grateful for the long notice time so that we can take this opportunity to assess the organization's management needs at this stage in our evolution.



After discussion with President-elect Pat, and in accordance with SIA Board policy, President Sharon has appointed a search committee composed of herself, President-elect Pat and Past President Alice. She will seek approval via board mail ballot to hire an executive recruiting firm. Executive Director Leigh has offered her support and assistance to assure a smooth transition. We will keep you apprised of progress and do not anticipate any disruption to ongoing activities and initiatives.

Sincerely,

Sharon Fisher, President and **Leigh Wintz**, Exec. Director

a global voice
for women

Soroptimist  International

NEWS FROM SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

19TH SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Soroptimist International is looking forward to welcoming delegates to Montreal in Canada, the venue of our next International Convention in Montréal, Québec, Canada **July 10 to 14 2011.**



Please join us for inspiring speakers, informative workshops and enjoyable social events that will give you opportunities to catch up with Soroptimist friends and make new acquaintances from around the world.

An international destination of choice, Montréal is easily accessed by land, water and air. Downtown is a mere 20 minutes from the airport, which handles some 200 flights daily. Visitors will find this compact island city great for walking, and can easily and safely explore its vibrant neighborhoods on foot, at any time of the day or night. Montréal is also multicultural, boasting more than 80 ethnic communities, and enjoys an outstanding reputation worldwide for gourmet dining.

This is an exciting time for our organization as we move forward with our international mission:

Soroptimists inspire action and create opportunities to transform the lives of women and girls through a global network of members and international partnerships.

Through our theme of "**Women: Leaders in Civil Society**", we will explore ways to improve the lives of women and girls around the world. Convention is a time to rekindle the flame within to continue the significant work of Soroptimism.

I'm sure you won't want to miss out so mark these dates on your calendar and plan to be a part of this exceptional Soroptimist experience.

More information will be provided on the website as it becomes available. Go to: www.si-convention.org



Yvonne Machuk
2011 S.I.
Convention Chair

Art Contest



Soroptimist International invites students enrolled in a fine arts college or university in Montreal to design an original artwork incorporating the convention theme & logo, the Soroptimist mission, and the culture and history of Montreal. See [General Guidelines and Entry Form](#) for details.



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

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Web Site:
www.sfsoroptimist.org

*“Improving the
lives of women
and girls in local
communities and
throughout the
world.”*

Soroptimist International of San Francisco Newsletter

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF SAN FRANCISCO CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2011

- **Feb 1** **DEADLINE:** Club WOA winners due to the Region
- Feb 8 Monthly Dinner Meeting at Delancey Street Restaurant
- Feb 10 or 11 Madonna House Valentine's Day Party
- Feb 15 SPR Fellowship applications due to SPR Committee
- **Feb 24** **HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAIDA BARRICK**
- Feb 28 March SISF Board Meeting at Dee Schoen's home



March 2011

- **Mar 1** **DEADLINE** to submit the Clubs 3 best Newsletters to Region
- Mar 8 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
- Mar 8 SISF Monthly Dinner Meeting at Delancey Street Restaurant
- **Mar 13** **DEADLINE** to submit Club Program Focus Reports to SI
- **Mar 15** **DEADLINE** SPR Membership Recruitment Contest ends
- Mar 17 Soroptimist Club Grants for Women & Girls proposals due
- Mar 19 S Club One Day Conference and MEG Award
- **MAR 19** **SISF 89th ANNIVERSARY & AWARDS DINNER , HOTEL WHITMORE**
- Mar 22 DEADLINE to submit names of deceased club members for Celebration of Life Ceremony at SPR Conference
- **Mar 25** **HAPPY BIRTHDAY JUDY LEE**
- **Mar 25** **HAPPY BIRTHDAY BARBARA RUSSELL**
- **Mar 26** **DEADLINE** to submit Public Awareness Contest form to SPR
- **Mar 28** **HAPPY BIRTHDAY DENISE KENT**

April 2011

- April 1 DEADLINE to submit STOP Trafficking Project Report to SIA
- April 4 SISF Board Meeting
- April 12 SISF Monthly Dinner Meeting
- **April 15** **HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARY LOU SLUSHER**
- April 15-17 Sierra Pacific Region 35th Annual Spring Conference