



**SOROPTIMIST
BEST FOR WOMEN**

Soroptimist International of San Francisco Newsletter

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Club Year 2010-2011

*"Yesterday is history,
tomorrow is a mys-
tery, and today is a
gift; that's why they
call it 'the present'"*

Eleanor Roosevelt

Inside this issue:

KidPower, plus 2

Dr. Shirin Mullen
receives the Mary
Barnard Award

Welcome to So- 3

roptimist! What
we do!

Dues are 3

Due...where does
the money go?

Two New Mem- 4

bers ! Barbara
Russell and Jeanne
Androvich

SPR Governor 5

Sherry sends
thank you to SISF

SIA: Japan Disas- 6

ter: Report by
Kita Region Dele-
gation

SI: President 7

Hanne's Final
Message

Calendar 8

President-Elect Carla's Message

Share Soroptimist: Service to Women and Girls in Friendship



This is my theme. **Share Soroptimist** - we are the best kept secret and we need to get that secret out in the open by focusing on building up our membership.

This will allow us to continue to provide service in many forms, from hands-on projects to producing fundraisers to giving money to improve the lives of women and girls...our mission.

We should do this in friendship and camaraderie with each other. As we heard at the Sierra Pacific Region conference...if you aren't having fun you aren't doing it right.

My theme addresses the three things that are important to me:

- 1) Recruitment and Retention of Members
- 2) Supporting our Mission and
- 3) Building our Club

Because friendship, unity and collaboration builds us up and strengthens us for the long term, my theme will keep our Club healthy and strong.

SISF 2011-2012 BOARD ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION

Sierra Pacific Region's **Governor Elect Pat Jones** conducted the installation ceremony of our Club's 2011-2012 Board and Officers at our June 14th Dinner Meeting at Delancey Street Restaurant. Our slate of candidates were elected by acclamation at our May 10th Dinner Meeting. The new Board is as follows:

President	Carla Armstrong	Board -1st yr	Barbara Russell
Vice Pres	Cheryl Addleman	Board- 2nd yr	Kris Wong
Secretary	open	Board- 2nd yr	Nanell Mawbey
Treasurer	Jeanne Androvich		

Plan

Safety plans make all outings more fun.
 Plan how & where to meet up if you get separated.
 Know who can help you with a safety problem.
 Make sure kids have a plan, too!



Practice

Imagine yourself as safe, strong, & confident.
 Practice using your power to be aware, take charge, & get help when you need it.
 Coach kids to practice solutions to possible problems.

Put Safety First

It's more important than being polite.
 It's more important than anyone's embarrassment, inconvenience, or offense.

We can help.
kidpower
 nonprofit all ages & abilities since '89
 Workshops, materials, & FREE online resources at www.kidpower.org

SISF NEWSLETTER
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April 12, 2011 Dinner Meeting
KIDPOWER: TEACHING PEOPLE SAFETY SKILLS THAT HELP PREVENT VIOLENCE

“Kidpower teaches people to protect their basic human rights.”



At our April 12th Dinner Meeting we welcomed Erika Leonard, KidPower's California Program Manager.

KidPower's Vision is to work together to create cultures of caring, respect, and safety for everyone, everywhere. Their Mission is to teach people of all ages and abilities how to use their own power to stay safe, act wisely and believe in themselves. Their Goals are to develop and offer a wide range of high quality, upbeat, and effective personal safety, self-protection, and confidence-building programs—locally and around the world and to create an international community of leaders who are dedicated to

establishing a long-lasting organization that can sustain this work.

Kidpower is committed to creating an honest community where people can and will speak up about even the most difficult issues. They have clear agreements and standards, and are committed to applying them equally and fairly to people at all levels of involvement with their organization.



Erika told us they are solution based; teaching kids, adults and elders how to deal with bullying and threatening situations. She had us all practicing by yelling “Stop”, “help me” while holding our hands out, palms forward in the international signal for “stop”. **For more information about books, classes and free library go to their website at www.kidpower.org.**

SHIRIN MULLEN
Mary Wheeler Barnard Award Recipient honored at the April 12th Dinner Meeting



Soropti-friend Jeanne, Kris, New Member Stefanie, Dr. Shirin Mullen, V.P. Cheryl, Pres Dee, UC Dean Featherstone, New Member Cassie, Gail and Diana

Shirin Mullen, our **2011 Mary Wheeler Barnard Award** recipient attended our April 12th dinner to receive her award and share information about her pending graduation and her girl empowerment group SMILE. SMILE stands for Self-Respect, Modesty, Integrity, Loyalty, Excellence and Self Control.

Shirin was an absolutely delightful speaker. We encouraged her to attend our dinner meetings and apply for a grant to fund her SMILE program.

MAY 10, 2011 Dinner Meeting
WELCOME TO SOROPTIMIST

The History of Soroptimist, What we do, Who we are, Why we do it!!!



At our May 10th meeting the featured speaker was...us! Several of the members presented information all about Soroptimist based on a power point from Sierra Pacific Region titled "Orientation" with club specific edits done by President Dee, and a power point on Soroptimist Int of San Francisco's history created by President Dee.

Seasoned club members, new club members and visitors were impressed by all of the service projects our small but mighty club achieves every year.

President Dee gave the "Welcome to Soroptimist" orientation, Gail described "what Soroptimists do", and Diana presented the "focus of Soroptimist" with explanations of all of the awards, grants and scholarships we give. Pres. Dee familiarized us with the "hands on service projects" we do such as "Shelter from the Storm", Madonna House parties, Backpacks for the Bayview and Jared's Boxes. Carla told us all about "how Soroptimist is funded".

The word Soroptimist is a coined word, made up of:

SORO - meaning "sister" and
OPTIMA - meaning "best"

Loosely translated this gives us our tag line of: "Best for Women"

YOO HOO !!! Soroptimists of San Francisco.....
DUES ARE DUE!!!

Regular Dues	Retired\ Embarking	Lifetime	\$ Sent to support?
\$140.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	
52.00	52.00	10.00	Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA)
5.00	5.00	5.00	Soroptimist International (SI)
1.00	1.00	1.00	SIA Club Liability Insurance (available for use by all clubs)
5.40	5.40	5.40	Founders Pennies (increase .06 per year)
11.00	11.00	11.00	Sierra Pacific Region (SPR)
4.00	4.00	4.00	SPR Fellowship Program
61.60	11.60	53.60	Soroptimist International of San Francisco (SISF) - supports our operating costs

Our Club has many exciting projects and events planned for our new 2011-12 Club Year that keep us active in our community and further our mission to improve the lives of women and girls. Dues payments go to support a variety of programs throughout the Soroptimist world. To ensure everyone knows "where the money goes" incoming President Carla created the above table. You can pay your dues on our website www.sfsoroptimist.org or send a check to our mail box at 236 West Portal Ave., PBN 352, San Francisco, CA 94127. **Make sure we have your correct address and phone numbers for the new Club Roster!!!**

P.S. Retired/Embarking members and Life Members do not have voting privileges in the club, so you might want to invest the extra \$50!

Introducing New Members
BARBARA RUSSELL and JEANNE ANDROVICH

Barbara Russell
Associate General Counsel ~ Virgin America
Board Member of SISF



Barbara is the Associate General Counsel of Employment & Litigation for Virgin America, an award-winning California-based airline which launched operations in August 2007 and currently flies to 15 destinations throughout the United States as well as Los Cabos and Cancun, Mexico. Barbara is responsible for all of the company's labor and employment advice and counseling and immigration matters, and manages all of the company's administrative agency charges and state and federal court lawsuits. She also regularly handles regulatory compliance matters, and oversees the insurance claims department for the airline. Barbara is also the Acting Director of Sustainability for Virgin America, and in that role has helped drive the development of the company's sustainability efforts.

Prior to joining Virgin America, Barbara served as a Senior Legal Counsel for Waste Management, a national environmental services company. Barbara was asked to join Waste Management while a shareholder at Littler Mendelson, the nation's largest labor and employment law firm. At Littler, Barbara handled labor and employment matters for leaders in the transportation, aviation, hospitality and other industries, while also serving active roles on the law firm's recruitment and summer associate committees.

Barbara was born and raised in Stillwater, New York. She now considers North Beach her home, settling in San Francisco after relocating to the West Coast over a decade ago. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University in 1993 and a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Michigan in 1998. Barbara became a S.I. of San Francisco member in 2010.



Jeanne Androvich
Volunteer, Retired Educator/Office Manager/Sales & Marketing
Treasurer for SISF

Jeanne is a new member to SI of San Francisco; she transferred her membership from S.I. South Lake Tahoe effective July 1st! Jeanne has been a Soroptimist for four years; her first club was S.I. Maui for two years, then on to S.I. South Lake Tahoe for two years, and now with us.

Jeanne grew up in West Sacramento, California; where she earned a degree in Early Childhood Education. She taught nursery school for several years and later in her career she was employed in sales/ marketing and office management.

Jeanne says she loves to volunteer; a few of her volunteer organizations include [Sierra Club](#), [Sugar Pine Foundation](#), [Keep Tahoe Blue](#), [Sierra Nevada Alliance](#), [South Lake Tahoe Women's Center](#), [EarthTechling](#), [Elevate Wellness Center](#), [The Sierra Club](#), and [Friends of Project Sierra](#). When President Dee sent out a message to help incoming President Carla by volunteering to be the Treasurer or Secretary, Jeanne stepped up immediately. Thank you Jeanne!

Jeanne really believes in giving back to the community and loves Soroptimist because it gives back to the world as well.



Sherry Pearson
Governor
2010-2012

SIERRA PACIFIC REGION
Soroptimist International of the Americas
DISTRICT II

(S.I. Burlingame-San Mateo-Mid Peninsula; S.I. By the Bay; S.I. Los Gatos-Saratoga; S.I. North San Mateo County; **S.I. San Francisco**; S.I. Santa Clara and S.I. Silicon Valley)



Gail Dekreon
District II Director
2010-2012

**Governor Sherry Thanks and Congratulates
S.I. of San Francisco**



April 2011

Dear Members of S.I. of San Francisco,

First of all: thank you so much for all that you did to make SPR Conference 2011 a success! You followed our Conference Manual to a "t" and made us Proud! You have proved that a club with a relatively small membership, can pull off a Region project with perfection, class & style! Thanks!

Second: Congratulations for winning one of our Sierra Pacific Region's Recognition Awards for Public Awareness!

You are truly helping to eliminate the notion that "Soroptimist is the World's Best Kept Secret!"

I am truly proud to be working alongside you to fulfill our Soroptimist Mission to improve the lives of women and girls...

My best,
Governor Sherry, 2010-2012

**DISTRICT II PRESIDENT'S ROUND TABLE MEETINGS (PRT)
January, June, October**

SPR Board 2010-2012

OFFICERS

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

DIRECTORS

- Angie Muhlenhaupt - District I
- Gail Dekreon - District II
- Nancy Lilly - District III
- Pam Taylor - District IV
- Bonnie Armendariz - District V
- Jo Ann Veer - Parliamentarian



2010-11 Presidents for District II plus DDII Gail, Gov Elect Pat and Past Gov Barbara-Jan. 15, 2011

Governor Sherry encouraged and mandated the District Directors to hold an extra meeting of the Presidents, the President's Round Table, in June with all of the outgoing and the incoming Presidents attending. The meeting is informal, includes breakfast, and is a great way to keep our Presidents informed of new forms and policy changes from our federation headquarters and the Region. We help each other out with club problems, share fund raising ideas, and teach each other how to use the internet resources available to us. It is like a mini **Leadership Summit—which is August 12-13, 2011 at UC Merced.**



SIA 3rd ANNUAL LIVE YOUR DREAM ART CON- TEST WINNERS!

Soroptimist is pleased to announce the winners of the 3rd Annual Live Your Dream Art Contest. The winners of 5 categories, receive \$100 and \$100 for their schools.



Hermoine Grainger
Submitted by Mia
LaPine, Category 4



Belle from Beauty and
the Beast
Submitted By Chiaki
Yamamoto,
Category 5

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PRESIDENT SHARON'S SPOTLIGHT

YOUR "CLUB GIVING" MONEY AT WORK: Report on Visit to Fukushima, Miyagi and Iwate Prefectures by the Kita Region Delegation

By Eriko Shinojima, Kita Region Governor

The Kita Region delegation visited the three prefectures devastated by the East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami and provided donations from the Japan Chuo region, The Japan Higashi region, the Japan Minami region, the Japan Ni-shi region the Japan Kita region and other Soroptimists from around the world. Total donations in early May were 30,000 yen (\$375,000) to the three prefectures.



The delegation donated 10,000 yen (\$125,000) to several shelters and women support centers in the afflicted areas as well. In addition the "Soroptimist Kizuna Project" was proposed; it will be a scholarship program for students who have lost their parents in the disaster.

The Delegation visited with members from 20 clubs; they have lost homes, businesses, cars, and family. *"We shed tears over our members' plight and we prayed for them in the recovery process."* (The full report is in the SIA June 2011 Summary, emailed 6-28).

NEWS RELEASES

Soroptimist searches for new executive director

Leigh Wintz, SIA's long-time executive director, has resigned her position effective September 1, 2011. The executive search firm, Isaacson, Miller, has been retained to find SIA's new executive director. Interested candidates should contact Jackie Mildner at Isaacson, Miller. (*more details on SIA home page*)

Soroptimist 2009-2010 annual report now available

The report includes detailed financial information and highlights the impact of Soroptimist programs that have helped transform the lives of women and girls. In 2009-2010, more than \$2 million was distributed through SIA programs, helping nearly 17,000 women and girls live their dreams of a better life. (*more details on SIA home page*)

Soroptimist Federations Partner to Help Women Affected by Haiti Earthquake: Organizations donate more than \$60,000 to help women rebuild their lives—

Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) and Soroptimist International of Europe (SIE) have partnered to donate a total of \$60,000 to help women and girls affected by the devastating earthquake that rocked Haiti in January 2010.

a global voice
for women

Soroptimist



International

NEWS FROM SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

PRESIDENT'S FINAL MESSAGE

*Reduced & edited to fit the page,
see the full version at www.soroptimistinternational.org*

Dear Soroptimists, Dear Visitors,

Since the last SI Convention in Glasgow many new initiatives have been taken at SI level. Hopefully members and partners will realise that our organisation has been modernized and has now a more up-to-date profile and appeal. We aim to make SI a more viable organisation which will attract new members.

SI developed a draft strategic plan under Margaret Lobo's leadership and in my biennium the strategic plan was unanimously approved by the SI Board. This plan is a living document and is continuously evaluated.

Our strategic plan has three goals: PROGRAMME, INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP and STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP, which are the main areas of focus for all members, office-holders and staff. This strategic plan, including the goals, objectives, strategies, and workplan, will guide all future activities.

"**Education and Leadership**" has been approved as the overall theme for all work in SI. The theme will be launched in Montréal and has, for many years, been an area where Soroptimists have done a significant amount of work.

BUT, it is still up to each member and each club also to promote SI and the activities that we undertake for women and girls. Only when EACH MEMBER shows that she is ACTIVE and PROUD to be a Soroptimist will we be recognized.

As International President I have experienced two fabulous years – full of friendship, solidarity and hospitality. I have been the "Travelling President" and I have enjoyed visiting projects and attending meetings and conferences near and far. I am full of good hope for Soroptimist International.

The last quadrennial project "Project Sierra, a Family and a Future" is coming to an end and also here Soroptimists have been very generous and donated more than £800,000 to vulnerable young mothers and families in Sierra Leone.

Soroptimists have a unique freedom compared to other international organisations: we can use the money we raise to directly support projects and initiatives based on what our members want. It is, as I say, unique, and I hope that more Soroptimists will appreciate this freedom of action.

I thank all the wonderful, nice and warm Soroptimists in all 124 countries/territories who are working towards achieving our goals in awareness, advocacy and action. Without their support and engagement, my life as International President would have been isolated. Through their work, creativity and devotion to Soroptimism they prove, that "they are creating opportunities to transform the lives of women and girls through a global network of members and international partnerships", as we declare in our mission.

I thank you all for two wonderful years of service by repeating my personal motto: Action Speaks Louder than Words.

In friendship, Hanne Jensbo
International President 2009 – 2011



HANNE JENSBO
S.I. PRESIDENT 2009-2011

PROJECT SIERRA: 129 young mothers caring for and providing for their babies independently having completed their education or vocational training. -200 families stabilized. -48 former street children reconciled with their families.

Project Sierra
total raised so far
£876,634

Project Sierra: A Family And A Future aims to raise £1 million (\$2million USD) to help disadvantaged women and children in Sierra Leone face their futures with confidence. **Project Sierra** will enable more children to grow up in a caring family environment – giving them the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

To learn how **Project Sierra** will achieve this, visit
www.projectsierra.org



**SOROPTIMIST
BEST FOR WOMEN**

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

*Soroptimist Mission
Statement*

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF SAN FRANCISCO CALENDAR



June 2011

- June 1 - Soroptimist Club Award forms due to SIA Headquarters
- June 6 - **SISF Board Meeting**
- June 14 - SIA Federation President Ballots due to SIA
- June 14 - **SISF Dinner Meeting at Delancey Street Restaurant**
- June 29 - **HAPPY BIRTHDAY GAIL DEKREON**
- June- Women Opportunity Award applications need to be ordered

July 2011

- July 1 - Deadline SIA dues & fees, Form 200 to SIA Headquarters
- July 1 - Deadline SPR dues & fees to SPR Treasurer
- July 1 - Deadline for BFW submissions
- July 5 - **SISF Board Meeting**
- July 10-14- Soroptimist International Quadrennial Convention, Montreal
- July 12 - **SISF Dinner Meeting at Delancey Street Restaurant**

August 2011

- August 1 - solicitation letters to clubs for Federation Board nominees
- August 1 - Deadline, \$100 late fee for delinquent SIA Dues
- August 2 - **SISF Board Meeting**
- August 3 - **HAPPY BIRTHDAY DIANA OWYANG**
- August 9 - **SISF Dinner Meeting at Delancey Street Restaurant**
- August 10 - **HAPPY BIRTHDAY NANELL MAWBEY**
- August 12-13 **Sierra Pacific Region Leadership Summit, U.C. Merced**
- August 14 - Sierra Pacific Region Board Meeting, U.C. Campus, Merced, CA
- August 21 - **HAPPY BIRTHDAY SHIZ MIHARA**
- August 23-25- SIA Governor's Roundtable, Honolulu, Hawaii
- August 26-27- SIA Leadership Institute, Honolulu, Hawaii

September 2011

- Sept 6 - **SISF Board Meeting**
- Sept 11- **HAPPY BIRTHDAY REGINA McMAHON**
- Sept 13 - **SISF Dinner Meeting at Delancey Street Restaurant**

October 2011

- October 4 - **SISF Board Meeting**
- October 15- **District I and II, Hilton Garden Inn, Gilroy**
- October 11 - **SISF Dinner Meeting at Delancey Street Restaurant**
- October 29 - **HAPPY BIRTHDAY FRANCES MORIOKA**
- October 22- District III, Oakdale Senior Center, Oakdale
- October 28 - **HAPPY BIRTHDAY CLAUDIA BOUTOTE**
- October 29- District IV and V, SI Visalia Clubhouse, Visalia