



# Soroptimist International of Corona

February 2011

## SI Corona is Moving!

...To Valencia Terrace  
2300 S. Main Street, Corona  
Starting February 2, 2011  
Weekly Meetings 12p-1p  
See Page 6 for more details.

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## Dreams & Decisions

Mark your calendars for our annual D&D event:

Saturday, March 12

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## President's Message

New year - new beginnings. This new year brings some special challenges. I am not the only Soroptimist exploring a new professional challenge - in the last few months, Paula Montanez and Paola Ringer have both re-aligned their businesses. For those struggling with the unreasonable expectations of organizations apparently oblivious to recession battered industries, the new year brings hope for an economic and personal turn-around.

Make this the year of grabbing opportunities! If there is something in your life that makes you unhappy, change it. Be open to possibility; think outside the box of 2010.

Many of us start the new year with resolutions - to lose ten pounds, to get more organized, to appreciate our loved ones. It is an opportunity to "reboot" our expectations of ourselves - as professionals, partners, parents and friends. I watch my oldest read through the Driver's Ed handbook - next year he will be a licensed driver. Bianca started pre-school, and has already begun phonics. She will be reading soon. Time doesn't stand still; we must make the most of our time together.

As Soroptimists, we face new challenges and opportunities as well. How can we tweak Dreams and Decisions to keep it relevant? How do we expand



on our efforts to combat Human Trafficking? When we look back on 2011, we will have expanded our outreach to the women in this community - both young and old - in ways we cannot even begin to appreciate as we begin this year.

~Irena Norton, President

## Dreams & Decisions 2011

Dreams & Decisions, our signature service project will take place on Saturday, March 12, 2011 at Citrus Intermediate School from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM. It began in 1997 with star Daphne Zuniga (Jo from the "Facts of Life") as the guest speaker. This event has continued to grow thanks to all of the hard work of the membership! We continue to ask for all members to help with this event by volunteering the day of the event and donating items for the goodie bags which our provided to each attendee. If you have any questions or would like to help further, please feel free to contact Laura Janik at [lauraj@eces.com](mailto:lauraj@eces.com) or Deanna Andrews at [dandrews18@aol.com](mailto:dandrews18@aol.com). We look forward to another successful year of this important community event!

## Soroptimist Pledge

*I pledge allegiance to Soroptimist and to the ideals for which it stands. The Sincerity of Friendship. The Joy of Achievement. The Dignity of Service. The Integrity of Profession. The Love of Country. I will put forth my greatest effort to promote, uphold & defend these ideals for a larger fellowship in home, in society, in business, for country and for God.*



~ Joyce Pavez  
(on the right at SI  
Corona's 61st Birth-  
day—2008)



***"Treat people as  
if they were not  
what they ought  
to be and you  
help them to  
become what  
they are capable  
of being."***

***Goethe***

*Courtesy of Judith Horan*

## A Message From Your Stop Human Trafficking Committee

Did you know that there are 2.5 million child sex slaves in the world today? Are you aware that Child Trafficking is the fastest growing crime in the world and that 600,000-800,000 people are bought and sold across international borders each year; 50% are children, most are female?

Human Trafficking or "modern day slavery" is a global phenomenon that involves obtaining or maintaining the labor or services of another person through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. These human

rights violations can occur in the forms of commercial sex (sex trafficking) and forced labor such as domestic servitude, factory or agricultural work.

Three years ago, Soroptimist International of the Americas launched a federation-wide campaign to raise awareness about the sex trafficking of women and girls. Despite this work, not enough people are informed, outraged and fighting against sex slavery. More needs to be done to identify victims, assist their rehabilita-

tion, prevent slavery from happening, and advocating for better laws and enforcement.

Soroptimist International of Corona has stepped up their campaign this year and you are all welcomed to attend our Committee meetings which will be the first Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. before our regular meeting. We are laying the groundwork for our future involvement and welcome your input.

~For questions, please call Joyce Pavez at 951-217-5749

## Stop Human Trafficking Partnership—A Call for Involvement

We have joined forces with other Soroptimist Clubs in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties since some are a few years ahead of us in their work. Riverside County, through the Sheriff's Department, was awarded a \$500,000 grant to combat local human trafficking and exploitation. Through the grant, a partnership between the Riverside County Sheriff's Department and Operation SafeHouse lead the county's first task force facing this hidden epidemic. It is the new Riverside County Anti-Trafficking Task Force and we

are awaiting direction as to our participation.

Corona Police Department will be trained by fellow Soroptimist, Shawn Dredla; both of whom are the most important components in our local environment.

We participate in the Inland Empire Human Trafficking meetings in Corona through Crossroads Christian Church. Hopefully, you were able to attend our awareness program facilitated by Jennifer O' Farrell on January 26<sup>th</sup>. Our committee is organizing a

movie night where we will get together to view a movie that will increase our awareness and help us to become more alert and sensitive.

We are organizing a segment in the Dreams & Decisions' program as part of "prevention" for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls.

There is a call for participation with San Bernardino to provide basic necessities for rescued victims.

**THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING!!!! WE NEED ALL OF YOU** as we progress to make a difference in our county.

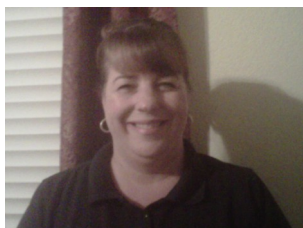
## Treasurer's Report

Monthly luncheon dues will remain at \$50.00 per month. The board will be meeting in February to discuss the possibility of reducing this amount. Thanks to Kirsten and Valencia Terrace for accommodating

our group. We look forward to our new centralized location!

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Treasurer Deanna Andrews at

951-737-2502 or by email at [dandrews18@aol.com](mailto:dandrews18@aol.com) or Assistant Treasurer Debbie Dematteis-Millier at 951-737-1124 ext. 110 or by email at [Debbie@bmla.net](mailto:Debbie@bmla.net)



~ Deanna Andrews  
Treasurer

## Meet Our Delegate ~ Debra Murphy

This month I will be celebrating my 50<sup>th</sup> birthday! Instead of focusing on the interesting and wonderful effects the “change of life” is having on my body, I have decided that it is much more fun to celebrate the many gifts that I have received in my life so far...

I was given the gift of being the oldest of six children, which provided me with the opportunity to develop my leadership skills at a very young age. The family station wagon was a 1972 Pace Arrow Motorhome, which was great when you have six kids as you have a portable bathroom and a kitchen. I have fond memories of my Dad standing in the middle of our cul-de-sac in Villa Park whistling for us kids, and the neighborhood kids too, to load into the Motorhome to go for a Taste Freeze run. We spent a lot of time in that Motorhome and enjoyed many family camping trips together, and I attribute

these wonderful memories to the reason why I love camping and traveling as an adult.

I met my best friend and husband, Peter, in High School and we eloped in Las Vegas shortly after graduating. Last month we celebrated our 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary. One of the most precious gifts in life is to become a mother, and we were blessed with two beautiful kids, Christopher and Michelle, and 3 grandchildren, Jady, and twins Spencer and Serenity. We make frequent trips to Las Vegas to visit Chris and the grandkids. Michelle, a Conservation Biologist with University of California Riverside, is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year Masters student and has a goal of continuing with her education to attain her PhD.

One of the greatest gifts I have ever received from a friend was the gift of Soroptimism. I began working for Union Bank in 1984, and after purchasing our

first home in Corona in 1992 and commuting into Orange County for over five years, I made the decision to get off the 91 freeway. As soon as my dear friend Karen Spiegel found out that I was changing employers she invited me to lunch the following Wednesday, which as it turned out was a Soroptimist meeting. Being a Soroptimist has enriched my life both professionally and personally. I have developed life long friendships with the amazing and inspirational women in our organization.

I am looking forward to the next 50 years of my life...a few more wrinkles around my eyes and mouth from laughing so much, and the gray hairs that I continue earn will be worn as a badge of honor! And, I am looking forward to the day that I too will become one of the “Steel Magnolias” of the Corona club!



~ Debra Murphy  
SI Corona Delegate

National  
Human  
Trafficking  
Resource  
Center

1.888.3737.888



www.acf.hhs  
.gov/  
trafficking

## Seema Lechner's Corn Meal Mush

1 can—12 oz. whole corn  
1 can—12oz. Creamed corn  
1/2 cup melted butter

1 cup whipping cream  
1 box Jiffy corn bread mix

Mix all ingrediance in a bowl  
and put in a greased 9x12 pan.  
Bake at 350° for 60 minutes.

## Did you know...

According to a National Violence Against Women survey, in the united States alone, an estimated 5.3 million acts of domestic violence occur each year against women 18 years and older (*U.S. Centers for Disease Control*). In addition, 1 in 4 women will experience intimate partner abuse at some point in their lives (*National*

*Network to End Domestic Violence*). There is a growing concern that the widespread loss of jobs and livelihoods in other countries due to the global economic downturn will increase threats to women and girls' personal security and exacerbate levels of violence and sexual assault. This is already showing up in reports

from shelters and hotlines in some countries. A May 2009 survey of more than 600 domestic violence shelters across the U.S. found that 3 out of 4 reported and increase in women seeking help for abuse since September 2008, when the economic downturn became serious (*Indes Albertdi, UNIFEM*).



~ Seema Lechner  
SI Corona, Second  
Year Director





~ Cyndi Monroe

*Blogging with our  
1st Vice President,  
Service*

## Cyndi Monroe: Making Waves

### It All Starts with a Seed

This morning I was up to my knees and elbows in dirt. On purpose. I spent about 3 hours digging, weeding, building and grubbing around to get an area on the side of my house ready for me to plant Sweet Peas.

I love Sweet Peas. They are fragile and beautiful. The fragrance is intoxicating and the mass of color is breath-taking. I have loved them forever. I wish I could remember when my love affair with them began. I am guessing that my "super-gardener" Grandma must have been the first one to introduce me to this glorious flower.

I decided to finally plant some of my own when my son, Andrew, announced that his wedding to the beautiful Ashley would occur on April 30<sup>th</sup>. A true spring wedding! "Could I possibly grow sweet peas for the rehearsal dinner?" I asked myself. Well, nothing ventured, nothing gained so I brought some chicken wire home, talked my husband, Mark, into helping me staple gun it to the fence, mixed and mulched the soil and then I brought out these cute little, brightly-colored packets of seeds that I ordered off the internet. The seeds have really cute names like, "Perfume Delight", "Jack and Jill" and "Color Palette Cupid". Don't they sound lovely?



I poured the seeds into a little bowl so I wouldn't lose any of them. Looking at this bowl with a few seeds resting at the bottom was kind of disheartening. The seeds were tiny and brown. Actually they looked just like dried up old peas. You know when you are sweeping behind your kitchen table and there, kind of half hidden under the carpet you find an old, dried up pea that must have rolled off someone's plate (not possibly on purpose...). That's what these seeds looked like. And I am thinking, "How can this little seed POSSIBLY grow into the gorgeous 6 feet high massive vine of incredible flowers that I am determined to grow?" Well, without good soil, good water and sunlight they wouldn't. That's my job – plant them in good soil, make sure weeds don't grow up and choke them, keep them watered and make sure they get enough sunlight.

As I thought about this, I was reminded of some of the things we do as Soroptimists. We've been talking a lot of developing our Stop Human Trafficking project. The problem of girls caught in sexual slavery is so overwhelming, it's hard to know where to start and it's hard to feel like anything we do will really be any help at all. Yet, we want to do something.

It starts like a seed planted in fertile ground. One member in our club ~ it's Joyce Pavez ~ has a passion for the project. She investigates, asks questions, and shares her passion with other women in other clubs. She has contacted government and police agencies, she has attended meetings with churches – based organizations. In other words, she's tilling the ground and planting the seeds.

Right now, after my morning of work, all I can see is dirt. There are no flowers yet. Just freshly watered dirt. That is kind of where we are with our Stop Human Trafficking project. The seeds are just being planted. But! Just like I know that soon there will be little green seedlings pushing their way up through the soil that will then curl and climb to dizzying heights and be filled with dazzling blossoms over the next 3 months, I know the same will happen over the next months and years with this project.

We've seen this happen with our signature Service Project, *Dreams and Decisions*. We've seen it happen with our fantastic fund raising event, *Chocolate, Wine and Jazz*. Our scholarship program and our Women Making a Difference luncheon and awards banquet both were ideas that bloomed from the seed of an idea.

I can't wait to see what happens with our Stop Trafficking project: the lives that will be changed, the girls who will be saved and given the opportunity to blossom into the women they were meant to be. It's worth some "dirt on the knees", don't you think?



**Remember Your  
Secret Pal**

## Celebrating Our Soroptimist Sisters Happy Birthday Ladies

### February Celebrations...

2 ~ Marcy Decato

7 ~ Irena Norton

17 ~ Karin McGee

### SI CORONA'S CLUB

**BIRTHDAY—Let's Party!**



### March Celebrations...

1 ~ Paola Ringer

10 ~ Betty Bash

7 ~ Sylvia Tarshis



## Calendar of Events

February 2	1st SI Corona Meeting at <b>Valencia Terrace</b>
February 9	SI Corona AUCTION Meeting
February 11	Board Meeting
February 16	Business Meeting
February 23	CLUB Birthday Party
March 2	SI Corona Meeting—Dreams & Decisions Update
March 9	SI Corona Meeting
<b>Saturday, March 12</b>	<b>DREAMS &amp; DECISIONS</b>
March 14/16	Board Meeting/Business Meeting
March 23	SI Corona Meeting—D&D recap and MALFW Preview
March 30	SI Corona Meeting—MADFW

## SI Corona's New Members...by Tracy Mauser

### SI Corona is blessed by women with a heart for service

The club's membership was recently enriched when three ladies were inducted into the Club on December 1, 2010.

**Arlene Harrity**, a Compliance Officer for Kaiser Permanente and a resident of Corona, finally became official.

**Jade Lipari**, of All American Karate is our youngest member who will bring a fresh perspective to our projects.

**Veronica Tolley**, a mortgage loan officer with Bank of America, joined as a tribute to her mother-in-law.

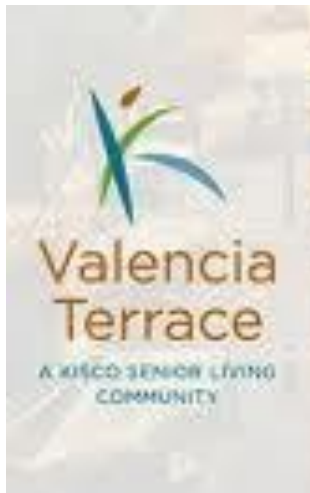
**We are so glad they have joined us to serve woman and girls in need. We look forward to getting to know each of you better.**

*Did you hear...  
Kay Curl, Director  
of Teen Parent  
Program & Infant  
Development  
Center at Corona  
Vista High School,  
report that our  
teen pregnancy  
rate is down 40%?  
Let's see this  
percentage  
decrease in the  
years to come  
regarding the  
sexual  
exploitation of  
women and girls in  
Riverside  
County...from  
Joyce Pavez*

## Soroptimists ~ Please ask me how I am doing on my New Years Resolutions...

- Make my first real estate investing deal...by Andi LaPointe
- Spend more time with energetic and enthusiastic, positive people...Get all A's in my college classes...by Linda Holmes
- I will connect with old friends and make an effort to see them or call them...by Seema Lechner
- Read God's Word, Understand God's Word, and Live It...Follow the Bible reading plan set by the Grove Community Church to be able to read through the Bible in one-year starting January 1, 2011...by Shawn Dredla
- Eat a more balanced diet...Learn how to make Fran's green salad...by Tracy Mauser

*Club Members  
with New Years  
Resolutions...  
How are your  
resolutions  
holding up?*



## WE ARE MOVING...Our Wednesday SI Corona Meetings

Beginning  
Wednesday,  
February 2nd,  
Soroptimists  
International of  
Corona will hold  
our weekly  
meetings at  
Valencia Terrace.

The move was facilitated by the news that TAPS Fish House and Brewery is no longer open for regular lunch service. While we have loved meeting at TAPS, we are happy for this new opportunity which provides a more central and convenient location for many of our members.

Valencia Terrace is located at 2300 S. Main St. just South of Ontario, (past the Walgreens/Henry's Market center). Valencia Terrace is happy to be hosting us but asks that we park in

the adjacent parking lot that houses a medical building. This is an interim move until we decide whether its a perfect fit for our club or just a great temporary spot until we find something we like even better.

We will look for you  
Wednesday, February 2 at  
Valencia Terrace.

Don't forget that our TRASH  
TO TREASURE fund-raising  
Auction is February 9th.

~Cyndi Monroe

Keeping life light...

### WORDS

A husband reads an  
article to his wife about  
how many words women  
use a day. 30,000 to a  
man's 15,000. The wife  
replied, "The reason has  
to be because we have  
to repeat everything to  
men..." The husband  
then turned to his wife  
and asked, "What?"

## A Recipe to Die for...by Deb Miller

### WHITE TRASH

2 cups or 1 regular jar of dry  
roasted peanuts, lightly salted  
2 bags of NESTLE'S white  
chocolate chips (Hint: The  
cheaper brands are waxier and  
do not melt and mix well)  
1 box of Golden Graham ce-  
real

Put cereal in a large metal bowl  
and put in the oven at 100  
degrees while you melt the  
chocolate.

Follow the directions on the  
chocolate bag to melt the  
chips.

When the chocolate is melted,  
get the bowl of cereal out of  
the oven and add the peanuts  
on top of cereal.

Add the melted chocolate and  
mix well. The peanuts are heav-  
ier and tend to sink to the  
bottom so mix well. This takes  
a few minutes to cover the  
cereal and peanuts. The warm  
bowl keeps the chocolate from

setting too quickly.

Spread mixture out on a  
cookie sheet to dry. Just set it  
on the counter ~ no need to  
refrigerate.

Break apart into bite size  
pieces after the chocolate sets.

Enjoy!

It is addicting!!!

HUGS!

BE MY  
VALENTINE!

## Soroptimist International ~ Fall Conference 2010



*Did you know...*

Teen Dating Violence...Dating and intimate relationships are a normal part of growing up for many adolescents. Yet teenagers frequently form their first romantic relationship without a clear understanding of what constitutes a healthy versus and unhealthy relationship. As a result, they are particularly vulnerable to becoming targets of dating abuse. Fifty-seven

percent of teens know someone who has been verbally, physically, or sexually abusive in a dating relationship. Moreover, females ages 16 to 24 are more vulnerable to intimate partner violence than any other age group. Although the patterns and signs of teen dating violence tend to mirror those exhibited in adult abusive relationships, there are some

unique issues that teens face. A Soroptimist white paper examines those unique issues as they relate to the factors that influence teen dating violence, as well as the consequences thereof. The paper also addresses the unique obstacles teens face when seeking help and/or deciding to end an abusive relationship.



~Irena Norton & her Soroptimister, Mitch

Our "Did you know..." are courtesy of President Norton.

*She is so ugly...by Marcy Decato*

**How** many of you would consider your children to be ugly? It is very unlikely to hear a parent say "I love my daughter (or my son) but she or he is so ugly..."

**My** parents got married in 1965 and my mom Norma had her first kid in 1966, the entire family was very excited with the new baby but my mom, OH GOD my mom.... She didn't fit in her own skin; she was the happiest person in the whole wide world. Norma could spend hour after hour staring at her baby and caressing her with so much love. **Well**, family, friends, neighbors and I imagine the entire town came to see the new baby and to visit my parents at my grandma's house which was where they were living during the first year of marriage. As people approached the crib they would look shock and speechless, so my mom would say "isn't my daughter the most beautiful think in the world?" the general answer was "yes Norma, very sweet baby, and she looks healthy which is the most important thing" nobody would re-affirm her words. **So**, one afternoon after the visit left the house, my grandma approached my mother... and before I continue I must explain that grandma was a sweet but strong woman, she would not

hesitate to tell the truth, no matter how much this would hurt; on the other hand, my mom is the most sensitive person I have ever known. Anyways, grandma started to tell my mom " 'mija', you must be thankful to God that your baby is healthy, that she is not missing any parts and that she is probably going to fill your life with happiness, but.... I am going to ask you a favor, please do not put people in an uncomfortable situation by asking them if they think that your baby is beautiful, because she is not. In fact, I have never seen such an ugly baby." As you can all imagine, my mom broke up in tears inconsolably. She says that she cried for days and days after grandma told her that. **Well**, four years later the second baby arrived, and on the way home from the hospital grandma once again said to my mom: "Oh my God Norma, you should ask Carlos (my dad) for forgiveness for giving him such ugly babies." (like if he had nothing to do with the situation). **Yes**, fellow Soroptimist, both my brother Andres and I were very ugly when we were born, but guess what... just as ugly ducklings we were given so much love not only by our parents, but the entire family, grandma, aunts, uncles. I can say that I was grandma's favor-

ite grandchild and as such I was extremely spoiled.

**My** parents never had too much money but enough to provide us with everything we needed plus a remarkable family foundation, great education, lots of laughs and beautiful memories. Is there anything better than that?

**Now** that we have both left the nest and moved on with our lives, it is so rewarding to see how proud my parents are of us and how proud we are them. It is tough to live so far away from home and I wish one day we can all be back together for a long, long time. **I want to leave you all with something to think about after reading this story.**

**What** does beauty mean to you? Society has created certain standards that we go by to qualify a person as either beautiful or ugly. Why would a TV commercial, a magazine ad or a beauty contest mandate the meaning of such invaluable word. Is beauty the same in America, in Africa, in China or in the North Pole? In my opinion, just the fact that we are God's creation puts us in the category of beautiful creatures and for the most part our beauty is within!

**PLEASE****Spread the word...****Cleaning for a****Reason****Provides FREE  
housecleaning****once per month****for 4 months while****a woman is****undergoing****chemotherapy.**

[http://www.](http://www.cleaningforareason.org)

[cleaningforareason.org](http://www.cleaningforareason.org)





**sicorona.org**

*Happy  
Valentines  
Day!*



For submissions for the  
SI Corona 2010-2011 Newsletter,  
please contact:

Monica Green  
(951) 372-7082

Monica.Green@rcc.edu

## Best for Women



### Sorooptimists Celebrating the Winter Holiday Season 2010

## 2010-2011 Officers & Directors

### Executive Board Members

President	~ Irena Leigh Norton
President-Elect	~ Frances Armenta
1st VP, Service	~ Cyndi Monroe
2nd VP, Ways & Means	~ Judy Marburger
Recording Secretary	~ Karin McGee
Corresponding Secretary	~ Monica Green
Treasurer	~ Deanne Andrews
Assistant Treasurer	~ Debbie Miller
First Year Director	~ Tracy Mauser
Second Year Director	~ Seema Lechner

### Ex-Officio Board Members

Delegate	~ Debra Murphy
Delegate	~ Shawn Dredla
Alternate Delegate	~ Andi LaPointe
Alternate Delegate	~ Laura Janik

