



Soroptimist International of Corona

December 2010

Happy Holidays!

Dreams & Decisions

A mentoring workshop to teach young women that Dreams are Reached Through Good Decisions.

For all 7th & 8th grade girls in the Corona-Norco area.

Mark your calendar for:
Saturday, March 12, 2010
9:00 am—2:30 pm
Citrus Hills Intermediate
School in
Corona, CA

www.DreamsAndDecisions.com

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President's Message

Happy Holidays to all!

This time of year is pretty busy in the Norton household. In addition to Thanksgiving and Christmas, we have four birthdays between mid October and Christmas, and Hanukkah greetings for our Jewish relatives and friends. It is easy to get pulled and pushed – not just by the crowds – but by the many and competing demands on our time, as mothers, lovers and workers. There are gifts to buy and wrap, events to attend and cooking that fills the house with such delectable aromas I swear I gain weight just breathing it in!

But there is magic in this time of year as well. I get to celebrate the anniversary of the births of three of my beloved children, and the man who gave them to me. I get to look around the table at Thanksgiving and, while missing those who have gone on before, bask in the love of family. The girls eagerly count off the days to Cookie Baking with Auntie Deb, and the boys proudly erect the tree and decorations with just a little input from Mom and Dad. Each

ornament on the tree tells a story – Mom's Girl Scout art project, Dad's childhood favorites, preschool stars and snowflakes with pretzel streamers, the pine cones from Nana and Papa's trip to Sequoia National Park in 1967.

The Holiday Season is also a time for noting the empty places at the table. After six years, I still miss my mother, and the losses of my dad and my sister are still fresh. Every family experiences the bittersweet cycle of the generations, as the children, and then the grandchildren, become parents themselves, learning all over again the high wire act of balancing family, faith and community.

For many of us, the family of our Soroptimist Club is a special part of the Holiday season. We laugh and sing along with Cyndi at the CAT Holiday show, admire the holiday tableau at the homes of Sylvia and Judy, and meet for shopping breakfasts at Dos Lagos. The joy of the season is in those shared moments, precious memories to be treasured and taken out, like the



ornaments or menorah, to enjoy again each year.

But the end of one year Also brings the beginning of the next. Goodbye to the job losses and tightened belts of 2010; hello to the hope and change of 2011.

As I count my blessings, I acknowledge the losses and disappointments that 2010 brought, but I am filled with hope for the future. Here's to 2011 – the best year yet!

~Irena Norton, President

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.



~ Debbie Miller
Assistant Treasurer
(on the left at SI
Corona's 61st
Birthday—2008)

**'MANY PEOPLE
WILL WALK IN
AND OUT OF
YOUR LIFE, BUT
ONLY TRUE
FRIENDS WILL
LEAVE
FOOTPRINTS
ON YOUR
HEART.'**

~ Eleanor Roosevelt

Courtesy of Judith Horan



~ Deanna Andrews
Treasurer

Chocolate, Wine & Jazz ~A HUGE Success!

As your chair for this annual fundraiser, I couldn't be more pleased in all the hard work that the committee members did to make this year's event so successful. Although it is a tough fundraising year, we did accomplish our financial goal plus we had a wonderful turnout of what looked to be a new group of attendees!

We sold approximately 65 tickets through PayPal in addition to \$1500.00 in sponsorships. We collected some **452** tickets at the entry gate through Deanna Andrews and her welcome committee, the highest attendance in the 8 year project. Through our marketing campaign headed by Marcy DeCato and Denise Seinturier using constant contact, Facebook and the City of Corona's e-newsletter, we have managed to increase our base. As we turn to a better economic outlook, our sponsorship committee co-chaired by Debra Murphy

and Beth Groves, will increase as kept many of our past sponsors although at lower amounts, we were still able to increase our reach into new sponsors.

The evening couldn't have been more beautiful, after a few days of rain, the evening was cool but comfortable with everyone enjoying the many new restaurants and wineries in attendance. Lou Sanderson, Shawn Dredla and Rachel Rola provided the needed encouragement, information and warm Soroptimist welcome for the vendors support of our annual event. Leeza Villagomez and Cyndi Monroe kept the music and information following from the stage throughout the evening while many patrons danced the night away! Thanks to Fran Armenta and Laura Janik along with many contributions from our membership through salutations and donations, our drawing baskets couldn't have been more beautiful...each had a great many

fun filled products and services in addition to the Grand Prize award of the 2 night stay in Napa Valley donated by Teresa Costa!

Most of all, this event couldn't be accomplished without the full participation of every club member through sales of tickets, sponsorship donations and providing the Soroptimist spirit to our Chocolate, Wine and Jazz attendees! More importantly, we are able to show who we are and what we do in our community; providing a better life for women and girls! One last added benefit is that we were able to invite many potentially interested women to our Membership Recruitment event on November 4th! I am sure Tracy Mauser will cover that in her report... Congratulations to the members of Soroptimist International of Corona for all you do and for all that you are!

Treasurer's Report December 2010

It is hard to believe that December here! This year has flown by and our annual holiday party is right around the corner. Don't forget to RSVP!!! The cost for this event for life members (non-monthly paying) or guests is \$25.00 per person. Regular members do not pay as your cost is included in their monthly luncheon dues. This will be billed out the beginning of the month. Hope to see you all there!

We will only have three meetings this month, December 1st, 8th, and 15th.

Your monthly statement for December will reflect the reduced amount of meetings. Please keep your accounts current!

Don't forget your committee budgets that we spoke about in the last newsletter. These are very important in helping the board make decisions on our goals for the year!

I would like to take this time to look back at our signature fundraising event, Chocolate Wine, and Jazz. Thanks to the hard work of Debbie Dematteis-Miller

and her committee, over \$20,000.00 was raised!!!! This event helps to fund our scholarships which benefits women and girls in our community. In closing, wishing you all holidays filled with special memories and lots of love!

*If you have any questions please feel free to contact Treasurer Deanna Andrews at 951-737-2502 or by email at dan-drews18@aol.com or Assistant Treasurer Debbie Dematteis-Miller at 951-737-1124 ext. 110 or by email at Debbie@bmla.net

Laura & Kristi Go to Oprah! ~ By Laura Janik

What an incredible surprise! Who would have ever guessed we'd be part of Oprah Winfrey's last "Ultimate Favorite Things" give away on The Oprah Winfrey Show November 22nd!

In October, as a guest of Union Bank branch Vice President Debra Murphy, I attended an Inspire fundraiser. Inspire is a relatively new non-profit dedicated to helping at-risk foster youth who are begin their adult lives. I was moved by the youth testimonials and by the difference Kristi Camplin has made in the lives of these young adults in our community.

Inspire is a service project of Soroptimist International of Corona, a well established business women's civic organization dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls locally as well as around the world. Our organization has supported Inspire since near its inception as our membership has always found it to be a very worthy organization which is

truly impactful.

Just days after attending the Inspire fundraiser, being the fan that I am, I visited Oprah.com and saw a call-out for nominations of local heroes. I immediately thought "Hey, someone should nominate Kristi Camplin! She's our local hero!" It was a short nomination form, so I filled it out, hit "send" and all but forgot about it.

Three weeks later, and much to my surprise, I get a call early in the morning from someone saying "Hello, this is the Oprah Winfrey Show and we'd like you and your local hero nominee Kristi Camplin to be guests in our audience Tuesday, November 16th for a show about local heroes. "I was dumbfounded!

On November 22, we were ushered into the Harpo Studio. Suddenly, it started to snow from the lights above (a traditional sign of the "Favorite Things" show that all her fans recognized) and the crowd

went crazy! (Saturday Night Live parody-like!) Then the Christmas music cued, the curtain raised, presents galore on the stage, and Oprah couldn't quiet us down.

One gift after another, she presented 20 Ultimate Favorite Things that each of our 275 audience members would get from an iPad to diamond earrings. Serenaded by Josh Groban and Johnny Mathis, it was a surreal experience to be a part of, especially since I had never to that point won a thing in my life! It was unbelievable the gifts we were to receive and then the unthinkable happened! The finale gift was a 2012 VW Beetle!

Kristi and I, now great fast friends through these short 5 days in Chicago came to believe, as Oprah said, "something magical and joyful and wonderful could happen to you when you least expect it!" We learned that focusing on the good that can be done for others does in fact come full circle in one way or another.



Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to end Domestic Violence on November 25

Look for warning signs that your co-workers are suffering from abuse.

~ They become withdrawn socially

~ There is visible evidence of bruising and assault

~ They become agitated, angry, or cry when talking on the telephone

~ They receive frequent personal calls

~ They are absent or late often

~ You notice a decline in their job performance



Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Award

Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Award 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 help women improve their economic status by preparing them to enter or re-enter the work place. Unlike other award programs, the Women's Opportunity Awards can be used

for books, child care, transportation or any other expense that will help a woman reach her educational goal.

Did you know...

The Women's Opportunity Awards program was created in 1972 by popular vote of the Soroptimist membership. Due to their interest in "upward mobility for women," members voted

overwhelmingly for the creation of an award for training or retraining that would enable women to obtain higher level jobs. In December 1997, the Soroptimist Board of Directors adopted the

Women's Opportunity Awards as Soroptimist's major service project because the program best exemplifies the aims of the organization.



~ Cyndi Monroe

*Blogging with our
1st Vice President,
Service*

Cyndi Monroe: Making Waves

December 2010

Girls Will Be Girls

Have we ever lived in a time when there is more to do and less time to do it? Every Soroptimists in our club appears to be on the fast track – so much going on in our lives with business, family and commitments to community, church and a whole host of other things. We have all sorts of electronic gadgets to make our lives easier but I really think those things just give us the opportunity to cram more stuff into our already crowded lives.

Still, at SI Corona, we still steal those moments of light-hearted fun that evoke laugh-til-you-cry responses and that's one of the reasons I love our club. Being "all business, all the time" might be the way in other clubs, but at SI Corona we take our fun seriously too. Well, seriously hilarious that is. At the recent Fall Conference, our group gathered in our jammies after the end of the Friday night introductory meeting. We clambered on to the two beds in one of our adjoining rooms, broke out some wine and chocolates (what else) along with a couple of incredible Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory taffy/chocolate covered apples and proceeded to tell stories about our worst dates ever. We all laughed so hard I am surprised security didn't come knocking to tell us to be quiet. It felt very much like a real slumber party and somehow we all had slipped back from responsible business women with children and husbands to just a bunch of silly high school girls telling our deepest (and most humiliating) secrets.

Then in early November we held our in-club Holiday Auction. While at the end of the auction we had raised over \$700 for our projects, I think the best part was the laugh fest we experienced as we playfully bid and battled over holiday decorations, bottles of wine, and harvest table center pieces. It was all out hilarious fun!

It's one of the greatest things: having a chance to be with a group of women you know you can trust, knowing that you can let your hair down for just that one hour every week. We aren't competing with each other, we aren't battling for higher rank or pay. We're just girls united with the passion to help the women and girls in our community. There's just no rule that says we can't have a lot of fun and laughter along the way. At S.I. Corona, that is exactly how we like it.

WANTED!!!

Soroptimist International of Corona is seeking SI club assistance in the Stop Human Trafficking Campaign. SI Corona is forming a coalition of Soroptimist clubs in the area to create a united, strong voice to have greater impact for future plans to identify, provide services, and prevent trafficking in our communities. If you have a Stop Human Trafficking Committee, please send the SI Corona Chair, Joyce Pavez, the name of your contact person. If you are interested in forming a committee and joining the coalition, please contact JoycePavez@yahoo.com.

Do you ever wonder...
where President Irena
Norton comes up with
some of the information
at the bottom of our
agendas?

Check out:
www.soroptimist.org



Celebrating Our Soroptimist Sisters ~ Happy Birthday Ladies

December Celebrations...

11 ~ Susan Glenn
24 ~ Didi Zaky

January Celebrations...

3 ~ Laura Janik
20 ~ Judy Marburger

25 ~ Amy Ladika

25 ~ Jean Powers

26 ~ Paula Montanez

27 ~ Debra Miller

30 ~ Debra Murphy

Calendar of Events

December 1	Judy Horan-Guest Speaker & SI Corona Member / VRA Apps DUE
December 8	Holiday Celebration
December 13 / 15	Board Meeting / Business Meeting
January 5	Luncheon for Principals & Counselors
January 11 (Tuesday)	National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness
January 12	Ryan Purdie-Guest Speaker
January 14 (Thursday)	Board Meeting
January 19	Business Meeting
January 26	Service Project Updates



~ Paula Montanez
SI Corona Member

Paula Montanez's Prized Recipes

Cranberry Salad

A 1978 Wedding Shower for Sharlie Muratore

2 packages (3 oz. each) Raspberry Jello
1-1/4 cups boiling water
1 can (1lb 4 oz.) Crushed Pineapple, undrained
1 can (1 lb) Whole Cranberry Sauce
3/4 cup port wine (optional)
1 cup chopped pecans
1 8 oz. package Cream Cheese
1 cup Sour Cream
Dissolve Jello in boiling water. Stir in pineapple, cranberry sauce and wine. Chill until slightly thickened. Fold in chopped pecans, then pour into a shallow serving dish and chill till firm. When completely set, soften cream cheese and beat together with sour cream till smooth. Spread in a thin layer over chilled Jello, then chill till serving time. This may be made a day ahead.

Cornbread Sausage Stuffing

From my mother, Juanita Fletcher and my Oklahoma grandmother, Virgie Smoot. I always double this amount, stuff the turkey, then bake the rest in the oven, per instructions.
1 lb. bulk sausage (Jimmy Dean Hot works great)
1 cup chopped onion
1 cup chopped celery, include some tops
1/4 cup butter
Two 8 x 8 inch squares of corn bread (I usually bake the night before)
2 teaspoons salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
2 teaspoons poultry seasoning
1 teaspoon ground sage
1 14 oz. can of chicken broth
You may prepare the dry ingredients the night before, but never combine with the wet ingredients until just before stuffing the turkey, and never stuff the bird until

just before roasting.
Sauté the sausage in a frying pan, breaking it apart as it cooks. Drain, reserving two tablespoons of drippings in the pan. Sauté the onion and celery in the drippings, with the butter.
Crumble the two squares of corn bread to make about 8 cups of crumbs. Combine the seasonings with the crumbled corn bread, then the sausage, onion and celery, finally stirring in the chicken broth.
Season the inside of the turkey by rubbing butter, salt and pepper into the cavity, then stuffing lightly with the cornbread mixture.
Or, bake the stuffing in a buttered casserole for about 30-40 minutes in a 375 degree oven, with 2-3 tablespoons of butter sliced on top or a little extra chicken broth for added moisture.



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

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sicorona.org

Best for Women



Chocolate, Wine, & Jazz Festival 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



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

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