

S.I.N.ERGY GAZETTE

Message from President Gail

The official newsletter of the Soroptimist of Norwalk

President's Message

My wonderful SoroptiSisters:

This has certainly been a month with a myriad of activities and emotions that has reinforced my commitment to our club. We are a hearty, loving, caring, spirited group of women.

The ebb and flow of life has manifested itself in our club in the past few days with the sad news of the death of a wonderful friend, Jack Rutherford, followed by the joyful news of the birth of a new SoroptiBaby, Isabella Salama. Our prayers and condolences go out to Dona, Jeana and their family, and our prayers of thanksgiving for the blessing of a new life to Kathy and her husband.

Yuma was wonderful. Well, maybe "Yuma" wasn't so great, but those of us who attended the Desert Coast Region Conference had a fun time. We were nine members strong with Amanda, Marilee, Jo, Jeana, Latoya, Claudia, Cheri and me making the drive on Friday morning and Henrietta arriving on Saturday. There was lots of region business and reports. The highlight, as usual, was the presentation of the Violet Richardson and WOA winners. Another highlight was notification that SI Norwalk is a **finalist in the Federation's Celebrating Success program in the global community category for our BSE cards for Brasov project.** There will be a first, second and third place winner and we'll be getting one of those places. Our project was one of 400 entries. This is the second time the Federation has recognized one of our service projects. The Domestic Violence Workshop for boys was recognized in 2004. BSE cards for Brasov did win in District I for consideration of the Governor's Award and received an honorable mention in the Region's Project Focus awards. Congratulations to us all. Amanda, Dona and Jeana will be in Philadelphia to accept our recognition.

As is the custom, the members of the club attending the conference, spent the evenings brainstorming and selecting nominees for club officers for the upcoming year. So far the slate looks like this: Jeana Hanley, President; Henrietta Willis-Kendall, Vice President, Programs/Publicity; Latoya Nolen, Vice President, Member Recruitment and Retention; Cheri Kelley, Treasurer; Jo Rodriguez, Director, Soroptimist Village; and Claudia Benitez, Director of Service. We still needed to fill the positions of Director of Ways and Means and Secretary. Terri Casarez stepped up for Secretary and Dona Bishop the other. So our leadership is in tact. Additionally, Marilee and Cynthia are co-chairs of the Gala Committee, Rosemary the Repeat Boutique Committee, and Irene is the Hospitality Committee. Speaking of leadership, I was fortunate to have been elected to the District I Leadership Council under the new District I Director, Myra Lau. Amanda was appointed by Governor-Elect Donna Ronca as the Desert Coast Region Coordinator for the Make a Difference for Women Award Program.

With gratitude for your friendship and the privilege of serving as your President,

Gail



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Soroptimist Village Notes by Marilee Stefenhagen

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: Village Board of Directors to have a professional property management company managing the day-to-day operations of the low-income senior apartments called Soroptimist Village, located on Foster Road 1/2 block east of Bloomfield in Norwalk. EXLNT Property Manager Gordon Stefenhagen meets every Monday with resident manager Juliet Melendrez and resident handyman Ray Wallace to discuss tenant concerns and facility needs. Gordon submits a monthly report to the Soroptimist Village Board, and the Board votes on matters such as insurance, employee raises and benefit coverage, and large expenditures.

Current Policy under review discussed at the April Meeting: Smoke Fee Community

NON-SMOKING POLICY

With the current evidence that smoking is dangerous and injurious to a person's health, residents are encouraged not to smoke.

However, Soroptimist Village recognizes that the decision to smoke or not to smoke is a personal one. Therefore, smoking will be allowed only outside of all units, including apartment units, laundry facilities and the clubhouse.

This Non-Smoking Policy shall be posted conspicuously in all common areas and shall be given in writing to every prospective and new resident following adoption by the Soroptimist Village Board of Directors..

Failure to adhere to this policy may result in eviction. Repair of damage to the interior of Soroptimist Village apartment units caused by smoking will be deducted from resident's security deposit. Damage is described as cigarette smoke odor in carpeting, cigarette smoke stains on walls, or burn marks caused by cigarettes on any surface.

Please forward your comments to Marilee prior to their next meeting. June Village meeting cancelled due to the use of the room for a polling place.

Spring Conference Attendees: (L to R) Henrietta, Marilee, Claudia, Pres. Gail, LaToya, Jo, Jeana, Cheri, Amanda



Desert Coast Region Spring Conference held in Yuma, Arizona in April 2006

Talent Show "Beauty School Drop Outs" Does it look like LaToya was a "Sleeping Beauty"?



Pres. Gail looking sooo CUTE...

2006 Soroptimist Int'l of Norwalk—SPRING CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

WINNERS!!

Jeana Hanley and Cheri Kelley from SI Norwalk Win Baskets— Pretty amazing!!

Cheri and Gail with the Winner of SINorwalk's "Pink" Breast Cancer Awareness Basket.



2006 CONFERENCE PHOTO GALLERY

