

SINERGY

December 2006

Soroptimist International of Norwalk



President's Message

As we move into December it's a good time to look back over the events of the past 6 months.

It seems December is a time for reflection and change. If you told me last year I would be the President I would have said you are mistaken. How about the change in our Gala venue - what a success!! We have many first time Board and chair-members that are doing a magnificent job. We have several new members and potential members that have wonderful ideas for the growth of our club.

This year has made

me appreciate you ladies more than I had before. When you're in the midst of leadership you recognize how grateful you are to have such awesome women surround you. In every needed situation you have all pulled together and have been successful.

My wish for you in the coming year is:

Health (without it nothing else matters);

Happiness (may you have love and laughter overflowing with family and friends);

Wealth (may you be able to help the less fortunate).

Thank you for all you do - have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



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News from Brasov

We have exciting news from our friendship link, SI Brasov, Romania.

First, Rodica Maciucă, the SI Brasov member who visited us a few years

ago, has been elected President of the SI Romania Union. Congratulations to Rodica. Rodica also reports that she visited SI Verona (Italy), and SI Bruege (Belgium) to participate in

those clubs' 50th anniversary celebrations.

BSE Cards Update:

Cornelia Zara, medicine and project manager for SI Bra-

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SIN Calendar Notes

Birthdays

December
18th-Marilee

January
26th-Marlene



Meetings in December

SI Norwalk will be dark in December!

The next meeting will be in January when we will have a New Year's Celebration;

Watch your e-mails for the exact date and time!

Special Dates

December

1st World AIDS Day

10th SI Presidents Appeal Day & International Human Rights Day

25th **Christmas Day**



Meeting New Members

Meet Marissa J. Asistin, who was inducted as a SI Norwalk member in November at the club's 53rd birthday celebration. Marissa is the Assistant City Clerk for the City of Norwalk and has a degree in Business Administration.

Marissa likes to read, watch movies, SHOP, and spend time with her friends and family. She is the favorite aunt of 3 "wonderful" nieces

and 2 "fabulous" nephews. In fact, one of her nieces has won a tree at the Gala two times—once at the Gala just held! Marissa also likes to watch Polynesian dance competitions and concerts and was a Polynesian dancer herself.

Marissa says she joined Soroptimist to "become more involved and to interact with professional women."



SI Norwalk Turns 53!

SI Norwalk was chartered 53 years ago on November 14, 1953. SIN celebrated the event at its lunch meeting on November 16 with lunch, crowns, cake and installation of a new member, Marissa Asistin.

Joining the celebration were Charter members Pat Walker and

Hazel Harry, and long-time member, Catherine Craig.



The Gala—2006

SIN held its annual fundraising Holiday Gala on December 1 at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex gymnasium. The new venue allowed for the club to sell more tickets to the event. The six Gala trees had themes centered around the continents of the world. A Power Point presentation featured Soroptimist service projects located in all parts

of the world.

The winners of the trees were able to take home the trees, decorations and the gifts under the trees. More information on this event will be featured in the January newsletter once all the numbers are in. Thanks to all SINners for their hard work!



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sov's distribution of the Breast Self-Exam cards (and a physician) reports that she received 76 calls from women who received cards and had conducted the self exam. As a result of phone conversations with the women, fifty were referred to take mammograms with the following results to date:

- One woman had a biopsy performed with negative results
- One woman had surgery performed

and is now doing well

- One woman is undergoing chemotherapy in Brasov and is doing well.

Rodica says, "The benefit belongs actually to all the women who received this card, even if they turned to a different medical doctor."

When SI Norwalk initiated the project, the club felt it would be worthwhile if only one life was saved. Looks like the results were more than hoped for!



Soroptimist International of
Norwalk

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We're on the Web
sinorwalk.org

Soroptimist International
of Norwalk serving its
local and global
community since 1953.

Auld Lang Syne

Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and days of auld lang syne?
For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup of kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and days of auld lang syne?
And here's a hand, my trusty friend
And gie's a hand o' thine
We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet
For auld lang syne

The song, "Auld Lang Syne," is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the new year. At least partially written by Robert Burns in the 1700's, it was first published in 1796 after Burns' death. Early variations of the song were sung prior to 1700 and inspired Burns to produce the modern rendition. An old Scotch tune, "Auld Lang Syne" literally means "old long ago," or simply, "the good old days."

Saint Nicholas

Saint Nicholas (270-310) was at one time bishop of Myra, a town in Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey). He is supposed to have died on December 6 which is why his feast is celebrated on that date. Recognized for his great generosity, he is the patron saint of little children and school children.

The feast of Saint Nicholas was abolished in some European countries after the Protestant reformation of the XVI th century. The Dutch, however, have preserved this ancient Catholic custom, and small Dutch children still

await the visit of Sinter Klaas (Saint Nicholas) on the night of December 6.

This thoughtful philanthropist, depicted as an old man in a white beard with a long caped coat or sometimes even in episcopal robes, remained, nonetheless, a moralistic figure. He rewarded deserving children and punished the difficult and unruly ones.

