



Soroptimist International of Bellflower

P.O. Box 301, Bellflower, CA 90707

Chartered May 2, 1953

Laurel Leaf

February-March 2012

2011-2012

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President's Message:

"Making a Difference, One Woman At A Time."

It is hard to believe we are already into March! How time flies when we are having fun. And fun is what we had in the month of February when we had our awards program. I personally think that February is one of the best Bellflower Soroptimist months because this is when we present all our awards; recognitions and scholarships. We had City officials; State representatives; Region dignitaries and Soroptimists from other clubs present. Money was given out; certificates presented and stories told. Recipients shared information about themselves and how the money we had given them would help them and then each organization that we support told about what their organization does and thanked us for our support.

Lots of money was raised by members who sold the Valentine Heart tickets before the event and at the event itself (thank Terri). A special thanks must go to Marcie for the beautiful program she created. Wonderful job Marcie!

Thanks to each of you, we were able to give 2 scholarships; 2 music awards; a Women's Opportunity Award as well as give money to all the local charities we support. Remember that together we achieve more than we each can individually as evidenced by what we did at our awards event.

March leads us right into to our next big and final fundraiser for the club year – Las Vegas Nite. This year it is Saturday, March 31st – once again at Simms Park. Please plan on being there to help work the event. And remember to invite your friends and family. Tickets are only \$25 and include dinner and a chance to win the grand prize.

Longer days are coming with Daylight Savings and Spring is just around the corner. Take time to enjoy the flowers blooming and the songbirds singing. When you are doing that also take a moment to reflect on all the good that you are doing by being a Soroptimist. You truly do make a difference!

President Sue



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For more information go to <http://www.soroptimistbellflower.org>, <http://www.caminorealregion.org>, and/or <http://www.soroptimist.org>



2012 OPENING OUR HEARTS TO THE COMMUNITY

OUR AWARDEES:



Woman's Opportunity Award winner Claudia Gonzalez (left front) shares the spotlight with our two scholarship awardees, Citlalli Gonzalez (center front) and Cecilia Ramirez (right front).

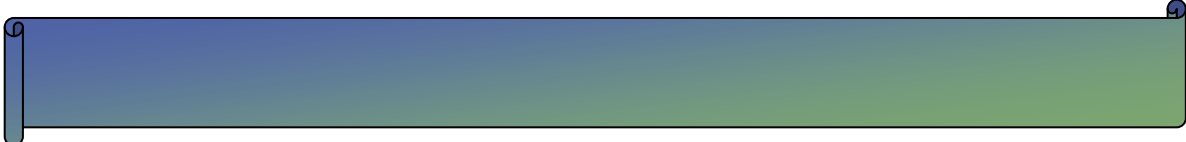
Claudia Gonzalez, our Women's Opportunity Award winner, lives in Downey with her four children ages 19, 15, and twins of 14 years old. She attends Cerritos College and her goal is to be a Child Development/Special Education teacher and to ultimately open a single parent shelter. Claudia was abused in many ways as a child and since age 14 has saved as much money as she could in order to leave that destructive environment. Claudia is learning to overcome many challenges and her Counselors state that she is very focused, always helping others, and has strong leadership skills.

Citlalli Gonzalez, our 4-year Scholarship winner from Mayfair High School, tells us that she will attend Penn State University studying political science, with a minor in French, and going on to become a lawyer, maybe even running for office to become a leader of our country. She has been a Rainbow Girl, is co-captain of the color guard at Mayfair High School, and volunteers with Meals on Wheels, among other activities.

Cecilia Ramirez, our other 4-year Scholarship winner from St Joseph's High School, will attend Loyola Marymount University to study natural science, with a minor in psychology, with the goal of having a career in the medical field. This scholarship will help her achieve her goals, excel in college and reach her fullest potential.



We also honored the many non-profit organizations that we support within our city and surrounding communities. Also making presentations were Bellflower city council member Ray Dunton; Erin Stibal, from Supervisor Don Knabe's office; and Laura Sanchez-Ramirez and Paul Helzer, Vice President and President of the Bellflower Unified School District.



Bellflower

Soroptimists / Noon Lions

present



LAS VEGAS NIGHT!

Saturday, March 31st, 2012

Simms Park—16614 Clark Ave., Bellflower

Dinner: 5:30—7:30 pm

Casino: 6:00—10:00 pm



\$25 Donation (\$30 at the door)

Includes Dinner

and \$100 Gambling "Funny Money"



Lots of Great Door Prizes!

Good Food, Good Company!

SoooooOOOOO Much Fun !!



*For additional info & tickets, call
Jerry Miller 562-925-5005 x 222*



MEMBER NEWS



Cecily's daughter, Tina Matthews, who most of you know since she regularly attends our events, is also the reason we received 50% off of our 2012 Bellflower Chamber Membership dues. How'd she do that? you ask. Well, you may remember that the Chamber held a blood drive last year, and Tina donated blood in the name of our club, which then qualified us for the discounted membership. So you might want to thank Tina, when next you see her, or if that feels like too long a wait, I'm sure Cecily will be happy to relay the thanks to her on your behalf. Good job, Tina!



Susan's new home in Fullerton is having a new make-over, thanks to Terry's husband, Steve Williams of Harbour Improvements. Susan says it's progressing nicely, and hints that we might want to plan a party there when it is all finished, for some reason. I have a feeling that we'll find a great excuse - - - I mean, a necessity, to go out there and check it out!

A Short Letter from Mary Ann:



At the end of February Warren and I played in a Bridge Tournament in Arroyo Grande and finished FIRST in the pairs tournament and second in the team tournament. We played with some friends in the team tournament that we used to know at Big Bear and now have retired to that area. Our trip was quite nice as we visited and ate at Morro Bay and also visited a winery. Our next Bridge Tournament is in San Diego (the first week of April) so we will miss the Business meeting, sorry. That mid California area is so beautiful and has so many great restaurants and then of course so does San Diego so we will probably have to go on a diet after that. Mary Ann

FEBRUARY /MARCH BIRTHDAYS

<p>JAN SNIP</p> <p>MARY CRAWFORD</p> <p>SUSAN SCHIRMER</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 24</p> <p>MARCH 1</p> <p>MARCH 10</p>
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Calendar of Events

Tuesday, March 13, 2012	Program Meeting, at NOON, at the church
Tuesday, March 27, 2012	Night Program Meeting, 6PM, at the Chamber
Saturday, March 31, 2012	<u>LAS VEGAS NIGHT!! 5:30PM, Simms Park</u>
Tuesday, April 3, 2012	Board Meeting, 11:15am, at the church
Tuesday, April 3, 2012	Business Meeting, at NOON, at the church
Tuesday, April 10, 2012	Program Meeting, at NOON, at the church
April 20, 21, 22, 2012	<u>SPRING CONFERENCE - LONG BEACH!!</u>
Tuesday, April 24, 2012	No Evening Program Meeting - DARK
Tuesday, May 1, 2012	Board Meeting, 11:15am, at the church
Tuesday, May 1, 2012	Business Meeting, at NOON, at the church
Tuesday, May 8, 2012	<u>Mothers' Day Tea!!</u> At 11:30am, at the church
Tuesday, May 22, 2012	<u>Bunko!!!</u> At Simms Park, at 6:00PM

*Spring Conference:
Hotel Maya in Long Beach!*





Bellflower Soroptimists Special Guests:

**Captain Merrill Ladenheim and Lieutenant Milliman
Will be our guest speakers at our April 10th Program Meeting**



Merrill Ladenheim, a 26-year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, was recently promoted to the rank of Captain by Sheriff Lee Baca and assumed command of Lakewood Station, providing police services to the cities of Artesia, Bellflower, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, and Paramount.

Captain Ladenheim's career with the Sheriff's Department began in April 1985, where he attended the Department's Training Academy and graduated as a Deputy Sheriff in August 1985. He has worked assignments at Men's Central Jail, Lennox Station, and Major Crimes Bureau. In 2000, he was promoted to Sergeant and served at Century Station, Major Crimes Bureau, and Administrative Services Division as the Department's liaison to the Board of Supervisors. Upon his promotion to Lieutenant in 2007, Captain Ladenheim was assigned to Twin Towers Correctional Facility, where he performed the duties of watch commander, Administrative Services Division, where he served as Chief's Aide, and Century Station, where he served as Operations Lieutenant.

When: Tuesday, April 10th, at NOON

Where: 1st Missionary Baptist Church, 9246 Rosser St, Bellflower

What: Have lunch, meet our new Sheriffs, ask questions

\$15 For lunch - Please RSVP to Susan Held: 562-862-8669

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In Memory of Cherryl Liddle

By: Susan Held



Cherryl Liddle, past Governor, Soroptimist International of the Americas President and Soroptimist International Treasurer, passed away last month from complications of Alzheimer's disease. She was only 64 years old. Soroptimist was not new to Cherryl as both her grandmother and mother were members of a Soroptimist club. And later, her daughter Stacy became a Soroptimist.

Cheryl got involved with Soroptimists in 1982 when the Torrance Soroptimist club was formed and she joined and became the charter 1st vice president. 3 months later she became the President when the current president resigned.

After serving as President of a brand new club, Cheryl became involved at the next level – the Region. In 1986 she became a board member and in 1990 she was the Governor of Camino Real Region.

After being Governor, Cheryl really had the Soroptimist bug and ran for the next level of leadership, Soroptimist International of the Americas. She became a board member and then the President. Cheryl served as the president of Soroptimist International of the Americas from 1994 – 1995.

From 1998 – 1999 Cheryl served as the Treasurer of Soroptimist International.

I was lucky to be able to call Cheryl a friend. She was a wonderful woman, filled with wit, wisdom and compassion. She made a difference. She will be missed.





Where Part of Our Dues Go: December 10th Appeal - Birthing in the Pacific

“The latest UN Statistics report that maternal mortality rates are decreasing but globally there are still 1,000 women dying a day due to pregnancy and childbirth complications. That is like **two giant jumbo jets full of women crashing down** daily or 41 women dying every hour. Yet no one hears about this. But if a small 12-passenger plane crashes, it is featured on TV around the globe” - Julie Marsaban, SISWP

In resource poor countries, only 36% of births are attended by skilled health care worker. Less than 30% of women have a supervised delivery in a health facility. Increasing access to supervised deliveries and properly functioning health care facilities for women to deliver greatly reduces the risk of dying from complications.

This project takes international best practice and evidence and applies it to the local situation in Papua New Guinea – increasing access to both skilled birth attendants and functioning health care services.



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SOROPTIMIST BUSINESS FRIENDS

It's smart to do business with a Soroptimist! They're honest, diligent, bright, and knowledgeable!

 <p><i>Deana Porter, MA, MFT</i></p> <p><i>Individual, Couple, Family & Group Therapy</i> (213) 519-0152 License # MFT 46489</p>	<p>State Farm Providing Insurance & Financial Services Home Office Bloomington, Illinois 61710</p>  <p>D.C. "Del" Johnson LUTCF, Agent Lic. #0283908 Robin Gail Ordoqui, Agent's Assistant Lic. #0876156</p> <p>3962 Studebaker Road Suite 202 Long Beach, CA 90808-2400 robin.g.ordoqui.ir81@statefarm.com</p> <p>Bus 562 982 1444 Fax 562 982 1447</p> <p>24 Hour Good Neighbor Service®</p>
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