

# Laurel Leaf

*Soroptimist International of Bellflower*

July 2015



## *President's Message*

We had a busy month last month. Bellflower Soroptimists were at Soroptimist International of the America's recognition banquet in Los Angeles on June 13<sup>th</sup>. There were about 200 Soroptimists in attendance.

Members came from all parts of the United States as



well as from Canada; the Philippines; Mexico and Brazil. It was great to see friends from all these other places. I was lucky to be able to take the next day and



take/go with Soroptimists from Chicago and from British Columbia for a day of sight-seeing. We went to the Getty Villa in Malibu. If you haven't been there, it is worth the drive and the time. It was fabulous - as was the drive down PCH. We ended up having lunch on the beach in Marina Del Rey at an Italian restaurant, listening to a live Salsa band of all things. It was a great weekend!

The following weekend, was our fund raiser – Painting With a Twist. 30+ people came to paint their own “masterpiece”. Turns out that some of us are really good artists and others of us had hidden talents that came out. Some members' pictures are already being framed and hung. Check out the rest of our newsletter and our website and Facebook pages for photos! We hope to do this again soon. We will keep you updated on the next date for painting.

July we will be working towards our first ever Quartermania event. We already have lots of great vendors who will be on hand, which means lots of wonderful items to bid on. And thanks to our member Nancy, the donations are pouring in for gift baskets that will be available. It's never wrong to treat yourself, or begin to get those Christmas presents bought. Our gift baskets will give you just that opportunity. Check out page 3 of our newsletter for more information about this event. We hope you can join us!

I hope that your 4<sup>th</sup> of July is grand and that you celebrate in style. Have a safe 4<sup>th</sup>!

**President Sue**



*Soroptimist is a global women's organization whose members volunteer to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.*

*Join the Bellflower Soroptimist club and help make a difference to so many!*

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OUR THEME THIS YEAR IS...  
"MAKING A DIFFERENCE, ONE  
WOMAN AT A TIME"



# IN THE NEWS

## Bellflower Soroptimist Club News

Wow! What an event we had on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Who knew we had so many magnificent artists in our group.

Our instructor, Amanda was wonderful. She made the whole event enjoyable with her energy and wit. Once she turned on the music, there were no holds barred! She was off and running and we were all right behind her.



Instructor, Amanda



Snacks were abound for anyone who got a little hungry while painting. This was the most enjoyable couple of hours we have enjoyed in a while. It's not every day you get to try to out-do inspirational talent like Van Gogh and Da Vinci.

There are some very talented people in our group. It was like they had been there before. And yes, a few of us had been there a few times...not mentioning names, but one or two do come to mind...Gina and Nancy. How about the rest...anyone out there been here before, so that is why your art was beyond the kindergarten stage? C'mon...fess up!

Oh. Look...MaryAnn and Terri are eager to get started. They had their aprons on before anyone else did. Way to go girls!

OK...didn't anyone tell Sue that her painting is on its side? But wait...what about the pictures to her right? Perhaps she and the artists who belong to those might have a different artistic outlook on oceans and mountains.

Sally, Deana and Vicky were enjoying the break. Vicky and Deana were keen on having a snap of them in their dramatic, artistic inspiring, fashionable aprons and Sally was delighted to explain her masterpiece to the cameraman, while Vicky and Deana posed for the cameraman.



MaryAnn and Terri



Sue, our artistic paint brush expert



Robin is all smiles with her painting



Sally and her masterpiece



Deana and Vicky

# IN THE NEWS

## Quartermania Auction and Lunch August 15<sup>th</sup>

### “WHAT IS QUARTERMANIA?”

Think of an “old fashioned country auction”. You bid on an item and win! But, you are spending quarters instead of Big Bucks! So, bring plenty of quarters to bid on that item you just have to have; can’t live without!

**Auction Items range from \$10 to \$50  
Bids range from 1 to 4 quarters per paddle...  
that’s right...1 to 4 quarters....nothing higher than that!**

We have a wonderful assortment of vendors who will be auctioning off some of their products, as well as selling at their tables. Be sure to stop by their tables before the auction and say Hi! Here is a sample of **Opportunity Baskets** vying for your **Raffle Ticket**. *Buy your Raffle Tickets for a chance to walk away with some wonderful baskets.*



Scrapbooking’ with Stampin’ Up



Picnic at the Hollywood Bowl



Cuddle Up with Soup



A day at the Nail Salon



Family Board Night



An evening with the Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl

**SIB QUARTERANIA IS THE PLACE TO BE ON AUGUST 15TH!!**

Be sure to attend and bring a friend or two!

*The flyer for this event will be mailed to members and guests*

*July 15th, so watch for it and spread the word....*



Click on the word “Quartermania” below to access the flyer with the Registration card: [Quartermania](#)

### VENDORS:

- \* Above it All
- \* Avon
- \* Cookie Lee
- \* doTerra Essential Oils
- \* Dove Chocolate Discoveries
- \* Gifts 2 Have
- \* Initials, Inc.
- \* Mary Kay Cosmetics
- \* Origami Owl Living Lockets
- \* Pampered Chef
- \* The Final Touch of Bling
- \* Tupperware

*Raffle tickets can be purchased in increments of 7 tickets for \$5.00, 21 tickets for \$10.00 and 49 tickets for \$20.00*



You could win two tickets to the Fashion Show and Dinner if the prize is right! Yes, I said “prize”

# Soroptimist International News

a global voice  
for women

Soroptimist International



Soroptimist International aims to give the local voices of women and girls a global impact.

SI has 16 UN Representatives who work across 6 UN Centres to ensure that the voices of women and girls around the world are included in international decision making. This work is driven by Soroptimist projects. All of SI's advocacy work is based on the principles of human rights.

Women and girls around the world still do not get to experience their full range of human rights. Soroptimist International is continuously working to empower, educate and enable women and girls to ensure the realization of gender equality.

At the United Nations, Soroptimist International's UN Representatives advocate for women and girls, and lobby governments to take action to make sure that women and girls access their human rights. Their work is driven Soroptimist International projects and SI's UN Representatives also provide information about emerging issues and international development agendas. Through this work Soroptimist International gives women and girls the global voice that they need.

<http://www.soroptimistinternational.org/advocacy>

*Human rights are critical to the Vision and Mission of every Soroptimist globally. No country is free from human rights violations. Respect and tolerance for every human being must be achieved in all of our communities and countries."*  
*International President, Ann Garvie*

## Soroptimist International of the Americas

Soroptimist members belong to local clubs. Clubs participate in the Dream Programs of Soroptimist, **Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards for Women, and Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls to help women and girls achieve social and economic empowerment.**



The Dream Programs of Soroptimist ensure women and girls have access to the education and training they need to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

Soroptimist is committed to investing in programs that have a sustainable, measurable change for women and girls. Clubs also participate in local level projects such as providing mammograms to low-income women; working to end sex trafficking for women and girls and mentoring women in domestic violence shelters.



Bellflower's Soroptimists were in attendance at the *Soroptimist Recognition Banquet* on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

# Member's Corner

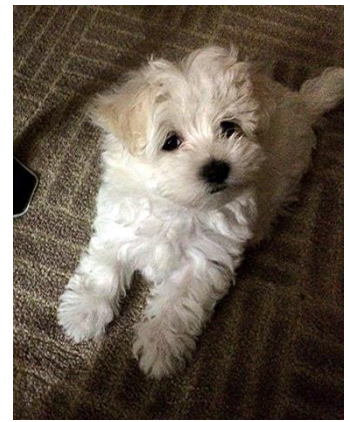
This little lady is adorable isn't she? Can anyone tell me who she is? Who is her "Mama"?

Well, we can...We are pleased to present to you one charming little ball of fluff named, Molly and her "Mama" Marcie Raphael. And here is their story.....

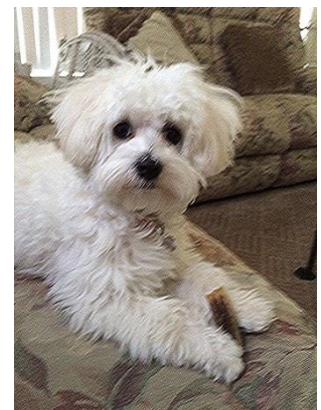
"Ever since I separated from my husband of 48 years and moved into a house by myself, I knew that one day I would adopt a cat or a dog to love and keep me company. In October, probably about the time when Molly was born, I started to look online for adoption agencies. I found an excellent website called "[adoptapet.com](http://adoptapet.com)," and started looking. I got Molly on December 11<sup>th</sup>, when the volunteer for the adoption agency "Lucky Dog," met me at the Starbucks store in Cerritos with a little creature wrapped in a soft blanket. She was only 2 pounds at the time, and one look into her eyes is all it took to have me wrapped around her little paws. I signed all the papers and took the little white bundle home, wondering what had I got myself into. Until that day, I had been firm in my decision that I did NOT want a PUPPY!! Not house-trained, not trained at all. I had to do a lot of catching up - I needed a crash course on how to train this messy, playful, incredibly cute puppy.

The furry puppy that I adopted is a "MultiPoo," which is half Maltese and half Poodle. The agency I got her from rescued a mother and her 5 puppies from the Riverside pound. Sounds unbelievable, doesn't it? I'm not sure how that happened, but I'm grateful that it did. I paid the agency \$350 (higher price for puppies than adults) plus some other fees. I signed a contract with them, and then took the little angel home with me.

Molly is now probably 6 or 7 pounds, and she is the love of my life. She loves people, dogs, cats, horses, and even children! When she sees another living creature, she is so happy she can't hold still. She increases the speed of her wagging, with every ounce of strength she's got, and with her whole body! Nobody can resist wanting to hold and pet her when they see that little ball of love coming at them! I thank God every night for giving me this wonderful animal to share my life with."



Miss Molly at 2 months of age



I'm a real beauty now. I'm 6 months of age in this photo. Aren't I a charmer?



## Soroptimist Members plan to have a fun 4<sup>th</sup> of July:

- ❖ Mary Ann & Warren are in Big Bear – enjoying all that the local mountains have to offer
- ❖ Robin will be at Lake Havasu on a houseboat with family and friends
- ❖ Terri and Steve are planning to be at the River for a big family get together

We know that others are planning other fun things this 4<sup>th</sup> also. Whatever you do, have fun and be safe!

# Calendar of Events



- July 4<sup>th</sup> America's Independence Day
- July 6<sup>th</sup> Quartermania meeting 12 noon
- August 15<sup>th</sup> Quartermania Fundraiser

## Soroptimist Members Birthday's



- July 17<sup>th</sup> Robin Orodoqui
- August 5<sup>th</sup> Mary Ann Wotring
- August 8<sup>th</sup> Deana Porter

## Special Points of Interest

### Fun Facts – Did You Know?

#### Statue of Liberty Arrives.....

On June 17, 1885 -- 130 years ago -- the Statue of Liberty arrived in New York harbor. A gift of friendship from France to commemorate the ideals shared by French and American governments, the statue arrived in New York harbor in more than 300 pieces, according to the National Parks Service. [Elizabeth Mitchell](#) wrote about the Statue of Liberty and its creator, Frederic Auguste Bartholdi in her book, [Liberty's Torch: The Great Adventure to Build the Statue of Liberty](#). In [an article in American Profile's Community Table](#), Mitchell shared 10 interesting things we probably don't know about this American icon. Here is an interesting fact. Women suffragettes waged a protest at the unveiling!

“When it was unveiled in October 1866, women's rights groups lamented that an enormous female figure would stand in New York harbor representing liberty, when most American women had no liberty to vote....Suffragettes chartered a boat to circle the island during the unveiling. They blasted protest speeches, but those could not be heard over the din of steam whistles and cannon blasts in the harbor.”

The Statue of Liberty remains a symbol of American freedom, and most women in this country have more freedom than they did in 1866. But when it comes to issues like domestic violence, college sexual assault, the absence of veteran's services for women, pay inequality, media bias, and other issues that affect today's women and girls, we still have a long way to go. And that is where Soroptimists step forward, to help make the world a better place for women.



## 4<sup>th</sup> of July



Variously known as the Fourth of July and Independence Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution (1775-83). In June 1776, representatives of the 13 colonies then fighting in the revolutionary struggle weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 until the present day, July 4<sup>th</sup> has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with typical festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

*We Are.....*

## *Soroptimist International of Bellflower*



**Soroptimist International of Bellflower was chartered on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1953...Now celebrating 62 years of service**

### **Board of Directors**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Susan Held</b>
<b>Vice-President:</b>	<b>Deana Porter</b>
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	<b>Gina Herndon</b>
<b>Corresponding Secretary:</b>	<b>Doreen Robins</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Robin Ordoqui</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	<b>Nancy Larsen</b>

**Bellflower Soroptimists  
PO Box 301  
Bellflower, CA 90707**

### *Meeting Times & Locations*

#### **Business Meetings**

**1st Monday of each month  
12 Noon**

#### **Program Meetings**

**2nd Monday of each month  
12 Noon**

#### **Location:**

**First Missionary Baptist Church  
9246 Rosser St.  
Bellflower, CA**

Monthly evening & Saturday dinner meetings  
according to members' schedules

*Interested in finding out more about us and how you can be a part of making a difference in the lives of women and girls? Be our guest at a meeting or one of our social events.*

*Call or e mail Susan @ 562-862-8669 or*

*[Susan@helds.us](mailto:Susan@helds.us)*

**For more information about the Bellflower Soroptimist Club, be sure to check out our website:**

<http://www.soroptimistbellflower.org/>

**And go to our Facebook page and "Like" us!**

<https://www.facebook.com/SIBellflower>