

# Laurel Leaf

Soroptimist International of  
Bellflower

April 2015

## President's Message



A great big Thank You is in order to all the club members who worked to get our **March 28th Las Vegas night** Fundraiser off the ground and the great success it was. And Thank You to all our members who worked so tirelessly all night long. The numbers are being crunched but it looks like this year was better than last year and that's what we love to hear!

The end of this month is the Soroptimist Conference that will be held in Long Beach. This is where all the Soroptimists clubs in the Region gather together to conduct business, hear motivational speakers, attend workshops and be a part of giving away thousands of dollars to Region winners for various awards. We have a record number of women from our club that will be in attendance. In fact, we will have four of our members attending for the first time. Be sure to check out next month's newsletter for highlights of the Conference.

You may notice that the newsletter has a great new look and feel to it. That is because of our newest member, Nancy Larsen, who has stepped forward to accept being the Newsletter Editor. Nancy is truly a creative genius when it comes to all things graphic so I think you will love the new look. If you do, please go to our [Facebook](#) page and let us know. Thank You Nancy, for bringing new life to the newsletter and bringing it into the 21st Century!

Now that April is almost over, it's on to our next project—our Awards Tea that will be in May. This event, for us, is very uplifting as we see the faces of those that we are giving a helping hand to. We love Spring, April Showers, May flowers and giving away money and impacting lives in a positive and lasting way. That's why we do what we do!

*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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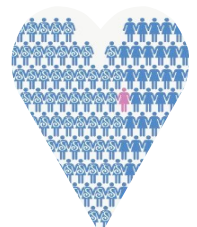
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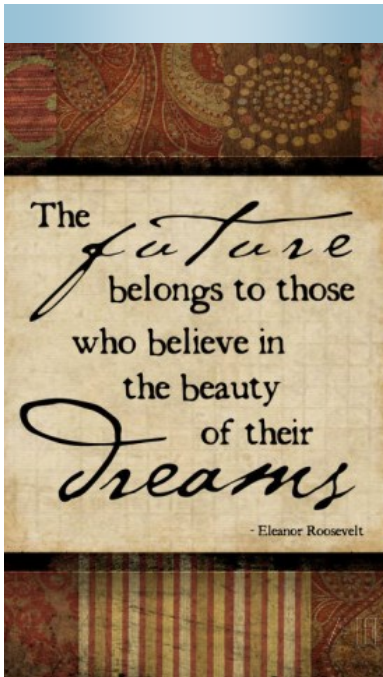
Soroptimist Member's Birthdays

**OUR THEME THIS  
YEAR IS....**

**"MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE, ONE  
WOMAN AT A TIME"**



# BELFLOWER SOROPTIMIST AWARDS



## *Helping Dreams Come True*

The ***Helping Dreams Come True Award*** was created by the Bellflower Soroptimist Club to help women between the ages of 20 – 40 achieve their dreams by giving them financial resources they need to improve their education, skills and employment prospects.

Why the ages of 20 – 40? Because there are many instances when girls graduate from high school and think they don't need or want additional education or training. As the years pass by, they come to find out that life is not what they imagined and they want/need to further themselves educationally or vocationally in order to get ahead. But, now they are out on their own and

no longer eligible for college scholarships they might have received at graduation.

Furthering themselves is not an option now, it has become a dream.

This award was created to help those women who need a helping hand to reach their dreams. The recipient will receive **\$1,500.00** that they can use toward costs associated with their efforts to attain higher education, such as child care, books, transportation and tuition.

***Applications must be postmarked by April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015***

**Awards will be presented Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at an awards luncheon with representatives of Congress, State and the City of Bellflower.**

*“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams...”*

*~ Eleanor Roosevelt*

## *Live Your Dream*

January saw club members reviewing applications of deserving women who needed a helping hand to move forward in their lives.



The Soroptimist, “Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards for Women”, provides women who serve as the primary wage earners for their families with

the financial resources to offset costs associated with their efforts to attain higher education or additional skills and training.

Recipients can use the award for tuition, books, childcare, carfare or any other education-related expense.

This year we are so glad that we had the financial resources to be able to give 2 women financial help. We will be presenting the awards at our May 4 ceremony. We hope you can be there to help cheer these women on.

## *College Scholarships*

This scholarship program was established specifically by Bellflower Soroptimists to help local high school girls continue their education at the college level. Our goal is to help girls with their education so that they can go forward and live their dreams \$400 (per year) scholarships are available. Once accepted, students are eligible to receive the scholarship for up to 4 years or \$1,600.00 over four years.

**Applications must be postmarked by March 31, 2015. Go to our club website to get the application or ask any Soroptimist for more information or the application.**

Awards will be presented Monday, May 4th at an awards luncheon with representatives of Congress, State and the City of Bellflower.

*What sculpture is to a block of marble, education is to the soul.*

*~ Joseph Addison*



## **EDUCATION.....**

A college degree is the key to realizing the American dream, well worth the financial sacrifice because it is supposed to open the door to a world of world of opportunity.”

*~ Dan Rather*

# IN THE NEWS

## Bellflower Soroptimist Club News

### Las Vegas Night

A night filled with life, laughter and song....and of course a little Bingo, a little Black Jack, a little gambling here and there AND....a whole lot of fun! .

Sponsored by the Bellflower Soroptimist and Bellflower Noon Lions.

These little ladies apparently had a grand time



Deana Porter..."Roll the dice, partner"



Kim Manzanara..."Wanna' play some Bingo, Missy?"



Teri Marcum..."I play the music in this here saloon...you dance when 'ur told!"

### LAS VEGAS NIGHT.....



What a wonderful and exciting event this was. On March 28th, our **Las Vegas Night Fund Raiser** was held and was a big success!

Everyone on the Who's Who list was in attendance and enjoyed a wonderful chicken dinner and a truly awesome slice of cake.

Many activities were bursting to the seams. We had a separate Bingo room that attendees loved because this year's winner walked away with gift cards.

Many folks sang along with tunes played by an outstanding DJ (who also allowed some attendees to do a bit of karaoke). And of course...lots of gaming tables.

Thanks to all the sponsors who donated to the event with a special Thank You to Supervisor Don Knabe for his continued support of our events.

Check out these photos. Were we not having fun or what?!?!?!?!?



Looks like the Bellflower Princess' are in trouble with the law... and they said they were innocent!



Sally Pendleton..."Miss Bingo 2015"



Miss MaryAnn and her Partner "Quick Hand Warren" ...they say they are the most dangerous of them all in this here territory of Bellflower

## Soroptimist Region News

“Cruising with Camino Real!”, is going to be held at the Long Beach Marriott (near Long Beach airport) from April 24-26.

This year, they have great new activities for us like the Club photo, Personal and Professional Workshops (an expansion of Leadership Academy), new Member Mixer and so much more. There will be a special guest from SIA: Federation Board Member, Paloma Papa, as well as dynamic workshop presenters.

There will be awards presented to clubs, money and recognition given to deserving women; business conducted; great meals as well as a chance to meet Soroptimists from around our Region.

The hotel is wonderful, having undergone a \$14 million dollar renovation in the last year or so. Save the date and plan on coming to all or part of the event.



## Soroptimist Federation News

# happify™

Soroptimist and LiveYour-Dream.org are proud to join forces with [Happify](#), a New York City-based company pioneering online emotional fitness.

Happify provides games, activities and exercises based on scientific research to teach people the skills needed for a happier, healthier and more fulfilling life.

Happify's activities are built upon over a decade of research from top institutions

like Harvard, Penn and Stanford in positive psychology and positive neuroscience, and its tracks offer a daily, simple and accessible way to boost emotional fitness in everyday life.

The company, which offers free and paid subscription offers, is venture-backed and launched publicly in October 2013.

Go to the Soroptimist of the Americas website to learn more.

Happiness depends upon ourselves.

– Aristotle

# *Soroptimist International News*



## **Global Summit of Women**

Soroptimist is a global member and international partner of the summit, an annual meeting bringing together outstanding women, business, professional, and governmental leaders from all parts of the globe. The Summit focuses on accelerating women's economic development through the effective use of technology, and maximizing the benefit of cross-border business alliances.



## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **May**

- \* 4th Live your Dream Recognition & Awards Tea—  
Bring the women in your life!
- \* 10th Mother's Day
- \* 11th Program Meeting

### **June**

- \* 1st Business Meeting
- \* 8th Program Meeting
- \* 20th Painting with a Twist, Huntington Beach  
Fundraiser

### **July**

- \* 4th July 4th Celebration
- \* 6th Business Meeting
- \* 13th Program Meeting

# SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

## Soroptimist Member Birthdays

### April

- \* 12th      Marcie Raphael
- \* 22nd     Kathy Price
- \* 26th     Betty MacKenzie

### May

- \* 18th     Doreen Robbins

## Fun Facts - Do you know....

According to early Roman calendar, April was the second month but became fourth when they started to use January as the first month. The name originally came from **Aprilis**, meaning 'to open'. In April, small animals that were hibernating usually come out and the birds fly back northward to settle, bees and butterflies begin to gather nectar. In some parts of the world, April is planting time but in other parts, it's the harvest season.

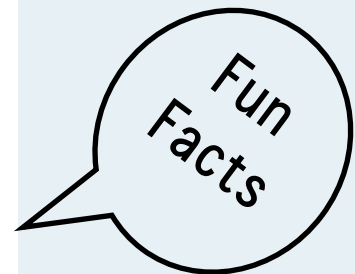
Below are some fun facts about April:

On April 19, 1775 the Revolutionary War in America began.

On April 11, 1814, Napoleon Bonaparte was exiled to the island of Elba and he was abdicated as Emperor of the French.

On April 4, 1818, a flag that contained 1 star for each state and 13 stripes was adopted by Congress.

On April 4, 1949, the North Atlantic Treaty was signed



We Are.....

## ***Soroptimist International of Bellflower***

### **Meeting Times & Locations**

#### **Business Meetings**

**1st Monday of each month**

12 Noon

#### **Location:**

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

#### **Program Meetings**

**2nd Monday of each month**

12 Noon

#### **Location:**

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



**Website:**

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

**Facebook:**

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

***Soroptimist International of Bellflower***

**PO Box 301**

**Bellflower, CA 90707**

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