



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Soroptimist International of Elk Grove

P.O. Box 881, Elk Grove, CA 95759

"Improving the lives of women and children locally and throughout the world."

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Leigh Nurre, President

Dear SIEG club members,

Our first-ever Margarita-Carnitas Festival is over and I'd like to thank the small army of SIEG volunteers who helped make the Festival a success:

Joyce, Cathleen and new member-to-be Tracey Edwards who worked in a hot and chaotic kitchen packing dinners for 52 drive-thru customers ...
Karin who made the centerpieces for 23 tables; bought and wrapped contents of 22+ baskets; and planned the strategy for choosing the winners, which was hugely well-received ...
Leslie, her husband Jim and cousin Jill, Holly, Tracey and many others who served dinner to 165 enthusiastic and hungry guests ...

Greetings From The President

Joyce, Holly and Kristine

who cleared tables to the sound of Zumba dancers and lively salsa music ...

Betty Walters, Georgia

(Diane's neighbor), **Ramona, Diana, and Paul Jr.** who made margaritas ..

Diana and Annajean who worked registration ...

Lorna and Mary Lewis who sold drawing tickets ...

Betty Hall, maker of table signs and roaming ticket hawker ...

Peggy and Kristine who sold the card deck ...

Sandi and Marie who assisted in selling tickets ...

Faye who helped set up the room ...

And thank you to all of you who contributed gifts or dollars to enable Karin's creation of the spectacular raffle baskets.

Please forgive me if your name isn't listed above. Please know that your assistance was greatly needed and deeply appreciated.

I'd like to acknowledge Diane for spending a tremendous amount of time planning the Festival. Thank you for your leadership that resulted in a remarkable success for our club.

We've had our Installation dinner since I started writing this column right after the Festival. Thanks to all of you for the Nordstrom gift card and flowers! I appreciate the thought behind them very much. It is a pleasure to serve as president of our club.

Now it's onward and upward to the SIEG retreat on July 21st. See you there,

Leigh Nurre
President
SIEG



Leigh and Randy
Welcome Guests
at Festival

Let's Plan Next Year ... Survey

Don't forget to complete and return the Retreat Survey to Leigh. We have another big year ahead of us and we want input for planning the year.

1. Is there anything about the club you would like to change?

2. Is there an event, program or organization you'd like us to support that currently isn't on our list? See the list at our web site -- www.SoroptimistElkGrove.org.

3. Please **highlight** your priorities below, as appropriate:

I'd like to have more mixers and other activities that would help increase membership.

I'd like to spend more time on direct services such as Childspree, foster youth dinners, and so forth.

I'd like SIEG to hold more fundraisers to enable us to make more (and/or larger) cash grants.

I'd like to have more fellowship gatherings with SIEG members.

Other:

4. Please indicate here if there's a possibility you'd be interested in putting together the new SIEG membership roster.

2nd Annual SIEG Retreat:

5. What kind of meeting do you want to have? Do you want it more structured than last year, or less structured?

6. Are there any subjects in particular that you'd like to include on the agenda?

Editors' Note: Yea, new member Tracey Edwards has volunteered to compose the newsletter beginning next month. It has been fun (sometimes) and we hope you have enjoyed the newsletters for the past three years. You will find a lot of repeat information in this issue . . . specifically for our members who have not been able to attend meetings recently.

Betty Hall and Peggy Ursin



Soroptimist Development Retreat

Don't miss out on this spectacular opportunity to learn the ins and outs of leadership positions for our club. President and Treasurer workshops await! Additional workshops will assist us in building stronger and better leaders, create civility among members, help in attracting prospective members, creating a welcoming atmosphere for members,

getting traction in moving our club forward and establishing a healthy club atmosphere. Now that's a lot of information you don't want to miss, but more importantly, it will be FUN! Our silly governor loves to make us laugh! Bring your sense of humor with you! Other key ingredients of a successful SDR are: Atlantis Spa packages,

good food, raffle prizes, including two gift certificates donated by The Atlantis for a room and a meal in the future.

Remember, our club pays expenses for this training. Deadline for the reduced rate was July 1, but you can still register.

A Look Back at 2012-2013

It was a very busy year and we have lots to be proud of . . .

Locally:

- Changed our name to "***Soroptimist International of Elk Grove***"
- Elk Grove Community Foundation Scholarship, \$1,000
- Assisting Emancipated Foster Youth of Elk Grove - Special Dinners, Gift Cards, and Gifts throughout the year, \$1,850
- Furnish Elk Grove Police with soft blankets/stuffed animals for children in traumatic situations
- Furnish WEAVE with clothing and toiletries for women who are victims of sexual assault, \$200
- Women's Opportunity Award, \$2,000
- Two Violet Richardson Awards \$750
- Provided Elk Grove Unified School District with publications regarding Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking, \$550
- Hurricane Sandy Fundraiser Support, \$500
- Website and Facebook Creation, \$500
- Christmas Tree and support for the Dickens Faire, \$60
- Participated in numerous community events (i.e. Citizen of the Year, Chili Cook-Off, Dickens Faire, Chamber Anniversary, Multicultural Fair, Run 4 Independence, etc.)
- Donated over 150 pounds of candy to "See's for Soldiers"
- Donations to:
 - Strauss Festival, \$100
 - Elk Grove Citizen of the Year Scholarship Fund, \$200
 - Child Spree, \$540
 - My Sister's House, \$100
 - St. John's Shelter, \$500
 - Cosumnes River College Veterans Resource Center, \$500
 - Sacramento Children's Home, \$250
 - Sacramento Crisis Nurseries, \$500
 - Wellspring Women's Center, \$500
 - Soroptimist International of Comstock (WOA Contribution), \$100
 - B Street Theatre, Florin Elementary School, \$200
 - Elk Grove Food Bank Services, \$2,000
 - Shop Elk Grove Campaign, \$50 Gift Basket

Internationally:

- Birthing in the Pacific, \$100
- Breaking Chains filming at "The Garden" in Nicaragua, \$200
- Built a house for a single mom and her six children in El Salvador, \$1,500

CALENDAR SNAPSHOT:

Monday, July 8:
SIEG Board
Meeting, 6:30 p.m., home of Diane Hollingshead

Wednesday, July 10:
Lunch Bunch, Meson
Mexican Grill,
11:30 a.m.

Thursday, July 18:
Stuff Childspeer Backpacks,
Ramona Johanneson's Home,
6:30 p.m.

Sunday-Monday, July 21 and 22:
SIEG Retreat , Lodi

July 25-28: Strauss Festival,
Elk Grove Park

Saturday, July 27:
Childspeer, Kohl's, 5:45 a.m.

Friday-Saturday, July 26-27,
Soroptimist Development
Retreat, Atlantis Hotel, Reno

Special Thanks to two members:

Many thanks to Mary Lewis for such great publicity in the Elk Grove Citizen, for both the Carnitas Festival and all through the year.

Thank you, too, to Janet Hume for donating the Festival grand prize of a weekend in Tahoe.

Carnitas and Margaritas Festival ... a huge success!



IMPORTANT:

Childspree backpack packing at Ramona Johanneson's home, Thursday, July 18, 6:30 p.m.

Chaperones still needed for Childspree, Saturday, July 27, 5:45 a.m. Call Ramona, 916-688-0426

Lunch Bunch

Did you get enough Mexican Food at the Festival? If not, join the Lunch Bunch Wednesday, July 10th, 11:30 a.m. at El Meson Mexican Grill, 8325 Elk Grove-Florin Road (in the Safeway Shopping Center, near Diana Holcomb's office).

**Installation Dinner ...**

Welcome to the "Fabulous Five" New Members
Denise Castello, Tracey Edwards, Marie Jachino, Janet Brabender, and Sherry McLellan



SI Elk Grove 2013-2014 Officers

President
Leigh Nurre

Vice President
Genny Fulp

Treasurer
Peggy Ursin

Asst. Treasurer
Lorna Buechler

Recording Secretary
Diana Holcomb

Corresponding Secretary
Leslie Konopinski

Delegates
Karin Lindner
Annajean Neill

Immediate Past
President/Club Ambassador
Diane Hollingshead

Parliamentarian
Betty Hall

Newsletter Editor
Tracey Edwards

Email us:

Website
www.soroptimistelkgrove.org

Other Stuff ...



***Life consists not in
holding good cards, but
in playing those you
hold well.***

Josh Billings

SIERRA NEVADA REGION
WWW.SOROPTIMISTSNR.ORG
(USER NAME: SOROPTIMIST /
PASSWORD: SYNERGY)
GOVERNOR: Janice Labadie

SOROPTIMIST INT'L OF THE AMERICAS (FEDERATION)
WWW.SOROPTIMIST.ORG
PRESIDENT: Raquel Arreola-Ruiz

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
WWW.SOROPTIMISTINTERNATIONAL.ORG
(USER NAME: MEMBER /
PASSWORD: CAMBRIDGE)
PRESIDENT: Alice Wells