



# Soroptimist of Corona

SUMMER 2015

NEWSLETTER

## CALENDAR

**July 3**—Linda Holmes  
Home -  
Preparation for 4th of  
July parade

**July 4**— Participation  
in 4th of  
July parade

**July 11**—Summer social a  
Shawn's home

**July 17**—Playful Outing at  
Pageant of the Masters

**August 2**—Board Retreat  
Laura Janik's home

**August 19**—Taps noon  
Monthly meetings re-  
turn

**August 26** - Taps noon  
School  
Counselor's luncheon

## President's Last Letter

by Paola Ringer



It is with the utmost grace and thanksgiving that I address our membership as now your immediate past president in this last newsletter of the year. And what a year it has been! The language of Soroptimism has served us well.

We have been an ambitious Club and our goals for the year reflected our potential and stamina. Between embracing our way into the community, creating a video for Dreams and Decisions, embarking full force into Club Express, initiating a Procedures Manual, and through it all, managing our Signature Fund-raiser and Service Projects while executing Playful Outings!. It is safe to say that only one Club could have attained all that... the Best Club ever...

Among the many highlights we shared together was our 68th Birthday Celebration and delight in the insightful presentation by our newly appointed "Historian" Paula Montanez and Judy Horan. Our Soroptimist of Corona Club is rich in history and it will be of great substance to place into content just how much we have accomplished through the years.

As a Club we have excelled. The accomplishments have been cumulative and were compounded by the vigor and enthusiasm we shared in every project, from our successful Chocolate, Wine, and Jazz at the beginning of the year to our many service projects: Dreams and Decisions, Women of Significance, and our Scholarship Luncheon. These immense undertakings could not have taken place with-

out the contribution of our members and the respective Chairs and Committees that demonstrated kindness, generosity of time and skills, and a strong sense of leadership.

I leave my post as your President with many fond memories and with a feeling of sheer pleasure in accomplishment. Thank you allowing me grace, support, and confidence. We have remained purposeful, passionate, and playful. I could not have asked for any more.

With much love, Paola Ringer

2015 Outgoing President,  
2016 First Year Director



## Thanks to the Spring Conference Hostess Club by Debbie Miller



A GREAT Big thank you to all of you for providing a wonderful experience to everyone throughout the region this Spring Conference ....we sure know how to throw a PARTY and have lots of FUN in the process!

Monica, thank you for sharing your inspiring story as our key-note speaker! It was a wonderful kickoff to the conference and I was filled with great pride to see my fellow SI Corona members taking prominent positions to make the experience so special.

Paola, I will never forget the language of Soroptimist! Passionate, Purposeful and Playful! You provided an inspiration to all who have come to America and join in the "American Dream" and shared your 3 fluent languages with us!

Seema and Shawn, I appreciate your coordination of all the volunteers, everything ran seamlessly, I couldn't have asked for more!

Last but certainly not least, Michelle Volonte and Carlos Mariscal, saved my bacon on so many occasions these last few weeks! I am thankful to have you there to help fulfill my sometimes crazy ideas.



## My Inspiration

by Debbie Miller

The weekend of conference, I was thinking about increasing my laurel society membership to the next level but as always, I realized through my own story of Morgan and the pride of a mother to see her daughter join Soroptimist, there was no way I would spend this money on my membership but to further Morgan's experience as a Laurel Society member. Morgan, I am so proud to be your momma, and now we have another wonderful experience to share together as Soroptimists and Laurel Society members!



# A Financial Glimpse into our Past

by Paula Montanez

Here is a page from SI Corona's Treasurer's Report, dated October 7, 1968.

President Flora Spiegel had been installed in June, and Treasurer JoAnn Garton carefully documented the Club's year-ending balances and the Fall activity going into a new year, after the customary summer break.

Some things never change . . . SI Corona collected and remitted dues, made a little extra on raffles and fines (usually .25 -.50 each), and as always, disbursed Service Funds to local organizations in need of support: Boys Club, Junior Achievement and others. A florist bill of \$5.25 and insurance expense of \$48.00 sound like very careful money management.

At the bottom line, nowadays, a bank balance of \$612.84 might be a scary situation! However, I'm sure the club felt comfortably solvent back in 1968.

SI Corona was a member of Pacific Region, under Governor Eileen Bidwell of El Centro. The club met every Wednesday for lunch at the Corona Bowl, owned by Ira "Cal" and Marceline "Marsha" Calvert (SI Corona President 1966-67), the parents of our own Congressman Ken Calvert, still a Corona resident.

SOROPTIMIST CLUB OF CORONA, Treasurer's Report		
GENERAL FUND		October 7, 1968
Balance forward June 30, 1968		\$ 374.19
Receipts:		
Membership Dues	\$ 102.00	
Raffles & Fines	70.70	
Total Receipts		172.70
		<u>\$ 546.89</u>
Disbursements:		
Federal dues & new membership Fees	192.00	
Direct dues	5.00	
Convention & Conference	30.00	
Insurance	48.00	
Smith Florist	5.25	
Total Disbursements		280.25
Total General Fund October 7, 1968		<u>566.64</u>
SERVICE FUND		
Balance Forward June 30, 1968		742.90
Receipts:		
Board meeting	8.00	
Grace Garton	11.00	
Gene Reed	23.00	
Idamee Robinson	.50	
Total Receipts		42.50
		<u>785.40</u>
Disbursements:		
Boys Club	310.00	
Junior Achievement	350.00	
Operation S.A.H.	25.00	
Rummage Sale Rent	7.00	
Community Concert	17.50	
Total Disbursements		739.50
Total Service Fund October 7, 1968		<u>45.90</u>
Total Bank Balance October 7, 1968		<u>612.84</u>

JoAnn Garton, Treas.

From Flora Spiegel's memorabilia, donated by Herb Spiegel

By Paula Montanez, Club Historians Committee



## Sylvia Tarshis

Sylvia Tarshis was a dedicated wife, mother, business woman, community member and volunteer. She and her husband raised their three children in Corona, while Sylvia built a successful career in real estate. Her commitment to Soroptimist began in November, 1977, and she was always drawn to projects that supported educa-

March 11, 1933 – January 25, 2015

tion for women and girls or helped women and their families who were suffering from domestic violence. Sylvia served as President of SI Corona in 1985-1986, and was an avid recruiter who brought many other members into the club.





# Scholarship Program

by Monica Green

One of the most important things Soroptimist International of Corona does is support the educational aspirations of the young women in our community. Every spring, Soroptimist International of Corona participates in the awarding of high school scholarships and intermediate school recognition.

Our members teamed up to partake in nearly 80 high school interviews where we had an opportunity to hear these amazing student stories. It is truly inspiring and hopeful to hear from these young women in our community. After much deliberation, members were asked to select one scholarship recipient from ten of the high schools within Corona Norco Unified School District who are not necessarily at the top of their class but have shown a commitment to service and aspire to go to college. SI Corona provides these fortunate scholarship recipients with \$500 towards their first year in college.

Similarly, SI Corona lifetime member, Sylvia Fleming, collaborates with 12 intermediate schools to identify one female scholar who is committed and engaged at her school.

On May 13, 2015, we honored 22 of these young, dedicated female scholars at our annual luncheon at TAPS Fish House in Dos Lagos. This was our biggest luncheon in our clubs history where we had 118 students, school representative, and family members attend this scholarship and recognition celebration. The event was so big that we had to move into a larger area!

On this glorious day, we awarded these aspiring future Soroptimists with a total of nearly \$6,000 in educational support. Just one more example of how Soroptimist International of Corona contributes greatly to education of the young women in our community.

## Bacon and Cheese Quiche

### Ingredients:

- 3 ounce can of bacon bits
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- ounces shredded Swiss cheese
- 3 ounces of grated Parmesan cheese
- 9 inch deep dish frozen pie crust
- 4 eggs lightly beaten
- 1/3 cup milk
- 1 cup half & half

### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C).
  2. In a medium bowl, mix the bacon, onions, and both cheeses. Place this mixture in the unfrozen pie crust.
  3. Mix the eggs and half and half in a bowl. Pour the egg mixture over the cheese mixture.
- Bake in preheated oven for 15 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake for an additional 35 minutes, until top of quiche begins to turn brown.



by Debbie Miller



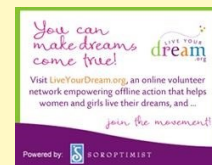
## Auction Basket Donations Sought

by Dana Daniels

Please help to make our October 24th Chocolate, Wine & Jazz a big success by imploring your friends, family, and favorite businesses you frequent this summer to donate towards an auction basket.

## Greetings from SIA headquarters!

This is the excerpt of an interview from Allison Sylvester of SIA to Debbie and Morgan Miller:



I'm excited to let you know that in the coming months, we'll be kicking off a recruitment campaign by providing information and resources to clubs to help boost membership! More members means that we help more women and girls throughout the world!

One of the aspects we'll focus on is recruiting your friends and family members to join Soroptimist. Some of the greatest untapped prospects are already in our circle! We know many current members joined because of someone they know: their mother, sister, or aunt was already a member, or even a co-worker or friend is a member. We are gathering family and friends stories from across the federation and will be sharing them as part of our upcoming recruitment campaign. I've heard you have a family connection within Soroptimist! I hope you are willing to share some information and be an example for other clubs. Will you help us out?

- Names? **Debra Dematteis-Miller (mom)/Morgan Miller (daughter)**
- What is your relationship? (mother/daughter, sisters, cousins, in-laws, etc.) **mother/daughter**
- Who was a member first? Why did you join? **Debra has been a member since 1991. My husband and I had just started our business and I was looking to get to know some business women in the area as I had worked out of the area for many years and really didn't have any women friends in the area other than our neighbors. It has not only been the best decision to join this club for me personally as most of these women are now my best friends but also many are our business associates from our banker, mortgage lender, real estate broker, insurance broker, florist, printer, etc.**
- Who was the second member in the relationship to join? Why did you join? **I joined SI corona, because I saw over the years that my mom and her friends were helping the lives of women and girls around the our community. My parents since I could remember instilled in us that helping others helps the community we live in. Even if it's small all those small things you do to help people will one day add up to amazing things. My mother is a great role and so are all the SIA members. I'm so grateful I have the opportunity to help change women and girls! .**
- Did the original member recruit the other member? If so, why and how? **Morgan had grown up going to meetings and volunteering throughout her youth. She had always planned to become a Soroptimist one day so once she was working back in the area and her position allowed her time to take during the day to attend meetings, she asked if she could be considered. I put her in touch with our membership chair and she was inducted shortly thereafter to a very happy group of women who had watched her grow up and were so happy for her return.**
- What do you enjoy most about volunteering together, what are the benefits? **Personally, I have gotten to see my daughter in a totally different realm, she decided to take the chair position of our annual Dreams and Decisions workshop this year. She had been one of the first attendees of this program many years ago when she was in 7th grade. Now at 29 years of age, she felt that she had insights to make a few changes to update the program as we are continuously looking to keep it fresh and pertinent to today's needs for 7th and 8th grade girls. I was so proud of the her thoughtful approach, I was so happy to take the back seat on this project as she was/is totally capable of leading a very diverse and energitic group of women. It was such a wonderful proud day for this mom to see her daughter so comfortable in front of 250 young girls. I can't even explain my pride.**
- Has your relationship changed since you both became Soroptimists? If yes, how? **Not really other than we always have known that we have each other trust so this is just another area that we are able to share ideas and perspectives between generations.**
- Do you have any advice for other members who might be hesitant about asking someone in their family to join? **I don't think we have been hesitant, as these young women have helped when available for many events over the years. With their school schedules, work schedules that at times take them out of town and young families they are making choices to join Soroptimist when they know it will be successful for all concerned.**

# Celebrating President Maria

by Michelle Volonte

On Friday June 12<sup>th</sup>, SI Corona came together with representatives from the Golden West Region and family and friends to celebrate our outgoing and incoming Presidents. Gathered at Citrus City Grill, we were joined by GWR Governor Sandi Cvercko, Dona Linda Nixon, Program Director Carol Duncan, and Spring Conference Committee Member Carol Roddy to say thank you to our outgoing board and toast our incoming board. Outgoing President Paola Ringer graciously thanked each member of her board and presented them with a beautiful box of spa goodies. Dona Linda Nixon served as Installing Officer and presented the new board with a charm to remind them each to be Courteous, be Committed, be Courageous, and find their Confidence. We wore our best white attire and enjoyed the "Music of the night" as sung by President Maria's granddaughter Jade and our guest Sonja Prince. President Maria presented her theme for the year, "Empowering Women with Essential Keys: Live, Learn, Laugh". We are looking forward to another wonderful year led by President Maria!



## The 2015-2016 SI Corona Board

President – Dr. Maria Hopkins  
 President-Elect – Michelle Volonte  
 1<sup>st</sup> VP of Service – Jackie Figueroa  
 2<sup>nd</sup> VP of Ways and Means – Shawn Dredla  
 Treasurer – Debbie Miller  
 Asst. Treasurer – Denise Middleton  
 Recording Secretary – Sherlett Hope-King  
 Corresponding Secretary – Laura Janik  
 1<sup>st</sup> Year Director – Paola Ringer  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Director – Dr. Monica Green  
 Delegates – Seema Lechner and Beth Groves  
 Alternate Delegates – Dana Daniels and Cyndi Monroe





## Inspiring Women through Soroptimism by Dr. April Moore



I grew up in Orange County and moved to Corona in the 4th grade. I loved school and learning and attended private school and was homeschooled in junior high and high school.

I had the opportunity to take classes at Norco College while in high school and believe that if JFK Middle College High School was around at the time, I would likely have attended. I earned my Bachelor of Arts in English from Vanguard University, my Master of Arts in Education with an emphasis in Instructional Technology from Chapman University, and an Ed.D. in K-12 Leadership in Urban Settings from the University of Southern California.

After becoming a high school English teacher in another district, I quickly transferred to the Corona-Norco Unified School District (CNUSD), where I was already living with my husband. I have since had the opportunity to work at the county offices of education in San Bernardino and Riverside as an administrator in educational technology and literacy, and then came “home” to CNUSD as an administrator.

Since 2008, I have served in the capacities of high school assistant principal, district office coordinator, high school principal (at JFK, where I always belonged!), and now Director of Curriculum and Instruction at the district office.

I became a Soroptimist because I have always valued supporting women and girls to pursue and achieve their dreams. Prior to joining SI Corona, I have been a member of the American Association of University Women, was founding chairperson of our region’s Women’s Leadership Network for women in education, and wrote my dissertation on the topic of female superintendents in California, their networking and mentoring practices. For the past three years, Dr. Monica Green has encouraged me to join, and in my new position I have more flexibility that allows me to attend lunch meetings.



## Thank You to our 2014-2015 Committee Chairs and Members

<b>D&amp;D:</b> <b>Morgan &amp; Joyce</b> Sherlett Kristin Denise M. Christy Dana Linda Sylvia Shelly Bev Leeza Irena	<b>CWJ: Debbie</b> Shelley Debra Linda Denise M. Kristin Dana Laura Leeza Bev Amy Irena	<b>Live Your Dream ETA (WOA):</b> <b>Sherlett &amp; Neena</b> Maria Linda  <b>WOS:</b> <b>Dana, Kim &amp; Cyndi</b> Beth Monica Bev Michelle Neena	<b>Scholarship:</b> <b>Monica</b> Bev Neena Sherlett Denise Linda  <b>Marketing: Christy</b> Marcy Laura Denise M.	<b>Human Trafficking:</b> <b>Shawn</b> Crystal Michelle Denise M. Beth Joyce Kristin Monica Sherlett Leeza  <b>Newsletter:</b> <b>Laura</b>
<b>Historian:</b> <b>Paula Montanez</b> Sylvia Pat Joyce	<b>Grants:</b> <b>Kim Taylor</b> Beth Tracy Christy Neena	<b>Club Express:</b> <b>Denise M &amp; Denise H</b> Marcy Laura	<b>Spring Conference Coordinators:</b> <b>Seema, Shawn &amp; Michelle</b> Kristin Sherlett	<b>Dream It, Be It:</b> <b>Maria</b>

## 2014-2015 Outgoing Board Members

<b>President</b> .....	Paola Ringer
<b>President Elect</b> .....	Maria Hopkins
<b>1<sup>st</sup> VP of Service</b> .....	Michelle Volonte
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> VP of Ways and Means</b> .....	Denise Middleton
<b>Treasurer</b> .....	Debbie Miller
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b> .....	Kristin Barbarosa
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b> .....	Laura Janik
<b>Recording Secretary</b> .....	Jackie Figueroa
<b>1<sup>st</sup> year Director</b> .....	Monica Green
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> year Director</b> .....	Cyndi Monroe
<b>Delegates</b> .....	Seema Lechner/Shawn Dredla
<b>Alternate Delegates</b> .....	Marcy Decato/Beth Groves



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*Founded in 1947, the SI Corona Club is part of Soroptimist International of the Americas, a global organization that works to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.*