



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

Soroptimist
International of
Madera

January
2017

Spring Is Just Around the Corner!

This is our fifth newsletter of the year. We have completed almost seven of the ten months of the club year! My plan is that each month you will receive a newsletter that will highlight the news of the club. Past, present and future items of interest will be included. It is of course up to you to read the "news" so that you can remain informed of the activities of the club.

Any and all articles or photos are encouraged and welcome. You can email me and I will do my very best to include your information here. This will be of special interest to committee chairwomen who want to pass information on to the club.



When we were discussing who was going to attend the President's Roundtable meeting in January Karan Long made a comment that she was afraid they would keep her at the retirement facility where the meeting was being held. We saw this sign as we were leaving. Here is your sign Karan! Reserved parking!

Our 2016-2017 Officers and Board of Directors

Donna Tooley – President
Sue Harris – President Elect
Angie Carranco – Vice President
Nancy Staggs – Secretary
Cheryl Blackstone – Treasurer
Jane Gutknecht – Asst.
Treasurer
Jane Kautz – One-year Director
Janet Manos – Two-year
Director
Paulina Micheli – One-year
Delegate
Celeste Voyles – Two-year
Delegate
Kathy Lopes – Parliamentarian

January 2017

At our January Business Meeting we discussed our new Dream It, Be It Scholarship. The decision was made to add to our initial \$500 scholarship by adding 4 - \$300 scholarships. The funds are unspent within the project budget. The award presentation will take place February 9.

The Live Your Dream Award presentation will be Thursday, Feb. 16. We will have two recipients this year.

Scholarship Committee is working. Scholarship applications are due January 30.

The Shunammite Birthday/Christmas celebration was a great success. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Crab Feed –Saturday, February 25. We will meet at Hatfield Hall at 9 am. Members are required to: pay \$25 for their ticket; provide a gift for the raffle or silent auction and make a \$20 donation to our Grand Prize Raffle.

Our Membership Recruitment event was held on Thursday, January 19 at The Vineyard. We had a very nice turnout and 5 guests expressed an interest in joining our club!!

Our program for January 11 cancelled. Angela Garcia was kind enough to fill-in and provide a little Zumba! A good time was had by all. What a great mid-day energizer!



Victims Services Transitional Housing Project

Our newest project is the Community Action Partnership of Madera County, Victims Services Transitional Housing Project. Women who are ready to leave the Martha Diaz Domestic Violence Shelter, but who need some additional help with housing, will be aided by this project. Soroptimist is funding this project by providing \$5,100 to provide furniture and household items such as dishes, pots and pans, sheets, towels. We are currently providing funding for one apartment and will in the future provide more funding as needed.

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN



WENDY ALEXANDER/THE MADERA TRIBUNE
Mattie Mendez, executive director of Community Action Partnership of Madera County, left, joins Tina Rodrigues of Victim Services, center, in accepting a \$5,000 check from Soroptimist International of Madera members Nancy Skaggs, second from left, Celeste Voyles and Jane Kautz, right, during a luncheon Thursday. The club is assisting with \$25,000 for furniture for independent housing units for victims of domestic violence and human trafficking.

January (continued)

At our January 26th meeting, Kristi Winter from the Madera County Office of Education talked to us about the various academic programs offered to students including the Academic Decathlon.

We received a request from the CAPMC Strengthening Families program to provide board games for the families attending the program. With donations from members we were able to provide games suitable for children 3 years old and up.

Dates to Remember

February

- 02 – Business Meeting
- 09 – Dream It, Be It Scholarships
- 16 – Live Your Dream Award
- 23 – Regular Meeting – Crab Feed Prep
- 25 – CRAB FEED
- 27 – Board Meeting

March

- 2 – Business Meeting
- 9 – Regular Meeting
- 16 – Regular Meeting
- 23 – Regular Meeting
- 30 - Social



Members and guests enjoying food and drinks at our January 19 Membership Social at The Vineyard.



Celeste talking to prospective members at our January 19 Membership Social at the Vineyard.

Your chuckle for the day!

On Monday Emma and Madison were at Grammy's (Sue Harris) House. They decided that they wanted to play "Let's have a Soroptimist meeting"! As most of you know Madison has been attending with me the last few months so she was eager to share her knowledge with 7-year-old Emma. We talked about "calling the meeting to order, they did a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance and then it was time for introductions...wait for it...Madison said she would go first, very excited!!! "Hi. My name is Madison, Retired". At that point I lost it so I'm not sure what she is retired from but I thought you would get a kick out of what the four-year-old in the room remembers. I checked, she doesn't know what retired is, but she thinks it sounds fun when the ladies say it.



Kathy Lopes is currently taking orders for your favorite See's candy. This is a great fundraiser for the club. Please consider supporting our See's Candy Sale.

