



# SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

Soroptimist International of Santa Clarita Valley

Chartered December 3, 1974

P.O. Box 802275

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*The SISCV  
Heart & Soul*

Issue I

July 2011



Improving the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world.

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## From the President

I can't believe this day is finally here and I am so honored to be installed as the President of Soroptimist International of Santa Clarita Valley.

First let me take this opportunity to thank you for being a part of this year's Installation Dinner. It was so nice to see our distinguished guests, our members and friends. I also want to thank my husband, Danny, and my son, David, for joining us; it meant so much to me to have their support.

As you are aware by now my theme for this year is "*Leading with Heart & Soul*". A good leader must lead with the heart and be sensitive, in this case, to the organization, its members and the needs to fulfill the mission of Soroptimist International. It's not enough to lead only with your heart; one must also lead with their soul understanding the core values and beliefs that underlie their decisions. We must believe that we can make a difference and let our hearts and souls guide us through our decision making process. We will face many challenges throughout our year and I truly believe that the membership of this club can accomplish many great things by keeping this theme as their guiding force.

As Director Dora stated; "We all know that good leaders have a heart, but more important they have to have soul which means they will be open to change, flexible, productive and available to receive and give back." As members of this organization, we joined for many reasons. The one reason we all have in common is to "give back to our community" and to help women and girls globally. We can do this by putting our hearts and souls into all that we do.

As most of you are aware, we have two clubs in this community; Soroptimist International of Santa Clarita Valley and Soroptimist International of Greater Santa Clarita Valley. What a powerful group of women to bring forward the mission of Soroptimist International. In addition, we now have a new neighboring club, Soroptimist International of San Fernando Valley. We are growing strong and will work together to meet the needs of our respective communities and for the betterment of women and girls around the world. I would like to recognize and applaud all of these women for their hard work and efforts as volunteers of such a wonderful organization.

Doc Childre and Howard Martin in a book about *Leading with you Heart and Soul* have stated:

"Creating a joint venture between head and heart puts a power pack behind your goals. Getting your head in sync with your heart and harnessing the power of coherence gives you the energy efficiency you need to achieve changes that haven't been possible before. The head can notice what things need to change, but the heart provides the power and direction to actually bring about the changes...."

Together we can do this...thank you so much.

*Sandi*



### Upcoming SISCV Events

- July 20 5:30 PM  
Board Meeting
- July 20 6:30 pm  
Business Meeting
- July 27 6:30 pm  
"Bras for a Cause"  
General Meeting
- Aug 6th 9:00 AM  
Membership Retreat

### July Celebrations

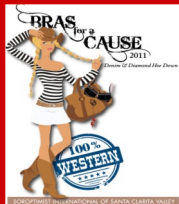
#### Birthdays

- Brenda Videgain-7/1
- Janet Kachorsky-7/8

#### Soroptimist

#### Anniversaries

- Sandi Naba-2007
- Sue Boscamp-2010



### SAVE THE DATE

### BRAS for a CAUSE

OCTOBER 2, 2011 12:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

I pledge allegiance to Soroptimist and to the ideals for which it stands. The sincerity of Friendship, the joy of achievement, the dignity of service, the integrity of profession, the love of country. I will put forth my greatest effort to promote, uphold and defend these ideals for a larger fellowship in Home, in Society, in Business for Country and for God.

## SISCV Highlights

### **Naba Installed for SCV Soroptimist** *By Michele Buttelman* **The Signal**

Sandi Naba was installed as the new president of Soroptimist International of Santa Clarita Valley during dinner ceremonies held at the Tournament Players Club in Valencia. Naba's theme was "Leading with Heart and Soul."

Dora Zavala, Soroptimist International District 4 director, served as the installing officer.

The 2011-12 slate of officers includes: President-elect Lori Hollister; Vice President Brenda Videgain; Treasurer Kelly Inga; Treasurer-elect Janet Kachorsky; Recording Secretary Sue Boscamp; Corresponding Secretary Wendy Smith; Director Estelle Carney; and Director/Parliamentarian Kaye Cruger.

A tearful goodbye was offered by outgoing President Donna Kreutz.

Kreutz not only was leaving her post as Soroptimist International of SCV president, but also saying goodbye to the SCV. She and her husband, Bill, delayed their departure to their new home in Ft. Myers, Fla., so Donna Kreutz could attend Naba's installation and pass the gavel to the new chapter president.

"When I stepped into the presidency last year, I had no clue that this year I would not only be turning over the gavel to our President-elect, Sandi, but also the keys to our house to new owners," Kreutz said. "It has been a whirlwind year for me personally — and also our club."

Kreutz recounted several of the accomplishments of the club during her tenure.

"In October, we presented our seventh annual Bras for a Cause event," she said. "We raised nearly \$18,000 that allowed us to make generous donations to the Sheila R. Veloz Breast Imaging Group, Circle of Hope and other (Soroptimist) programs aimed at bringing awareness and a cure for breast cancer."

Kreutz' theme was "Turning Passion into Action."

"We did that during the holidays and provided Thanksgiving dinners and a holiday home makeover for three families in the SCV," she said.

Kreutz also lauded the joint Soroptimist Fashion Show held with the sister club, Soroptimist International of Greater SCV. "We raised nearly \$20,000 to support programs aimed at stopping human trafficking," she said.

Since Soroptimist International of SCV was chartered in 1974 the club has contributed more than \$1 million to SCV and international nonprofits and programs to improve the lives of girls and women.

As each of the new officers was installed, a small tiara was presented to each woman.

The next event for the service club will be the 10th annual Bras for a Cause — Denim and Diamond Hoe-Down on Oct. 2 at TPC.



Left: Mayor of Santa Clarita, Marsha McLean and SISCV President, Sandi Naba

Right: Board of Directors: Top: Brenda Videgain, Kaye Cruger, Sue Boscamp, Estelle Carney, Wendy Smith, Kelly Inga, Janet Kachorsky; Bottom: Sandi Naba, Lori Hollister

## Our Community-Santa Clarita Valley

### Crowds Band Together for 4th By Jim Holt, Signal Senior Staff Writer

There was no shortage of red, white and blue at the Santa Clarita Valley Fourth of July parade Monday. If it was a vintage red and white Ford Fairlane cruising with the local Elks Lodge north on Orchard Village Road, it was balanced with a bit of blue. If it was a horse — and there were more than a dozen — then its saddle was adorned with tri-color ribbons. A 4-H Club float decked out as a covered wagon was made complete with a fringe of sparkling red, white and blue.

#### **Sweet music**

Hundreds of families lining the parade route on Main Street in Newhall, west on Lyons Avenue and north along Orchard Village Road to 16th Street sat comfortably on folding chairs in the shade of umbrellas and tents — or apparently comfortably in the sunshine — enjoying music of a marching band featuring local high school musicians.

A band helper ran from musician to musician, dodging bass drums and slide trombones, squirting water into the open mouths otherwise occupied with flutes or trumpets. The band — made up of 100 high school musicians from all six Santa Clarita Valley comprehensive high schools and sporting matching T-shirts — played “You’re a Grand Old Flag” and other patriotic tunes.

#### **Colorful lineup**

From its starting point at Main Street and Newhall Avenue, the parade was led by a couple of horseback riders behind two motorcycle deputies from the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff’s Station. The station had shined up its oldest black-and-white vehicles for the parade — a Plymouth Fury from the ‘60s and a Chevy Nova from the ‘70s.

The California Highway Patrol rolled up in a vintage Dodge Polara escorted by three motorcyclists snaking from curb to curb to enthusiastic applause.

As Boy Scouts Troop 494 passed by, girls with fists full of flags ran alongside them handing them out to spectators.

#### **SCV Suffragettes**

The parade’s theme this year celebrated 100 years of voting rights for women in California, and women and girls throughout the parade were marked for that event.

The Girl Scouts of Santa Clarita Valley, sporting red, white and blue with their green sashes, ushered suffragette floats for the Soroptimist Group, Blue Star Mothers, Friends of Hart Park and Single Mothers Outreach.



SISCV Suffragettes

Karen Ilich, Patti Golding, Gail Rocco, Sandi Naba,  
Lori Hollister, & Janet Kachorsky

Cowboy-clad Santa Clarita City Council member Bob Kellar rode his horse behind the suffragettes and ahead of Assemblyman Cameron Smyth, R-Santa Clarita, who perched on the back of a convertible with his family, waving to supporters on both sides of the streets.

A half-dozen Los Angeles County fire trucks and emergency vehicles, including pumpers packed with kids and moms on its un-raised ladders, added to the cacophony with loud burping sounds from its sirens.

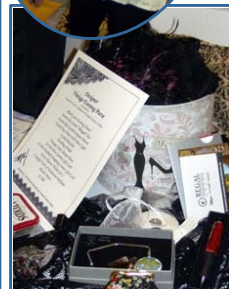
The loudest float, it seemed, was the packed flatbed truck of the Saugus High School Associated Student Body, which blared the song “Party In The USA.”

The Santa Clarita Valley Flutes and Drums contingent brought up the rear of the morning-long event.

# Our Region-Camino Real



Sheraton Carlsbad Resort & Spa  
Carlsbad, California  
Camino Real and Desert Coast Regions  
Spring Conference - May 13-15, 2011



## Camino Real/Desert Coast Regions Spring Conference

Fourteen SISCV members enjoyed meeting new friends, building friendships with club members, and learning about Soroptimist at the Camino Real/Desert Coast Regions Spring Conference held at the Sheraton Hotel in Carlsbad, CA in mid-May.

Here are the highlights of the conference from the perspective of two first-time attendees:

**Sue Boscamp:** It was great to see the "bigger picture" of Soroptimist International. We often get caught up in our local issues and forget to see what a lot of small groups can achieve when they work together. I loved the opportunity to meet members of other clubs and hear how they raise money. There was everything from small to large events, events that involved a lot of work and others that were almost effortless, events that focused on the higher end contributors and others that focused on getting the general population involved, - so many different ways of achieving the same goal. I also loved seeing some of the ways that effort and funds are distributed locally as well as the international efforts. The whole experience was like a power boost - got me charged up for the coming year.

**Janet Kachorsky:** I was completely overwhelmed by the stories of the region award nominees and winners, especially the candidates for the Violet Richardson Award. It is almost unbelievable that such young girls are willing to give so much of themselves to improve their world! I also truly enjoyed the workshop at the Leadership Academy. I found the information on building partnerships with organizations in your community very helpful! I came away with many great ideas!

## *Our Federation-SIA*

### *Soroptimist Ruby Award*

A Message from Sharon Fisher, President, Soroptimist International of the Americas:

The 2011 Soroptimist Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women drew many amazing nominees from all over the world. After the program council narrowed the field to three extraordinary women, it was up to you to make a very difficult decision. We received more than 4,000 votes, and I sincerely thank everyone who voted and helped spread the word. Meet the 2011 finalist.

### *Margarita Guille Tamayo*

In 1995, Margarita Guille Tamayo of Mexico City began the first women's shelter for abused women in Mexico. Today, the director of the National Network of Shelters in Mexico laments that domestic violence continues to rise in that country where six out of 10 women suffer some form of abuse inflicted by spouses or partners.

Her fight to stop and eliminate violence against women began when she was part of a radio program in the 1990s where women would call in and share their stories. While she listened, Margarita wanted to do more and started a magazine as a vehicle for debate and to empower women. She then began the first women's shelter calling it a "rough beginning" because it wasn't until 1996 that a law against domestic violence was created in the Federal District, the capital of the country. At the time, she says, women had few options, no real justice, no social support, no job training and no state presence around this issue.

In 1999, she created a network of shelters with the other four that existed in Mexico, but it took years of lobbying and political work to sensitize authorities. In 2000, her work started to show results and the First National Violence Program was created, followed in 2005 by the General Law on Women's Access to a Life Free of Violence.

To date, 9,000 women and 27,000 children have been helped through the shelters. Margarita also established alliances with women leaders worldwide, leading to the founding of the Inter-American Shelter Network with participation of 17 countries. This model inspired the Global Network of Shelters born in 2009. That same year, she began a movement called "More Women in Decision Roles" to promote decision-making of women at home, work and in government.

Although the situation has changed for the better on behalf of abused women in Mexico, Margarita says realities such as drug, human and arms trafficking continue to challenge progress. She states: "The death rate, risk for women and femicide have increased, with 60 percent of femicides occurring in public and only 40 percent at home. It is almost as if Mexican women have to pay a special tax just for being women."



### *White Papers*

As a public service, Soroptimist provides white papers on various topics relevant to women that can help those who wish to become more educated about issues facing today's women, or learn what can be done to provide direct assistance to women in need. White Papers can be found on the SIA website: [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org).

#### **White Paper Abstract: Teen Dating Violence**

In this white paper, Soroptimist International of the Americas, examines the issue of teen dating violence. Dating and intimate relationships are a normal part of growing up for many adolescents. Yet teenagers frequently form their first romantic relationship without a clear understanding of what constitutes a healthy versus an unhealthy relationship. As a result, they are particularly vulnerable to becoming targets of dating abuse. Fifty-seven percent of teens know someone who has been verbally, physically, or sexually abusive in a dating relationship. Moreover, females ages 16 to 24 are more vulnerable to intimate partner violence than any other age group. Although the patterns and signs of teen dating violence tend to mirror those exhibited in adult abusive relationships, there are some unique issues that teens face. This white paper examines those unique issues as they relate to the factors that influence teen dating violence, as well as the consequences thereof. The paper also addresses the unique obstacles teens face when seeking help and/or deciding to end an abusive relationship.

## *SI Around the World*

### *Women and Agriculture*

The 2010 World Economic Forum Global Risks Report identifies the chronic underinvestment in infrastructure – especially in agriculture – as among the pivotal areas of risk over the coming years. Investing in small scale farming, particularly through women, is a vital step towards meeting the challenges of food production in the future.

Women play a significant role in small scale farming in developing countries yet the role of women within the sector is underappreciated and under resourced, suffering from a chronic lack of investment over the past two decades. It is increasingly acknowledged that policy needs to do much more to support small scale farming, particularly in encouraging investment.

1. On a global scale, women cultivate more than 50% of all food grown.
2. Despite representing the majority of the agricultural workforce and production, women are estimated to have access to/control 5% of land globally.
3. Women account for 70% of the world's hungry and are disproportionately affected by malnutrition, poverty and food insecurity.
4. 25% of rural households are female-headed.

Rural women find it more difficult to get access to a range of resources such as credit, land, agricultural inputs and extension services and employment, with obvious consequences for their food security (ESCAP 2010 p3). Land ownership is a particular issue for women. The 66th Session of the OHCHR Advisory Committee found that women's access to control and ownership of land or property are crucial if the security and livelihood of women is to be enhanced. Furthermore, it is important to understand the influence of social factors such as local inheritance traditions/law and marital status which favor men over women. Such male bias impedes women's access to land "by virtue of their gender at the level of individual, community and nation" (OHCHR 2010).

#### **The State of Agriculture Report, 2011**

This report is the most recent and comprehensive report on this issue.

*Women make significant contributions to the rural economy in all developing country regions. Their roles differ across regions, yet they consistently have less access than men to the resources and opportunities they need to be more productive. Increasing women's access to land, livestock, education, financial services, extension, technology and rural employment would boost their productivity and generate gains in terms of agricultural production, food security, economic growth and social welfare. Closing the gender gap in agricultural inputs alone could lift 100–150 million people out of hunger.*

To learn more and find out how you can help see:

<http://www.soroptimistinternational.org/assets/media/June%202011%20women%20and%20agriculture.pdf>

### *Project SIerra Comes to an End*

Through Project SIerra over the last four years, Soroptimists have directly transformed the lives of well over 2,000 women and children in one of the world's poorest countries, recovering from conflict.

The Project has given access to education, tools and encouragement to develop practical and leadership skills and employment opportunities. Women and girls are supported to live in safer, healthier environments. The most marginalized – single teenage mothers, lone female household heads caring for their children in desperate poverty – have become role models and integrated into their communities. Many, many more have benefited from initiatives undertaken through Project Sierra, though not enrolled full time on the programs. Soroptimists can surely be proud of the contribution we have made to helping these women and girls to help themselves.

For additional information see:

<http://www.soroptimistinternational.org/assets/media/documents/Quadrennial-Report-2007-2011.pdf>

# Getting to Know Our Members

## Sandi Naba-President

Sandi was born in Brooklyn, New York; daughter of Rose and Max Spiegelman. She has three brothers and is the youngest in her family.

She graduated cum laude from the City University of New York, Brooklyn College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Child Psychology and Education. At that time New York had a surplus of teachers so she joined the business world working in the stock market. To continue her path as a teacher, she moved to California and attended San Diego State University to get her California Learning Handicapped teaching credential. While working on her Master of Arts in Special Education at California State University, Los Angeles, she received her Resource Specialist Certificate. Her teaching career began in Glendale Unified School District in 1977.

Sandi married Marvin Steinberg in December, 1977 and gave birth to David Steinberg in August, 1980. She took a leave of absence for a year and cared for her premature son. She became a single parent 2½ years later.

She demonstrated her leadership skills by serving as the Special Education Department Chair at Wilson and Roosevelt Middle Schools and Glendale High School and a Teacher Specialist for Glendale Unified School District’s Office of Special Education. She became active in the Glendale Teacher’s Association as a school site representative, a member of the Bargaining Team, and served on the Board of Directors as Middle School Representative, Treasurer and then President.

Returning to school in 1998, she received her Master of Arts Degree in Educational Administration with Distinction in 2000 from California State University, Northridge (CSUN), her greatest accomplishment at such a late date in her life. She became a member of The National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and Pi Lambda Theta International Society & Professional Association in Education.

Sandi began her Administrative career in Alhambra School District as the Coordinator, Special Education and later, the Coordinator, Special Education at Granada Hills Charter High School. Two years later she became a Compliance Specialist in Los Angeles Unified School District’s Division of Special Education and presently holds the position of Specialist, Due Process Department, Division of Special Education, Los Angeles Unified School District. Sandi has been a dedicated educator for 34 years and is looking forward to her forthcoming retirement in June, 2013.

While attending CSUN, Sandi met her best friend and current husband Daniel Naba. They were married in December, 2005. Dan has been very supportive of all that Sandi endeavors and is always there when she needs him.

Sandi felt the need to become more involved in her community and to “give back.” She became a member or Soroptimist International of Santa Clarita Valley (SISCV) in July, 2007. Since then she has chaired the Membership Committee and Co-chaired Bras for a Cause 2009 and 2010. She held the positions of Vice President and President-Elect and as of July 1, 2011 she has taken the role of President of SISCV.

Sandi has received many accolades in her career which include VIP Member of Cambridge Who’s Who, VIP Member in the National Association of Professional Women and recently honored as Woman of the Year for the National Association of Professional Women.

## 2011/2012

## Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	Sandi Naba	645-1893
<b>President-Elect</b>	Lori Hollister	803-7531
<b>Vice President - Means</b>	Brenda Videgain	713-3113
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kelly Inga	755-7705
<b>Treasurer-Elect</b>	Janet Kachorsky	313-4114
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Sue Boscamp	799-2593
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Wendy Smith	205-1246
<b>Director</b>	Estelle Carney	233-2388
<b>Director/Parliamentarian</b>	Kaye Cruger	263-1935



**Top:** Brenda Videgain, Kaye Cruger, Sue Boscamp, Wendy Smith, Kelly Inga, Janet Kachorsky  
**Bottom:** Sandi Naba, Lori Hollister

**Newsletter Editor: Janet Kachorsky**

Please contact me at [janet@simpletreasures4you.com](mailto:janet@simpletreasures4you.com) or (661) 313-4114 for information or to send any photos, articles, or information that you would like to see in the newsletter. **Deadline for next issue— August 1, 2011**