

Laurel Leaf

no.203.078

Soroptimist International of Bellflower

June, 2016



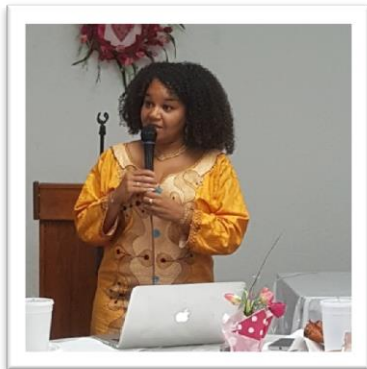
President's Message

Susan Held

Welcome to Soroptimist International of Bellflower

This month we had a wonderful guest speaker Dr. Nina Smart. Dr. Nina Smart is a human rights activist, sociologist, and author who educates people about female genital mutilation (FGM) and works to eradicate the practice in Sierra Leone, West Africa.

Dr. Smart's passion for human rights, her academic expertise and unique biography, places her inside and outside of Sierra Leonean culture, allowing her to make important inroads in Sierra Leone. In 2004, Dr. Smart founded Servicing Wild Flowers –SWF International, a Los Angeles based non-profit NGO that raises awareness about FGM through lectures and presentations for students and socially conscious groups. She works directly in rural areas of Sierra Leone, together with SWF partners, who facilitate community meetings.



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.

June 25 will be the club installation of officers and dinner party at President Sue's home. This is a time when we thank not only the leadership of the club but also each and every member for a job well done. Members have worked throughout the club year to raise money and increase our local and global impact. We have given away thousands of dollars; shown women that we believe in them; increased our own awareness of issues that affect women; welcomed new members and had fun while doing it all. We have a great group of women that make up the membership of Bellflower Soroptimists. Thank you for your time and effort. You are A-mazing!

