



Laurel Leaf
SI Bellflower's
March 2017 Newsletter



President's Message

"*March Madness*" means basketball to many people. To the Bellflower Soroptimists it means "*We must have been mad to do all these things*". March was a busy month for us. Not only did we have our Quartermania fund raiser but we also held Las Vegas Night! Were we "mad" or what?!!

Quartermania was a great success! Thanks must go to our Chair and auctioneer of the event, Gina. Gina kept it fast paced and lively, much to our attendee's delight. I would be remiss if I didn't mention all the hard work of members Nancy and Deana as well. Without their efforts also, this would not have been the success that it was. This was a fun filled day. Lots of attendees; great lunch; fun vendors and wonderful baskets! We had a wonderful new venue at Calvary Baptist Church (thanks Karen and Mayra). People are already asking when we will have the next one!

Las Vegas Night was not as packed as normal because it turns out that in addition to the "normal" Basketball March Madness, it was race time at Fontana (NASCAR), which means that lots of people were at Fontana watching car races rather than at our Las Vegas Night. We will be re-evaluating the dates of next year's event as well as seeing if we can "change it up" to be the financial success we need it to be.

April is around the corner and with that is our own Camino Real Region Conference. Members from SI Bellflower will be going to Woodland Hills to represent the club as well as hear speakers; attend breakout sessions and be a part of a group of 200+ amazing Soroptimists.

April will find us busy planning for our Awards Tea that will be held on May 8. We are looking forward to our day of giving to local organizations and being able to present monetary awards to deserving women and girls. We hope to see you there.

President Sue



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.

Join the Bellflower Soroptimist club and help make a difference to so many!

Inside this issue

In The News

Bellflower Soroptimist Club News page 2

Soroptimist International & Camino Real Region..... page 3

Member's Corner page 4



IN THE NEWS ... Bellflower Soroptimists

Quartermania was held on March 4. What a great success it was! We used a new venue this year, Calvary Baptist Church. The use of their hall allowed us a larger space so we could have even more vendors as well as utilize the wonderful set up for the lunch. We would be remiss if we did not mention some of the Bellflower Soroptimists who were key in the planning and organizing of this event; Chair Gina for all the co-ordination and planning as well as the “caller” at the event itself. Gina kept it all fun and exciting; Nancy, for her work at getting donations for the baskets as well as co-ordinating the vendors; and Deana for her help with the baskets and the lunch! Club Members did a tremendous job in inviting friends to the event. We saw a lot of new smiling faces and hope to see them at more of our functions!

Quartermania Frenzy!



Attendees at the Quartermania raising their paddles to get that special bid item!



Just a few of the Raffle and Silent Auction baskets and the grand prize



This must be a really “hot” bid item! Look at all the bid paddles in the air!!

IN THE NEWS... Soroptimist International

INTERNATIONAL FOCUS



Our Soroptimist International President's Appeal, brings together the Soroptimist global membership with one project, one focus – to educate, empower or enable the most vulnerable. In 2015 -2017 this is delivered through '*Educate to Lead: Nepal*', supporting women and girls recovering from the devastating earthquakes of 2015. The projects within the Appeal, each focus on education as the tool for economic empowerment; seeking to prevent trafficking; to support the universal rights of education, employment and to help others live in dignity without fear or violence.

In March SI Bellflower club members Susan and Doreen attended a dinner and talk by Soroptimist International President Yvonne Simpson about *Educate to Lead:Nepal*. This was truly a once in a lifetime event, to be able to be a part of a small group and hear first hand our International President speak about this project and how Soroptimists worldwide are making a difference for the women and girls of Nepal.



Susan and Doreen with International President Yvonne Simpson



Camino Real Region Soroptimist members with Soroptimist International President Yvonne

IN THE NEWS... Camino Real Region



April 21 – 24 Camino Real Region will be holding Spring Conference in Woodland Hills. Close to 200 Soroptimists from the Region are expected to be in attendance to help conduct business of the Region

as well as receive club recognition and help the Region present some major awards to deserving women. There will be speakers that focus on member's health and well being as well as workshops that will provide members with information to take back to their clubs. Several club members are planning to attend and represent SI Bellflower. "*Catch The Dream*" is our Region Governor's theme and SI Bellflower club members are sure to do that in April!

IN THE NEWS ...Member's Corner

Mary Ann Wotring's husband, Warren has been in the hospital but is back home and recovering. We wish him a speedy recovery as we miss seeing his smiling face at club!

Club member Karen will be going in for back surgery and then will have a long recovery period at home. She says that she is looking forward to walking upright and with no pain. We will be there to help when she needs it.

We Are.....

Soroptimist International of Bellflower



Some of the Bellflower Soroptimist club members

Soroptimist International of Bellflower was chartered on May 2nd, 1953...Now celebrating 64 years of service

Board of Directors

President:	Susan Held
Vice-President:	Deana Porter
Recording Secretary:	Gina Herndon
Corresponding Secretary:	Doreen Robins
Treasurer:	Robin Ordoqui

Club Meeting Times & Locations

Business Meetings

1st Monday of each month
12 Noon

Program Meetings

2nd Monday of each month
12 Noon

Location:

First Missionary Baptist Church
9246 Rosser St.
Bellflower, CA

Monthly evening & Saturday dinner meetings
according to members' schedules

Interested in finding out more about us and how you can be a part of making a difference in the lives of women and girls?

Be our guest at a meeting or one of our social events.

Call or e mail Susan @ 562-862-8669 or
Susan@helds.us

For more information about the Bellflower Soroptimist Club, be sure to check out our website:

<http://www.soroptimistbellflower.org/>

And go to our Facebook page and "Like" us
<https://www.facebook.com/SIBellflower>

