



Notes From The President

By Monica Phillip

Wishing all of you a wonderful Fall Season. Enjoy the color!

We are already three months into our new Soroptimist year.

Our first business meeting of the year at Sojourner Family Peace Center was quite productive, as we received all the updates on our upcoming “Dream It, Be It” event on November 2, 2019, at the Sojourner Family Peace Center. We will need “all hands on board” for this event. All members, by now should have received a blue folder with the outline of the day’s events and what is needed as far as items and personnel. Read through it, and let Aundrea know where you can be of assistance or if you know of someone who would like to participate as a facilitator or presenter, or if you are able to supply or solicit items for the goody bags we will be giving the girls. This event is a first for our club and we want it to be a big success. Aundrea has put in a lot of work on it, and has made many outside contacts which will help us with the success of our first “Dream It, Be It” event.

SIA has revised our mission statement to read: “Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.” This is a perfect elevator speech.

SIA’s clubs are committed to providing an engaging and meaningful, mission-based experience. Serving women and girls who face obstacles such as poverty, homelessness, domestic violence can be a very large challenge.

To make things easier, SIA has developed a simple club roadmap to use.

1- Programs – Increase the number of women and girls your club serves by providing additional Live Your Dream Awards and holding Dream It, Be It projects.

2 - Membership – Grow and retain members by creating an enjoyable, civil member experience.

3 - Public Awareness – Gain greater recognition by promoting your club’s impact through our Dreams Programs.

4 - Fundraising – Increase funds raised to support our brand unifying Dream Programs.

5 - Future – Mobilize support of our 2021-2031 Big Goal: Invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education.

That’s It!

Fundraiser in March--we are looking for ideas for our fundraiser. If you have something new and exciting to share with us regarding a fundraiser, please be prepared to speak about it at the October meeting. If you liked the things we have done in the past, please let us know that also, and where we might improve. We will also need a chairman and co-chairman to run the event. Please don’t be afraid to step up to the plate. You will have helpers.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the October meeting, which will be at the Brass Key on October 12th.

Dates to Remember

Saturday, Oct. 12, 11 a.m.— Soroptimist business meeting at The Brass Key Restaurant, 4952 W. Forest Home, Milwaukee.

Oct. 18-19, 2019—District I and II meeting, Essenhuis Inn and Conference Center, Middlebury, Indiana.

Friday, Nov. 1, 3-7 p.m.—Working dinner for Dream It, Be It volunteers, Sojourner Family Peace Center, 619 W. Walnut St., Milwaukee.

Saturday, Nov. 2, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.— Dream It, Be It, Sojourner Family Peace Center, 619 W. Walnut St., Milwaukee.

Saturday, Nov. 9, 11 a.m.— Soroptimist business meeting at The Brass Key Restaurant, 4952 W. Forest Home, Milwaukee.

Wednesday, Dec. 18, 5 p.m.—Christmas dinner, Meyer’s Restaurant, 4260 S. 76th St., Greenfield.

July, 2020, SIA 100th Anniversary Convention— Bellevue, Wash. More information will follow.

Tania Hernandez Is Living Her Dream

Venezuelan-born Tania Hernandez is a survivor and now she is pursuing an education that will help her help others to survive and thrive.

Tania was the top Live Your Dream awardee for SI Milwaukee's 2018-2019 session, but because she attends school in Madison she was unable to be at the official Awards Dinner on Tuesday, April 23, and instead received her award at the club's June business meeting.

Tania married young, she told club members, and bore three daughters, but her husband became increasingly abusive and she eventually divorced him. At age 20 she and her young children fled to the United States where she was assisted by a domestic violence organization. "It helped that I could speak English," she said.

Today she is a student at Madison Technical College working toward an associate degree as an administrative professional.

"My vision is to one day be able to provide affordable service support to managers and employees, assisting in daily office needs and managing a company's general administrative activities and improving the quantity of customer services provided clients within my organization every day. However, I am certain that if I do not complete my college degree, I could never have the opportunity to achieve my career goals," she said.

A major part of that goal is to be a better professional at UNIDOS, a non-profit organization where she is now working, and to provide more support, especially to the Latin community.

"I know that all of my goals will remain dreams if I do not complete my degree, therefore I am committed to working hard in school and looking for opportunities that could help me make my goals a reality," she said.

Through all of this, she is determined to be a good mother and to make life better "for my beautiful daughters, Genesis, Natalie and Melanie."



Tania Hernandez smiles after receiving the Live Your Dream Award from SI Milwaukee in June.

What Is Unidos?

This is how UnidosUS is described on its website:

Since 1968, UnidosUS—formerly known as NCLR—has remained a trusted, nonpartisan voice for Latinos.

We serve the Hispanic community through our research, policy analysis, and state and national advocacy efforts, as well as in our program work in communities nationwide. And we partner with a national network of nearly 300 Affiliates across the country to serve millions of Latinos in the areas of civic engagement, civil rights and immigration, education, workforce and the economy, health, and housing.

Together we will build a stronger America by creating opportunities for Latinos. We envision an America where economic, political, and social advancement is a reality for all Latinos, where all Hispanics thrive, and where our community's contributions are recognized.

A Chuckle From Kathy

Here's a thought that amuses Kathy Endrizzi:
Everybody wants to live a long time,
but nobody wants to get old.

Summer Picnic Brings Members, Guests Together

With a soft sun and gentle breeze Aug. 24 was a perfect day for the SI Milwaukee summer picnic, held this year at what was then the soon-to-be home of Barbara Collignon.

With the hard work and artistic flare of Barbara's daughter and son-in-law, Sheila and Mike Skaug, the midday event gave members a lovely venue for the annual summer get-together of those who might not have seen each other since the final meeting of the 2018-2019 Soroptimist year on June 14.

This year three guests also got a chance to meet Soroptimists, learn about club's goals and activities and enjoy the abundance of flowers, the non-stop chatter and the food and beverages. Barbara's friends Kosana Stojcevic and Carley Goodkind both said they enjoyed the picnic, as did Arleen Hutch-

Plans for Dream It, Be It Taking Shape

Plans are coming together nicely for SI Milwaukee's first Dream It, Be It outing, President-Elect and event chair Aundrea Price told the club at its Sept. 14 meeting.

To get more of a feel for the event, the meeting was held at Sojourner Family Peace Center in the very room in which 12 to 15 high school sophomore girls, mentors, facilitators and club members will gather on Nov. 2.

"We've had quite a lot of interest from people who want to participate or want more information, even from people quite a way out of Milwaukee, thanks to the SI-Milwaukee.org website," Aundrea said.

She said she expects confirmation of participants and contributions by the time of the club's next business meeting on Oct. 12 at The Brass Key Restaurant.

At the September meeting Aundrea handed out packets to all members containing details of the proceedings and materials they can use in soliciting support in the community. Also in the packet is a



erson, friend and neighbor of Aggie Ressel on her first outing since undergoing surgery the previous week.



Carley Goodkind, Kosana Stojcevic and Arleen Hutcherson were guests at the Aug. 24 SI Milwaukee picnic.

copy of the evaluation form participants will be asked to fill out at the end of the day. "This will be very helpful to us in planning for next year," Aundrea said.

She also credited co-chair Mary Esser for her work with educators in locating girls who would be interested in and benefit from a day planning their futures. Additionally Aundrea thanked SI Fond du Lac, and the national Soroptimist organization for providing her with plentiful guidance and materials.

A Brief Time for a Smile

The following made Aggie Ressel smile:

The minister wondered how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than expected for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that a substitute organist had been brought in. The substitute wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," the minister said impatiently. "But you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service the minister said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty, the roof repairs cost \$4,000 more than we expected. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up." At that moment the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner." And that is how he became the church's regular organist.



Aundrea Price and Tim Bailey

A Toast to Two Masters

SI Milwaukee President-elect Aundrea Price and her husband, Tim Bailey, were delighted to be recipients of the Distinguished Toastmaster Award during ceremonies in Green Bay in May.

The Distinguished Toastmaster Award is the highest the organization bestows. It recognizes a superior level of achievement in both communication and leadership.

Toastmasters International is a non-profit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. Headquartered in Englewood, CO, it has more than 357,000 members in over 16,600 clubs in 143 countries. Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped people from diverse backgrounds become more confident speakers, communicators, and leaders.

To be eligible for the Distinguished Toastmaster Award, the recipient must have:

- Earned three levels of Communicator awards;
- Earned two levels of Leader awards;
- Served as a club officer and a district officer;
- Served as a club sponsor, mentor or coach;
- Participated in the preparation of a Club Success Plan;

Completed a High Performance Leadership project with committee guidance and review.

Love God, Love Others Is Mary's Message to Us All

Mary Leach-Sumlin opened the SI Milwaukee 2019-2020 club year with this message of faith and inspiration.

God took all the commands and laws and summarized them into two critical points: love God and love others. That's because His love in us heals and transforms us— and His love through us heals and transforms the world around us. Imagine how much He has entrusted to us! We can't help but share His perfect love and help others be made whole. What a gift! That's why God wants us to keep growing in loving others well.

Learning to love God first— and loving Him so completely that you love Him with every fiber of your heart, soul, and mind— is a lifelong process.

It comes from daily meeting with Him, seeking Him, and allowing Him to change your heart to be more like His. Learning to love others next is how we cooperate with Jesus and His mission to win the lost and disciple others.

As you continue to grow in loving God with all your heart, soul, and mind, show your love for Him by loving those around you. Fulfill the greatest commandments. Love God. Love others. Be the love of Jesus everywhere you go.

When Patriotism Is Needed

Myrna Collins delivered the following brief inspirational at the SI Milwaukee June meeting as a reminder of what is important in contentious times. It is by Oliver Wendell Holmes and is untitled.

*One flag
one land
one heart
one nation evermore*