



# Soroptimist Scene

The newsletter of Soroptimist International of Tampa January 2017

## *President's Message*



Happy New  
Year!

Welcome to 2017! I hope that everyone had a happy, peaceful and restful holiday season. I cannot wait to hear about all of your travels and family fun. The start of a new year often leads us to reflect on the past year. What could I have done better? What mistakes do I want to avoid in the New Year? Where do I go from here? Reflecting helps us to organize our thoughts, put things into perspective and come up with a new plan or in some cases, a New Year's Resolution. Whatever you choose to do in order to plan for your upcoming year, I wish you all peace and success in doing so.

Personally, I am looking forward to the many projects our club has coming up in the new year. We will continue to work on member recruitment each month by encouraging all members to bring a guest to our monthly meetings. The Teen Achievers will meet on the first Thursday of the month. Our annual awards luncheon is scheduled for March at the Rusty Pelican. We will have another plant sale in the spring, and we will work to confirm all of the plans for our one-day Dream It, Be It conference.

Our first general meeting for 2017 will be held on January 12<sup>th</sup> at the Children's Board at 5:30 pm. We will have a guest speaker, so please feel free to bring a friend. I want to mention that January 11<sup>th</sup> is the official day of observance for Human Trafficking Awareness. Human Trafficking is a subject matter that is near and dear to our club. For more information about human trafficking visit, <https://www.ice.gov/human-trafficking> or <http://www.stophumantrafficking.org>.

Looking forward to the new year...

*President Rosetta*

## *January Meeting*

Soroptimist International of Tampa will meet on Thursday, January 12 at 5:30 pm at The Children's Board of Hillsborough County, 1002 East Palm Ave., Tampa. We'll hear about the work of our guest speaker Breanna Adams, co-founder of Divas 4 Success, a multi-cultural and academically focused after-school enrichment program for girls that provides opportunities to build confidence and academic success. If you'd like to donate materials to the Divas 4 Success program, their wish list includes clipboards, markers, water color and tempera paint, index cards, copy paper, notebooks for journaling, clay and play dough, and a file cabinet. Mindy Richards will provide light snacks for this meeting. Guests are welcome.

## *Teen Achievers*

The next Teen Achievers meeting will be held on Thursday, January 5th from 3:30 - 5:30 PM at the Center City YMCA on Palm Avenue in the upstairs recreation room. We have planned a split session so that we can catch up with all of the new girls who are joining us. There are nine girls from Sligh Middle School, along with the teens from Blake High School, who were not at Session One. These girls will be doing the lesson on goal setting, starting their journals and creating their Dream Boards. The smaller group of girls, who were present during Session One, will spend the first half of the meeting in another room, doing a journaling exercise on what it means to be a leader. Then they will rejoin the larger group and assist the new girls during the dream board activity.

We had over 25 girls participate during the session in December, so all hands on deck please. These are fabulous young ladies, and working with them is an experience you will thoroughly enjoy!

Fran DeLuccia



## *Holiday Fun*

Our thanks go to Teri Matlach for hosting our annual Christmas party at her lovely home on December 10. It was fun to see everyone and get together to share a meal and wrap presents for our adopted Christmas family. The food was delicious, the spirit was warm, and everyone went home with a

Christmas tea mug and coasters. Thanks so much, Teri.



Lots of Christmas spirit to share...



And packages to wrap.



Everyone pitched in to help wrap presents...



And the gifts piled up high!



We filled three cars with food and gifts for our adopted family.



But the real gift was spending time with each other.



The gifts were delivered to our Christmas family on December 21.



Carlton and Kori were so excited as the presents filled the room.



Two-year-old Matthew in his Santa suit.



Our thanks go out to the Christmas Family Committee: Sandy, Carmen and Diana for making these arrangements.

And a final word of thanks to everyone who contributed to the December 10<sup>th</sup> SI President's Appeal. The funds were collected at our Christmas party, and we raised \$94 to support educational programs for women and girls in Nepal.

### **Ask the Governor**

*Q. Dear Governor Denise, What are your goals for Southern Region for this biennium?*

*A. My goals for the next two years include:*

1. Having all clubs participate in the Live Your Dream Award program by recognizing at least one applicant annually. It is my hope that clubs will continue to embrace this award and give more than one award each year.

2. For each club in Southern Region to actively participate in the Dream It, Be It program. We have about half of our clubs participating in this new program. I would love for Southern Region to be at 100%.

- 3. For each club to submit at least one application for the Soroptimist Celebrating Success Award. This is a great way to showcase what each club is doing each year within the four pillars (Programs, Fundraising, Membership, and Public Awareness).
- 4. For Southern Region to have a net gain in membership each year. The region swings from approximately 375 members up to 425 members each year. I would love to see the region grow and bypass the 450 member mark.
- 5. For all clubs in Southern Region to participate in the SIA Club Giving Campaign. All of the money raised in the club giving campaign goes back to women and girls in our communities. It is important that we support the Soroptimist organization and our mission.
- 6. To provide direct and effective communication to each club member. So often the Presidents and Treasurers are overwhelmed with information. It is my goal to communicate to everyone in the region; not just the presidents.
- 7. To provide support to clubs in the key areas of program, membership, fundraising, and public awareness. It is important that we help clubs to be successful in these four key areas. The Southern Region board can't be successful if each club is not successful.



Denise K. Held  
Soroptimist International of the Americas  
Southern Region Governor



3. Trafficking in all forms mostly impacts women and girls.

4. In 2014, instances of human trafficking were reported in all 50 U.S. states and Washington D.C.

5. Sex trafficking is by far the most prevalent form of human trafficking in the U.S.

6. India has the largest number of individuals in human trafficking globally.



Ruth Mulholland  
Trish Wild

January 9  
January 10

**Soroptimist International of Tampa  
Officers for 2016-2017**

**President Rosetta Peacock  
Vice President Lorraine Lundy  
Treasurer Deborah Pruden  
Recording Secretary Teri Matlach  
Corresponding Secretary  
Vicki Salin-Decker  
Director Michelle Strawser  
Director Fran DeLuccia**

***Upcoming Dates:***

January 5 @ 3:30  
Teen Achievers at YMCA

January 12 @ 5:30 PM  
Children's Board of Hillsborough  
County

February 9 @ 5:30 PM  
Monthly meeting

March 4 Awards Luncheon  
Rusty Pelican Restaurant

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