



# SI Los Angeles NEWS *Fellowship with a purpose!*

## Greetings!

Greetings,

I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health and at peace. We are entering into an extremely busy time of the year for us as women, professionals and Soroptimists. Please start gathering ribbons, gift bags and tissue paper as we prepare for our big day of service at 1736. We will talk more about this special event at the meeting on November 18. Also book your calendars for the ballet on December 19.



This month continues the focus on eliminating violence against women as the international recognition day is November 25. Please continue to distribute the hotline cards.

If you have not had an opportunity, take a look at the front page of November 2's LA Times. There is a very moving article about Barbara Sinclair's son. As we enter this special time of the year which focuses on friends and family, let us keep in mind those of our members who need our prayers.

President Jeri

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- [Camino Real Region Federation \(SIA\)](#)
- [International \(SI\)](#)

## New Location for Meetings



The next meeting on Wednesday, November 4th at 6pm will be at the **Downtown Business Magnet High School** at 1081 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. There are actually three LAUSD alternative magnet high schools at this location, one focusing on business, one on fashion and one on electronic information. The parking lot is off Temple Street. The school is open until 11pm so it is secure. The meeting will be in Library which is directly off the parking lot and is handicap accessible. Since we decided last year that one meeting per month would be a "brown bag" meeting, **please**

**be sure to bring your own dinner to this meeting.** This is a business meeting with a full agenda - including a vote on the Board's recommendation that future club meetings will be held at this location and board meetings will be held at the Studio for Southern California History. RSVP if you haven't already by responding to the separate Evite email you should have received for this meeting last week.

## A Report on the October Meetings

The first meeting in October was held on October 7th at **Philippe's Restaurant**, across the street from The California Endowment. The French dip sandwiches were great, the stools in the upstairs meeting room were a little uncomfortable, and the elevator was an adventure! **Carole Oglesby** reported on the prior day's Policy Summit on Ending Violence Against Women: Making It Happen in Los Angeles. Speakers at the Summit included Blair Taylor, President & CEO of Los Angeles Urban League, Wendy Greuel, Los Angeles City Controller and **Gloria Romero, California State Senator**. Unfortunately, cutbacks in many of the agencies that participated last year resulted in fewer participants this year. The results from both summits will be published on the End Violence Against Women website



[www.endviolenceagainstwomen.org](http://www.endviolenceagainstwomen.org). Kuddos to **Julie Mairs** for all her work in putting together two excellent events

The second meeting in October was held on October 21st at the [Studio for Southern California History](#), the storefront museum just a few blocks away in Chinatown founded and run by member **Sharon Sekhon**. The Studio's mission is to "critically chronicle Southern California history from a social and cultural perspective.



By examining history "from the bottom up" the Studio hopes to recover overlooked histories of community and strife in the larger Los Angeles area and to foster a sense of place and political entitlement among Southern Californians." Members enjoyed viewing the Studio's current exhibit, Law and Disorder, prior to dinner and a presentation by Camino Real Region Public Relations Chair, **Donna Kreutz**, on Soroptimist International's use of social networking sites on the internet to help reach out to existing and prospective members.

## Lazy Leader Road Show (aka Fall District Workshop)



It's not too late! You can still sign up to attend this year's Fall District Workshop on Saturday, Nov. 14th from 9am-4pm at the Santa Monica Masonic Center. It will feature a very entertaining and informative workshop by **Cynthia D'Amour**, author of [The Lazy Leader's Guide to Outrageous Results](#). Cynthia is a dynamic motivational and personal leadership development speaker. Her workshop will also be offered to the public for a fee at the same time - invite your non-Soroptimist friends! - but your \$40 registration fee gets you admission to this workshop, continental breakfast, lunch, the rest of the Fall District Workshop which includes Keynote Speaker **Dr. Susan Love** talking about the [Army of Women](#) campaign to find the cause of breast cancer AND Cynthia's packet of handouts and support material (valued at \$79!). Print and mail in your [Registration Form](#) today!

## Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award

On November 1, 2009, SILA will begin seeking applicants for its recognition program targeted for young women who make the community and world a better place. The Violet Richardson Award honors young women, between the ages of 14 and 17, for volunteer action such as fighting drugs, crime and violence; cleaning up the environment; and working to end discrimination and poverty.

Who is the Violet Richardson Award Honoree?

A young woman who is caring, compassionate, creative and most of all committed to making the world a better place.

A young woman who has demonstrated initiative in both identifying a problem and in trying to solve it.

A young woman who has had significant and noteworthy accomplishments as a volunteer.

As a volunteer service organization for business and professional women, SILA believes that by acknowledging young women's volunteer involvement now, they will grow up to be vital, active members of the community.

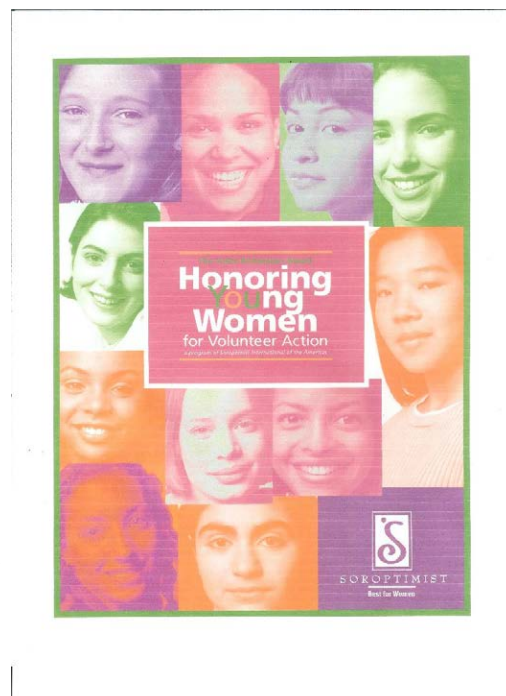
The Violet Richardson Award for Volunteer Action: Honoring Young Women, is for girls 14 through 17 who volunteer and "make a difference" in their community. In the past, award winners have submitted very impressive packets with awe-inspiring essays. SILA has had the regional award-winner for several years, many from the Los Angeles area. In fact, last year's award-winner was a senior at LAUSD's North Hollywood High School. Her volunteer experiences, and the compelling essay that was written, won the local award and the much coveted Regional Award.

Do you know young ladies who qualify for this award? Direct them to the SILA website, [www.soroptimist-losangeles.org](http://www.soroptimist-losangeles.org), to access the application and further directions. **The application is due on or before December 1.** It can be submitted on-line, or by mail to:

Soroptimist International Los Angeles  
Violet Richardson Award  
Dr. Ginger Cole, Chairperson  
4201 Via Marisol Unit 142  
Los Angeles, CA 90042

To be eligible, the young lady must not have reached her 18th birthday by December 1, 2009. Please encourage young ladies who fit the criteria to apply. It might be worth \$1,000 (or more) to someone.

Note: The program is named after Violet Richardson Ward, the first president of the first Soroptimist club in 1921. Violet was committed to creating opportunities for girls and young women through her affiliations with Soroptimist, the Girl Scout Council, and the American Association of University Women. Her passion for community service, particularly as it affected women and girls, has been an inspiration to Soroptimists throughout the years.



## Thank You from Our 2008-09 Fellowship Winner

SILA received a note from **Elizabeth Goodhue**, our 2008-09 Fellowship Winner. She is pleased to have a dual teaching position with the UCLA Department of English and the Center for Community Learning while she is completing her dissertation on 18th Century British satire at UCLA. She enjoyed meeting many of us at the Spring luncheon and hopes to meet more members at future SILA events. She says she is honored to have been awarded the SILA Fellowship and "delighted to find myself in the company of so many inspiring women - especially at a time in history when sustaining our optimism and working for the greater good may take even more strength and courage than usual."

## Member Happenings



Member **Emily Dell's** full length feature movie **B-GIRL**, which she wrote and directed, is about to be released in London, with its US release scheduled for January! **B-GIRL** tells the modern day underdog story of a brilliant young female dancer from NYC forced to find her inner strength through the one art form she knows - Breakdance. All of us who have followed - and some even participated as extras in - the creation of this



film by Emily and her sister Elizabeth are anxiously awaiting the premiere. For more info, check out [www.bgirlmovie.com](http://www.bgirlmovie.com).

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