



Soroptimist International of Los Angeles

Growing our membership to increase our service

September 2012

Vol 4, Issue 1

Greetings!

Welcome:

To a year of membership growth;
To a year of great service to girls and women in our community;
To a year in which each of us steps up to increase our participation in our activities and renew the commitment to SILA.



Our Planning Meeting was full of good ideas that we must now expand into service projects. Thanks to **Barbara** and her retirement home for the site and to **Joyce** for food, lunch and all the preparations for the meeting. We are now ready to step forward into our year of "growing our membership to increase our service".

At our September Business Meeting I expect that the plans developed from our ideas will be presented for approval. These plans should come with dates, details and financial implications. Before we adjourn we will deal with Bylaws approval, the annual budget and the calendar. The agenda is very full but with well presented materials, we can move ahead fully focused on a great year.

Our fun activities began with the picnic at Fern Dell to celebrate our 90th. I look forward to us all "working and playing" together throughout the year.

President Bev

In This Issue

- 2012-2013 Calendar
- New Year, New Officers
- 90th Anniversary Picnic at Fern Dell
- President Bev Johnson
- Youth Orchestra Program Changes Lives
- Graduate Student Fellowship Winner Update

Quick Links

- [SILA's Website](#)
- [Camino Real Region Federation \(SIA\)](#)
- [International \(SI\)](#)

2012-2013 Board

- President: Bev Johnson
- 1st VP (Programs): Joyce Jacob
- 2nd VP (W&M): Jessica Washington
- Secretary: Daphyne Howell
- Treasurer: Janet Elliott/Teresa Harvey
- Director 2011-13: Joan Johnson
- Director 2012-14: Diane Vernon

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2012-2013 Calendar



Mark your dayplanner now for the two SILA meetings in September:

Wed. Sept. 5th 6:00pm at [Taix Restaurant](#): Business Meeting.

Wed. Sept. 19th 6:00pm at [Taix Restaurant](#): Program Meeting. **Sandy Doughty** from SI Glendale to report on the SIA Convention in Hawaii.

To view a preliminary copy of the [complete calendar](#) of the Soroptimist meetings, workshops and conferences which are scheduled for 2012-2013, [click here](#).

New Year, New Officers

SILA ended its 2011-2012 year in style on June 20. Meeting at Monterey Hills Restaurant in Monterey Park, the membership installed the 2012-2013 board of directors and conference delegates:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| President | Bev Johnson |
| 1 st Vice President | Joyce Jacob |
| 2 nd Vice President | Jessica Washington |
| Secretary | Daphyne Howell |
| Treasurer | Teresa Harvey |
| Director 2011-13 | Joan Johnson |
| Director 2012-14 | Diane Vernon |

Delegate 2011-13 **Jeri Durham**
Delegate 2012-14 **Pam Smith**
Alternate Delegate 2011-13 **Julie Mairs**
Alternate Delegate 2012-14 **Barbara Jury**

New **President Bev** provided a short background on her past experience including her many interests. The evening theme reflected President Bev's main goal: "Growing our membership to increase our service." Toward that goal SILA entertained two new prospective members, **Johanna Pabala** and **Carol Dukes**.



90th Anniversary Picnic at Fern Dell

Although Soroptimist International of Los Angeles celebrated its 90th Anniversary at a memorable gala event last March, the actual day SI Los Angeles became the third official club of Soroptimist International was July 19, 1922.

Several SILA members marked the actual day by meeting for a picnic at Fern Dell in Griffith Park on July 19, 2012.



This part of Griffith Park has special meaning to SILA since former members of SILA planted a grove of redwood trees in this area of the park around 1950.

Fern Dell is a 95-year-old garden spot within Griffith Park that was once a must-see Los Angeles attraction whose fern gardens, terraced pools and foot-bridges were celebrated on picture postcards.

In the grove area where members picnicked, there are two Soroptimist International of Los Angeles plaques, one dated 1947 and the other 1955.

There will be an interesting program meeting in October featuring a speaker from the Friends of Griffith Park which will provide more information about the history and current efforts to restore this area.

President Bev Johnson

Although **President Bev Johnson** is not a long time member of SILA, she comes with excellent credentials for her leadership role. She served as President of the United States Field Hockey Association, was on the Board of Directors of the Pan American Hockey Federation and Chair of the Coaching and Development Committee. Bev was the first US woman to serve as tournament director at a major international field hockey tournament and currently serves on the International Hockey Federation Coaching and Youth Development Committee



After graduating from South Pasadena High School, Bev spent two years at Occidental College before transferring to USC from which she earned BS in Physical Education. She went on to receive her MS from Smith College. Bev taught three years at Claremont High School before moving on to Pasadena City College, from which she retired after 30 years of teaching.

Bev now has time to pursue her many hobbies. She is an avid outdoor photographer, golfer, quilter, lover of classical music, a beginning birder and interested in native plants. She has a cabin in June Lake, not far from **Joan Johnson's** where she can fish, hike and drive her 4-wheel all summer. She also has a park model in Apache Junction, Arizona, for winter vacations.

Youth Orchestra Program Changes Lives

What has 4 strings and needs a bow to complete it? We all know the



answer but now children from disadvantaged backgrounds can too. The [Los Angeles Philharmonic Youth Orchestra](#) (YOLA) program prides itself on "changing lives, one child, one family, one community at a time" by sponsoring programs that teach and encourage children to become involved in music.

The youth orchestra program at HOLA (Heart of Los Angeles) serves hundreds of students with intensive after-school orchestral instruction five days a week. Classes include a variety of music experiences: singing, ensemble rehearsals, and an hour of academic tutoring daily. LA Philharmonic programs such as the Committee of Professional Women (COPW), with 100 volunteers, support the YOLA program through collection of donated instruments necessary for children who want to participate in YOLA.

This program is "near and dear" to the heart of SILA member, **Stephanie Klopfleisch**, who is a past president of COPW. If anyone is interested in helping the parents of the children, contact [Stephanie](#) to be connected with the coordinator for YOLA Exposition Park or YOLA Rampart, two ongoing youth orchestras.



Graduate Student Fellowship Winner Update: Jeannie Giron

SILA has received an enthusiastic thank you for our support from 2012 Fellowship winner **Jeannie Giron**. Jeannie runs the Women in Leadership Association at Claremont Graduate School. Her group recently sponsored an educational workshop for high school girls. This workshop was developed to empower young girls by helping them increase their confidence through personal and professional goal setting. In Jeannie's words: "It was such an amazing experience seeing the high school girls work hard on thinking through their future goals while at the same time having fun!"

Giron is interested in finding more groups of girls, middle school through high school age, that could benefit from attending this workshop.

