



*Soroptimist Of
Wyandotte
Southgate
and Taylor

Pow
Wow....

September,
2008*

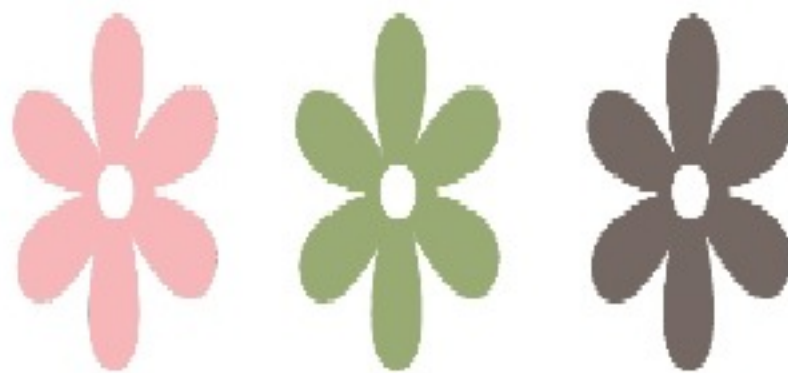
President's Message

Our first meeting of the year is past us, and we're on our way! Thanks to the Ways and Means Committee for their work in coming up with some new and innovative ideas for fundraisers.

Our goal this year was to find something new, that wouldn't require us to ask a great deal financially from our members and from our friends and families. I think they met their goal!

Our first fundraiser is already scheduled for November! On Nov. 13, 14 & 15 we will host a Poker Tournament at Woodhaven Lanes. We need people to take money at the event, see the article later in the newsletter! But that's all we have to do! Show up, take money, and share in the proceeds.

Our "Audience Participation Dinner Theatre" with the Southgate Community Players sounds like a great deal of fun. Details will follow, but it sounds like the play will be a wedding theme, so everyone can be prepared to participate in the show! Tickets to the event will be \$30 each, or a table of 10 can be purchased for \$250.



We can have a second night if we sell out, so let's make it everyone's goal to sell a table! This event is scheduled for Saturday, January 31, 2009.

Thanks to **Carolyn Mullins** who volunteered to chair the Ways and Means Committee, and to **Angel Gibson** and **Cathy Wilder** for their ideas, thoughts and participation.

Sue
President 2008-2010

Finding Prospects

Helpful Hints from your
Membership Committee



Former Members: Review old rosters and select names of past members who might be interested in renewing their membership. A majority of SI terminate membership due to time constraints. This may be a temporary situation or can be mitigated by decreasing volunteer time requirements at the club level. These women believe in the mission of SI and would probably appreciate being asked to rejoin their local club. This is one of the most overlooked target areas, and should be reviewed on at least an annual basis.

Business Associates: Because SI is an organization of business and professional women, one of the best places to recruit new members is at your place of business. Invite colleagues, associates and vendors to a meeting or event, and encourage members to research and target women in their profession.

Donors: Add to your list the names of donors and individuals who have otherwise supported your fundraisers or charity drives. If you hold silent auctions or sell "chances" in a raffle, be sure to collect names and addresses on vouchers and coupons. Published lists of contributors to other charities that relate to your club's interest are also a good resource.

Local nonprofits or women's groups: Invite associates and friends involved in other volunteer and professional organizations to attend events to learn more about SI. Establishing partnerships with these groups and working together on projects is an effective way to reach the members of similar-minded organizations.

Newspapers, local trade publications and magazines: Look for announcements of women-owned businesses or women who have been promoted or appointed to new positions. Send these women a letter of congratulations, describe SI, and invite them to your next meeting.

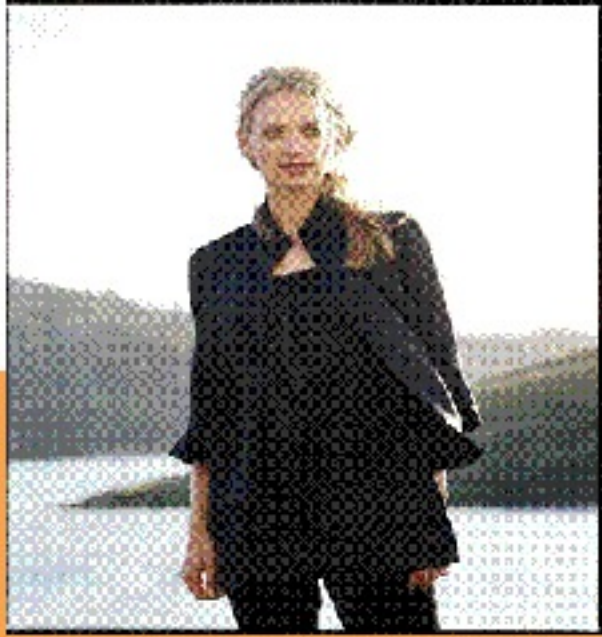
Local Chamber of Commerce and Women's Yellow Pages: Both of these directories are sources of women-owned businesses in your area.

Trade shows and community events: Set up booth or table, have literature on display, and collect business cards so names can be added to your list. Offer a prize drawing as an incentive for prospects to stop by. (For more tips on exhibiting, see the Exhibit Guide in the PR section of the SLA website.) Volunteering at these events is also a great way to make contacts and raise the profile of your club in the community.

Personal contacts: Ask members to spread the word about SI within their parent-teacher association and college sorority alumni, and among family members.

Award winners: Women who have received an award from your club or SI often want to give back to the organization that helped them. Invite them to join.

Email: Add a link to the SI websites to your email signature. Thousands and Thousands of email messages are sent out everyday. You never know who might notice that SI website at the bottom of your email..



One for you.....

One for your friends....



For You.....

Special Shopping Event just for Soroptimist Members! Wednesday, September 24 from 6:30 until 9:00 pm. Sales from this day count toward purchases on Saturday!

For Your Friends.....

A Special Day of Shopping at EILEEN FISHER!

Saturday, September 27th from 12-4pm

Luxurious, artful, natural... Discover the timeless beauty of fall at our shopping event! Join us at **EILEEN FISHER**, Somerset Collection South, for a special day of shopping. Enjoy \$25 off* and a gift with purchase (while supplies last). Light refreshments will be served.

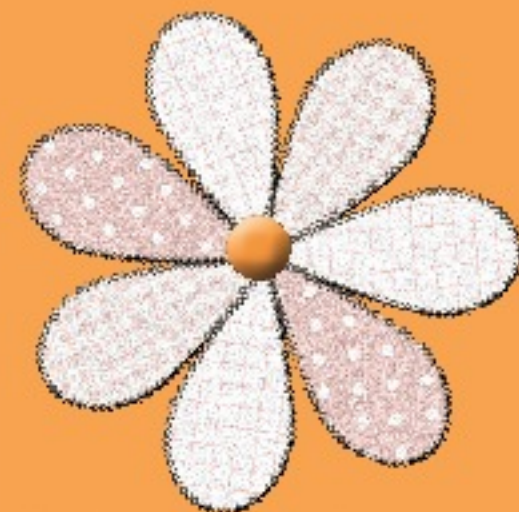
10% of proceeds the day of the event will benefit **the Soroptimist clubs in Southeastern Michigan, a nonprofit organization that works to improve the lives of women and girls, locally and throughout the world.** This nonprofit was selected by the Somerset Collection store team as part of EILEEN FISHER's commitment to support organizations that elevate the self-image of women and girls.

For additional event information, please call 248.643.8005.

EILEEN FISHER designs simple clothes that work together, across the seasons and across the years. With pure shapes and fine fabrics, they create sophistication, comfort – and style that lasts.

*Discount valid at EILEEN FISHER retail stores on event day only. Limit one per customer. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase of \$25. Gift with purchase available while supplies last.

Committee Updates.....



Service Contributions Committee Update:

The committee met, and after discussing how and where the service contributions go are ready to present their recommendations at the general meeting for discussion. Please try to attend the October meeting there will be much to discuss, and we would like everyone's voice to be heard.

Poker Tournament to benefit SI-WST at Woodhaven Lanes - November 13-15, 2008. (Working with Check & Raise Poker, LLC a company owned by two women).

All we have to do is have two people on the premises of Woodhaven Lanes to collect money and sell chips to the players all three days.

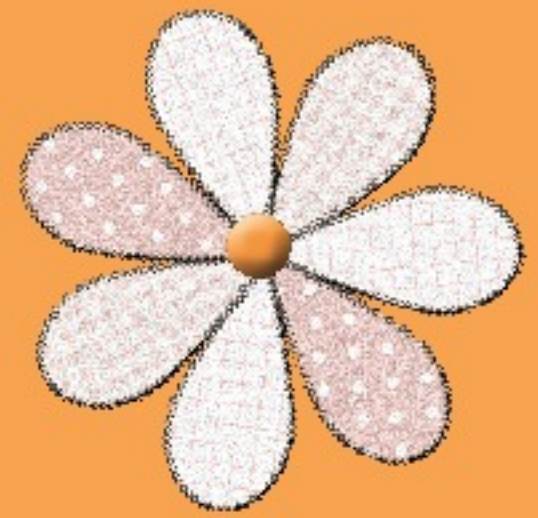
Shifts will be: from 4:00 pm until 2:00 am. Shifts will be; 4:00 pm until 9:00 pm and 8:30 until closing (no later than 2:00 am). Let Sue Renaud know what days and shifts you can work.

Advertising: Check & Raise will create flyers, and advertise to Poker Players on UMichiganPoker.com. SI Members should advertise to their friends, family, and of course anyone they know that plays poker. The more people we can get there, the more money we could make.

Poker Tournaments are the latest fundraising opportunity offered through the State of Michigan Charitable Gaming Division. Permanent Poker rooms have been created at Taylor Lanes and at Woodhaven Lanes. ***Taylor Lanes events are BOOKED SOLID through 2008!***

So if you are good at counting money, please come and help! Or if you know when to hold them, and know when to fold them – plan to come and play!

Committee Updates Continued....



Ways and Means Committee: Wow they are off and running. They had some great ideas that were discussed and voted on at the September meeting. A date and price for theater night has been set. The date will be January 31, 2009. at the Grecian Center The ticket price will be \$30.00 per person and includes the show and the dinner buffet. Book a table of ten and receive a discount of \$5.00 per person. The players have a wonderful PR person and will be taking care of spreading the word about the show. For information or tickets to buy or sell call Carolyn Mullins. Let's get out there and sell those tickets ladies our cost on this is only \$14.50 per person, so there is money to be made....

WOA-101

The Women's Opportunity Award program is THE major program of Soroptimist. Established in 1972, this award is given to a woman who provides the primary financial support for herself and her family.

She is pulling herself up by her bootstraps and, in spite of her many responsibilities, commits to advancing her education to make a better life for her family. This award fills the gap between tuition scholarships and real-life. She can purchase books, buy fuel to get to-and-from class, pay for childcare while she attends, etc. These applicants truly NEED our help and this award allows us to reach these women directly, as Soroptimists.

Beyond WOA-101

The average club-level award back in 1972 was around \$500. Since then, education expenses have increased at a rate of 1.2 to 2.1 times the annual rate of inflation (which itself has been pretty staggering). Based on general inflation rates alone, spending \$500 back then would cost over \$2,400 in 2006. However, when you're talking about tuition the difference is even greater. \$500 in tuition in 1972 would cost a whopping \$6,350 in 2006 based on Bureau of Labor statistics (\$5,300 based on College Board statistics). I know it can seem like a losing battle, but it's a real battle women are facing, and we can and do make a difference.

Website Challenge 1:

Find a website that would be perfect for us to link our website too.

For example if you go to google and type in michigan volunteers at this point we do not show up in the list. There are lots of different ways to search for volunteer or charity work online so what would you type in? When you do type that in --- does our website show up?

If not bring the website address to the next meeting and we will try to get listed there.

Website Challenge 2:

Ok it's not really a website challenge but add the SI-WST website address to your email signature line. Let's find every way possible to promote Soroptimist.



What's on the

Web.....

Website List:

Soroptimist of Wyandotte, Southgate & Taylor:

www.si-wst.com

Soroptimist of Midwest Region:

www.simwr.org

Soroptimist International of the Americas:

www.soroptimist.org

Soroptimist International:

www.soroptimistinternational.org

Live Your Dream Campaign

www.liveyourdream.org



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6:15 pm mtg @ portofino	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Dee Murray Bday	19	20
21	22	23	24 SI day at Eileen Fisher 6:30 -9:00 pm	25	26	27 Eileen Fisher Day at Summerset. Store Sales to benefit SI. 12-4pm
28	29	30	<p>This calendar is not meant to add stress to your life. Nobody is expected to do everything, but if we each do what we can we will make a difference. The goal of the calendar is to highlight everything going on, so that you can pick and choose what you would like to participate in.</p>			



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>This calendar is not meant to add stress to your life. Nobody is expected to do everything, but if we each do what we can we will make a difference. The goal of the calendar is to highlight everything going on, so that you can pick and choose what you would like to participate in.</p>			1	2	3 6:15 pm Mtg @ Portofino	4
5	6	7	8 Andi Connor Bday	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Teresa Bartow Bday	23	24	25
26	27	28 Audrey Stroia Bday	29	30	31	