



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Katie Kight
SI Ukiah President
2012-2013



*"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."
-Leo Buscaglia*

Greetings SI Ukiah Members and Friends,

How wonderful to welcome our newest member, Rebecca Enberg! Rebecca joined after attending an Information Meeting and visiting one of our club meetings. So glad to have you in our club Rebecca!

Thank you to Judy Pinto for leading us through such a meaningful activity during our April Hospitality Meeting. Having the opportunity to share how we feel about each

other is powerful. Sometimes a simple word of kindness from someone we care about is all we need to brighten our day. Take a look at page 2 to see just some of the wonderful comments we shared with one another. Wow - we rock!

I want to express my appreciation to Valley Sawyer, Julie Sawyer's niece, who initiated the social media campaign to bring the innovative film, Girl Rising, to the Ukiah Theater. Proceeds will go towards advancing girls' education internationally. Through stories of nine extraordinary girls in nine countries, this film showcases the strength of the human spirit and the power of education. These girls are just 9 of the 66 million girls worldwide who share the dream of attending school. Three of these girls were successful in changing their circumstances — through their own determination and strength as well as with the support of a community or a family member. Educating girls in the developing world can break the cycle of poverty and abuse. Thank you to all who were able to attend and who gathered at North State Cafe for dinner before seeing the film.

A special thank you to District IV Director Maddy Leader for attending our April Business Meeting and congratulations to our elected 2013 - 2014 Officers! I look forward to working with each of you in the coming year.

Together we're brightening our club, community and world!

- Katie



CALENDAR

Meetings

September - June
Wednesdays, Noon-1:00
Ukiah Garden Cafe
1090 South State Street

Board Meetings

All members welcome to attend
Monday prior to the business
meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Schat's at Friedman's

MAY

- 1 Committee Meeting
- 6 Board Meeting
- 8 Business Meeting
- 15 Program Meeting
Special Guests,
Scholarship & Award
Recipients
- 22 Hospitality Meeting
- 29 To Be Announced



APRIL HOSPITALITY MEETING - Judy Pinto, Hostess

For those who weren't in attendance, during our April Hospitality meeting Judy passed out sheets of stationary, each with an individual club member's name on it. She then asked SI Ukiah Members to write down why that person is special and important to them, then pass the sheet of stationary on to the next club member to do the same. As the activity ended, Judy read a few of the remarks for each person as she presented them their sheet of stationary. What a wonderful keepsake this is! Below is a variety of our club member's favorite comments which they received.

You're the best *Love your positive attitude* **Thanks for what you do**

Your energy is infectious **Admire your confidence & Leadership abilities**



SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL
OF UKIAH

You're such a character *A go-getter*
A generous spirit! **Love Your enthusiasm**

You are a nut that I aspire to become!
You made me feel so welcomed when I joined

What a great woman **Appreciate your openness and kind words**

A strong woman with great leadership skills **fun, fun, fun!**

Your sense of humor is great **Always a fun person**

Your confidence and warm personality is inspiring!

You are such fun and outgoing ***A fabulous leader and friend***

You inspire me to be a better person

I'm so happy to call you a friend **Never without a comment**

I'm thankful I joined Soroptimist so I was able to meet you and become your friend

What would I do without you? **A beautiful smile**

You bring so much to the club and our community

Very professional **Caring Heart** **Great friend**

Hey Best friend! *Appreciate your willingness to get involved*

You bring a special light to our club ***You make me smile***

You have brought such grace to our meetings

You've selflessly given to so many **One of a kind Lady**

Soroptimist International of Ukiah (SI Ukiah) presented donations of more than \$3,500 to local organizations at our annual Community Giving Luncheon.

Organization representatives expressed their gratitude for the support from SI Ukiah and presented information to the club about the services they provide and how their portion of the club's annual giving supports their programs.

Project Sanctuary Executive Director, Dina Polkinghorne, was unable to attend, but expressed her appreciation to SI Ukiah as an instrumental partner of their transition program for victims of domestic violence. "Soroptimists are incredibly supportive of the work we do at Project Sanctuary and the vulnerable survivors we work with", said Dina.



CASA of Mendocino and Lake Counties Executive Director, Sheryn Hildebrand, expressed appreciation for the donation which will be put to good use to reproduce curriculum manuals used to train Court Appointed Special Advocate volunteers. The training provides volunteers the ability to look after the best interests and advocate on behalf of local children to help the courts make better decisions.

"Without the help of SI Ukiah and other civic organizations, businesses and private donations, the Miss Mendocino County program would not be able to help young women continue their education", said Verna Jacobs, Miss Mendocino County Executive Director. This year alone, two young women will attend UC colleges, two will attend private universities, five will attend Mendocino Community College and one will be furthering her education in a trade school.

The Cancer Resource Center Executive Director, Sara O'Donnell and Support Services Manager, Nancy Johnson shared that their portion of SI Ukiah's annual giving will be dedicated to the Women's Cancer Support Group in Ukiah. This fundamental caring circle provides support to a number of women with varying stages of cancer. CRCMC provides services free of charge to support, educate and guide women, men and children through diagnosis and treatment.

Donna Ford, Program Director for the Ukiah Senior Center Lunch Bunch touched the hearts of SI Ukiah members as she shared stories which highlighted the importance of this program to many Seniors in our community. The Lunch Bunch provides a welcoming place for isolated seniors and those with disabilities to spend time socializing over lunch with peers. It also provides much needed respite for family members who are often the primary caregivers.

Ukiah Valley Association for Habilitation (UVAH) Executive Director, Pam Jensen expressed her appreciation for SI Ukiah's sponsorship of their annual golf tournament. Proceeds are used to help people with disabilities meet their full potential as individuals and productive citizens in our community. UVAH provides a wide range of services, a supportive environment, educates and involves the community in an effort to integrate people with disabilities into community life.

Ukiah Dolphins Swim Team Treasurer, Laura Xerogeanes and Board Member, Shelley Barrett expressed their appreciation of the ongoing volunteerism and donations from SI Ukiah in support of the young swimmers who have participated in the Annual Ukiah Soroptimist Invitational Swim Meet since 1956.

Boys & Girls Club of Ukiah Chief Professional Officer, Liz Elmore thanked SI Ukiah for the donation made during the Ukiah Daily Journal Fund Drive, allowing the contribution to be doubled through a corporate match. Every day the Boys & Girls Club of Ukiah strives to improve the lives of children by implementing self-esteem, courage, and positive values through their many educational programs. The SMART Girls program nurtures the qualities that are proven to lead to success in life.

CHILDREN'S ACTION COMMITTEE OF MENDOCINO COUNTY

In honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, the Children's Action Committee of Mendocino County held its annual Outreach Walk in Ukiah, Willits and Covelo. SI Ukiah President, Katie Kight and Vice President, Willow Anderson participated in the Ukiah Outreach Walk on behalf of the club.

Volunteers from the community joined together to visit local businesses to raise awareness about child abuse and child safety in Mendocino County. The walkers passed out colorful posters and blue pinwheels, the national symbol for child abuse prevention. This was a time to recognize that we each play a part in promoting the well-being of children and families in our community.



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