



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF LARAMIE

BEST FOR WOMEN

<http://www.soroptimistoflaramie.org/>



***President's Letter
for May***

We Did It !! What a terrific conference it was. Not a single detail was overlooked and the evaluations indicated what we were seeing all weekend. Our Soroptimist guests had a wonderful time.

Thank you to Denise and Marie for co-chairing the conference and to all the other committee chairs and members. Your hard work was evident and was certainly appreciated. Our Dine-Around and downtown poker run were successful. Even a little snow on Saturday didn't dampen anyone's spirits.

Our Laramie club got many awards:

100%

Completion of the Annual Club Goals

Fundraising -

Participation in the Founder's Pennies

Fundraising -

Participation in the Club Campaign – Bronze Award

Membership –

Awards for 17 new members during the 2007-08 year

Membership –

Award for our Membership Event Public

Awareness – Club newsletter Recognition Public

Awareness – Live Your Dream Recognition

Program –

Women's Opportunity Award participation

Program – Violet

Richardson participation Program –

Making a Difference for Women participation

Recognition for

submitting Focus Reports

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Recognition for submitting Celebrating Success Reports

Recognition for Finalist in Membership Category with SIA

Recognition in Fundraising Category with SIA

Dare to Dream – One of nine clubs recognized and we received \$140 for our event

We have a couple more events before our club year ends.

Please don't forget about the Dare to Dream – Dare to Be Yourself girl's fair. It is scheduled for Saturday, May 17th from 10:00 to 2:30 at the Albany County Library.

Our fundraiser will be held on June 7th. Laramie Laughs for a Cause is an upscale comedy night. We need everyone's help to make this a successful event. Each member is being asked to sell six tickets. If you find you're



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having trouble, please let someone know. There are usually other members who need extra tickets and would be able to help you.

Don't forget our installation dinner next Monday, May 19th at 5:30 p.m. at Altitude Chophouse and Brewery.

Thanks again for your commitment to women and girls.

Susan



SI PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

***Each month our newsletter will highlight at least one area in our Programs of Service. The more we all know about Soroptimist, the**

easier it will be to tell everyone we meet what great things we do and what a great organization we are!

Soroptimist aids women and their families

SOROPTIMIST GRANTS \$20,000 GRANT TO ASSIST WOMEN AFFECTED BY FLOODS

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Soroptimist International of the Americas, an international volunteer organization of business and professional women dedicated to improving the lives of women and girl, presented a \$20,000 disaster relief grant to its club in Quito, Ecuador to help meet the needs of women and their families who were displaced by recent floods. With the grant, Quito Soroptimists will provide these women with food, clothing and

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other immediate necessities.

Devastating mudslides and floods have killed 38 people and destroyed 400 homes, leaving many families in Coastal Ecuador displaced. Triggered by torrential rains, most of the landslides occurred outside the city of Quito, where flooding damaged roads and buildings, and contaminated drinking water. Soroptimist International of Quito, Ecuador, will work with the Red Cross and Ecuadorian Civil Defense to provide 2,000 women and their families with baskets full of non-perishable items such as rice, dried grains, powdered milk and bottled water. Personal care items including toothpaste, soap, detergent and blankets will also be provided.

Soroptimist has long been concerned about the disproportionate effects of disasters on



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women and girls. In addition to providing the Disaster Relief Grants, Soroptimist recently funded a research study conducted by the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR), titled "[Women in the Wake of the Storm: Examining the Post-Katrina Realities of the Women of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast.](#)" The study found that women faced and continue to confront special challenges to their health, safety, and economic wellbeing in the lingering aftermath of hurricane Katrina; that women were at an increased risk of exposure to sexual assault and domestic violence; and that they encounter greater economic hurdles when rebuilding their lives.

"Women and girls are particularly vulnerable during disasters. They lack mobility and access to resources, have increased family responsibilities, and are

susceptible to physical danger," said Soroptimist's executive director, Leigh Wintz, CAE. "Soroptimist's disaster relief program mitigates the barriers facing women and girls during disasters, making it easier for them to get the resources they need to survive."

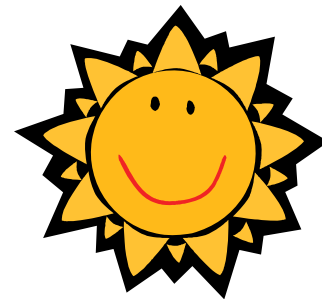
Soroptimist International of Quito is part of Soroptimist International of the Americas, headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.

Programs include the Women's Opportunity Awards, which provides cash grants for head-of-household women seeking to improve their lives with the help of additional education and training. Each year, more than \$1 million is disbursed through this award-winning program. Soroptimist also sponsors the Live Your Dream campaign in recognition of the power of women and their dreams. Visit the

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campaign's online home at: LiveYourDreamCampaign.org. For more information on how Soroptimist improves the lives of women and girls, visit Soroptimist.org. For more information about the Quito club, contact Yolanda Cordova de Anolrade at 593-225-4085.



Legislative Efforts

SIA continues to advocate for ratification and monitoring of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), as it has since 1980, when the convention first opened for signature. CEDAW is the most



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comprehensive international agreement which seeks the advancement of women throughout the world. The United States is the only SIA country that has not ratified the Convention.

SIA advocates for equal pay for equal work. Women across the world are consistently paid less for the same work done by men. Clubs are encouraged to advocate for equal pay in their communities and countries.



Laramie Laughs for a CAUSE

Our one fund-raiser
Laramie Laughs for a

Cause will be Saturday, June 7th. All members are encouraged to help with the event, it is a fun night. We start at 7pm with hors'doeuvres and at 8pm we will enjoy Jan McInnis' humor. After the show we will serve a dessert. If you signed up for a committee, your chair might have instructions for you, but if not please try to be at the Concert Hall at about 6:30pm. Dress should be "cocktail attire" and please be sure to wear your name badges. Every member is asked to sell 6 tickets and you will receive your ticket packet soon if you weren't at the last meeting. If you have any questions about Laramie Laughs for a Cause please give me a call at 742-2022 or email me at marybower@bresnan.net.

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We need everyone's support, get involved. thank you,
Mary Bower
chair, Ways and Means
Committee



EVENTS CALENDAR

May 19, 2008

Installation Dinner @
Altitudes 5:30 p.m.

June 7, 2008

Laramie Laughs for a
Cause



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**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY TO
YOU –
CELEBRATE
BEING YOU!!!**

Natalia Weakly – June
21st

Fay Glissmann – June
26th

Linda Gault – June 27th

Kay Lynn Hammer –
June 28th

Debbie Cheesbrough –
August 6th



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
YOU!!**

QUOTE:

Life is too short to
wake up with regrets.
So love the people
who treat you right.
Forget about the one's
who don't. Believe
everything happens
for a reason. If you
get a second chance,
grab it with both
hands. If it changes
your life, let it.
Nobody said life would
be easy, they just
promised it would be
worth it.

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Web Site:

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To access the Member Only

Section, your username is: ***

and the password is: *****

(all lowercase)

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SOROPTIMIST PLEDGE:

I pledge allegiance to Soroptimist and to the ideals for which it stands:

The Sincerity of Friendship

The Joy of Achievement

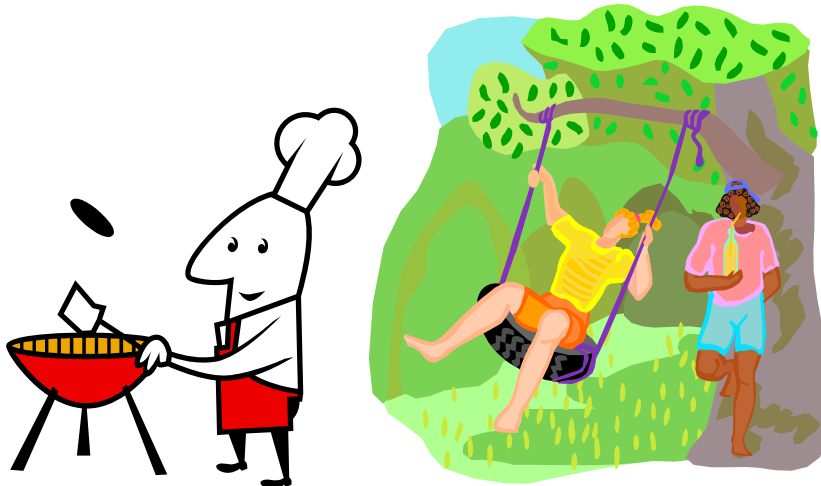
The Dignity of Service

The Integrity of Profession

The Love of Country

I will put forth my greatest effort to promote, uphold and defend these ideals, for a larger Fellowship in home, in society, in business, for country and for God.

Soroptimist is an international volunteer organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls.



ENJOY YOUR SUMMER