



# Soroptimist Scene

The newsletter of Soroptimist International of Tampa February 2017

## President's Message



The bible is filled with many scriptures about “works” and service. Here are a few of my favorites:

*Psalm 77:12 – I will consider all of your works and meditate on all of your mighty deeds.*

*John 6:28 – Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?”*

*Ephesians 4:12 – to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.*

Recently I began reading Successful Women Think Differently by Valorie Burton. In the introduction the author talks about how we all define success differently, but if she had to sum it up she would define it this way: success is a harmony of purpose, resilience and joy because when these three elements flow together a person will experience true success.

Another way to look at it is: Success is living your life's purpose and embracing resilience and joy as you do.

Purpose, Burton says, is service that fulfills the successful woman. Purpose is about making a difference in the lives of others. After reading the part about purpose standing for making a difference in the lives of others, I immediately

thought about my time with Soroptimist International of Tampa. I was reminded of just how important the work of this club is. We give of ourselves in hope of making a difference in the lives of women and girls. The work we do in our Tampa Club gives us an opportunity to make an impact on a much larger scale.

We will probably never know just how much helping one young girl or woman through our service, mentoring or scholarships will impact our community, city, town, or state. I would like to thank you for your service, “works”, time, dedication and sacrifice. Please know that as a club, we are successful because of YOU!



*President Rosetta*

## February Meeting

Soroptimist International of Tampa will meet on Thursday, February 9 at 5:30 pm at The Children's Board of Hillsborough County, 1002 East Palm Ave., Tampa. We'll hear about the work of our guest speaker Rocil Lopez, Social Change Project Leader for The Spring of Tampa Bay. Guests are welcome.

At our March Awards Luncheon, we'll present the Violet Richardson Award to a young woman who is a role model to others for volunteer service. Our cash award will be given to her volunteer organization, but it is

our tradition to also recognize this award winner with a gift basket. **Would you help fill this gift basket by bringing a gift to our February meeting?** This can be anything that might pamper or please a teenage girl. Thanks so much for helping with this gift!

## Teen Achievers Update



The Teen Achievers did not meet in January due to a schedule change at Blake High School. However, we gave them a copy of the video “Too close to Home” which they viewed together. The girls had an opportunity for Q&A on this topic of human trafficking in preparation for our next meeting on Thursday, February 2 at the YMCA. Connie Rose, a former victim of human trafficking and the founder of the Selah Foundation, will be the guest speaker. The girls will use their journals to record questions and concerns about human trafficking for the follow-up discussion with Connie.

The Soroptimist Teen Achievers Leaders met with the YMCA staff to be trained on the Frameworks program that is used in the after-school program. This allows us to coordinate the school-based lessons with the Dream It, Be It curriculum and have a smooth continuum of learning. Ms. Bala with the Teen Achievers Program also praised the Soroptimist mentors and said that she’s seen good improvement with the girls who meet with their mentors weekly. If you’d like

further information about becoming a mentor to one of our Teen Achievers, please contact me.

Fran DeLuccia

Our Soroptimist mentors recently had an opportunity to have lunch with their mentees at Blake High School.



Mentor Teri Matlach and mentees



Mentor Cathy Strawser and mentee. Cathy is working with six young women now.



Mentor Diana Miller and her mentee Chanealia.

## Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

February is national Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. As 1.5 million High School girls and boys admit to being intentionally hit and/or physically harmed by someone they dated, it is of paramount importance to raise awareness of this issue and offer viable solutions. One third of teenagers are involved in unhealthy relationships; being sexually, verbally, and/or emotionally abused. 62% of our "Tweens", 11-14 year olds, name friends or are themselves verbally abused; being called stupid, worthless, and ugly. Regardless of age, these troublesome statistics lead to serious ramifications and long lasting effects such as pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, eating disorders, alcoholism, thoughts of suicide and violent behaviors.

Soroptimist International of Tampa has promoted the Soroptimist Teen Dating Violence bookmarks for over 10 years within the Hillsborough County School District. Its sole purpose is to increase awareness and

foster creative ideas that will initiate projects within our schools. Many schools now hand out bookmark candy grams on Valentine's Day! In other schools, the guidance counselors have sent a letter to each student's home, sharing the signs of Teen Dating Violence with a bookmark attached. Statistics tell us that 82% of parents are confident they could recognize signs of abuse, but 58% of those parents could not identify the warning signs when "put to the test". Many schools highlight Teen Dating Violence on a bulletin board, appropriately stating "Love is Respect!" In addition, once again, Soroptimist International of Tampa members will join with Rocio Lopez, new Social Change Director of The Spring, to present to the Department Heads and Guidance Counselors of Hillsborough County Schools and distribute the bookmarks. We hopefully will be able to debut our teen achievers role play on teen dating violence from the DREAM IT, BE IT curriculum at the in-service as well.



This year, the Youth Awareness Committee of The Spring intends to "power up" more awareness and solutions to teen dating violence in their Teen Summit Art Contest and Teen Summit on February 24, 2017. Information about these events was shared at our January meeting.

Vicki Salin-Decker

## March 4 Awards Luncheon

You are cordially invited to attend the

Soroptimist International of Tampa

### Annual "Live Your Dream" Awards Luncheon

~Honoring~

\*Soroptimist "Live Your Dream" Award  
Winners\*

\*Violet Richardson Award Winner\*

\*Soroptimist Ruby Award: For Women Helping  
Women\*

At

#### **The Rusty Pelican**

2425 Rocky Point Drive

Tampa, FL 33607

**Saturday, March 4, 2017**

Registration and Social 11:30 – 12:00pm

Luncheon 12:00 – 2:00pm

**Please RSVP By February 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Make checks for the luncheon payable to:**

Soroptimist International of Tampa and mail to  
PO Box 271774, Tampa FL 33688

\$25.00 per person

**Please indicate your meal choice:**

Chicken Breast of Jack Daniels \_\_\_\_\_

Sliced London Broil \_\_\_\_\_

\*Gluten Free Meal Available Upon Request

**Questions?** Call Rosetta Peacock, 941-962-3091; [rmandisa@yahoo.com](mailto:rmandisa@yahoo.com)

### **Soroptimist Awards Luncheon**

#### **RSVP Card**

**Saturday, March 4, 2017**

**The Rusty Pelican**

**2425 N. Rocky Point Drive**

**Tampa, FL 33607**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please *reserve* \_\_\_\_\_ places at  
\$25.00 per person

Please list guest(s) name and meal  
preference for each below. Meal choices:  
Chicken Jack Daniels or Sliced London  
Broil

Gluten free meal is available upon request.

Please respond by February 20, 2017 and  
make check payable to Soroptimist  
International of Tampa.

Mail to: SI of Tampa, P.O. Box 271774  
Tampa, FL 33688

For questions, call Rosetta Peacock 941-  
962-3091 or email [rmandisa@yahoo.com](mailto:rmandisa@yahoo.com)

**February is Black History  
Month**

**Benjamin S. Carson** lead surgeon in the first successful operation to separate Siamese twins

**Lee Elder** first black pro golfer

**Africa** our mother land

**Carter G. Woodson** black history author

**Kweisi Mfume** NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) leader

**Harriet Tubman** known for the “underground railroad”

**Ira Aldridge** black actor who performed in many plays

**Sarah Boone** invented the iron

**Thurgood Marshall** Supreme Court Judge

**Ozzie Williams** invented radar to find airplanes

**Reginald Lewis** first Black billionaire

**Yarn holder** invented by **Julia Hammonds**

**Madame CJ walker** invented the hot comb

**Onesimus** passed his knowledge from Africa of the smallpox inoculation to his master who gave the same to a doctor whose experiment lead to the smallpox inoculation in the New World

**Nelson Mandela** spent decades in jail to protest apartheid

The Harlem Renaissance was a movement of literary writers (Zora Neale Hurston) musicians (Duke Ellington), dance – the “Charleston” and politics (Marcus Garvey)

**Herman Petty** first African American McDonald’s franchisee

Vice President **Lorraine Lundy**

**DREAM IT \* BE IT**  
CAREER SUPPORT  
for girls

**PREPARING GIRLS**  
FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

**OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN FY 15/16**

**8,634 girls** participated

Across **14 countries**

**GIRLS ARE EMPOWERED TO LIVE THEIR DREAMS**

Participants report:

- 90%** feel more confident about their future success
- 80%** have new tools to overcome obstacles to their success
- 87%** feel more prepared to pursue their career goals
- 86%** created achievable goals for their future

**GIRLS ARE INSPIRED BY POSSIBILITIES**

They said:

- "I learned to be a better version of myself." —US Participant
- "Now I have so many resources to help me begin my life." —US Participant
- "I learned what possibilities are available to us women and got more inspired about the future." —Japan Participant

View the full *Dream It, Be It* Impact Report at: <http://bit.ly/DIBImpact>  
Watch girls share their dreams for the future at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Et\\_qUX4qxE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Et_qUX4qxE)

**SOROPTIMIST** Best for Women®

**LIVEYOURDREAM.ORG**

**Soroptimist International of Tampa**  
**Officers for 2016-2017**

**President Rosetta Peacock**  
**Vice President Lorraine Lundy**  
**Treasurer Deborah Pruden**

**Recording Secretary Teri Matlach**  
**Corresponding Secretary**  
**Vicki Salin-Decker**  
**Director Michelle Strawser**  
**Director Fran DeLuccia**

***Upcoming Dates:***

February 9 @ 5:30 PM  
Monthly meeting at Children's Board

February 14 *Happy Valentine's Day!*

March 4 Awards Luncheon  
Rusty Pelican Restaurant

March 8 International Women's Day

April 8-9: Spring Plant Sale  
USF Botanical Gardens

April 28-30, 2017  
Southern Region Conference,  
Hollywood Beach Marriott,  
Hollywood Beach, FL

Contact us at [sitampa@soroptimist.org](mailto:sitampa@soroptimist.org)

or write to  
SI Tampa, PO Box 271774  
Tampa, FL 33688.