



KONALOHA

A Publication of Soroptimist International of Kona
P.O. Box 5196, Kailua Kona, HI 96745

November/December 2002

President: Ofie Schamber, Editor: Linda Smallwood

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Ofie Schamber

Happy Holidays to you all!

Listening to all the Christmas Carols on the radio, and walking into every establishment decked with all the glitter of the Season, made me realize that Year 2002 is coming to an end. It reminds me that it's the time to take stock

of what we have done this year and time to make resolutions for the new year ahead.

The District Meeting held on Oahu this October was enlightening. At that meeting the Region Board Members provided highlights of what is happening around us that affects women and children. It has awakened us to a lot of possibilities; things that we can do in order to improve the status of women and children. Meetings like this give us the guidance and reassurance we need as we carry on with our service projects. Our biggest fundraiser of the year - the Sees Candies Sale - funds these projects. I would like to thank all of the members of SI Kona, and the Sees Committee, headed by Sue Gillam, for a job well done - more than \$16,000 worth of candy sold!

In conclusion, I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Let us all strive for a better future where fairness and compassion, justice and tolerance will guide us in dealing with the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

President Ofie

SEES CANDIES SALES FUND SERVICE AWARDS

Every Autumn, for more than 20 years, Soroptimist International of Kona has sold Sees Candies to raise money for service awards. This year we beat all our previous records by selling more than \$16,000 worth of candy.

The primary purpose for the money we raise is the funding of three service awards:

◆ **The Violet Richardson Award (\$1,000)**

This award recognizes a young woman, age 14-17, who makes the community of Kona, and the world, a better place through her volunteer efforts.

◆ **The Youth Citizenship Award (\$1,000)**

This award recognizes a young person (male or female, usually a high school junior or senior) who makes outstanding contributions to home, school, community, country and the world.

◆ **The Women's Opportunity Award (\$1,000)**

This award gives female heads of household, who provide the primary source of financial support for their families, the opportunity to achieve their career goals.

Candidates for each of these awards must submit an application which includes an essay describing why they are deserving of the award. The winners are presented with their awards at a luncheon held in their honor. Last year's winners were:

Judith Lane - Women's Opportunity Award

Kathi Lynn Wakata - Violet Richardson Award

Leilani LeLoy - Youth Citizenship Award

The candy sales have wrapped up for this year, but we'll be out in the community again next year, selling candy for holiday gifts, and raising money for service awards. Mahalo to the folks of the Big Island for your support.

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annual quarter page: \$70.00

Submit ad copy to Editor
Remit Payment to Treasurer



OPERATION HOPELINE CONTINUES

Soroptimist International of Kona wishes to thank the community for their donations of used cell phones to Operation Hopeline.

In December of 2001, SI Kona began collecting the used cell phones in conjunction with the Verizon Wireless HopeLine. Verizon Wireless launched its HopeLine phone recycling program nationwide in October 2001. The donated phones are refurbished, recycled and/or sold to directly benefit victims of domestic violence. In 2001, Verizon Wireless donated more than 4,000 phones in addition to airtime and \$500,000 to domestic violence shelters and prevention programs across the country. The phones are programmed to dial 911 and the number of the local shelter.

As of July 2002, SI Kona had shipped approximately 250 used cell phones to the recycle center. UPS in an agreement with Verizon's Hope Line Program donates the shipping. Through the efforts of Soroptimist, Verizon Wireless, and the community, 250 phones are now available to local victims through human services and law enforcement agencies on the Big Island.

People in our community are reluctant to just discard their used cell phones. Since cell phones contain toxic chemicals such as arsenic, lead and zinc, donating them also protects the environment. Thus, the community benefits on two levels - social and environmental.

Kona residents can drop phones off at Ohana Hearing Center in the North Kona Shopping Center near Zac's. For more information, call Dorris Mattos at 322-0129. The drop off point in Hilo is the Ohana Hearing Center in the Pu'uohu Professional Building at 75 Pu'uohu Place, Suite 207.



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Fanny Gouveia

FANNY GOUVEIA SAYS IT WITH FLOWERS

Seventeen years ago, Fanny Gouveia was looking for a local club to join. She went to a lot of meetings at a lot of clubs, and decided on Soroptimist International Kona because she liked the idea of women helping other women and the local community.

Over the years she has participated in many charitable events with Soroptimist International of Kona. The one most memorable to her was a benefit for Erica Penns who remains hospitalized as a result of a car accident many years ago. She also made adult booties for the residents of the Extended Care section of the hospital which the Soroptimists presented to the residents as a group.

She has held many SI offices: Secretary, Treasurer twice, and Assistant Treasurer twice.

Fanny has been married for 46 years to Richard Gouveia. She has 2 children, Richa Ann Chang, who is an R.N. at Kaiser here in Kona, and Richard M. Gouveia, Jr. who is the co-owner of Flowers for Mama. She also has 3 grandchildren.

Fanny began her career as a substitute teacher and educational assistant back in the sixties. She spent the last two years of her 13 years of teaching working with students who were deaf as a result of a Rubella epidemic. Then, in the late seventies, she began a career in banking. She was the branch manager for State Savings which then became First Nationwide Savings and finally American

Savings. In 1994, she retired from banking to help her son and his partner set up Flowers for Mama. Then she went back to banking part time to help out the branch manager at First Federal. In 1997 she retired from banking for good.

Today, in addition to working as the Office Manager for Flowers for Mama, Fanny volunteers for Caravan, a non-profit organization that helps the homeless, and she donates beautiful leis from Flowers for Mama to the Soroptimist International Kona for all of our special occasions. And, oh yeah, she still works on her coffee farm. Whew!

Fanny has a couple of mottos: one is that “if every day I do something good for one person, it makes me happy” and the other, of course, is “say it with flowers”.



Dorris Mattos (right) presents **D. L. Mona Kanakamaikai**, Program Supervisor for the **West Hawaii Domestic Abuse Shelter**, with a check for \$500 at the November 28, 2002 program meeting. Dorris spearheaded the Weekenders fundraising event to raise these funds.



BIRTHDAYS



Laura Bollinger	11/25
Julie Kamanawa-Kala	11/26
Linda Smallwood	12/03
Katie Nova	12/14

WHAT IS SOROPTIMIST?

Soroptimist is a forward-looking, dynamic, expanding, world-wide, diversified service organization which emphasizes excellence in all facets of life and whose members are professional executive women (mostly) and men.

Our objectives are:

- ◆ to maintain high ethical standards in business, professions and other aspects of life;
- ◆ to strive for human rights for all people and, in particular, to advance the status of women;
- ◆ to develop a spirit of friendship and unity among Soroptimists of all countries;
- ◆ to quicken the spirit of service and human understanding; and
- ◆ to contribute to international understanding and universal friendship.

Soroptimist, coined from the Latin “soror” and “optima”, meaning the best for women, was founded in 1921 in Oakland, California.

Calendar of Events

12/26 Business Meeting
(tentative year end party)

01/14 Business Meeting

01/28 Program Meeting

02/11 Business Meeting

02/25 Program Meeting



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Seasons Greetings