



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF CALOOCAN CITY

S.I. Caloocan City was chartered on December 16, 1987 and Dulce Ilagan-Gozon as Charter President.

The organization of SI of Caloocan City was a blessing in many ways. It put together mature professional women who want to serve the community and the country. The synergy developed as friendship and trust bloomed within.

At the start, the SIA club guide served as a good start. Focus on awareness, advocacy and action as it gave service to the community, adopted barangay, city and country was done. The programs of service in economic, health, human rights and international goodwill was started. It strengthens its membership base through orientation and leadership training.

Following SIA's call to excellence, and that communication is the key, the club molded its programs around the talent and resources of members. The diversity of members representing, as it does, different concerns and professions contributed to a well-rounded club.

Satisfaction of members in doing projects, attending of meetings, both club, regional and international, is evident in its retention of members. The recognition and awards that came from SIPR, SIA, the City of Caloocan and other organizations bear testimony to its strengths as club for the first ten years.

For the next ten years or twenty years is a lifetime for many. To Soroptimists of Caloocan City, the years just passed by ever so swiftly. We feel enriched, inspired and at a higher plane of satisfaction. Our members are getting older. The spirit if willing but our flesh is weak. We need younger members. We have to make projects more creative, more interesting to make it attractive to new younger members. That is the new challenge. Making things new is the order of the day.

For twenty years we devoted to strengthening our club. Developing projects that used the talent of members and other resources for the club. Organizational performance was its first goal. When we were strong enough, we decided to charter new clubs. We felt we are having so much fun, developing projects to improve the lives of women and girls increasing bonds of friendship between and among our members, partnering with barangay, the PNP women's desk, schools, church and the community.

The \$10,000 grant in 1999, the non-formal education with feeding program from UHNP, the best practices in education, the breaking barriers-bridging gaps, bring back unforgettable memories.

The Renaissance Campaign started. Launched in Canada, focusing on membership, fund raising, public awareness and programs. It was a master plan and hopefully will turn the tide of membership losses and club's disbanding which has become a global phenomenon.

Led by 6th President Fe Amor Ilagan in 1998-2000, 7th President Benedicta Martinez in 2000-2002, 8th President Ligaya Robles in 2002-2004, 9th President Guia Martinez in 2004-2006 and 10th current President Gloria Bernardo saw the eventual development of SICC into the most outstanding club for the past three years.

After almost perfecting our club's performance standing tall as one of the ten most outstanding clubs for sixteen years, getting grants, finalists in Soroptimist Celebrating Success and best practice awards from SI, we are now on the hall of flame. We are the Renaissance club in SIPR. We got an SIA Bowl for 26 new members in 2007. We also won first place for our Ginsaugon project teaching livelihood to women victims of the mudslide that buried 1,000 residents in 30-foot mudflow.

The gratitude of SICC's to its partners, sponsors and partners in the community is expressed in many ways.

What more can we ask for!

But creativity and relevance are endless.

Our leadership also made waves here and abroad.

We thank God and bow our heads in humility as we share our service work to God and country.

For as they say “the taller a bamboo grows, the lower it bends”, for it is in humility that you find reality.

From this reality, we focus on higher goals. We resolve to dig deep into the natural talents, resources and time of our members to help improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world.

We try to fill the needs of our community and people, city and country to make this world a better place.

On the threshold of our 25th year, SI Caloocan tries its best to help other clubs. We realize that it is teamwork that strengthens the Soroptimist organization.

As 12th President Emma Rosqueta transfers the leadership mantle that Past President Luz Reyes, 11th SICC President gave her, we see an energized President in the person of Patsy Aguilar, our 13th President transfer the leadership mantle to Immediate Past President Dolores C. Del Valle, the 14th President and now our 2018-2020 biennium President is Romina I. Gozon.

The lessons learned for the past 30 years are testament to the truism that nothing is impossible, dreams can come true when we focus and work together.