

# THE BUTTERFLY

Soroptimism is many things - not only an idea and an ideal, a dream which preceded accomplishment. Not simply dignity and integrity blended together into a way of life which is expressed in our philosophy of service to others, but a sincerity of friendship and a tolerance and understanding to all people.

Truly: Women at their best, helping others to be their best.

We are gathered here tonight for one of the most exciting events of the Soroptimist year, the annual installation of club officers. Second only to our disbursement of funds and the joy of helping others, the installation of officers provides us with new beginnings, much like the butterfly breaking out of its cocoon. Installation provides a chance to catch the spirit and presents the opportunity for a new challenge to make a difference.

Before we induct the incoming board, I would like to join with the members of Soroptimist International of \_\_\_\_\_ in expressing appreciation to the outgoing officers and directors who over the past year have served this club well to carry out the aims and objectives of Soroptimism.

President: Our new president has chosen for her theme "Catch The Spirit - Make A Difference." Spirit is a very special part of everything and every person, most especially of every Soroptimist. We all have our own spirit and as if by magic, when shared with others, it grows.

As an unknown author said:

The more of everything you share,  
The more you'll always have to spare,  
For only what you give away  
Enriches you from day to day.

I have chosen the butterfly as a symbol representing each office, not only for its free spirit but for its colorful wings to portray the colors of office for this board and to encourage each officer and director to break from their cocoon, be a butterfly and together - "Make The Difference."

**Directors I & II:** As I mentioned, butterflies have wings bright with color. These butterflies are special and each color holds a special meaning. For you I have chosen the color green symbolizing readiness at all times. It is your duty to keep abreast of club, regional, federation and international matters and to help with the smooth operation, planning and carrying out of activities resulting in the growth and stature of this club. Attached to your butterflies you will find small pouches of sage. A reminder that you are distinguished for your wisdom and sound judgment. You will provide much insight into the important matters of this club. Always be careful that your advice is sage and never unsolicited.

**Treasurer:** Your color is gold symbolizing wealth. Attached to your butterfly you will find money. As treasurer you are responsible for the funds of the club. You will work with the finance and budget committee and be sure remittances are paid on time as required by the bylaws. The wealth of the club is divided into two funds, service and general. These funds must be kept separate and their fund balances reported to the officers and members to keep them informed.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Your butterfly is pink, signifying promptness. Your letters reflect the image of your club to the people of the community that contribute to club projects. May you have many thank you letters to write, as they determine the success of the clubs undertakings. A book of stamps is attached to your butterfly to remind you that as well as neatness and sensitivity, promptness is also an obligation of your office.

**Recording Secretary:** Your butterfly is blue, representing sincerity and truth. It is your duty to be present at business and board meetings and to keep a good and careful record of all proceedings. Your butterfly contains a pencil so you are always prepared to do so. As recording secretary you maintain the history of the achievements during the club year, and unless your club procedures provide otherwise, maintain a record of membership.

**2nd Vice President:** Orange, to specify warmth, is the color of your butterfly. Attached to your butterfly is an address book. Your position has the primary responsibility of supplying the club with interesting and informative programs. Success of the club depends greatly on your knowledge of federation and regional programs, combined with the interest of your club members. Retention of existing members as well as the attraction of new members is largely dependent on program planning. Use the ideas of your club members wisely and they will be a great asset to you.

**1st Vice President:** Yellow represents truth, wisdom and encouragement - your butterfly's color. Your butterfly has six ribbons signifying the programs of service: Economic and Social Development, Education, Environment, Health, Human Rights / Status of Women, and International Goodwill & Understanding. The first priority of your office is to undertake the commitment of the federation programs of service. Awareness, advocacy and action are words that will become second nature to you in the upcoming club year. Acquaint yourself with all the areas of programs of service, as they are the cornerstone of the Soroptimist organization. You have the added responsibility to stand ready to fill in as president, if the need arises, and to carry out any task the president and board may assign you to maintain a smooth and efficient operation of the club.

**President:** Your butterfly is white, representing a blending of all colors as well as signifying gentleness, understanding and nurturing. Wisdom and patience are the responsibilities of your office. The members of Soroptimist International of \_\_\_\_\_ have elected you for the leadership qualities they know are required to spearhead such a prestigious organization. Over the next year as you comply with the duties of president, you will have the support of your board and club to help guide you. As presiding officer, I encourage you to be fair, tactful and just. Above all, keep your prospective.

I have charged each of you with the duties of your respective office and I would now ask each of you to pledge to do your very best to carry out the requirements of these offices. If you pledge to do so, please answer "I will." Soroptimist International of \_\_\_\_\_ members please rise. We have before us the officers and directors who will, with your willingness, hard work and cooperation, guide and direct your club to "Catch The Spirit" and to truly "Make A Difference." I now declare these officers and directors duly installed in the offices of Soroptimist International of \_\_\_\_\_ to which they have been elected for the ensuing club year. I congratulate each of you and wish for you a most successful and happy term in office.