

### Annual Awards Banquet

On March 28, 2002, Soroptimist International of Billings presented their annual charity awards at a banquet held at The Northern Hotel in downtown Billings.

Nancy Wetherelt, Vice President of Soroptimist, coordinated the event.



The Soroptimist's annual fund raiser, "A Night of Wine and Roses" was held in January at the Hilands Golf Club. Over \$20,000 was raised at this event. The proceeds went to the continued support of Soroptimist Club Identifying Project – "Baby Think It Over", a teen pregnancy prevention program in School District #2, Laurel High School and Big Horn County High Schools. Rhonda Hunt, School District #2 and Soroptimist Mary Stickney pictured left.

Other proceed recipients at the event were the Young Artist Program, SIA Foundation, Disaster Relief Fund, MSU Fran Elge Scholarship and Northern Rockies Cancer Center.

Women's Opportunity Award, for mature head of households for education or retraining to enable them to upgrade their job status or re-enter the work force, was awarded to Rachel Hauglid.



The Violet Richardson Award, for youth between ages of 14 - 17 who make the community a better place through volunteer efforts in fighting drugs; crime and violence; cleaning up the environment; and working to end discrimination and poverty, was awarded to Lacie Hamilton.



Soroptimists' continuing programs of recognition:



Women Helping Women, which honors women who consistently and effectively use their resources, talents and influence to help other women achieve their potential, honored **Sandy Harris**;



and, Women of Distinction, which honors women who have made outstanding achievements in their professional, business or voluntary activities relating to Soroptimist Programs of Service, honored **Melodee Hanes**.

New member Joey Voto was also installed.



The Soroptimist International of Billings is an association of executive women participating in community and world-wide service striving to make a difference for women. If you are interested in becoming a member or desire more information you may write to P.O. Box 2322, Billings, MT 59103, call Membership Committee Linda Gordon 252-0005 or visit the organizations Website at <http://www.shopmt.com/sib>.



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