

About us

We are 29. Who we are? There are physicians, pharmacists, librarians, economists, teachers, journalist, actress, lawyers, businesswomen and engineers among us. We have different passions.

Ola is wonderful embroiderer. Ela is the best in making rosettes. Ania and Agnieszka are passionate skiers. Jola is an excellent sailor. Hania likes and can dance salsa. Asia has her own website www.starechaty.jimdo.com (to testify and provide documentation for old houses). Beata is fantastic great-grand mother.

The club is changing; its members are more and more younger but the essential principles are still the same.

Although we have different opinions on our activity we always discuss and are looking for new, ambitious challenges. The friendship and the voluntary work are two great pillars of the club.

Every two years the president of the club has been elected to represent us and to organize our work.

Starting from October 2013 a new President is Anna Serdyńska-Łamik.

How the story of SI Bielsko-Biala Club began?

Everything began one summer afternoon in 1990. At Jadwiga Grzbiela's invitation, a group of over twenty women in various age and of different professions (doctors, pharmacists, teachers, librarians) who knew each other more or less well had met at her living room. Our hostess wanted us to familiarize with the idea of Soroptimist International Organization.

Jadwiga Grzbiela as a doctor met two French soroptimists from Metz, Denise Englinger and Marcelle Maujean, who were the members of Moselle Amitié Pologne Association. Those ladies – French doctors – represented a group who in eighties of 20th century (during the martial law in Poland) gave enormous humanitarian help, specially by sending medicines to the hospitals in B-B. Mutual contacts were fruitful and next they proposed to organize Soroptimist International club here, in B-B. Jadwiga Grzbiela with great enthusiasm started to introduce the new idea. She brought together right number of ladies who began to work. Jadwiga, first President of our club was talented lady who managed to gather those who really wanted to devote their energy and time to help the others.

That is why very soon, in June 1991, the charter of the club took place. The event got a lot of publicity in the city. We had 76 guests from almost all over the world. Among others we hosted Sisters from European Federation and from Metz (godmothers of the club), as well as from Norway, Switzerland, Germany, Australia and New Zealand at the charter ceremony.

We started everyday work of the club. The question was, how to collect money for our activity? On the initiative of our first President Jadwiga Grzbiela, who was unusual person indeed, we organized first charity ball. To our great surprise it turned out to be a success!! By the way, until now charity balls are the main sources of raising money for the needs of the club... During the next years we have launched two main projects. First one (2004) entitled the „Young People are Our Chance” – to help specially talented disadvantaged children to develop their dreams and plans. We granted several scholarships for musical talented schoolgirls and co-funded some musical instruments as well.

The latest project „We know our Mums” was launched in April 2012. The idea was to focus on the mothers of disabled children and to build the mothers' awareness of their needs and to discover or to bring out their individual interests as well as to integrate the people having the same problems.