

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF MARIKINA METRO

SI-Marikina Metro was organized by Past Federation Director Ma. Paloma B. Papa. She initiated several meetings and invited prospective members where she explained the vision and mission of the Club. The gettogether was lively, friendly, and informal. She competently fielded questions that clarified some concerns. In a lighter vein, the tête-à-tête became what we called SOLT. When PFD Papa was able to gather 15 ladies to commit - 15 was the minimum number of members needed to form a club - she had SI-Caloocan and SI-Taguig to sponsor the chartering of SI-Marikina Metro.

SIMM was chartered on the first quarter of 2006, officially on July 1, 2006 when membership dues were duly paid.

The first charter president was Mrs. Milagros Arnaldo, who unfortunately did not stay long with the club. Of the 14 other charter members, only two has remained to this day: PDD Florence K. Martin and PD Esmela C. David.

SIMM has faced numerous challenges and obstacles any start-up club/organization go through. What is amazing is that SIMM has weathered all these and stands tall to date. In the recent past, the focus was organizing and strengthening the members' commitment.

It was only five years ago, under the leadership of PP Janet Lapus, when SIMM began vying for the governor's award. It was quite a successful endeavor. SIMM also received awards under the leadership of PP Nadeia Sarte.

Presently, the club's leadership has trained its sights on strengthening further the Four Pillars. President Irene DLR Razal and VP Gigi Mendoza-Buenaventura are concentrating and working to implement the flagship programs and projects of SIA and SIPR. The Club has high hopes that it will again receive awards for this biennium.