

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY CELEBRATED

Dallas

More than 150 SGI-USA members from Dallas and Killeen, Texas, celebrated Dr. King's birthday for the third year by walking three miles in the annual parade sponsored by the city of Dallas. This year was special because a local community development organization, YOUTH 2 YOUTH, which sponsors activities for teens, invited SGI members to speak at their post-parade Save Our Youth Peace-out Rally. Texas Region Young Women's Division Leader Mimi Kubiak related her experience of a recent trip to the Martin Luther King Jr. museum in Atlanta.

After the rally, SGI member Barbara Felsen commented: "One of the things that I like about living in Dallas is the diversity, and I want to support that. Dr. King was a fighter for peace, and we're fighters for peace, too — it's our mission."

— *CRISPIN SUSAN REEDY*

Los Angeles

The Martin Luther King Jr. Westside Coalition sponsored festivities in honor of Dr. King as a program of "commitment, renewal, interfaith exchange and community recognition" this past Jan 18. SGI-USA youth performed at the 14th annual King Day celebration held at Santa Monica College. A volunteer from the community noted that the turnout for the event was remarkable and reflected a diversity of residents.

Among the several "Community Champions" who were recognized this year were two SGI-USA members, Bonnie Boswell and Denise Harris. The keynote speaker, Angela E. Oh, an advisory board member on the President's Initiative on Race and a commissioner on the Los Angeles Human Relations Commission, was also honored.

— *STEPHANIE CELANO*

San Antonio

On Jan. 18, in the spirit of equality for which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his life, 31 SGI-USA members and friends in San Antonio marched three miles with 35,000 other participants in one of the nation's largest MLK marches.

The day before, an interfaith service was held at the Second Baptist Church. SGI-USA member Cheryl Emerson greeted a diverse congregation on behalf of the city, as did Councilman Mario Salas, who represents District 2, where the activities took place. An administrator for Mr. Salas, Mrs. Emerson also served as the publicity chair for the San Antonio MLK Commission. San Antonio Men's Division leader Roy Duggan also spoke, expressing appreciation for Dr. King.

This was the first time San Antonio members participated in the community's MLK Day activities. They deepened their resolve to have even greater participation next year and to discover new ways to support the San Antonio community.

— *BRANT MILLER*

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