Soroptimist International of Riverside ~ P. O. Box 1631 ~ Riverside CA 92502 Riverside CA 92502

JANUARY 2020



SOROPTIMIST VISION

Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

SOROPTIMIST MISSION

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides

women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

SOROPTIMIST TAG LINE

Investing in Dreams

SOROPTIMIST CORE VALUES

Soroptimist International of the Americas is committed to:

- GENDER EQUALITY:
 - Women and girls live free from discrimination.
- EMPOWERMENT: Women and girls are free to act in their own best interest.
- <u>EDUCATION</u>: Women and girls feserve to lead full and productive lives through access to education.

DIVERSITY & FELLOWSHIP:

Women from varied backgrounds and perspectives work together to improve the lives of women and girls.

2019-20 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Vicki Hightower 2018-20 SIR President

"Knowing what must be done does away with fear." ...Rosa Parks

I recently read a report authored by the Center for Social Innovation at the University of California, Riverside, entitled "State of Women in the Inland Empire." The statistics in the report were rather discouraging. There are 2.32 million women in the Inland Empire but women in the Inland Empire but women in the Inland Empire earn just 68 cents for every dollar earned by men in the region. The gap widens for women of color.

The Inland Empire also has substantial gender disparities in political representation. While women are well-represented on school boards (51%), women comprise only 26% of city councils and only 21% of women are involved in county leadership.

In spite of these grim statistics, the report is overall optimistic, noting the success of nonprofits working collaboratively to boost the strength of women in the Inland Empire.

What I took away from this report is that although women have made tremendous strides towards equality, we have a long way to go. What I also took away from this report is that organizations such as Soroptimist International of Riverside make a

true impact on the status of women in our region.

The report notes that educational attainment by women significantly increases earning potential and their political power. Soroptimist's emphasis on providing education opportunities to women and girls is key to changing the lives of women, not only in the Inland Empire, but throughout the world.

Thank you to all members of SI Riverside for your continued commitment to empowering women and girls.

President Vicki

JANUARY 2020



- 7 <u>BOARD MEETING</u> 12:00 PM, First United Methodist Church, 4845 Brockton Ave, Riverside
- 11 <u>NATIONAL DAY OF</u> <u>HUMAN TRAFFICKING</u> <u>AWARENESS</u>
- 14 <u>BUSINESS MEETING</u>
 12:00 PM, First United
 Methodist Church, Koinonia
 Meeting Room, 4845
 Brockton Ave, Riverside
- 24 <u>INTERNATIONAL DAY OF</u> <u>EDUCATION</u>
- 28 *PROGRAM MEETING*12:00 PM, First United
 Methodist Church, Koinonia
 Meeting Room, 4845
 Brockton Ave, Riverside



FEBRUARY 2020



4 BOARD MEETING 12:00 PM, First United Methodist Church, 4845 Brockton Ave, Riverside

7 <u>VALENTINE DESSERT</u> <u>AUCTION</u>

Victoria Club, 2521 Arroyo Drive, Riverside

11 <u>BUSINESS MEETING</u>
12:00 PM, First United
Methodist Church, Koinonia
Meeting Room, 4845
Brockton Ave, Riverside

25 *PROGRAM MEETING*12:00 PM, First United
Methodist Church, Koinonia
Meeting Room, 4845
Brockton Ave, Riverside

DATES TO REMEMBER



March 14, 2020 <u>LIVE YOUR DREAM: DREAM IT</u> <u>BE IT CONFERENCE</u>

Riverside Community College

May 29-31, 2020 GOLDEN WEST REGION SPRING CONFERENCE

Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort, Flagstaff, Arizona

July 22-25, 2020 SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS BIENNIAL CONVENTION

> Bellevue Hyatt Regency Bellevue, Washington

October 1-3, 2021 SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 100TH ANNIVERSARY

San Francisco, California

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Soroptimist International of Riverside, a club in District 1 of the Golden West Region of Soroptimist International of the Americas, meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at the First United Methodist Church, 4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, from noon until approximately 1:15 PM.

Please arrive a little early so that we may begin promptly at noon. The 2nd Tuesday is a Business Meeting and the 4th Tuesday is a Program Meeting. Lunches are approximately \$16/each and can be paid on a yearly, quarterly or per meeting basis. For questions, please contact the SI Riverside Assistant Treasurer.

JANUARY 24, 2020 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION



On December 3, 2018, the United Nations General with Assembly adopted resolution consensus a proclaiming January 24th as INTERNATIONAL DAY EDUCATION in celebration of the role of education for peace and development.

The adoption of the resolution 73/25 "International Day of Education", co-authored by Nigeria and 58 other Member States, demonstrated the unwavering political will to support transformative actions for

inclusive, equitable and quality education for all.

By doing so, the international community reiterated that education plays a key role in building sustainable and resilient societies and contributes to the achievement of all other Sustainable Development Goals.

With a view to enhance international cooperation supporting the efforts towards the realization of Sustainable Development Goal 4. the resolution called all on stakeholders including Member States, organizations of the UN system, and civil society, nongovernmental organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, individuals and other relevant stakeholders to observe International Dav Education.

UNESCO, as the specialized United Nations agency for education, will facilitate the annual observance of the day in close collaboration with main education actors.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS



DREAM PROGRAMS

Soroptimist Dream Programs Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards and Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls empower and promote the economic inclusion of disadvantaged women and girls through access to education and training. Our Dream Programs provide women and girls with the resources and education they need to become leaders and participate fully in political, economic and public life. With the support and resources from our Dream Programs, we are helping women and girls access decent work and achieve full and productive employment when they enter the work force.

Our Dream programs target disadvantaged women and girls living in poverty and facing additional obstacles to their success like violence, caring for dependents, physical or mental illness, substance abuse or a lack of access to education or training.

By focusing on disadvantaged women and girls in our 20 countries and territories, we are addressing those who are most vulnerable to poverty, violence and exploitation. In all 20 of our countries and territories, clubs are supporting the educational goals of women and girls through our Dream Programs.

We have 11 developing countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, the Philippines Peru, Venezuela. We also operate in nine developed countries and Canada, Chile, territories: Guam, Japan, Korea, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, Taiwan and the United States.

Providing our target population of disadvantaged women and girls with access to quality education is the cornerstone of our Dream Programs - whether it is formal education or technical and vocational training. We want to ensure that these women and airls have the education and information they need to accelerate their economic empowerment.

The Live Your Dream Award – a cash award rather than a scholarship – provides women

with the autonomy to decide what expenses to cover to support her education. The award accelerates their economic empowerment by helping women find better paying jobs and increasing their standard of living.

For girls, our Dream It, Be It Program puts them on the right track to take action to live empowered lives free from poverty, violence and exploitation.

LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARDS

- Each year, we give funding to more than 1,300 disadvantaged women to support their education and career goals.
- Each year, we provide more than \$2 million to support the education and career goals of disadvantaged women.
- Applicants from Brazil, Mexico, Paraguay, the Philippines and Panama have reported incomes of less than \$1.25 a day.
- 70% of recipients reported living in poverty on their application.
- 82% of recipients report having more than one barrier to their success including poverty, violence, homelessness, substance abuse and mental or physical illnesses.
- 76% of recipients who complete their education have higher paid employment within three years.
- 82% of recipients who complete their education increase the standard of living for themselves and their dependents within three years.
- Nearly 60% of the recipients have reported suffering some form of violence.
- Within one year of receiving the Live Your Dream Award,

- 98% of recipients report living in a safe environment.
- 95% of recipients complete or are continuing their education after three years.
- 97% of recipients report an increased self-esteem.

DREAM IT, BE IT: CAREER SUPPORT FOR GIRLS

- Since its inception in 2015, more than 20,000 girls have participated in Dream It, Be It.
- 90% of girls feel more confident about their future success.
- 87% of girls feel more prepared to pursue their future career goals.
- 80% of girls have tools to overcome obstacles to their success.
- 75% of girls have new tools to overcome setbacks.
- 78% of girls know women who want to support their professional aspirations.
- 87% of girls were introduced to professional role models.
- 86% of girls created achievable goals for their future.

From SIA website: www.soroptimist.org

DECEMBER 13, 2019 HOLIDAY PARTY



HOLIDAY PARTY

SI Riverside members along with their families and friends came together at Paula McCroskey's beautifully decorated home on December 13th for our annual Holiday Party. The catered meal was delicious, the ornament exchange was fun and we all enjoyed visiting and spending time with each other.

A great time was had by all.

























































DECEMBER 13, 2019 FOOD DRIVE FOR ARLINGTON TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE



At SI Riverside's holiday party, members brought non-perishable food that the club donated to the families helped by Arlington Temporary Assistance.

The mission of Arlington Temporary Assistance is to provide assistance to families and individuals in need and to encourage them in their struggle for self-sufficiency.

Assistance includes food (limited to 6 times a year), clothing, referrals to appropriate social service agencies, bus tickets for medical appointments and emergencies and utility assistance for Southern California Edison electricity bills and gas funds permitting (usually the first part of the year).

SI Riverside annually provides backpacks to the children helped by Arlington Temporary Assistance and also holds food drives during the holidays so the families can prepare holiday meals. DECEMBER 13, 2019
HAND CRAFTED EGG
ORNAMENTS FROM SI
SUD-BURGENLANDSTEGERSBACH



SI Riverside graciously thanks our Austrian Friendship Link, Soroptimist International of Sud-Burhgenland-Stegersbach, for the beautiful egg ornaments that they shipped to our club to be given out to all of our members at our holiday party on December 13th.

Each delicate ornament is hand crafted with the word "Soroptimist" on one side and a beautiful floral design on the other side.

SI Riverside member Karin Roberts, our link with the Austrian club, provided information on the history of these beautiful eggs.

At Easter, the women from the area of Stinatz in southern Burgenland, Austria, decorate the colorful Easter eggs with sharp knives, scratching intricate engravings into the shells which have been treated with special colors making them more resistant for this process.

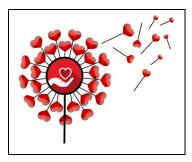
This ancient tradition has been passed down from the Croats in the region for more than 100 years. Traditionally, these Easter egg decorators used mainly red, purple or black colored eggs which they decorated with traditional floral or religious motifs. Today, however, they are a lot more colorful and imaginative. You can admire

these small works of art if you visit the village.

The women (there are only four or five of them left) of Stinatz who make these eggs belong to a Croation minority which settled here long ago. The eggs are regular white chicken eggs (also some goose, quail and ostrich eggs), the raw insides blown out via tiny pinholes. The egg shells are dyed and then parts of the dye are scraped away with a dull knife. The traditional patterns are mostly flowery or religious but they also now do custom work.



FEBRUARY 7, 2020
VALENTINE DESSERT
AUCTION & BATTLE OF
THE BAKERS



Yes, it's the start of a new year, a new decade and a renewed sense of purpose promoting Soroptimist International of Riverside's activities. We are about six weeks away from our signature fundraiser, the *Valentine Dessert Auction*, to be held *Friday, February 7, 2020* at *Victoria Club* in Riverside.

Each year we are honored by the generosity of the community as they support our mission to provide women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

We are also looking forward this year to the return of Mr. Stan Morrison as the Auctioneer Extraordinaire of the *Live* Auction. Stan has an engaging style that gets everyone cheering and competing for the top bid on items like weekend resort getaways, beautiful custom jewelry, celebrity lunches, an adorable puppy and, of course, the CAKES.

Our Battle of the Bakers has become synonymous with Beautiful, Luscious and Irresistible Cakes from award-winning local bakeries. Each entry is available to bid on so that you can taste for yourself why these cakes are so popular with attendees. year's theme for the bakers is "Love is in the Air." It's a visual treat to see how the bakers interpret the theme. And if you're lucky, you might win the bid or at least get to share with a table mate.

Baked goods and vacation trips are not the only things at this frolicking luncheon. You will find a *Silent Auction* that offers a wide range of items such as Specialty Coffee baskets, Gourmet Cooking Baskets, Hand-crafted Dinner Bells, Ah, Spa Day Baskets and other baskets too numerous to list.

If you have not yet purchased gifts for those you love and who support you in your daily life at work or home, you will be able to find something sweet and appealing at the *Small Gift Table* during the event. Candy, decorating items and baked

goods all await you to purchase. Attractively packaged, these items are ready to gift those special people.

Another fun part of the event is the *Wine Auction* where your card could assure you the prize of 52 Bottles of Premium Wine! All for one low price of \$60 per card. A bargain of a wine cellar!

The Valentine Dessert Auction Committee invites you to join us for this annual event. Registration is available on our website:

www.soroptimstriverside.org

and by calling (951) 202-4183. See you there.

JoAnn Moore, Event Chair

MARCH 14, 2020 LIVE YOUR DREAM: DREAM IT BE IT CONFERENCE



SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, March 14, 2020

The Live Your Dream planning committee is working hard on putting together another successful Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It Conference for 7th and 8th grade girls from the AVID programs in the Alvord, Jurupa and Riverside Unified School Districts.

The conference is at Riverside City College from 8:30 AM to

3:00 PM. We will need all members to make this another wonderful event for these young girls.

Jeanne Hatcher Conference Chair

INSPIRE LIFE SKILLS TRAINING



Inspire Life Skills Training provides supportive housing for former foster and homeless youth. The residents have a safe place to live as long as they are seeking an education whether at a technical school or at a college.

SI Riverside adopted the Luther House in Riverside in 2016 and has continued over the years to provide little extras to help the young ladies in their educational journey such as household supplies, hot meals, groceries, gift cards, holiday baskets and letters of encouragement.

Recent holiday activities included my husband Tim putting up Christmas lights on the Luther house.



Later in December, I delivered groceries, holiday baskets and gift cards donated by SI Riverside members and some of my friends.





Jill Borth Inspire Chair

SI RIVERSIDE T-SHIRTS



SI RIVERSIDE T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

Linda Robertson has SI Riverside club T-shirts available to purchase for \$20 each (checks payable to SI Riverside). Linda has the following sizes:

> Small -1 Large - 11 X-Large - 3 XX-Large - 1

If you want to purchase a club T-shirt, please text or call Linda so she can set one aside for you. Linda will be bringing the shirts to our business meeting on January 14th.

SI Riverside members wear these shirts at Fall Meetings, Spring Conferences and any other events that we want to identify ourselves as members of SI Riverside. It would be great for all members to own one of these shirts.

FRIENDSHIP LINK SI SUD-BURGENLAND-STEGERSBACH, AUSTRIA

Karin Roberts, our link with SI Sud-Burgenland-Stegersbach, received a beautiful club photo of our Austrian SI sisters:



FRIENDSHIP LINK SI ERLANGEN, GERMANY

Dear SI Sisters in Riverside:

Here are some impressions from our booth at Erlangen's Christmas market and from our Christmas dinner.

We will most certainly meet in September when some of you will visit Erlangen.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season!

Best Regards, Frauke Liers & Gertrud Dingermann SI Erlangen, Germany



ERLANGEN'S CHRISTMAS MARKET









SI ERLANGEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER













SOLT Soroptimist Orientation and Leadership Training



How to Interact is a Choice

It's all too easy to interact with others without thinking about the impact you have on them and what that means for your success and that of your organization. You can be on automatic in your interactions without thinking about whether they harm or help your ability to lead people. It's harder, but important, to be intentional about how you communicate so that it can engage others and allow you to lead with ease.

Have you considered that the small, everyday things you do when you interact can have a negative or positive impact on you and your organization? Let's take a peek behind the curtain of what negative and positive interactions you can have every day that might have an affect on your ability to lead.

NEGATIVE WAYS OF INTERACTING

Negative ways of interacting erode the relationships that are most important to collective success. Everyday ways of interacting that can erode trusting relationships may include:

Allowing distraction: Those who work with and for you will thrive

on your ability to stay present and focused on them. When you allow yourself to slip into distraction, they can receive the impression that you don't care about them, resulting in less interaction that is effective and important. Although there are plenty of things to distract you, resist it, and be intentional about turning to others when they need your attention.

Engaging in hearsay: There is nothing more disappointing than leaders who permit themselves to spread gossip or hearsay. You know that "meeting after the meeting" when you talk about someone in an unfavorable way or make assumptions out loud about things that are none of your business are dangerous. It damages you as much (or more) as it damages the person you of. Put away the assumptions you make and start fresh and without judgment and see what a difference it makes in your relationships.

Expressing one-upmanship: It's tempting in our business and corporate hierarchies to want to represent ourselves as better than others and "on top" of things. While it may briefly make you feel good, over the long haul this behavior damages relationships and your reputation. It frustrates others while at the same time spreads the behavior throughout the organization and can create an unhealthy culture of competition.

POSITIVE WAYS OF INTERACTING

Positive ways of interacting build up your relationships and contribute to the success of your organization. Everyday ways of interacting that build trusting relationships include:

Being fully present: Nothing says you care more than to be fully present to those who need your attention. It's a sign of respect to focus on those you guide in doing the work you need done every day. This means that you ask them what they need, develop them and help them grow and forget about yourself for a while. Providing your full attention to others will have a bigger impact than you can imagine.

Voice your appreciation: People who work in your organization want to know what they are doing well. In this world of criticism and feedback, be the leader who stands out from the crowd by expressing your appreciation. Consciously look for what others are doing well and then let them know what you observed. Tell them thank you at every opportunity, letting them know how grateful you are for the work they do.

Listening more than talking: Listening better and deeper seems like such a small thing but intentional listening with your ears as well as your heart will go a long way toward building respect and trust into your organization. One way to measure whether you are on the right track toward listening more is to assure that you are listening more than talking. Listening deeply will go further than almost any other act you can imagine to show others that you value them.

Stop being on automatic in your interactions. Sometimes the smallest things you do in communication with others make all the difference. Choose carefully how you will interact because your choices can make a difference, for better or worse, to your leadership.

Article from the SIA webpage: www.soroptimist.org



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Kaçey Sutton January 3rd

Carol Allain Speer January 10th

> Debi Sullivan January 23rd

Susan Exon January 28th

JANUARY CLUB MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES



Judy Pekarek 01-08-1985

Jeanne Hatcher 01-09-2001

Kathy Michalak 01-11-2011

MEMBER MOMENTS ON FACEBOOK





<u>Jill Borth</u> posted: "Our traditional hike up to Mt. Rubidoux on Christmas Eve. Beautiful day for a hike. So grateful for my family this Christmas!"



<u>Pam Bradford</u> posted: "Christman NOW (2019) and THEN (1959) with my brother Scott and sister Patti."



Ellen Clizbe was tagged in a post by Kari Clizbe Haloviak: "Happy birthday to the kindest, warmest, most loving, most Godly, most beautiful, funniest, most wise woman I know. Mom, I'm so grateful you're my mentor, my mom, my confidante and my best friend. I love you!"



<u>Jana Cook</u> posted: "Happy Birthday to our sweet Mikayla! And to our brat Mikayla? Still Happy Birthday because we love you always."



<u>Susan Exon</u> posted: "Happy Birthday Dan Bergstrom. Hope you enjoyed your birthday dinner at the Mission Inn."



<u>Debbie Ferraro</u> was tagged in a post by Chelsea Lea Storm-Larsen: "Back together and enjoying Christmas Eve on the beach."



<u>Edith Gingerich</u> shared holiday greetings.



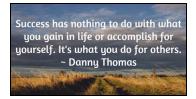
<u>Jeanne Hatcher</u> posted: "Apparently my daughter's cat likes being an item on display in her office bookcase!"



<u>Melody Hendricksen</u> posted: "Grateful for the post-Christmas dinner at Sue and Tim's. We love these people."



<u>Vicki Hightower</u> posted: "Thank you my friends Michelle, Samah and Daima for a wonderful retirement dinner."



<u>Charlene Hildebrandt</u> posted a quote from Danny Thomas.



<u>Paula McCroskey</u> posted: "My amazing grandson and sweet daughter Shannon on Christmas."



Melanie McKee posted: "Merry Christmas 2019."



<u>Amy McKenzie</u> posted: "Three generations!"



Annamarie Megrdichain posted:
"Look what I woke up to.
Fleeling blessed in
Hauser, Idaho."



<u>Kathy Michalak</u> posted: "Our home for the holidays in North Carolina with family."



Michelle Paradise posted:
"Congratulations to my husband
Greg Rowe! I am so proud of
you and love you so much!"



Kathleen Parra posted: "Tram and the desert loop hike at top. In the snow the 1.5 mile walk, felt like 2. Fun falling in snow a few times but the views and look outs...ahhhhh my heart, eyes and brain full. Candy cane lane here in desert, too. Peace!"



<u>Janet Payton</u> posted: "Miss these grandkids a whole bunch. Glad you had a good Christmas."



Judy Pekarek was tagged in a post by Dacia Pekark: "Dinner with family at Nucci's Bar & Restaurant in Pittsfield, Illinois."



<u>Linda Robertson</u> was tagged in a photo posted by Debbie Kelley.



<u>Tillie Soliz</u> was tagged in a post by Linda Arseo: "Fun holiday time with my brother, aunt and friends."



<u>Carol Allain Speer</u> shared a holiday cartoon.

When you find something you like so you get it in every color...



<u>Debi Sullivan</u> shared a post by "Enlisted Nine Fight Company."



<u>Kacey Sutton</u> posted: "Holiday decor galore in Beverly Hills."



<u>Susan Wolf</u> shared a memory from eight years ago: "Such good memories and friends."

OTHER MEMBER MOMENTS



Melody Hendrickson was featured on the front page of the Press-Enterprise as she placed a candle on the steps of the Riverside County Administration building during a vigil in honor of homeless people who died in the county in 2019.



<u>Karin Roberts</u> and <u>Jeanne</u> <u>Hatcher</u> had a good time in downtown Riverside.

INFORMATION



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SOROPTIMIST PLEDGE



SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

I pledge allegiance to Soroptimist and to The ideals for which it stands:

The Sincerity of Friendship,
The Joy of Achievement,
The Dignity of Service,
The Integrity of Profession,
The Love of Country.
I will put forth my greatest
effort to promote, uphold,
and defend these ideals, for
a larger fellowship
in home, in society,
in business, for country
and for God.



RIVERSIDELINES



EDITOR Pam Bradford

DEADLINE

Submit articles and photos by the 25th of each month to Pam at: pambradford@pamsemail.net

NEW YEAR THOUGHTS











