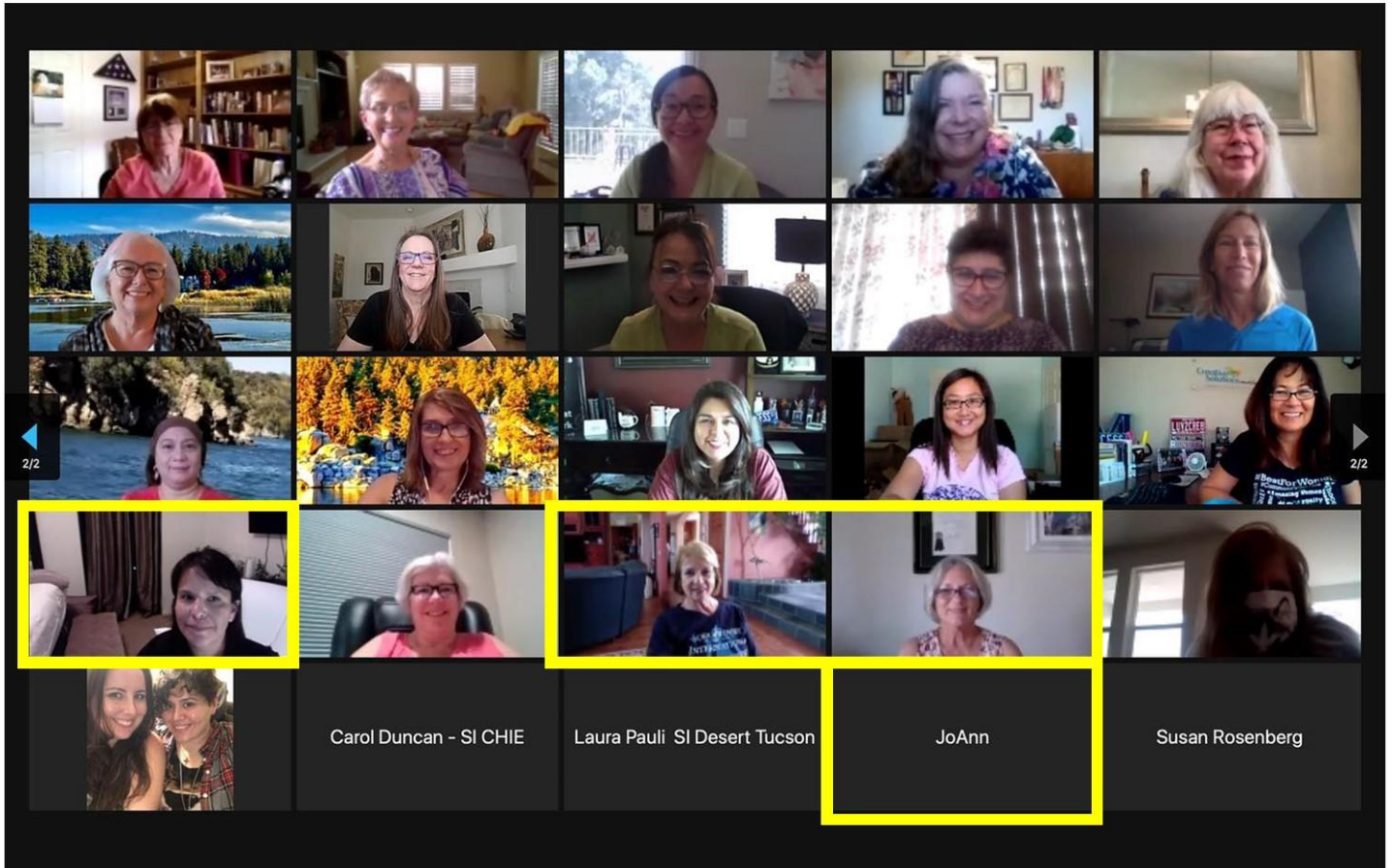




# Riversidelines

NOVEMBER 2020



## Golden West Region District 1 Virtual Fall Meeting

October 16-17, 2020

See Fall Meeting Report in this Newsletter



**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.
- **EDUCATION:** Women and girls deserve 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.

**2020-21 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**PRESIDENT**

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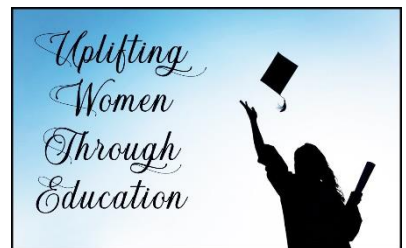
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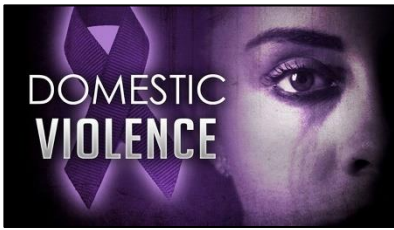
**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



Edith Gingerich  
2020-21 SIR President



*Note: This month's President's Message should probably have been included in my column in last month's Riversidelines since October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. However, the information is so powerful and relevant to every month of the year that I'm including it in my message for November.*  
*President Edith*



## **OCTOBER IS NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

Domestic violence is an unfortunate reality that occurs within every class, age group, race and religion. It happens in families, friendships and intimate relationships. Intimate partner violence happens within same and different sex partnerships. It happens whether people are married, living together or dating.

Approximately one in four women has been a victim of domestic violence. October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month - a time established to draw attention to this unspeakable crime and continue efforts to raise awareness and stop the violence.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the first Day of Unity observed in October 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The intent was to connect battered women's advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children.

The Day of Unity soon became a special week when a range of activities were conducted at the local, state and national levels. In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. That same year the first

national toll-free hotline was begun.

In 1989 the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month Commemorative Legislation was passed by the U.S. Congress. Such legislation has passed every year since.

- On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During one year, this equates to more than 10 million women and men.
- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have been victims of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner within their lifetime.
- 1 in 5 women and 1 in 7 men have been victims of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.
- 1 in 7 women and 1 in 18 men have been stalked by an intimate partner during their lifetime to the point in which they felt very fearful or believed that they or someone close to them would be harmed or killed.
- On a typical day, there are more than 20,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide.
- In domestic violence homicides, women are six times more likely to be killed when there is a gun in the house.
- Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime.

- Women between the ages of 18-24 are most commonly abused by an intimate partner.

The Purple Ribbon Council has requested that we all wear purple ribbons during October and November to signify Domestic Violence Awareness.



Soroptimist International of the Americas has a donation program that helps support women in the following ways:

**EMPOWER SURVIVORS** - Your gift supports women and their families who have overcome obstacles like domestic violence, trafficking or sexual assault.

**PROVIDE EDUCATION** - Your donation provides mentorship, educational assistance and financial support through the Dream Programs to help women and girls thrive.

**INVEST IN THEIR FUTURES** - Your support helps provide \$2.8 million each year to women across the world, helping create a future where their families are safe, happy and healthy.

**BREAK THE CYCLE** - With your help, together we can reach more women working to break the cycle of violence and rebuild their lives.

You can donate at:

<https://go.soroptimist.org/donate-dvam20>

Edith Gingerich  
2020-21 SIR President

Portions of this article were taken from Cal OES, Governor's Office of Emergency Services

## NOVEMBER 2020 CALENDAR

# November



ALL MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER WILL BE ON ZOOM

- 3 BOARD MEETING  
12:00 PM on Zoom
- 9 WORLD FREEDOM DAY
- 10 BUSINESS MEETING  
12:00 PM on Zoom
- 17 VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR  
6:00 PM on Zoom
- 25 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

26 THANKSGIVING

NOTE: THERE IS NO PROGRAM MEETING IN NOVEMBER

## DECEMBER 2020 CALENDAR

# December



ALL MEETINGS IN DECEMBER WILL BE ON ZOOM

- 1 BOARD MEETING  
12:00 PM on Zoom
- 8 BUSINESS MEETING  
12:00 PM on Zoom

*HOLIDAY PARTY TO BE ANNOUNCED*

NOTE: THERE IS NO PROGRAM MEETING IN DECEMBER

## DATES TO REMEMBER



February 6, 2021  
VIRTUAL VALENTINE AUCTION

March 6, 2021  
VIRTUAL LIVE YOUR DREAM: DREAM IT BE IT CONFERENCE

October 1-3, 2021  
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL  
100th ANNIVERSARY ONLINE  
GLOBAL CELEBRATION

July 20-23, 2022  
SIA 47TH BIENNIAL  
CONVENTION  
Seoul, Korea

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL



## WHERE WE STAND ON ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING

These are the principles that Soroptimist International strongly supports and will advocate for and on behalf of women and girls, believing life-long learning is a fundamental continuation of the right to basic education and a necessary follow on to achieve sustainable development and improved societies.

- Soroptimists support all actions of governments, intergovernmental institutions and civil society to promote, improve and enable the provision of continuing education and training provision whatever their age.

- Soroptimists encourage all governments and other providers to create or ensure safe physical environments in all education and training such as proper sanitation facilities, clean water and safe transport.

- Soroptimists will engage with governmental and civil society partners to monitor data and programs to measure progress toward gender equality and life-long learning.

Soroptimists recognize the 2020 commitment by Member States at CSW to the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action to achieve gender equality especially in the promotion of education and training for women and girls. This has further strengthened the need to achieve the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 has provided added impetus for the inclusion of programs of life-long learning for women to ensure they are able to contribute to the revitalization of communities and economies effectively.

From Soroptimist International Webpage: [soroptimistinternational.org](http://soroptimistinternational.org)

**SOROPTIMIST  
INTERNATIONAL  
100th ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION**



Dear Soroptimists:

Happy 99th Anniversary! 99 years ago, on October 3, 1921,

women leaders led by President Violet Richardson launched the first Soroptimist Club in California. President Violet said that she "never would have considered the Soroptimist movement had she not envisioned it as worldwide and dedicated to all matters of justice and quality of life." Today, her vision has come to life in 121 countries around the world.

We are now counting down the days to October 3, 2021 - the 100th anniversary of the founding of Soroptimist! Our anniversary theme, "Bright Past, Brilliant Future," perfectly encapsulates the respect for and memory of those incredible women who had the foresight and courage to become Soroptimists and pursue the best for women. Our theme also reminds us that the Soroptimists of today are acting with the same forward thinking and courage to make our "Brilliant Future" come alive through our 2021-2031 Big Goal of investing in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education.

Let's celebrate together! To help our clubs begin planning celebrations of our "Bright Past," our organization's staff is preparing a virtual "Celebration in a Box" where you will find suggestions and tools to help celebrate in your club and in your community. This Celebration Box will launch in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please download from the SIA website ([soroptimist.org](http://soroptimist.org)) our anniversary logo and view our social media tool kit for ideas.

Also, beginning in January 2021 and every month until the end of our biennium convention in July 2022, part of our history will be

unveiled for you to share along with new public awareness and social media content, commemorative jewelry for purchase and historical presentations and timelines developed from our Soroptimist archives. Social media campaigns will follow the day to day formation of our first club, the Soroptimist Club of Alameda County and the Soroptimist clubs that followed.

Over the past seven months, as we have all worked through the challenges of the global pandemic, you have re-imagined your community work and how to deliver our Dream Programs while staying engaged with each other. You have demonstrated that our spirit of innovation is alive and well. If your club has not yet completed its internal assessment to prepare for our 2021-2031 Big Goal, please use the "Working as One" resource on the SIA website ([soroptimist.org](http://soroptimist.org)) as soon as possible to ensure your work and energy are mission based. Also, if your club needs help working differently due to restrictions because of the pandemic, please visit the resources in the "Soroptimist Forward Digital Tool Kit," also on the SIA website ([soroptimist.org](http://soroptimist.org)).

Additionally, as we prepare to welcome our second century, your documented mission focused community work will join our Live Your Dream Education Training Awards for Women and Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls toward reaching our 2021-2031 Big Goal of investing in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education. To celebrate our "Brilliant Future," please share your work and celebrations

through our special anniversary social media hashtag #Soroptimist100. See the anniversary social media tool kit for more details.

What is better than celebrating with 100th Anniversary jewelry? To begin the countdown to our 100th Anniversary, we are launching two special SIA pins to commemorate and celebrate a century of improving the lives of women and girls. The first pin, item #152 (purchase price \$59), is a timeless gold octagonal pin with the S logo, offset by Swarovski crystals and Soroptimist 100th Anniversary engraved on the back.



Our second pin, item #153 (purchase price \$80), is a highly polished silver oval, featuring our S logo surrounded by ten pearls finely interlaced around the border with sparkling cubic zirconia.



Pre-order today and help us celebrate our past while we prepare for our future. Contact sales@soroptimist.org for assistance.

I look forward to the celebrations of our "Bright Past, Brilliant Future" starting in just a few short months. Have fun planning your club's celebrations and remember to share using the hashtag #Soroptimist 100. Enjoy as we celebrate 99 years together! And let the countdown to 100 years begin!

Best wishes as there is more to come!

Penny Babb  
2020-2021 SIA President

**NOVEMBER 25, 2020  
INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR  
THE ELIMINATION OF  
VIOLENCE AGAINST  
WOMEN**

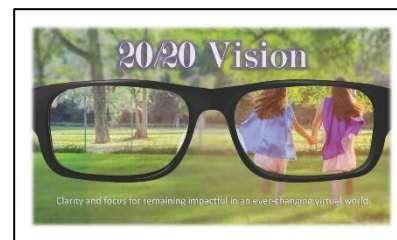


Violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread violations of human rights. According to a 2013 WHO global study, 35 per cent of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual violence. However, some national studies show that up to 70 per cent of women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime from an intimate partner.

To raise awareness and trigger action to end this global scourge, the UN observes the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on November 25th. The date marks the brutal assassination in 1960 of the three Mirabal sisters, political activists in the Dominican Republic.

Every year, November 25th and the ensuing 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence which follow (ending on December 10th, Human Rights Day) are commemorated around the world, providing individuals and groups a chance to mobilize and call attention to the urgent need to end violence against women and girls.

**OCTOBER 16-17, 2020  
DISTRICT 1 VIRTUAL  
FALL MEETING**



**2020 DISTRICT 1  
VIRTUAL  
FALL MEETING**

The 2020 Golden West Region Virtual District 1 Fall Meeting was held on October 17, 2020.

This year theme was "A Leap of Faith" and the meeting was hosted by our Golden West Region governor Laurie Moses.

The first topic that was addressed at the meeting was "member engagement" since a lot of clubs are not meeting face-to-face right now due to the Covid-19

pandemic. We discussed how to enhance member engagement via Zoom.

Some ideas to encourage member engagement were to celebrate member's birthdays, share recipes, keep in contact by calling members and having a buddy system with the current members in each Soroptimist club.

The ideas that were presented for "Dream It, Be It" to extend services were a drive for supplies, helping "Dream It, Be It" girls with applying for colleges or vocational schools and offering scholarships.

Global impact for our "Live your Dream Awards" includes:

- Impacting 1,595 women.
- \$2.4 million allocated.
- 93% of recipients reported increased self-esteem.
- 97% of recipients are now living in a safe environment.

Global impact for "Dream It, Be It" includes:

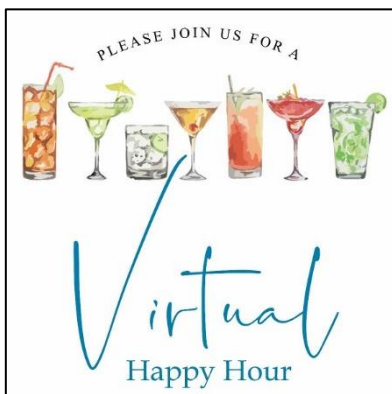
- 14,547 girls have participated.
- 91% are confident about their future success.
- 88% feel more prepared to pursue career goals.
- 85% have new tools to help them overcome obstacles facing their success.

Soroptimist International of Riverside was presented with a certificate for participation in the "Live Your Dream Education & Training Awards" program.



Melanie McKee  
Vice President

**NOVEMBER 17, 2020  
VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR**



**Zoom Meeting  
November 17, 2020  
6:00 PM**

**PLEASE INVITE  
POTENTIAL NEW  
MEMBERS!**

Have your favorite beverage near you and be prepared to tell others what being a Soroptimist means to you or how you came into the club or what you see as the most important things Soroptimist can accomplish for women and girls. Be prepared to tell a fun story about Thanksgiving, show us your favorite face mask and answer trivia questions. There will be prizes!

No need to RSVP and no cost involved.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO  
MEETING YOUR FRIENDS  
AND ACQUAINTANCES!**

**FEBRUARY 6, 2021  
VIRTUAL VALENTINE  
AUCTION**



Here we are on the cusp of Fall and all I can think about is Valentine's 2021. And it seems a lot of you are thinking the same!

We have had a gratifying response to our virtual fundraising campaign, offering a variety of avenues for donors to join in the effort. If you have not already responded to a Constant Contact email or visited our Facebook page or SI Riverside website, I encourage you to show your support of our programs and projects.

In this digital age, giving is easier than ever. Many of you may have received a mailer from us. Be sure to check your mail and return the enclosed envelope. If you have not received it, we gladly accept donations by check, addressed to P. O. Box 1631, Riverside CA 92502.

The committee is planning our Virtual Valentine Auction, tentatively set for February 6, 2021. We look forward to offering many of the same items you love to bid on, as well as some new items. But you won't

know what is there if you don't show, so keep looking for details as we start the new year.

You, your family and friends are the reason we can "Invest in Dreams and Deliver with Heart."

JoAnne Moore  
Valentine Auction Chair

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY  
WASHER/DRYER  
DONATION**



We are almost done with the four homes on Myers Street in Riverside and are getting prepared for the final stretch. The home dedication and key ceremony will probably be right after Thanksgiving.

We did not build homes the last couple of years, so three of the four families in this project are single moms (one is a veteran) and we are using the SI Riverside grant to purchase a washer/dryer for each of these three homes.



I'll keep you posted but would love to have SI Riverside members at the dedication to be able to present the washer/dryers to the moms.

Meantime, in case you haven't seen a Habitat project, the photo below will show you how we are doing. The cabinets are in (soft close doors and drawers), the countertops are in (quartz), we have the final color coat of stucco next week and then we can pour the patios front and back. Last up, the driveway and landscaping.



Of course, then there are the final interior finishes like lighting, plumbing fixtures and trim around doors that we'll be working on concurrently. Our big challenge will be recruiting everyone we know who is willing to help us put in the flooring. (Waterproof, vinyl laminate flooring.) No more carpeting because it seems like every family adds a dog as soon as escrow closes!

By the way, I was touring a community leader through the Myers Street site and when I explained that SI Riverside generously donated the money to supply the three single moms with washer/dryers, she volunteered to write a check for the fourth family. Now all four families will start their life in their new homes with a full laundry!

All of the other appliances are supplied through Whirlpool Corp. which is also totally cool!

I'll keep you posted.

Kathy Michalak  
Habitat for Humanity  
Executive Director

*SI Riverside President Edith will keep you updated on the date for the "Home Dedications" or "Open House Preview" so club members can be in attendance to present the washer/dryers to the new home owners.*

**INSPIRE LIFE SKILLS  
TRAINING**



October was a busy month for SI Riverside activity with Inspire House. Chris Deviny had the opportunity to help Anna celebrate her birthday. She put together a pretty gift bag containing products from Bath and Body Works including foaming hand soap, air freshener plug-in and air freshener for it. To help celebrate the upcoming Halloween, everything was in a Halloween theme. She also brought mini Bundt cakes for Anna to share with everyone.



RA Briana wasn't going to be home until later that evening. Someone was supposed to be home at the time Chris was going to bring the gift and mini Bundt



cakes. When Chris came by, twice, no one answered the door so, she left the gift bag by the tree in front. Chris called Briana that night to let her know what happened. Briana rescued the gift and told Chris that the gift was fine and it all looked very pretty.

It was a very hot afternoon so Chris didn't leave the mini Bundts. She gave them to a next door neighbor, a lady almost bed ridden with cerebral palsy. Way to go, Chris.

Lynn Scecina told me, "I've been collecting things. Little notebooks, masks, weights, inspirational socks, tissues and more. I'm going to bring them to Inspire House this weekend." You can tell by the photo she sent, there's quite a variety of things, many Soroptimist inspirational ones. The young ladies should have fun sharing the goodies.



Vice President Melanie McKee has the opportunity to bring dinner to Inspire House this month. At the time of writing this column, that's all I know for now. I'll include it in the next Riversidelines article.

There are still a few opportunities left. See the sign up sheet emailed October 28th. Thank you to the finest group of ladies I'm honored to be with.

Linda Robertson  
Inspire House Chair

## SOLT Soroptimist Orientation and Leadership Training



## General Club Structure and Purpose

Soroptimist clubs are organized with a recommended minimum of 12 regular members. Each club maintains a charter as long as it remains current in all financial obligations to the region and federation and has submitted all required final reports from federation club grants and disaster relief grants. Clubs not in good standing are not eligible to vote in federation elections or mail ballots and cannot receive grants or awards from the federation.

If a club has less than 12 regular members, they are notified by the federation that they are below the number of members recommended to maintain a club. Those clubs are encouraged to recruit more members and to seek advice from their region and the federation. As long as the club remains current in all financial obligations to the region and federation and submits all required final reports from federation club grants and disaster relief grants, the club is

considered to be in good standing. No club shall forfeit its charter due to having 11 or fewer regular members.

Clubs initiate, adopt and promote procedures and policies to attain federation and club objectives in carrying out the Soroptimist mission. Club bylaws should provide for the following:

- That the board of directors, composed of officers and board members, have administrative control over the affairs, funds and property of the club, except that of modifying any action taken by the club.
- That the president be the chief officer and direct the business of the club.
- That all standing and special committees be appointed by the president, unless otherwise provided for in the club procedures.

Each Soroptimist club operates within the framework of federation and international adopted policies, programs and bylaws, but each club assumes responsibility for formulation of Soroptimist policies by sending its informed delegates to federation conventions, region conferences and district fall meetings.

Clubs retain their individual character. They hold meetings, invite speakers, arrange discussions leading to research into the needs of their communities and provide service to their communities and the world. Plus, membership carries the privilege of attending Soroptimist club meetings anywhere in the world!

*From Golden West Region  
New Member Handbook  
Updated July 2020*

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



**SUSAN WOLF - 2ND**  
**JEANNE HATCHER - 8TH**  
**MELANIE MCKEE - 24TH**

## NOVEMBER CLUB MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES



*Barbara Walling*  
*11-01-2001*

*Tillie Soliz*  
*11-09-2010*

*Kathleen Parra*  
*11-08-2016*

*Melanie McKee*  
*11-13-2018*

## MEMBER MOMENTS ON FACEBOOK



*Pam Bradford posted: "I'm high risk for the coronavirus so I've been in quarantine for 7 months watching my hair grow longer and longer. I finally got my hair cut and highlighted at the home of my hairdresser instead of at her shop and she took extraordinary precautions to keep me safe. I FEEL NORMAL AGAIN!"*

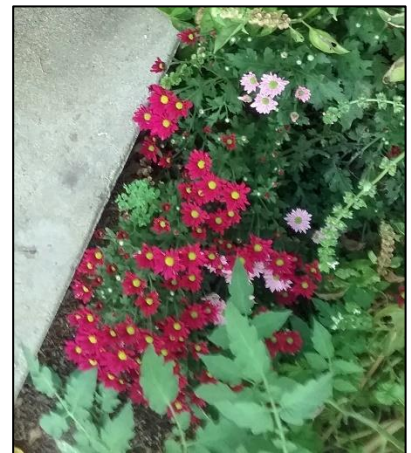


*Ellen Clizbe posted: "Old Town, San Diego; Duffy boat; miniature*

*golf at Tiki town; playing Mexican train."*



*Jana Cook posted: "From the sunshine market this morning. I forgot what it is called but supposed to have a sweet pulp inside. If you don't see any more photos of me this trip, it's because I sprouted horns after eating it."*



*Edith Gingerich posted: "First fall flowers."*

**I did my own hair today.  
How do I look?**



*Jeanne Hatcher shared a funny photo.*



*Charlene Hildebrandt posted:  
"Lunch date turned into a birthday surprise. Thank you, Brenda!"*



*Paula McCroskey posted:  
"We voted."*



*Annamarie Megrudichian posted:  
"First snow on my street.  
Bye Bye, Fall."*



*Kathy Michalak posted: "Almost forgot what this stuff is! Surprised us coming out of grocery store in South Carolina."*



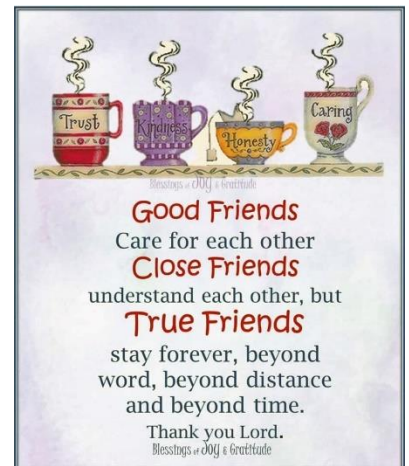
*Michelle Paradise posted:  
"Guess who visited Nana at work?"*



*Kathleen Parra shared a recipe from Andrea Green for banana splits for breakfast. Just use yogurt instead of ice cream. Yummy and easy!"*



*Janet Payton posted: "How quickly a week goes. Miss these munchkins already!"*



*Honorary Member Judy Pekarek shared a post by Doris Cotton.*



*Karin Roberts shared a YouTube video: "Dr. Florian Janik, Lord Mayor of Erlangen, Riverside's sister city, is sending a message of gratitude on the occasion of 30 years of the German unification. Dr. Janik speaks the message in German and English. Peter Steger, Erlangen's international relations officer, speaks the message in Russian and French."*



*Lynn Scecina posted: "These were my wonderful Boss's Day surprises. I have the best employees ever!"*



*Carol Allain Speer shared a beautiful photo posted by VisitSanSimeon.com.*



*Kacey Sutton-Davidson posted: "Hammock-ing at Lazy Sky in Yucca Valley."*



*Susan Wolf posted: "Our little pumpkin enjoying the season."*



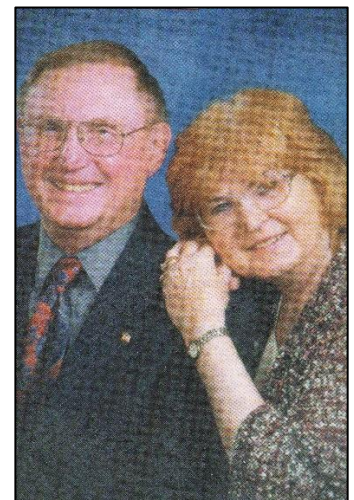
## OTHER MEMBER NEWS



*Debbie Ferraro reports: I am totally having a blast with Jim and our daughter, hubby & Stella. Being extra cautious w/masks & eating in our timeshare unit. It sure feels amazing to be away. So blessed!*



*Honorary Member Judy Pekarek and her husband Dave were recognized in their local Pittsfield, Illinois, newspaper, the "Pike County Express," on the occasion of their 54th wedding anniversary.*



Here's the article: "Dave and Judy Pekarek will celebrate their 54th wedding anniversary on October 15th. Dave and Judy were married in Waukegan, Illinois, in 1966. They have two sons, Eric (Dacia) and Byron (Dolores) and two grandchildren, Rachel and Matthew of California. Judy is the daughter of Altafae and Bill Klinefelter (deceased) of Pittsfield.

She is a niece of Bernice Klinefelter of Griggsville. After visiting Pittsfield for 50 years, the Pekarek's have retired from Riverside, California, and moved to Pittsfield."

## INFORMATION



### SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF RIVERSIDE

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Riverside CA 92502

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siriverside@soroptimist.net

WEBPAGE  
www.soroptimisttriverside.org

### FACEBOOK

Soroptimist Riverside CA

### INSTAGRAM

soroptimisttriverside

### LINKED IN

www.linkedin.com/company/soroptimist-international-of-riverside

### GOLDEN WEST REGION

### WEBPAGE

www.goldenwestregion.org

### FACEBOOK

Soroptimist International Golden West Region

### SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS INC.

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Philadelphia, PA 19103-6103

### WEBPAGE

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### FACEBOOK

Soroptimist International of the Americas

### SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

8A Romsey Terrace  
Cambridge, CB1 3NH  
United Kingdom

### WEBPAGE

www.soroptimistinternational.org

## 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](mailto:pambradford@pamsemail.net)

GIVING THANKS

