



Riversidelines

FEBRUARY 2021



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.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Edith Gingerich
2020-21 SIR President



As we enter into February and March, we are finalizing our plans and programs for our two biggest functions of the year.

Our Valentine Dessert Auction and Battle of the Bakers has become our Virtual Valentine Day Auction with the expert guidance of JoAnn Moore, the committee chairperson. I'd like to thank JoAnn and her committee members for their tireless work on transitioning our biggest fundraising event of the year into a beautiful online Virtual Auction. This was unknown territory when we started into it but JoAnn and her committee have done a fabulous job of making it happen!

Donations have been good and we are expecting next week's Virtual Auction (February 6-10 on www.32auctions.com/SIRVDA) to be a fun and lucrative fundraising event that will raise money to help even more women and girls Live their Dreams! Don't forget to send

invitations to your sphere of influence! Thank you JoAnn and committee!

Also right around the corner in March will be our Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It Conference chaired by Michelle Paradise. Again, Michelle and her committee have done a fabulous job of rewriting and organizing the event to accommodate 150 middle school girls in a virtual online event! They are still finalizing a few things but the virtual event has shaped up very nicely and promises to be as inspiring for these young girls as it has always been when done live in the past!

Thank you Michelle and your committee!

Stay home and stay safe!

Edith Gingerich
2020-21 SIR President

FEBRUARY 2021 CALENDAR

February



ALL MEETINGS IN
FEBRUARY WILL BE
ON ZOOM

- 2 BOARD MEETING
12:00 PM on Zoom

- 6 INTERNATIONAL OF ZERO TOLERANCE FOR FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

- 9 BUSINESS MEETING
12:00 PM on Zoom

- 11 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE

- 6- VIRTUAL VALENTINE
- 10 AUCTION

- 14 V-DAY (GLOBAL DAY TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN)

NO PROGRAM MEETING
IN FEBRUARY

MARCH 2021 CALENDAR

March



ALL MEETINGS IN
MARCH WILL BE
ON ZOOM

- 1 ZERO DISCRIMINATION DAY
- 2 BOARD MEETING
12:00 PM on Zoom
- 6 VIRTUAL LIVE YOUR DREAM: DREAM IT BE IT CONFERENCE
- 8 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

- 9 BUSINESS MEETING
12:00 PM on Zoom
- 10 NATIONAL WOMEN AND GIRL'S HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY
- 21 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

NO PROGRAM MEETING
IN MARCH

DATES TO REMEMBER



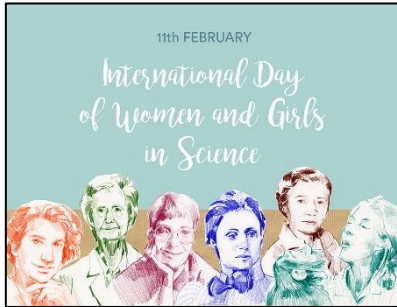
May 20-22, 2021
GOLDEN WEST REGION
SPRING CONFERENCE
Virtual on ZOOM

September 25-26, 2021
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
OF THE AMERICAS 100th
ANNIVERSARY ONLINE
CELEBRATION



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

**FEBRUARY 11, 2021
INTERNATIONAL DAY
OF WOMEN AND GIRLS
IN SCIENCE**



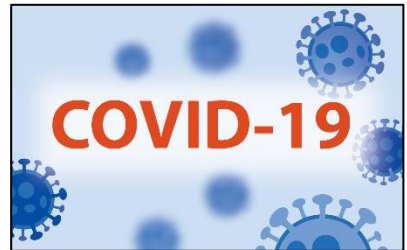
Science and gender equality are both vital for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Over the past 15 years, the global community has made a lot of effort in inspiring and engaging women and girls in science. Yet women and girls continue to be excluded from participating fully in science.

At present, less than 30 percent of researchers worldwide are women. According to UNESCO data, only around 30 percent of all female students select STEM-related fields in higher education (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). Globally, female students' enrollment is particularly low in information communications technology (3 percent), natural science, mathematics and statistics (5 percent) and in engineering, manufacturing and construction (8 percent).

Long-standing biases and gender stereotypes are steering girls and women away from science related fields. As in the real world, the world on screen reflects similar biases—the 2015 Gender Bias Without Borders study by the Geena Davis Institute showed that of the onscreen characters with an identifiable STEM job, only 12 percent were women.

In order to achieve full and equal access to and participation in science for women and girls, and further achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/70/212 declaring February 11th as the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.

**SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL**



**Soroptimist
International
Position Paper:**

**COVID-19 and
Gender Inequality**

Increasing evidence shows that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on women and girls throughout the world in all aspects of life including:

EDUCATION

Girls who have been out of school for a long period of time are less likely to return than boys, thus losing their education and future prospects. The UN Sustainable Goals Report 2020 provides extensive information on the impact of the closure of schools. Despite progress, the world is not on track to meet 2030 education targets. Before the coronavirus crisis, projections showed that more than 200 million children would be out of school and only 60 per cent of young people

would be completing upper secondary education in 2030.

School closures to stop the spread of COVID-19 are having an adverse impact on learning outcomes and social and behavioral development of children and youth. They have affected over 90% of the world's student population—1.6 billion children and youth.

Many schools are offering remote learning to students through virtual classrooms to mitigate the impact of school closures. While this is an option for some, it is out of reach for many. Many students, children and youth in vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, such as those living in remote areas, extreme poverty, fragile states and refugee camps, do not have access to technology to allow them to attend.

Although distance learning solutions are provided in four out of five countries with school closures, at least 500 million children and youth are currently excluded from these options. Lack of access to computers and the internet at home, as well as a low level of computer-related skills, put many already marginalized students at a further disadvantage. The digital divide will widen existing education equality gaps.

The care and home schooling of children out of school has fallen mainly on women/mothers. During the pandemic, women are likely to take on most additional care work owing to the closure of schools and daycare centers. School and daycare closures require parents, especially women, to care more for children and facilitate their learning at home. Often mothers do not have the levels of education sufficient to assist their children nor do they

have knowledge of or access to the technology.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Gender based violence has been reported from many countries as having increased with many incidents related to women's responsibility for the collection of water or to their need to defecate in open spaces. Growing evidence from women's aid organizations as well as police services show that there has been a major increase in domestic violence and abuse. Other forms of violence against women and girls is beginning to increase, such as forced and child marriage. It is stated in the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women reporting to the UN in July 2020: *"The intersection between the COVID-19 pandemic, and its lockdown measures, and the pandemic of violence against women, has exposed pre-existing gaps and shortcomings in the prevention of violence against women as a human rights violation that had not been sufficiently addressed by many States even before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Measures to combat COVID-19 have mostly been gender-blind with many States failing to consider measures to combat gender-based violence against women as essential services and as basic human rights that should not be restricted. A combination of such factors has resulted in the fact that lockdown measures imposed to contain the COVID-19 pandemic increased the risk of gender-based violence against women, especially domestic violence."*

HEALTH SERVICES

Women's health services, especially pre and post-maternal care, have been reduced in many places as all focus has been on

treating coronavirus patients and resources frequently diverted to deal with the pandemic patients. A rapid review of 25 essential services carried out by the World Health Organization in May 2020 uncovered serious disruptions to essential health services across the world. Routine immunization and supplementary measles and rubella campaigns were significantly disrupted. Services for non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart diseases, and cancer, have been significantly affected.

The majority of health and care workers are women and they have been placed at risk in the frontline. Globally, women make up three quarters of medical doctors and nursing personnel and are also on the front lines in fighting the coronavirus, since women account for nearly 70 per cent of health and social workers globally.

Probably one of the most critical areas for fighting the corona virus, 3 billion people worldwide still lack basic handwashing facilities at home which is the most effective method for COVID-19 prevention. The coronavirus crisis has brought to the forefront the critical importance of water, sanitation and hygiene for protecting human health. Despite progress, billions of people across the globe still lack these basic services.

Many women who have been isolated suffer deteriorating mental health particularly older women and young mothers. Those who have continued to work have seen their incomes reduced, affecting their mental well-being. Half of all young people have been feeling some degree of anxiety or depression during the pandemic. Older women, especially those living

alone, find it increasingly difficult to manage everyday life as the pandemic grips a neighborhood, thus causing high levels of anxiety. Women in rural areas find it difficult to access care and health services adding to that anxiety.

FOOD SECURITY

Access to food and other household supplies hit women hardest especially in cultures which dictate that they eat after the men and children. Eradicating hunger and achieving food security remains a challenge, more so in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis. Food insecurity was already on the rise and the population affected by moderate or severe food insecurity went from 22.4% in 2014 to 25.9% in 2019. The estimates for 2016–2019 also indicated that food insecurity was higher among adult women than men in every region.

COVID-19 poses an additional threat to food systems, indirectly reducing purchasing power and the capacity to produce and distribute food, which affects the most vulnerable populations. In 2020, up to 132 million more people may suffer from undernourishment because of COVID-19.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

The majority of employment in the hospitality, tourist, personal care, retail and service industries are held by women and are affected immediately and long term by protective measures reducing income and opportunity for women. For many of these sectors jobs are likely to be lost permanently thus reducing employment opportunities for women.

The COVID-19 pandemic has abruptly and profoundly disrupted the global economy, pushing the world into a recession. According to estimates from the International Labor Organization, global working hours could drop by 14 per cent. This is equivalent to approximately 400 million full-time workers doing a 48-hour work week. Small and medium enterprises, workers in informal employment, the self-employed, daily wage earners and workers in sectors at highest risk of disruption are hit the hardest. The largest group to be economically affected are women, since they make up the majority of workers in the hardest hit sectors.

TECHNOLOGY

The gender digital divide more greatly impacts women who are the least likely to have access to mobile technology or any type of computer. With COVID-19 forcing many to work, learn, seek healthcare and socialize from home, digital technologies and internet connectivity have never been more a part of our daily lives. To access the internet, mobile connections provide flexibility, particularly in places where broadband service is unavailable or unaffordable.

Least developed countries have seen significant growth in coverage of mobile-broadband signals, from 51% in 2015 to 79% in 2019. However, just 54% of the global population actually use the internet. Key reasons for this large gap are the cost of using the internet and the lack of necessary skills. A report by the OECD found roughly 327 million fewer women than men have a smartphone and can access mobile internet. In South Asia and Africa these proportions stand at 70 percent and 34 percent, respectively.

DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING

Gender disaggregated data is not being collected so impact and targeted funding for specific groups including women and girls is difficult to assess. While the need for sound data continues to escalate, poorer countries lack the resources to produce them.

International funding for data and statistics is about half the level it needs to be. Continued and increased technical and financial support is needed to ensure that countries in developing regions are better equipped to monitor progress of their national development agendas. In 2019, most countries reported that they were carrying out a national statistical plan. However, many also said that they lacked sufficient funding for full implementation. Only 25% of plans were fully funded in Sub-Saharan Africa, compared with 95% in Europe and Northern America. International funding for data and statistics which is essential to combat COVID-19 or any other pandemic was only half the level it needed to be.

Much of the information related to the pandemic is considered as an under-reporting or underestimate as basic data for monitoring is not considered accurate or is inconsistent in collection.

LEADERSHIP AND DECISION MAKING

Women are not included in leadership and decision making on dealing with this pandemic although so many play major parts in front line roles. Given that most of the decisions related to the pandemic both nationally and locally are being taken by political representatives there is a lack of

recognition and understanding of much of the impact on women and girls.

Women are underrepresented at all levels of representation from local community leadership to national Prime Ministerial positions. There is some evidence to suggest that female leaders have dealt with the outbreak in their countries most efficiently and effectively. A recent policy briefing from UN Women shows that whilst women are leading in frontline response, they are missing from political decision making. All of the above is magnified when women and girls from disadvantaged and vulnerable groups are considered.

It is to be recognized that certain groups across a population are affected more dramatically than others by COVID-19, for example currently there are a greater number of deaths being recorded for men than for women, with some racial groups showing higher mortality rates. It is inevitable that the research on any of the above will be ongoing for years to come but so far the research indicates in all of the above situations that women and girls are feeling the societal consequences which may put back their fight for gender equality for many years.

Long term implications and consequences need to be part of any proposals for future development. Continued detailed research globally and for individual countries will be necessary to provide a sound basis for responses at all levels in the future. We will need affirmative action programs and targeted policies to address and redress historic inequalities in gender (race or ethnicity) that have been reinforced by social norms.

WHERE SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL STANDS

These are the principles that Soroptimist International strongly supports and will advocate for on behalf of Women and Girls:

- Ensure that future rebuilding of services is based through participation and collaboration on protecting human rights and delivering an effective humanitarian response for all addressing the disproportionate and accumulative health and socio-economic impacts of Covid-19 on women, black and ethnic minority people, disabled people, older people, and others hit hardest by it.
- Enabling women and girls to have a leadership voice in their communities, locally nationally and globally to build relevant and effective new services and improved structures.

Soroptimist International supports the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through its Federations, Unions, Regions, Clubs, by working on the ground with partner organizations and UN agencies to Educate, Empower and Enable women and girls everywhere.

From Soroptimist International
website: soroptimistinternational.org

**FEBRUARY 6-10, 2021
VIRTUAL VALENTINE
DESSERT AUCTION**



HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY!

As you know we are celebrating the 25th Anniversary of our Valentine Dessert Auction this month. We are blessed by the vision and dedication of the women who have faithfully put on this event each year.

2020 presented challenges to how we could hold the auction this year but thanks to technology, we can provide the same excitement of bidding plus the anticipation of opening a new bottle of wine, a sweet treat and small treasures. The items range from \$10 to \$1,200, so there is something for everyone!

Entering the auction is simple. To get started, enter our link:

<https://www.32auctions.com/SIRVDA2021>

You will be able to preview the items and decide what your first bids will be. The auction starts on **FEBRUARY 6, 2021 at 9:00 AM** and is scheduled to run through February 10th at 11:45 PM.

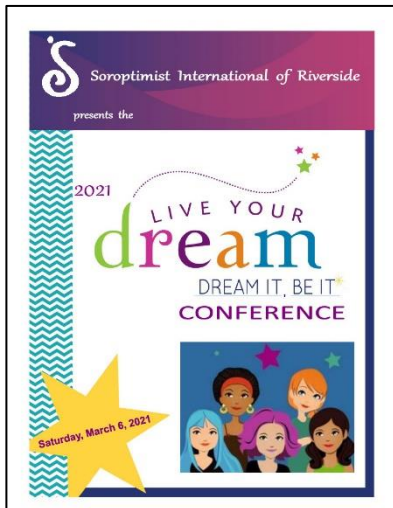
I hope you all can join us! Make it a social event and call a friend while you both are online or host a screen-share with others.

Technology allows us to spread the Soroptimist Mission and continue to fund our on-going projects.

I look forward to "seeing" you on February 6th!

Gratefully,
JoAnn Moore
Valentine Auction Chair

**MARCH 6, 2021
LIVE YOUR DREAM:
DREAM IT, BE IT
CONFERENCE**



Soroptimist International of Riverside will hold their 2021 "Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It" Conference on Saturday, March 8th. This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we cannot meet in person so the conference will be held on Zoom.

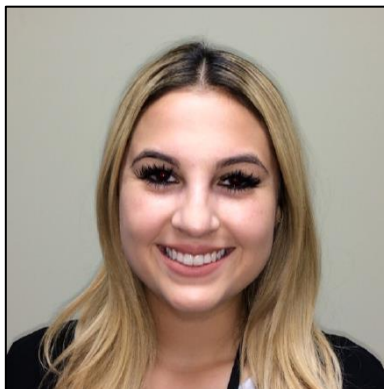
Since 2008, Soroptimist International of Riverside has annually presented our "Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It Conference" to introduce 7th and 8th girls in the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program to various career opportunities and the way to achieve career goals. The conference includes workshops provided by successful women in many different professions, outstanding keynote speakers and activities aimed at setting goals and outlining the steps to achieve them. We want the girls to discover how to achieve their dreams, one step at a time, with the help and support of the amazing women in Soroptimist International of Riverside and other professional women from the Riverside area.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Jengi Martinez, Pilot,
United States Air Force

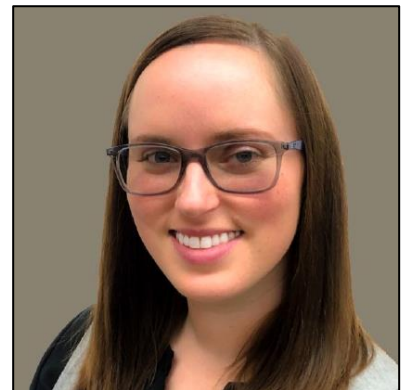
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PANEL



Alyssa Pena, Senior Criminalist
California Department of Justice



Selena McKay-Davis, Supervising
Forensic Specialist, City of
Riverside Police Department



Dawn Acevedo, Curatorial
Assistant, Center for Near
Eastern Archeology

MEDICAL PANEL



Nicole Baril, MD, General
Surgery, Kaiser Permanente
Riverside



Sophia Grant, MD,
Chief/Forensic Pediatrician,
Riverside Unified Health System



Laura Macias, Registered Nurse,
Riverside Unified Health System

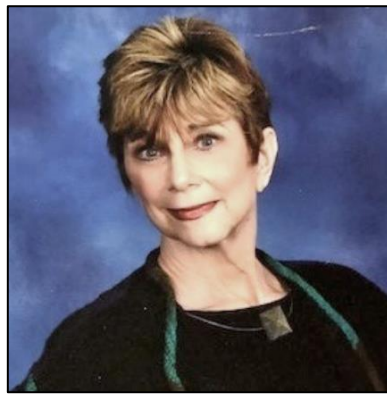
LEGAL PANEL



Sunshine Sykes, Superior Court
Judge, Superior Court of
Riverside



Daima Calhoun, Managing
Deputy District Attorney, Riverside
County District Attorney's Office



Judith Gillespie, Certified Court
Reporter, Independent
Contractor

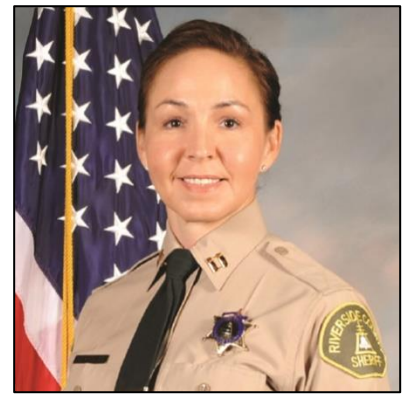
**LAW
ENFORCEMENT &
FIRE SERVICES
PANEL**



Evette Rivera, Special Agent,
Federal Bureau of Investigations



Jennifer McDowell, Chief and
Fire Marshall, City of Riverside
Fire Department



Misty Reynolds, Captain,
Riverside County Sheriff's
Department

Soroptimist International of
Riverside would like to thank the
following partners and sponsors:

**Supervisor Karen Spiegel
Bank of America**

Soroptimist International of
Riverside is also thankful to the
following school districts for
providing the opportunity for
AVID students to attend the 2021
Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It
Career Support Conference for
Girls.

**Alvord Unified School District
Jurupa Unified School District
Riverside Unified School
District**

And finally, thank you to the
members of Soroptimist

International of Riverside. Without your dedication and hard work, the Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It Conference would not be possible.



Michelle Paradise,
Live Your Dream: Dream It,
Be It Conference Chair

INSPIRE LIFE SKILLS TRAINING



January was a quieter month with Inspire House. Dinner for December was put off to January as the young ladies were scattering for the holidays. My idea of a nice turkey dinner wasn't met with much enthusiasm. I asked RA Briana to talk with the young ladies and let me know what type of food they wanted and where to get it from? Mexican food from Chipotle's was their desire.

They decided that the dinner would be on Wednesday, January 27th. I asked Briana to have each young lady go to the Chipotle website and pick what they wanted and let me know by Tuesday night. The menu items

were ordered as "Build Your Own." A list was sent to me with who wanted what to build their dinners. Dinner bowls, burritos and tacos were ordered. What a selection of items to build with! For sharing with the dinner, I added a large order of chips and guacamole. I bought a box of mixed flavored Bundtinies for dessert and a couple 2 liter bottles of soda.



Dinner was set for 7:00 PM. I ordered the dinner with a 6:30 PM pickup. When I got there the order wasn't at the pickup area. After much confusion and several employees being asked, no one knew anything and they decided someone must have taken off with the order. Dinner was delayed while I waited for it to be made again. I called Briana to let her know dinner would be delayed. When I arrived at the house, Briana and another one of the young ladies came out to my car and brought it inside.

When I got home, I had this text message on my phone, asking me to share it with the ladies of SI Riverside.

"Thank you for the food, Linda. It was delicious! Please tell the

Soroptimist ladies that we said thank you!"

SI Riverside also received a letter from Inspire Life Skills Training that follows this report.

Linda Robertson
Inspire Program Chair

Hi Adopt A House Leaders!

A new year... I usually feel incredibly hopeful at the start of a New Year, but with the events already this year and the continued pandemic, things are just hard. I'm sure everyone is feeling the effects. At least we know that we are in this together. We can all lean on each other for support and encouragement.

It may seem that you are not sure if what you are doing to support the young people in the homes is making a difference. Please let me assure you that the students feel the love that you all provide. Whether it is a hot cooked meal or birthday treats, gift baskets or some of the countless other things, they are providing a lift of encouragement during these trying times. Young people, especially those that have come out of foster care/homelessness, are not always great at showing their appreciation, but we appreciate that regardless you give them much love and warmth. THANK YOU for everything you do! ♥

This year we are hesitant to plan activities due to the restrictions for meetings and group activity. However, you are still welcome to drop off things to the houses. The biggest needs continue to be paper goods, household cleaning supplies and hot meals. Gift baskets at the holidays are always a favorite as well.

If you have other ideas, please share with me and we can figure something out. If you are having any trouble connecting with the RA's, please feel free to let me know.

Wishing you all the best throughout the upcoming New Year!

*Happy Inspiring!
Krista Langford
Resource Developer
Inspire Life Skills Training, Inc.
(951) 314-2238
klangford@inspirelifekills.org*

GOLDEN WEST REGION MEMBERSHIP MEETING



On January 9th I attended a Zoom Golden West Region All Clubs meeting for membership chairs.

Every club is concerned with maintaining and attracting members and when we are not able to meet in person, it is good to enlist creative ways to keep our ranks full. Several clubs shared success stories of what events they had, such as a virtual Christmas party at which each participant wore a festive hat or as our club did, host a virtual happy hour. Another club purchased calendars and sent one to each member.

Many ideas were presented for attracting new members, such as following up with past Live Your Dream Education and Training Award recipients and inviting potential new members to awards and Dream It, Be It events once they are held again in person. Former members might be able to attend a virtual meeting even if they were unable to attend meetings in person.

As stories are always a great way to communicate, it was suggested that members can make short videos telling why they are a Soroptimist. These videos can be posted to the club's website and social media. It would be a good idea to include not only seasoned members but new ones as well. As we are gearing up for the 100th anniversary of Soroptimist International, some of these videos might be useful for public awareness.

For any member who may be technologically challenged, it was suggested that they get paired up with a more savvy member who could help her become more comfortable with technology.

There was another membership meeting on January 13th with 23 membership chairs from across the region present.

Due to present circumstances, the Soroptimist International of the Americas goal is to maintain club membership at 85%. Some ideas for preventing attrition include reaching out to members who are not coming to the virtual meetings and contacting former members. Making meetings fun is a great way to encourage members to be present. Some clubs play games such as a scavenger hunt and others may present a "yappy hour" where they show off their pets. Inviting a potential member to be a judge for the Live Your Dream

Education & Training Award candidates is a good way to generate interest in Soroptimist. Also, integrating with the local chamber of commerce can help to get our name out, as well as having club brochures, club business cards and making sure the club website is current.

There is a bounty of membership information and ideas on the Soroptimist International of the Americas website, (www.soroptimist.org) in the form of a digital toolkit.

With a little effort and some ingenuity, we can make sure our clubs continue to thrive and grow so we can fulfill our purpose of helping as many women and girls as possible.

Lynn Seccina
Membership Chair

SOLT Soroptimist Orientation and Leadership Training



Soroptimist uses annual dues to ensure our members have a fun and meaningful club experience while accomplishing our collective mission today and into the future. Surveys tell us members value the following benefits from their membership:

MISSION BASED PROGRAMS

Members experience joy and a sense of accomplishment by working with other like-minded women on global programs that provide women and girls with

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

CONNECTIONS

Members grow professionally and personally. Through friendships with club members, relationships in your region and connections with members from diverse countries and backgrounds, you are able to grow your network. The opportunities for leadership development provide professional growth.

ACCESS TO A TEAM OF NON-PROFIT PROFESSIONALS

Members receive guidance and resources from SIA headquarters, enabling them to enjoy a meaningful club experience as they change communities for the better.

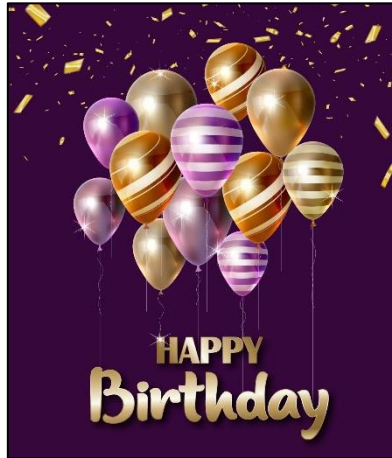
In addition to these values, here is a brief overview of the individual benefits members receive when they join Soroptimist:

- Notification of the latest edition of Best for Women, our monthly fully translated electronic newsletter which keeps you updated on Soroptimist initiatives and activities.
- Leadership development and networking opportunities.
- Opportunity to participate in and provide feedback through our social media sites.
- Access to contact information for other members, clubs and leaders via online directories.
- Invitations to take advantage of special offers and discounts through our partners.

- Invitations to international biennial conventions

Taken from "Soroptimist 101" on the Soroptimist International of the Americas website: soroptimist.org

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



**No Birthdays
in February**

FEBRUARY CLUB MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES



**Pam Bradford
2-13-1990**

**Annamarie Megrđichian
2-22-1996**

**Janet Payton
2-24-2004**

**Jana Cook
2-25-2015**

MEMBER MOMENTS ON FACEBOOK



Pam Bradford posted: "My grandson Braden's dad has been teaching him how to play chess and he almost beat me! I was duly impressed at his skill especially since he is a novice at this game."

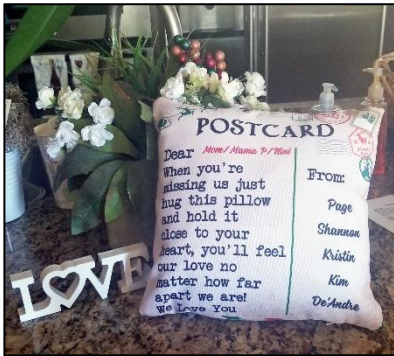


Chris Deviny updated her cover photo.





Charlene Hildebrandt's most commented photo on Facebook in 2011.



Paula McCroskey posted: "Love this pillow from daughters and grandson. I miss our hugs, laughs & deep conversations. When COVID is under control, I want to celebrate US with a family vacation. Until then, I'll hug my pillow. Love y'all to pieces and more than I could ever express in words."



Annamarie Megrdichian posted: "Reminiscing of happy times of younger years. Lauren Peterson and Kory Fontes. Circa? When Kelly Hale Fontes and Shannon Fontes wasn't even a thing yet."



Kathy Michalak posted: "Max the cover dog in retirement. The good life!"



Michelle Paradise posted: "This is a bittersweet moment. Moving Samantha into her dorm at Sonoma State University. It's been an incredible journey with my beautiful Samantha and I am going to miss her so so much, especially her sense of humor. Sam, I am so very proud of your independence and eagerness to explore the world. You've got this baby girl and I am only a phone call, face time, all day car ride or flight away. I love you unconditionally."



Kathleen Parra posted: "Had to get out, cruised Pasadena, ate deli in park, walked the Rose Bowl. Then Crepes de Paris and then another park next to the Green Castle. Headed back to Paradise or as we know it, computer and work."



Janet Payton posted: "Up before sunrise."



Karin Roberts posted: "Drive through COVID-19 vaccination at Riverside Medical Clinic. Well organized, friendly and fast. Next appointment for dose #2 on February 14th. Thank you"

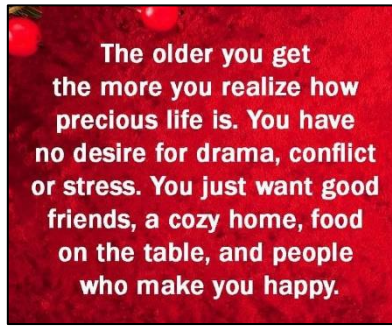
and kudos to the hard working staff of RMC."



Linda Robertson posted: "I want to share this gift I received from my friend Julie Ford. While her friendship is the best gift, this is the coolest gift. So soft, light as a feather and cuddly. I adore each of these ladies shown and value them being in my life. How cool is this? Thank you, Julie."



Lynn Scecina posted: "When my dear husband brings me a glass of wine while I'm preparing dinner, I call it cooking juice. After pruning dozens of rose bushes, I prefer to call the celebratory adult beverage that follows rose water, not prune juice."



Carol Allain Speer shared a post by Tony DeRico.



Kacey Sutton-Davidson posted: "Attacking the low hanging ornaments wasn't enough - he wants to be packed with his victims."



Susan Wolf posted: "Haven't posted pix of Leo in awhile. Enjoying his new high chair and brushing his gums."

OTHER MEMBER NEWS



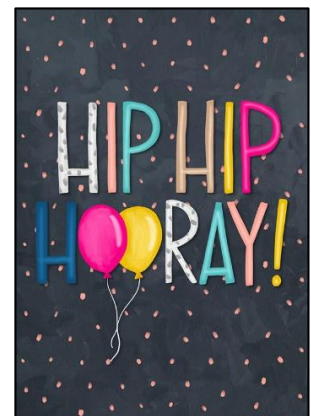
Congratulations to SI Riverside member Kathy Michalak, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity Riverside.

Kathy has been chosen by the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce to receive an Athena Award. The Athena Award honors women who demonstrate professional achievement and community service and help to mentor other women.

The awards luncheon normally takes place in May but due to the pandemic, other arrangements might have to be made this year.

Soroptimist International of Riverside is so very proud of Kathy!

**CONGRATULATIONS,
KATHY!**



WHAT IS OUR IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT UP TO?



*Vicki Hightower
2018-20 SI Riverside President*

These are photos that we took on our visit to the Tennessee Women's Suffrage Monument. It was really cool. Tennessee was the 36th state (36 states were needed) to ratify the constitutional amendment giving women the vote!

I loved our visit in Tennessee! It is a beautiful state, the people are so nice and there's a lot of stuff to do. We are going to Broadway today, that's where all the bars with live music are located. Should be really fun. We went to the Grand Ole Opry last night. It's been on my bucket list and was an amazing experience.

Vicki Hightower
SI Riverside President
2018-20



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The ideals for which
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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



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Pam Bradford

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Submit articles and photos
by the 25th of each
month to Pam at:

pambradford@pamsemail.net

**THE LIGHTER SIDE OF
THE PANDEMIC**



**So you're staying inside,
practicing social distancing
and cleaning yourself?**

Congratulations!
You've become
a house cat.

**HUSBAND: One nice thing about
the quarantine is we haven't
been out spending money.**

WIFE: (clicks add to cart) So nice.

**"You must do the thing you
think you cannot do."**

—Eleanor Roosevelt

**(Does not apply to haircuts
during the quarantine.)**

**in an unsettling reversal of my
teenage years, I am now yelling
at my parents for going out**

@BrigidWD

**Quarantine has me realizing
why my dog gets so excited
about something moving
outside and going for walks
and car rides.**

I just barked at a squirrel.

**Plan: Update resume, search
for work-from-home jobs, clean
out the closet, join an exercise
livecast, catch up on emails.**

Reality: Eat another bowl of ramen, take
three naps.

The longer this goes on,
the harder it's going to be to return
to a society where pants are required.

@StephenAtHome

ME IN 2019: If I could just have like a
week with nothing to do and nowhere
to go I could finally get this house clean
and organized.

**ME NOW: Nope, that wasn't
the problem . . .**

@saltymamas

**People are mad about not
being able to go places.**

Please. I was grounded about 90%
of the time between 7th and 12th grade.
I trained for this.

**My fiancé just told me he has
feelings for someone he met at
work this week.**

He's been working from home.

@steelydanalbum

My fridge just groaned, rolled their
eyes, and hissed at me:

"Not you again!"

**Being quarantined with
a talkative child** is like having
an insane parrot superglued to
your shoulder.

**Your mission, should you choose
to accept it, is to locate a roll of
toilet paper.**

This message will self-flush in
5 seconds. Good luck.

**AMAZON: Your package will be
delivered Wednesday**

ME: WHEN IS THAT

@pilau

**Those of you quarantined
without kids, how is it?**

Can you just do whatever you want
all day? Are there naps? Do you get to
eat your own snacks--without sharing?
Is there any of that peace-n'-quiet
stuff going on?

I'm not talking to myself.

I'm having a
parent/teacher
conference.

**DAY 1: This'll be fantastic.
I get to stay inside and eat
toast on a paper towel.**

**DAY 8: Engages
in conversation
with a lamp.**

@LizHackett

**Due to social distancing
guidelines, I will no longer be
shaking hands or hugging.**

In lieu of these, you may kneel or bow
(from a safe distance). You are welcome.

I might run out of toilet paper,
but if anyone needs 40 plastic bags
stuffed into other plastic bags, I will be
the queen of this crisis.

@AbbyHasIssues

**When I told my 3yo we couldn't
go out again she asked if it was
because of the corona pirates.**

I said yes.

@DrSarahJWhite

You have to stay in the house for
1 month. You have what you need:
food, water, and 800 rolls of
toilet paper. You have no access
to restaurants, humans you
aren't immediately related to,
or live sports. On the last day,
you walk out with \$1200.

Would you do it?

Due to the quarantine . . .

I'll only be telling inside jokes.

@Dadsaysjokes

