



Riversidelines

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF RIVERSIDE SEPTEMBER 2023

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.

2023-24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Melanie McKee
(760) 586-3131
mckeeamelanie4@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

JoAnn Moore
(951) 662-4505
jamatlakelemon@aol.com

RECORDING SECRETARY

Sophia Mendoza
(808) 258-3696
sophiam39@gmail.com

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Charlene Johnson
(951) 907-0096
gracious135@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Debbie Ferraro
(951) 212-2358
debbbers813@aol.com

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Irma Flores
(951) 533-1122
iflores3388@gmail.com

SENIOR DIRECTOR

Ellen Clizbe
(951) 321-9590
eclizbe@yahoo.com

JUNIOR DIRECTOR

Edith Gingerich
(951) 640-3881
edithg@earthlink.net

SENIOR DELEGATE

Barbara Walling
(714) 875-0873
wbmuse@sbcglobal.net

JUNIOR DELEGATE

Debbie Kelley
(951) 205-5340
debbie52lcs@aol.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Melanie McKee
2022-24 President*

Hello Soroptimist Ladies!

This month I'd like to mention the 10 key elements of effective teamwork needed to reach a common goal.

1. Communicate openly and transparently.
2. Establish a clear purpose.
3. Set concrete team goals.
4. Promote ownership and accountability.
5. Delegate tasks based on strengths.
6. Promote efficiency and avoid micro-management.
7. Support members in building team cohesion.
8. Create a culture of ideas and innovation.
9. Reward teams for taking risks.
10. Make trust an essential value.

When we do all of these things together, we will always succeed which is why my theme this year is, "Achieving Success Together."

Melanie McKee, Dr.B.A.
2022-24 SIR President

ACHIEVING SUCCESS TOGETHER



SEPTEMBER 2023 CALENDAR



- 5 **BOARD MEETING**
12:00 PM on ZOOM
- 5 **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CHARITY**
- 8 **INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY**
- 12 **BUSINESS MEETING**
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside
- 21 **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE**
- 26 **PROGRAM MEETING**
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside

OCTOBER 2023 CALENDAR



- 3 **BOARD MEETING**
12:00 PM on ZOOM
- 10 **BUSINESS MEETING**
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside
- 13- **GOLDEN WEST REGION**
- 14 **DISTRICT 1 & 2 FALL MEETING**
First United Methodist Church, 4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside
- 24 **PROGRAM MEETING**
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside

DATES TO REMEMBER



May 31-June 2, 2024
GWR SPRING CONFERENCE
Hosted by SI Tucson
Casino Del Sol Resort
5655 W Valencia Road
Tucson, AZ 85757

July 24-27, 2024
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS 48th BIENNIAL CONVENTION
Bellevue, Washington

July 27-28, 2024
SIA LEADERSHIP ROUND TABLE
Bellevue, Washington

July 2027
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
Alaska

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. We meet at Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa 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.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS



We hear a lot of talk about teams. Building a team, working as a team and reference to co-workers as part of "the team." Members are also part of a team – their club, and beyond that, Soroptimist International of the Americas.

We also hear that "talk is cheap" which means it's easy to talk about something but harder to actually do it. So, it's important to think about how to foster teamwork among members.

Belonging to a team, in the broadest sense, is a result of feeling part of something bigger than YOU. Simply put, a team is a group of people working towards a common goal and equally as important, understanding the group's mission and objectives.

As Soroptimists, that means working on our mission to improve the lives of women and girls, both locally and globally. When we come together to do this, we empower our members, engage them, and increase our collective impact!

Check out these few tips on how clubs and members can utilize a

team approach in order to reach our goals.

Get to know each other:

Soroptimists love to socialize; there is no doubt about that! Make sure you talk to each other and get to know everyone in the club, not just a small circle of acquaintances. Expand your network and find out where your fellow members' interests and values lay. Talk about family, hobbies, work, and why you're committed to the Soroptimist mission.

Make sure everyone is on the same page:

Does everyone in the club have a clear picture and know the mission? Orientations of new members can be a big help in this area. Also, reiterating who we are, what we do, and why we do what we do is beneficial to both new and seasoned members because it emphasizes the importance of their commitment to Soroptimist.

Utilize talents:

Once you know a member's strengths and skills, match them up to an appropriate committee or subgroup within the club. Maybe you will find someone who can be a great mentor for a newer member, or someone with an interest and flair for keeping up with your club's Facebook page. A member may even stand out as someone to tap for a leadership role in the club!

Have a team building activity:

Improve communication, boost morale, and motivate by simply adding a fun, short activity to your meeting to encourage teamwork. A simple internet search on "team building activities" will yield a number of ideas and options you can adapt for your club.

Recognize and reward:

Finally, you can never say thank you enough! Praise and give gold stars to those who work together for the greater good. When members get excited about their volunteer work, when they believe they have something to give back, and – most importantly – that their contributions are valued – there are no limitations to what can be accomplished.

Fostering teamwork is an ongoing and challenging endeavor among our diverse membership. However, doing so will heighten the sense of ownership and loyalty among members, which in turn, can lead to an increase in member satisfaction and retention!

*From Soroptimist International
of the Americas website:
www.soroptimist.org*

AUGUST 1, 2023 BARBIE MOVIE MEMBER SOCIAL



A group of SI Riverside members including President Melanie McKee, Debbie Kelley, Sophia Mendoza, Lynn Scecina and JoAnn Moore got together and saw the "Barbie Movie" followed

by dinner afterwards. A great time was had by all!

**AUGUST 4, 2023
ARLINGTON TEMPORARY
ASSISTANCE
BACKPACK PROJECT**



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.

On July 25, 2023, the members of Soroptimist International of Riverside provided support for their mission by filling 60 backpacks that the club had purchased with necessary school supplies that were graciously donated by our members: crayons, scissors, markers, pencils, pens, highlighters, erasers, pencil cases, pencil sharpeners, glue sticks, rulers, pocket folders, notebook binders, five-tab dividers, small staplers, composition books and college ruled or wide ruled paper.

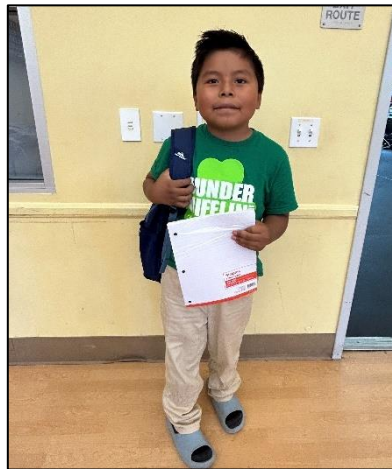
On Friday, August 4, 2023, Backpacks Project Co-Chairs Ellen Clizbe and Chris Deviny, along with President Melanie McKee and Senior Delegate Barbara Walling, met with

Arlington Temporary Assistance Director Ophelia Sanchez as well as 60 grade-school through high school students and their parents at the Arlanza Community Center in Bryant Park. President Melanie introduced herself and provided a synopsis of Soroptimist's goals, achievements and activities to the group of young people and their families. The filled backpacks were then distributed to the eagerly awaiting children.

ATA Director Sanchez expressed her sincere appreciation for SI Riverside's ongoing annual community service assistance through this endeavor as well as other acts of kindness and generosity that we have provided to them since 2005.

Chris Deviny & Ellen Clizbe
Backpack Project Co-Chairs





OCTOBER 13-14, 2023 GWR DISTRICTS 1 & 2 FALL MEETING



The Golden West Region Districts 1 & 2 Fall Meeting is being co-hosted by SI Riverside and SI Moreno Valley on October 13-14, 2023.

Friday activities will celebrate the diversity of cultural experiences available in Riverside with a tour of the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture at the Riverside Art Museum. Following the tour, there will be a dinner at the Old Spaghetti Factory, a few blocks away from the center, where members can socialize with old friends and get acquainted with new friends.

Saturday's meeting be held in the Fellowship Hall at the First United Methodist Church, located close to downtown Riverside. A delicious lunch will be provided by Raw Cantina including fresh and familiar dishes in the Baja style of Mexican cuisine.

This will be a fun and informative Fall Meeting so we encourage all SI Riverside members to attend.

See you in October!

President Melanie McKee
Vice President Joann Moore



TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM



Dreaming of Change: Soroptimist's Impact on the Transitional Living Program (TLP)

We've embarked on a transformative journey by taking our club's support of Operation SafeHouse to a new level that captures the essence of our commitment to positive change. Through our initiative, we have adopted an apartment within the Operation SafeHouse Main Street Transitional Living Program 15-unit apartment complex located at 4509 Main Street, next to Riverside Community College.

A Haven of Empowerment:

Within these walls, the Transitional Living Program provides young individuals with the support they need, including counseling, education, employment assistance and essential life skills training. A full description of program details is available at the following webpage:

<https://operationsafehouse.org/main-street-housing-program/>

Turning Dreams into Reality:

This step is more than just a physical space. It's a manifestation of our dedication to empowering young women aged 18 to 21. As part of our efforts, we kindly request your support by donating your gently-used home goods appropriate for apartment living. Currently, our apartment needs an updated small sofa and a dresser.

Imagine Her Journey:

As we move forward, let's envision creative ways to support and empower a young woman living in this apartment for up to 18-24 months and then beyond. What type of Soroptimist support can we offer to help her learn about the practical aspects of home economics, create a flourishing quality of life, a positive school/work balance, and enhance the quality of her dream? What type of study space will she need to pursue her education, study more proficiently and keep her home journal in order?

Your Role in the Dream:

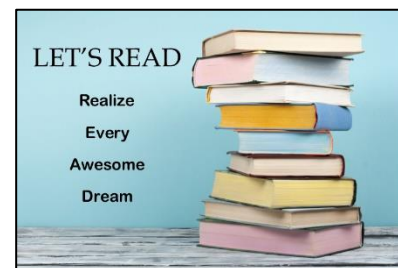
We invite each of you to be a catalyst for change. Your involvement can transform aspirations into reality for these remarkably resilient individuals.

For more details or to contribute your ideas, please reach out. Your commitment can shape dreams into a brighter future.

Sophia Mendoza
Transitional Living Program
Chair



SI RIVERSIDE BOOK CLUB

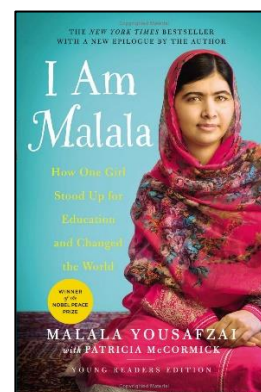


Just as any good book starts with an idea, so does a Book Club. Many of our members were on vacation, facing household appliance issues, health issues, returning to the classroom, or just trying to survive the HEAT in August.

With so much going on, the original schedule to start and conduct a book club did not go as planned. However, we are developing a new model that may also utilize free audio and digital books. Look for more information in your inboxes. We will still use "I Am Malala" by Malala Yousafzai as the inaugural read.

Thank you for your patience and willingness to participate in SI Riverside's Book Club. Please contact JoAnn Moore by text (951) 662-4505 with your thoughts and suggestions for future books.

JoAnn Moore & Tillie Soliz
Book Club Co-Chairs



HISTORY WALK



CONCEPTION OF THE BICENTENNIAL HISTORY WALK

In February of 1975, Soroptimist president, Virginia Moore, appointed a Bicentennial Committee to create a Bicentennial project for the club. The committee consulted the city's Bicentennial Chairman, Roy Staylor. He presented a number of ideas, including a History Walk.

The committee decided on a History Walk to be placed in the Forest of Lights Plaza in Raincross Square where the present Ben H. Lewis Hall was under construction. On March 3, 1975, SI Riverside accepted the committee's recommendation.

The committee consulted with Mayor Ben H. Lewis and the Riverside Bicentennial Commission who enthusiastically endorsed the project.

Preliminary inquiries were made of Tom Patterson, author of "Landmarks of Riverside" and "A Colony for California," Robert E. Brown, of Brown and Rawdon, architects for the Ben H. Lewis Hall and Don Hagen, owner of the Riverside Monumental Company.

Mr. Patterson agreed to donate his services to this community project for the research and text for a descriptive booklet. Bob Brown agreed to prepare the design of the walk and to work with the city's Raincross Square Coordinator Herb Barnett and the contractor Del Webb Corporation in preparing the eighteen inch round spaces before the cement was poured in the plaza. Don Hagen agreed to use his expertise on the selection of the best material for the stones and to provide the finished stones at a nominal cost.

On November 17, 1975, SI Riverside's new president, Rocky Pollitz, appeared before the Municipal Arts Commission for approval of this project. It was unanimous that space be made available in the Forest of Lights Plaza and that the final drawings be submitted for the Commission's approval.

On February 3, 1976, Mayor Ben H. Lewis submitted a report of this project to the City Council.

Everything was progressing beautifully except the project did not have an artist. It was asking a great deal of someone to donate services for such an extensive project. However, on April 2, 1976, Bette Fauth, Assistant Professor of the Art Department of Riverside City College, was approached and agreed to undertake the artwork. She was excited about the idea and the challenge.

On June 21, 1976, SI Riverside President Rocky Pollitz again made a presentation to the Municipal Arts Commission. The first drawing and the rough idea for the other twenty-nine were approved.

The next hurdle was to print a booklet describing the history of each stone. In helping Bette Fauth with the research on Stone Number 28, "Co-op Wholesale Grocery Distribution," Mr. Frank Lewis of A.M. Lewis, Inc., became interested in the project. He offered his services as photographer and A.M. Lewis, Inc. agreed to print the first five hundred copies of the History Walk booklet.

A target date of Tuesday, December 7, 1976, was set for dedication and presentation of the History Walk to the City of Riverside, by the 1976-77 SI Riverside President, Elissa Fruciano.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



The speaker at our August Program Meeting was Lisa Dryan-Zagala, a licensed clinical social worker in private practice with her business Therapy in a Bag.

Her professional life and community advocacy has brought her several awards and recognition in the mental health community in her service to

Riverside County as Director of The Wiley Center, Chair of the Inland Empire Perinatal Mental Health Collaborative, a supervisor of a Foster Family Agency and thirteen years at the County of Riverside Children's Services, where she met and developed a friendship with our own SI Riverside member, Debbie Kelley.

Lisa's advocacy has been on behalf of women with maternal mental health challenges and young adults with intellectual and developmental delays. One such young adult is her 26 year old daughter with cerebral palsy and autism. Lisa reminded the small but deeply engaged audience of the challenges her daughter has faced while trying to be treated with dignity and to Live Her Dream.

Lisa revealed some startling data about the Special Needs Community in Riverside County such as 75% of the county's residents have some form of disability. Only 15% of them are employed, but many more are hireable.

This results in \$11-60 billion in lost wages per year. It's hard to live your dream if you are unemployed and lack the safeguards of money management afforded to the general population. That is why Lisa has organized many legislative breakfasts and has just written a Constituent Bill hoping to make a statewide medical release form for all clients of Regional Centers to improve timely access to needed services for this community.

If you are interested to hear more and support Lisa's advocacy for women and families, please join her on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at City Hall Council

Chambers, 1:00pm for an agenda item.

JoAnn Moore
SIR Vice President

SOLT Soroptimist Orientation and Leadership Training



Leadership Tip: Delegating for Success

As a leader, you may feel you need or want to do everything in your club. Most Soroptimists know this feeling all too well. Along with the club administrative responsibilities, there is the desire to have quality Dream programs, increases in membership, recognition in the community, and successful fundraisers. You may think:

- *No one else can do it as well as me.*
- *I don't like telling others what to do.*
- *This task is boring, so I feel guilty about assigning it to someone else.*
- *This is not an easy assignment and I don't want it to look like I'm skirting the responsibility.*
- *It will be quicker if I just do it myself.*

Perhaps one (or all) of these thoughts have crossed your mind.

Chances are, having a "do it all" attitude has probably caused you to feel like you have too much work, not enough time, and lot of stress. But, would you believe it doesn't have to be that way?

What you are about to read may come as a shock to you, so take a deep breath. YOU don't have to do it all! There is a simple solution to this dilemma: DELEGATION!

Organizations and companies exist because their work involves something bigger and more complex than one individual can accomplish. Soroptimist is no different. Just take a look at our mission: To improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

This is no small task! In order to make a difference in the lives of women and girls, it's critical that we work together and each take on tasks within our clubs and regions. Delegating is the most efficient way to accomplish our big goal and serves as a great way to build a strong team.

To start, it's important to identify both tasks and the right people. Evaluate tasks and determine which are appropriate for someone else to take on. Think about a club member whose skill set matches up with the job at hand. Alternatively, this could be an opportunity for someone to grow and develop their skills by taking on the assigned task. If possible, include members in conversations about the delegation process. They may have an interest in a certain area and will jump at the chance to help out.

Next, consider these steps in order to delegate successfully:

- Have a conversation with the person (or committee) you

want to take on a particular task.

- Clearly state what the task entails, who is responsible for what, and your expectations.
- Explain why what they are doing is important. Buy-in occurs more naturally when members can understand the impact they will have.
- Keep your door open to questions and concerns that may arise.
- Once a task is assigned feel free to let go and don't worry about controlling every aspect. This instills confidence and trust in those members taking on the project.
- Establish a timeline and check-ins, but be flexible when it's necessary.
- Give others a chance to work through the assignment and make it their own. While you may be the authority on a task, the organization will benefit from them learning on their own.
- Provide feedback and encouragement. Constructive comments will help members reach the desired outcomes.
- Say THANK YOU! Recognize members for their help and let them know what they are doing is important – no matter how small or large the task.

Use this time management strategy to your advantage. Delegation may not come naturally to you, but if you practice and become more comfortable with it, your confidence will grow. Not only will you be able to focus on your priorities, you'll also be empowering club members to become more engaged and fulfilled with their club experience. When you put your trust in members by delegating, it helps reinforce their value to the overall organization. It's a win-win situation for everyone!

*From Soroptimist International
of the Americas website:
www.soroptimist.org*

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Lynn Scocina - 21st

SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES



**Sophia Mendoza
9-1-2021**

**Irma Flores
9-26-2021**

CONTACT US

**SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL OF
RIVERSIDE**

CLUB NUMBER
114315

MAILING ADDRESS:

P. O. Box 1631
Riverside CA 92502

EMAIL ADDRESS:

siriverside@soroptimist.net

WEBPAGE

www.soroptimisttriverside.org

FACEBOOK

Soroptimist Riverside CA

INSTAGRAM

[soroptimisttriverside](https://www.instagram.com/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.

1709 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-6103

WEBPAGE

www.soroptimist.org

FACEBOOK

Soroptimist International of the
Americas

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

8A Romsey Terrace
Cambridge, CB1 3NH
United Kingdom

WEBPAGE

www.soroptimistinternational.org

SOROPTIMIST PLEDGE



**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

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

TEAMWORK

Coming together is the
beginning
Keeping together is
progress
Working together is
success



“
Success is best when it's
shared.”

Howard Schultz

teamwork
makes the
**DREAM
WORK**

 **Teamwork
divides the task
and multiplies
the success.
- Unknown**

“
Talent wins games, but
teamwork and intelligence
win championships.

MICHAEL JORDAN

**“The nicest thing
about teamwork is
that you always have
others on your side.”**

—MARGARET CARTY

RD