



# Riversidelines

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF RIVERSIDE OCTOBER 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.

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Melanie McKee  
2022-24 President*

Hello ladies!

I would like to thank everyone who joined the "Soroptimists Together Against Trafficking" Roundtable on September 20, 2023. SI Riverside had a great turnout on Zoom for the event.

I would also like to thank Debbie Kelley for being our Hospitality Chair and planning all of our fun activities such as the movies, pottery and our Spa Relaxation Evening with Barbara Walling. Members are loving all of the various social activities.

Thanks to everyone for participating in Fall Meeting which our club is co-hosting with SI Moreno Valley. The theme is "Wildest Dreams." The planning is coming along perfectly and it will be a great event with our very own Charlene Johnson as keynote speaker. I encourage every member to attend and don't forget to wear animal prints that will identify us as a host club.

I'm really looking forward to the rest of the year and our planning for our future events and our fundraising campaign.

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

#### ACHIEVING SUCCESS TOGETHER



### OCTOBER 2023 CALENDAR



- 3 **BOARD MEETING**  
12:00 PM on ZOOM
- 3 **SOROPTIMIST FOUNDERS DAY**
- 10 **BUSINESS MEETING**  
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside
- 11 **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD**
- 13- **GOLDEN WEST REGION**
- 14 **DISTRICT 1 & 2 FALL MEETING**  
First United Methodist Church, 4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside
- 18 **SPA RELAXATION EVENING**  
4:00 PM, Ellen Clizbe's Home
- 24 **PROGRAM MEETING**  
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside
- 24 **UNITED NATIONS DAY**

### NOVEMBER 2023 CALENDAR



- 7 **BOARD MEETING**  
12:00 PM on ZOOM
- 9 **WORLD FREEDOM DAY**
- 14 **FRIENDSGIVING**  
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside
- 25 **INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

- 28 **BUSINESS MEETING**  
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**SAVE THE DATE**

March 9, 2024  
**LIVE YOUR DREAM: DREAM IT, BE IT CONFERENCE**  
Riverside Community College

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

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL IS A GLOBAL VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT

Founded in 1921, Soroptimist International is a global volunteer movement with a network of around 66,000 club members in 120 countries. Advocating for human rights and gender equality, at the heart of Soroptimist International's advocacy is its work across seven UN Centers, where our UN representatives ensure that the voices of women and girls are heard. Our membership works on grassroots projects that help women and girls achieve their individual and collective potential, realize aspirations and have an equal voice in communities worldwide.

### OUR FEDERATIONS

Each Soroptimist club belongs to one of the five SI Federations within Africa, Great Britain & Ireland, Europe, The Americas and South East Asia Pacific.

### INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

Our advocacy work and on the ground projects directly contribute to helping women and girls access their human rights across the world.

### OUR PEOPLE

Our global teams of women dedicate their time to serve Soroptimist International.

### POSITION PAPERS

The Soroptimist International "Where We Stand" statements represent our position on various issues that affect the lives of women and girls.

*Article taken from Soroptimist International website:  
[soroptimistinternational.org](http://soroptimistinternational.org)*

### SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 MUD HUT POTTERY MEMBER SOCIAL



On September 14th, ten members of SI Riverside came together for a social outing at Mud Hut Pottery and Art Studio.

Mud Hut Pottery was created to share their love of all things clay with the local community.

Their mission is: "To foster an inclusive environment that is enjoyable and supportive to everyone, no matter your skill level. Whether you have never touched clay or can craft a piece in your sleep, we hope you stop by to play with some mud!"

This event allowed members to delve into the world of clay and enjoy a day of artistic expression, friendship and shared creativity.







## SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 NEW MEMBER INDUCTIONS



*Tiffany Tate, SIR Membership Chair  
Lynn Scecina, Mary Figueroa (sitting)  
and SIR President Melanie McKee*

At our September 26th Program Meeting, Mary Figueroa and Tiffanie Tate were inducted as new members in SI Riverside.



Mary Figueroa is retired. She previously worked as a Correctional Counselor at the California Department of Corrections.



Tiffanie Tate is retired. She was previously an Obstetrician and Gynecologist at Kaiser Permanente.

We know that Mary and Tiffanie's many talents will be put to good use on all of SI Riverside's service projects that help women and girls in our community.



## OCTOBER 3, 1921 FOUNDERS DAY

# FOUNDERS DAY

**OCTOBER 3, 1921**



*Members of the first Soroptimist club, SI of Alameda County, with their guests celebrating the club's 3rd anniversary in 1924.*

At the beginning of the 1920's, women in North America had established themselves in the political arena through suffrage and in the professional world as a result of World War 1. The time was right for women actively engaged in professions and careers to come together for mutual support and friendship and to serve the communities to which they belonged. The time was right for Soroptimist.



*Stuart Morrow, Soroptimist Organizer, and Adelaide Goddard, owner of the Parker-Goddard Secretarial School*

In the spring of 1921, Stuart Morrow, an organizer of men's service clubs, visited Oakland, California. In search of a potential member for an Optimist club, Morrow called on the Parker-Goddard Secretarial School, presuming it was run by men and found instead Miss Adelaide Goddard and Miss Mabel Parker owned the school. Explaining his mistake, Morrow excused himself. As Morrow left, Miss Goddard remarked that she would be interested in joining such a club for women if he ever considered forming one.

Goddard's remark set the wheels in motion for Stuart Morrow. He contacted a number of business women in the community and invited them to a preliminary meeting on May 21, 1921. Of the six women in attendance, only one showed real interest. This woman began recruiting her acquaintances and on June 21, 1921, a luncheon meeting with 10 women officially launched the club toward its goal of 80 members to receive a charter from Morrow.

This core group met once a week and continued to gather the names of eligible women from Alameda County. They also chose the name Soroptimist for the organization, coining a word from the two Latin words "soror" (woman) and "optima" (the best). Thus Soroptimist became "The Best for Women."

On September 26, 1921, the charter was closed and officers were elected with Violet Richardson Ward serving as the first president. The presentation of the charter and an installation ceremony took place on October 3, 1921, the day officially celebrated as Founders Day.



*Violet Richardson Ward  
First President of the Soroptimist  
Club of Alameda County*

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



The Golden West Region Districts 1 & 2 Fall Meeting hosted by SI Riverside and SI Moreno Valley will be held on October 13-14, 2023, at the First United Methodist Church, 4845 Brockton Avenue in Riverside.

**THEME:** Wildest Dreams

**DRESS:** Wear something with an animal print

### Friday, October 13th:

4:45 PM - Guided Tour at the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture at the Riverside Art Museum

6:30 PM - Dinner at the Spaghetti Factory

### Saturday, October 14th:

7:30 AM - Set Up

8:30 AM - Exhibits Open

9:00 AM - Meeting Begins

12:00 PM - Catered Lunch

3:00 PM - Final Announcements

Every member is encouraged to attend Fall Meeting.

### OCTOBER 18, 2023 SPA RELAXATION EVENING



### Spa Relaxation Evening

Wednesday, October 18, 2023  
4:00 PM  
Home of Ellen Clizbe

You are cordially invited to join Barbara Walling as she guides members through an evening of relaxation and meditation including a light dinner before gathering in a circle outside for a gentle and luxurious foot massage with warm water and marbles.

### What Members Should Bring:

- Towel
- Small Wash Basin big enough for both feet to fit in (about 13" X 10" X 4.5")
- Barbara will provide the marbles

- Light sweater or wrap for comfort in case evening air is cool

#### Potluck Dinner:

- Bring a healthy appetizer or food item
- Beverages provided
- Sign up sheet will be distributed

**RSVP** by **October 16th** to Ellen Clizbe at eclizbe@yahoo.com

### TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM



In brief, broad strokes, here are some things you should know about the Main Street Transitional Living Program. It is dedicated to helping homeless adults aged 18-21 gain essential life skills for independent living. The innovative program offers a unique chance to rebuild their lives and secure a brighter future.

#### Admission and Eligibility:

Admission involves a straightforward application process, followed by at least two interviews. Eligibility includes homeless youth aged 18-21 from Riverside County, former foster care youth, and emancipated

individuals under 18. Income is not required, but if present, it must be at or below HUD's low-income level for Riverside County.

#### Programs Offered:

This comprehensive program includes weekly counseling, education and employment assistance, financial education, access to social and legal services, and personalized case management.

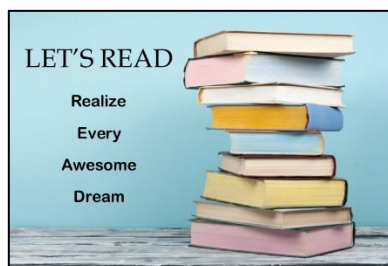
#### Program Structure and Rules:

Participants live in furnished shared apartments with individual bedrooms. They must work at least 32 hours weekly, saving 50% of their income. Rules include visitor policies and nightly curfews. Further details can be found at:

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

Sophia Mendoza  
Transitional Living Program  
Chair

### SI RIVERSIDE BOOK CLUB



*Book Club Chair JoAnn Moore is extremely busy with Fall Meeting planning so she asked me to include a description of the first book chosen that members of the Book Club will be reading...Editor Pam.*

### "I AM MALALA" by Malala Yousafzai

When the Taliban took control of her region. They said music was a crime. They said women weren't allowed to go to the market. They said girls couldn't go to school.

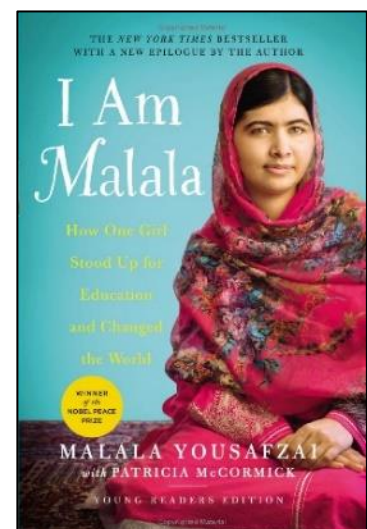
Raised in a once-peaceful area of Pakistan transformed by terrorism, Malala was taught to stand up for what she believes so she fought for her right to be educated. And on October 9, 2012, she nearly lost her life for the cause. She was shot point blank while riding the bus on her way home from school.

No one expected her to survive.

Now Malala is an international symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize winner. In her bestselling memoir, we hear firsthand the remarkable story of a girl who knew from a young age that she wanted to change the world and she did.

Malala's powerful story will open your eyes to another world and will make you believe in hope, truth, miracles and the possibility that one person -- one young person -- can inspire change in her community and beyond.

*Description from Amazon.com*





## HISTORY WALK



## SOROPTIMIST HISTORY WALK

The original Soroptimist History Walk Committee from 1975-76 included the individuals listed below.

It is worthy to note that all members volunteered their time.

Two individuals were the cornerstones of the entire project. Tom Patterson, local Historian, wrote the text that accompanies each stone. Bette Fauth, an Art Professor at Riverside City College, designed all of the artwork for each stone.

### SOROPTIMIST HISTORY WALK COMMITTEE 1975-76

*Tom Patterson, Historian  
Bette Fauth, Artist-Designer*

*Robert E. Brown, Consultant*

*Don Hagen, Consultant  
Frank Hagen, Coordinator of  
Materials*

*Mayor Ben H. Lewis, Advisor  
Norma Simpson, Bicentennial  
Director, Advisor*

*Marjory Staum, Chair,  
Soroptimist Bicentennial  
Committee Chair*

*Mary-Etta Boslet  
Weamena Carr  
Eleanor Chapman  
Margaret Colangelo  
K. Dawson  
Elissa Fruciano  
Margery Nethery  
Elizabeth Pettit  
Rocky Pollitz  
Phyllis Sensor  
Jean Small  
Mildred Tyler  
Marjory White*

Susan Exon  
History Walk Chair

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



### FROM THE DESK OF JOANN MOORE

*This column's name, "In Case You Missed It," is especially accurate today. Sadly, I missed our September speaker, Riverside Police Department Chief Larry Gonzalez. I am grateful to Sophia Mendoza and Pam Bradford for reporting in my absence.*

Our speaker for the SI Riverside Program Meeting on September 26, 2023, was Larry Gonzalez who is the current Chief of the Riverside Police Department. He has over 30 years of experience in law enforcement, having served in various roles within the Department.



He is known for his dedication to community policing and working collaboratively with community members and organizations to build relationships and trust.

Chief Gonzalez prioritizes continuing education and training for officers, command staff and civilian employees, as well as implementing technical advancements and comprehensive data collection programs and accountability.

With a commitment to excellence and state-of-the-art technology, the department aims to provide reactive and proactive services to enhance community unity and build trust through mutual respect and positive change.

Our gathering may have been small but it led to an intimate conversation with Chief Gonzalez. He shared his thoughts on the unique challenges faced by our city, the 12th largest city in California and the largest in the Inland Empire. It

was a rare opportunity to gain insights from the heart of our city's safety efforts.

Under Chief Gonzalez's leadership, the Riverside Police Department has spearheaded innovative safety programs. These initiatives form the foundation of a healthy city environment and underscore the importance of community support.

Chief Gonzalez provided us with essential Situational Awareness and Personal Safety tips:

**SEASONAL AWARENESS:** The upcoming time change means that darkness will fall earlier. Adjust your routines and be prepared for lower visibility during your evening activities.

**SEEK AN ESCORT:** If you don't feel safe while walking alone, don't hesitate to seek an escort or company from a friend or family member.

**PREVENT CRIMES OF OPPORTUNITY:** Do not leave valuable items, packages or bags in your car where they are visible to potential thieves.

**STAY PRESENT:** Walking while engrossed in your phone conversation reduces your personal safety. Stay present and aware of your surroundings.

**HOME SECURITY:** Consider fortifying your home's security by adding cameras. Adequate lighting can also deter criminals.

**GET A DOG:** Dogs are fantastic deterrents. Their presence alone can discourage unwanted visitors and provide companionship.

**SELF-DEFENSE SKILLS:** Learning self-defensive skills is a valuable asset. They build confidence and

prepare you for unforeseen situations.



## SOROPTIMIST LEADERSHIP TRAINING

### Leadership Tip: Communication is Key

Now more than ever, it is essential to have good communication skills. Not only are we interacting with our friends, family, and club members in person and on the phone, but we are also utilizing email, text, and even video chat. Add in the number of social media options to connect and share information and we're getting into double digits. The number of avenues available to communicate seems to have grown exponentially in recent years. Therefore, it is important that we effectively communicate.

Everyone can benefit by honing their communication skills. Take time to improve your own by checking out the following tips. By putting them into practice, you may find yourself being a more effective, inspirational, and motivational leader.

### Listen

Take time to listen to each other. Remember that hearing and listening are different. Fight the urge to interrupt people and let them speak their opinions and thoughts. Be present in conversations, remove outside distractions, and ask questions. Great club leaders talk with their members, not at them.

### Pay attention to body language

Sometimes, actions speak louder than words. If you cross your arms or have a scowl on your face, you could be sending the wrong message. Being in an international organization, we must be aware and sensitive to other cultures and customs.

Since we live in a hybrid environment, utilize video calls and take advantage of that body language as your message might be easier to understand than an email may convey.

### Get to the point

Your audience will be most appreciative if you keep your message brief and simple. One study shows the attention span of humans is just eight seconds – shorter than that of a goldfish! Keep your messages specific and provide just the right amount of information.

### Take notes

In today's hectic world, it can be helpful to simply put pen to paper. Taking notes can help you organize your thoughts and make certain you hit upon the high level points you want to make sure you get across. Additionally, you may want to jot down comments or questions from members so you can ensure you respond appropriately.



## Choose your method

We can communicate in a variety of ways such as calling, texting, emailing, and face-to-face. Decide the best mode of communication depending on what you are delivering. Use your best judgment depending on the situation. If you need to give an in-depth message, using email or a video call would be most beneficial. If you are looking to give a short message, utilize one-on-one messaging like text or chat.

## Have a good attitude

Simply smiling and being positive goes a long way. Your behavior acts like a mirror and those in your presence will reflect that back to you. By having a positive attitude, people will want to be in your company and will pay more attention when you speak.

## Practice empathy

Turn the tables and try to understand the point of view of others. Think about what you are saying from your audience's perspective. Dale Carnegie, the author of *How to Win Friends and Influence People* said, "The only way on earth to influence other people is to talk about what *they* want and show them how to get it."

Having strong communications, your message will be clear and misunderstandings will be greatly minimized. As an added bonus, you will be viewed with respect and seen as a more successful leader. Try out the above tips to have better conversations and get your ideas across within your club. You'll find the relationship with members are enhanced and accomplishing our mission will be that much easier.

*From Soroptimist International of the America's website  
[www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)*

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



**Irma Flores - 21st**  
**Charlene Hildebrandt - 26th**

## OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES



**Edith Gingerich**  
**10-16-2015**

**Melanie McKee**  
**10-24-2018**

## CONTACT US



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**INTERNATIONAL OF**  
**RIVERSIDE**

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### FACEBOOK

Soroptimist Riverside CA

### INSTAGRAM

[soroptimistriverside](https://www.instagram.com/soroptimistriverside)

### LINKED IN

[www.linkedin.com/company/soroptimist-international-of-riverside](http://www.linkedin.com/company/soroptimist-international-of-riverside)

## GOLDEN WEST REGION

### WEBPAGE

[www.goldenwestregion.org](http://www.goldenwestregion.org)

### FACEBOOK

Soroptimist International Golden West Region

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS INC.

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Philadelphia, PA 19103-6103

### WEBPAGE

[www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)

### FACEBOOK

Soroptimist International of the Americas

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

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### WEBPAGE

[www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://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](mailto:pambradford@pamsemail.net)

## LIVING YOUR DREAMS

We are designed  
with a dreaming brain  
and a hopeful spirit; it is  
our nature to envision  
the life of our dreams.  
And while dreaming  
comes easy to us,  
we must never forget  
that it takes strength,  
dedication, and  
courageous action to  
bring that dream to life. Steve Maraboli

**LIVE YOUR DREAMS**

[PassItOn.com](http://PassItOn.com)

**BUILD YOUR OWN  
DREAMS, OR SOMEONE  
ELSE WILL HIRE YOU  
TO BUILD THEIRS.**

- FARRAH GRAY

Don't Dream  
Your Life  
Live Your  
**DREAMS**

An Inspirational Journal to Write In

"As soon as  
you start to  
**pursue a dream,**  
your life wakes up  
and everything  
has meaning."

- by Barbara Sher

[pixelsquote.net](http://pixelsquote.net)

It's time to **break out**  
**of your shell**  
and show the world  
**who you really are**  
and what you're  
really made of!



*Live your dreams!*

[happynessinyourlife.com](http://happynessinyourlife.com)

IF YOU CAN  
**IMAGINE IT**  
YOU CAN  
**ACHIEVE IT**  
IF YOU CAN  
**DREAM IT**  
YOU CAN  
**BECOME IT**