



# Riversidelines

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF RIVERSIDE APRIL 2025

### 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.

### SOROPTIMIST BIG GOAL

Invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

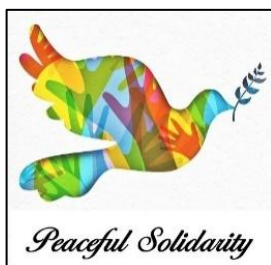


Our very successful Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It Conference took place at Riverside City College on Saturday, March 15th. I want to give my personal thanks to Conference Co-Chairs Michelle Paradise and Rosa Santos-Lee along with their conference committee members for the outstanding job they did to put on a truly wonderful and successful conference this year.

The girls were energetic and engaged with our amazing keynote speakers, Jengi Martinez and Tiffanie Tate. The accomplished women who were panelists in the workshops also did an outstanding job.

An additional thank you goes out to the members of SI Riverside who volunteered on the day of the event. You all worked together so beautifully to orchestrate an educational and creative day for the attendees. I am so proud to be President of this amazing group of women!

Edith Gingerich  
2024-25 President



## APRIL 2025 CALENDAR



- 1 **BOARD MEETING**  
12:00 PM on ZOOM
- 7 **WORLD HEALTH DAY**
- 8 **BUSINESS MEETING**  
12:00 PM, ZOOM and  
Habitat for Humanity, 2180  
Iowa Avenue, Riverside
- 10 **SI RIVERSIDE CHARTER DATE**  
**APRIL 10, 1948**
- 12 **EQUAL PAY DAY**
- 22 **INTERNATIONAL EARTH  
DAY**
- 29 **SALUTE TO SERVICE  
AWARDS LUNCHEON**  
First United Methodist  
Church, Riverside

NO PROGRAM MEETING  
IN APRIL

## APRIL 2025 CALENDAR



- 6 **BOARD MEETING**  
12:00 PM on ZOOM
- 13 **BUSINESS MEETING**  
12:00 PM, ZOOM and  
Habitat for Humanity, 2180  
Iowa Avenue, Riverside

15 **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF  
FAMILIES**

30 **TEA PARTY FUNDRAISER**  
First United Methodist  
Church, Riverside

NO PROGRAM MEETING  
IN APRIL

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

June 5-7, 2025  
**GWR SPRING CONFERENCE**  
We-Ko-Pa Resort & Casino  
Fort McDowell, Arizona

July 2027  
**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION**

## 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. Business meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday and Program meetings are on the 4th Tuesday. Business meetings are hybrid on ZOOM and in person at Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside. Program meetings are in person only at Habitat for Humanity. Meetings will last from noon until approximately 1:15 PM. Please arrive a little early so we may begin promptly at noon.

**APRIL 7, 2025  
WORLD HEALTH DAY**



World Health Day on April 7, 2025, marks the founding anniversary of the World Health Organization (WHO) and focuses on maternal and newborn health, urging action to end preventable deaths and prioritize women's health.

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

**DATE:** April 7, 2025

**THEME:** "Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures"

**FOCUS:** Maternal and newborn health, with a call to action to end preventable deaths and prioritize women's long-term health and well-being.

**PURPOSE:** To raise awareness about global health issues, mobilize action and advocate for effective health policies and practices.

**BACKGROUND:** World Health Day was established in 1948 by the World Health Organization, which chose April 7th to coincide with its own founding.

**WHO'S ROLE:** The World Health Organization uses World Health Day to release the World Health Statistics Report, celebrate the goal of universal health coverage and encourage people

to have access to the care they need, when they need it.

**WHAT TO EXPECT:** The World Health Organization will launch a year-long campaign on maternal and newborn health, urging governments and the health community to ramp up efforts to end preventable maternal and newborn deaths and to prioritize women's longer term health and well being.

**RESOURCES:** The World Health Organization will share useful information to support healthy pregnancies and births and better postnatal health.

**SOROPTIMIST  
INTERNATIONAL OF THE  
AMERICAS**



**THIRD QUARTER  
(MARCH-MAY)**

**SUPPORTING THE  
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS  
OF SINGLE MOMS**

Across the diverse countries and territories of Soroptimist International of the Americas, there is an unfortunate commonality of single mothers facing obstacles to achieving their dreams and providing for their families.

Balancing work or school with childcare, navigating lower wages and combating social stigma, single mothers across our federation endure these struggles

every day. That's exactly where Soroptimists can UpliftHER and help!

**SINGLE MOTHERS  
NEED  
OUR HELP!**

For the third quarter (March-May), we will focus on projects that support the educational needs of single moms. We encourage your club to join the effort!

**WAYS TO GET INVOLVED**

- Share this post which highlights the obstacles single moms encounter across our countries and territories.
- Provide single moms with financial assistance for childcare during school or training. If she is not already a *Live Your Dream* Awards recipient, report it as a Big Goal Accelerator Project to help us reach our Big Goal.
- Help spread awareness by sharing SIA social media posts and graphics.

Go to the following webpage to find additional Uplift resources for the Soroptimists UpliftHer program.

<https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/program-resources/uplifter.html>

**APRIL 10, 2025  
HAPPY 77th BIRTHDAY  
TO SI RIVERSIDE**



Over 200 Riverside Soroptimist members and guests, including representatives of various community organizations, were present for the Charter Ceremony and Banquet at the Mission Inn on April 10, 1948, where the new Soroptimist Club of Riverside received its charter.

The Riverside club was sponsored by the Pomona Soroptimist Club and Lois Reeves McCarty, President of the Pomona club, acted as toastmistress for the program.

E.V. Dales, President of the Riverside City Council, gave the official welcome to the new service club for women.

Mary Ellen Pangle was installed as president of the club by Alido Dyson, Chairman of Education for Statesmanship of the American Federation of Soroptimist Clubs.

Presentation of the charter was by Dr. Ruth S. Thomas, Director of the Southwestern Region. Dr. Pearl Shrode Rittenhouse, member of the Extension Committee of the region, was assisted by Gladys Donlavey of Pomona, in presenting the President's pin.

Red tulips and white flowers sent by the Zonta Club of Riverside decorated the piano. Greetings and gifts were received from many organizations.

PHOTO: Marguerite Lorbeer, left, and Lois Reeves McCarty, right, Pomona Soroptimists, look on as Dr. Ruth S. Thomas, Director of the Southwestern Region of the American Federation of Soroptimist Clubs, presents the Riverside club president, Mary Ellen Pangle, with the new club's charter.

*From Press Enterprise April 1948*

**MARCH 15, 2025  
LIVE YOUR DREAM:  
DREAM IT, BE IT  
CONFERENCE**



Since 2008, Soroptimist International of Riverside has proudly presented the "Live Your Dream: Dream It Be It Conference" to inspire 7th and 8th-grade girls in the AVID program to explore diverse career paths and create a roadmap for achieving their goals.

This empowering event features workshops led by accomplished women from various professions, motivational keynote speakers and interactive activities designed to help attendees set and work towards their aspirations.

By providing guidance and support, SI Riverside aims to unlock the full potential of these young women and empower them to turn their dreams into reality.

This year's Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It Conference took place on Saturday, March 15th, at Riverside City College. There were a total of 61 students in attendance, two of them being foster girls.

Our Keynote speakers were Jengi Martinez, C-17 Instructor, Command Pilot, US Air Force and Dr. Tiffanie Tate, Published Author, Retired OBGyn and member of SI Riverside.

Breakout sessions led by accomplished professional women included panels on Medical, Science & Technology, Law Enforcement & Fire Service, Law & Legal and Television & Production. The attendees also took part in an activity making "Dream Collages" which were not only beautiful and creative but also hopeful and encouraging.

*Dear Soroptimist Sisters:*

*I want to express my deepest gratitude to each of you for your incredible dedication and hard work in making the Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It Conference such a huge success! This year was true sisterhood, teamwork and positive energy!*

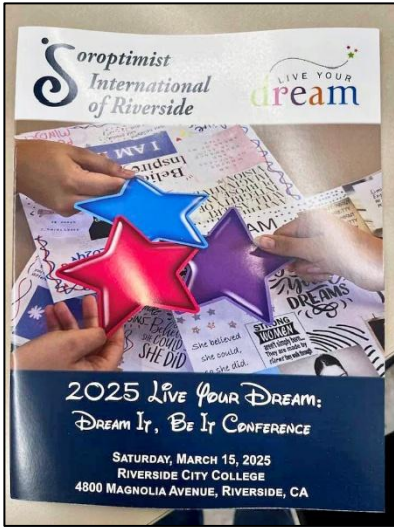
*Your efforts, whether on the planning committee, behind the scenes and/or support during the day of the event, ensured that everything ran smoothly and efficiently. You truly made the entire experience such a pleasure, not just for the girls, but for all involved! Everyone helped to create an atmosphere of warmth, encouragement and empowerment.*

*It's because of sisters like you that we can make such a meaningful impact on the lives of these young girls and give them the confidence and courage to chase their dreams! How awesome is that!*

*What do I wish for all of you, you ask? I wish and hope that you take a moment to be proud of what you have done for others AND of your huge, generous hearts. I am truly thankful and proud to work alongside such a dedicated and inspiring group of women who make an incredible team. I feel blessed.*

*With the Sincerest Gratitude,  
Michelle Paradise,  
LYD Conference Chair*





















APRIL 29, 2025  
SALUTE TO SERVICE  
AWARDS LUNCHEON

# SALUTE TO SERVICE



Please plan to attend our annual Salute to Services Award Luncheon on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at the First United Methodist Church at 4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside. Tickets are \$55/per person.

Members should have already received the Salute to Service invitation and registration form. Tickets can be purchased through TicketStripe (Scan QR Code on invitation) or by mailing the registration form to SI Riverside with your payment.

Please plan to attend to support our amazing award winners.

MAY 30, 2025  
TEA PARTY FUNDRAISER



# TEA PARTY FUNDRAISER

**MAY 30, 2025**

**First United Methodist  
Church**

**MORE INFORMATION  
TO COME**



**JUNE 5-7, 2025  
GOLDEN WEST REGION  
SPRING CONFERENCE**



Hello, Golden West Region!

Welcome to the 47th Annual Spring Conference, a time to "Glow and Grow" her dreams and ours.

Let's gather Thursday night for the "Governor's Meet and Greet." We haven't been together as a

region for at least a year, so let's do an icebreaker activity, chat and eat a delicious buffet dinner.

We will open the conference with our first business session on Friday morning. Throughout the conference, we will hear from exciting guest speakers, celebrate our club and region's successes and, of course, take care of business.

Speaking of our guests, we are honored to have our official visitor, Melanie Kenney, SIA Board Director. Also joining us is SIA's CEO and Executive Director, Michelle Burnett, along with special guest speakers Anita Byegon (SI Nakuru Club, Africa Federation, Marissa Waldrop (100 Humanitarians), past SIA President Dawn Marie Lemonds (SI Newport Harbor) and many other friends and guests.

Friday evening is 80's Bingo! Wear your neon and/or white 80's attire, bring bingo money and have a blast!

Saturday evening is our much awaited Live Your Dream Banquet. Wear your "dress up" attire and come to honor our awardees. This banquet is not to be missed. You will leave even more proud, if that is even possible, to be a Soroptimist.

I look forward to seeing each of you and growing our glow.

I can't wait!

Liz Glowka  
2024-2026 GWR Governor



## SOROPTIMIST EDUCATION & TRAINING



## Leadership Tip: Conflict Resolution

It's just a fact of life – conflicts will happen. We have them at home, at work and we even have them in our very own Soroptimist clubs. Because we are a global organization, we have a diverse membership with unique ways of working, thinking and speaking.

Differences are bound to occur and conflicts will arise. If they aren't met head on, they can keep us from being successful. How so? Conflicts impact teamwork and divert focus away from our mission, two of the top qualities members value most about being a Soroptimist.

Conflict rarely resolves itself. While most people do not enjoy conflict, if left unchecked (or handled poorly), destructive actions can escalate into even bigger problems, the least being hurt feelings and spiteful behavior.

That being said, conflict isn't all negative. It can bring about new ideas, serve as a learning



experience and help hone our communication and interpersonal skills. Differing opinions can bring about innovations that like-minds can't visualize. Look at the opportunities and leverage conflict as a way to build your team, develop leaders, promote transparency, boost retention and demonstrate value – just to name a few!

The next time you have to referee a dispute between members (and unfortunately, at some point you will) first, take a deep breath! Then use the following tips to help you work your way through the challenging situation so a positive resolution and closure can be obtained.

**Handle Confrontation ASAP:** We can't prevent it, but we can minimize it by catching it in its early stages. Take the time to immediately identify and understand the brewing tension to avoid a massive flare up in the future. Minimize the severity by dealing with the conflict quickly so it doesn't fester and grow.

**Be Prepared:** Go on a fact finding mission and discover the real source of the conflict. This enables you to address the true cause of the situation (sifting out any hearsay and gossip). Ask questions and request clarification when necessary. Most importantly, take the time to evaluate and digest what you find.

**Calmly Communicate:** Talk privately with the people involved and hold group meetings about the problem out of the public eye. Have a peaceful, constructive discussion while sticking to the issue at hand. Get to the point quickly and keep to the facts in order to maintain focus and avoid emotional outbursts.

**Listen:** Remember that hearing and listening are different.

Listening requires focus. Fight the urge to interrupt people and let them speak their opinions and thoughts. Be present in conversations, remove outside distractions, pay attention to body language and seek clarification by asking questions.

**Be Objective:** Put yourself in each of the conflicting party's shoes to understand their motivations and perspectives. Practice being free from prejudices and showing favoritism. A thoughtful and balanced attitude goes a long way and can make all the difference in the world.

**Find a Solution:** Brainstorm options and identify solutions. Be flexible, listen and consider the alternatives. Clearly communicate the next steps and/or the final outcome so there are no questions or room for misinterpretations. Whenever possible, negotiate the outcome. Everyone wants a win-win and compromise gives everyone a sense of satisfaction.

Despite its bad reputation, conflict is inevitable and is necessary for us to grow and progress. Even leaving a minor disagreement unchecked can trickle over into the entire membership and adversely affect a club's or region's atmosphere. By being proactive, you can diminish any growing "explosions."

The next time the temperature rises among members, put the above tips into practice. Every conflict is different and the results will vary depending on each situation. But, the better able you are at resolving conflicts, the better able you will be at leading a productive group of members who can work together to accomplish our mission.

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

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS



### No Birthdays In April

## APRIL MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES



**Lynn Scecina**  
4-26-2011

**JoAnn Moore**  
4-1-2015

**Susan Wolf**  
4-3-2018

**Charlene Johnson**  
4-3-2018

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**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**



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Submit articles and photos  
by the 25th of each  
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**SPRING IS HERE!**

