

PLAN AHEAD

The Soroptimist International of Palm Desert Newsletter for July 2017

-Doris Churry, Editor

BECKY GOEBEL, PRESIDENT, 2017-2018

Board of Directors Installed at Chamber of Commerce



CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'

"TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!"

Thank you President Sherrie for a fantastic year. Your hard work and knowledge of Soroptimist made our club SHINE!

I am honored to be called President Becky this year. Thank you for reelecting me, the 2nd time around, kinda like that old hit song, "Love is lovelier the 2nd time around". Paint our upcoming year bright, filled with DREAMS of a better world for the women and girls we serve, locally and internationally.

Reach for Your Dream . Dream Jars Project . Live Your Dream Awards . Dream It, Be It

Yes, we are a Club of Dreamers, perhaps that is why we work so well together. We have a new fundraiser to be proud of. Thanks to Betsy and Claudia for all of their hard work to launch Soroptimist Night at The Races.

The search for a new service project to serve the homeless women in our community has taken flight at the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. Janice, Sherrie and I toured the dorm rooms the women reside in with their children and learned about the "New Life Program" they have established. The women are homeless by definition, frequently due to domestic violence or separation from the supporting member of the household; for various reasons. The need is real and we can make a difference in their lives!

Our SIPD President's Retreat will be Saturday, July 29, 2017 at the Broken Yolk Café in La Quinta from 10 am to 2 pm. We have the use of this great meeting room venue for the cost of our lunch. The manager, Robert, has waived the fee for us. We will use this time to brainstorm and lay out the plan for our upcoming new club year. Wear your best thinking hat: There will be a prize for the best hat! We have much to do. Bring your suggestions for speakers, service projects, personal projects and funding sources to send grant requests for our projects and programs, make your voice heard, share your suggestions!

We will have a social gathering in mid-August for the hearty souls that stick out, or should I say are just stick in the heat!

In September we will begin meeting at our new location, The Henderson Building aka Palm Desert Chamber of Commerce. Change is good. Let's embrace the promise of edible food and a beautiful professional meeting space we can be proud of. We are furthering our positive relationship with the City of Palm Desert and the community we serve. The club voted on the \$20 meal charge in June. All meals will be catered and we hope this will bring us a favorable change.

Hope you enjoy the picture of me having a good time in the fountain at spring conference! Now I'll be dreaming of seeing my team at work Saturday, July 29th!

-President Becky





SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2017

PRESIDENT'S RETREAT

The Broken Yolk Cafe Private Meeting Room

78430 Hwy 111, La Quinta @ Point Happy

- 10 am – 2 pm
- We will be ordering lunch there
- RSVP President Becky – sipd_becky@gmail.com



BRICK STREET CHOCOLATE CAKE

All your dreams come true in a rich, dense chocolate cake with a rich chocolate ganache icing!

-Rose Mary Jameson

Cake

- 2 C sugar
- 1 C unsalted butter, softened
- 1 ½ tsp pure vanilla extract
- 3 large eggs
- 2 ½ C cake flour
- 1 C baking cocoa, sifted
- 2 tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ C instant chocolate pudding mix
- 2 ¼ C buttermilk
- 1 C semi-sweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Beat sugar, butter and vanilla in large bowl. Beat in eggs. Mix in cake flour, baking cocoa, soda, salt, chocolate pudding and buttermilk. Stir in chocolate chips. Pour into greased tube and bake for 30 minutes; turn down temperature to 325 degrees and continue baking for 30-40 minutes, until tester comes clean. Cool completely before icing.



Chocolate Icing

- ½ C water
- ½ C butter
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 C baking cocoa, sifted
- 3 ½ C powdered sugar, sifted
- 3 tbsp heavy cream (adjust for consistency)

Heat water, butter and vanilla together in a sauce pan on stovetop until melted. Remove from heat and stir in one cup cocoa. Stir in sifted powdered sugar. Stir in heavy cream, up to 3 tablespoons or more if needed to obtain the desired consistency. To ice, fill hole first, then spread icing over top and pour over sides; icing will harden as it cools.

SI COACHELLA VALLEY SUNRISE



“Soroptimist By Design”

In a **LIGHTER** mode for today’s busy working woman

-Dori Churry, Charter Coordinator

SIPD Charter Committee (All members are welcome to hop on board!)

Becky Goebel – Cathy Brown-Wellins – Barbara Grode

Marilyn Alt – Judy Corren – Lori Oliver – Marie Newton – Doris Churry

The SIPD Charter Committee will seek the formal vote to sanction our Golden West Region Membership outreach to establish a new club in the Coachella Valley area, sponsored by Soroptimist International of Palm Desert, at our SIPD business meeting in September

-Doris Churry, Chair, Golden West Region Task Force for Chartering New Clubs

Our proposed new Soroptimist club Marketing Campaign Basics

BREAKING NEWS!

A new Soroptimist women’s service club is now forming!

Soroptimist: Improving the lives of women and girls through social and economic empowerment and access to education.

Women of the Coachella Valley, a morning service club is being established for you early-bird women who are seeking other women of like mind to provide service to our community! Spirited women who are eager to make a difference are encouraged to contact me to learn more about Soroptimist and participate in the formative stages of our new Soroptimist club:

Soroptimist International of Coachella Valley Sunrise

You are invited to join us for our first meeting to discover the world of Soroptimist!

-Cathy Brown-Wellins, CB Wealth Management

LORI'S WHIRLED


“THE” Soroptimist International of Palm Desert BLOG!

-Lori Oliver



BABY IT'S HOT OUTSIDE!

Sung to the tune of “Baby, It’s Cold Outside”



I really can't stay (but baby, it's hot outside)
It's too hot to play (yeah baby, it's hot outside)
This golf game has been (been hoping that you'd drop in)
So very hot (I'll mop your brow, you're sweating like ice)
I'm thinking of selling my golf clubs (let's just sit in the hot tub)
I might even move to the shore (listen to the swamp cooler roar)
So really I'd better scram (beautiful please sit down)
But maybe a couple beers more (put your suit on while I pour)
The neighbors might think (baby, it's bad out there)
Say what's in this drink? (the pool is so cool out there)
It feels like hell (your skin is like melting ice)
Just break this heat spell (take off your hat, your face is starting to swell)
I ought to say no, no, no man (mind if I kiss your glove hand?)
At least I'm gonna say that I tried (what's the sense in hurtin' my pride?)
I really can't stay (baby, I won't be froze out)
But baby, it's hot outside

I simply must go (but baby, it's hot outside)
The answer is no (it's crazy-ass hot outside)
The summer has been (how lucky that you dropped in)
So freakin' warm (at least it cools down right before dawn)
My golf pro will be suspicious (gosh your lips look delicious)
My husband will be waiting right there (what a pity he has no hair)
My next door neighbor is vicious (gosh your lips are delicious)
But maybe just a cocktail more (let me shake it up and I'll pour)
I've gotta get home (but baby, you'll bake out there)
Let's get on a boat (we'll take to the seas out there)
You've really tried hard (I gave it my best shot)
But I will faint on the way (let me walk you out to your car)
It's bound to be death tomorrow (think of my short game sorrow)
At least there will be plenty who try (unless they get too toasted and die)
I really can't stay (uh-huh, you just said that)
Baby, it's hot
Baby, it's hot outside

Written by Frank Wildhorn and destroyed by Lori Oliver. Copyright Warner/Chappell Music, Inc and Lori Oliver



The Traveling Soroptimist

-Christine Duranceau



This month I was able to go by myself on a trip to Salem, Massachusetts to visit my brother and then on to Baltimore, Maryland to visit an old friend of mine. Salem is so funny. They have really incorporated the witch and wizard mentality in everything. They even have upside down broomsticks in the medians of the street instead of flowers. Also, the architecture is from the 17th and 18th century, so there is a lot to see. Lovely town and lovely train ride down from Boston. While in Baltimore, my friend and I went to Johns Hopkins Hospital to visit the old and new additions. The whole trip was wonderful and educational as well.



Susan Rosenberg checking in from Kauai and watching the Sea Princess at anchor – Aloha Soroptimists!

ALIGNING OUR CLUB WITH THE SOROPTIMIST MISSION

-Sherrie Yoshimura, President 2016-2017

After the last business meeting of year, President elect Becky, Service Director Janice and I toured the campus of the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. Our intention was to have a briefing with staff on the scope of their services and to see if our club and members may have a place to assist homeless women in the community with their difficult struggle to reclaim their lives.

We were given a comprehensive tour by staff member Scott Wolf (in 122 degree heat) of the expansive buildings and grounds of the mission. We were told of the 3 programs offered at the mission.

The Gateway Program: Is a 9-12 month residential vocational/education program designed to restore people to the community as self-sustaining. Clients in this Gateway residential program are provided with food, shelter, services and case management support and participate in educational, vocational, and skills training classes to develop the tools for successful community reintegration. Towards completion of the program, their focus changes to search for steady income and acquire savings prior to transiting to permanent housing. All services are provided free of charge.

Women and Family Services: The mission provides accommodations for 60 women and their children in the Women's Family Shelter. Children must be under the age of 18.



The New Life Program: Is a faith-based, residential program for men and women seeking to change their life. Whether they have been struggling with addictions, depression or caught in the cycle of joblessness, individuals with a sincere desire to change are welcomed into this year long program. They learn to take responsibility for their actions, to re-learn values and work ethics, and to seek a new direction for their futures.

As we talked, there were many ideas going through our minds during the conversation. He told us one of their struggles is providing women with the specific items they need. They have donated soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and men's socks all the time, but donated items specifically for women are rare.

Monthly sanitary supplies were a number one need. We explained to him that we have set up a budget item for our next club year to provide those to the mission. He was very pleased to have that information. He also said they are always in need of bras and women's panties. Becky mentioned she had access to a supply and would bring them to him. (Safehouse had a pile of these items and had no use for them.) The other item was unusual and something we would never think of on our own. Part of their mission is to assist women to find employment. Sometimes they have a struggle with their appearance because they have stopped coloring their hair. They need hair coloring products they can do themselves. Of course, if a woman has an unkempt presentation at a job interview it would hold her back.

As we spoke of their program to assist women to find employment we were very attentive. Janice said perhaps one service we could provide would be to stage mock interviewers so the women could practice for a job interview. He explained there is another group of women who bring in "career closet" clothes, accessories and makeup for the women who are ready for the job market. That was good to know.

We spoke of our "Reach for Your Dream" program that we offer through the College of the Desert and perhaps that could be adapted to their employment path program for the women. He was very interested in that idea. Scott made the statement that women are often homeless one day or less. Usually they are coming from an abusive situation. They have helped trafficked women and girls as well as those seeking to leave "the life on the streets" as a prostitute. They do have a dormitory for women with minor children. It is locked and secure. During the day the young children are taken to a free day care center. They return at the end of day. This allows the mothers the time to enter into their employment or education GED program. Each resident is required to work at some job to help run the mission.

It was an hour and half well spent for me. I was impressed with the organization of the mission and their immaculate facility. They background check all the people coming for help whether they want to stay in the mission for a night or longer. All volunteers have to go through a process and you can find out what that entails on their website.

So, here is my take about this introduction to the Mission. We as a club have an opportunity to engage with the mission to work with them assisting women to gain more education and/or a job. It is up to us now to evaluate and decide to act. As always it will take a vote of the membership to proceed or not to engage.

In my conversation with the Federation visitor at Spring Conference I told her of our new service project providing monthly sanitary supplies to the homeless women at the mission. She asked me if there was an **education component** of that project. I told her I will look into it. Now I have the answer. If the membership decides to engage with the mission's education program for women, we will have aligned ourselves with the Soroptimist International of the Americas mission of being "[*A global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment and access to education.*](#)" What do you think?



Thank you all so much.

I was overwhelmed with the gifts presented to me at the final meeting of the year.

You are most generous and they were gratefully appreciated.

Thank you for the great privilege of leading you this club year.

President Sherrie Yoshimura

2016-2017





PROJECT LINUS

Providing Security Through Blankets

-Beth Irish

Coachella Valley Chapter of Project Linus



Project Linus in the Valley began in 2000 and is one of the many chapters throughout the 50 states, as well as in Canada making blankets. Here in the Coachella Valley blankets are distributed to 15 organizations in the area, from 29 Palms to Coachella. To date, over 33,000 handmade blankets have been donated to area children ranging in age from newborns to teens. Some of the agencies where the blankets are distributed are Desert Regional Medical Center, Barbara Sinatra Children's Center, Marine Air Combat Hospital at 29 Palms, Shelter from the Storm, Safehouse of the Desert and Well in the Desert Homeless Shelter.

If any of you knitters/crocheters out there would like a little summer project making patches for Project Linus blankets,

then I would put them together. Your patches need to be 7" x 9", using only acrylic yarn (#4 weight). Contact me any time via email bethirish@aol.com.



Soroptimist Member Responsibilities

-Golden West Region New Member Handbook

- Attendance at scheduled club meetings
- Membership on committees
- Participation in club activities
- Attendance at Meetings/Conferences
- Participation in club fundraising events
- Prompt payment of dues/lunches

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

-Kelly Strong

I WATCHED THE FLAG PASS BY ONE DAY, IT FLUTTERED IN THE BREEZE;
A YOUNG MARINE SALUTED IT, AND THEN HE STOOD AT EASE.
I LOOKED AT HIM IN UNIFORM, SO YOUNG, SO TALL, SO PROUD;
WITH HAIR CUT SQUARE AND EYES ALERT, HE'D STAND OUT IN ANY CROWD.
I THOUGHT ... HOW MANY MEN LIKE HIM HAD FALLEN THROUGH THE YEARS?
HOW MANY DIED ON FOREIGN SOIL? HOW MANY MOTHERS' TEARS?
HOW MANY PILOTS' PLANES SHOT DOWN, HOW MANY DIED AT SEA.
HOW MANY FOXHOLES WERE SOLDIERS' GRAVES.
NO, FREEDOM IS NOT FREE.
I HEARD THE SOUND OF TAPS ONE NIGHT, WHEN EVERYTHING WAS STILL;
I LISTENED TO THE BUGLER PLAY, AND FELT A SUDDEN CHILL.
I WONDERED JUST HOW MANY TIMES THAT TAPS HAD MEANT "AMEN"
WHEN A FLAG HAD DRAPED A COFFIN OF A BROTHER OR A FRIEND;
I THOUGHT OF ALL THE CHILDREN, OF THE MOTHERS AND THE WIVES,
OF FATHERS, SONS AND HUSBANDS WITH INTERRUPTED LIVES.
I THOUGHT ABOUT A GRAVEYARD AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA,
OF UNMARKED GRAVES IN ARLINGTON.
NO. FREEDOM IS NOT FREE!



KELLY STRONG – This poem is important to Kelly because he wrote it as a high school senior, JROTC cadet at Homestead High School, Homestead, Florida in 1981. It is a tribute to his father, a career marine who served two tours in Vietnam. Kelly is now an active duty Coast Guard pilot living in Mobile, Alabama and serving at the United States Coast Guard Aviation Training Center.

Our SIPD Soroptimists' Service to Soroptimist

Margaret Henderson, Past Governor, Golden West Region

Liz Glowka, GWR International Liaison

Betsy Kreger, GWR Coordinator, Soroptimist Dream It, Be It Program

Barbara Grode, GWR District 1 and 2 Bylaws Committee

Barbara Grode, GWR District 1 and 2 Fundraising Committee

Doris Churry, GWR District 2 Membership Committee and Charter Task Force



HAVE AN AWESOME SUMMER!

