

PLAN AHEAD

The newsletter for Soroptimist International of Palm Desert, April 2018

-Doris Churry Editor



PLAN AHEAD FOR SPRING CONFERENCE

PALA CASINO IN TEMECULA AREA, June 7-9

Soroptimist Summit June 6 – Temecula Wine Tour June 10

LUNCH AT ELLA'S!



Lotta "brass" in that old Ford!



TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!

Spring is in the air, time for our first "Senior Spring Tea" on April 21 at the Joslyn Senior Center. Every member is encouraged to attend the tea as this is our Soroptimist Day of Service for this club year.

OUR TWO SIPD SERVICE PROGRAMS

SOROPTIMIST HOUSE OF HOPE

COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

Soroptimist House of Hope "Day of Hope" is May 5th. Tickets are available online (\$50) via the House of Hope Facebook page. If you have unused gift cards that you would like to donate to our Silent Auction, contact Marilyn or simply bring them to our meeting on April 4th.

House of Hope is opening its doors to welcome us for a barbeque and potluck at our Desert Hot Springs house April 12th. Sign up and spend quality time with the women in the program. We carpool from Palm Desert Costco parking lot at 4:15pm.

"Up Close and Personal". Our club has budgeted money for monthly purchase and donation of personal hygiene products for the women enrolled in the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission Gateway Program. All year long, we have made a difference in the lives of the women seeking to improve their lives through education and economic empowerment, as they worked toward graduating and preparing to take their place as members of the community. At the ceremony this week, each



graduate was given a congratulatory card from our club.

500+ pair of new panties and bras have been donated to Soroptimist House of Hope and the Gateway Program women at the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission this year, now that's IMPACT! We also donated over 70 gently used bras for homeless women transitioning to a new life through programs offered at the CV Rescue Mission.

SOROPTIMIST RECOGNITION

“Women Behaving Badly for Good” featured Margaret Henderson in the 2018 *Periscope*, Coachella Valley Historical Society publication.

Live, Love, Play, Palm Desert 2018 Directory, mentions Soroptimist in a full page feature entitled, “Non-Profit”. We were also nominated for non-profit of the year!

SIPD “ROAD TRIPS!”

Ramona Pageant is our destination on May 6, 2018. Anyone who attended Fall District Meeting received a free ticket to the pageant. If you are not planning on using yours, let me know and we will gift it to one of the gals going. Everyone is invited to go and bring friends, just contact me.

The Call to **Spring Conference** is out, and it’s close to us this year, sent to your email by GWR Governor Penny Babb last week. Temecula is our destination for FUN Soroptimist style. Let’s sign up and schedule our next Spring Conference “Road Trip!” TOGETHER.

SOROPTIMIST GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OPS

SERVICE ON THE SIPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The SIPD Nominating Committee is now in session. If you would like to serve in a particular office next year, email Chairperson, Betsy Kreger.

SIPD BUDGET ACTIVITY

Our mid-year budget review shows we are on track. Always good to know!

The Big Check presentation for \$1,000 (this represents the total amount budgeted for the year) was made to CV Rescue Mission at their graduation ceremony April 29. Good idea Margaret for improving our public awareness.

SIPD MEETING LOCATION

Location location location...where do we want to be? This year we made a big change when we moved from Desert Falls Country Club to the Palm Desert Chamber of Commerce and then on to our current location at the Regional Access Program (RAP) building location on Eclectic and Hovely. Each location has its good features and drawbacks. Now it’s time to make additional outreach to see if we can locate the most suitable venue for our business and program meetings for 2018-2019. Let’s open the floor for new ideas and discussion.

SOROPTIMIST SIGNATURE SERVICE PROGRAM

“DREAM IT BE IT” WORKSHOP TO LAUNCH AT SIPD

Our first “Dream It Be It” workshop will launch in our next SIPD club year. This will replace our “Reach for Your Dream” career workshop, presented over the past three club years at College of the Desert. We are working now with Susan Francis, The Ophelia Project CEO, to partner with us in this endeavor. Step up and sign up for this exciting committee!

-President Becky

April showers bring May Flowers

APRIL 4 – SIPD PROGRAM MEETING @noon

Regional Access Program, 41550 Eclectic Street
\$20 meeting fee, includes lunch



APRIL 12 – HOUSE OF HOPE BBQ @4:15pm

Meet at Costco Palm Desert @4:15pm to carpool to Desert Hot Springs SHOH
Meet near the gas pumps – Bring a potluck item



APRIL 18 – SIPD BOARD MEETING @11am

APRIL 18 – SIPD BUSINESS MEETING @noon

Regional Access Program, 41550 Eclectic Street
\$20 meeting fee, includes lunch


*Here's a smile
for a rainy
day*

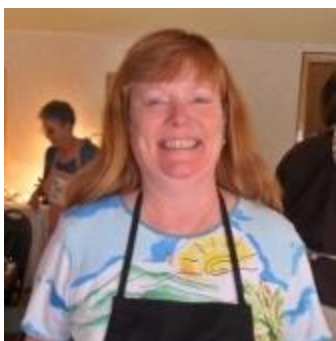


APRIL 21 – SOROPTIMIST SATURDAY OF SERVICE: SENIOR TEA @10-noon

Tea with senior women at Joselyn Center in Palm Desert
Sign up to bring tea cookies – Bring a teapot

April

A cartoon illustration of a young girl with brown hair, wearing a yellow raincoat and orange boots, holding a yellow umbrella. She is standing in a blue puddle, and raindrops are falling around her.



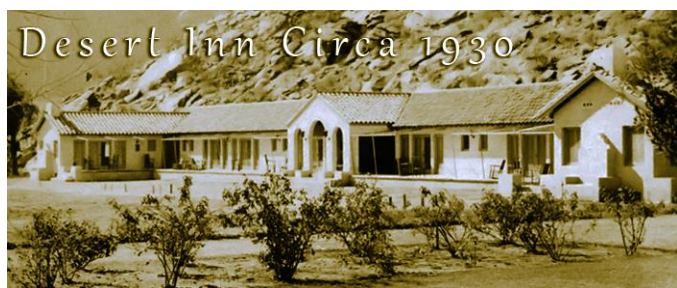
THE TRAVELLING SOROPTIMIST

-Susan Browne Rosenberg

Nellie Coffman and the Desert Inn

I am in the middle of reading “Nellie’s Boardinghouse” by Marjorie Belle Bright, a delightful history of an amazing pioneer woman in Palm Springs. In 1909, it took two tortuous hours to travel from the train station near Whitewater to downtown Palm Springs in a four wheeled carriage. Nellie arrived with two small children to become an innkeeper in the desert. The beginnings of the inn were small cottages and tent houses.

From 1909 to 1913 Mrs. Coffman improved the Desert Inn to attract more and more winter residents from LA and the Midwest. Her story sounded so much like many Soroptimists I have met, in that she speaks of the “Sincerity of Service.” In fact she



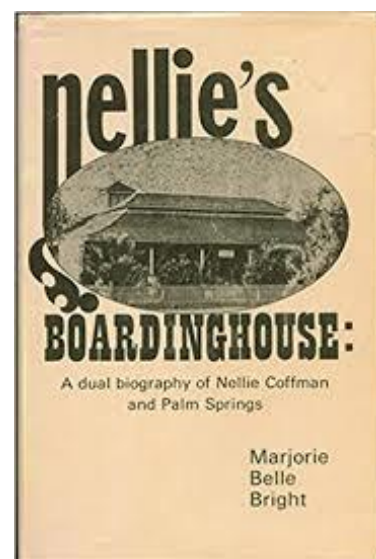
had the four S’s of the desert – space, stillness, solitude and simplicity.



The book contains entire speeches she gave to various women’s groups from Banning to Blythe. I enjoyed her Recipe for a Happy Marriage: “Give and Take, Laugh and Cry, Work and Play. And if the scales aren’t even, nothing

works.” She was good friends with another very famous female innkeeper named Jennie Curry, founder of Camp Curry in Yosemite Valley. Nellie called Jennie a mountain goat and Jennie called Nellie a desert rat. When Jennie tried to persuade Nellie to become a mountain goat, Nellie wrote back in a poem which expressed her feelings. In 1931 she wrote “Didn’t you hear my wails when we were last on a mountain road with a driver good and true? And I yelled that the next turn would sure bring death? Why, lady, I’m ashamed of you for even suggesting such a change. As for me, I’ll sure stand pat on level ground my chance I’ll take and remain a Desert Rat!”

After Coffman’s death in 1950, her sons sold the Desert Inn to Marion Davies, but the resort suffered from her absence. It was demolished in 1966 and replaced with the Desert Fashion Plaza, which was in turn razed in 2012. Construction is currently transforming the site into a 14-acre development that will include three hotels, a park, and an event space. [Palm Springs preservationists are asking](https://www.kcet.org/shows/lost-la/how-the-mother-of-palm-springs-transformed-a-desert-village-into-a-tourist-mecca) that, in addition to the now-iconic Marilyn Monroe statue, the space include room to honor this mother of Palm Springs. KCET has a short bio with photos that you can read here <https://www.kcet.org/shows/lost-la/how-the-mother-of-palm-springs-transformed-a-desert-village-into-a-tourist-mecca> They called her the “Mother of Palm Springs”. Nellie Coffman Middle School in Palm Springs is named after her and an SIPS scholarship; Nellie Coffman would have made a great Soroptimist. The book can be reserved through the Riverside County Public Library system. After I finish reading it.



Lori's WHIRLd

The official BLOG of SIPD

-Lori Oliver



SHIFT CHANGE

I turned out of my driveway on a short drive to dinner. As I turned to check for oncoming traffic, I saw a bright grey full moon rising in the east. Turning west, the orange ball of the sun was making a hasty retreat. It was the shift change. Sun clocking out. Moon clocking in.

At the Barn Grill it was shift change too. The food waitress (who can take bar orders) was happy to see the arrival of the bartender (who can take food orders). Those little bits of serendipity –examples of the shift changes in life— were not lost on me. I had a huge change of life recently that has gently redirected my life's path. Happily so. There is one particular change that warrants mention because it affects you the reader as

much as anyone. It's YouTube. I have always been a YouTube appreciator...I am a fan now. And I'm not talking about snippets for amusement. I am talking about the wonderful world of how-to video tutorials. Real, solid information. YouTube should change its name to LifeSchool.

I'll wager you could search "How to deliver a baby", and there would be from ten to a hundred video tutorials. Don't need to deliver a baby? How about change a tire, install a sink, apply eyeliner "on the waterline," decorate a cake like Elsa from Frozen? (that one is real and worth a look), TED Talks, comedy bits, vintage television shows, it's all there. Next time you go to Google, try YouTube instead. With Google you have to read. With YouTube it's like watching TV instead.

Speaking of TV there's a new service called YouTubeTV. I don't subscribe yet, but I will. Yet another change of life. Another version of "shift change." Exhilarating!



Ophelia Project Annual Fundraiser

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Agua Caliente Resort

32250 Bob Hope Drive, Rho Mirage

\$85 per person

Scholarship Awards @10am

Reception and Raffles @11am

Luncheon @11:45am

RSVP by Friday April 13th

susanfrancis@jfkfoundation.org



CONGRATULATIONS!

Erin Johnson

SIPD Live Your Dream Awardee

\$2,000

Lisa Andreas, SI Carson City

"I enjoyed my visit to SI Palm Desert and look forward to visiting again next February and March!"

Karen Koch, SI Gold Beach

"I should be able to make the May 2nd meeting. I look forward to it and to joining your club!"

Golden West Region Spring Conference 2018

June 6 – Summit

June 7 – 9 – Spring Conference

June 10 – Wine Tour

LINK: GWR CALL TO CONFERENCE

SIGWR.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=928590&module_id=289531

WHAT'S BITCOIN? BOOM OR BUBBLE.

-Cathy Brown, President, CB Wealth Management

Fiction writers couldn't make the Bitcoin story any more fascinating if they tried. A mysterious (and still unidentified) founder. An intriguing (and complex) purchasing process. A hype leading to a market trend (or should we call it mania?) on a level not seen in years. Yet, despite this global excitement for cryptocurrencies, many are still aren't familiar with this digital payment system, and why it has recently become an extremely popular investment.

What are bitcoin? Bitcoin is a brand of encrypted electronic cash you can't put in a wallet or purse since there are no physical bills to hold. A bitcoin conceptually acts like a dollar, but with some key differences. You can hypothetically exchange it for goods and services if someone accepts it as a form of payment. Unlike traditional currency, though, Bitcoin, and other cryptocurrencies, is neither issued nor controlled by a government or central bank. This is an appealing feature for some—the ability to send and receive payments anonymously. This is one of the reasons that most of the trading in Bitcoin so far is in Asia.



Why Bitcoin? It was the first peer-to-peer virtual currency system, meaning there's no third party facilitating the exchange. As a result of this, the initial trading in it was probably because of its use in the black market. There are other digital currencies—numbering in the thousands—but Bitcoin has received the most headlines because of its staggering increase in price last year (before it also had a significant decline.)

When Did Bitcoin explode? Bitcoin has existed virtually since 2009. After several years of ups and downs, it really took off last year when the price skyrocketed, when a Bitcoin was selling for over \$20,000 each. In the last few months, the price has declined to about \$10,000 but that's still significantly above where it was a year ago. Is it worth it? I personally find it hard to believe that valuation makes sense.

How Do You Buy a bitcoin? A number of exchanges exist around the world to facilitate buying and selling of bitcoins. Unlike the US Treasury that prints more money when it wants to put more money in circulation, Bitcoin mining creates additional units as rewards for those who keep the network of bitcoin transactions running smoothly. Mining is done through a network of user computers running special software. An average computer user doesn't have the expertise to do this, but it is big business. Every 10 minutes, it's currently estimated that 12.5 bitcoins are released to those miners. Even so, a majority of bitcoins are "owned" by a small group of investors. It's believed that 40% of them are held by about 1000 people.

So? What's the Bottom Line? Digital currencies lack regulations like other currencies. Plus, there's potential security risks. If someone steals your bitcoin, there's no one to help you recover that loss. Or, if you lose your codes to access your bitcoin, there's no one to help you get that back. In essence, there's no one to help you reset that password. In addition, competitors are introducing alternatives all the time that are many times less expensive and offer cheaper transaction fees.

Time will tell if Bitcoin is one of the biggest bubbles in history or the beginning of an important currency revolution. I think it's too early for most investors to jump in since the volatility and downside risk is too great, but if you're interested in bitcoin, do your homework before you invest!

EAT YOUR VEGETABLES!

BROCCOLI SALAD

-Marilyn Alt

1 C Miracle Whip or mayonnaise

6 T apple cider vinegar

$\frac{1}{4}$ C sugar

Mix above ingredients and then add:

1 chopped red onion

Bacon crumbled

Raisins

Sunflower seeds

Broccoli florets in bite-sized pieces

Chill for at least one hour and serve

