



# 2020

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

WELCOMING SIPD 2020:  
BRANDINI TOFFEE SALES FUNDRAISER  
LAUNCH "DREAM IT\*BE IT" SERVICE WORKSHOP

# PLAN AHEAD

Soroptimist Interntional of Palm Desert newsletter, January 2020

-Doris Churry, Editor

PERSONAL DREAM JARS FOR GWR DREAM AWARDS FUNDING  
SIPD "LIVE YOUR DREAM" AWARDS AND CELEBRATION DINNER



ROAD TRIP! FLAGSTAFF SPRING CONFERENCE  
SOROPTIMIST HOUSE OF HOPE ACTIVITIES



HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

# WHAT DID YOU THINK ABOUT OUR SIPD DECEMBER LADIES?

## DECEMBER TO DO LIST

Install new refrigerator filter  
Replace smoke detector batteries  
Heat/Air Conditioning maintenance

Oops! Wrong December To Do List!

**MARIE'S 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DINNER AUCTION**  
**MULTITUDES OF CONCERT PROMOS**  
**ONE SIPD MEETING: DECEMBER 11**  
**WELCOME: DONNA WILLIAMS!**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> GRADERS ADOPT-A-CLASSROOM**  
**DOUG SMITH HOLIDAY CONCERT**

WOW. We partied, raised money, worked hard on promoting and selling tickets for our concert fundraiser. We met only one time to permit space in our lives for some holiday good times with friends and family; we were happy to welcome Donna Williams as our newest SIPD member with thanks to Leanna for inviting her to our membership party. Cathy spearheaded our extended effort to provide our 2nd graders with a holiday celebration. Five of our members took our multitude of gifts over to them and had the good fortune to interact and to be entertained with their singing for us (oh cuteness!). At long last we produced the Doug Smith Holiday Benefit Concert (which at this writing I do not know the extent of our success). Thank you to Karen for her spectacular guidance through the approach to upgrading the production and leading the club in order to increase our fund development. No matter how it turns out, the whole thing was beautifully handled and

thanks to the membership for each doing everything they could to make it successful. Well done everyone!

WE LOVE DOUG & JUDY! Extreme thanks to you both for donating your time and talents to our major fundraiser again this year. We are all grateful for your generosity of spirit!



We can all now step into 2020 proudly with our new goals and objectives to challenge us in the new year. We are 25 members strong and I encourage all 25 of you to continue to bring your best to Soroptimist. If you are unable to do one thing then I know you know that you can do other things to compensate so that you are cultivating your personal feeling of value as we join hands to do service for our community, Golden West Region, Soroptimist International of the Americas and Soroptimist International as well.



**CHEERS** to another exemplary year together my friends! Happy New Year!

-Prez Doris

# JANUARY



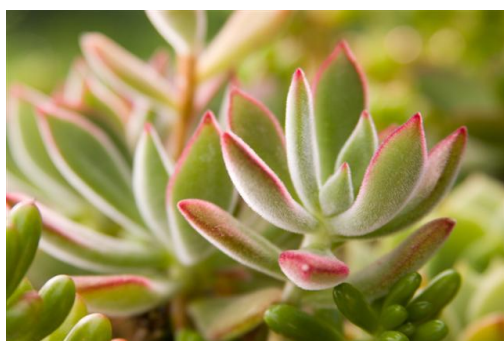
Soroptimist Speakers Series

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 @noon

Classic Club Phoenix Rm, \$25 at the door



Francoise Rhodes, Traveling with Francoise



SIPD Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, January 20, 2020 @10:30am

Tour Brandini Toffee Factory/42250 Bob Hope/followed by:  
Board Meeting at CB Wealth Management  
Brown Bag

SIPD Business Meeting  
Wednesday, January 22, 2020 @noon  
Classic Club Phoenix Rm, \$25 at the door





*Mardi Gras Party – SAVE THE DATE!*  
Sunday, January 26, 2020 – Details TBA

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## GALILEE CENTER THRIFT STORES

1030 6<sup>TH</sup> Street #6, Coachella CA 92236

66101 Hammond Road, Mecca CA 92254

Do you have a donation? Please call the office to schedule a free pickup of your gently used clothing, furniture, and household items. 760-396-9100

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## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS

New logo/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.”



S O R O P T I M I S T<sup>®</sup>

**Investing in Dreams**

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## #SoroptimistsAtWork

SIA is excited to be launching our #SoroptimistsAtWork social media campaign for membership! The campaign is intended to demonstrate the value of Soroptimist membership across social media platforms. Between now and May 31, 2020 please use the hashtag #SoroptimistsAtWork across your club’s Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to share posts and photos of your members having fun together! Rewards in store for clubs and regions whose posts earn the farthest “reach” online. We can’t wait to see you and your members online!

-Ilesha, Nicole and Allison, SIA Membership and Leadership Development Team

## MARIE'S 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DINNER AUCTION





I had several requests for this recipe at our dinner/auction, so here it is. Enjoy, Marie

## COMPANY CHICKEN



4 large skinless, boneless chicken breasts

2 cans undiluted Campbell's cream of mushroom soup

8 slices Swiss cheese

1 package Mrs. Cubbisons Stuffing Mix

1 ½ sticks of unsalted butter, melted

Slice each breast on the diagonal into three sections. Place in a 9"x13" pan that you have greased lightly with olive oil. Place the Swiss cheese slices on top of the raw chicken and then spread completely with the mushroom soup. Don't salt the chicken because the stuffing has enough spices and salt already. Melt the butter and mix it into the breadcrumbs and then spread on top of the soup.

Bake uncovered in a 350 degree oven for one hour. If breadcrumbs look like they are getting too brown, lay foil loosely over the pan. This recipe can be assembled a day ahead and baked later.

Serves 6-8.





-Becky Goebel, District 2 Director

My job as District 2 Director for GWR takes me to Flagstaff this month. I will be attending the Golden West Region board meeting in Flagstaff, January 24-25, to help finalize plans for our 2020 GWR Spring Conference "Climb Every Mountain".

Let's have some fun on our way to a grand GWR Spring Conference in 2020! I am creating a Facebook challenge for all of our District 2 clubs! Upload and post your club and members' favorite "mountain photos" on Facebook. Let's see what each club can come up with; see my personal "mountain photo" above. The more, the merrier! This can be part of the SIA #SoroptimistsAtWork as well, and "It's GREAT to be a Soroptimist: Light up the net!"



## Golden West Region Spring Conference 2020

May 29 – 31, 2020 / Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort / Flagstaff AZ

### PROVIDING A POSITIVE CLUB EXPERIENCE

Clubs can grow and retain members by providing an engaging and civil member experience. Inviting and encouraging members to get involved on committees, or helping when they can if being on a committee is too much of a commitment, is an ideal way to engage members. Empower your members to make decisions within your committees

Making members feel welcome by hearing and responding to their feedback and ideas in a positive manner, even if they are not feasible to implement, helps create a civil member experience. Engage your members to create a campaign on your club's Facebook page and call it: "It's GREAT to be a Soroptimist" and ask members to post their experiences.

Recognize members that go beyond expectations for the betterment of the club. A simple public "thank you" goes a long way. Develop and deliver leadership training opportunities within your club and encourage members to go to Fall Meetings, GWR Spring Conferences and if possible the international conventions as well – all are excellent learning and bonding experiences for every Soroptimist, time and time again.



# FINANCIAL RESOLUTIONS for 2020

-Cathy Brown

Most people make resolutions to improve their lives in the New Year. Resolving to do better next year with financial issues can make a big difference to your financial health. To get started you should review your financial strengths, pour over your budget and see if there are unnecessary expenses, make plans and changes as necessary and meet with your professional team to strategize.

1. **Identify your financial goals**—This is beneficial for most everyone even if you've been saving and investing for a long time. It's not enough to say that you want to save more. Be specific about what you want to accomplish and how you'll do it.
2. **Track your budget**—It's amazing how many people don't know where the money goes. Look at three month's statements from your bank and credit card companies to help you identify areas that you may be wasting money.
3. **Check your credit report**—Everyone is entitled to one free annual credit report from the 3 reporting companies—Equifax, Experian, TransUnion; go to [annualcreditreport.com](https://annualcreditreport.com) to review yours. Look for any items that don't belong to you and dispute them to improve your score.
4. **Commit to no-spend days**—just like sporadic fasting is becoming popular, so too is planning a moratorium on spending. Resolve not to go out to eat, go shopping or buy online for a day and put the money you save towards a bigger goal.
5. **Cut back on bad money habits**—This may be eating out too often, splurging on too many subscriptions you don't use, etc.
6. **Automate good habits**—If you're saving for retirement, do it with direct withdrawals from your account so you don't have to think about it.
7. **Do home maintenance**—It's a good time to do the minor things that can save a lot of potential costs in the future—change the filters in the air conditioner, clean the vents, etc.
8. **Get healthy (and you don't need to join a gym to do it)**—There are a number of free apps you can download that will help you stay on track. A healthier you can be a blessing not only to you personally but also to your wallet.
9. **Fast track your debt payoff**—If you're working on paring your debt, look to eliminate the highest interest charging debt first.
10. **Rebalance your Investment Portfolio**—Last year was a great year for investors. With an election looming, trade issues still uncertain, and interest rates probably less volatile, now is a good time to assess your portfolio and make necessary changes.



Happy New Year! Make it a Prosperous One.



## LORI'S WHIRL – THE OFFICIAL SIPD BLOG!

-Lori Oliver

It's the most wonderful time of the year.



What an odd Christmas and new year this is. My daughter, Katie and her precious poochie-pie, Luci, are harking the herald angels and toasting the new year in the Scottish Highlands. My son is providing solace and stability to his dad, a recent widower, in New York. This will be daddy's first holiday without Susan. And Susan's first time missing Christmas and the ball dropping in Times Square. And I am home in Walnut Grove, alone, and feeling sorry for no one, least of all myself. I am content and safe and loved. My daughter is taking a well-deserved break from her writing and teaching obligations. And my son is consoling his

grieving father, while at the same time his father is mentoring Joey through the next phase of our son's life which in this case means helping him land a job. It's true, my son has been without work for over a year now, but being the frugal sort (he didn't get that from me!) his stores are adequate to over-winter for perhaps another year. Funny, isn't it, how the angels...or whoever...set things in motion, here and there, now and later, for richer or for poorer, and we manage to get along. And in some cases thrive. Yes, my family is thriving, even in this scattered, disparate state.]



It gives me hope for my country. Stripped naked, what's left to see but potential? That may be a fat-old-woman talking, but it is true nonetheless. (Can I get an "Okay, Boomer" for that?) I see an uphill climb, and it's looking purdy-darn-do-able. If you are alone, no you're not. I'm here. If you are seeing the sad side, turn around. There is another side. We are so blessed, the only curse we suffer is when we won't turn to see the blessing on the other side.

Blessings, everyone. Sometimes you have to look down to see you're knee-deep in them.

“Soroptimist Women –

Thank you ... for taking your time and energy to help me (us) misfits LOL [smiley face] and for giving me a chance to be the woman I never knew I was, and can be today. I’m so grateful for all of you! I have hope today and have learned so much to be successful.

I never knew how to love myself and had people in my life that couldn’t love me back the way I needed because I didn’t even know what true love was. I have tools today that I’ve learned from the House of Hope counselors.

I love them dearly. With them and their personal strength, and their life stories, it just gave me guidance in my recovery to do the right thing, learn the steps and principles and GOD. I will still

be practicing these lessons

when I go home with

my sponsor. None of this would have been possible without all of you.

I’m forever grateful to you!



-Love you all through Eternity, A. C.”

# SOROPTIMIST HOUSE OF HOPE

Announces

Oma Gray is retiring after 20 years of service to House of Hope – Wish her well Ladies!

**CALM**

**YOU'RE INVITED**  
**RETIRMENT PARTY**  
**FOR**  
**CYNTHIA 'OMA' GRAY**

 **JANUARY 22, 2020** 

**5:00 PM. - 7 PM**  
**BANNINGWOMEN'S CLUB**

**CULTURAL ALLIANCE BUILDING**  
**175 W. HAYS ST. BANNING 92220**  
**(hors d'oeuvres and dessert will be served)**

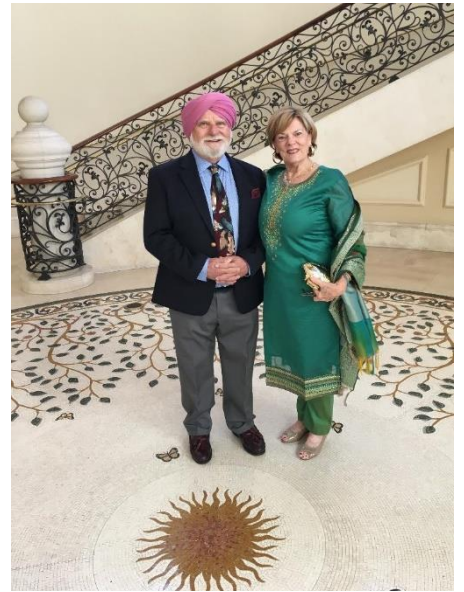
**Donations at the Door**  
**PLEASE RSVP via email to [Trishklim@earthlink.net](mailto:Trishklim@earthlink.net)**  
**or call Rebecca Norton at (951) 849-9491**

**PEACEFUL**  
**SERENE**

# THE TRAVELING SOROPTIMIST

-Betsy Kreger

The holiday season brought us “comfort and joy” along with family. Gary and I went up to Oxnard to be with our daughter (in-law) and the granddaughters during the weekend before Christmas. It’s a tradition to make gingerbread cookies with my girls. I’ve been doing this with them for many years. Sarah, now 23, remembers us doing this 24 years ago! Then, Gary and I traveled down to Dana Point to Monarch Beach Resort for a 4-day Sikh wedding for son #3 of dear friends. The family considers us part of their family so they included Gary in wearing a wedding turban. Great fun, lots of dancing and hot spicy Indian food.



“Look! -a new day has begun”



**HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!**