

# **SEPTEMBER 2020**



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:

- <u>GENDER EQUALITY</u>: Women and girls live free from discrimination.
- <u>EMPOWERMENT</u>: Women and girls are free to act in their own best interest.
- <u>EDUCATION</u>: Women and girls deserve to lead full and productive lives through access to education.
- <u>DIVERSITY & FELLOWSHIP</u>: Women from varied backgrounds and perspectives work together to improve the lives of women and girls.

# 2020-21 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Edith Gingerich 2020-21 SIR President

FUNDRAISING...WOW! What a topic in the year of the COVID-19 pandemic!

As you all know, fundraising is an integral part of the work we do with Soroptimist. Without it we cannot help women and girls reach their full potential. But fundraising is a sticky subject this year with COVID restrictions on gatherings, etc. We have and will find ways to raise the funds necessary to carry on our good work. It will require stepping out of the norm for some of us, perseverance and dedication which I know we all have for our vision and mission.

We have discussed many ways to raise funds including a straight forward "ASK" letter fashioned after SI Corona's fundraising letter. Our Valentine Dessert Auction chair, JoAnn Moore, is working on a letter that will have various levels of giving opportunities from \$25 to \$5,000. We can send this letter out via Constant Contact with a PayPal button and/or by U.S. mail if we so choose. We can also post it on our SI Riverside webpage.

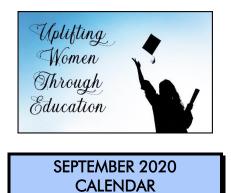
As a note of encouragement, at the recent Golden West Region Leadership Conference, SI Corona reported raising around \$17,000 from their "ASK" letter. If they can do it, we can do it, too!

We have also talked about "corporate partnering" and we have each been asked to bring a list to our September business meeting of at least 5 business relationships we would be willing to contact regarding partnering with us via funding. Soon we will have a simple script you can use to help you through the steps.

Additionally, Golden West Region Governor Laurie Moses has sent out several fundraising ideas that have not yet been discussed with the club. I will bring the ideas to our next business meeting. Several other fundraising models have also come to our attention as well.

In the end, these are all new methods and territories for many of us that we are working on this year. We are a strong, resilient group of women dedicated to our vision and mission. A little road block like COVID-19 will not stop us from raising funds and carrying out our good works!

#### Edith Gingerich 2020-21 SIR President







### ALL MEETINGS IN SEPTEMBER WILL BE ON ZOOM

- 1 <u>BOARD MEETING</u> 12:00 PM on Zoom
- 5 <u>INTERNATIONAL DAY OF</u> <u>CHARITY</u>
- 8 <u>BUSINESS MEETING</u> 12:00 PM on Zoom
- 8 <u>INTERNATIONAL LITERACY</u> <u>DAY</u>
- 21 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE
- 22 <u>PROGRAM MEETING</u> 12:00 PM on Zoom







### ALL MEETINGS IN OCTOBER WILL BE ON ZOOM

- 1 <u>INTERNATIONAL DAY OF</u> OLDER PERSONS
- 3 <u>SOROPTIMIST</u> <u>INTERNATIONAL</u> <u>FOUNDERS DAY</u>
- 6 <u>BOARD MEETING</u> 12:00 PM on Zoom
- 11 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD
- 13 <u>BUSINESS MEETING</u> 12:00 PM on Zoom
- 16- DISTRICT 1 VIRTUAL
- 17 *FALL MEETING* Hosted by Director Deb Murphy
- 17 <u>INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR</u> <u>THE ERADICATION OF</u> <u>POVERTY</u>
- 24 UNITED NATIONS DAY
- 27 PROGRAM MEETING 12:00 PM on Zoom

### DATES TO REMEMBER



October 1-3, 2021 <u>100th ANNIVERSARY</u> <u>CELEBRATION</u> San Francisco, California Fairmont San Francisco Hotel

# SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE



# 2020 Theme: Shaping Peace Together

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on September 21st. The United Nations General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace through observing 24 hours of nonviolence and cease-fire.

This year, it has been clearer than ever that we are not each other's enemies. Rather, our common enemy is a tireless virus that threatens our health, security and very way of life. COVID-19 has thrown our world into turmoil and forcibly reminded us that what happens in one part of the planet can impact people everywhere.

In March, UN Secretary-General António Guterres called on all warring parties to lay down their weapons and focus on the battle against this unprecedented global pandemic. While the message is intended for armed parties, solidarity and cooperation across borders, sectors and generations are also needed to win this new fight against the worst public health crisis of our time.

For the United Nations, 2020 was already meant to be a year of listening and learning. To mark its 75th anniversary, the UN has invited millions of people worldwide to join UN75, the largest and furthest reaching global conversation on building the peaceful and prosperous future that we want.

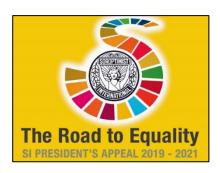
As we struggle to defeat COVID-19, your voice is more important than ever. In these difficult times of physical distancing, this International Day of Peace will be dedicated to fostering dialogue and collecting ideas. The world will be invited to unite and share thoughts on how to weather this storm, heal our planet and change it for the better. Even though we may not be able to stand next to each other, we can still dream together.

2020 theme The for the International Day of Peace is "Shaping Peace Together." Celebrate the day by spreading compassion, kindness and hope in the face of the pandemic. Stand together with the UN against attempts to use the virus to promote discrimination or hatred. Join us so that we can shape peace together.

#### BACKGROUND:

The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly. Two decades later, in 2001, the General Assembly unanimously voted to designate the Day as a period of non-violence and ceasefire. The United Nations invites all nations and people to honor a cessation of hostilities during the Day and to otherwise commemorate the Day through education and public awareness on issues related to peace.

### SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL



# WHERE WE STAND ON AGING

Soroptimist International calls immediate attention to the growing population of older women and denounces the tendency for women beyond reproductive age to be invisible not just from policies and programs, but from society as a have often whole. Women experienced a lifetime of discrimination which culminates in a multitude of challenges faced in the post-reproductive years, including a lack of security, protection, access to resources, access to education and access to health care. Soroptimist International champions a lifecourse approach of educatina, empowering enabling and opportunities for women at all ages, including the specific needs of older women.

Soroptimist International urges governments to:

• Ratify, implement without reservations and monitor all

international treaties and agreements relating to older women, particularly the Madrid International Plan of Action on Aging, and take into consideration CEDAW's General Recommendation 27 on Women and Aging.

- Adopt the World Health Organization's three pillar approach of ensuring older women have nondiscriminatory access to participation, health and security.
- Address with immediate effect any laws or practices which render women financially insecure in older age, including differential retirement ages, lack of policies which allow women fulfil dual roles to as caregivers and employees and approaches to pensions which favor men.
- Enact and enforce legislation which eliminates all forms of violence against older women, including physical, psychological, emotional, verbal, financial abuse and exploitation and neglect.
- Roll out and adequately fund services aimed at reducing isolation and lack of social support specifically for older women.
- Remove all barriers to older women's access to credit, financial and other productive resources, property and inheritance, particularly for widows and unmarried older women.
- Sensitize and train authorities on age and gender related issues that affect older women.

• Collect data and evidence based research disaggregated by age and sex to better understand the unique needs of older women.

Soroptimist International will continue to:

- Support programs and agencies which provide services for older women, including health care, social care, independence and recovering from abuse.
- Ensure that older women are supported to actively participate in society.
- Champion a life course approach to access to education, training and technology.
- Lobby governments to ensure that social protection measures are in place for older women.
- Work towards changing gender stereotypes of older women, particularly the negative portrayal of older women in the media.
- Encourage health care professionals to screen for elder abuse of older women.
- Recognize and support the unique role many older women play as primary caregivers for AIDS orphans and grandchildren.

Soroptimist International:

• Provides educational opportunities for older women, including literacy and maths, vocational skills, technological skills and knowledge about their rights.

- Empowers older women to actively participate in society and to take control over their own lives.
- Enables opportunities for older women to continue to live their lives to their fullest potential throughout their entire lives, not just in their societal-defined productive and reproductive years.

Information from SI Website: soroptimistinternational.org

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS



# Engaging Members Through Social Media

Now, more than ever, we want and need to be able to easily and quickly engage with our members and clubs. Since social media allows for two-way communication, it makes that engagement so simple! Here are some ideas to get you going!

# SHARE MEMBER NEWS AND UPDATES:

• Give a shout out to members on your club's social media page for doing something nice in the community.  Acknowledge members for something significant, such as a birthday, club anniversary or receiving an award.

# SPOTLIGHT MEMBERS WITH VIDEO:

- Use Zoom to interview new members or those celebrating a significant anniversary as a member of your club and post the recording on social media.
- Ask members to record themselves talking about their dream for the world's women and girls.
- Ask members to record a short video about what they love most about being a Soroptimist.

#### GET PERSONAL:

- Post questions to get your followers (including members) thoughts on various topics.
- Provide fun activities for followers. Everyone likes to share their favorite things. Ask them to share a photo of their pet, a book they are currently reading or a recipe they recently made.

Information from SIA Website: soroptimist.org

# AUGUST 4, 2021 ARLINGTON TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE BACKPACKS



On August 4th, Soroptimist International of Riverside delivered filled backpacks to Arlington Temporary Assistance (ATA) to give out to needy children from kindergarten through high school age. Normally, members of SI Riverside present the backpacks directly to the children. However, due to the coronavirus pandemic, ATA Director Ofelia Sanchez thankfully accepted all of the backpacks this year and will start setting up individual appointments where the families can come in and select backpacks for their children in a safe way.





As in past years, the ATA Backpack Project was truly a team effort with SI Riverside members donating school supplies to fill the backpacks: Crayons, markers, pencils and sharpeners, pens, erasers, glue sticks, rulers, pocket folders, dividers, staplers, composition books and either wide ruled or college ruled notebook paper.

Thank you to all the members who donated money and/or purchased supplies. Also, thank you to Backpack Project Committee Chair Kacey Sutton-Davidson for a job well done during a difficult time.



The mission of Arlington Temporary Assistance is to provide assistance to families and individuals in need and to encourage them in their struggle for self-sufficiency. Assistance includes food (limited to 6 times a year), clothing, referrals to social appropriate service agencies, bus tickets for medical appointments and emergencies and utility assistance for Southern California Edison electricity bills and gas funds permitting (usually the first part of the year).

OCTOBER 16-17, 2021 DISTRICT 1 VIRTUAL FALL MEETING



# 2020 FALL MEETING IS GOING VIRTUAL!

This year all of the Golden West Region FALL MEETINGS will be done via ZOOM with the same theme: "20/20 Vision: Clarity and focus for remaining impactful in an ever changing virtual world."

For each district, there will be a Friday night "Social" with fun activities and a Saturday morning session for new information, training and awards. Additional details will be available soon.

> SAVE THE DATE: District 1 Fall Meeting October 16-17, 2020 Hosted by Director Debra Murphy

### INSPIRE LIFE SKILLS TRAINING



I want to start off by sharing the card Resident Assistant Briana handed to me when I brought a trunk load of house supplies to them. It may be hard to read from the photo.



Outside says: "Kindness Matters". Inside says: "Thank you for yours." Each of the young ladies wrote a note inside: "Thank you for always thinking of us, "It really means a lot to us." "Thank you for caring for us. This world needs more kind & caring people like you!" "We appreciate everything you do. Thank you!" "Thank you for all your thoughtfulness & kindness to us!" "Thank you very much for being so considerate! You are appreciated." Hearts and smiley faces drawn, too.

I asked Briana to send me a list of items needed for the house. Thank you to President Edith Gingerich for your generous monetary donation. I was able to buy everything on the list plus a couple more items. They now have enough soap, toilet paper, paper towels and more to last for a while.



Melanie McKee volunteered to provide a birthday gift and cake for the new resident, Mary. Charlene Johnson volunteered to provide a meal this month.

I suggested doing both the same night to celebrate Mary's birthday. They agreed and I volunteered to bring ice cream.

Work interfered with Melanie personally bringing the cake and gifts to Inspire House. However, she arranged with Charlene to bring the gift and cake to her the night before. (That was some cake, Melanie.)

Charlene knew the ladies all had different food likes and ordered a variety of food from Panera Bread. What a beautiful salad!





Coordinating dates and times to bring things to the house when the young ladies would be available has been a challenge. I'm working on setting up an easier way for the future. I know it's hard to know what to get for birthday gifts as we don't know anything except the name and date for the birthday.

I've been in contact with Inspire Life Skills Training Director Kristi Perez about getting a little background on each young lady. What's their favorite color, cake flavor, something for gift ideas? There is a more in depth form filled out by all the residents for the people mentoring. Kristi sent a questionnaire and will forward them to me when she receives them back.

> Linda Robertson Inspire House Chair

SOLT Soroptimist Orientation and Leadership Training



# General Club Structure and Purpose

Soroptimist clubs are organized with a recommended minimum of 12 regular members. Each club maintains a charter as long as it remains current in all financial obligations to the region and federation and has submitted all required final reports from federation club grants and disaster relief grants. Clubs not in good standing are not eligible to vote in federation elections or mail ballots and cannot receive grants or awards from the federation.

If a club has less than 12 regular members, they are notified by the federation that they are below the number of members recommended to maintain a club. Those clubs are encouraged to recruit more members and to seek advice from their region and the federation. As long as the club remains current in all financial obligations to the region and federation and submits all required final reports from federation club grants and disaster relief grants, the club is considered to be in good standing. No club shall forfeit its charter due to having 11 or fewer regular members.

Clubs initiate, adopt and promote procedures and policies to attain federation and club objectives in carrying out the Soroptimist mission.

Club bylaws should provide for the following:

- That the board of directors, composed of officers and board members, have administrative control over the affairs, funds and property of the club, except that of modifying any action taken by the club.
- That the president be the chief officer and direct the business of the club.
- That all standing and special committees be appointed by the president, unless otherwise provided for in the club procedures.

Each Soroptimist club operates within the framework of federation and international adopted policies, programs and bylaws, but each club assumes responsibility for formulation of Soroptimist policies by sending its informed delegates to federation conventions, region conferences and district fall meetings.

Clubs retain their individual character. They hold meetings, invite speakers, arrange discussions leading to research into the needs of their communities and provide service to their communities and the world. Plus, membership carries privilege of attending the Soroptimist club meetings anywhere in the world!

Information from July 2020 Golden West Region New Member Handbook

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



## LYNN SCECINA - 2IST

SEPTEMBER CLUB MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES



No Anniversaries in September

# MEMBER MOMENTS ON FACEBOOK





<u>Pam Bradford</u> posted: "Grandson Braden is at his desk at home ready to start the school day with his mom doing the teaching."



<u>Ellen Clizbe</u> posted: "Camping trip to Chula Vista with friends Bonnie and John Piller. We took our masks off to take the photo.)"



<u>Chris Deviny</u> was tagged in a post by Dawn Deviny Donatoni: "Izzy's long awaited surgery was

a success! Thank you to everyone who sent your prayers and well wishes. Hoping she'll be dancing again before we know it. Now on to recovery!"



<u>Debbie Ferraro</u> was tagged in a post by Chelsea Lea Storm-Larson: "Happy birthday to the amazing Debbie Blake Ferraro. Everything I learned about being a mom, I learned from you. We are so lucky and grateful to be able to celebrate you today."

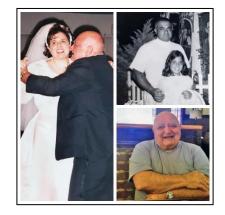




<u>Paula McCroskey</u> posted: "Sweet memories of pre-COVID gatherings."

THINGS I NEED TO STAY 6' AWAY FROM. REFRIGERATOR, MEXICAN FOOD, DEBIT CARD & AMAZON

<u>Melanie McKee</u> posted a pandemic thought.



<u>Annamarie Megrdichian</u> posted: "Can't believe it's been two years. You were the happiest man I knew. Miss you but know that your're in the best place ever with Grandma and Grandpa and Uncle Joe and Auntie Dora and

more. God always gets the good ones early!"



<u>Kathy Michalak</u> posted: "Good Morning Riverside!"



<u>Michelle Paradise</u> posted: "We are grandparents again! Greg and I are over the moon happy and cannot wait to meet Mr. Lincoln. Congratulations Brittney and Ryan! We love you!"



<u>Kathleen Parra</u> posted: "Charlotte after walk and play. Peace!"



<u>Linda Robertson</u> posted: "I'm putting a sign like this on my mailbox."



<u>Lynn Scecina</u> was tagged in a post by Maryann Kroh: "Summertime, good friends and saltwater. Perfect!"



<u>Tillie Soliz</u> was tagged in a post by Carla Soliz Zornes: "Before I left, I spent a lot of time with my

#### family. BBQ, playing games and painting. Love these guys so much!"

One day you will tell your story of how you've Overcome what you're going through now, and it will become part of someone else's survival quide.

<u>Carol Allain Speer</u> shared a post by Laura Kusta McCarthy.



<u>Kacey Sutton-Davidson</u> was tagged in a post by Erica Lynne: "Happy Zoom Bridal Shower!"



Susan Wolf posted:

"This says it all. In love."

## OTHER MEMBER NEWS



SI Riverside Honorary Member Glenda Richards passed away on August 29th.

Glenda was President of SI Riverside in 1981-83 and 1998-99. She was on SI Riverside's board of directors for many years and served on the Golden West Region board of directors as region treasurer. She also represented SI Riverside at many region, federation and international conferences and conventions.

Glenda was always very active in Soroptimist. If the club had a project, Glenda would most certainly be involved in the work that needed to be done. She also chaired our Valentine Dessert Auction for many years laying the groundwork for its continuing success.

Glenda was a long time Riverside resident who retired from Gless Ranch. She sold her home in Riverside a few years ago and moved to Murrieta to downsize and be nearer to her son, Curtis. She was currently living in a nursing home in Hemet.

We will miss Glenda's smile and willingness to be of service. It was SI Riverside's honor to have an amazing member like Glenda for over 40 years.



Karen Roberts husband David underwent spinal fusion surgery on August 3rd at St. Joseph Hospital in Orange. He was in the hospital for three nights before Karin could pick him up and bring him home. Karin reports that the patient is exhausted but is now happily sleeping in his own bed. We all send David our best wishes for a speedy and successful recovery!





## INFORMATION



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#### **GOLDEN WEST REGION**

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### SOROPTIMIST PLEDGE



# SOROPTIMIST®

**Investing in Dreams** 

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



<u>EDITOR</u> Pam Bradford

<u>DEADLINE</u> Submit articles and photos by the 25th of each month to Pam at: <u>pambradford@pamsemail.net</u>

### TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK



TEAMWORK MEANS NEVER HAVING TO TAKE ALL THE BLAME YOURSELF A team is not a group of people who work together. A team is a group of people who trust each other. -Simon Sinek **KEEP CALM** TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK IF YOU WANT TO GO FAST, GO ALONE. IF YOU WANT TO GO FAR. GO TOGETHER. **AFRICAN PROVERB** 







