



SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

PLAN AHEAD

ISSUE 103 of our Soroptimist International of Palm Desert Newsletter

September 2020

Susan Browne Rosenberg, Editor

SIPD President's Message for Sept 2020

Hello everyone. Karen and I want to welcome you to our 2020-2021 Soroptimist year. We know that it will be a year very different than many others. But, in many ways, these extraordinary times hopefully remind us of why we became and continue to belong to the Soroptimist organization. People, generally, and women and children, specifically need us.

We are hoping to **Rock** our Service projects, our Membership Recruitment and Retention, and our Fundraising efforts this year. We know that we'll need to **Roll** with the inevitable challenges that we are confronted with.

We're so happy that so many of our members are serving in some capacity of leadership this year. We all have our part to do to make this year a success.

We are optimistic that we will still be able to hold our Dream It Be It workshop in the Spring with the YMCA. The Live Your Dream Portal is open for any qualified applicant to apply. We have done a Presentation to the PDACC and hopefully it will generate some leads, both for people that want to become members and also worthy women that will benefit from our scholarship programs .

Please try to attend as many meetings this month as you can. These meetings will help us better plan for the upcoming year. We can't wait to **Rock and Roll** with you this year!!

Karen Koch and Cathy Brown, Co-Presidents SIPD



Planning Calendar

September dates

Sept 8--"Meet and Greet" First meeting of the year at Bermuda Dunes CC Grill Room Patio 5 PM--Taco Tuesday--\$1 Tacos, \$2 Margarita's

Please RSVP to Cathy so we can get a table

Sept 14--Budget Meeting Noon. **Location still being determined.** Limited to 10 people--all committee chairs attendance recommended and all others welcome.

Please RSVP to Cathy or Karen

Sept 21--Board meeting 2 PM via Zoom

Sept 23--Business meeting 12 PM via Zoom

Oct 23-24--District 2 Fall meeting via Zoom



Remember when we wore masks to cover only our eyes? LOL

Need a stylish Soroptimist Signature face covering?
Our own seamstress Becky has started a small personal
fundraiser for our club.



She has sold 20 so far and has orders for more. Price is only \$20.

CONTACT BECKY DIRECTLY TO PURCHASE. .

Becky Goebel

Soroptimist International Palm Desert

Public Awareness Director

City of Palm Desert Update

Deborah Glickman

Business Advocate for the City of Palm Desert

Ph: 760.346.0611 Direct: 760.776.6441

Although City Hall remains closed to the public due to the COVID-19 crisis, City staff is still working hard at conducting the business of the City. In the wake of the crisis, the City has established a Business Support hotline that can be used to access information about funding opportunities, business assistance, navigating City Hall, and more. The hotline can be reached at 760-776-6263 or bizsupport@cityofpalmdesert.org.

One of the projects about which City staff is particularly excited is the transformation of San Pablo into the heart of a revitalized city center where walking, biking, and fun are the focus. With stage one complete (between Highway 111 and Fred Waring Drive), the project is entering a new stage. Construction on the project's second and final phase starts this fall and is expected to take approximately one year to complete. Like the first phase, this part of the project continues San Pablo's "road diet" by removing motor vehicle lanes to help slow traffic and create a more pedestrian and bicycle friendly corridor. This phase of the project will install two new roundabouts on San Pablo, one at San Pablo and Magnesia Falls Drive, and a second at the entrances to College of the Desert and Civic Center Park/Palm Desert Community Center/Family YMCA of the Desert. It will also add a mile of bike lanes to the City's transportation system as well as more than a half a mile of new sidewalk.

On another note, nearly half of Palm Desert residents, about 48%, have not yet completed the 2020 Census. This is important. The 2020 Census will determine the fate of billions of dollars – money that pays for public safety, health care, education, parks and recreation, and that supports local businesses. Let's make sure that Palm Desert gets its share. If you have not completed the Census, for whatever city you live in, go to 2020Census.gov to participate and learn more. Your community is counting on you to be counted.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly at dglickman@cityofpalmdesert.org.



August 11 Palm Desert Chamber of Commerce (non) Breakfast Meeting

By Betsy Kreger

We had 25 PDCC members attend the Zoom meeting. That's a pretty good turnout for being a "dead of summer" meeting. Deborah Schwartz Glickman and Kathleen Kelly gave the "what's happening in PD" information:

- (1) The City is enhancing their broadband capabilities to assist with internet businesses.
- (2) The San Pablo redesign first phase is completed. The second phase will start this fall, redesigning the street from Fred Warning north to Magnesia Falls, which will connect the CV Link to downtown Palm Desert.
- (3) Westfield Mall upper deck parking lot has drive-in movies Tuesday through Sunday.
- (4) Civic events now will be reimaged into smaller events.
- (5) The City is looking into how to expand outdoor eating along El Paseo, but will wait until cooler weather to extend dining onto the sidewalks.

Sabby Jonathan and Jan Harnik recommended downloading the "PD in Touch" app as it has lots of useful information as to City Council discussions, such as closing down the El Paseo parking lanes for outdoor dining and pedestrian sidewalk areas.

Sabby also reported that there has been a 400% increase in fraud/scams for SBA loans. Watch out, business owners.

Wendy Jonathan reported that there have been 500 inner district transfer requests to attend Desert Sands schools. Distance learning is set for both public and private schools in the Coachella Valley.

The Chamber is collecting school supplies for Lincoln Elementary School. If you want to help, contact Pam at the Chamber.

And that's my report from Napa (before the fires).

Rocking Public Awareness

Our first Public Awareness event for the SIPD Club year was on Zoom, with the Palm Desert Area Chamber on August 13, 2020.

There were 27 businesses and non-profits listening as Co-President Cathy Brown presented Club history, The Dream It Be It Program and our Live Your Dream Scholarships. We are gaining recognition with the Chamber Members for the work we do in the Community, thank you Betsy, Cathy, Susan and myself for being involved with Chamber events. A big “Atta Girl” on a job well done. Cathy rocked it in true Soroptimist style!

We are in the process of securing a spot on Eye on the Desert for LYDA (as COVID allows) and an article in the Desert Sun on the Dream It Be It Program, we plan on launching this year. Stay tuned for details, let’s keep “Rockin and Rollin” this Club year!

Social Media is our next challenge, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, are available to use at no cost, kick off your shoes and dance to our new music, Rock Around the Clock with SIPD!



Susan is my partner this year and you can be sure, we’ll have our dancin’ shoes on!

Respectively submitted by Public Awareness Directors

Becky and Susan

TRAIL TALK

By Janice Heronema

Why am I not out there hiking?

That was the first question I asked myself seven years ago. I had been volunteering with Friends of the Desert Mountains for over a year at the Santa Rosa & San Jacinto National Monument Visitor Center. I thought I was content selling maps and shelving books that beautifully described the ups and downs of our local trails. I busied myself reading all about rattlesnakes, lizards, roadrunners, cacti, and local geology. Who Pooped in the Sonoran Desert? Being one of my favorite books. Aside from that, what most intrigued me were the folks that returned from a hike on a nearby trail all sweaty and winded and still eager to tell me about everything they saw. Hmmmm?? I was clearly missing something right under my nose. Scratch that, under my feet.

Mind you, I was not about to try out this new sport all by myself nor was I even remotely interested in following my husband and his hike buddies who trudged 12 miles straight up a mountain. This was not an option and clearly not my idea of fun day hike. I just wanted to go out and walk about in nature. I was curious, maybe see some Big Horn Sheep, a rabbit or two, some wildflowers, maybe a rattlesnake or a scorpion, from a distance of course. I just wanted to get on one of those nearby trails to see for myself what everyone was talking about without killing myself doing it.

Well the only way that was going to happen was to start my own women's hike group for beginners. My mission was to hike for fun with a few things to keep in mind. No experience would be required. We'll go where and as far as we want. We'll stop often to smell the desert lavender or to take a photo or two. We'll watch those cute little ants carry objects 1000 times their size, and most definitely we'll not have any pressure to keep up a pace with anyone else. If you want to walk like a desert tortoise, so be it. You'll not be left behind.

Happily, I talked two girlfriends into joining me, and we put boots to the dirt. We named ourselves the Canyon Cougars. We quickly gathered other women along the way and am happy to say we've grown to a respectable group of about 41 hikers; and are now a full-fledged volunteer women's hike program offered by the Friends of the Desert Mountains. By the way, our age range? 54 to 81 years! No spring chickens here. So, if you ever want to take a hike you know how to find me.

Stay tuned for October's Trail Talk highlighting one of my most frequent and favorite local hikes.. The Randall-Henderson Trail. Happy Trails Until Then



CREAMY AVOCADO PESTO PRIMAVERA

From <https://www.pamperedchef.com/> submitted by Rose Mary Jameson

Prep 15 min Cook 10 min **Ready in 25 min** 4 servings

INGREDIENTS

Avocado Pesto

- 1½ oz (45 g) grated fresh Parmesan cheese, divided
- 1 cup (250 mL) lightly packed fresh basil leaves
- ¼ cup (50 mL) walnuts, toasted
- 1 garlic clove
- ¼ cup (50 mL) olive oil, divided
- ½ ripe avocado, peeled
- ½ tbsp (7 mL) fresh lemon juice
- ¼ tsp (1 mL) salt

Primavera

- 1 large yellow squash, ends trimmed and cut into half or thirds
- 1 extra-large carrot, peeled, cut into half or thirds
- 1 large zucchini, ends trimmed and cut into half or thirds
- 1 tsp (5 mL) olive oil
- 1 cup (250 mL) cherry tomatoes
- 4 cups (1 L) small fresh broccoli florets
- ¼ cup (50 mL) water

DIRECTIONS

1. For avocado pesto, grate cheese with [Microplane® Adjustable Fine Grater](#).
2. Combine basil, walnuts and garlic in [Manual Food Processor](#); process until finely chopped. Add ¼ cup (50 mL) oil, avocado, lemon juice, salt and ¼ cup (50 mL) grated Parmesan; process until almost smooth. Set aside.
3. For primavera, spiralize carrot, squash and zucchini with the thick fettuccini blade on the [Veggie Spiralizer](#).
4. Heat 1 tsp (5 mL) oil in [Executive Nonstick Skillet](#) over medium heat 3-5 minutes or until shimmering. Add vegetable noodles; cook 5-7 minutes, stirring occasionally.
5. Remove Skillet from heat. Drain vegetable noodles well and press down with paper towels to get rid of any extra moisture.
6. Slice tomatoes in half. Place tomatoes, broccoli and water in Large [Micro-Cooker®](#). Microwave, covered, on HIGH 2-4 minutes or until broccoli is tender; drain.
7. Toss vegetable noodles with ½ cup (125 mL) avocado pesto, reserving remaining pesto for another use. Top with broccoli and tomatoes. Sprinkle with remaining Parmesan.

Cook's Tips:

The remaining pesto can be topped on each serving, if desired. Or, evenly divide pesto in Herb Freezing Tray, cover and freeze for another use. Short on time? For a quicker avocado pesto, combine ½ cup (125 mL) prepared pesto with half of a mashed avocado and ½ tbsp (7 mL) fresh lemon juice.

Have we become Mohave Tortoises?

By: Susan Browne Rosenberg, 6/28/2020

Week 16 of the COVID-19 Safer at Home Order

(Note Doris forget to put this in the July newsletter)



Photo Credit: DTRO/USFWS

A friend of mine posted a comment yesterday on Facebook that gave me serious pause. She simply said "I feel like a turtle who pokes her head out for a short period of time to see what is going on in the world, and then returns to the safety of her shell."

Jess and I ventured out on June 16 to the Westin Mission Hills in Rancho Mirage to celebrate our 41st Wedding Anniversary and the reopening of 3 buildings at the Timeshare. We were the first visitors to our second-floor unit since March, as proven by the packages of Starbucks coffee which had expired that month. Good thing I ground my own beans at home and brought some fresh coffee with me. We were the only people at the gigantic resort swimming pool aside from Westin employees. We dined on takeout steak and lobster from Morton's and Flemings restaurants in the comfort of our private Westin dining room with champagne brought from home.

After two nights, we returned home...to our shelter.

We poked our heads out again last Thursday to get takeout tacos from Rubio's Coastal Grill on Washington and 111. At the start of the pandemic, the parking lot between Rubio's and the Beer Hunter was mostly empty for weeks. Now, there were many cars at lunch time. Nearly everyone was wearing masks as required by Gov. Newsom in the face of rapidly rising COVID cases and hospitalizations. But there was that older white guy without one barging into the restaurant that had a very large sign on the front door saying **"FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED."**

Once again, we returned home...to our shelter. Not sure when we will dare emerge again.

Update 8/19: We spent two nights at the Sheraton San Diego Marina Hotel and will be returning for another two nights. Safe and sound.



LORI'S WHIRLD - The official SIPD BLOG

-Lori Oliver

Weather or Not

Minnesota weather...think fast! Did you think of snow? Or did your mind go to hot and sticky summer humidity? Well, if you were here this past week you thought of thunder and lightning. Or more correctly, lightning then thunder. Nearly every day the night sky lights up and rumbles, for hours. Sometimes there is no rainfall, just drama. But occasionally the skies open up like the escape scene from The Shawshank Redemption.

I love it. I respect lightning. It can kill you, but not if you stay indoors. And you know, of course, how NOT to get hit by lightning...you hold up a 1 iron, because even God can't hit a 1 iron. But the best way to experience a thunder storm is from your cozy bed, looking out through large, double-paned windows, across a huge field that covers beneath the broad, black sky. Monsterous clouds, invisible in the dark, appear for split seconds, then disappear into the inky night.

What makes a big storm even more enjoyable is when it happens AFTER you have had your new metal roof installed. I used to harvest shingles off the lawn after even a normal rainfall, but these big wet and windy storms always threatened to propel a tree branch into my wobbly old asphalt shingle roof like the hammer of Thor. Not only have the trees been trimmed way back, or in some cases removed entirely, but also my new metal roof...or tin roof as they are called here (even though they are steel, not tin)...is literally a shield that protects my home from airborne projectiles.

By the time you read this I will also have fancy new LeafFilter gutters; the big, 6-inch ones, not to mention two new downspouts. Wind, water, leaves, ice, snow...and raccoons...be damned. My new roof has transformed my 122 year old house into a fortress. Now when I take one of my many-month-long road trips I won't worry about coming home to a pile of splinters. Speaking of, I may be seeing you all sometime in January or February as I make the circuit from here to North Carolina, to Florida, along the Gulf coast, up through Texas and across the desert southwest to you, my wonderful Coachella Valley friends.

