

Salty Soroptimist News

March, 2024

Soroptimist of Salt Lake

March, 2024
Volume 3 Issue 8

President Rita's Message



Completing our March Fundraiser and also time for nominations for next year's officers has made for a busy February and early March frenzy for members. I appreciate everyone that has stepped up to take a committee chair and committee member to get everything accomplished to make this a very successful year!

Thanks to all club members for participating and advertising for the fundraiser. The count we are at, at this writing, is 111 and climbing. We have closed the Trivia competition, we are maxed out. The fundraising

committee has been working hard and has received some grants and some great auction items, as well as members donating auction items. We need everyone to participate so we have a GREAT fundraiser! We still need help for set up and tear down of the event. We will start set up at 4 pm and the event starts at 6 pm to 8:30 pm. We have to be out of the building by 9 pm.

I am hoping our Trivia and Tapas, as a new event, will be a fun and we can build on it each year going forward. Hopefully people that participate will have a great time and invite others to participate with them next year.

Our Live Your Dream Award Luncheon was very special as always. The winners are so deserving and the judges had a really hard time making decisions on our applicants. We had 2 women tied for

1st place and also two women tied for 2nd place. On top of that, 1st place and 2nd place were only one-half a point apart. We were able to give 6 awards this year and hopefully with a very successful fundraiser we will be able to give more Live Your Dream Awards next year.

If you are available, our Dream It Be It meeting at Granite Connections is Friday, March 8th at 8:30 am. Please try to attend if you are not in the throws of last minute preparations for our Fundraiser that night. Kym Wells and Donna Visco have done a great job this year.

We are on the home stretch! All hands on board and we will finish strong for our 2023-2024 Soroptimist year!

Rita Offrett
President

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2023-2024 Officers/Board

President —Rita Offrett
President Elect —Barbara Rosner
Treasurer —Donna Schultz
Treasurer Elect —Loretta Peterson
Dir- at Large —Angela Yarborough
Secretary —Cheri Richardson
Parliamentarian —Cathy Stevens
Past President —Carma Ingram
Delegate —Pat Murdoch
Delegate —Teresa Just

Live Your Dream Awards by Teresa Just

Thank you to everyone who attended the Live Your Dream Awards luncheon and helped us celebrate and honor our six award winners.

2023 - 2024 Live Your Dream Award Honorees

- *Ashlei Vargas - \$1,250 Award*
- *Wendy Walker - \$1,250 Award*
- *Lealai Meira Tupou - \$1,000 Award*
- *Thaianne da Silva - \$1,000 Award*
- *Jazmyn Eichler - \$500 Award*
- *Mariya Pao - \$500 Award*

We heard from Ashlie, Wendy, Thaianne and Jazmyn. Teresa shared Mariya's story as she was unable to attend due to the medical needs of her son.

Each of these women have faced tremendous obstacles and challenges including domestic violence, incarceration, poverty, teen pregnancy, and children with mental and physical disabilities. Each found the strength to rise-up and move forward recognizing the importance of continuing their education to provide a better life for their children.

Lealai planned to attend however due to extreme pain from colorectal surgery, she was unable to attend. She sent this message following the event: "Thank you so much for keeping me and kids in mind in everything, all support is greatly appreciated in our little big family. I am truly grateful for Soroptimist for all the support, it meant so much to me and my babies. We're going through so much but I'm so hopeful it's all going to be so much better in time. We were evicted recently from our last home but luckily, we got into a small apartment just down the street so that the kids are still sheltered and go to their schools and daycare as I push through this trucking school for

a few more weeks. We will see a better tomorrow soon. I appreciate you."

As quoted by Michelle Burnett, Executive Director/CEO: (insert attached).

Our focus is on education because educated women and girls are:

- Less vulnerable to sex traffickers
- More likely to leave a domestic violence situation and not return
- Able to access healthcare
- Less likely to live in poverty
- Able to raise stronger healthier families

Everyone who attended was inspired by the strength and achievements of each of these women. This is why we do what we do as members of Soroptimist.

I was so honored to Co-Chair Live Your Dream Awards this year along with Zulie Langarica. I received so much more back than I gave. Each of these women have touched me and I consider each of them a friend. I encourage all members to consider volunteering to chair, Live Your Dream Awards.



Live Your Dream Award photos



Ashlei Vargas



Wendy Walker



Lealai Meira Tupou



Thaianne da Silva



Jazmyn Eichler



Mariya Pao



People Helping People Service Project



Strengthening Families Through Successful Employment

People Helping People, Inc (PHP) is a local grassroots 501c3 non-profit Employment Program dedicated to helping low-income women and single moms reach their full potential in the workplace. PHP helps families break the cycle of poverty by teaching low-income women how to earn an adequate income.

In the past we have provided cleaning products and nice purses for PHP to present to women graduating from their program. We are committed to continue with this service project and have been asked again to supply cleaning products. We will be gathering

cleaning products and present them to PHP in June. The items that that have requested include the following:

(20) Cleaning Buckets w/full size items:

- Toilet brush
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Liquid dish soap
- Dish towels
- Hot Pads
- Hand towels
- Spatulas

- Windex cleaning spray/all-purpose

Rita will be sending out an email and inviting each member to make a commitment of what they can provide so that we don't have duplicates.

Thanks to everyone for your generosity and willingness to help make this service project a huge success.

Region Conference April 26-27 in Salt Lake City



Dear Peaks to Plains Region Soroptimists,

We are excited to invite you to the annual Peaks to Plains Region Spring Conference, April 26 and April 27, 2024 in Salt Lake City, Utah!

We would like to thank the Peaks to Plains Region Board members for helping organize the conference. We have some wonderful speakers and presentations planned that we are confident will inspire you to carry out the Soroptimist Mission well after Spring Conference has ended.

We are delighted to welcome Susan Gilbey, SIA Official Visitor, and Shirlee Draper (Salt Lake Live Your Dream winner), activist

and past Federation Live Your Dream award recipient. They are excited to attend Spring Conference!

As our young region starts to grow, this Spring Conference will be a great opportunity for everyone to catch up with old friends, make new friends, and learn about all the amazing clubs we have throughout our six districts.

Peaks to Plains Region is strong because of each of you, so do not miss this year's Spring Conference!

Sincerely, Co-Governors Andrea Dickerson and Marian Warren

A Call to Conference was sent out at the end of February asking all members in our region to register for Conference by April 1, 2024.

Make sure to sign up for this important event. Since it is being held in Salt Lake City, we are sure that our club will have some fun assignment to make this conference special and a great success.

Trivia and Tapas—March 8th

**TRIVIA &
TAPAS**
Fundraiser

MARCH 8TH 6PM

FOOD | DRINKS | FUN
PUBLIK COFFEE 975 S WEST TEMPLE

 **SOROPTIMIST[®]**



REGISTER TODAY - SPACE IS LIMITED!
<https://www.sislc.org>

Soroptimist of Salt Lake

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March/April Calendar

Mark Your Calendars ...

- 3/6—Board Meeting at Rita's
(all members welcome)
- 3/8 DIBI at Granite 8:30-10:30 am
- 3/8—Trivia & Tapas Fund Raiser
- 4/3— Board Meeting at Rita's
- 4/26-27—Region Conference

Dream It Be It—March 8th

Our final presentation for Granite Connections High School for the year for Dream It Be It will be held on Friday, March 8th between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. The location is 501 E. 3900 S. in the Media Room. Please come and support our program. This event will include career speakers and the girls will be doing a Thank You card project. It's on the same day as our fund raiser so we might be busy that day doing all the things that make Soroptimists GREAT!