Soroptimist International of Salt Lake City

September 2024 Volume 4, Issue 1



Salty Soroptimist News



President Barbara's Message

Welcome to a new Soroptimist year! As we embark on this new Soroptimist year, I am deeply honored to serve as your President. Our club, with its dedicated members, is a force for change in the lives of women and girls.

This year, we are set to make a significant impact with our programs such as Live Your Dream; Dream It, Be It; Dream Believers and our signature program, Breakfast with Santa.

We will also have engaging program meetings with guests from other organizations who will share their work with women and girls and much more! As we move forward, I urge you to consider supporting one of our four pillars: Membership, Philanthropy, Public Awareness, and Service and Programs. Your active participation in our committees is crucial for our success.

What is our mission? According to Soroptimist International, Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. With your support, we can achieve our Vision: to give women and girls the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams. Can you imagine all the positive changes we can help women and girls make? Can you see the possibilities of help-ing to improve somebody's life?

As a member, I have seen changes in people's lives and how grateful they are for our organization. Our fundraisers are our best tool to obtain funds to help in our programs, so it is important to participate actively in our fundraising efforts. How can you help? The easiest way is to be part of the fundraiser committee, share our Facebook posts with your contacts and comment why you support the cause. Forward emails with invitations, collaborate by yourself, or form a group to collect silent auction items, bring a friend to our program meetings, etc.

When I started as a member, I was afraid to participate in the programs because I had no idea what to do and didn't want to be in the way. However, I learned that our members who participate are excellent mentors and will guide you every step of the way.

Are you ready to start a new Soroptimist International of Salt Lake City year?

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Board 2024-2025

Barbara Rosner- President Carma Ingram -President Elect Donna Schultz - Secretary Loretta Peterson -Treasurer Pat Murdoch -Treasurer Elect Donna Visco -Director at Large Rachel Woodhouse -Delegate Zulie Langarica -Delegates By: Jan Crane The Soroptimist 48th Biennial Convention *"Reaching Higher"* was held in Bellevue, Washington July 24th- 27th. Along with 700 other ladies, five of our club members attended- Rita Offrett, Teresa Just, Pat Murdoch, Carolyn Roberts, and Jan Crane.

"What a Great Event!"



Carolyn and Jan at Pretty in Pink.

Pat, Teresa, Jan, Rita and Carolyn representing our SISLC club.

A Trip to Washington-Bellevue that is

• Excellent speakers- Robyn Benincasa, a two-time world champion Adventure Racer. She had some good stories of using G.R.I.T. Guts, Respect, Innovation, and Teamwork to get things done. Sandra Garcia, a leading marketing and branding strategist, talked about being inclusive and seeing things from the other person's perspective. She challenged us to go out of our comfort zone and connect with someone different from ourselves.

• Informative workshops- Volunteer Management, Making the Ask: Soroptimist Mission-Focused Fundraising, Insight into the Future of SIA's Programs, among others. It was so helpful to hear input and comments from other clubs on what they are doing and their challenges and successes. We got lots of good ideas which we passed along to President Barbara.

• We heard from two SIA Live Your Dream winners- one a young lady who escaped from a war-torn country where girls are not allowed to go to school. She is studying financial planning, focused on women. The other was a survivor of poverty and abuse who is using her experience to work with offenders in prison, helping them break the cycle of abuse. These young ladies were AMAZING and we could see the impact the Live Your Dream program has in changing lives.



• Leadership- President Bobbi Enderlin, SIA Executive Director/CEO Michelle Burnett, and incoming President Ginger Cole all shared thoughtful and inspiring messages. I loved an experience shared by Bobbi-When she was asked to serve in a club position, she used to hem and haw, and feel like she couldn't do it, often declining. Then she had a revelation- I was asked, so they must think I'm capable! She started responding, "I'd be honored."

• Fun- As members of the Laurel Society, we were all invited to the 'Pretty in Pink' party where everyone was dressed in pink! 'Denim and Diamonds' was a night of sparkle and dancing. And lastly, the Closing Gala (we loved changing into all our fun outfits!) An enticing variety of delicious food was laid out for us at each event- and the hotel was just lovely. Set in a chic neighborhood, we also sampled seafood at the local restaurants (Oysters! Crab Cakes! Clam Chowder! -this is Washington, remember.) A local arts festival was in full swing, too, and some of us enjoyed exploring the many booths in our free time.

Looking forward- At the closing gala it was announced that the next biennial convention would be held in South Korea July 2026. To introduce us to this beautiful country and its cultural treasure, we were treated to a wonderful program of South Korean music and dancing.

SO... If you've never attended a Soroptimist Convention (SIA or SI), you might think about it. You come away with a deep sense of pride in being a Soroptimist and a realization of the difference we make in the lives of women and girls, all over the world!



Our Annual Club Retreat

By: Donna Schultz

The Club's Annual Retreat was on August 14th at Red Robin Restaurant in Murray. There were 13 club members in attendance. If you weren't there, you missed a fun evening planning for the new club year, socializing and having dinner.

President Barbara introduced the theme for the 2024-25 year of "Empowering Women and Girls". The group talked about what this means to them. Support, inspiration and resources were just a few of the answers.

We played the game, 2 Truths and a Lie where each person tells 3 things about themselves. Two of the things are something that really happened and the other is a lie. The rest of the group must guess which one is a lie. The lies came through loud and clear as most of us didn't do a good job convincing the others that it really happened. It was a fun game to play and gave us a chance to get to know others in the group better.

After that, we went over the Vision and Mission of SIA along with SIA's Big Goal and Big Goal Accelerator Projects. SIA's Big Goal is to invest in the dreams of 500,000 women and girls through access to education.

Next, we talked about the 4 Pillars-Service and Programs, Philanthropy, Public Awareness and Membership. In each of the areas, we spent time going over our plans for each. In Service, we are working to find a group that might be better suited for the Dream It Be It program than high school girls. In Philanthropy, the club is planning an on-line auction in the fall and a fundraiser in the spring. Public Awareness positions include Social Media, Newsletter Editor and Website Administrator. These tasks can all be done from home. Finally in Membership, we need to concentrate on growing membership, mentoring, recognition and keeping in touch with our members.

We ended the evening by circulating committee sign-up boards so everyone could volunteer to help this year. <u>https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1MtrqOTHHwA1B4viCyLfjWxA-1CbchXNWqZLfdoaia-A/edit?</u> <u>gid=2065524528#gid=2065524528</u> Click to sign up for a committee.

Live Your Dream

The LYD committee has been contacting colleges, trade schools and other programs to distribute the informational flyer. The *deadline* for application is November 15th. If any member has a contact or would like to share the information, please let Jan know and we will forward all of the pertinent information. This program has great impact worldwide! We are happy to be a part of offering it to eligible students to further their educational goals.

READY TO BEGIN a new life?

The Soroptimist Live Your Dream: Education & Training Awards for Women program has been helping women around the world since 1972. This program provides cash grants to women who are working to better their lives through additional schooling and skills training.

You are eligible to apply if:

- are a woman with primary financial responsibility for yourself and your dependents
- are attending an undergraduate degree program or a vocational skills training program

Scan the QR code to apply or contact:

have financial need





to help you achieve your educational goals. Apply today!









OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN FY23/24



3.1 MILLION + in education awards disbursed



2,269 inspiring women received an award



762 new members joined Soroptimist because of the *Live Your Dream Awards*[®]

Board Report and Action Plan - Sept. 4th

Board Summary

- 2024-2025 annual budget was reviewed and approved.
- The club has additional banners and flags to use at events.
- Live Your Dream chair is Jan Crane. Dream It Be It chair is Kathy Margaritis. Progress reported from committees.
- Cheri Richardson has refined the website so that it looks better when viewing it from a phone.



- Donna Visco, Membership chair, presented ideas to grow the club and engage members.
- Carolyn Roberts is working to polish and expand our social media presence.

Action Plan

- Live Your Dream committee will continue to get the word out about the award.
- Kathy and Loretta will continue to get schools scheduled (Granite Connection and West Jordan Middle -possibly) for DIBI in mid-October.
- Cheri will make additional tweaks to the website.
- Newsletter will be sent to potential members for a couple of months after initial contact.
- Donna Visco will meet with other ladies on the Membership committee to put our ideas into action.

Supporting our Fall Fundraiser

Let's all get excited about contributing to our **Fall Fundraiser**, *an online auction*. Members can begin to gather items to put together in an attractive display. Or if you prefer, you can take Rita smaller items that can be combined with others that have been collected. An example would be a "Night Out" basket with a restaurant or movie gift card and treats. There will be a couple of larger items to bid on; A vacation trip and a computer.

Please notify Rita that you have a contribution and she'll email you a form to fill out describing the items and what their value is. You could also save her some time by taking a picture of the display. **Our deadline for turning the items in is October 8th.**

The auction will run from October 15th - November 5th and can be accessed on Zeffy.com. Once it is posted, it would be very helpful for all members to share on their social media sites.

We thank you in advance for all your support of this fundraiser!



ITEMS

Getting to Know You

Our members are amazing women from many walks of life. We'll be highlighting two members each month to become better acquainted with one another. While playing our game at the Retreat, it was hard to know which were truths or lies because of the great accomplishments of many. Feel free to send me a little summary of your family and professional life (then I won't have to bug people each month). A photo would be great too. My Email: Kathyfmarq64@outlook.com Thanks in advance for letting us know what Soroptimist means to you and sharing a little bit about your life with your fellow club members.



My name is Barbara Rosner. I was born in Peru and lived there until 1998. I met my husband when we worked at the mines in Peru. We got married and came to the United States. It was a significant change in my life. Back then, my beloved grandparents, parents, and youngest brother were still in Peru, and I missed them very much. The food was another challenge; it was not tasty for me and was nothing compared to Peruvian food.

My husband taught me how to drive, and I have enjoyed it ever since. I used to live a very active life in Peru, but when I arrived in Elko, Nevada, I felt bored. There was nothing to do, no friends, and only Mexican and American fast food. I decided to look for a job and found one as an associate in Office-Max in the area of CopyMax. It was a great fit, and I loved it. Being promoted to Supervisor in the area made some co -workers jealous, and I found it hard to work in that environment. So I decided to look for something else. I got a job as a Spanish instructor at the Great Basin College in Elko, and I had fun being a teacher. Also, I volunteered 8 hours a

week in the ESL program. After having my first child, I decided to take time off work to be a mom. What a challenge and a sweet time it has been. When my son was two, we moved to Salt Lake City and have settled here since. I had my second child, who was born with special needs and found myself with more challenges. Those challenges turned into opportunities and helped my family to be together and united.

I always love to volunteer and help people. I was introduced to Soroptimist thanks to Nancy Mitchel. The mission of the club aligned with my mission. Coming from a traditional Peruvian family, fitting into a male's world was complicated. I always thought there was more than attending university and getting married. Being a Soroptimist gave me a more comprehensive vision of what it means to be a woman in this society and that my experiences will be able to help other women achieve their best. I'm a Soroptimist because I can help change women's lives. It is my contribution and commitment to society and myself.



In loving memory ... Aura Gutierrez - January 7, 1993 – September 1, 2024

Aura was one of our Horizonte Young Parents girls. We met her when she was about 15 and she attended all of our young parent classes where we taught selfreliance and encouraged the girls to attend higher education. During that program Janis taught a class about managing money. Aura always told us that it was that class that inspired her to save money and helped her to take care of herself and her daughter at the time. We also had a book buying program where we met the girls at their college of choice and bought their books.

Aura was so proud that she was able to buy a car and get her own apartment and ultimately bought her own home. She always credited the Soroptimist with teaching her the path to financial security. Over the years we had the opportunity to meet Aura at SLCC and buy her books. Later she was employed at Horizonte as a secretary so we continued to stay connected. We asked Aura to come to DIBI and speak to the girls about things that she had overcome. Her life was hard and she worked to overcome many hardships including cancer. She was diagnosed with stage 4 liver cancer which took her life. She was a beautiful person and we loved her. She is survived by her two daughters Yeretzi age 14 and Itzel age 10.

| Soroptimist Membership MILESTONES | | | |
|---|----------|---------|--|
| Cathleen Stevens | 15 years | 8/22/09 | |
| Teresa Just | 14 years | 9/29/10 | |
| Julia Vernon | 11 years | 9/22/13 | |
| Donna Visco | 9 years | 8/20/15 | |

September & October Birthdays

9/29— Ann Treacy 9/30— Michelle Jackson 10/1— Loretta Peterson 10/13— Teresa Just 10/26— Zulie Langarica



"We should each learn the vision and mission statements to share with others." Emphasized at the Biennial Conference 7/2024

Furthering our Vision and Mission

Soroptimist was formed in 1921 in Oakland, California, at a time when women were not permitted to join service organizations. Our name, loosely translated from the Latin, means best for women.

Today we have over 25,000 members and supporters in countries across North America, Latin America and the Pacific Rim. We are one of five federations that make up Soroptimist International, which has clubs in more than 120 countries throughout the world. **Our Vision:** Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

Our 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.

We should each learn the vision and mission statements to share with others. This can help us customize a 30-second Elevator Pitch to promote our club.



Our club's theme for the year.

A fun You Tube video to share.

https://youtu.be/BMKfCyutngU? si=y6wYncnuYIy0rYNU

September/October Calendar & Member Request

Mark Your Calendars ...

9/18– Program Meeting (6:00– 8:00 pm, Red Robin, 316 E Winchester, Murray)

9/25– Oct. 8– Collection of Fall Fundraiser items for online auction starting 10/15

10/2- Board Meeting at Barbara's (6:00 pm)

10/18– DIBI Granite Connection (8:30 am)10/ – DIBI West Jordan Middle (am)

10/12– Region Fall mtg, , Des Moines IA 10/26– Region mtg. online (register by 10/20)

Help us to Empower women and girls

If you missed the club retreat, we had committee sign-ups that night. There are still plenty of opportunities to join in the important work of our club while having some fun at the same time. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/ d/1MtrqOTHHwA1B4viCyLfjWxA-1CbchXNWqZLfdoaia-A/edit? gid=2065524528#gid=2065524528 Please sign up and help out on one of the committees this year! Thanks so much!!



Soroptimist International of Salt Lake

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Investing in Dreams