

Giving Tuesday is December 2, 2025



#3Reasons toEmpower

98%

Live Your Dream Awards recipients who are survivors of gendered violence are now living in a safe environment

GIVING TUESDAY



We're Thankful for You!

Since 2021
140,962
women and girls have been impacted by the amazing work you do!

Soroptimist
#SoroptimistBigGoal



Soroptimist

Helping women & girls live their dreams since 1921

MEMBERSHIP IS FUN!

Soroptimist.org



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
OF PALM DESERT
FRIENDSHIP LINKS

WISHING YOUR CLUB A HAPPY HOLIDAY



Soroptimist is a global organization of women who volunteer their time, their talent and their resources to improve the lives of women and girls through programs that lead to economic and social empowerment.

Plan Ahead

our monthly newsletter

Moving Forward, Together
Inspiring, Educating, and Empowering



Join us Friday December 5 for SIPD's annual Holiday Party and Rummage Sale Boutique.

Dr. Christine Duranceau and Marie Newton will be providing the food.
Bring your own beverage.
Also Bring your gift list.

Starts at 5:00 pm at Senorina's house in Bermuda Dunes off Avenue 42 and near the Bermuda Dunes Airport.

RSVP to Christine or Marie.



Speaker:

Lt. Col. Villiana Jeanfrançois,
USMC

Topic: Being a single parent
while serving on active duty.

**November Speaker's Meeting**

**This was the response to the thank
you note sent by Cathy Brown.**

Dear Ms. Brown,

Thank you so much for your kind words. It was truly an honor to speak to the phenomenal ladies of the International group. I also want to thank you for the delightful lunch and for making me feel so welcomed though I had just visited with a bunch of my aunties—your warmth, kindness, and support made the experience more memorable.

I thoroughly enjoyed connecting with everyone and hearing some of your inspiring stories. It was a wonderful reminder of the power of shared experiences and the incredible work you all do for the community.

Your organization's mission resonates deeply with me, and I'm grateful for the chance to contribute to it. I was pleased that my talk was able to inspire, inform, and bring some laughter to the group.

I look forward to staying connected with Soroptimist International and continuing to support the wonderful lead. Thank you again for your hospitality, and I wish you much success in all your endeavors.

One team, One fight!



GIVING TUESDAY IS DECEMBER 2, 2025

GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of radical generosity. GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Since then, it has grown into a year-round global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

This year our Club is asking our members to help us raise \$2,000. We would like each member to please donate \$100 or get 4 friends and family to donate \$25 each or 10 people to donate \$10 each.

In addition, individual retirement arrangement (IRA) owners age 70½ or over can transfer up to \$100,000 to charity tax-free each year. These transfers, are known as qualified charitable distributions or QCDs, offer eligible older Americans a great way to easily give to charity before the end of the year. And, for those who are at least 73 years old, QCDs count toward the IRA owner's required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.

There are several fast and easy ways to do this:

Mail a check to our treasurer Becky and put GivingTuesday in the memo space. The mailing address is PO Box 13997, Palm Desert, CA 92253.

Click over to the donate page on our newly renovated website at <https://soroptimistinternationalofpalmdesert.org/Donate>

Do you need to make an age-related IRA RMD? Talk to your tax advisor about how to make a distribution to SIPD. Our 501©3 ID # is 95-6134083.

Please help us make this GivingTuesday a successful Fundraiser for our club. We believe that with everyone's help spending a few minutes of Social Media or email time for a few days leading up to and then several times a day on December 2, we can make this work.

Look for our posts on our Facebook page and please share with your friends by adding a personalized story about the women and girls that we empower.

<https://www.facebook.com/SoroptimistInternationalPalmDesert>

#GivingTuesday #BestforWomen

Please share on your active Social Media Apps including LinkedIn, Instagram, Bluesky and others.





SOROPTIMIST®

Soroptimist International of Palm Desert

P. O. Box 13997, Palm Desert, CA 92255-3997
Tax-exempt global organization 501 (c) 3 ID# 95-6134083

Women in History



Dr. Virginia Apgar

**Born June 7 1909
Died August 7, 1974**

Virginia Apgar, M.D., the first woman to become a full professor at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, designed the first standardized method for evaluating the newborn's transition to life outside the womb—the Apgar Score. Newborn babies still benefit from Dr. Virginia Apgar's groundbreaking research into the effects of anesthesia during childbirth and advocacy on the prevention of birth defects.

With the help of several scholarships, she attended Mt. Holyoke College, performing in the college orchestra as violinist and cellist and graduating with a major in zoology in 1929.

Apgar entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University just before the Wall Street crash of October 1929. In spite of financial problems, she graduated fourth in her class in 1933. Determined to become a surgeon, she won a surgical internship at Columbia.

Nevertheless, the chair of surgery, then discouraged her from continuing because other women he had trained in surgery failed to establish successful careers in the specialty. He also believed innovations and improvements were much needed in anesthesia (at that time handled mostly by nurses) if surgery was to advance, and he saw in Apgar "the energy, intelligence, and ability needed to make significant contributions in this area."

Because anesthesiology wasn't really recognized as a specialty until the mid-1940s, she struggled to find a training program when she completed her surgical residency in 1937.

In 1938, Dr. Apgar returned to Columbia University as the director of the division of anesthesia and as an attending anesthetist. In spite her title, she had trouble getting physicians to work for her. Surgeons did not accept an anesthesiologist as equals, and the pay for the less well-respected specialty was low. Apgar was the only staff member until the mid-1940s. By 1946, anesthesia became acknowledged as a medical specialty and required residency training, and in 1949, when anesthesia research became an academic department, Dr. Apgar was appointed the first woman full professor at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

She began studying obstetrical anesthesia—the effects of anesthesia given to a mother during labor on her newborn baby—where she made her greatest contribution to the field, the Apgar Score. This was the first standardized method evaluating the newborn's transition to life outside the womb. "Five points—heart rate, respiratory effort, muscle tone, reflex response, and color—are observed and given 0, 1, or 2 points. The points are then totaled to arrive at the baby's score." The score was presented in 1952 at a scientific meeting, and first published in 1953.

Finally, the Collaborative Project, a twelve-institution study involving 17,221 babies, established that the Apgar Score, especially the five-minute score, can predict neonatal survival and neurological development.

In 1959, while on sabbatical leave, Apgar earned a master's degree in public health from the Johns Hopkins University. She became the director of the division of congenital defects at the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis (now the March of Dimes).

This series is provided through the research of our SIPD member, Dr. Christine Durancu



Soroptimist International of Palm Desert

P. O. Box 13997, Palm Desert, CA 92255-3997
Tax-exempt global organization 501 (c) 3 ID# 95-6134083

Impact Report 2024-2025



CEASAR CHAVEZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MIGHTY GIRL BOOKSHELF OVER 100 BOOKS DONATED

LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARDS \$10,500 awarded last year



Soroptimist House of Hope 2025 Day of Hope Sponsor \$2500

118 kids coats donated to Westside Elementary



Sea View Elementary Perfect Attendance Awards

Beyond the Cash Award \$925



CONNECT WITH US

There are many ways to connect with us and support our mission. Contact us to learn out about Soroptimist International of Palm Desert and how we work together to improve the lives of women and girls by inspiring, educating, and empowering them.

Soroptimist International of Palm Desert
P.O. Box 13997
Palm Desert, CA 92255

760-534-8782

MEETINGS

Speaker's Meeting
1st Wednesday of the Month

Business Meeting
3rd Wednesday of the Month

2025-2026 OFFICERS

Natalie Angrisani, President
Cathy Brown, President-Elect
Marlon Carier, Secretary
Becky Goebel, Treasurer

EMAIL

info@SoroptimistInternationalofPalmDesert.org

FACEBOOK

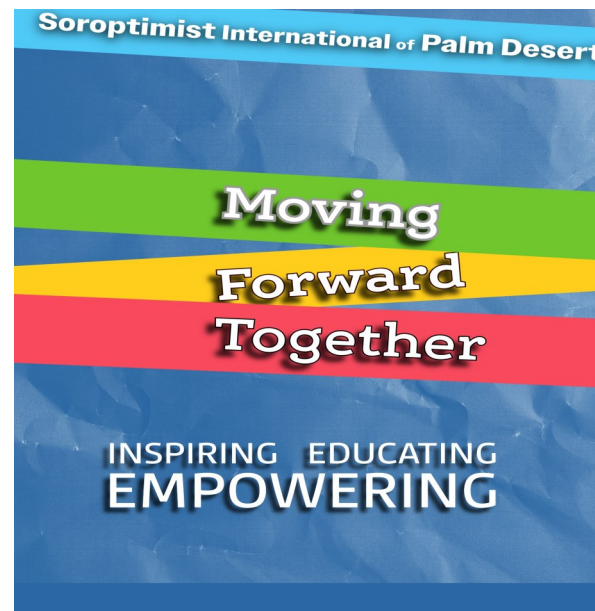
[SoroptimistInternationalPalmDesert](https://www.facebook.com/SoroptimistInternationalPalmDesert)

WEBSITE

[SoroptimistInternationalofPalmDesert.org](https://www.SoroptimistInternationalofPalmDesert.org)

NEWSLETTER

Natalie Angrisani, Editor



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Investing in Dreams

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