

Plan Ahead

our monthly newsletter

Moving Forward, Together Inspiring, Educating, and Empowering

It's Summertime

As we move into the next club year, let's take a moment to acknowledge our club members who stepped up, gave of their time and made it possible for Soroptimist International of Palm Desert to do the types of projects to help improve the lives of women and girls.

Thank You to our 2024-25 Officers: Diane Backovich, President; Rose Mary Jameson, Past President; Betsy Kreger, Secretary; and Becky Goebel, Treasurer. **Thank you to our 2024-25 Directors:** Jocelyn Corominas (Service); Doris Churry (Membership); Dr. Christine Duranceau (Fundraising); Dr. Senorina Saldivar and Rose Mary Jameson (Live Your Dream Awards), Susan Rosenberg (Publicity).

With their efforts and the efforts of those members who have been supportive, but remained behind the scenes; we were able to meet our goals One Step at a Time.

As we begin a new club year, our 2025-26 SIPD Officers and Directors will be working together over the summer months via zoom and in person to review our goals and plan for the next year.

Because "it takes a village"; we encourage our members to reach out to their connections; and, to others in our Coachella Valley community in order to Move Forward, Together and continue to Inspire, Educate, and Empower women and girls.



We will take a break from our official club meetings until September and our newsletter staff will be on vacation till then.

See you in September,

Natalie Angrisani
2025-2026 SIPD President



The **Fourth of July**, known as Independence Day, is a federal holiday in the United States which commemorates the ratification of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.



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.



Soroptimist International of Palm Desert

Golden West Spring Conference

That's a wrap on the Soroptimist International Golden West Region Spring Conference! Under the inspiring leadership of Governor Liz Glowka, we gathered for a weekend of purpose, progress, and several powerful conversations.

From business sessions that helped strengthen our impact across all pillars of Soroptimist, to thought-provoking speakers who challenged and uplifted us; it was a weekend to remember.

SIA Executive Director Michelle Burnett shared her powerful message on what leadership looks like today and how we can each rise to meet it. Keynote speaker Anita Bygone moved us with her story of lifting women out of poverty in Kenya, and Melanie Kenney, our SIA official visitor, encouraged us to embrace change as we look ahead to the future of our organization.

We were proud to have 10 Soroptimists representing SI Big Bear Valley—what a joy to learn, grow, and connect together! The weekend closed with a deeply inspiring Live Your Dream Awards banquet, where we celebrated 12 incredible women who are creating new futures from the lives they've left behind. Together, we are making a difference.

Here's to continuing the work, inspired and united! Our mission: Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to education and training they need to achieve social and economic empowerment



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Soroptimist International of Palm Desert 2025-26 Officers and Directors

President .. Natalie Angrisani
President Elect .. Cathy Brown
Secretary .. Marlon Carrier
Treasurer .. Becky Goebel
Immediate Past President
Diane Backovich

Service Director
Jocelyn Corominas

Membership Director
Doris Churry

Fundraising Director
Vanessa Wilk

Publicity
Susan Rosenberg

Live Your Dream Awards
Dr. Seniorina Saldivar
Rosemary Jameson



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Your Monthly Dash of SOLT

GED Club Program

Marlon Carrier

During our Golden West Region Spring Conference, our delegates, Diane & Becky, learned about a General Education Development (GED) Club Program which we will be considering for our next Club year. The GED Club Program Workshop addressed how clubs can assist women and girls through GED assistance.

This Program would supplement our Dream Programs as a Big Goal Accelerator Project and could be structured to provide vouchers to cover the expense of final testing on one or all the subjects needed to obtain the GED including Math, Science, Social Studies, Reading and Language Arts or other financial assistance.

Next steps will be to outline SIPD Program specifics including eligibility & types of assistance to be provided and how outreach would be conducted.

Be sure to attend our planning meeting later this summer for more details and come prepared with YOUR ideas for next year!



SIPD Annual Planning

During July, there will be zoom meetings to review our service projects and fundraising. We encourage members to share their ideas and be involved in our activities and these meetings will be open to any SIPD members who want to participate.

Our club Officers and Directors will meet in August to schedule the 2025-2026 club year's service projects, events, and a date for our Annual Live Your Dream Awards. We will review our budget to make it all possible. At this time, we are looking at August 8th as the date to do this meeting.

More details will follow.



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



Soroptimist GWR Spring Conference Keynote Speaker, Anita Bygone of SI Kenya, joined us for lunch in Palm Desert before heading home. We learned that when Women Stand Up For Other Women, changes happen! She is the first elected female from her village in Kenya and works hard with the rural villages to protect education rights for the girls.



Diane Backovich during the Presidents Processional at Spring Conference.

