



Plan Ahead

Soroptimist International Palm Desert
monthly newsletter

"Meeting with Friends, Makes the Journey Much Sweeter."

June 2024

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SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

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



Congratulations
to all of our
2024 Graduates.

A Date in History June 23, 1972

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is signed by President Nixon and it is one of the most important legislation initiatives passed for women and girls since women won the vote in 1920.

This legislation guarantees both equal access and equal opportunity for female and male students in almost all aspects of our educational systems.



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
OF PALM DESERT
FRIENDSHIP LINKS

Friendships are relationships between people who care about the same things and share a common interest. The best part of a friendship is when you are able to spend time together, talk about and share your experiences, support each other, and enjoy spending time together.

Our Palm Desert Club had that special opportunity recently when Traveling Soroptimist, Jane Oulton from Soroptimist International Canada SI North and West Vancouver visited our community.

We welcomed Jane with a typical Palm Desert experience. Lunch was outdoors amongst the umbrellas, the palm trees swayed in the light breeze, with the sounds of a cascading fountain in the background.



Friendship links luncheon

From left to right: Jo Corominas, President Rose Mary Jameson, our Friendship Link guest, Jane, Mary Kay Berlier, Becky Goebel, Betsy Kreger, Doris Churry, and our co-President, Dr. Christine Duranceau.



CONGRATULATIONS

2024-2025 Soroptimist International Palm Desert Officers and Directors

OFFICERS

President: Diane Backovich

President Elect: *backed by
Rose Mary Jameson and Christine Duranceau*

Treasurer: Becky Goebel
backed by Natalie Angrisani

Secretary: Betsy Kreger

DIRECTORS

Service

Mary Kay Berlier and Jocelyn Corominas

Fundraising

Dr. Christine Duranceau and Susan Rosenberg

Membership

Doris Churry, Judith Louise Worachek
and Pam Rich

Public Relations

Susan Rosenberg and Natalie Angrisani

LYDA

Senorina Saldivar
with Rose Mary Jameson

DIBI

to be appointed



**During our 2024-2025 club year, the
Officers, Directors and Members of SIPD
will continue our mission of improving
the lives of women and girls**



Presidents message for June 2024

As we wind down and finish our Soroptimist year, we can certainly take a moment to revel in all our accomplishments. This has been a busy year with all “hands-on deck” with lots of boundless enthusiasm to keep us motivated!!!



Clearly, we could not have done this without support from our benefactors, most notably our GEM donors without whom we would not be able to have so many Dreams come to fruition. I'd like to take a moment to mention our generous GEMS and send our gratitude along with our heartfelt thanks! Special recognition to our donors to date; Dr. Christine Duranceau, Marie Newton, Doris Churry and Bonnie Thomason, Jack and Arlene Oates, Lori K Oliver (Kohn Family Trust), Diana Palmer SI-NWV, Michelle Sturiale, Peter Sjostrom, Christopher Francisco, Terry Parsley, and the Anonymous Foundation. We plan to be honoring them in a special way, so stay tuned!

This past month we met one of our Soroptimist members from our Friendship Link Club of SI North West Vancouver, Canada. Introduced to us via Diana Palmer, several of us had lunch with Jane Oulton. What a nice visit we had, and we all felt like we had met a long lost friend! It's amazing how similar we all are when we share the values of being a Soroptimist. Lunch was at JC's Café in the heart of Palm Desert on El Paseo.



Throughout the summer we will be furthering our support of the SIA “Beyond the Cash” or as I like to say, “Beyond the Dream” award to our Live Your Dream™ winners, remember five scholarships were given out this year and we want to help support these mothers during the summer. A two-pronged outreach is already in effect, with mentors offering support, lending an ear when needed, and plans are in action to provide monetary assistance for the little ones who might want a swimming or dance program to keep them busy while the Moms study or work. Contact Becky or Jocelyn to join the Mentorship team or get more information.

Installation was held in early May so that the majority of our members could be in attendance.. That worked out so well, we had a full house! And what a beautiful house it was, David and Leanna opened their home and kitchen for a

lovely evening. Many thanks to them and their wonderful friends for lending a hand to keep things moving. I heard of a few recipes being requested as we all brought favorite dishes to go along with a turkey dinner, cooked to perfection by Leanna. We were honored to have Golden West Regional Treasurer, Samantha Dewing, act as installing officer. She did a great job and handed out the perfect gifts to help us keep notes of the steps we are going to take next year with Diane at the helm. Her theme is a perfect reflection of our mission: “Making a Difference, One Step at a Time”

Big changes have occurred throughout the years, in alignment with the guidelines from SIA, and it shows in our growth moving forward. By attending the District, Regional and National gatherings each year, we can take pride in our Dream programs that are in full force. It is so important to have representation at these meetings and bring back the all-important news to our local Club. Remember, we are at the heart of a Global, International Organization full of women doing all they can to help other women reach their full potential and the Dreams they hold in their hearts!!

We have been recognized for our achievements and accomplishments by Golden West Region in several areas and it helps to encourage us to go “full steam ahead” into the next year! Plus, we have enjoyed some of the best publicity in ages; we've been on Eye on the Desert KESQ, twice this year, had a fabulous story in the Desert Sun, thanks to Carol Stephen-Smith and have had amazing posts on Facebook (keep in touch with all of our activities and help us rise above the 1K mark). Visit our page and Like, Comment and Share!!!

Our Palm Desert Club is so proud of one of our busiest members, Dr. Senorina Saldivar. She was at the heart of our very successful Live Your Dream™ award program and did a great job presenting the awards to our five winners. She shared the passion in her heart for supporting these young mothers. She will be receiving recognition at the Biennial in Bellevue this July for completing the Fellowship program in leadership, a National program and we are so honored that she was chosen from our Region.

It's been fun “Riding the Waves of Service “ with all of you this year!

In Soroptimist Sisterhood,
your out-going President,
Rose Mary

Soroptimist International Palm Desert

Several of our 2023-2024 Club Officers and Directors were asked to share their thoughts about what this past year or membership in Soroptimist International Palm Desert means to them. Here are their responses:

DORIS CHURRY

Looking Back & Looking Ahead



It has always been a matter of pride and of personal fulfillment to renew each new year to join with other like-minded women and to provide a variety of services for women and girls.

Love my Soroptimist!

Cathy Brown



The highlight for me was the Live Your Dream Awards 60th Anniversary event. I have been a member since 1985 & I am so proud of the ability of the (relatively) few dedicated women who making such a difference in so many lives.

Marie Newton

What being a Soroptimist Club member means to me: I have been a Soroptimist since 1994 when I joined the La Jolla club. I've had



a very lucky life and I felt that I needed to give back to the community in my own way and this club membership allowed me to do that. Never mind all of the wonderful friends I have made along the way. I

love the Palm Desert club for its enthusiasm and community goals. Join for the service and stay for the friendship

Senorina Saldivar

Being a member of Soroptimist International Palm Desert, means to give hope to others and to provide an opportunity to continue to excel. SIPD is having a great group of friends and chosen family that you can count on.

Being a SIPD member means to make dreams an attainable reality. It means changing someone's life one Live Your Dream Award at a time.



Dr. Christine Duranceau



First of all, this past year went by so fast. It was wonderful being part of the Palm Desert Soroptimists and it was a pleasure to be part of a group of women who under the direction of

Club President Rose Mary, accomplished so much. I consider everyone of the women a colleague and a friend. I look forward to returning next year and continuing our friendship and mission.

Susan Browne Rosenberg

Being a member of SIPD for nearly 25 years means I am surrounded by strong loving women who will fight for and support women in business, women and girls in school and the rights of women, which are in peril, around the world.



Becky Goebel

Serving as treasurer this past biennium has given me a very good \$ sense of where we are and where we want to GO...



The GEM Program has placed our club on solid \$ ground, planted, nourished and thriving, thank you Doris Churry for initiating and Marie for bringing forth the idea from her prior club.

The CV Giving Day has given our club not only \$\$ but exposure on a grand scale, thank you Susan for promoting, engaging and prospering SIPD, we are proud to have you as a member!

As our SIPD Club year draws to a close I want to thank each of our members for your contributions that make us SUCCEED.

Becky Goebel

Treasurer 2022-2024



A Message From Our In-Coming President

Making a Difference, One Step at a Time

I'm honored to be your new President for this next year and with your help, we will continue to climb and with every step we take no matter how small, moves closer to our goal. We will continue to move forward.



Summer has arrived and many of you will travel during these next few months. During my life I have traveled to 50 countries. Many during my 35 years flying with a commercial airline and many others with two other women who were also adrenaline junkies. These were backing packing trips to the developing world.

One of the gifts all this travel gave me was the lack of bias.



A guide, a driver, a Tuareg Bandit, and Timbuktu

Traveling is a transformative experience that can broaden your horizons, challenge your perspectives, as well as enrich your life in countless ways. Whether you are a seasoned globetrotter or just starting to explore, travel has the power to inspire personal growth, foster meaningful connections, and create lifelong memories. You become more open-minded and mindful of the culture and beliefs of different people.

Welcome to SIPD Omie Bergquist





During the Golden West Spring Conference that was just held in Tuscon, Arizona; two of the members from SIPD were featured in one of the slide presentation on Public Awareness.

SLIDE 7

GWR Spring Conference 2024 ~ **"Inspire!"**

Member Spotlights

Highlight club members and their contributions to your club or community. Share:

- Their stories
- Accomplishments
- Involvement in club activities
- Birthday, anniversary or other milestone.



Here are two good examples. (A member who got training in grant writing and some other useful skills & one who was retiring from doing the club newsletter.)

Soroptimist International Palm Desert is feeling love

Thank you to a friend in Norway, Momo Gtd for being our 1,000 LIKE!
All of our Soroptimist International Palm Desert members say thanks!

THANKS FOR HELPING US HIT

1000

LIKES!



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

WHY JOIN US?

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

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

A Sense of Accomplishment

Members experience the joy and the sense of accomplishment by working with other like-minded women on the global programs that provide women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

Personal Development & Connections

The opportunities for leadership development provide professional growth gained through volunteering in leadership roles and attending leadership development trainings offered by SIA. Members will grow personally through friendships with club members, relationships in your region, and connections with members from diverse countries and backgrounds.

Access to Non-Profit Professionals

Members receive guidance and resources from SIA headquarters, enabling them to enjoy a meaningful club experience as they change communities for the better, plus:

- ♦ SIA's *Best for Women*, a monthly electronic newsletter keeps you up to date on all of Soroptimist's initiatives and activities.
- ♦ Leadership development and multiple networking opportunities such as Leadership Round Table, the Soroptimist Leadership Fellows Program, club meetings, regional conferences, and other events.
- ♦ Opportunity to engage and provide feedback through Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Instagram, online surveys and other activities.
- ♦ Access to contact information for other members, clubs and leaders through the online directories.
- ♦ Invitations to take advantage of special offers through Corporate Sponsor Programs, which enables members to get personalized, value-added services from like-minded organizations that support the SIA mission.

JOIN US!

a message from
Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! Whether you're eager to enhance your leadership skills or aspire to lead in the future, the Leadership Round Table is your chance to learn and grow!

Check out the agenda and register:
<https://www.soroptimist.org/.../leadership-round-table.html>



**LEADERSHIP
ROUND TABLE**
JUNE 11 & 12, 2024

**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN!**

Take this opportunity to learn and become a better overall leader or attend to feed your interest in becoming a future Soroptimist leader.

soroptimist.org/events

Connect with us at SIPD

There are many ways to join our club and support our mission. Contact us to find out more about our volunteer opportunities, fundraising events, and ways that you can help to get our message to your friends and family.

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WEBSITE
www.soroptimistpalmdesert.org



Join us to reach new heights in the heart of the beautiful Pacific Northwest July 24-27, 2024 for an event like no other!

Participate in four full days of opportunities to connect, learn, and celebrate how our clubs transform the lives of women and girls.

Visit soroptimist.org/siaconv2024 to learn more



REACHING HIGHER
BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON
JULY 24-27, 2024

Registration is open
for Soroptimist's 48th
Biennial Convention!

Join us in Bellevue

soroptimist.org/siaconv2024



REACHING HIGHER
BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON
JULY 24-27, 2024

Pre-Conference Tour
Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Shop at the Pike Place Market and
Dine atop the Space Needle Museum!

Sign up during registration!
soroptimist.org/siaconv2024