



The newsletter of Soroptimist International of Palm Desert for May 2017

-Doris Churry, Editor

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL IS A GLOBAL VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT

Founded in 1921, Soroptimist International is a global volunteer movement with a network of over 75,000 club members in 133 countries and territories. Advocating for human rights and gender equality, at the heart of Soroptimist International's advocacy is its work across six UN Centres, where our UN representatives ensure that the voices of women and girls are heard. Our membership work on grassroots projects that help women and girls achieve their individual and collective potential, realise aspirations and have an equal voice in communities worldwide.



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

business meetings is so important. They are the opportunity for you to have your voice heard.

Just by your membership you have made a choice to belong to an organization that is directly focused on women and girls. All of us are aware of the plight that some women and girls have to attain a meaningful life. In the end, is that not what all of us want? But that life first has to have economic and social

stability. We are so fortunate to have been born in this country at this time. We are the lucky ones who have been able to be educated and have work that is challenging and fulfilling. Think of those who have not and, more importantly, those who may never have that ease. Ease, a curious word to use describing our members, but that is what it is. We do not have to worry about feeding our families or making sure they have access to a good education. But many women in this country do not have that assurance; for whatever reason many women have food insecurity or worry about healthcare. Widows often are not sure they have enough money to carry them through the last years of their life. Wives are uncertain that their husbands will stay with them if

Working on a club level sometimes we forget the global impact of our work. The statement above is good reminder. Those goals stated above are lofty and sometimes it seems overwhelming: but our communities tell us what they need in many ways. Articles in the newspaper, information from our other community organizations, the list goes on. We have a choice about how we expend the efforts and treasure of our members. That is why attending

economic or health pressures become more severe. Girls who have the dream of attending college are unsure about how to secure the funds needed to attend college.

We are the very lucky ones. Most of us do not have those worries. This is the period in our life when we want to give back to our community. We have the time and the means. That is why we became Soroptimists.

Our communities more often than not express their needs through articles in the newspapers, and through other community organizations. It is our responsibility to listen. When we do, it is then our responsibility to choose what we can improve. Right now there is much fear about what will happen to the homeless population in this valley. As the organization that operates the homeless facility in Palm Springs closes, those clients of that facility in the west valley do not have an alternative to find shelter in the extreme cold and extreme temperatures here in the summer. This problem has to be solved with the cooperation of all the cities in the valley plus other organizations that have been distributing food and personal items to the homeless. The successful outcome of all the meetings addressing this crisis has as yet not been reached.

Our club on May 13th will be distributing the "Women's Monthly Kits" that were assembled as



our "Saturday of Service" project this year. These kits offer items to be distributed to the homeless women and girls in the valley who need feminine care items. President elect Becky Goebel made the

suggestion we give the kits to the Narrow Door charity in Indio. Becky and Service Director Janice Heronema will be actually distributing the kits with the Narrow Door.



We hope to have a report from them to determine if we should add this service project into next year's club budget. After we have their understanding of how welcome the kits are, we will have good information with which to make a club decision. We will discuss this at the Business Meeting on May 17th. At that meeting we will be presenting the budget for next club year.

This project was born of the **"Days for Girls"** international project at the SIA Convention in Florida last summer. I watched carefully at the convention how they constructed and disbursed the kits, and brought this idea back to the club. These are not the first items that come to mind when discussing personal items for the homeless, but they are needed. Without the exposure to that project, it would have never been brought to the club. The real plus is we are **women helping women**. With this project we cannot get closer to the ideals stated in the Soroptimist International statement above.

-President Sherrie



Wednesday, May 3, 2017 @noon – Soroptimist Speaker Series

“THE DROUGHT’S OVER. NOW WHAT!”

Katie Evans, Conservation Manager, Coachella Valley Water District

Ms. Evans will provide a summary of efforts on water-use restriction and reporting requirements; some will become permanent as in the CV we are always in a drought. CVWD continues to focus on long-term water management planning including a new groundwater replenishment facility in Palm Desert.

Saturday, May 6, 2017 11:30 am–1:30 pm @ Miracle Springs Resort and Spa
AN EVENT TO SUPPORT SOROPTIMIST HOUSE OF HOPE!

“A Day of Hope!”

We love our Patrick Evans! Yes Patrick is again this year’s emcee.
 \$40 per person – see Marilyn Alt, SHOH Board Member for your tickets



Monday, May 15, 6pm – SIPD Board of Directors meeting

Desert Falls Country Club in their intimate locker room

Wednesday, May 17, 12 noon – SIPD Business meeting

Desert Falls Country Club

The Traveling Soroptimist

-Christine Duranceau



Hi Everyone!

Having a great time on our 15 day cruise. First went to Aruba and then to Cartagena, Colombia in South America. Toured the old city, built from the 1600's to the late 1800's.

The picture is of some of the picturesque row



houses in Cartagena. Yesterday we went through the Panama Canal. What a fantastic feat of engineering. Now in Costa Rica and tomorrow in Nicaragua, on the way back to Los Angeles.

Christine is shown above on her ship's balcony as she is cruising the Panama Canal

The Adventure Begins!



-Ed.

Christine will be taking us along all year and we can enjoy that vicariously and it should be some fun. Her Traveling Soroptimist note to us from afar this month is from the Panama Canal!

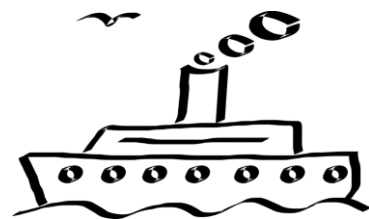
Yes, we do love it! We do go to the greatest places and have the most wonderful experiences.

Susan Rosenberg is in Kauai, eating Spam for breakfast

Rose Mary Jameson is in Missouri and visiting extraordinary places as she wends her way back home

Lori Oliver is eating Texas toast in Texas giving her son a "ride" and satisfying her itch to travel spontaneously.

Send me pics and comments any time if you care to participate!



Transiting Mira Flores Lock

LORI'S WHIRLED

"THE" Soroptimist International of Palm Desert BLOG!

-Lori Oliver

Thank you, Soroptimist

Thank you, Soroptimist friends. Thank you for showing up, for chipping in, for sharing your time, your hard-earned and God-given gifts with the rest of us. Without you in your chair over there, I'd be sitting in this chair over here, all by myself, eating a disappointing lunch followed by a delicious hand-made dessert. Thank you dessert makers! While my chances of winning the raffle would be quite high, my share of the pot would be quite low. Not even fun to win. Soroptimist would not be fun at all without you.

I watched a TEDx talk* (Idaho Falls) about a thing called pre-gratitude. I had never heard of it. It is, after all, the custom of our land to thank afterwards, not beforehand. We tip after the meal. We thank people for *coming*—as they are *leaving*. The last paragraph in a letter often reads, "Thank you for your consideration." We thank people for things all the time—after the fact. At least we have the "grace" to thank God before a meal.

What happens when you pre-thank is kind of magical. The speaker gave an example of how she, a part-time Uber driver, picked up a carload of drunk people. She immediately compared this group to every other group of partiers she'd ever picked up, painting them with that same bitter brush. Immediately, one of them handed her a twenty. Was it the dread look on her face? Was he afraid of forgetting to tip at the end? Who knows. For whatever reason, his pre-thanking had a profound effect on the rest of the ride for both her and her passengers. She reset her thinking. She treated them better than she would have. These people showed they were different—and that made *all* the difference.

Soroptimist has made me a better person. I don't know who I would be without you all. All I can say for sure is this: without you I would be different, but not better. And for that, I thank you.

*TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) is a media organization which posts talks online for free distribution, under the slogan "ideas worth spreading". TEDx is like a smaller, locally organized TED Talk. Hence the reference to Idaho Falls.





Fourth Annual

"A DAY OF HOPE"

Soroptimist House of Hope

Saturday, May 6, 2017, 11:30 – 1:30 pm



-Marilyn Alt

Friends, we are just a short time away from the fourth annual "A Day of Hope" fundraiser for the Soroptimist House of Hope. This event also celebrates nearly 36 years of providing a residential substance use disorder recovery program for females seeking help in recovering from addiction. This year the event will be held at the Miracle Springs Resort and Spa in Desert Hot Springs. Miracle Springs is located a short drive up Palm Drive from the downtown area of Desert Hot Springs, at 10625 Palm Drive. Ample free parking is available.

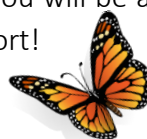


Current clients of the recovery house in Desert Hot Springs will be helping at the event along with several alumni. These gals love participating in our social events and this is just one of their expressions of gratitude for the recovery program.

Patrick Evans of CBS Local 2 TV, their Chief Meteorologist, is again this year's emcee for the event. Patrick has for years been willing to help the local Soroptimist clubs fundraising events, including our January Soroptimist of Palm Desert club's successful "A Night at The Races." He enjoyed the "video races" as much as the attendees, then he went back to the TV station to do the 11 pm weather news. What a guy!

Your support of the Soroptimist House of Hope will be appreciated by your attendance at this event. Seats are filling up fast and are limited. So please make your reservation soon. I would appreciate your emailing or phoning me if you would like to buy a ticket from me at \$40 per person. This year a plated

lunch will be served and at the time of your reservation, you will be asked which of the three food options you prefer: chicken, beef or vegetarian. Thanks for your support!





1 C espresso or very dark roast coffee
 3 eggs
 ½ C sugar
 1 tbsp Marsala wine or other
 8 oz mascarpone cheese
 Imported Italian ladyfingers (hard crunchy type)
 Powdered cocoa or shredded chocolate
 Small chocolate chips to top
 9" rectangular pan

-Courtesy of Susan Browne Rosenberg

Make 1 cup of espresso or very dark roast coffee and cool in a shallow bowl large enough to fit the ladyfingers. Separate 3 fresh large eggs – yolks in a large bowl, whites in medium bowl. Add a pinch of sugar to the whites and beat until stiff, about two to three minutes. To yolks, add ½ cup sugar, 1 tablespoon espresso, 2 tablespoons Marsala wine (can substitute other liqueur flavors of your choice) and beat two to three minutes. Add 8 ounces mascarpone cheese and beat three to five minutes until smooth and mixture thickens. Fold egg whites gently into the mixture.

You need a package of imported Italian ladyfingers: the hard crunchy type. Do not use soft, cakey ladyfingers. Dip them briefly in the espresso; do not soak. Line the bottom of a 9 inch rectangular pan with about 6-8 Ladyfingers. Add ½ of mascarpone mixture on top. Sprinkle with powdered cocoa or shaved chocolate. Repeat with second layer of ladyfingers and remaining mascarpone mixture. More powdered chocolate. Top with some small chocolate chips or shaved chocolate if desired. Cover with plastic and refrigerate for a few hours prior to eating. Mange!



Try the Real Italian Deli on San Pablo, north of 111 for these ingredients and lots of yummy stuff!

-Susan

Palm Desert Chamber Meeting Room

72559 Hwy 111 @ Town Center Drive, Henderson Community Building

Proposed New Location for SIPD Soroptimist Meetings!

- Centralized location at prestigious Palm Desert Chamber of Commerce, Henderson Community Building
- Private entrance with positive impact on visitors and guests – and ourselves!
- Beautiful surroundings, art, architecture, furnishings, and ambiance befitting our professional women's club
- Desirable board room meeting style with bowed board table and comfortable chairs
- Properly scaled to our size group
- An adjacent, full kitchen is available if needed
- Numerous plans are available to us for high-quality catering: Room has mini-kitchen bar and serving sideboard
- Lighting is good; acoustics are excellent; no window glare; adjacent free parking; no stairs to negotiate
- Go and check it out!

Soroptimist

Soroptimist transforms the
lives of women and girls
through:

Education
Empowerment
and
Enabling Opportunities

ROAD TRIP!

Spring Conference Planning

CONVENTIONEERING AT SIPD

June 1, 2, 3 2017

TWO MORE MEMBERS HAVE SIGNED
UP AND WILL BE ATTENDING SPRING
CONFERENCE THIS YEAR.

President Sherrie Yoshimura
President elect Becky Goebel
Barbara Grode
Jane Turner
Margaret Henderson
Doris Churry
Betsy Kreger
Liz Glowka
Marie Newton
Ella Manor
Lori Oliver
our "newbie" member
Sonja Martin

What terrific representation
for our club!





A SOROPTIMIST?