



# Riversidelines

## **SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF RIVERSIDE FEBRUARY 2024**



## **STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING EVENT**

**January 11, 2024**

**Civil Rights Institute of Southern California  
Centuries-Long Trafficking, Missing, Murdered and Injustices  
of Native American Women**

*Photo Left to Right: Soroptimist International of Riverside members Sophia Mendoza; JoAnn Moore; Edith Gingerich; Lynn Scecina; Irma Flores, Event Chair; Panelist and SI Riverside member Tiffanie Tate, U.S. Navy Veteran and Retired OB/GYN; Panelist Larry Gonzalez, Chief of the Riverside Police Department; Guest Speaker Eloise Gomez Reyes, Majority Leader Emerita; Keynote Speaker Keely Linton, Strong Hearted Native Women's Coalition Chairperson for the Judicial Council of the Intertribal Court of Southern California and Melanie McKee, President of SI Riverside*

## SOROPTIMIST VISION

Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

## SOROPTIMIST 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.

## SOROPTIMIST TAG LINE

# "INVESTING IN DREAMS"

## SOROPTIMIST CORE VALUES

Soroptimist International of the Americas is committed to:

- **GENDER EQUALITY:** Women and girls live free from discrimination.
- **EMPOWERMENT:** Women and girls are free to act in their own best interest.
- **EDUCATION:** Women and girls deserve to lead full and productive lives through access to education.
- **DIVERSITY & FELLOWSHIP:** Women from varied backgrounds and perspectives work together

to improve the lives of women and girls.

## SOROPTIMIST 2021-2031 BIG GOAL

Invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Melanie McKee  
2022-24 President*

Hello Soroptimist ladies!

I want to thank all of the members who will be working very hard for the next few months.

Next month, we have our Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It Conference on March 9, 2024, at Riverside City College. I look forward to all of the great panelists and keynote speakers.

On April 27, 2024, we have our Salute to Service Awards Luncheon honoring members in our Riverside community and high school seniors who have done an exceptional academic job.

In April, there will be a See's candy fundraiser with JoAnn Moore chairing. See JoAnn's column in this newsletter for a preview of the upcoming fundraiser.

The Fundraising Committee is getting together this week to work

on plans for our fundraisers in May and September.

I'm looking forward to having a very productive and fun couple of months.

Melanie McKee, Dr.B.A.  
2022-24 SIR President



**FEBRUARY 2024  
CALENDAR**



- 6 BOARD MEETING  
12:00 PM on ZOOM
- 6 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO TOLERANCE FOR FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION
- 11 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE
- 13 BUSINESS MEETING  
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside
- 14 Y-DAY (GLOBAL DAY TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN)
- 27 PROGRAM MEETING  
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside

29 "LEAP INTO SERVICE" RECRUITMENT EVENT  
5:30 PM, Old Spahgetti Factory

**MARCH 2024  
CALENDAR**



- 1 ZERO DISCRIMINATION DAY
- 5 BOARD MEETING  
12:00 PM on ZOOM
- 8 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
- 9 LIVE YOUR DREAM: DREAM IT, BE IT CONFERENCE  
Riverside Community College
- 10 NATIONAL WOMEN AND GIRL'S HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY
- 21 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
- 26 BUSINESS MEETING  
12:00 PM, Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside

**NO PROGRAM MEETING  
IN MARCH**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**



April 17, 2024  
SALUTE TO SERVICE AWARDS LUNCHEON  
1st United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

May 17, 2024  
RHINESTONES, COWGIRLS & AUCTION FUNDRAISER  
California Citrus State Historical Park

May 31-June 2, 2024  
GWR SPRING CONFERENCE  
Casino Del Sol Resort  
5655 W Valencia Road  
Tucson, AZ 85757

July 24-27, 2024  
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS 48th BIENNIAL CONVENTION  
Bellevue, Washington

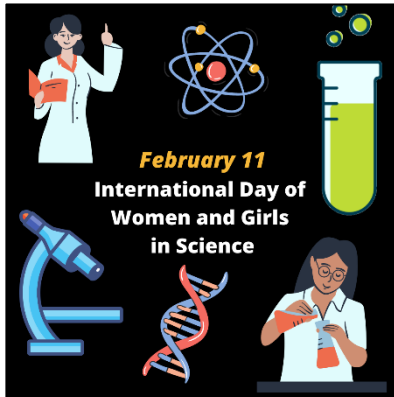
July 27-28, 2024  
SIA LEADERSHIP ROUND TABLE  
Bellevue, Washington

September 2024  
ORANGE BLOOMS MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA

July 2027  
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
"Waves of Change" Cruise along the shores of Alaska

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**  
Soroptimist International of Riverside, a club in District 1 of the Golden West Region of Soroptimist International of the Americas, meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. We meet at Habitat for Humanity, 2180 Iowa Avenue, Riverside, from noon until approximately 1:15 PM. Please arrive a little early so that we may begin promptly at noon. The 2nd Tuesday is a Business Meeting and the 4th Tuesday is a Program Meeting.

**FEBRUARY 11, 2024  
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF  
WOMEN AND GIRLS  
IN SCIENCE**



**Women in Science  
Leadership:  
A New Era for  
Sustainability**

Tackling some of the greatest challenges of the Agenda for Sustainable Development - from improving health to combating climate change - will rely on harnessing all talent. That means getting more women working in these fields. Diversity in research expands the pool of talented researchers, bringing in fresh perspectives, talent and creativity. The International Day of Women and Girls in Science is a reminder that women and girls play a critical role in science and technology communities and that their participation should be strengthened.

Although Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields are widely regarded as critical to national economies, so far most countries, no matter their level of development, have not achieved gender equality in STEM.

The 9th International Day of Women and Girls in Science

Assembly will take place on February 8-9, 2024, at the United Nations Headquarters, New York City. Join women in science leaders and experts from around the world, high-level government officials, representatives of international organizations and the private sector, to discuss women leadership in achieving the three pillars of Sustainable Development, namely economic prosperity, social justice and environmental integrity.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Women are typically given smaller research grants than their male colleagues and, while they represent 33.3% of all researchers, only 12% of members of national science academies are women.
- In cutting edge fields such as artificial intelligence, only one in five professionals (22%) is a woman.
- Despite a shortage of skills in most of the technological fields driving the Fourth Industrial Revolution, women still account for only 28% of engineering graduates and 40% of graduates in computer science and informatics.
- Female researchers tend to have shorter, less well-paid careers. Their work is underrepresented in high-profile journals and they are often passed over for promotion.



**SOROPTIMIST  
INTERNATIONAL OF  
THE AMERICAS**



01/27/2024

Thank you, SI Riverside!

We are grateful for your Founders Pennies contribution made on January 27, 2024. Your ongoing support provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment, ensuring a brighter future for their families, their communities and the world!

By participating in Founders Pennies, SI Riverside has demonstrated its dedication and commitment to investing in the future of courageous women and girls, not only in your local community but around the world. We are honored to have SI Riverside's support so we can reach half a million women and girls through our global Dream Programs!

On behalf of the thousands of women and girls who benefit from your support, THANK YOU! Together we will work to achieve our Big Goal and invest in the dreams of a half million women and girls through access to education by 2031.

In Soroptimist friendship,

Bobbi Enderlin, President  
SIA Board of Directors

Tana Elizondo, Chair  
Fundraising Council

## SEE'S CANDIES FUNDRAISER



Easter is early this year so we're getting an early start on some sweet fundraising.

See's Candies is a favorite with everyone of all ages. Look on our social media platforms later this month for a virtual sale where you can order your favorites and have them delivered fresh to your door.

Or if you prefer, we will also have the traditional sales order through your Soroptimist International of Riverside member that can be picked up in late March, just in time for Easter.

Either way you will be a sweetheart for supporting our programs and treat yourself (and those you know) to a beloved tradition.

JoAnn Moore  
See's Candies  
Fundraiser Chair



## JANUARY 9, 2024 TOAST TO THE NEW YEAR



At our business meeting in January, members of SI Riverside raised their glasses of sparkling apple cider in a toast to our New Year of Soroptimist service and friendship. The toast was given by SI Riverside Vice-President, JoAnn Moore:

*"As we go forward in a new year, may we continue the Sincerity of Friendship, create opportunities for the Joy of Achievement, lead others with the Dignity of Service, demonstrate the Integrity of Profession and recognize our diverse Love of Country."*



## JANUARY 11, 2024 STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING EVENT



On January 11, 2024, which was National Human Trafficking Awareness Day, SI Riverside hosted their annual STOP Human Trafficking event. The theme this year was "Centuries-Long Trafficking, Missing, Murdered and Injustices of Native American Women." This was historic in that it was the first time SI Riverside focused on one specific segment of the population.

The event was held, appropriately, at the Civil Rights Institute of Southern California in Riverside. Our keynote Speaker was Keely Linton, Executive Director of Strong Hearted Native Women's Coalition as well as the Chairperson for the Judicial Council of the Intertribal Court of SoCal. Our guest speaker was Eloise Gomez Reyes, Majority Leader Emerita.

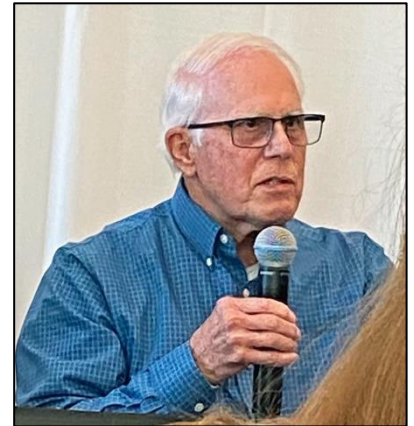
The facilitator for the panel was our long time supporter Opal Singleton, President and CEO of Million Kids and the Training and Outreach Coordinator for the Riverside County Anti Human Trafficking Task Force/RCAHT.

The panelists included Cliff Trazfer, UCR Professor History and Rupert Costo Chair in American Indian Affairs; Marcelina Shackelford, Tribal Victim Services Program Coordinator Morongo Clinic; our very own SI Riverside member Dr.

Tiffanie Tate, U.S. Navy Veteran, retired OBGYN and author of Bad Touching; and another long time supporter, Larry Gonzalez, Chief of the Riverside Police Department.

The event was a huge success and the attendance was standing room only. At the conclusion of the seminar the guests were invited to a reception and an art exhibit.

Irma Flores  
STOP Human Trafficking  
Event Chair





**JANUARY 20, 2024  
NEW YEAR'S  
CELEBRATION PARTY**



# New Year's Celebration Party

On Saturday, January 20th, SI Riverside held a party for SI Riverside members and their guests celebrating the New Year at the beautiful home of member Susan Wolf.

A delicious pasta dinner was served and attendees played three different New Year's games.

**Gift Exchange Game:** Each attendee brought a wrapped gift with no name. Gifts could be chosen from the general gift pile or stolen from other members who had already picked a gift.

**Pin the Hand on the Clock:** Just like pin the tail on the donkey, blindfolded members each had a chance to pin the hand on a clock to read 12:00 AM. Closest one wins.

**New Year's Bingo:** Traditional bingo on cards that had things associated with New Year's.

A great time was had by all who attended!

Debbie Kelley  
Hospitality Chair





FEBRUARY 29, 2024  
"LEAP INTO SERVICE"  
RECRUITMENT EVENT



"LEAP INTO SERVICE"  
MEMBERSHIP  
RECRUITMENT  
EVENT



**February 29, 2024**

**5:30 PM  
Old Spaghetti Factory  
3191 Mission Inn Avenue  
Riverside CA**

**RSVP to: Melanie McKee  
mckeemelanie4@  
gmail.com**

**MARCH 9, 2024  
LIVE YOUR DREAM:  
DREAM IT, BE IT  
CONFERENCE**



Our 2024 Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It Conference will take place on Saturday, March 9th, at Riverside City College.

Since 2008, SI Riverside has annually presented our Live Your Dream: Dream It, Be It Conference to introduce 7th and 8th grade girls in the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program to various career opportunities and the way to achieve career goals.

The conference includes workshops provided by successful women in many different professions, outstanding keynote speakers and activities aimed at setting goals and outlining the steps to achieve them. We want the girls to discover how to achieve their dreams, one step at a time, with the help and support of the amazing women in Soroptimist International of

Riverside and other professional women from the Riverside area.

Our Keynote Speakers this year will be Lt. Col. Jengi Martinez, Pilot in the United States Air Force and Virginia Blumenthal, Criminal Defense Attorney at Blumenthal & Moore.

There will also be many extraordinary women on our panels:

**MEDICAL 1:** Dr. Nicole Baril, General Surgeon, Kaiser Permanente; Brianna Bern, Speech-Language Pathology Assistant, Alvord Unified School District; Dr. Debrina Johnson, Pharmacist, Arine Health

**MEDICAL 2:** Dr. Charlotte Barnes, Optometrist, Barnes Family Practice; Monica Falcon, Physician Assistant General Surgery, Kaiser Permanente; Dr. Sophia Grant, Forensic Pediatrician, Riverside University Health

**BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY:** Saral Arellano, Business Developer, City of Riverside; Cori Kopitzke, Forensic Technician & Forensic Artist, Riverside County Sheriff's Office; Christen Montero, Co-Founder & CMO, BLUE

**LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE SERVICE:** Misty Reynolds, Chief Deputy Sheriff, Riverside County Sheriff's Department; Anna Sanford, Firefighter Paramedic, City of Riverside Fire Department; Jessica Taylor, Community Outreach Specialist, FBI Los Angeles

**LAW & LEGAL:** Joshlyn Pulliam, Superior Court Judge, Riverside County Superior Court; Kasey Sutton-Davidson, Deputy District Attorney, Riverside County District Attorney's Office; Carina Tamayo, IE Deputy Regional

Director of External Affairs, Office of Governor Newsom

**TV & COMMUNICATIONS:** Brooke Federico, Director of Communications, County of Riverside; Alexandra Franklin, Freelance Television & Staff Writer; Miranda Guzman, Producer, Television & Films

**MAY 17, 2024  
RHINESTONES,  
COWGIRLS & AUCTION  
FUNDRAISER**



**SAVE THE  
DATE**

**MAY 17, 2024**

**RHINESTONES,  
COWGIRLS AND AUCTION  
FUNDRAISER**

**CALIFORNIA CITRUS STATE  
HISTORICAL PARK**

**11:30 AM TO 2:30 PM**

**MORE DETAILS TO COME**

## HISTORY WALK



The last newsletter article acknowledged the good work and faithful efforts of local historian Tom Patterson and artist Bette Fauth for their contributions to the Bicentennial History Walk. Other individuals helped to bring the History Walk project to fruition. Indeed, team effort is instrumental in almost all successful projects. The list that follows includes additional contributions by other individuals and a special thank you on behalf of SI Riverside, Tom Patterson and Bette Fauth to:

"Pete" (Martin) Peterson for his excellence in craftsmanship in engraving the stones. Frank Hagen for his contribution to all phases of the project.

Dr. Thomas M. Johnson, Riverside City College, for his assistance as grammarian for the title of the stones.

Robert E. Brown for designing the History Walk layout.

Frank Lewis for the step-by-step photographs and A. M. Lewis, Inc. for the production of the History Walk Booklet.

Esther Klotz and Joyce Vickery for general historical information.

Jean Ames for the use of her "A Legend of Gold."

The City of Riverside for its assistance in all phases of this project.

The Press-Enterprise; and Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Foreman for use of photographs and research assistance.

Fanny H. Allen for the photograph and Reverend William Thomas for information about the first Black Church.

Martin Tobias for the use of his drawing of the Riverside Art Center and Museum.

Dr. Richard G. Brill, California School for the Deaf; March Air Force Base; Frances Calkins, Riverside Opera Association; Robert Dyer, Riverside Community Players; Ruth Place, Dottie Smith, Riverside Art Center and Museum; Edwin Hunter, Gary Byars, Continuous Casting of Aluminum; Paul Anderson, University of California at Riverside, Citrus Experiment Station; Associate Professor Harold Milliken, Dr. James Riggs, Dr. Wilfred Airey, C. J. Pruett, La Sierra College; Dr. Marian Corpelan, Dr. James Pitts, Dr.

Clifton Taylor, Robert Howie, Air Quality Ordinance; for information about these particular stones.

Grateful thanks from Bette Fauth to Tom Patterson for extensive help in obtaining specific information and photographs depicting historic events; and to Frank Lewis, Marjorie Staum, Bonnie Fauth, Kitti Lewis, Don Hagen, Frank

Hagen, Heather Fauth, Bessie O. Nuss, and Warren Fauth for special assistance.

Susan Exon  
History Walk Chair



## SOROPTIMIST LEADERSHIP TRAINING



## Leadership Tip: Identifying and Nurturing Successors

Whether we meet once a week, once a month or even online, every club needs leaders in order to implement our mission of improving the lives of women and girls and guide us in achieving our goals.

Leaders are responsible for setting the pace, motivating and managing. They also have the important task of looking beyond what is happening now and into the future – which should include planning for the passing of the torch to the next person who is taking their place.

Identifying and developing potential leaders for the important roles throughout your club and region is one of the most important legacies you can provide. Having the right people in place is essential for club business to continue to run smoothly and benefits the entire club atmosphere.

An ideal prospective leader should be enthusiastic and knowledgeable about Soroptimist. They should also exhibit leadership competencies – which can take time to develop. And just as honing leadership skills takes time, so does growing new leaders.

This is a process that doesn't happen overnight, so don't wait until the end of the year to wonder who will be the next club president or program chair.

The best way to develop leaders is by creating a space where they can advance naturally so they can develop their plans within a supportive environment. To do that, review the following tips and put them into practice. They'll serve as a guide to help create an environment that ensures a seamless transition when new leaders step into their roles.

### **USE A JOB DESCRIPTION**

Have a written position description of what is involved. Not only does this let potential leaders know exactly what to expect, but it will also instill confidence in them when they can see and understand their responsibilities and goals. View the member resources at [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org) for several sample descriptions.

### **BE A KNOWLEDGE BANK**

Provide as much information (verbal and written) as you can to

give past experiences – both good and bad – as to how success was reached and how challenges were overcome. In a one-on-one meeting, communicate what you know and serve as a resource.

### **WELCOME EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE**

Invite others to get involved in a committee or a project. By making a commitment that is not on a grandiose scale, members will be able to get their feet wet and become more comfortable stepping up in the future.

### **DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITIES**

If you do everything yourself, no one else will have a chance to gain the experience they need in order to become tomorrow's leader. Plus, by seeing they don't have to "do it all" leadership positions instantly become more attractive.

### **SHARE THE WEALTH**

Have co-presidents, co-treasurers, co-chairs, etc. so prospective leaders don't feel like they have the burden of being solely responsible. Each member can build off the other's strengths and pick up where the other exhibits a weakness.

### **LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

Smile! Don't be afraid to show your passion and enthusiasm for Soroptimist and being a leader. This type of behavior motivates and inspires others ... excitement is contagious!

### **YOU NEVER KNOW UNTIL YOU ASK**

It is often reported that people do not volunteer because no one asked them to do so. The same

can be said for leadership. People may not automatically step into a leadership role unless they are approached and simply asked!

### **KNOW WHEN TO STEP DOWN**

If you stay in the same leadership role year after year, others won't even think about stepping into (or on!) your shoes. Also, they may see your 5-year commitment and think that length of service is an expectation they can't or won't meet.

### **TRANSITION GRACEFULLY**

After stepping down from a leadership role, be there to assist with the transition. Provide expertise, guidance and answer questions. Continue to mentor and coach as appropriate.

Keep all of the above when you are investing your time and energy into grooming leaders. Leadership experiences help members develop and enhance skills to be more effective in their personal, professional and volunteer lives. The joy and satisfaction of serving as a leader is realized with the women and girls we help to live their dreams. Remember, new leaders are not your "replacements." They are your successors and their success depends on you!

*From the SIA Website:  
[www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)*



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



Mary Figueroa – 22nd

## FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES



**Pam Bradford**  
2-13-1990

**Annamarie Megrđichian**  
2-22-1996  
**Debbie Kelley**  
2-7-2022

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#### FACEBOOK

Soroptimist Riverside CA

#### INSTAGRAM

soroptimistriverside

#### LINKED IN

www.linkedin.com/company/soroptimist-international-of-riverside

### GOLDEN WEST REGION

#### WEBPAGE

www.goldenwestregion.org

#### FACEBOOK

Soroptimist International Golden West Region

### SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS INC.

1709 Spruce Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-6103

#### WEBPAGE

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#### FACEBOOK

Soroptimist International of the Americas

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#### WEBPAGE

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## SOROPTIMIST PLEDGE



**I pledge allegiance to Soroptimist and to The ideals for which it stands:**

**The Sincerity of Friendship,  
The Joy of Achievement,  
The Dignity of Service,  
The Integrity of Profession,  
The Love of Country.**

**I will put forth my greatest effort to promote, uphold, and defend these ideals, for a larger fellowship in home, in society, in business, for country and for God.**

## RIVERSIDELINES



#### EDITOR

Pam Bradford

#### DEADLINE

Submit articles and photos by the 25th of each month to Pam at:

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