

March 2024

Soroptimist
International of
La Mesa

SOROPTIMIST

A global women's
organization whose
members work to
improve the lives of
women & girls
through programs
leading to social &
economic
empowerment.



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President Savannah's Message



Happy March!

Our club has started off this year with enthusiasm in planning fundraising events and socials. I would like to thank our Live Your Dream committee, chaired by member Chris Jackson, for another successful award process. We gave \$6500 in awards to four very deserving women who are balancing school, work, and parenting. Our Live Your Dream Awards Reception was held this past weekend on February 25th and I enjoyed meeting our awardees and hearing more about their experiences and journeys.

We have some fun events planned for the next few months, too! On April 13th we will be hosting a Bunco event that is sure to be filled with laughter and good company. We will be holding our UnTea Fundraiser in May, and then our annual Sip & Snack Wine Tasting on June 2nd with a return to San Pasqual Tasting Room in downtown La Mesa. Mark your calendars!

We will also have a good representative of members attending our District 3 Winter Meeting on March 3rd, hosted by SI Coronado where we have the opportunity to work alongside other clubs in the region and share ideas.

Lastly, myself and other members will be representing S.I. La Mesa at the La Mesa Chamber of Commerce Spring Fling Business Expo on March 13th from 5:30-7:30. We will have a table where we can provide information about our club to prospective members as well as learn more about other La Mesa businesses and hopefully get some potential partnerships and networking connections from the event. There will be many businesses from the La Mesa area tabling the event, so if it sounds like something you are interested in I encourage you to stop by!

Wishing you all health and happiness!

President Savannah

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 7 - 7:30 am - Business Meeting at Denny's and Zoom

March 2 - 8:30 am - District III Meeting - Coronado

March 21 - 5:30 pm - Board Meeting - Zoom



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY INVEST IN WOMEN - INVEST IN A BETTER WORLD

The Soroptimist theme for International Women's Day 2024 is ***Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress***. The UN recognizes that “Investing in women is a human rights imperative and cornerstone for building inclusive societies.”

Every day, Soroptimists like you and I invest our time, resources and hearts into helping women and girls.

And we see the difference our investments can make now and in the future. For example, one of my club's *Live Your Dream Awards* recipients finished her degree and found stable employment. She then set up a nonprofit network that helps fellow survivors of abuse get back on their feet. We invested in her, and she invested in her community.

International Women's Day offers many opportunities to tell our stories and affirm why each of us is proud to invest in women. There's the new [Walk for Women](#), the International Women's Day [Tea Party](#) and SIA's parallel [CSW event](#). So much is happening! As we work collectively toward our 2021-2031 Big Goal of investing in the dreams of half a million women and girls, it's great to be able to celebrate our progress with these events.

There are so many important causes demanding our attention, it can be tough to choose. But the UN reminds us that equality is at the heart of progress. “Ensuring women's and girls' rights across all aspects of life is the only way to secure prosperous and just economies, and a healthy planet for future generations.”

SIA 2-21-2024

LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARDS EVENT

FEBRUARY 24, 2024



Award Winners: Hazeina, Griselda, Elizabeth, Meschelle

Hazeina

Hazeina was born and raised in Northern Iraq and lived in a small village with her family and walked to another village in order to attend school. She hoped to pursue higher education after moving to the United States but ultimately moved back to Iraq. Hazeina eventually returned to the US with her children. She is attending Cuyamaca College and plans to achieve her A.S. degree in Child development. She is shown at right with her son, daughter and mother.



GRISELDA

Griselda moved to the U.S. at age 15 and began her education at Hoover High School but was unable to complete her schooling due to childcare needs. She earned her GED and received her A.A. in Spanish from San Diego City College and is pursuing her B.A. in Spanish at SDSU while working as an interpreter for the San Diego Superior Court. Griselda is shown at right with her daughter.



LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARDS EVENT - CONTINUED

Elizabeth

Elizabeth is a mother of six and the first in her family to attend college. She has persevered through substance addiction which has led her to become a Social Worker. She holds an A.A. in Social Work and Human Arts and is completing her B.A. in Social Work at SDSU. She plans to pursue a graduate education and become a Medical Social Worker. Elizabeth is active in the Mothers and MothersScholars (MAMS and Rising Scholars. Elizabeth is seated at right with her family.



Meschelle

Meschelle is a mother of four and a survivor of domestic abuse who is currently pursuing an AA in Social Work from Cuyamaca College. Her goal is to transfer to SDSU for her Bachelor's Degree. She is passionate about working to help children. Meschelle is shown at right with her family.



Thank you to the Live Your Dream Judges:

Lois Knowlton

Community College Administrator and Educator

Shareka White

Director, Office of Educational Opportunity Programs,
Outreach and Success at San Diego State University

Thank You to our Live Your Dream Committee:

Chris Jackson, Chair

Denise Lorenz

June Bredestege

Linda Barbod

UPCOMING EVENTS



Club Program Meeting - March 14, 2024
7:30 am - Denny's Restaurant on Fletcher Parkway
Public Invited

Wanni Mena
Emergency Service Program Administrator

Children of the Immaculate Heart (CIH) serves survivors of trafficking
in San Diego.

Wanna states:

"We provide services resulting in holistic healing, primarily through therapy, job training, case management, education, assistance with housing navigation, and more. Through means of allowing Our Lady to work through us, we aim to restore everyone - our clients, our staff, and our supporters - in the same Jesus Christ.

Over the years of working with nonprofits I found it was imperative to merge deeper into the diverse population. I have served by volunteering with youths in jeopardy, immigrant programs, with substance abuse individuals, domestic violence, court advocate and supporting victims of crimes to gain some the necessary experiences and understanding of their traumas."

UPCOMING EVENTS



**DESERT COAST REGION
DISTRICT III
WINTER MEETING**
PERSEVERE THROUGH THE JOURNEY

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024
CHECK IN: 8:30 AM
MEETING: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

CORONADO COMMUNITY CENTER
NAUTILUS ROOM
1845 STRAND WAY
CORONADO, CA 92118

MEETING FOCUS WILL BE ON
PUBLIC AWARENESS & FUNDRAISING

HOSTED BY SI CORONADO
LIGHT BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROVIDED

REGISTRATION DEADLINE
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024
\$41 NON DELEGATES \$36 DELEGATES

MAIL CHECK & REGISTRATION
TERRI WELTER
PO BOX 81766
SAN DIEGO, CA 92138



**Sorooptimist International
Ramona**

Hawaiian Bunco

Silent Auction & Raffle
Must be 21 to participate...

Saturday, March 23rd
Check-In Starts at 4:30 pm
4:30 pm - 9:30 pm

San Vicente Resort
24157 San Vicente Rd, Ramona, CA 92065
\$65.00 Per Player

Ticket Price Includes:
Entry Fee to Play, Pulled Pork, Sesame Seed Buns, Beans,
Coleslaw, Iced Tea, 1 Adult Beverage, 1 Raffle Ticket

How To Sign-Up:
www.SIRamona.com/tickets

2018-2019
**SOROPTIMIST
CLUBGIVING**
We Support
Women & Girls

2019-2020
**SOROPTIMIST
CLUBGIVING**
We Support
Women & Girls

2020-2021
**SOROPTIMIST
CLUBGIVING**
We Support
Women & Girls

2021-2022
**SOROPTIMIST
CLUBGIVING**
We Support
Women & Girls

March Club Member Birthdays

March 3 - Lisa Moore
March 8 - Marlene DeMers

You are invited to the
Sorooptimist International of Alpine

AWARDS DINNER

Friday, March 15, 2024

5:30 pm
Alpine Women's Club
2156 Alpine Blvd., Alpine, CA 91901

Recognizing our 2024 Live Your Dream Awardees
\$20 donation (501C3 Organization)



PLEASE RSVP BY EMAILING SOROPTIMISTALPINE@GMAIL.COM



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
OF SAN DIEGO
PRESENTS

MAKE YOURSELF COUNT!

**SPRING LYD AWARDS LUNCHEON,
BOUTIQUE & FASHION SHOW**



MARCH 9, 2024
SYCUAN CASINO RESORT
EL CAJON, CA
WWW.SISANDIEGO.ORG





Soroptimist International of La Mesa

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Soroptimist is a global women's organization whose members volunteer to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. Approximately 80,000 Soroptimist in 130 countries and territories support community-based and global projects benefiting women and girls. The organization is particularly concerned with providing women and girls access to education, as this is the most effective path to self-determination.

The name Soroptimist means "best for women" and that's what the organization strives to achieve. Soroptimists are women at their best working together to help other women to be their best.

Business Meeting - First Thursday of each Month - 7:30 am at Denny's on Fletcher Parkway and on Zoom.

Program Meetings will be announced one month before occurring.

Third Thursday of each Month—Committee Meeting - As needed

Notes: Only one meeting is held in the months of July and August—date to be determined by club President

Scribbles Editor: Linda Newell - Contact: scribbles@silamesa.org

Officers, Board Members and Delegates - 2023-2024

President: Savannah Henderson

Past President: Elena Totten

President-Elect/Fundraising: Elizabeth Roth

Director - One Year: Dolores Kelly

Vice-President/Programs of Service: Anne DiNapoli

Director - Two Years: Felis Wolven

Recording Secretary: Linda Newell

Delegate - One Year: Becky Burgstiner.

Treasurer: Linda Barbod

Delegate - Two Years: Denise Lorenz

Corresponding Secretary: Christina Jackson

If you wish to unsubscribe to this newsletter, please contact Linda Newell - newell92071@gmail.com

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