May 2026

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 Lisa's Message

Dear Readers,

May is a wonderful time of year in San Diego, offering a sense of renewal before the summer heat arrives. It is fitting that this season coincides with a time of reflection on our mission to improve the lives of women and girls through education.

Several of our members recently attended the 47th annual Desert Coast Region Spring Conference in Santa Ana. The weekend was filled with informative workshops, the installation of the 2026-2028 biennium officers, and a celebration of the region level Live Your Dream awardees.

I am also proud to share that SI La Mesa was recognized at the conference for our 75th anniversary. This milestone is a testament to the hard work of our members over the decades, and I am honored to continue supporting the legacy they built.

As we move through the month, please keep the following in mind:

- Upcoming Events: Please mark your calendars for our scheduled May and June meetings and keep checking upcoming issues of Scribbles for information on our 2026-27 annual planning meeting.
- Membership Participation: I encourage you to remain active in our upcoming activities to help our club thrive.
- Spring (and beyond) Projects: I look forward to your collaboration on new community service projects in 2026-27.
- Health and Wellbeing: In the spirit of the season, let's continue to support one another's health and motivation.

Thank you for your continued dedication and for contributing to the vibrant spirit of our club.

Wishing you all a wonderful May,

President Lisa

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Business Meeting: May 7, 2026 (7:30 am @ Denny's)
Board Meeting: May 21, 2026 (5:00 pm on Zoom)

SOLT - Soroptimist Orientation, Leadership and Training

SI La Mesa Attendees: Marlene DeMers, Linda Newell, Savannah Henderson, Frances Wolven, Elena Totten, Felis Wolven and seated - President Lisa McCully

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE AMERICAS
DESERT COAST REGION

SOROPTIMIST
Investing in Dreams

LEGACY CLUB REGOGNITION

75+ YEARS OF SERVICE

This certificate is proudly presented to

Soroptimist International of La Mesa

In celebration of achieving Legacy Club status through 75+ years of service to Soroptimist and to the advancement of women and girls.

For generations, your club has demonstrated extraordinary dedication to service, leadership, and community impact. Your history reflects a deep and ongoing commitment to improving the lives of women and girls.

Your legacy stands as a powerful testament to the strength of collective action and the enduring spirit of Soroptimist.

WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE, WE HONOR YOUR REMARKABLE HISTORY, YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS, AND YOUR CONTINUED IMPACT FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

PRESENTED ON MAY 2, 2026
AT THE DESERT COAST REGION CONFERENCE

Bonnie Mendenhall
Governor, Desert Coast Region

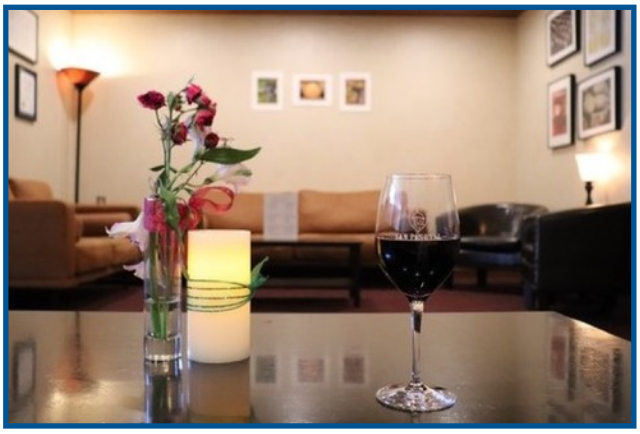
Terri Welter
Governor-Elect, Desert Coast Region

This year's theme, "Beehave to Take Action" is a call to move beyond inspiration and into meaningful impact. It challenges us to turn ideas into action, strengthen our leadership and continue advancing Soroptimist's mission - improving the lives of women and girls through access to education and empowerment.

SI La Mesa's Sip and Snack Wine Tasting

April 19, 2026

San Pasqual WineryTasting Room and Gallery



Thank you to those who joined us for this event.

SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

April 2026

SI/La Mesa, CA

Dear Club President,

Please accept my most heartfelt congratulations on your club's 75-year anniversary! A significant anniversary such as this provides the opportunity to reflect upon and celebrate your many accomplishments locally and what you are a part of globally.

SIA recently celebrated 100 years of working together to ensure women and girls have the resources and opportunities they need to achieve their full potential and live their dreams. We also celebrate your club as you reach a milestone in service alongside our global organization.

As we look back on this legacy, we also look to the future. We are working together toward our 2021-2031 Big Goal of investing in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education. This audacious goal will continue to increase our collective impact by helping four times the number of women and girls facing obstacles to economic empowerment as served in the prior decade. This is a big, bold goal, and we honor the Soroptimists who came before us as we, too, envision a future where all women have the opportunity to live their dreams.

As you celebrate this milestone anniversary, I encourage your club to take some time to reflect on the life-changing programs that you've carried out in your community over the years. Consider the many Live Your Dream Award recipients who have benefitted from your club's commitment to economically empowering women. Remember the faces of Dream It, Be It program participants as they learned practical lessons about overcoming obstacles.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, headquarters staff, and the women and girls we serve, I congratulate your club for advancing our mission through our programs and through contributions that make our programs possible. We are so proud to celebrate your club's longevity. We eagerly look forward to SIA's brilliant future!

Sincerely,

Sue Riney, 2025-2026 President
Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.

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Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment, specifically those facing significant obstacles.

live YOUR dream
education & training awards for women

STAT!
Soroptimists Together Against Trafficking
SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

LIVE YOUR DREAM

STAT! screenings of *The Journey* in January 2026.

Thank You!

Your support allows us to address the needs of local trafficking survivors and to educate parents, teens and the public about the risks of human trafficking.

Upcoming Events

President Lisa's Monthly Reminders:
SILM Members: Don't forget to record your In-Kind donations to our club this month!
Click this link to list all monetary or service hour contributions to our club.

We've got a date! Looking for your copy of the SILM Club Calendar? Click this link for the most updated calendar of events.

SI La Mesa Members Birthdays

May 12 - Linda Newell

May 18 - Savannah Henderson

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

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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.

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 - 2025-2026

President: Lisa McCully

President-Elect/Fundraising: Linda Barbod

Vice-President/Programs of Service: Open

Recording Secretary: Felis Wolven

Treasurer: Savannah Henderson

Corresponding Secretary: Kristen Frelke

Past President: Linda Newell

Director - One Year: Becky Burgstiner

Director - Two Years: Elena Totten

Delegate - One Year: Frances Wolven

Delegate - Two Years: Sara Yates

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

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