



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

Soroptimist International of the Americas

SIERRA PACIFIC REGION NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 3

www.sierrapacificregion.org

Winter 2018

Welcome!

Calendar of Events & Deadlines

2018 A few important dates:

February

1 Live Your Dream Awards new club funding paperwork due to SIAHQ

1 Live Your Dream Awards club transmittals due to region

March

1 Deadline for receipt of Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls applications at headquarters

2 Mail ballot for SIA 2018-2019 President-elect sent to clubs

8 International Women's Day

15 Live Your Dream Awards region applications and transmittals due to headquarters

April

1 Sierra Pacific Region Shaping the Future – Working as One Contest Deadline

May

3 President- elect ballots due at headquarters

3 Sierra Pacific Region Board Meeting

4-6 42nd Sierra Pacific Region Conference Springhill Suites-Marriott Paso Robles/Atascadero

Happy New Year! I hope this newsletter finds each of you ready to greet 2018 with excitement, zeal and ready to make dreams come true.

Many of us partake in the tradition of making New Year's resolutions and /or goal setting, myself included. If you are part of the 45% who do, how did Soroptimist fit in to your equation? Attend more meetings; be involved in more service projects; recruit a new member; be more organized. Do any of these things sound a bit familiar? Hopefully after attending the President's Round Tables this month, I was able to demonstrate how to simplify all things Soroptimist!

In February, the Region board will begin planning our Region Conference. Shortly thereafter you will receive the "Call". Please pay attention to your club emails. This year we will try an electronic form to track information needed for registration. This will allow us to streamline the process needed for meals and other data. We are also searching for possibilities for clubs or members to pay with credit or debit cards!

Live Your Dream: February 1st deadline will be here before we know it. If your club has an abundance of applicants that your club can't award, be sure to pass that information to our LYD Chair, Bonnie White Silveria. Or better yet, consider increasing the number of awards that your club will honor this year!

In all things Soroptimist, best of luck in 2018! Let's make this a great year for the women and girls in each of our communities.

In Service,

Governor Tana

A global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

Membership Recognition by Amory Rae Marple

I touched on the subject just this last December, but I wanted to elaborate a bit more since it's such an important topic that oftentimes gets left out. As I stated in the Pillar Post, we need to show our members we appreciate their hard work and dedication to our mission.

Appreciation is a fundamental human need. Members respond to appreciation expressed through recognition of their good work because it confirms their work is valued by others. When members and their work are valued, their satisfaction and productivity rise, and they are motivated to maintain or improve their good work.

Praise and recognition are essential to an outstanding organization. People want to be respected and valued by others for their contribution. Everyone feels the need to be recognized as an individual or member of a group and to feel a sense of achievement for work well done or even for a valiant effort. Everyone wants a 'pat on the back' to make them feel good.

The 'pat on the back' can be used in many different ways to make your members feel good. As suggested, you can have time during a meeting spent

towards handing out awards. You can add it to your Live Your Dream Awards Banquet. You can do a public "Shout Out" and post it on Facebook or in your Newsletter with a picture. Try your best to include as many members as possible or keep up with rotating fewer awards so others don't feel left out. These are low cost, minimal solutions for a better group morale.

Here are some ideas for silly, but meaningful awards:

- *Bubbles Award:* For always having a bubbly and enthusiastic attitude
- *Wikipedia Award:* For always having the answers to every question
- *Quarterback Award:* For best at handing off work
- *Running with the Bulls Award:* For biggest risk taker
- *Swiss Army Knife Award:* For most indispensable
- *Mission Impossible Award:* For accomplishing the impossible
- *Duct Tape Award:* For being able to fix just about anything
- *Dewey Decimal Award:* For most well-organized

- *Champagne Award:* For sparkling personality
- *Bunsen Burner Award:* For the hottest ideas
- *99% Perspiration Award:* for willingness to put in the hard work
- *Carpe Diem Award:* For making the most of everything
- *First Responder Award:* For always being ready to go when needed
- *ATM Fee Award:* For slowly draining our bank account (in a good way)
- *Fourth and Long Award:* For most likely to come through in the clutch
- *Ten Point Buck Award:* For excellence in talking a "big game"
- *Head Cheerleader Award:* For most Soroptimist spirit
- *Baby's Bottom Award:* For smoothest in times of crisis
- *Kool & the Gang Award:* For excellence in Group Work
- *The Raisin Award:* For most deserving of a "raisin pay"

Sierra Pacific Region
Membership Chair
Amory Rae Marple

Fund Raising by Barbara Giambastini

When your club makes a club giving contribution of at least 10% of funds raised locally you help ensure that our federation can increase the number of women and girls that will benefit from our global programs.

Women and girls continue to be at a disadvantage in every country throughout the world simply because of their gender.



Twenty million disadvantaged women and girls need our help. Soroptimists have the knowledge – the experience – the passion and the programs. Additional funds would help

these deserving women and girls live their dreams.

Has your club made the commitment to 10% club giving?

Programs by Gail Dekreon Program Chair and Governor-Elect

YOUR CLUB CAN WIN \$1000 FOR DREAM IT, BE IT!

All you need to do is submit a special *Club Reporting and Evaluation Form* found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/dibi-17-18> and send it in before June 1, 2018 to be entered into a raffle to win \$1,000.00 for your club's 2018-2019 Dream It, Be It project. Now that is easy and who doesn't like a raffle?????

Did you know that *LiveYourDream.org* has a new advocate to get the word out?

Recently a group of women-only singer-songwriters, the *Song Suffragettes*, released a

cover of "*Female*," [go to https://youtu.be/YoxmLtFt_cE] also recorded by country superstar **Keith Urban**. The *Song Suffragettes* generously dedicated the song's release and proceeds to raise awareness for LiveYourDream.org! Listen to the song above and check out this guest blog by **Kalie Shorr** of the *Song Suffragettes*, who

shares her story of growing up in tough times, how she fell in love with country music, what inspires her work, and why she's using her voice to empower women and girls. <http://yourdream.liveyourdream.org/2017/11/country-artist-kalie-shorr-on-nashville-girl-power-bravery/>



Public Awareness by Kate McGuire/Joelle Leder-Rule/Leanne Davis

Have You Heard The News?

If you haven't already done so, check out the latest SIA e-newsletter at

<http://www.soroptimistsummary.org/> where you may be pleasantly surprised at some great opportunities being offered to your club. It's a major resource in many ways for all of us.

For instance, how would your Soroptimist club like to win an extra \$1,000 for its 2018-19 Dream It, Be It program? You could if you entered a raffle no later than June 1, 2018, sponsored by our national headquarters. All the details on how to enter the raffle are in the December/January e-newsletter.

The same edition also has some tips on how to choose your Live Your Dream (LYD) winners, how to select individuals to

judge the entries and a helpful evaluation form.

And that's not all—there's a new SIA website on the horizon. According to SIA headquarters, they have spent most of the past year redesigning the website to make it more impactful, vibrant, engaging and mobile-friendly, which is great news. The site will apparently launch soon so stay tuned.

In a related message in the November edition, you may recall that the SIA website login was updated on December 11. To log in to the website to add new members, make donations, interact with SIA member directories, or any of the SIA tools behind the login, you needed to change your passwords to at least seven characters, including one letter

and one number. The changes are in accordance with requirements for Payment Card Industry (PCI) compliance on websites that interact with credit card companies, according to SIA headquarters.

The latest edition also has some great statistics that you can use to pitch to prospective new members and to the press when you get the chance. For example, nearly \$2.2 million has been awarded to more than 1,400 LYD award-winning women over the last year, and 96 percent of them say the awards have increased their self-esteem. Even more importantly, 80 percent of our LYD recipients who have completed their education experienced an increased standard of living.

That's what we call success!

Secretary Tip by Laura Cross

You can write good minutes without a lot of grief if you remember to keep it simple and understand that what is important is what was *done* in the meeting. Good minutes have these characteristics:

- ✓ Have meaningful headings to help the reader
- ✓ Are organized with separate paragraphs for each subject item
- ✓ Are written using plain English and simple sentences
- ✓ Contain adequate (but not too much) detail
- ✓ Avoid the phrase "Respectfully Submitted" (it is now



District I

Happy New Year, One and All!

I'm writing this on January 1, following the annual Rose Bowl Parade. This year's parade theme was "Making a Difference," and co-host Hoda Kotb said in a recent interview "the only way to make yourself or anyone feel better is to make a difference in someone else's life."

We as Soroptimists know this; in fact, we live this, as individuals and as active members of our clubs. This spring, our clubs will be holding their Live Your Dream awards ceremonies and giving much-needed awards to very deserving women. In fact, our North San Mateo County club gave their awards before the holidays. What a wonderful time to gift a woman who is trying to plan a joyful holiday season for her family. Our District I clubs also continue to grow their awards and "follow up" on "beyond cash award" gifts. Thank you!

Making a Difference in young women's lives is the goal of our Dream It, Be It program, and District I clubs have found creative ways to present this program through partnerships and integrating the curriculum into existing girls' programs. We are making a difference at a critical time in young women's lives through our DIBI programs by giving them the survival skills and inspiration they need to continue their education and lead healthy and productive lives. Again, thank you!

How is all this achieved? Here's a list of some of this year's District I fund raising activities.

SI North San Mateo County will hold their annual "Step into Spring" on March 2.

SI Santa Clara-Silicon Valley will hold their annual Classy Bag Affaire on February 24.

SI San Francisco held a Beauty Night "Benefit Cosmetics" at Chestnut Boutique and will include a silent auction at their Annual Awards Luncheon this spring

SI Los Gatos-Saratoga held a "Cabi" clothing party and a "Premier Designs" jewelry party with a percentage of proceeds going to the club. Presently they're selling raffle tickets for a 1-week Kauai vacation featuring 2 adjoining condos which sleep a total of 6. Tickets are \$100; raffle is May 17.

SI Capitola-by-the-Sea held a delicious "Evening at Shadowbrook" with 30% of proceeds going to the club. They'll also be renting seating accessories again this summer at Santa Cruz Shakespeare.

SI Salinas is holding their annual "San Francisco Shopping Trip" on February 3 – always a fun day!

SI Carmel Bay just finished wrapping a LOT of packages at their annual "Gift Wrap Station" at

a local shopping center. Carmel Bay & Salinas also held their annual joint Personal Endeavor Day featuring lovely hand-crafted items.

SI San Luis Obispo held their 1st Annual "Bags to Benefit" luncheon, raffle, and more in November. It was a huge success.

SI Watsonville held their annual Fall Fantasy with a "Great Gatsby" theme and followed it with a Holiday Boutique at Annieglass in December. They're planning a spring Personal Endeavor Day.

For information on any of these events or activities, please contact the club president.

The commitment, creativity, and dedication of all our members is so inspiring, and the fruits of our labor make such a difference in the lives of the women and girls in our communities and beyond. I hope all of you know how much you are appreciated. I also hope that 2018 gives us renewed energy to continue our efforts to Make a Difference. Now, more than ever, the challenge falls on our shoulders to Make a Difference and inspire others to do the same.

With great appreciation and best wishes for a terrific 2018!

Jan King, District I Director

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SIA Summary:
<http://www.sroptimistsummary.org/>

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District III

I am so grateful that we had such a wonderful attendance at the President's Round Table. All of you truly inspire me and one of my favorite things about holding this office is learning from you.

I hope this year has gotten off to a great start and that you face an abundance of new opportunities, beautiful moments, and joyful experiences. May your positive actions and attitude inspire others as we work to fulfill our mission of improving the lives of women and girls.

All the best,

Janet Manos

District III Director

District II

Well, here I sit the last day of 2017. What can I say that is wise and insightful to close out 2017?

Nothing quite comes to mind except HAPPY NEW YEAR! May 2018 be more fun and exciting as 2017 was!

2018 will bring more information to you through District II's Presidents' Roundtable to be held January 20, 2018, at the Oakdale Golf and Country Club. Please, Presidents, President-Elects and Vice Presidents notify me if you will be attending or, if you cannot, someone who can. Thank you for those who already have.

During the last few months, I have had the good fortune to visit SI Manteca, SI Ceres, and SI Patterson.

Each club is always on top of things preparing for their upcoming events. SI Turlock is moving right along. Congratulations to the ladies of Turlock who have taken the baton of leadership and making things happen. I am so proud of you and will be back to see you shortly! Next upcoming visits will be to SI Lodi and SI Oakdale, SI Modesto, and SI Modesto North. Soon Spring will be showing her beautiful colors and up to SI Amador, SI Calaveras, and SI Twain Harte I will be heading.

Remember Spring Conference will be here before you know it so get those pictures submitted to me as soon as possible so we may share all your prime activities for the year with the Sierra Pacific Region.

Again, in closing, I wish to thank each one for being the best and aiding my office as District II Director. You make my life easy!!

Blessings to Everyone and Happy New Year

Yolanda Rivera