

November 2019

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.



## President Lisa's Message



October was a busy month! By the time this is read, we will have entertained the many gremlins and goblins that rang our door bells on Halloween eve! Each year I buy candy that I love, knowing there will not be many trick or treaters coming to our house as it is hard to reach. A very well thought out plan don't you think!!

November is also a great month! It's time to celebrate Thanksgiving and enjoy the turkey and all the fixings!! We stop and think about all that we are thankful for. We must be thankful for the thousands of firefighters and first responders who are away from their families fighting the tremendous fires in California!! Along with my family, I am also thankful for all the great friends I have made during my 41 yrs. as a Soroptimist, all working together with the common goal of improving the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. Our club members are busy finalizing all the plans that are involved with hosting our 62nd Annual Pre-Thanksgiving Breakfast on Wed. Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>. This year we are honoring "Those Making a Positive Impact in the Fight Against Human Trafficking". It's such a great way to kick off the holiday season!!

Our District 3 Fall meeting was held Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>, with 10 members of SI La Mesa attending. We received certificates for participating in the Dream It Be It: Career Support for Girls program; Club Giving at the Dream Believers level for our 2018-2019 contributions; Participating in the Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards for Women; a Certificate of Appreciation in honor of our efforts to increase SIA's collective impact; and a Certificate in celebration of the success of the award-winning project: Live Your Dream Award Collaborative 2018-19!! We are very proud to be recognized!!

I wish to thank the members of SI La Mesa for continuing to embrace my theme "Inspiring Ourselves in Soroptimist Service, Membership and Leadership."

*President Lisa*

- Inside this issue:
- President's Message
- SOLT
- Club News
- Upcoming Events

### Upcoming club activities:

All club meetings are held at **Denny's - Navajo and Fletcher Parkway** 7:30 AM unless otherwise indicated.

- Nov. 7 - Business Meeting
- Nov. 14 - Program Meeting
- Nov. 21 - Committee Meeting if needed
- Nov. 27 - 62nd Annual Pre-Thanksgiving Breakfast

## “I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO SOROPTIMISM.....”

We say this every time we meet, with head held high and proud of mien,  
Remembering our high ideals, it's “saying” is not mere routine.

The sincerity of friendship is the “tie that binds” each one to each;  
Knowing that support and love is ever there within our reach.

Achievement is a thing of joy, and with it comes fulfillment, too.  
Accomplishment of well-laid plans can mean that fondest dreams come true.

Our professions are a source of pride. An enhancement of our self-esteem;  
Woven throughout-integrity - in every vision, every dream.

Then, the ideal for which we stand, that probably heads all the rest,  
Is love of country-this great land-knowing it deserves our best.

Our efforts we all put forth to promote, uphold, and to defend  
These standards on which dignity and heritage do both depend.

Certainly, fellowship abound, be it at home; be it abroad;  
For society throughout the world, for business, country and for God.

And so we pledge allegiance to Soroptimism, near and far;  
Applying our wisdom, talent, skills, through services spectacular.

Written by Marguarite J. Grams, Charter and Life Member – SI Virginia  
Submitted by Becky Burgstiner, SI La Mesa

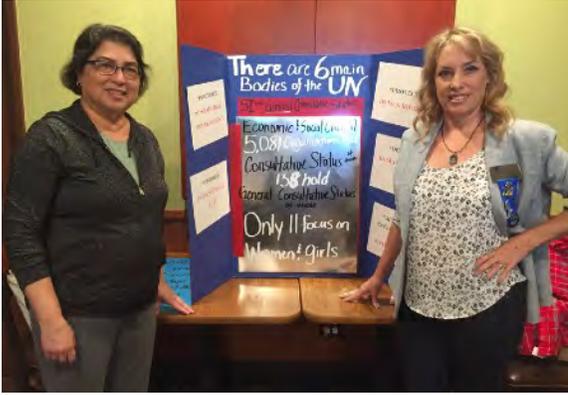
THANK YOU! WE ARE DELIGHTED  
TO ANNOUNCE WE HAVE  
REACHED £405,000 FOR THE 2017-  
19 APPEAL!



**Congratulations** to ALL our Soroptimist Sisters who raised funds for the SI Presidents Appeal 2017-2019 **Women, Water and Leadership**. We have reached the target of 400,000 Pounds Sterling which is a phenomenal effort.

Just another reason that I love being a member of Soroptimist International.

Chris Knight SI Global Ambassador



Felis Wolven, SILM Program Chair and Michelle Vanderlinden-Enfield

The program speaker for October was Michelle Vanderlinden-Enfield who spoke about her experience as a 2019 delegate at the United Nations, Commission on the Status of Women 63rd Session, in conjunction with Soroptimist International and Women for Water Partnership. Soroptimist has general Consultative status at the U.N and is one organization of 138 at this level and only eleven focus on women and girls.

Soroptimist International has the right to sit in on high level forums and panels on the Commission on Status of Women - the largest female oriented committee in the world.

Michelle shared information from the many committees and forums she attended. On Consultation Day there were speakers on different topics including: Afghan Girls, Sustainability Programs, Child Marriage, Female Mutilation, Hygiene and Sanitation (1.5 million children die each year of unhygienic conditions) , Gender Parity and Transinternational Migration.

Information she shared from her experience included:

300 million women in the world are widows - including 10% of women in India and millions of girls are missing a week of school each month due to menstruation and lack of hygiene products and thankfully, machines are being made that make reusable pads.

Soroptimist is most interested in education, gender equality and clean water and hygiene. Many of these forums are open to the public and Michelle encouraged us to attend a Commission on the Status of Women event in NYC. They are held for two weeks every March and anyone can pay the fee to attend. You do not have to be a delegate to attend the plethora of panels, events and forums by groups and individuals which work hard year round for gender equality.



Soroptimist International of La Mesa wishes you a day full of blessings, good food, loving companions and peace.

On October 24, SILM provided dinner to the participants of Rachel's Women's Center. A big thank you to Tom who has donated Church's chicken to our dinner for many months. The chicken was paired with potato salad, green salad, chips, fresh fruit and dessert. The tables were decorated with flowers and with candy and decorations for the Halloween Holiday. David honored the ladies who had birthdays in October by playing Happy Birthday on his trumpet.

*The Center's Vision is: To be an exemplary leader in recognizing the intrinsic value of each woman by assisting women with few or no resources to achieve an improved quality of life, to become healthy, fulfilled, and contributing members of society.*

*The Center's Mission is: To provide a safe, supportive, sober environment and opportunities for women with few or no resources to gather, begin, and continue self-help efforts.*

### **DID YOU KNOW THAT THANKSGIVING was established as a Holiday in the U.S. largely due to the efforts of one Woman?**

In 1827, the noted magazine editor and prolific writer Sarah Josepha Hale (among her poems and prose was the nursery rhyme, "Mary had a Little Lamb") launched a campaign to establish Thanksgiving as a national holiday. For 36 years, she published numerous editorials and sent scores of letters to governors, senators, presidents, and other politicians. Abraham Lincoln finally heeded her request in 1863, at the height of the Civil War. He scheduled Thanksgiving for the final Thursday in November, and it was celebrated on that day every year until 1939, when Franklin D. Roosevelt moved the holiday up a week in an attempt to spur retail sales during the Great Depression. Roosevelt's plan, known derisively as "Franksgiving," was met with passionate opposition, and in 1941 the president reluctantly signed a bill making Thanksgiving the fourth Thursday in November.



The District III Fall Workshop which was hosted by SI La Jolla at the Marina Village Conference Center at Quivira Basin was attended by SILM members Marlene DeMers, President Lisa Moore, Linda Newell, Frances Wolven, Becky Burgstiner, Dolores Kelly, Lisa McCully, Felis Wolven and Elena Totten.

The theme of the workshop was **TEND TO OUR GARDENS - DREAM THE POSSIBILITIES!**

# PLEASE JOIN US!!!



## **“Honoring Those Making a Positive Impact in the Fight Against Human Trafficking”**

**MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES**

**Geni Cavitt**  
TV Personality

**FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Yusef Miller**

**Founder, Mosques Against Trafficking,**  
Pink Crescent, Clergy for the Coastline, and the Racial Justice Coalition

\*\*\*\*\*

**Wednesday, November 27, 2019**

Handlery Hotel, 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego  
7:00am – 9:00am

Online Registration at [www.silamesa.org/event/tgb2019](http://www.silamesa.org/event/tgb2019)

Attendees are invited to donate nonperishable food for the Holiday Food Drive  
To help the San Diego Rescue Mission end hunger

~ ~ ~

**Breakfast Buffet – Raffle Prize Drawing**

Drawing Tickets: \$5 each or 5 for \$20 (need not be present to win)

*Soroptimist International of La Mesa, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Founded in 1921, Soroptimist International is a service organization of business and executive women who work to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. FIN95-6093367*



### **MAIL-IN RESERVATION FORM – 62nd ANNUAL PRE-THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY BREAKFAST**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats @ **\$45.00 per person** (open seating)

Please use my additional contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help sponsor breakfast for honorees

Your Name and all guest names (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address City & Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to SI La Mesa, and mail to: **SI La Mesa P.O. Box 637, La Mesa, CA 91944**

**RSVP Deadline is November 20, 2019**

**PLEASE SHARE THIS EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING AWARD  
OPPORTUNITY WITH ELIGIBLE WOMEN.**

# Ready to begin a new life?

The Soroptimist *Live Your Dream: Education & Training Awards for Women* program has been helping women around the world since 1972. This program provides cash grants to women who are working to better their lives through additional schooling and skills training.



## You are eligible to apply if you:

---

are a woman with primary financial responsibility for yourself and your dependents

---

are attending an undergraduate degree program or a vocational skills training program

---

have financial need

**Apply for a *LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARD* at  
[bit.ly/LYDA-apply](http://bit.ly/LYDA-apply) OR contact:**

Soroptimist International of La Mesa

Name: Jennifer Cosio

Email: [jalmenarm@hotmail.com](mailto:jalmenarm@hotmail.com)

Phone: 619-548-9375

Online: [silamesa.org](http://silamesa.org)

Club Application Deadline: November 15, 2019

Amount of Club Award: \$1,000 to \$4,000

Notes: Please be sure and put the La Mesa Zip Code - 91944 in your application.



powered by volunteers of  
**SOROPTIMIST®**



empowered by activists of  
**LIVEYOURDREAM.ORG®**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **STAT! Soroptimist Together Against Trafficking**

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019 - 5:30 pm  
4747 Viewridge Street, San Diego, CA**

### **November Birthdays**

**November 12 - Becky Burgstiner  
November 15 - Dolores Kelly**

**SI La Mesa will be providing dinner to the ladies at  
Rachel's Center for Women on:  
Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>  
Contact Maudie or Christine if you are able to participate.**

**The speaker for our next program meeting on Thursday, November 14, 2019. The speaker  
will be *Stephanie Hernandez* – EV Incentives & options- Center for Sustainable Energy.  
The Public is invited to join us at 7:30 am at Denny's Restaurant - Fletcher Parkway and  
Navajo.**

**To support SI La Mesa, please go to Smile Amazon and select Soroptimist International of La Mesa as your  
charity and a portion of your purchases will benefit the women and girls we serve..  
If you would like to purchase gift cards for the holidays, please contact the club at [silamesa.org](http://silamesa.org). There is a  
wide variety of cards available for graduation, birthday or other special days.**



[Take One Step](#) by attending our 46<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention in Bellevue, Washington, USA! We are pleased to announce [Robyn Benincasa](#) will join us to explore the importance of breakthrough performance through collaboration, creativity and the culture of ONE!

There is so much fun, friendship and learning in store. Plus, be there as we kick off Soroptimist's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration!

Registration will open this month! Current convention hotel rates and information, registration rates, and meal options are available on the [SIA Convention page](#). Be sure to follow the [Soroptimist 46th Biennial Convention —Bellevue 2020](#) Facebook page for updates on speakers, tours and other exciting details!

# Soroptimist International of La Mesa

PO Box 637

La Mesa, CA 91944

Contact: President Lisa Moore - [trvlexpo@att.net](mailto:trvlexpo@att.net)

[www.silamesa.org](http://www.silamesa.org)

Find us on Facebook



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.

## Regular Meeting schedule after Summer Break

All club meetings are held at 7:30 a.m. Denny's Restaurant 2691 Navajo Road, El Cajon, CA 92020 Phone: (619) 460-6420 unless otherwise indicated.

First Thursday of each Month—Business Meetings

Second Thursday of each Month—Program Meeting

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: [lindanewell@silamesa.org](mailto:lindanewell@silamesa.org)

## Officers, Board Members and Delegates - 2019-2020

President: Lisa Moore

Director - One Year: Dolores Kelly

President-Elect- Fundraising Chair: Lisa McCully

Director - Two Years: Becky Burgstiner

Recording Secretary: Linda Newell

Past President: Marlene DeMers

Treasurer: Elizabeth Roth

Delegate - One Year: Christine Hartwell

Corresponding Secretary: Amal Hagsufi

Delegate - Two Years: Felis Wolven