



September 2025

Soroptimist International of San Diego

Sorop-Times

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President's Message

Welcome to the 'ber months! What a wonderful time to be of service and to work with one another to provide women and girls with access to education and financial freedom. I come to



you this month with celebration of life! Many great opportunities to be involved in Soroptimist led activities and projects. Feeling like getting more involved? Reach out to a Committee Chair! They would be happy to talk about what their committee is all about and you can see if it is a good fit for you.

I would love to see more members involved in projects and programs that our club is a part of. Participate in our Live Your Team Committee and be a part of a women stepping into her own and accomplishing her educational goals! Or step into our Community Projects activities! So many great opportunities for us to get involved and support women and girls!

As we approach Hispanic Heritage Month, I share this quote with you all, "We must use our lives to make the world a better place to live, not just to acquire things. That is what we are put on the earth for." Dolores Huerta

President Jessica

September Club Anniversaries

2016

Susan Ritchey

September Calendar

September 2nd: Happy Hour: 5:15 p.m., Business Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Bankers Hill Club, 3030 Front Street, San Diego, CA 92103

September 6th: Desert Coast Region Soroptimist Academy, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Shadow Ridge Golf Club, 19980 Gateway Drive, Vista, CA 92081

September 16th: Happy Hour: 5:15 p.m., Program Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Bankers Hill Club, 3030 Front Street, San Diego, CA 92103. Community Projects committee is hosting.

September 23rd: Board Meeting; 5:30 p.m., via Zoom

September 25th: STAT, 5:30 p.m., via Zoom

Save the Date

October 3rd: District III Fall Meeting, Cambria Hotel, El Centro, more information to come.

March 7, 2026: SISD Fundraising Event, '95, *Reaching for the Stars!*, Bankers Hill Club, more information to come.

May 1-3, 2026: Desert Coast Region Spring Conference

Committee Meetings

September 16th: Recruitment & Retention (Membership), 11:30 a.m., Brittany Tower social room.

September 23rd: International Projects Committee Meeting, 11:30 a.m., Terri Welter's home. The committee will be preparing their requested budget for the 25-26 club year.

September 23rd: International Projects, 11:30 a.m., Terri Welter's home.

October 11th: Spring Event Fundraising, 11:00 a.m., - 2:00 a.m., Judy Lawton's home.



SPRING FUNDRAISING EVENT

When a member of SISD decides to roll up their sleeves and dive into a project, well there's just no stopping them! The first meeting of the Fundraising committee met to decide on and start developing what our next big event would be. It was a lively, energetic, chock full of really good ideas evening!

Did you realize that in April 2026, Soroptimist International of San Diego will be 95 years old? We are the "Mother" Club for other Clubs in our District so we're developing a truly wonderful Birthday Party for ourselves!

SAVE THE DATE

Our Theme is: **'95, Reaching for the Stars!**

Our Entertainment: Yv Brown, absolutely wonderful singer and her piano accompanist.

Event Location: Bankers Hill Club

Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026

Dress: Cocktail/"Little Black Dress" attire

Cost of a ticket: \$100

More details will be shared once they develop! And, if this sort of work excites you, we'd welcome you joining us with pleasure. We do manage to find revelry and fun. Rolling up your sleeves and working with a great group of women to achieve a mission or plan an event is the glue that binds us! Next meeting: Saturday, October 11, 2025, from 11:00 to 2:00 at Judy's House.

FROM THE PARLIAMENTARIAN: As we start the new SISD Club Year, the current Club Bylaws and Procedures are attached. Members are encouraged to read them to understand our governing documents.

The Bylaws are our legal and essential internal set of rules that outline how SISD's board and other members are to operate; the Procedures specifically cover responsibilities and operations for committees, specific tasks, financial policies, fundraising, and program management.

Thank you for your membership, commitment and dedicated support to the Soroptimist's mission, vision, and values.

Victoria Hobbs, SI San Diego Parliamentarian September 2025



The proposed 2025-26 club year budgets are attached to the email that brought you this news bulletin. The budgets will be presented at the September 2nd business meeting and will be voted on at the October business meeting. ***Prior to the 9/2 business meeting, please look over the preliminary budgets and direct any questions or comments to Chair Susie or Treasurer Paula Day.***



Community event flyers & newsletters are received electronically by SISD. To view, please click on the links:

SI La Mesa Summer Bulletin:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZocraCfkKvBn_a8vafAqvvnIJ_dfdeES/view?usp=sharing

SI Oceanside-Carlsbad 'Hats Off To Summer' Event:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/165tCEFxqXKI7C_IuspadTwqTV63Yae8g/view?usp=sharing

STAT Human Trafficking Conference:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1c0IF6lCyHxj4B2QvhtzD5-iggFwNaN-0/view?usp=sharing>

A New Path-STRUT 21st Annual Event:

[https://d.docs.live.net/d26d880f7faced42/Documents/Soroptimist/SISD%20Club%20Info/25-26%20Club%20Year/Bulletins/August%202025/August%20Bulletin Working.docx](https://d.docs.live.net/d26d880f7faced42/Documents/Soroptimist/SISD%20Club%20Info/25-26%20Club%20Year/Bulletins/August%202025/August%20Bulletin%20Working.docx)



Reminder, members of the **International Projects** committee, please confirm your attendance at the September 23rd meeting, at 11:30 a.m., at Terri Welter's house. I will be sending the agenda out soon. We have a lot to discuss. Bring your calendars to set dates for Zoom meetings and get together.

UN Association of San Diego Update: September 21st is the UN International Day of Peace. Also, the United Nations Association is celebrating UN Day at Books & Records in Bankers Hill that day from 5:30-8:30 p.m. October 23rd is a fund-raising event. There will be food, great ambience, international guests, and live music by guitarist Piers Lawrence.

DCR Soroptimist Academy

And honestly? That's where the magic (and often our truth) lives. Because behind every story we see or hear is *another* story—one filled with hopes not yet spoken, battles fought quietly, and wins celebrated without applause. Behind every sharp selfie or sparkly selfie is someone just trying to do their best, someone wondering if they're enough, someone learning (again and again) that perfection isn't the point.

This idea—the *story behind the story*—is something I think about constantly. Whether I'm coaching a leader, watching a friend go through heartbreak, or standing on stage sharing my own mess-to-magic journey, I'm reminded that what we reveal to the world is only a small sliver of the truth.

Maybe it's time we got more curious about what's not being said. Not in a nosy or intrusive way—but in a *human* way. In a *kind* way. In a way that invites people to show up as they are, not as they think they should be.

The woman who crushed it in the boardroom today might've had to wipe away tears in the car before walking into the building.

The artist whose work just went viral might've created it as therapy in the middle of a grief spiral.

The friend who hasn't messaged back in days might be moving through a season of overwhelm, trying to keep their head above water.

When we remember there's always more to the story, we meet others—and ourselves—with softness. With curiosity. With more grace, less judgment.

And, that's where true connection begins.

So here's my invitation to you when it comes to digging deeper, stepping back, & finding out more of the story behind someone else's (and your own) story.

- Be curious. Ask questions & dive deep.
- Celebrate others loudly while holding space for their quiet.
- Show up imperfectly and give others permission to do the same.
- Let people tell their *real* stories when they're ready—and listen without needing to fix, compare, or analyze.

The most powerful stories aren't always trending. They're unfolding quietly in the background.

Cassie Roma

The Desert Coast 'Soroptimist Academy' will be held on Saturday, September 6, 2025. It will be held in the same place as last year, the Shadowridge Golf Course in Vista. Also, the time remains the same with registration opening at

9:00 a.m. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. For lunch, we will be served the same wonderful taco bar we enjoyed last year but this year we have added an afternoon no host bar for an after-Academy afternoon of socializing and sharing.



Most women are Soroptimists

they just don't know it yet



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that has...Margaret Mead



Here's the thing: what we see is rarely the whole picture.

We scroll. We like. We double-tap a filtered moment in someone else's day and call it connection. But

beneath every polished caption, behind every confident presentation or powerful piece of art, is a human being living a very real, very complex, and often invisible story.



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“Soroptimist ... A global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.”



Get Connected San Diego

We're on LinkedIn! Join our new group! <https://www.linkedin.com/grp/home?gid=6986070>

And we're on Twitter! Follow us... https://twitter.com/Soroptimists_SD
[#SoroptimistAtWork](https://twitter.com/Soroptimists_SD)

Like us on Facebook 

Club Year 2025-2026 Board of Directors

- President: Jessica Barajas
- 1st Vice President: Susie Hartmann
- Recording Secretary: Jennifer Keller
- Treasurer: Paula Day
- 1-year Director: Susan Ritchey
- 1-year Director: Beverly Parsons
- 2-year Director: Kathy Biewenga
- 2-year Director: Cynthia Guerrero
- 1-year Delegate: Judy Lawton
- 1-year-Alt Delegate: Victoria Hobbs
- 2-year Delegate: Ruth Turoff
- 2-year Alt-Delegate: Grace Meyers
- Parliamentarian: Victoria Hobbs