

President's Message



PHEW! And as they say, "This One's in The Can!!!" What a show it was! I heard only wonderful comments from so many of our guests at Saturday's LYD

Awards Luncheon, Fashion Show and Boutique, I have a feeling we'll sell out next year or need a bigger room. Rumor has it that we're looking at a new venue and that's too exciting for words! But first things first. Congratulations to everyone who had a hand in putting on this truly great event! Susie, who headed up the LYD Committee and her team of stellar members did just an outstanding job! Our awardees seemed to be walking on air and I was so impressed that their children joined them on the stage. So much pride and love, it was hard to keep my composure just watching the joy. Thank you, LYD Committee, for all you do and did. Please accept my sincere thank you all for the heavy lifting that goes along with a project of this magnitude.

And let's move on to Erin and her committee. Many of us have walked in Erin's shoes and know the stresses, pressures, surprises, disappointments that come with the job and then comes the pleasure of seeing all the hard work pay off. Seeing the faces and hearing the voices of those we honored, watching their families display incredible pride in their Mom, daughter, sister, etc. makes it all worth it. Bask in the knowledge that we truly do make a difference. We change lives with our hard work and that's our reward! We made ten new friends through our efforts, and they won't soon forget us! I'm so proud of all of you for rolling up your sleeves and pitching in where and when you were needed! Thank you all a hundred and ten times. You deserve to put your feet up, relax and know in your hearts that your BEST was truly enough!

Margie and Eleanor, the flowers on the tables were stunning! And what a great idea to gather them from florists

from all over the County! They helped to enhance the always impressive Fashion Show that Gretchen Productions provides us. I truly love the fashions from our Boutique Vendors, too. I think it makes them feel like they're very much a part of what we do. The lobby was teaming with projects from the International Affairs Committee, A New PATH and their Narcan product and of course STAT with the Alabaster Jar folks. It was all interesting, informative and shows the world just how diverse we are while concentrating on Women and Girls!

BRAVO to all of you! I'm so proud to be your President! Thank you for the honor.

Toodles *President Judy*

April Birthdays

April 12 th	Grace Meyers
April 23 rd	Erin Liddell
April 30 th	Gina Kakos

April Club Anniversary

1994	Gretchen Burns
2002	Monica Logan
2015	Terri Welter

April Club Calendar

March 31st – First Friday Get Together: 4:00 p.m. Shelter Island, across from, Humphreys.

April 4th – Business Meeting: Happy Hour 5:15 p.m. Business Meeting 6:00 p.m., Bankers Hill Club, 3030 Front Street, San Diego, CA 92103

April 18th – Program Meeting: Public Affairs committee: Happy Hour 5:15 p.m. Program Meeting 6:00 p.m., Bankers Hill Club, 3030 Front Street, San Diego, CA 92103

April 25th – Board Meeting: 5:30 p.m. Zoom/Location will follow.

April 29th – 30th – Desert Coast Region 44th Annual Conference, Doubletree by Hilton/Mission Valley, 7450 Hazard Center Drive, San Diego, CA 92108

Committee Meetings

Recruitment & Retention: April 13, 5:30 p.m., Brittany Tower social room.

Save the Date!

July 27-29, 2023: SI Convention, Dublin, Ireland



April Inspirations

April 4th – Jennifer Keller
April 18th – Grace Meyers



April Meals

April 4th – Jennifer Keller
April 18th – Grace Meyers



Message from S.O.L.T. (Soroptimist Orientation and Leadership Training)

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[a subcommittee of Recruitment & Retention]

This month we celebrate the anniversary of our Club Chartering on April 25, 1931. Ninety-two years in community service! Our Charter President was Edna H. Gillespie. Someone asked how our club fits in the structure of our Region and how that came to be. Looking at our Desert Cost Region family tree, you would see that our San Diego Club was instrumental in chartering many clubs; in that respect, we are the 'founding Mother.' Here's a little history on the creation and structure of our Desert Coast Region.

As our Soroptimist membership grew and Federations were formed, Regions were established within the Federations (in SI Europe they are called "Unions"). We were part of the **Pacific Region** that included southern California, some of central California, some of Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. The Pacific Region continued to grow and remain strong. Projects were undertaken with vigorous determination by us and we were the Federation's largest

region membership. During the 1970s our region leaders who envisioned the future knew it was time for change. And change did come for West Coast Soroptimists. After years of discussion and with 168 clubs, 1978 evolved as a crucial mark for the Pacific Region. Pacific Region was divided into three separate regions: **Desert Coast**, **Golden West**, and **Camino Real**. Desert Coast Region covered an area from southeastern areas of Los Angeles and Orange Counties, and south through San Diego stretching eastward to Yuma, Arizona. Our first Spring Conference was held in Yuma, Arizona. The next year, the 1980 Spring Conference was held in Irvine.

With 56 clubs and some 500 members in attendance, the business at that conference was to appoint an ad hoc committee to investigate the feasibility of dividing the region into districts. Not to be taken lightly, the study continued into the next biennium. Loretta Mayer (SI La Mesa) had spearheaded the ad hoc committee and prior to our third conference in May 1981, hosted by SI Anaheim, the assessment was completed and a report was ready to present. The committee developed a platform and highlighted the rationale of forming districts within the region. Districts would provide:

- An excellent stepping stone for leadership training and experience;
- Greater opportunities for participation by members;
- Area clubs could work together and have representation on the Region Board with a District Director; and
- Increased membership possibilities.

The recommendations of the ad hoc committee were adopted, and three Districts were formed. Our club is part of District III which includes clubs from SI La Jolla in the north, continuing south to the San Diego/Tijuana boarder, east through the southern part of San Diego County through Imperial County to Yuma, Arizona. Our region's name reflects our geography.

A little history, a little SOLT, and more knowledge about our Desert Coast Region.

Victoria Hobbs April 2023

Public Relations Committee Announce Programs for April & May



Our guest speaker for the **April 18, 2023**, program meeting is **Alysia Smith** - Principal of Holly Drive Leadership Academy.

Alysia was also one of our **Live Year Dream** judges and a model at the March 18th Awards Luncheon and Fashion Show.

Alysia is a native of San Diego, a graduate of Point Loma High School and San Diego State University, is the Principal of Holly Drive Leadership Academy, and the mother of three wonderful daughters.

While attending San Diego State, Alysia showed what a resourceful person she was by working at the Girls Club of San Diego, UPS, and Sea Port Village Ice Cream & Eatery - all while carrying a full course load. Her working career began at a very young age when she became a program aide at the Girls Club when she was 14 years old. For 12 years she worked at the Girls Club in many different capacities, eventually serving as Program Director.

Alysia then worked at UPS for eight years and subsequently with the San Diego County Probation Department for two years prior to embarking on a career in education. Her first teaching position was with Nubia Academy. At the inception of the Holly Drive Leadership Academy, she accepted a position as Reading Specialist. She continued at Holly Drive as Vice Principal, and then was appointed Principal, a position she has held for the past twenty years.



Our guest speaker for the **May 16, 2023**, program meeting is Anna Marie Snyder – Founder and CEO of **You Did It for Me, Inc.**

[Anna Marie Piconi Snyder](#), is the Founder and CEO of *You Did It For Me, Inc.*, a nonprofit dedicated to companionship and community action for individuals in San Diego East County who are trying to secure and maintain housing, food, healthcare, education and work. With a vision and passion for bringing resources to East County through regional and county-wide collaboration, Anna Marie served as Consulting Project Director for the [East County Homeless Task Force](#) and currently is a leader on the Executive and Steering Committees. She is an RCIA catechist, lay minister and coordinator of the [Holiday Angel Program](#) at [Our Lady of Grace Parish](#) where she has worked and volunteered for over 25 years.

Anna Marie was one of six recipients of the [San Diego East County Chamber of Commerce](#) 2021 Women in Leadership awards where she was recognized as a tireless voice for people experiencing homelessness in East County and a fearless leader on their task force.



The Public Affairs committee would like to thank Nicole Darling, Communications Director for the City of San Diego for taking her personal time to join us at our March 21st program meeting, in the pouring rain no less! Nicole shared with us how the city communicates with their residents and some of the programs

in place like Get It Done to report issues to the City that need repair or attention.



Message from Stephanie Smith, SIA President

SIA's regional conference season is just around the corner! SIA's North America, Latin America, and Pacific Rim regions are busy planning a General Assembly around this time of year with themes of friendship, fun, and learning.

Region assemblies are a great opportunity to learn more about Soroptimist, connect and connect with other members, and discover new things! Region leaders and the General Assembly Organizing Team worked hard to coordinate these diverse events. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to these people for their hard work in providing great event programs to our SIA members.

SIA executives have also created the following content to ensure that members have a consistent experience regardless of region and that everyone receives the same important information and updates.

- Speech of Dreams and Hopes from Official Region Visitors
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEI&B) Workshop
- Presentations by Region Sector Chairpersons
- Activities to test knowledge of Soroptimist and engage members [in book club discussions](#)
- Information about [the newly launched Leadership Roundtable](#), the Soroptimist [Leadership Fellows Program](#) and the 48th Biennial General Assembly

I look forward to hearing firsthand what you are doing to help women and girls in Soroptimist's mission as I travel to several regions in the future. Our Board of Directors, who act as official visitors, are also looking forward to visiting. The day is coming soon when we can meet and celebrate all of our efforts to help women and girls achieve their dreams. If you haven't registered yet, please register! Contact your region leader today. With a warm heart for everyone,



The nominating committee of SISD is pleased to present the following slate of officers for the 2023 - 2024 fiscal year:

President: Paula Day
1st Vice President: Judi Cole
2nd Vice President: Jessica Barajas
Recording Secretary: Grace Meyers
Treasurer: Beverly Parsons/Joy Brown
1-year Director: Eleanor Snyder
1-year Director: Angel Gilreath
2-year Director: Joanne Martinez
2-year Director: Maggie Pierik
1-year Delegate: Victoria Hobbs
1-year-Alt Delegate: Jennifer Keller
2-year Delegate: Susan Hartmann
2-year Alt-Delegate: Dr. Angelique Hood
Parliamentarian: Joy Brown

Elections will be held at our May business meeting at which time additional nominations will be accepted, provided consent of the nominee has been obtained. The committee would like to thank all of these members who have agreed to serve and look forward to continuing forward momentum towards our mission of improving the lives of women and girls.

Respectfully submitted,
SISD NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Beverly Parsons, Eleanor Snyder, Susan Ritchey



Community event flyers & newsletters are received electronically by SISD.

To view, please click on the links:

[SI La Mesa March bulletin:](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MWrgyycE0ERizLttF_AunSXVSHK71UVR/view?usp=share_link)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MWrgyycE0ERizLttF_AunSXVSHK71UVR/view?usp=share_link

[SI Vista & North County Inland April bulletin:](https://drive.google.com/file/d/10HDYS3F23dXNgWBS7tliwaOSCqH_3Iaw/view?usp=share_link)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/10HDYS3F23dXNgWBS7tliwaOSCqH_3Iaw/view?usp=share_link

[SI Coronado Spring bulletin:](https://drive.google.com/file/d/12e9BK_0M9f6PTjc_v6I9L76tFIE3ATxR/view?usp=share_link)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/12e9BK_0M9f6PTjc_v6I9L76tFIE3ATxR/view?usp=share_link

[A New Path Birthday Party \(80's Dance Party\) Invitation:](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Xsw3bhHI7YdAiwuX9SmNAOHWtF0MbgLq/view?usp=share_link)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Xsw3bhHI7YdAiwuX9SmNAOHWtF0MbgLq/view?usp=share_link

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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 2022-2023

President: Judy Lawton

First VP: Ruth Turoff

Recording Secretary: Jessica Barajas

Treasurer: Monica Logan

One-Year Director: Erin Liddell

One-Year Director: Susie Hartmann

Two-Year Director: Eleanor Snyder

Two-Year Director: Angel Gilreath

One Year Delegate: Kathy Biewenga

One Year Alternate Delegate: Allison Whitney-Schnepper

Two Year Delegate: Victoria Hobbs

Two Year Alternate Delegate: Grace Meyers

Parliamentarian: Victoria Hobbs

*Parliamentarian is an appointed (by the President) position