



November 2025

Soroptimist International of San Diego

Sorop-Times

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President's Message



As Thanksgiving approaches, it's a beautiful time to reflect on gratitude and the power of community. This season, we're focusing on supporting women and girls who may be facing challenges—reminding them that they're seen, valued, and loved.

As we continue to organize projects and participate in events to uplift and connect with women and girls in our community, remember that together, we can share not just meals, but hope, encouragement, and belonging.

Let's make this season of Thanksgiving about gratitude in action—supporting one another and celebrating the strength of women and girls everywhere.

President Jess

November Club Member Anniversaries

1981	Victoria Hobbs
2020	Erin Liddell

November Birthdays

November 19 th	Eleanor Snyder
November 20 th	Cynthia Guerrero
November 26 th	Monica Logan

November Calendar

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

November 6th, STAT!, 11 a.m., at One Safe Place South. There will be a tour of the new building before we meet. Contact Paula for details.

November 18th: Program Meeting: Tour of the SD Food Bank. 6:00 p.m., 9580 Distribution Avenue, San Diego 92121, hosted by the Foundation committee. More information to come.

Save the Date

March 7, 2026: SISD Fundraising Event, '95, *Reaching for the Stars!*, Bankers Hill Club, a Save the Date flyer is attached to the email that brought you this bulletin.

STAT!: Save The Date – trafficking awareness screenings of the documentary *The Journey* on Jan. 13 and 14. <https://amplifyvoices.org/documentary>

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

Committee Meetings

November 15, 2025: Spring Event Fundraising, 11:00 a.m., - 2:00 p.m., Judy Lawton's home. Lunch will be provided!

November 20th: Recruitment & Retention (Membership), 11:30 a.m., Susan Ritchey's home.





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

SI La Mesa Newsletter
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UIMIzq_SXCSZs7ghuvKWTWFQZOBndj7/view?usp=sharing



As you know our Soroptimist *Live Your Dream Awards* program is a unique education award for women who provide the primary financial support for their families. The *Live Your Dream Awards* give women the resources they need to improve their education, skills and employment prospects. Our club is lucky to have THREE former awardees as members – Colleen, Cynthia and Danae.

Applications are being accepted now for 2025 *Live Your Dream Awards*. Please share the flyer attached with anyone that might know a woman who is eligible especially those at local community colleges, trade and vocational schools. The flyer includes dates and times of workshops to help applicants apply. **The application deadline is November 15, 2025.** Contact Judi for more information - dist3judi@gmail.com.

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



SI La Mesa Thanksgiving Event Flyer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19cKe7F3Th5kHugLXCjT5mK0V1X->

SI Ramona Event Flyer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wVDRGACq0pnpKRKU1XUucqngKbz5U9O-/view?usp=sharing>

SI Vista-North County 'Quarter' Event:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eytBkUGIHMy8N4DTZFRjvCZdq4q5Idrd/view?usp=sharing>



We've Been Invited

To an interesting field trip to the San Diego Food Bank! Maureen Polimadei, San Diego Food Bank's Fund Development Director was our featured guest speaker at our October program meeting, and she has invited us for a tour and informational talk at their facility in the Miramar area. Save the date, please for November 18, 2025, at 6:00 PM. Further details will be available as they develop!

San Diego Food Bank
9850 Distribution Avenue
San Diego, CA 92121

SISD Member Visits our Friendship Link in Turkey



Beverly Parsons had the pleasure of meeting with five members of our Friendship Link, Etiler Soroptimist Istanbul, on her recent visit to Turkey.

Their club seems to be quite stable, but, like us, only about 20 show up to meetings. Their members, however, are well represented on the Turkish and European boards.

Unfortunately, there are government and political problems in Mardin causing a temporary closure of the carpet school

we support. Mardin is in the Kurdish part of Turkey and the subject of current discussions between Trump and Erdogan.

One of the programs the Etiler club strongly supports is the KİMİM project focused on economic empowerment through creative micro-entrepreneurship opportunities, especially for young women and mothers.

Their Bag Knitting Workshops, teaching handmade bag production using knitting and crocheting techniques, have been particularly successful, providing therapeutic benefits and generating income. This effort not only supports financial independence but also nurtures a sense of community, pride, and dignity among participants.

Beverly returned with several beautiful KİMİM bags, which are now available for purchase.

Attached is a picture taken at lunch. You might recognize Huray (redhead on the right). She's the same Huray who attended one of Judy's wine tasting parties and was thrilled that her bottle sold for \$100!

Our Istanbul friendship members ask to express great gratitude for our continued support!





Our July sessions were such a hit, but we know some of you couldn't make it. This is an excellent opportunity to learn something new or brush up on your existing skills, no matter what your experience level. To make it easier for you to participate, we are offering two Zoom sessions—one at noon and another at 6 p.m. on Friday, November 14, 2025. If you're interested in joining us, reach out to our DCR Membership Chair, Lorraine Quiros, to register. You can find her email on the flyer.

Looking forward to seeing you at one of these sessions!

Warm regards,
Lynn Flanagan
Desert Coast Region Secretary
858-254-9398 cell



Special Events Calendar for the 2025-26 Club Year

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| November 8 th | Painting rocks and painting wine glasses |
| December | Dark |
| January 17 th | Soup & Sip |
| February | First Friday event- Old Town at Café Coyote |
| March | Dark |
| April 11 th | Bunco |
| May | A Day of Wellness |
| June | Installation |





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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:
- 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