

Salty Soroptimist News

Merry Christmas!

President Barbara's Message

Dear Soroptimist Sisters,

As we enter the holiday season, it's a perfect time to reflect on our meaningful work together. This time of year reminds us to cherish the relationships we've built, our progress in our shared mission, and the women and girls whose lives we touch through our service projects.



Looking back at this year, I am proud of how we've continued to uplift our local community, support one another, and expand our impact. From our ongoing projects to the new initiatives we've embraced, each effort reflects our collective dedication to transforming the lives of women and girls, both here in Salt Lake City and globally.

As we approach the new year, let's carry this momentum forward. There are still many opportunities ahead of us to make a difference, whether through volunteering, fundraising, or spreading the word about our mission. Let's continue to inspire each other, stay connected, and focus on what we can achieve together.

I want to thank each of you for your unwavering commitment, compassion, and enthusiasm. You are the heart of Soroptimist, and because of you, we continue to thrive and make a lasting impact. I wish you and your loved ones a joyous and peaceful holiday season. May this time of reflection bring new energy and purpose as we enter the year ahead.

Barbara Rosner

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Inside this Issue

<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>Women's Resource Center Project (BGAP)</i>	2
<i>Thankful to be Soroptimists, November Mtg.</i>	3
<i>Holiday Fun & Giving, Breakfast with Santa</i>	4
<i>BWS Photo's</i>	5
<i>BWS Kid's Clothing and Generous Toy Donations</i>	6
<i>Board Meeting Report, Your Soroptimist Why, and Volunteer Hours</i>	7
<i>Getting to Know You - December meeting</i>	8
<i>Membership Milestones, Birthdays, DIBI dates</i>	9
<i>Mark Your Calendars and Member News</i>	10

Board 2024-2025

Barbara Rosner - *President*
Carma Ingram - *President Elect*
Donna Schultz - *Secretary*
Loretta Peterson - *Treasurer*
Pat Murdoch - *Treasurer Elect*
Donna Visco - *Director at Large*
Rachel Woodhouse - *Delegate*
Zulie Langarica - *Delegate*

**Homeless Connections
Hotline – 801-990-9999**

The Hotline is for individuals experiencing homelessness to be connected with emergency shelter options and other helpful community resources.

<https://homelessutah.org/facilities/geraldine-e-king-womens-resource-center/>

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF SALT LAKE CITY



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Today's Workshop

All About
Email



Michelle Jackson helping a class participant on the computer.

Thank you Soroptimist volunteers that assisted: Barbara Rosner, Donna Visco, Michelle Jackson, Carma Ingram, Kathy Margaritis, Donna Schultz, and Pat Murdoch.



Hands-on Big Goal Accelerator Project *By– Carma Ingram*

On Saturday, November 9th ladies from our club, Donna Visco, Donna Schultz, Michelle Jackson, Rita Offrett, Jan Crane, Kathy Margaritas, Pat Murdoch and Carma Ingram, provided a presentation at the Geraldine E. King Women's Resource Center, in Salt Lake City.

The Geraldine E. King Women's Resource Center provides emergency shelter to 200 women experiencing homelessness in and around Salt Lake City every night. Beyond providing safe emergency shelter, this facility provides essential basic needs such as meals, clothing, hygiene items, a place for women to wash clothes and shower, as well as, being a welcoming environment for companion animals. Our group went there to accomplish our mission of contributing to the Big Goal Accelerator Project (BGAP).

Donna Visco led a discussion for the women attending on emerging trends regarding scams and fraud. She also demonstrated to the women how to set up an email account. Having an email account will assist them in communication regarding job applications and education programs that are available on line.

SIA has certain criteria for qualification in submitting our BGAP, which include:

- Work only with women and/or girls who are **facing obstacles** who are not already served by or counted under the Dream Programs (Live Your Dream Awards and Dream It, Be It)
- Provide access to education with the ultimate goal of economic empowerment
- Be a Soroptimist-led hands-on project
- Be reported to SIA through the official reporting link.

Our group met with 13 ladies in this first session and Pat will be handing out the material we printed to other ladies living at the Center. We will be going back for another session on Saturday, **January 18th, 2:00 p.m.** We expect to report 60 or more women to SIA for our Women's Resource Center Project. Mark your calendar for January 18, if you are able to participate!

"I really appreciated your support of the clients at the shelter. The homeless situation has been close to my heart most of my life. I volunteered at The Road Home for many years and have worked for Volunteers of America at the women's shelter for five years.

When I was a young girl, my heart broke when I saw the disabled men from the Korean War on wheel boards selling pencils for a penny. I tried to talk my mother into letting them live in our chicken coop, she naturally declined! So I'm so grateful for your helping me with this project so that we can help our vulnerable population." **Pat Murdoch**

Thankful to Be Soroptimists - *By Cheri Richardson*

Our November program meeting was held on Wednesday, November 20, at the Jordan Villas Clubhouse. Before we started dinner, President Barbara asked us each to write what we were thankful for. With our plates full of fabulous dishes supplied by our members, we got down to business:

Jan Crane reported on our **Live Your Dream** awards. We plan to give at least nine awards this year, with a strong possibility of a 10th! First place is \$2000, second place is \$1500, two third place awards of \$1000 each, with the remaining recipients receiving \$700 each. Wow! Kudos to our fundraising from last year, which enabled us to help so many women this year! In addition to the cash awards, we plan to give each recipient a bag filled with items to help them pamper and feel good about themselves.

After dinner, Carolyn Roberts led us in a **Recommitment Ceremony**. Her display featured candles representing Soroptimist International, Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA - our federation), Peaks to Plains Region, and Soroptimist International of Salt Lake. Each member was given a candle to light from the larger candles. Our most senior member present (that would be me) lit her candle from the Soroptimist International candle and lit the SIA candle. Carma Ingram then lit her candle from the SIA candle and lit the Peaks to Plains candle. Jan Crane lit her candle from the Peaks to Plains candle and lit the SI Salt Lake candle. One by one, our remaining members were invited, in order of their seniority in the club, to light their candles from the Salt Lake club candle. Bearing candles with the light of Soroptimist, we renewed our commitment to this organization we all hold dear.

Then it was time to get to work making **Candy Bags for Breakfast with Santa**. While we were working, President Barbara read aloud the slips where we'd documented what we were thankful for. We made over 60 bags for Santa to hand out to the children.

I am always amazed at just how fast our group can clean up the clubhouse and make it look like we were never there. Thank you all for your work, and for attending this fabulous meeting! See you in December!

SI Salt Lake City members (Carolyn, Michelle, Kathy, Barbara, Diane, Donna, Loretta, Jan, Cathy, Carma, Cheri) who were able to participate in the Recommitment Ceremony at the Nov. 20th meeting.



"I'm thankful for my family, my health, my optimism, my life, and being a part of Soroptimist. Anonymous"

"I'm thankful for the support and love and patience from my family and Soroptimist sisters. Love you, Diane McCarty"

live
YOUR
dream
education & training awards for women®



Display of Soroptimist candles (Soroptimist International, SIA, P to P Region and SISLC Club)



Cathy Stevens, Carma Ingram, and Carolyn Roberts who led the ceremony - Thank you!



“ I’m so grateful for the help your organization is providing for my family. I’m a nursing student trying to finish school with three children and this takes so much stress off my mind. Thank you!”

Holiday Fun and Giving, Breakfast With Santa Event

By– Kathy Margaritis Photos - Contributed by many members



Breakfast with Santa (BWS) was a huge success thanks to all our members (*especially organizer Teresa Just*), volunteers, donors, and community partners. All of the families, Soroptimist members, and volunteers really seemed to be enjoying themselves and getting into the spirit of giving. The decorations and signs added to the Christmas spirit and the professionalism of the event.



We served 38 single mother families with 61 children, providing new warm clothing for every child/teen and toys and gifts for the families to exchange this holiday season. The BWS families were from several organizations including: People Helping People, Granite Connection teen moms, Horizonte Adult Ed. students, I Can I Am Foundation, and some Live Your Dream recipients.



After enjoying a delicious breakfast, the families were excited to visit with Santa and receive a treat bag. The children enjoyed making ornaments and other craft projects with volunteer helpers while their moms shopped for gifts and picked up clothes bags. The kids took their turn picking out gifts for mom which were then expertly wrapped. Additional items (holiday décor, clothes, gifts) were available for moms to choose from the miscellaneous table. Plus, the moms received a nice hygiene gift bag to take home for pampering. Many will get holiday haircuts also from Landis Lifestyle Salon by stylists that donated their time.

We appreciate all the people who donated time, supplies, and gifts to make the Soroptimist annual Breakfast With Santa event a wonderful giving tradition.

Breakfast With Santa Photographs



Breakfast with Santa - Kid's Clothing *By- Donna Schultz*

As part of our Breakfast with Santa event, we purchase warm winter clothing for the children attending the event. This part of Breakfast with Santa would not be possible without the generous \$5000 grant we received from **American Express** this year.

Once we know the number of children attending the event (61 this year), we determine the budget for each age group. Club members and other volunteers sign up to be shoppers. We obtain the ages and sizes of each child. With a modest amount to spend, our shoppers look for bargains to give the kids the warm winter clothing they need- be it coats, shoes, boots, socks, pants, shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts, gloves or hats. Many of the shoppers contribute their own money as well.



Generous Toy Donations *By- Jan Crane*

Once again , our generous donors made the Breakfast With Santa toy selection the very best. Charsti Merrill and her family and friends collect thousands of dollars worth- and this year was no different. Charsti says people now call *her* and ask when they need to get the toys together! We are so thankful for their extraordinary kindness and for the abundance of toys.

Several other sponsors provide mom gifts (lots of socks), hygiene bag supplies, food donations, and even haircuts. Our Soroptimist members provide for the volunteer's food table and many unique toy donations as well.

This event once again proves that "It takes a village to raise a child!"



Board Report and Action Plan - Dec. 4, 2024

Board Summary

- We received the American Express grant for Breakfast with Santa.
- Board approved a college book reimbursement.
- Online Auction raised \$1,755. We would like to save the items not receiving a bid for the spring fundraiser.








Action Plan

- Club Christmas party will be December 11th with potluck and gift exchange.
- Club is giving out 10 Live Your Dream awards.

Spread the word about Soroptimist *and* encourage acquaintances and friends to attend an activity. Ask them to think about joining us in our mission to empower women and girls.

Draft Your Soroptimist Why



- **1. Start with a captivating opening that grabs attention.**
What inspired you to join Soroptimist? Share a personal story or a powerful statistic.
- **2. Explain your personal journey or connection.**
Why do you stay involved with Soroptimist? Focus on your passion.
- **3. Highlight the impact.**
What makes Soroptimist's mission crucial?
- **4. Add a call to action.**
Encourage listeners to join, donate, sponsor, or learn.

Thank You Soroptimist Volunteers!



President Barbara thanks all members that have been working to help our club achieve it's many goals. Please report your hours to Loretta Peterson, Treasurer, by the 2nd of the month, Loretta_Peterson@PremierInc.com
Thank You Soroptimist women!

Getting to Know You

We'll be highlighting two amazing members each month to become better acquainted with one another.

Please send a summary of your family and professional life. Share your 'Soroptimist Why', and a photo. My Email: Kathyfarg64@outlook.com Thank You!

Will Return Next Month! Please Send Me Your Bio.



*Soroptimist
Christmas Party*

*Wednesday
December 11th
6-8 pm*

*Jordan Villas Clubhouse
9339 S. Jordan Villa Drive
West Jordan, Utah*

*Pot Luck Dinner and Gift Exchange
President's Appeal Donation*

Please bring a potluck food item to share for dinner, we always have a nice variety. For the gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift around a \$20 value to exchange in our fun 'pick or steal a gift' game. Tears may fall! Most of all, we want to enjoy everyone's company in a relaxed atmosphere and celebrate our successful Breakfast With Santa event. Thanks to all who were a part of it! See you on Wednesday.

Soroptimist

Membership

MILESTONES

Angela Yarborough	11 years	12/28/2013
Zulie Langarica	10 years	1/01/2015
Georgia Presnell	51 years	1/01/1974
Pamela Bennion	37 years	1/14/1988
Kymerly Wells	6 years	1/16/2019

December & January Birthdays

12/06- Diana McCarty

12/22- Rachel Woodhouse

12/26- Pat Murdoch



Celebrating 15-year Membership Anniversaries

Membership committee member, Donna Schultz, announced two 15-year members. At our Nov. meeting, Jan Crane and Cathy Stevens were celebrated as each is at a 15-year membership milestone. Our club members will be celebrated at each 5-year anniversary.



This program provides guidance, training, and resources to prepare girls for career success. We will go to Roosevelt Continuation school on **Thursday, January 16th**, for our first session with them. The middle school girls will create dream boards and set goals toward achieving them. This school is a temporary placement for students who struggle in a regular school setting or have broken school rules. The two sessions will be with different groups of girls. For the first session, **arrive for set up at 8:15** it will run from 8:45 - 10:45. The second session will be 11:15 - 1:15. The school is located at 3225 So. 800 E., Millcreek (enter on 800 E from 3300 S).

The next day, **January 17th**, will be the second DIBI session for Granite Connection High, **arrive at 8:00 a.m.**, class is 8:30-10:30a.m. It will focus on having resilience through challenges and the girls will determine what their values are and how that affects life and career choices. They will make some hands-on projects.

We will be having monthly classes at Horizonte Rose Park Youth-to-Adult program, an Adult Education program with students 17-20 years old, completing their high school diplomas. The classes will follow the DIBI curriculum but will be considered a BGAP since the students are in an Adult Education program now, rather than high school. Our first Dream board session will be **January 31st** from 11:00-12:30, **arrive at 10:30 a.m.** to set up. The address is 1400 W Goodwin Ave., SLC, Northwest doors of SLC SE. **Please consider helping out at one or more of these schools. It's a rewarding experience!**

December/ January Calendar & Member News



An email sent to Rita from afar...

Mark Your Calendars ...

- 12/11 -**Christmas Party** (6:00 pm – see flyer inside)
- 01/08 -Board Meeting (6:00 pm) *Nominating Committee Select*
- 01/15 - Program Meeting (6:00 pm), location TBA
- 01/16 - DIBI at Roosevelt Continuation (*details pg. 8*)
3225 S 800 E, Millcreek, arrive at 8:15 a.m.- set-up
- 01/17 - DIBI at Granite Connection (8:00 –10:30 am)
501 E 3900 S, SLC, arrive at 8:00 a.m.-set-up
- 01/18 –Women’s Resource Center (Shelter) 2:00 pm,
131 E 700 S., SLC *Big Goal Accelerator Project*
- 01/31– Horizonte Youth Center, 10:30 am, *details pg. 8*

Our ceremony of unveiling a plaque for Martha Hughes Cannon is tomorrow and we have managed to get some advance press coverage in the local papers. We are not usually very successful in getting our Soroptimist events in the local papers, so we are delighted.

Will Aaron, who has done all the research on her, and I were also interviewed about Martha for a video being made by the Welsh Government to promote travel to Wales. I think it will take awhile to put the final film together, but it is apparently targeting the US audience, so you might get to see it eventually.

All best wishes! *Celia and Llandudno Soroptimists*

[Plaque dedicated to pioneering women’s rights advocate to be unveiled in Llandudno](#)

[Llandudno woman who changed the face of US politics to be honoured in home town - North Wales Live](#)

Soroptimist International of Salt Lake City

P.O Box 571021
Salt Lake City, UT 84157-1021
www.sislc.org



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