



Soroptimist Scene

Newsletter - December 2019

President's Message

Hello Everyone,

We hope everyone's Thanksgiving was filled with a lot of Family, Friends and of course food.

This is the season of the year that gets busy for all of us.

As we go through this Holiday Season, let's remember the reason that we all became Soroptimists. Tampa's giving, service, and education of young women and girls is who we are. I can not express my gratitude for the support and assistance that you have given to Tampa. We have completed our Christmas Family list and this will be sure to make a young family very thankful on this holiday. We have worked very hard the first half of the year, as we continue to move forward.

As we approach December, the rest of our Soroptimist year will be extremely busy, not just the New Year. We know all of you will be on board for an exciting second half and will be ready to handle all challenges.



President Cathy

We will be finalizing dates and preparations for events to come for the rest of our Soroptimist year and they will be published in our **newsletter** and in emails.

Last but not least, we can not wait to see everyone on the 7th for our party. Don't forget the ornament exchange, if you would like to participate.

Please be safe & healthy over this Holiday Season!!

Thank you all for your support,

"We are One"

Cathy



Special points of interest:

- President's Message
- Member Spotlight
- Save The Date
- President's Appeal

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Member Spotlight ~ Meet Greta Barrett



I became a Soroptimist in 2015 in the Waikiki Club! Yeah, I know :). One of my Link Sister's knew my heart for women who are or were apart of the sex trafficking trade. This particular club meeting had an individual who was going to speak on the subject and she invited me. I was hooked! The Waikiki club assisted a local non profit who helped young women coming out of that horrific experience, providing them with shelter, emotional and mental counseling, and taught vocational and life skills to ensure their success. The Club outfitted their computer/media center! We provided scholarships to a young woman from Tibet toward her PhD in Gender Discrimination. I have two times that are special to me with Soroptimist: The first was one of the Christmas parties we had for the Waikiki club. It was at a nice restaurant and everyone was suppose to bring an unwrapped item for auctioning! It was an inexpensive way to raise funds without people having to go out a buy something because it was expected that individual would bring gifts they had received and didn't want for various reasons. I was elected to be the auctioneer! Had I done this before NO but it was so much fun and we raised \$2K! Just by people bringing in unwanted items. I guess the saying is true "one man's junk is another man's treasure!" The second was during one of the many days of service when we went to an adult day care facility that was open on a Saturday. I took my mother with me and my fellow Soropitmist sisters provided lunch, danced the Hula and played games. It was so much fun partly because my mother was there "assisting" while she was a recipient of the outreach!

Member Update

Keeping up with Sharon Rozell

Please make note that Sharon has a new phone number. Her new number is [813-975-5820](tel:813-975-5820)!



Mark Your Calendars

SI Tampa Christmas Party
December 7, 2019
Sandy Gallogly's Home
@11:30am

*Don't forget your gifts for
the Christmas Family

Please bring your donations
to the President's Appeal to
the annual Christmas Party.

Why is December the best month?

1. Christmas...obviously!
2. Snow Days
3. Winter Activities
4. Starbucks red cups
5. Christmas movies
6. Cookie baking
7. Christmas lights
8. Family time
9. Holiday shopping
10. The spirit of giving
11. Ugly sweater parties
12. You're close to a new start

Wreaths Across America is Saturday, December 14. You can volunteer to lay or sponsor wreaths at the following link. When you sign up, you will be attached to the coordinating organization for the cemetery and will receive further communication from them.

<https://wreathscrossamerica.org>

Light Up the Night 1K Walk / 5K Run is Sunday, January 26 at 8:00 AM. Sign up for the Soroptimist group at:

<https://runsignup.com/RaceGroups/51514>

Southern Region Conference is coming to Tampa!!

Mark your calendars now for
April 24th-26th, 2020

Keep an eye out for more information
to follow!

**Dream It, Be It One Day
Conference!!**

This event is coming up on April 18,
2020.

We will be at the Children's Board
again this year, so plan to join us.

#ICYMI (In Case You Missed It)



The Road to Equality UN Secretary General, Mr. Antonio Guterres has stated that achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls is the “unfinished business of our time, and the greatest human rights challenge in our world.” The adoption of the 2030 Agenda pledged to ensure “no one will be left behind” and to “endeavour to reach the furthest behind first”. The Road to Equality will focus on the role Soroptimist International can play in achieving gender equality as we develop capacity and raise awareness on human rights challenges that prevent women and girls from reaching their full potential.

Child Marriage, FGM, Domestic Violence, Trafficking, Migration and the rights of Older Women are some of the issues that our UN representatives and your SI team advocate for globally. We ask for your financial support, your voice and your commitment to impact these human rights issues on the Road to Equality through the following actions:

- Support best practice projects that create change in grassroots communities.
- Soroptimist regional forums & webinars to create awareness while increasing our profile. We will bring people together around our Soroptimist Mission, including identifying lived experiences and knowledge within our membership in finding our advocacy voices.
- Networking with other organisations to increase our collective Global Advocacy Voice.

www.soroptimistinternational.org.

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Find us on
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Teri Matlach	December 2nd
Deb Robuck	December 2nd
Diana Miller	December 8th
Cathy Strawser	December 9th
Betsi Lewis	December 19th

live
YOUR
dream
education & training awards for women