

# Happy Talk



S.I. San Bernardino  
Golden West Region

May, 2018

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## Spring—A signal for growth

Happy May! Spring is such a wonderful time of year to plant flowers, observe the birds and relax outside while admiring the beautiful landscape that surrounds us! It is time to spring clean, get rid of things we do not need and begin planning for the coming months. This relates so much to how I feel as the retiring President. Although my duties are not yet done as President, I am organizing, preparing for a new role and ready to serve in a different capacity. My two years as President went by so fast and I have enjoyed every minute of it, but I am ready to pass the gavel to Michelle so she

can begin to incorporate some of her own ideas and a new energy into this amazing club! As we approach the closing of our fiscal year on June 30, let's all embrace this time to begin anew on July 1, by taking on some new roles in our club. May each one of us step up in the coming year to do something we are not sure we want to do, to take some risks and go the extra mile and maybe even invite a friend to join our great club. We have a great group of ladies and I know that we can do so much more and make a greater impact in our



Smell the flowers  
Listen to the birds

community by just being committed to our mission of empowering women and girls to succeed!

*President Cathie*

## The 3 R's

### Club Calendar

- 5-3 **Business Meeting**
- 5-17 **Awards Dinner, replaces a club meeting**
- 5-31 **Board Meeting**



### Websites

- (SI) [sorooptimistinternational.org](http://sorooptimistinternational.org)
- (SIA) [sorooptimist.org](http://sorooptimist.org)
- (GWR) [goldenwestregion.org](http://goldenwestregion.org)
- (SISB) [sisanbernardino.org](http://sisanbernardino.org)

## Make a note

Michelle Gomez has a new e-mail address. Please note it on your copy of the club roster. It is:

<michgom64@gmail.com>



We have a new member joining us! She was a member of SI Glendale some time ago

and has been away from Soroptimists but she is now living in our area and has let us know of her interest in joining our club. Please note her information as follows:

Susan Collins  
25200 Lawton Avenue,  
Loma Linda CA 92354  
Tele: (909) 328-2065

E: <sharon.collins0382@outlook.com>  
Sharon is self-employed as a consultant in grant writing. Her birthday is October 4.

The new club roster will reflect these changes along with any other changes we might have beginning with the new club year, July 1.



No May Birthdays

# The dreaded dues reminder

Dues notices have been sent to each member with reminders at meetings and with the notices of the date they are due. At the risk of being repetitious, dues are due April 1 and can be paid any time between April 1 and May 31. They are delinquent as of June 1. To avoid a \$10 delinquent fee, it's best to pay them by the final due date of May 31.

You will see in a later article that the committee who met to prepare proposals for bylaws are recommending some changes to Article XII as applied to the dues. The recommendation is to change

the wording to allow for 1/2 paid by June 1 and the second half by January 1. It would also allow for alternate arrangements if a member needed additional consideration to be approved by the Board.

The dues increase which is proposed, if passed, would take effect on July 1, 2018. Obviously the club needs to collect sufficient income to cover club costs and we need to forward SIA/SI dues and Region dues by July 1 of each year. The club has been able to budget for a carryover from the previous club year to provide a cushion for the start of the new year. However, we

also have other costs at the start of a new year which we have to have sufficient funds to cover. The goal is to ease an onerous burden on a member that might occur by her paying dues in full when an adjusted schedule of payment would enable her to better continue her membership. Please contact the Board who is willing to work this out if it is necessary. The ultimate goal is adding new members as this generates more income and improves the club's ability to meet costs in order to keep the club up and running.

# And the awards go to ....

Flyers have been sent to all members for the awards dinner scheduled for Thursday, May 17. The cost will be \$10.00 per person and the location is the Native Sons Parlor on Del Rosa Avenue in San Bernardino. The time to be there is 6:00 p.m. and members have seen a sign-up sheet to obtain a tally of who is coming and additionally asking each member to donate either a beverage or a dessert. President Cathie has made arrangements for the food and members have volunteered for various chores to

help in set-up, serving and clean up. In years past the club has been able to host this event on a yearly basis, but last year we were not able to do this. Gratefully, the club has grown some new members and we look forward to sharing in the experience of presenting awards to the Live Your Dream award winner, a young girl music student who will receive a guitar, hopefully a scholarship winner will be able to be present and possibly a representative from the Salvation Army who is

receiving a check for their transition house for women and girls. It's always a joy to see the results of the club's efforts in helping others who need a boost in reaching their dreams and goals. It is what Soroptimists do and what we work for. A win-win situation, wouldn't you say?

# GWR Spring Conference

The Region's annual Spring Conference will be in Pala, California, at the Pala Casino Spa Resort and the Call has been issued to each member. SI Chino Hills Inland Empire, SI San Jacinto-Hemet Valley and SI Moreno Valley are sharing the hostess duties. The first event begins on Thursday with the Soroptimist Summit. The focus is Building Access to Education. This will be followed with a Wine Cave Cocktail party and Governor Penny will introduce the 2016/2018 committee members.

Six of the club's members are attending at various times. They are Cathie, Michelle, Gladys, Lupe, Judy and Barb C. The proposed changes to Region bylaws was discussed at the May business meeting and delegates will be attending the Delegate's Briefing on Friday morning to prepare for the voting process at the business meeting. It is a chance to question, clarify and comment on the proposals to enable a smooth discussion and vote during the business session. Delegates will also vote on Officers and District Directors as well as the proposed budget for the coming

year.

There will also be numerous workshops on Friday and Saturday on a variety of subjects pertinent to Soroptimist interests. The Conference Theme is Soroptimist Soaring with some discovering, dreaming and exploring thrown in.

Conferences are always a very special event and a great time to meet and make new friends and join with old friends from other clubs in the Region.

# Time for a change

Change for the sake of change is never a good idea, but it is sometimes necessary to review old procedures, laws, rules, traditions and protocols to insure the needs of the club are being properly met and are current with changes in lifestyle and attitudes and thinking of potential members as well as current members. Therefore the club's bylaws and standing rules were viewed by a committee and their proposals for changes have been sent to the members and discussed at the May business meeting. They will be read again

at the June business meeting and a vote conducted on each proposal at that time. Much of the suggestions were merely housekeeping. Some wording that no longer applies is being deleted. A proposal to increase the dues by \$20.00 will be on the agenda to help with increased administrative costs. It's a process not unlike the handling of our personal finances as costs continue to rise for them as well. It has been a number of years since we last increased the dues and it's time to address this issue again. Twenty dollars spread

over a year is less than a \$1.75 a month increase. In the meantime, the members can be as creative as they can be to discover new ways to earn monies for the club in the future.

# Bookkeeping

Bookkeeping is not a dirty word, but it is a chore that must be done. It is essential to have accurate procedures for accounting for the club's monies. Not only are club's accountable to their members, but also to various government agencies as we are a non-profit organization. California clubs have the added requirement of collecting and reporting sales tax on any item we sell. This includes auction items and other goods that have a value such as yard sales.

This is paid to the California Franchise Tax Board yearly. At the end of the fiscal year an accounting of a Profit and Loss Statement summarized for the accounting firm who prepares the tax papers for the club must be completed. At the end of the fiscal club year, the accounting records of the Treasurer is reviewed and "audited" for purposes of insuring the club's monies are properly accounted for. This is for the protection of the members

as well as the Treasurer. Following the audit, the Finance Committee is also responsible for preparing a proposed budget for the new club year.

We are not just another pretty face, but serious in operating as good business stewards of the clubs monies.

# An olio of events

Now is a good time for each member to mark her calendar for the following events:

- Award Dinner—May 17, 2018
- Installation of officers—June 29, 2018
- Club Retreat—August 18, 2018

The Award Dinner will be at the Native Sons Parlor  
The Installation will be at the home of President Cathie.  
The Club Retreat will be at the home of the incoming President, Michelle.

Flyers will be issued for each event

Committee assignments will be one of Michelle's first tasks and the members are encouraged to step up to a new assignment. It takes the effort of all the members pitch-

ing in together to see that the club's work is accomplished effectively.

Don't be afraid to take on more than one task or to take on a new task. It is an opportunity to stretch yourself and you may well be surprised in what you can learn and how well you can do it. Everyone is challenged to show what you can do.

The members have also agreed to tackle the task of planning and holding a second Beer Fest. All have learned from our first one last fall and with that experience under the belts of the members, the next one should be somewhat easier to plan.

No specific date has been set, but the target month is October. Some of the members have already volunteered to check

into various parts of the event. This includes researching for the best possible venue, checking with caterer's, looking into tables and chairs, etc.

Members have also indicated they would be open to returning to a Victorian Tea which would be in the Spring of 2019. There will be more discussion on this subject and everyone's input is valuable. Any decision is made by a majority of the members. No one member decides for the other members.

You've heard the expression that two heads are better than one. Well we have a lot more than two heads which should increase our potential.



**SOROPTIMIST**  
Best for Women

### **Making a Difference for Women**

*Soroptimist improves the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment*

S.I. San Bernardino  
P. O. Box 1372  
San Bernardino, CA 92401

President .. Cathie Weber  
Vice-President .. Barbara Reynolds  
Secretary .. Michelle Gomez  
Treasurer .. Gladys Weems  
Director .. Judy Holbeck

### Meetings

1st and 3rd Thursdays  
6:30 p.m.

Our Lady of the Assumption School  
796 West 48th Street  
San Bernardino, California 92407

## Ideas to Ponder

Any powerful idea is absolutely fascinating and absolutely useless until we choose to use it.

—Richard Bach, author of  
Jonathan Livingston Seagull  
b. 1936