



Soroptimist International Sacramento Newsletter September 2021

SIS Mission: *To provide women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.*

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Presidents' Corner

By Phyllis McMaster Moist and
Cathy Diepenbrock

We are both excited and honored to serve as SIS Co-Presidents for 2021-2022. Our guiding motto is "**Building for the Future Together.**"

This phrase is more than the sum of those words. We are keen on continuing to **BUILD** on the work and visions of past Presidents. We envision a bright and vital **FUTURE** for our club, our Region, SIA and the larger international presence that Soroptimists are

afforded, particularly our seat at the table of the United Nations. But most significantly, we embrace wholeheartedly the premise that we

can and must do this **TOGETHER**. Our goal is to practice and model the idea that what we can do in partnership - as co-presidents as well as members - is the key to our success. With a sharp focus on the mission of Soroptimist - we work to empower women every day.

We are guided by the ideals that:

Women's economic empowerment is central to realizing women's rights and gender equality.

- When more women work, economies grow.
- When more women work, economies grow.



With all of this in mind, we understand that our region is experiencing unprecedented

uncertain times with the pandemic taking center stage for over a year now. We have shared a full year of Zoom meetings and we all long for the camaraderie of our in-person meetings and events. Additionally, we've heard from many of you: some of you have experienced COVID, some of you are staying as quarantined as possible to stay safe, and some of you are ready to resume life again, with caution. With all this in mind, as well as being mindful of local guidelines, we are planning our meetings by making decisions one month at a time. We respectfully ask for your patience as we navigate the ever-changing pandemic landscape. And however we come together, let's have a great year.

Leadership Retreat

By Phyllis Moist and Cathy Diepenbrock

We both were grateful to participate in the SNR Retreat this summer---it was wonderful seeing so many leaders across our region and sharing our values through a guided exercise. In fact, we did this exercise as your Co-Presidents and found that our common value is Collaboration, defined as working with others toward a common goal. Honestly, we are not too surprised that with this alignment.

Additionally, we were happy to host our Board Retreat on August 28th via Zoom. We invited both Board Members and Committee Chairs to join us. The meeting began with the Values exercise and then a quick ice-breaker. We highlighted how we visualize our work having a global impact that is started at our club level. The Soroptimist International's work with the United Nations speaks to the highly visible and impactful work we do.

We then met in breakout rooms to discuss the common values among those in each room, which led to discussions about how these values frame each person's work as leaders within the larger club. We wanted our leaders to evaluate how each of our values can help move us forward with the challenges that our club faces.

And as we---Phyllis and Cathy--- move forward with grit and grace, we are so very grateful to be a part of our wonderful club. We admire each of you and the strengths that you bring to our larger group. We look forward to engaging with each of you individually as well as together in a larger fellowship with our meetings this year.

Board Retreat via Zoom



Witness the opening of SIA's historic time capsule; experience a virtual exhibit of our early years; raise a glass to a special anniversary toast and happy hour; hear about our plans to Dream Big for the future; plus share in other social interactions and fun activities with Soroptimists from around the world!

Day 1: September 25, 7:00 p.m., EDT
Day 2: September 26, 7:00 p.m., EDT

REGISTRATION FEES

Early Bird \$40: May 17 - July 6, 11:59 p.m. EDT (EXTENDED!)
Regular \$50: July 2, 5:00 p.m. EDT - September 17, 4:59 p.m. EDT
Late \$75: September 17, 5:00 p.m. EDT - Event

Your registration fee covers both days and will grant you access to the virtual event on Day 1 and Day 2.

SI - JOIN THE GLOBAL CELEBRATION - October 1-3, 2021 (depending on time zone)

This October, Soroptimist International is celebrating its 100th birthday! That's a century of Soroptimists transforming the lives of women and girls around the world - and that is definitely something worth celebrating!

Our year of festivities that have been observed in each Federation will culminate with all members coming together for Soroptimist's 100th birthday party on October 1 - 3, 2021 (based on time zone). Although we wish we could meet in person, pandemic realities do not allow us to do so. But we don't want to miss the opportunity for members to come together, so we'll gather virtually to honor our 100 years as a global voice for women, while also creating unforgettable, exciting new memories as we begin the journey forward into our brilliant future.

This is your chance to connect with Soroptimists from around the world, be inspired by our keynote speaker, and gain

new insights from discussions among members in breakout sessions.

Registration for the celebration is now open, and we encourage you to sign up as soon as possible to receive the greatest savings!

- Regular Registration: 16 July - 14 September, 2021 / \$50.00
- Last Minute Registration: 15 September - 2 October, 2021 / \$75.00

To register for both events,

<https://www.soroptimist.org/events/>

You will find the announcement for the SIA and SI events on this page as well as a registration link. Register now for the best price.

Georgia Presnell's New Address By Phyllis Moist

Georgia Presnell has moved to Orem, Utah and can be reached at the following address:

Georgia Presnell
250 E. Center St. #137
Orem, Utah 84057

(She will be taking occupation of her apartment in a few weeks, but she is there picking up mail daily, according to her daughter in law.)

She is reported to be very happy to now be living not only closer to her son Greg Presnell, but also back in the area where she grew up. Given that this move happened before any of us could say good-bye, please send a card to Georgia to wish her well and let her know that we will miss her--- an avalanche of warm wishes to greet her in her new home!

Oktoberfest

By Wendy Haydon-Schneider

Most people have heard of Oktoberfest, right? It may bring to mind a big party drinking lots of beer, and women and men dressed in traditional Bavarian clothing...if that's the case with you, you are on the right track! I will tell you a little about the history of Oktoberfest, the beer and clothing associated with the Fest, and the current status of the Fest here in Germany!

The easiest of these items to address is the last, and the status is that it WAS cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19 – you know, that global pandemic that we are all dealing with?! It also IS cancelled for 2021 for that same reason. In Munich, where the largest Oktoberfest in Germany is held, it was scheduled for 19 September – 4 October, 2020, and then again was scheduled for 18 September – 3 October, 2021. If you want to attend in 2022 and want to start planning your adventure, it is planned to occur from 17 September – 3 October, 2022!

Oktoberfest is called d'Wiesn in Munich, after the colloquial name for the fairgrounds, Theresienwiese. Oktoberfest is an important part of Bavarian culture, having been held since the year 1810.

You ask, what happened in 1810 to create Oktoberfest? Well, Kronprinz Ludwig (1786–1868), later King Ludwig I (reign: 1825–1848), married Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen on 12 October 1810. The citizens of Munich were invited to attend the festivities held on the fields in front of the city gates to celebrate the royal event. The fields were named Theresienwiese ("Theresa's Meadow") in honor of the Crown Princess. Included in the festivities was a parade.

The decision to repeat in 1811 the celebrations from that wedding launched what is now the annual Oktoberfest tradition. Each year following 1810, small changes were made to the Fest (e.g., various

shows and carnival games/rides were added and horse races were included).

At some point in the 1800s, Oktoberfest was lengthened and the start date was pushed forward because days are longer and warmer at the end of September.

Since 1850, a parade has become an annual event and an important component of the Oktoberfest. Eight thousand people—mostly from Bavaria—and dressed in traditional costumes participate in it.

In addition to the recent cancellations, Oktoberfest was cancelled previously, due to a few wars (Napoleonic Wars in 1813, Austro-Prussian War in 1866, WWI in 1914-1918, WWII in 1939-1945) and two cholera epidemics (1854 and 1873).

In 1881, booths selling Bratwurst opened and the first beer was served in glass mugs in 1892. Woohoo!

The two years after WWI, in 1919 and 1920, Oktoberfest was replaced by the kleineres Herbstfest (translated as "smaller autumn celebration"), and in 1923 and 1924 the Oktoberfest was cancelled due to hyperinflation.

Beginning in 1950, the Fest in Munich has always been opened with the same traditional procedure: At noon, a 12-gun salute is followed by the tapping of the first keg of Oktoberfest beer by the Mayor of Munich with the proclamation "O'zapft is!" ("It's tapped!" in the Austro-Bavarian dialect). The Mayor then gives the first liter of beer to the Minister-President of the State of Bavaria.

On 26 September 1980, a pipe bomb was set off in a dustbin near the toilets at the main entrance to the Oktoberfest tent. The bomb consisted of an empty fire extinguisher filled with 1.39 kilograms of TNT and mortar shells. Thirteen people were killed and more than 225 were injured, 68 seriously. This was the second-deadliest terrorist attack in the history of Germany.

To keep the Oktoberfest, and especially the beer tents, amicable for the elderly and families, the concept of the "quiet Oktoberfest" was developed in 2005. Until 6:00 pm, the orchestras in the tents only play brass music (traditional folk music). Only after that may Schlager pop or electric music be played.

2010 marked the Oktoberfest Bicentennial. For the anniversary, a horse race in historical costumes was held on opening day. A specially brewed beer (solely available at the tents of the historical Oktoberfest), horse races, and a museum tent gave visitors an impression of how the event felt two centuries ago.

In 2013, 6.4 million people from around the world visited Oktoberfest in Munich, and visitors were served 6.7 million liters of beer, which is not that much beer when you consider the number of people attending! The number of visitors has remained relatively constant, with 6.3 million visitors attending in 2019.



Oktoberfest in Munich, undated photo. Word of Oktoberfest began spreading throughout the rest of the world, due to the nearly six million Germans who immigrated

to other countries like the US between 1820 and WWII.

Oktoberfest in the US started in the second part of the 20th century. It was a way that Germans who lived in the US could connect with something that they enjoyed while they lived in Germany.

In Pennsylvania, where some of the earliest German immigrants landed, the Reading Liederkrantz, a German singing and sporting society in Berks County, began holding an Oktoberfest in 1949.

Oktoberfest started in La Crosse, Wisconsin, in 1961; it is the Midwest's longest-running festival. By 1971, Cincinnati's Germania Society was holding its own Oktoberfest to fundraise for the construction of a clubhouse. And in 1976, Cincinnati had started its own event, dubbed Oktoberfest Zinzinnati. Today, it is the largest celebration in the US and one of the top five in the world.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest in Ontario, Canada, launched in 1967, Argentina's Fiesta Nacional de la Cerveza began in October 1963, and Brazil's Oktoberfest of Blumenau started in 1984 and is now one of the largest in the world after Munich.

Oktoberfest-style beers, known as märzens, began to be exported to the U.S. by the 1960s, also spreading the Fest's reputation abroad.

Oktoberfest Beer

Oktoberfest beer is an antique style of German beer that is popularly known across the world for its rich malts and iconic style. It is amber in color and flavorful. Here are a few of the German Oktoberfest beers; there are many to choose from!



At Oktoberfest, ladies of all ages mainly wear dirndls, although the prevalence of “ladyhosen” (lederhosen for women) increases every year.



Because the term ‘Oktoberfest’ is not trademarked to the city of Munich the way ‘Champagne’ is for sparkling wine from a specific region in France, there are literally hundreds of domestic and imported brands claiming to be ‘Oktoberfest’.

Oktoberfest Clothing

It’s easy to think that these are just “Oktoberfest costumes” and any cheap outfit from a Halloween shop will do, but that is just not the case. The traditional clothes worn at Oktoberfest are actually authentic Bavarian attire, so calling them “costumes” is not a good idea.



Model showing how beautiful the dirndl really is.....but women don’t usually wear heeled shoes.

A dirndl is made up of a blouse, dress and apron, these can usually be purchased in a set but not always. The bodice is meant to fit like a glove. A key consideration is length.

Traditional dirndls tend to be at knee-level or longer.

There has been outrage in recent years about cheap commercialized dirndls that are too short. For a lot of locals, they consider the short dirndls a clear sign of the wearer being a tourist.

It's important to know how to tie your dirndl bow. How it is tied indicates the marital status of the woman wearing the dirndl. There are only a few ways to tie to bow: right, left, back, and front each meaning something dramatically different.

Single ladies: tie your apron bow to the left. If you are willing to take suitors and are welcoming a little flirtation this is your bow tie. It is not an open invitation for men to touch, fondle, or initiate physical contact, it's just a signal a woman is not attached.

Taken: shift that bow to the right! The lady wearing her bow to the right is happy, in love, and not looking. It might mean they are married or just happy with their partner.

However, if there is no ring on her left finger, you need to remember, in Germany wearing a wedding band on your left indicates not only that you are married but that you are Catholic. A ring on the right ring finger, means you are married and Protestant.

If you are unsure if you are single or taken: consider this before you tie your bow in the front center. People will look at you confused..... because a bow tied in the front center indicates you are a virgin.

Double meaning: if the bow is tied in the back, there are two very different meanings, (1) either the woman is a waitress or (2) she is a widow. This is easily worked out; if she is carrying multiple beer mugs, then she is a waitress.

At Oktoberfest, men typically wear lederhosen (literally meaning 'leather pants' and they ARE made out of leather).

Two random guys at Oktoberfest in Mainz, dressed in their lederhosen.



My sweet hubby dressed up and ready to go!

With the lederhosen, men typically wear long sleeve checkered

button-up-the-front shirts (usually red or blue). They also wear good shoes.

If you're just visiting Oktoberfest once (or if you are like me and you just have not busted out the wallet to invest in Oktoberfest clothing – because they are expensive), you definitely don't need to go out of your way to buy special Oktoberfest clothing. I purchased a couple of checkered women's Oktoberfest blouses to wear with jeans. One of these days, I'll find the perfect dirndl for me.

I have not been to the Munich Oktoberfest, but have been to several that were held in the area where I used to live. They were small

(maybe a couple of thousand people attending each night) and still very lively! I was amazed how the waitresses could carry 5 liters of beer each hand (I could carry a max of 2). Eating, drinking, and dancing to a live band while standing on the table's benches. So fun!! Here are a few photos of an Oktoberfest that we attended!



The band is in the distance. Many people stand up on the table benches for most of the evening. We did too!



Typical meal at Oktoberfest. Usually, roasted chicken is also sold.



We danced and danced and danced....the band was really good!

Sources of information for this article:

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oktoberfest#:~:text=The%20Oktoberfest%20%28German%20pronunciation%3A%20%5B%C9%94k%CB%88to%CB%90b%C9%90%CB%8Cf%C9%9Bst%5D%29%20is%20the%20world%27s,around%20the%20world%20attending%20the%20event%20every%20year>
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Save the Dates: Idelle Claypool

October 16 - District 3 meeting
October 23 - Run for a Safe Haven on
District 3 team

Details of the events will be provided for the October newsletter but for now, save the dates.

To our valued membership

We want to stay safe and we want to reconnect . . . what to do?!

Regarding the location of our future meetings, a conversation in progress . . .

As we all know, conditions are ever-changing and we are closely monitoring the situation regarding Covid. Your Presidents and Vice Presidents checked with Idelle Claypool, who surveyed Region 3 Presidents, with results that showed Region 3 clubs doing all possibilities---Zoom only, In Person only and Hybrid (a combination of both). With a strong desire to keep all members healthy, we will go with the following hybrid model plan for the September meetings (for now) and we will be using our September meetings as an “exploring all possibilities” venture for the future.)

Friday, September 10th - Luncheon Business Meeting --- In person*

Swanston Community Center (11:30 am)
(with a Zoom option for those not in attendance).

***Members/guests will be asked to show proof of vaccination or a negative Covid test (within 72 hours).**

Lunch will be individually boxed; water and iced tea served.

Masks required unless actively eating/drinking.

If preferred, attendees can opt out of lunch (or taken to-go), so they can keep masks on and social distance.

The large room allows for social distance and has cross-ventilation from open doors.

Friday, September 24th - (Zoom) Meeting with guest speakers: Dream It, Be It Team, led by Phyllis Hayashi

This meeting will be via Zoom. More details to follow in mid-September.

This hybrid model allows all to participate in ways they are most comfortable. For the 9/10 business meeting, we will send out a Zoom

link and do our best to make it happen, but since this will be the first time, it's an experiment.

When we send out the RSVP for the 9/10 meeting, an option to Zoom will be part of the RSVP.

More information regarding how to provide proof of vaccination status or negative Covid test will be sent later this week.

Co-Presidents, Cathy and Phyllis

Aunt Bonnie is up against the wall

By Bonnie Coleman

It all started with a robo call from Bank of America. Not even a real person! They said I may have had my account tampered with and were canceling my account and would be mailing me a card. I quickly called the people I thought I may have pending charges with or may have in the future. Then I tried to fix it...big mistake.

I noticed that I could not sign in nor mail out with my usual user ID, Comcast. Only Apple was having anything to do with me and that wasn't the kind of help I needed. They were kind as always and stayed with me as I called Infinity\Comcast. They had robots to ask questions to which I had no problem, except I didn't know what to ask. I called various help sources and friends and then sat down to weep. I was at the end of the line. The irony was that I began my career as a technical write that can do these things. A large bank had noticed that no one understood the programmers and suspected the programmers were being deliberate because they thought to escape any extra work.

Be that as it may, it meant a job for me. I was hired basically as a translator between the big brains and little brains. Later on I too became a programmer elsewhere only because they were paid more. I designed

forms, wrote procedures, the whole enchilada. And now I could not send nor receive and email. I had truly become irrelevant to the world.

And I have not even become replaced by better robots. They are awful. There is never a glossary for all the good English words adopted or new words that mean the same as other words. Unlike other programs that provide solutions. That has always been the case between users and programmers. It seems to be continuing.

I tell you something should be done and if I can ever figure out how, and get this to our editor, editor Janet, maybe something will...God willing and the creek don't rise!

(Due to Bonnie's inability to text, email, etc., I took this per dictation so if it is missing something, blame me!)

Officers 2021-2022

Co-Presidents-Phyllis Moist &
Cathy Diepenbrock

First Vice President-Karen Smith

Second Vice President-Carol Adams

Secretary-MaryAnne Selvage

Treasurer-Kathy Platz

Assistant Treasurer-Maria Trejo

Board of Directors 2020-2022 –
Mary Locke

Board of Directors 2021-2023-
Minisha Trivedi

Parliamentarian-
Regena Boyland

Board Action Items

- Approval of minutes



September Birthdays

Wendy Haydon	September 9
Mary Kobane	September 22
Sally Day	September 23

