



SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

Soroptimist of Sacramento



September 2022

Upcoming Events

September 9- Business Meeting

September 23 - Maggy Krell, author of *Taking Down Backpage* (human trafficking)

October 8 - Business Meeting

October 22 - Halloween Party

November 4 - Business Meeting

November 18 - Speaker Meeting-TBA

December 2 - Business Meeting

Dec 16- Holiday Party

Newsletter Committee:

Glorian Martinelli
Janet Galliani, chairs

Members: Pat
Canterbury, Bonnie
Coleman, Wendy
Haydon, Phyllis
McMaster Moist.

September Birthdays

Wendy Haydon, Sept. 9
Mary Kobane, Sept. 22
Sally Day, Sept. 23.



President's Corner by Karen Smith

When I accepted the position as 2nd VP two years ago, I had no idea that my year as President would include our 100th anniversary. What an honor it is to serve in this most important year! This year we will look back on the amazing legacy of SIS, the 4th oldest active Soroptimist club, as well as move forward as we serve women and girls through our Dream programs and other endeavors.

As luck would have it, Idelle Claypool sold me a house in 2012 which led to a meet-up several months later where I casually said something about my 'flexible Fridays'. Idelle invited me to a meeting and boy, am I glad she did! Right away I was struck by the warmth of the members and the focus of the club mission. After a couple of visits I joined, but my work schedule didn't allow me to attend meetings regularly. But through committee work and connections with other longtime members, I found a home here in SIS.

For those who don't know my background, I am a retired teacher (35 years in elementary school in Roseville and Walnut Grove). For the last 14 years of my career, I taught science part-time while I was the director of the Writing Project, an organization that provides professional development for teachers on writing instruction. This past summer, I have transitioned toward full retirement and handed over the reins to a new director which is perfect timing for this new role. Besides education, I am passionate about traveling, hanging out with friends and family, and finding the best pastries in any city I visit. You'll also find me with my nose in a book (or my Kindle app) just about any time I'm alone or standing in line somewhere. I live in a little bungalow in midtown (with my cats, Lucy and Little Ricky), and I love my neighborhood for walking, biking and hanging out on the front porch.

I am a firm believer in open communication, so please do not hesitate to reach out to me by phone or email if there is something you want to discuss, suggest, ask, wonder about, or disagree with...keeping the lines of communication open and honest is important for the health of our club. I look forward to getting to know you all better during the coming year. Thank YOU for your service to our wonderful club, Soroptimist International of Sacramento.

Looking forward to Celebrating Our First 100 Years as the Dream Continues!

Join us for the District 3 Fall Meeting

by Sarah Lee (District 3 Director)

District 3 is SO EXCITED to be the first Fall Meeting scheduled in the new Biennium, 2022-2024, on September 10, 2022! The event will be held (in person!) from 10 am to 2 pm and includes continental breakfast and lunch.

Our theme this year is "Every Garden Needs Worker Bees".

SI Rancho Cordova Gold River is planning a wonderful meeting. You don't want to miss their Keynote Speaker, Marjorie Diaz, Education Services Liaison from the Folsom Cordova Unified School District Homeless Student Services. Homelessness is not only a barrier to education but also puts girls at greater risk of being trafficked. Ms. Diaz will share how our clubs can contact their own local school district's homeless student liaison and be Worker Bees and serve homeless students in their communities.

Friday Night Social will be held at Strad Meadery - come mingle with other Worker Bees as we enjoy meade made from honey!

REGISTRATION: Cost: \$45 per attendee and includes a Continental Breakfast and Lunch. Gluten Free, Vegan and Vegetarian options will be available. (This does not include the Friday Night Social.)

You can register [HERE](#) (Register by Friday, Sept 9th)

Soroptimist Development Retreat (SDR) – July 2022

By Karen Smith

With seven SIS members in attendance, we tied another club for most participation at the Soroptimist Development Retreat in Reno, Nevada on July 30-31. Sarah Lee, our District 3 Director, welcomed Carol Adams, Nancy Wolford-Landers, Minisha Trivedi, Nilda Valmores, Idelle Claypool and me with all kinds of cute elephant things – her favorite. This was my first ever Soroptimist meeting outside of SIS, and it was so valuable. Besides the fantastic keynote speakers, there were focused sessions for the presidency, tips and information for treasurers and assistant treasurers, ideas for fundraising, increasing membership, fun activities for club meetings and more. I took so many notes! Governor Lisa Fitzgerald's theme "Dig Deep" carried us throughout the retreat, ending with a wonderful garden-themed brunch on Sunday morning (thus our floral and gardening garb in the photo).



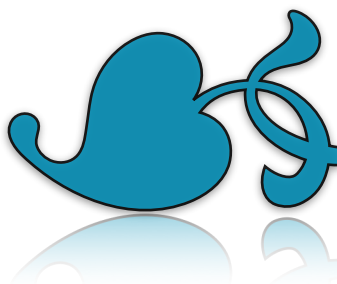
Celebrating Our Past

By Phyllis McMaster Moist

Georgia Presnell, our oldest living Past President, was President of Soroptimist International of Sacramento 40 years ago in 1982 and will continue to be a member of our club while living in her new residence in Orem, Utah. In my interview with her by phone on Saturday, August 25, I asked her to recall the highlights of her year of presidency. She fondly remembers that our club had a meeting every year that was the Men's Day Luncheon and she personally had 35 men attending the luncheon in 1982 as an outreach effort to businesses and corporate heads for sponsorship. She also remembers the Cadillac Dinner Dance during her year that had 600 people attending, with the John Skinner Orchestra providing the dance music and Mr. Sacramento himself, Stan Atkinson, being the co-host. These were also the years of the Camellia Hat luncheons (she won the hat contest 7 years in a row!), fashion shows, and Christmas boutiques. She remembers hosting members to her home to make the Christmas ornaments, which were sold at the Christmas Boutique. We miss you, Georgia and wish you well in your new home---and we are thrilled that you are remaining with us as a member. In our 100th year, you are definitely an important part of our Soroptimist Past.



Cadillac Fundraiser



Georgia's 103rd Birthday Bash

By Phyllis McMaster Moist

Georgia celebrated her 103rd birthday on June 7th and a birthday party was held in the community room of her senior apartment complex in her new living quarters in Orem, Utah. Thanks to Carolyn Roberts, President of the Salt Lake City Soroptimist club, our club was able to provide flowers and a card the day of the party (the party was a surprise!) and also receive pictures of the lovely event. Georgia also received a lovely letter of recognition from S.I.A. and the mayor of Orem City stopped by to wish her Happy Birthday. The local media came and interviewed her and broadcast her birthday celebration on the evening news. As Georgia described it, "it was a party that started at 9:00 a.m. and lasted until 10:00 that night!" She, of course, loved every minute of it.

The pictures are: Georgia with Salt Lake City SI President Carolyn Roberts, standing next to the flower arrangement sent to Georgia from our club; Georgia holding up the card that we sent to her, signed by many who attended the club meeting just prior to her birthday; Georgia standing with the Salt Lake City club members who attended her birthday party.



Thoughts on Georgia Presnell

By Bonnie Coleman

Past-President Phyllis called and asked me, in light of our centennial celebration, to substitute my monthly article with one about Georgia Presnell. I was happy to try and thought it would be good to incorporate some thoughts from those who have more SIS years and better memories than I. Not lengthy bios because of time and space but characteristics, traits, or whatever we think when we think of our Georgia. Most are written in past tense because, well, they didn't all happen yesterday and because she has moved on to capture hearts and minds in Utah.

There are many common threads: she is always perfectly groomed, coifed, and bejeweled from the top of her head to the bottoms of her 4 inch stilettos (until she recently dropped to 2 inch heels). She was President in the 1980's and her big fundraiser was the Cadillac Dinner Dance which provided a great dinner and dancing at a lovely hotel with live music for 600 people, plus a chance to win a Cadillac sedan! Later she was a loyal participant in the annual Halloween costume party, the See's Candy Store fundraiser and she made a fantastic video tour of our See's store, which we still have posted on our Facebook page.

Georgia and her husband, Frank, enjoyed a devoted marriage; they went ballroom dancing and he drove her wherever she needed to be and helped her until he passed away. (Afterward she drove herself until she was past 100.) She is devoted to her family and often brought her sister to SIS events. She has always been and continues to be genuinely sweet, making those in her presence feel very special. But she is no pushover. No-one could say "no" to her. (As many of us can attest.)

Outside of SIS Georgia intended to ride her bicycle in a race but was heartily dissuaded by her family. So she brought her stationary bike to the event and rode it, in her bedazzled shoes and bedazzled bicycle helmet. It was a bit of a step down but it still got her a chat, a photograph and an article with Lance Armstrong. Not too shabby. And oh, the shoes!

On a personal note, I want to thank the members who contributed to this article: Barbara Coulam, Mary Kobane, Kathy Platz, and Nancy Wolford-Landers. No one person could have completely captured the essence of Ms. Georgia.

Visiting Sweet Georgia!

By Wendy Hayton-Schneider

Many of you know that my husband, Werner, and I embarked on a two-month trip to the USA and Canada: June 11 – August 11, 2022.

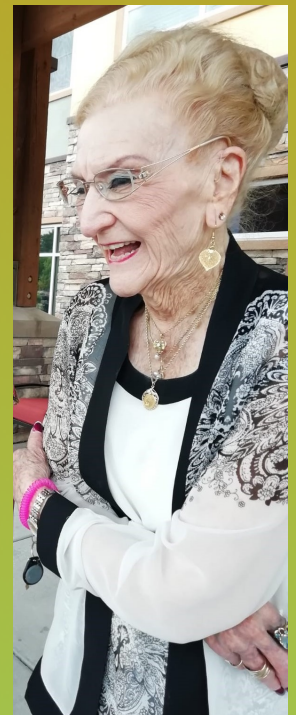
During our time in Utah visiting my niece, her husband, and their daughter (my grand niece) Cara, we visited our long-time SIS, Inc. member, Georgia Presnell! It turns out that my niece and Georgia live about a one-hour drive away from each other.

Georgia and I very much looked forward to getting together and our visit was full of chatter and laughter. She told us how she was President of our club in 1982. She showed Werner and I around her beautifully decorated apartment – it had many family photos that we loved seeing.

Georgia is so popular that, during our visit, her telephone rang and it was Rosalie Gladden, and I had the opportunity to say hello to her too!



Here is a photo of Georgia with Werner and me. I am also including a photo of Georgia (age 103) with my niece, Cara (age 3) – two beautiful people with a 100-year age difference! I am in the photo only to provide support to a sometimes-shy niece. The final photo shows Georgia's joy!!!



To all SIS members,

We were so grateful and humbled by the celebration of the wonderful year that we both shared as co-presidents of SIS. We had fun and learned a lot, and we enjoyed being able to share this amazing leadership experience as a team. Your generous gifts were overwhelming! HUGE thanks to everyone! I (Cathy) spent the summer reconnecting with friends and family from far and near and always treating them, using the variety of gift cards. One such meal included a friend who is also interested in becoming a member of SIS and I loved that there was a full circle moment in our get-together! I (Phyllis) also used the gift cards for meals with friends and travel, spending time in San Francisco to see some traveling Broadway shows and dinner with friends at Selland's.

And of course, thank you to all of you for all you do to support our mission, our leaders and our community at large!

With deepest gratitude,
Cathy and Phyllis



The celebration of Dr. Barbara Smith-Nash's 50 years of service to Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, held on May 28th at Scott's on the River. This event was a marvelous celebration of all Barbara has done for AKA but also for numerous organizations across the Sacramento Region.