



SOROPTIMIST OF SACRAMENTO

June 2024

Upcoming Events

Business Meeting 6/7
Installation 6/21

2023-2024 Officers and Board of Directors

President:

Nilda Valmores

1st Vice President:

Regena Boyland

2nd Vice President:

Sona Page

Yoli Manzo

Secretary:

Mary Wordlaw

Treasurer:

Minisha Trivedi

Asst. Treasurer:

Idelle Claypool

Director

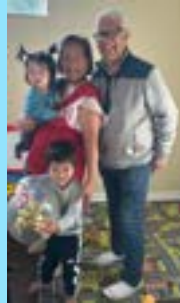
Rosalie Gladden

Director

Jean Swenk

Parliamentarian:

Nancy Wolford Landers



President's Corner by Nilda Valmores

It's hard to believe that this marks my last President's message.

As your cruise captain for the year and for the start of our club's second century, I just want to thank you for making it an enjoyable journey for me, too. This year was fun and meaningful with the support and leadership of our Board of Directors, committee chairs, and for past officers like Karen Smith, Phyllis Moist, Mary Locke, and Mary Kobane just to name a few. The energy and insight of new members like Kelly Garfield and Michelle Duong helped make a huge difference, too, as I know we will remember our special holiday party and our 101st anniversary.

By the (soft and not exact) numbers, I hope that we will remember the \$32,000 we gave away in scholarships this year; the \$30,000 we raised to help continue our scholarship and service work; the funds we raised for Maui Hawaii, Girls Scouts and the kids they helped, our holiday toys, the flowers we gave to the elderly for Valentines and the clothes for the women students at CSUS, and the \$10,000 Blanche Edgar and Shirley Godfrey grant award we are giving to CASH at our first meeting in June. Twice, we had newspaper and TV coverage for our See's candy fundraiser and our Sacramento History Museum exhibit and event. We have welcomed 5 new members this year and gathered to discuss at least 3 books authored by women and about women. We also updated our internal docs, like the by-laws and came up with understandable budget presentations and docs. We were represented well at our District meetings and at our Human Trafficking conference that we co-hosted. (I'm sure there are other things and people that I've forgotten to mention, so please forgive me.)

As your cruise captain and as President, I loved getting to know so many of you better. It takes time and work and opportunity to do so and I'm so glad it all came together. Thank you for your commitment to "Service, Scholarships, and Sisterhood." The journey may not have been completely smooth, but hopefully there weren't too many rough waters!

Finally, it is wonderful to be able to hand the reigns over to Regena Boyland knowing that there is smooth sailing ahead for next year under her capable leadership and that of the Board. We hope you will attend the Installation for the 24-25 Board on June 21 (12 pm) at Swanston. The RSVP for that event will be sent out the week before and there is more information on the flyer in this newsletter.

All life's best –

Nilda

***Keeping Dreams Alive as We Embrace
Diversity, Empowerment and Sisterhood***

**Soroptimist International of Sacramento invites you to the
Installation of the 2024-25 Board of Directors**

**Friday June 21, 2024
Swanston Community Center
12:00 PM
Luncheon cost is \$25**

The following officers will be installed:

*President – Regena Boyland
1st Vice President – Yoli Manzo
2nd Vice President – Sally Day
Treasurer – Minisha Trivedi
Assistant Treasurer – Idelle Claypool
Secretary - Mary Wordlaw
Director 2024-25 – Dr. Jean Swenk
Director 2024-26 – Kelly Garfield
Parliamentarian – Phyllis Moist*

Blanche Edgar/Shirley Godfrey Award

At the June 7 Business Meeting, Sawan Vadan, Executive Director of CASH (Community Against Sexual Harm) will receive a check for \$10,000 from the Blanche Edgar/Shirley Godfrey fund. This fund is set aside for brick-and-mortar projects which support the mission of Soroptimist. CASH will use the money to fund the installation of a shower trailer for homeless women at their drop-in center. The center provides services to homeless individuals, including meals, clothing, and job training, and one of the biggest challenges to these individuals is hygiene. Providing this shower trailer will be a crucial step for addressing this issue as it will provide a safe and private space for homeless women to shower and take care of their personal hygiene needs.

The BE/SG committee received this request, and it was approved by the committee and the board. It will be interesting to hear more from Sawan about the impact of this award and the positive things that are happening at CASH.

For more information and a video about CASH, check out this link:

<https://www.kcra.com/article/sacramento-cash-sawan-vaden-sex-trafficking-survivor/60803756#>

For more information about CASH: <https://cashesacramento.org/>



Calling all Mentors!

By Phyllis McMaster Moist

Did you know that Soroptimist International of Sacramento has a mentorship program for new members? Given that we have been around for 100+ years, there probably were years when it existed in the past, but our President Nilda resurrected it when she stepped into leadership this year. Your Recruitment and Retention Committee co-chairs, Karen Smith and Phyllis McMaster-Moist, think it has worked so well and we are making it a permanent part of our incoming membership support.

A mentor is defined as “an experienced and trusted advisor”. To mentor someone is to advise or train. While these definitions sound very formal, the intention is to reach out to create a connection between the new member and our club. And while many of us have acted as unofficial mentors to our new members on many occasions, to be an official mentor would mean you’d be assigned to a new member. This will enable you to connect very soon after induction for coffee, lunch or maybe even wine after work, so that the new member has a go-to person to reach out to for any questions that come up. Perhaps there are questions about things like committee responsibilities, club procedures, club policies, etc. New member Lupe Vanryckeghem stood up at a meeting a month or so ago to acknowledge Eva Garcia for calling her up and inviting her to a social event. Lupe is new to Sacramento and appreciated the invite. Eva was being a mentor and a friend.

Interested in being a mentor? Anyone in the club can be a mentor, but a great way to connect with our new members is to sign up for the Recruitment and Retention Committee. Another great way is to invite your friends to become members. You automatically become their mentors if they join!



SIS Bookclub Update

by Regena Boyland

This week, the book club met for the last time this 2023-24 SIS club year. The last book we read, Sarah's Quilt by Nancy Turner, ended with a 'bang' - - it was over 400 pages - - the longest book we read to date! Those who were able to finish the whole book enjoyed it and those who didn't quite make it through yet may continue as we did not reveal too many secrets to spoil the ending. Our last meeting, held at Danielle's Crepery was a great time, had by all.

Since our book club started about a year ago, we have read six books. Each book had its own unique story but the one thing they all had in common was they featured strong, courageous women who fought against and survived many challenges. The attributes portrayed by these women parallel our goal of promoting women's empowerment and aligns well with what our club does. Enjoying the books we read was only one of the benefits of participating in the book club.

The most valuable benefit I experienced from being in the book club was getting to know my fellow SI Sacramento sisters. In addition to discussing the books, we enjoyed each others' company in a relaxing, fun environment....other book club members described our outings as 'great group and conversation', 'joyful group', 'lots of laughs', 'lots of inspiration'. Glorian has volunteered to chair the book club next year. Thank you Glorian! Looking forward to next year which will start in September 2024!





Random Acts of Kindness for Girl Scout Troop 1290

SIS donated \$500 for a RAK on May 3 to Girl Scout Troop 1290 for their Silver Award which benefits children at the Sacramento Children’s Receiving Home. The donation will help buy materials for the beautiful fleece blankets (examples pictured here).

Ella and Maggie’s project is to make blankets and blanket kits made of fleece. They made several blankets and then put together the kits for others to make. The kits contain a handmade booklet, a link to a how-to video with instructions and pre-cut pieces of fleece. The girls are also providing in-person presentation to the kids at the Receiving Home and to other girls in their Girl Scout Troop.

The girls chose the Children’s Receiving Home because “when they come, they are afraid, confused, angry and sad.” Children arrive from all over California, and they will, most likely, move on to foster homes afterwards. The blankets can be taken from place to place and provide comfort for them. The community benefits because it impacts the children’s lives in a positive way.

This project benefits many children and will also help Ella and Maggie to earn the Silver Award which is the highest award that a Girl Scout in 6th-8th grade can earn. A win-win for all!



Member Spotlight – Idelle Claypool

By Karen Smith

Most SIS members joined because of a personal connection with another member. That is certainly true for me as Idelle's invitation to a club meeting was my impetus for joining back in 2013. Idelle's connection was with Nancy Wolford-Landers who she had never even met! How is that possible? Read on and you will find out!

In 2010, Idelle had been keeping her eye out for some kind of community service. Her children had grown up and left home, and so the involvement in school and sports-related activities had stopped. This gave her some extra time and as someone who has always been involved in many things, she was ready and didn't want her life to just be all about work.

Idelle earned her real estate license while on maternity leave after her daughter, Arima's, birth in 1990. A correspondence course, as well as some other courses she had previously taken, prepared her for the licensing exam and her first year as a realtor was with Realty World. Following that, she spent 15 years with Dunnigan and then the rest of the time with Lyon Realty for a total of 32.5 years as a realtor.

Arima is a bookend for Idelle's career: Her job as a realtor started while Arima was an infant (she remembers having to fit in pumping during her early days of training with Realty World). And her last transaction was the sale of Arima and her husband's house when they purchased a larger home just down the street. Idelle's years as a realtor were full of connections. Most of her clients were from referrals and repeat customers. In fact, that's how I met Idelle; she was my realtor when I bought a house in midtown as she had been recommended by a teacher friend of mine.

One of these connections led to how Idelle found out about SIS from Nancy. Idelle sold Lauren Buchanan's son and daughter-in-law's house in East Sacramento. After the sale, she sent out 'JUST SOLD' postcards to neighbors and guess who lived a couple of streets over? Yes...Nancy! Nancy took one look at the photo on the postcard, and thought, "She looks like someone who would like to join SIS...", so she sent a letter to Idelle through the snail mail inviting her to a meeting. The timing was perfect for Idelle, and she liked what she saw in SIS and joined in the fall of 2013.

Idelle sat back a bit and observed during that first year, and then she was asked to be committee chair for Scholarship the following year. Although she had never served on the scholarship committee, she jumped right in. Since then, Idelle has served on many committees, and she has chaired and co-chaired many of them. She enjoys a new challenge and so she has chaired committees for which she had no experience so that she could learn something new.

Besides her committee work, Idelle has served on the board many times, and she was President of our club in 2015-16. She also served as District 3 Director for the Sierra Nevada Region in 2020-22 because she wanted to connect with our other local clubs, and she enjoyed seeing learning about other local clubs and how they supported the Soroptimist mission.

One (of many) SIS highlights was the 100 Year Dinner in 2023. It was the first time that she had co-chaired this type of event (with the amazing Rosalie) and it gave her a great sense of pride and accomplishment in our organization, and it was so wonderful to see it all come together. The event certainly re-ignited the excitement in people about SIS especially after a tough three years due to the pandemic.

Idelle and Dan have lived in Sacramento for more than 35 years. They moved here when Dustin (her son from her first marriage) was six years old and soon Arima came along. Now both are grown up with lives of their own. Dustin lives in Sunnyvale and Arima and her husband, Joe, live in Sacramento with their 3-year-old son, Joey. Idelle and Dan love being grandparents and spending time with family is a highlight. Idelle does a lot of work behind the scenes with SIS (currently serving as assistant treasurer among other things) but when she's not doing that, her life is full of gardening, hiking, Saturday morning walks with Dan followed by breakfast out, reading, word puzzles (and Sudoku) and traveling. In fact, it was a trip to Spain and Portugal which pushed Idelle's retirement up a little bit earlier than planned. They enjoyed their time there so much that when it was time to renew insurance for her realtor license a few months later, she decided it was a good time to change her role to referral agent, so she'd have more time for other interests.

In her 14 years as a member of SIS, she has been very involved, and she doesn't see that slowing down. Soroptimist is part of who she is and what she does. I think we can all agree that we are grateful for that.



Soroptomist Offering Service (SOS) Donations for 2023-2024

SOS is a voluntary \$50 donation, and it gives members the privilege of bragging and sharing news at SIS meetings. Members can donate any time!

Thank you to the following members who have donated to SOS:

<i>Carol Adams Valmores</i>	<i>Janet Galliani</i>	<i>Nilda</i>
<i>Regina Boyland Willis</i>	<i>Phyllis Johnson</i>	<i>Jennifer</i>
<i>Idelle Claypool Barbara Coulam Moist</i>	<i>Mary Locke Glorian Mengelkoch</i>	<i>Phyllis</i>
<i>Eva Garcia. Cathy Diepenbrock Smith</i>	<i>Lupe Vanryckeghem. Barbara Smith-Nash</i>	<i>Karen</i>
<i>Michelle Duong Mary Kobane. Barbara Coulam Sally Day. Yoli Manzo</i>	<i>Elaine Pesce Kathy Platz</i>	<i>Nancy Wolford-Landers</i>
<i>Laurie Norris Eva Garcia Mary Wordlaw Janet Galliani</i>	<i>Corrine Joe</i>	

Newsletter Committee:

Karen Smith
Glorian Mengelkoch
Nilda Valmores

