

SoroptiValley News

Best for Women

2017-18 SIMV Membership-absent Shirley Morgan #2

2018
Volume 29, Issue 2



Inside this issue:

Presidents Message Pg. 2.

Signature Programs
Pp 3 - 5.

Fashion Show Pg. 6.

Live Your Dream Pg. 7.

Calendar of events
Pg. 8

Help us welcome our NEWest members:

Denise Brewster, Linda Castellano, Dora Mamea, Takiya Moore and Anzola Harris. Installation will be on June 24th. Photos to follow.

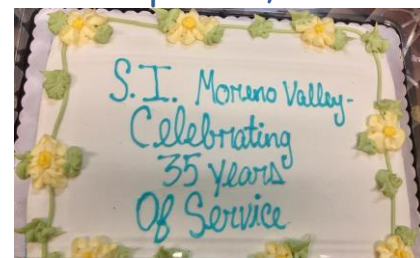


Whether you are a Mother or not, as a Soroptimist you are deserving of this day. Why you ask? This is who you are:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| • A protector | A Giver |
| • A warrior | Loud and Proud |
| • Attentive | Live in the positive |
| • Intentional | You have a joyful spirit |
| • Resilient | and a humble heart |

You were created on purpose with a purpose-to serve.
You are a blessing.....

SIMV Chartered by
the Riverside Chapter
on April 22, 1983



President's Message By Nina Thomas

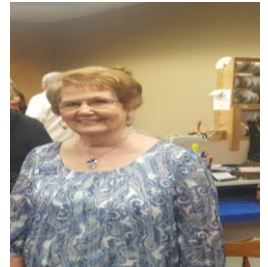
We're Getting **HOT HOT HOT!!!**

I know the older you get, the faster time goes...BUT COME ON! It was January, I turn around twice, and April is gone. The good news is that SIMV has been "ON IT". At our planning meeting last summer, I shared the one word I kept coming up with for a theme that seemed appropriate. It was MORE. Ladies you have turned up the heat.

- The focus and intensity on our signature programs is showing amazing results. With the movement of funds from the CAP program, the grant money from Riverside County Asset Forfeiture (Thank you La Donna for your hard work) and a donation from Sandy Ferguson (Thank you Sandy for your generosity) we were able to give MORE money to our Live Your Dream winners. Scholarships went to seven applicants and two of our past winners to the total of \$6,000. It was an added bonus to have Kimberly Cook, District 2 Director on hand to participate in our morning meeting as the scholarships were handed out. Thank you, Judy and Ruth for a great job as always!
- The "Dream it Be it" program was in full swing. Pat and her team were really cooking through- out the program. Be sure and read her article for all the sizzling details.
- We have continued to bring in funds as members have made their dollars grow.
- I want to give a shout out to SIMV member Sandy Ramirez as she opened her Flower shop to co-host with SIMV the Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce Mixer. The turnout was great, and we did some fun networking.
- March also brought us to our annual Fashion Show and Luncheon. With cool heads, hot fashions and lots of hands on deck, amazing baskets, raffles and with Jan at the helm, it was a total success. Thank you one and all!
- Speaking of MORE, how about that membership. Way to go LaDonna! The Meet and Greet got us all on track to invite and encourage women to join us. Not just for the meet and greet but to JOIN US and so they did! A warm welcome to the new members. Denise Brewster, Linda Castellano, Dora Mamea, Takiya Moore and Anzola Harris.
- Spring Conference is just around the corner in June. We have MORE ladies from our club attending this conference than in the past. SIMV will have a major role in contributing to the success of the conference. I know we are up for the challenge and thankful for the opportunity to be a part of making dreams come true.

As president I'm so fortunate to show up, watch all of you put on the appropriate hats and do an amazing job. To the officers, the committee chairs and all of us that work alongside one another, you bring me MORE joy than you know!

Thank you, *President Nina*





Rosemary Clayton Memorial Scholarship Program

I picture Rosemary with her beautiful smile and giving a heavenly nod of approval for SIMV's fourth year of the Rosemary Clayton Scholarship Award program.

For the benefit of the new members, the Rosemary Clayton Scholarship was established in memory of a dear friend. Rosemary Clayton was dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls at both the local and international levels. A resident of Moreno Valley and loyal member of SIMV and other service organizations, Rosemary was a model of selfless volunteerism, faithful friendship, and service to her community.

Since this memorial program was launched in 2015, SIMV has steadily increased the scholarship's collective impact. In 2015, we had 3 applicants and awarded a single \$1,000 scholarship. In 2016, we had 4 applicants and awarded one \$1,000 and one \$750 second place scholarship. In 2017, we had 6 applicants and awarded two \$1,000 scholarships (including one to a Dream It Be It participant) and four \$500 runner-up scholarships.

With that little walk down memory lane, SIMV's Rosemary Clayton Scholarship Committee (Shirley Y and Pat Box) has completed the judging of 8 applications for the 2018 awards. We had to be a bit creative to stretch the budgeted funding far enough to recognize all applicants. As a result, SIMV will award two \$1,000 scholarships (including one to a 2017-2018 Dream It Be It program participant) and 6 runner-up scholarships (\$400 for 2nd place; \$300 for 3rd place; and another four at \$200). We are pleased that SIMV was able to continue its trend of helping all applicants with their educational endeavors. In hopes of increased fundraising for the 2018-2019 club term, it would be FABULOUS to also increase the program's collective impact to even higher levels. Fingers crossed . . .

Pat Box



Dream It, Be It (DIBI) Recap 2018 (by Pat Box)

SIMV's second season of Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls program at Bayside Community Day School is now a part of our club's history. I am confident that everyone involved in the planning and delivery of this 8-month adventure (7 workshops and wrap-up party) would agree that although it involves a lot of work, the satisfaction received from really making a difference in the lives of our students is **SO WORTH THE CLIMB**. None of the program outcomes would have been as successful without such a fabulous team of co-facilitators. So here's a huge **THANK YOU** to Ruth Salley, Shirley Y Morgan, Nina Thomas, LaDonna Jempson, Denise Fleming, and Sandy Ferguson. Besides helping the students achieve your workshop's learning objectives, you also made a real connection with the girls through your personal stories. Special thanks to Ardith Turner and Gwen Murphy for putting the gift bags together; those are always a big hit with the girls. And thank you, Nina, for securing Kama Burton for the keynote speaker. She was so inspiring and memorable—and certainly the high point of the wrap up party. And thank you, LaDonna, for facilitating the student recognition certificates from State Senator Richard Roth and State Assemblymember Jose Medina.

Student evaluations are the true test of our local program's effectiveness. So let's get right down to the nitty-gritty. In a 5-scale rating, this is how our students ranked their participation in the 2017-2018 DIBI workshops:

- * 100% agree/strongly agree "I feel more confident about my future success"
- * 100% agree/strongly agree "I feel more prepared to pursue my career goals"
- * 88% agree/strongly agree "I have new tools to overcome obstacles to my success"
- * 86% agree/strongly agree "I have new tools to overcome setbacks"
- * 100% agree/strongly agree "I understand how my values can connect to possible careers"
- * 100% agree/strongly agree "I know women who want to support my professional aspirations"
- * 100% agree/strongly agree "I was introduced to professional role models"
- * 100% agree/strongly agree "I had an opportunity to create achievable goals for my future"

For the question, "What was your favorite part of Dream It Be It," the responses were:

- * By telling us there is support for us
- * Everything has helped, and I learned something new each time
- * It makes me think of my goals constantly
- * Learning new things
- * How to overcome setbacks

For the question, "What additional support do you need to live your dreams":

- * 6 replied: More mentoring opportunities from a local Soroptimist member
- * 1 replied: On-line mentoring
- * 3 replied: An on-line group of girls who have completed Dream It, Be It
- * 7 replied: An opportunity for funding to support education or career training
- * 1 replied: People to talk specifically about the careers we want to achieve

All of these results have been shared with Soroptimist International of the Americas to gauge overall program effectiveness and to identify improvement strategies to benefit all participants throughout our Federation.

MY question to SIMV members is, **"Who wants to join me in Season Three of Dream It, Be It at Bayside?"** I have some ideas about how we might address a few of the "additional support" needs. Let me know if you are interested in being a workshop leader, a motivational speaker, or participate in student-led interviews about your career path. There are 7 sessions, one per month, from September through March. It is likely that the Wednesday class schedule will change times to 10:06-11:06 AM.



Celebrating Success 30th Annual Luncheon and Fashion Show Luncheon? What happened to the tea?

The tea has been retired and replaced by a luncheon with some of the same food and a lot less work with setting up and tearing down. Imagine our surprise when we found ourselves standing around by 11 a.m. on Saturday and wondering “are we done already?” The addition of new members who are awesome worker-bees made a huge difference.

As usual, the planning and preparation starts way before the event. The Senior Center and Stein Mart are reserved for 2019 within a month or two after this year’s event. Members start requesting donations or purchasing items for the baskets as early as November, but the real push begins in January when all of our activities in the fall are completed and we’ve had a Christmas break. After that breather, we’re ready to tackle our major fundraiser.

The biggest change from having a tea to a luncheon was (obviously) the food. Those delicious chicken salad sandwiches were still on the menu, this time on croissants as a sandwich instead of tea finger sandwiches. Pasta salad, veggie appetizers, fruit kabobs and cupcakes completed the menu. Purchasing clear plastic plates, serving trays and cups helped with a speedier set-up, but the food prep took more time on Friday morning. Those who ate pasta salad for a week or so after the luncheon agreed that the recipe will be cut down next year.

The harpist, Kristen Cameron, graced us with her heavenly music while guests arrived and were seated by the very sharply dressed Explorers. Guests had plenty of time to purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win one of those humongous baskets – Spring Fling, Entertainment, Gift Card Tree, Garden Patio, Chocolate, Men, 3 Golf Baskets or individual baskets – Easter, Beach, Baby, Spirits, Garden Party, Bag and Beads. I hear that some of our own members even won a basket!

Robin Gomez, our 2018 Live Your Dream Award Winner, told her heart-wrenching story about her journey to where she is now, a successful woman with a big heart. Two additional winners, Severa Sullivan and Sarahi Estavez, also shared the challenges they’ve experienced. We’re so proud of these young women and thrilled to help them out.

We welcomed back some of the models who have graciously accepted our plea for help many times. The lovely ladies were Jean Eiselein, Sue Yeoman, Denise Lewis, and Kimberly Sutherland (how do you walk in heels that high) and were accompanied by the handsome men, JR Morgan (always a jokester), Jamil Dada (most worldly influential), Eric Lewis (so debonair), and David Kurylowicz (our new police chief/coming back next year to model).

We all agree that it is a blessing for us to be members of this particular club and to be able to raise funds (almost \$12,000) to give to such deserving women makes all the effort of this Luncheon and Fashion Show worthwhile.



Jan Hartig

Live Your Dream Award Program



Live Your Dream Award Morning , February 14th was a day filled with love and appreciation. It was our regular business meeting but nothing was regular about it at all. First we had our President, Nina Thomas introduce Kimberly Cook, our District 2 Director from the Golden West Region and she told us how proud the Region is of all of us and how they appreciate that we participate in all the programs recommended by the Golden West Region Board and are an ideal club, which made all of us feel so proud.

Then, Judy Vasquez our former "Live Your Dream" (WOA) winner and now chairman of the "Live Your Dream" committee introduced our "Live Your Dream" award winners: We were fortunate to be able to increase the amount of monies available this year and as a result, we were able to give out awards to all 7 of our applicants and 2 of our past winners. The awards went as follows:

Robin Gomez \$2000.00, Tiphany D. Goines \$500, Erin Kristine Bodine \$500, Sarahi Noemi \$500, Severa S. Sullivan \$500, Rebecca G. Segovia \$500, Bonnie L. Galloway \$500, and Past Winner Trina Keys \$500, Judy Vasquez \$500 at the Christmas Party. So a total of \$5500 to our winners at the meeting and \$6000 total for the year.

The ladies each told us a little about themselves and some of the hardships they had endured to get to the place they are now; head of household and going to school and providing for their families. Amazing stories and we were so happy to be a part of their lives as we assisted in helping to provide access to education.



Ruth Salley Co-Chair



Robin Gomez-1st Place



2018 Live Your Dream Award Recipients

*Soroptimist International of
Moreno Valley*
P.O. Box 906
Moreno Valley, CA 92556

SoroptiValley News

Nina Thomas, President

Sandy Ferguson, Speakers

Pat Box, DIBI, Scholars

Ruth Salley, LYDA

**Jan Hartig, Robin Lang
Shirley Morgan, Fashion
Show**

LaDonna Jempson, Editor

Webpage:

<http://www.simorenovalley.org>

**Facebook: Soroptimist
International of Moreno Valley**

SOROPTIMIST PLEDGE

I pledge allegiance to
Soroptimist and to the
ideals for which it stands

The Sincerity of
Friendship, The Joy of
Achievement, The
Dignity of Service, The
Integrity of Profession,
The Love of Country.

I will put forth my
greatest effort to
promote, uphold, and
defend these ideals, for
a larger fellowship in
home, in society, in
business, for country
and for God.

Calendar of Events:

All meetings noted below are held at Brandon's Diner at 7 am.

B-Board Meeting-1st Wednesday

B-Business Meeting-2nd Wednesday

S-Guest Speakers-3rd Wednesday (If you know of someone whose mission is in line with ours, provide the contact information to LaDonna Jempson jempsonfam@msn.com)

May 16th-Gina Cavollo Collins-Mission Inn Museum Director

June 20th-Maria Cox-Board of Directors from House of Hope

S-SOLT Training- 4th Wednesday

When there is a 5th Wednesday in the month, there will be no meeting.

Previous Guest Speakers



Ivorie Franks



Ron McDonald



Jane Moore



Carla Thornton



Michelle Dawson



David Kurylowicz

June 7-9 Spring Conference at Pala Resort

June 24 Installation of New Members and Officers

July 13-14 Leadership Training, Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix

Oct 6 Quartermania (this is a combined Fundraiser with the Optimist Club)

Need every member to sell tickets and volunteer to help. This is one of our major fundraisers which support our Signature Programs.

Oct 26-27 Fall Meeting Hosted by the SI Desert Cities of Coachella Valley

We are dark during the months of July and August for meetings.

SIMV Board will be busy in training and preparing for the upcoming year.