

S O R O P T I M I S T

Soroptimist International of Hamilton

Hamilton , Montana
Northwestern Region, SIA

Best for Women

Volume 20 Issue No. 8 Feb 2018

CALENDAR

Feb 1 noon	Business meeting, BJ's
Feb 8 noon	Speaker/SOLT mtg. BJ's
Feb 15 noon	BOD mgt. BJ's
Feb 23 5:30	Social, The Edge
Mar 1 noon	Business meeting, BJ's
Mar 7 5:30	Awards Ceremony, MDMH

PRESIDENT'S FEBRUARY MESSAGE



I am so ready for February. In spite of having the flu which lingered on as a cold for the last 3 weeks, I've managed to have some great discussions with many of you on what we can do as a club. Keep those creative juices flowing! I love it. I do believe that the present moment is a turning point for women. The #MeToo movement followed by an unprecedented number of women running for political office, I am inspired by what I read in the news. And maybe, there is a chance for us as a club to make some positive changes for women in our community.

February is Black History Month. Take a few moments this month to think about some of the courageous black women who have helped changed the world. They are my February HEROs. For me personally, I grew up in a racially-charged community and the civil rights movement is core to who I am. One of my HEROS is Shirley Chisholm. Brave. Smart. Courageous. Her words are as relevant today as they were in the 1960s and 70s.

On the Soroptimist front, all the applications for our scholarships should have been received. I am hoping we have a good candidate pool both in numbers and quality. Now its time for our awards committee to get to work!

February is also the month that we give to The Linda Massa Youth Home. This year our donation is \$1,500. Did you know the Youth Home program was established in Western Montana in 1971 and there are now 9 group homes in Western Montana including ours in Hamilton? It is such a needed service in our community. Please consider showing your support and possibly making a personal contribution at the upcoming Annual Gala. We have a table that seats 8. I definitely plan on attending.

I am also really excited about this month's speaker. On February 8th Becky Bishop from the Bitterroot College is coming to speak to us on The Psychology of Poverty. Sandra set this up and I think it will be really interesting. Hope to see you there!

President Sue Mac

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THIS JUST IN! MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Our Area Meeting (Missoula, Hamilton & Dillon meeting with District Director Sandra Kokoruda) will be in Missoula on March 3rd. Agenda forthcoming. President SueMac is planning to attend and would love to bring some other Hamilton members with her.

ATTENTION!! A RIGHT TO BARE ARMS (or in this case, wrists!)

Now that I have your attention, just a reminder that I still have tickets for the raffle. Two beautiful tennis bracelets, each valued at \$325. Two for the price of one. The lucky winner can bedazzle with one on each wrist if they like, or keep one and give one as a gift.

Tickets are 3/\$25 or \$10 apiece. The winner of the bracelets will be drawn at the “Evening Wrapped In Chocolate” event on March 24th. For every five tickets sold by our members, they will draw a number to put them in the running for \$100 in the “Spin It To Win It” contest. I don’t know of anyone who wouldn’t like to win cash!

I will have tickets for distribution at the meetings or call me and I will get them to you. My new phone number is 361-8020.

Robin, Raffle Chair



Two - Sterling Silver Bracelets
each with 34 = 2.98 princess cut sapphires, length 7.5



Feb. 2	Laura Mertens	Mar 24	Katelyn Anderson
Feb. 14	Alene Tunny	Mar 28	Judy Rothie
Feb. 25	Kathleen Graler		

SERVICE

Your SERVICE committee (SueMac, Brenda, Vikki B) request your input!

The SERVICE committee handles new requests for donations and projects that weren't budgeted or agreed to at the beginning of the year. This year the SERVICE committee also decided to become more proactive and explore new areas that the club might want to donate/assist. We started this exploration at SAFE. A logical place for women to find and help other women in need. And find we did..... It was a great meeting. They were truly happy to see & share with us and the meeting generated lot of ideas for the club to discuss.

What surprised us was that a lot of the ideas presented were actually requests for volunteers: hands-on assistance to help free up those who work at SAFE to better meet the needs of the women they serve.

I think this is worth discussing as a club and for each of us to consider as an individual.

I. ON HANDS ASSISTANCE:

1. SAFE needs more crisis line personnel. They are planning to put on a training session to help train those who staff the phones. Would train those who are merely interested and those who would volunteer to help. The caveat being that most of the phone calls are not a crisis but just someone who needs to talk
2. Transportation. A lot of time is taken up driving women to appointments, grocery shopping, moving, etc. A cadre of Soroptimists would be a safe alternative to provide transportation to women who don't have access to a car.
3. Volunteer at SAFE picking up the phone, driving, grocery shopping, etc
4. Become a friend to a woman in need. "Take her to lunch"
5. Help build shelving, outdoor shed at SAFE Thrift store

II. INCREASED FISCAL SUPPORT:

1. Donations for housing. This has become a huge issue. Homelessness. Affordable Housing. SAFE is right in the middle of this community issue
2. Additional scholarships to reach women at SAFE: phlebotomy, BTR college, etc
3. They need toilet paper, diapers, paper towels, feminine products, food and other items in their crisis and transitional housing
4. Household items for women moving into new housing

We will be collecting the following items at our meetings to donate to SAFE

Toilet paper, diapers, feminine products

laundry detergent

cleaning supplies

\$10 gas cards for shelter residents

oil change gift certificates for Transitional Housing residents

art supplies for the kids' room: play-doh, glitter, Lego Duplo blocks (the larger Legos for little ones)

Take your gently used items to the SAFE Thrift Store. It really helps

SAFE is celebrating their 30th Anniversary this year.

It should be a joint celebration between SAFE and Soroptimists

Strong girls never lose. They only learn and come back Stronger - Kylie, Age 12



From *STRONG IS THE NEW PRETTY: A celebration of Girls Being Themselves* by Kate T. Parker

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## AN EVENING WRAPPED IN CHOCOLATE

MARCH 24, 2018

It is count down time for our fundraiser “An Evening Wrapped in Chocolate”. We have some great auction items for our silent and live auctions. Our committee is getting geared up now that the holidays are over. Now we need the members to help, we will be asking you once again to support this event by coming, selling tickets, or helping set up or clean up. We once again will have the wine pull but only 30 bottles. If it is easier for you, you can give us money and we will buy the wine, that way we can get a discount.

We are hoping we can add considerably more to our scholarships this year but we do need your help.

Patti  
Chairman



# SAVE THE DATE

## For NWR's 100<sup>th</sup> Conference!

**April 19-22, 2018**

Northwestern Region 2018 Conference

The Coeur d'Alene Resort

115 S 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

## **Celebrate the Legacy of the Northwestern Region!**

Dust off your club scrapbooks – dig deep for those club memories – polish your tiara – and get ready for three and half days of Soroptimist fun, collaboration, learning, celebration, recognition and connecting with the best team of members in the entire SIA organization!

*Teamwork Makes the Dream Work* is our biennium theme and at our 100<sup>th</sup> conference we will be **Celebrating the Legacy of the Northwestern Region!** Your region leadership team has been hard at work planning a conference that will have us honoring our past, celebrating our present and looking to the future. You won't want to miss this once in a lifetime milestone event! Review the important "pre-call" information listed below and make sure you follow the directions so you and your club don't miss this fun, educational and historic conference!

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### **HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

Every team needs a room to stay in when they're on the road! Make your hotel reservations NOW and take advantage of the team rate that has been negotiated for our conference! Room rates are between \$129-\$169 plus tax depending on which tower your room is in. You can choose between the North Tower, Park Tower or Lake Tower. Now we don't have ALL of the rooms at the resort so make your reservation now!

**Reservation deadline for the "NWR Soroptimist Conference Rate" is: March 12, 2018**

The room block is limited, so don't delay! ALSO – be aware that the resort's policy is to charge for the first night when the reservation is made, so only reserve the rooms that you know you will be using. We want everyone attending to have access to these great rates so don't reserve rooms that are not in your name. ☺ AND - DO NOT use a third party travel site as we don't get credit for the room and this has a negative financial impact on the region.

Room reservations can be made by calling The Coeur d'Alene Resort's  
Reservation Department at:

**855-999-7998**

**Mention NWR Soroptimist Conference**

to get the negotiated rates

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### **ALASKA AIRLINES DISCOUNT CODE**

For our Soroptimist team who may be flying into Spokane (closest airport to our conference site), we have negotiated a discount with Alaska Airlines.

Please use Discount Code **ECMZ276** when booking your flight at [alaskaair.com](http://alaskaair.com) to receive a 7% discount. This is available for flights from April 15 – 28, 2018.

## CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIPS

The home team can't make the dream work without your help! Each year we ask clubs and members to step up to the plate and help offset the costs of region conference by being a conference sponsor. This allows us to bring dynamic keynote speakers and activities to our conference. Our "Teamwork Makes the Dream Work – Celebrating the Legacy of the Northwestern Region" sponsor packet is available on the region website. When you help make our dream work you will receive benefits such as:

- Complimentary meal packages
- VIP tickets for a private reception with our Keynote presenter, Jennifer Spear, owner of "Clean Slate Strategies/Work Unscripted" and past SIA President Rosemary Reid
- Complimentary Tell and Sell table, special seating and more

Check out the sponsorship levels and please consider being a conference sponsor.

**Deadline for receipt of sponsorship information is March 16, 2018**

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## GOLF DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE AT THE COEUR D'ALENE RESORT GOLF COURSE

Come visit The Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course and experience the world's only floating green. Set against the vibrant and sweeping landscape of beautiful Lake Coeur d'Alene, the course is known for immaculate landscaping and memorable service from the time you arrive until you leave the 18th green. It's a golf experience like no other.

**2018 Group Rate: \$145 per person** - Greens fees include the use of a custom electric golf cart, unlimited range balls and use of our water front practice facility, pre-round sports massage, personalized engraved bag tag, and the service of a forecaddie for the length of your visit to our course.



**To Book Your Tee Time Call - 208-667-4653**

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## CELEBRATE YOUR CLUB'S LEGACY

We want to honor the great legacy that all of our clubs have given to their communities. To do this we are asking each club to:

- Submit photos and descriptions of important events and milestones your club has experienced since chartering. These are to be submitted electronically to Governor Stephanie Smith at [stephaniesmith1315@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniesmith1315@gmail.com) **NO LATER THAN March 23, 2018**. A Legacy presentation will be created using your club photos and will be displayed throughout the weekend.
- Create a poster collage that celebrates the club's history and legacy. Include items that tell the story of the club's history in the community; the service done over the years and the fun events the members participated in. Posters will be turned in on the first day of registration at the conference and will be on display throughout the weekend. **For planning purposes clubs should use regular size poster board (22x28 inches)** as we may not be able to display posters larger than this dimension.

Additional information will be included in the Call to Conference regarding both of these items.

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## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

We will honor and celebrate individual members and clubs again this year for their outstanding teamwork. We have updated the award forms and this year they will need to be emailed to both Region Secretary Kristi Puckett and Governor Elect Marti Crook. This will help us make sure we don't miss any submissions.

Take time to review the eligibility requirements for the 2017-2018 NWR Club Champion Award, MVP Award and Rookie of the Year Award. We want to recognize your club and individual members' efforts in making our dreams and the dreams of the women and girls we support come to life!

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## **FOR PLANNING PURPOSES**

All club members should review the important conference deadlines and dates listed below. The Official Call will be posted on the region website by February 20, 2018 and will include information regarding:

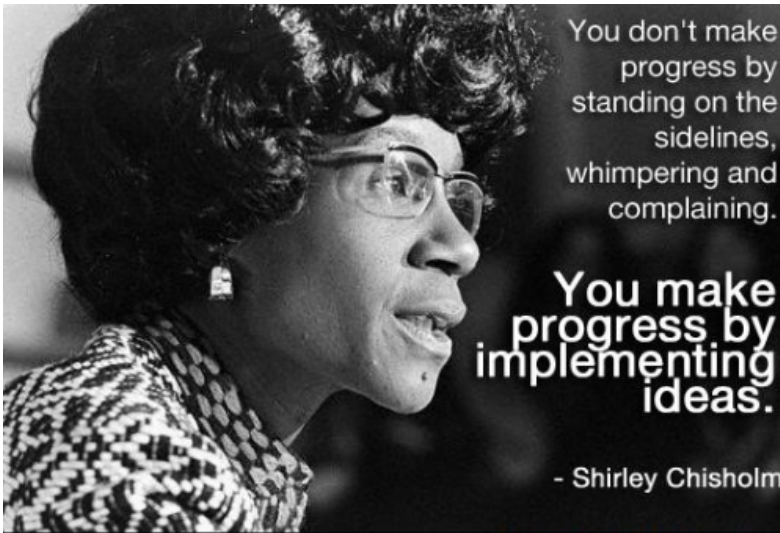
- Registration and Meals (early bird registration is \$50; meal package for seven meals will be \$275)
- Activities planned during the conference
- Conference Agenda
- Resumes for candidates running for region and district leadership positions
- Proposed changes to the NWR Bylaws and Standing Rules
- Proposed 2018-2020 NWR Budgets
- Workshop descriptions
- And much more

**Please note that the Delegates' Briefing will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2018 starting at 5:30PM.** Registered club delegates should plan on attending as we will be discussing the proposed Bylaws and Standing Rule changes, the 2018-2020 NWR Budgets and other items delegates need to be aware of.

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## **IMPORTANT CONFERENCE DEADLINES AND DATES**

- February 20, 2018 – Official Call to Conference will be available on the region website
- March 12, 2018 – Hotel reservation deadline for the negotiated rate
- March 16, 2018 – *“Teamwork Makes the Dream Work – Celebrating the Legacy of the Northwestern Region”* conference sponsorship deadline
- March 20, 2018 – Early Bird Registration Deadline (registration fee is \$50)
- March 23, 2018 – Photo submissions are due for the Legacy Presentation
- March 31, 2018 – Deadline for Club Giving and Founders Pennies for those clubs participating in the NWR Club Champion Award
- April 1, 2018 – Deadline for NWR Club Champion Award, Individual MVP and Rookie of the Year Awards
- April 3, 2018 – Regular Registration Deadline (registration fee is \$60 – after this date a \$40 late fee is applied)
- April 19, 2018 – Clubs turn in their club poster collage at registration
- April 19, 2018 – Delegates Briefing for all registered delegates – starts at 5:30PM
- April 20, 2018 – Conference begins at 8:30AM



## Did you know?

**Shirley Chisholm**, an American politician, educator and author, was the first black woman elected to United States Congress in 1968 and served 7 terms. In 1972, just 8 years after the 1964 Civil Rights Act was passed, she became the first black candidate for major party's nomination for the President of the United States. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2015.

Chisholm's entire congressional staff was comprised of women; half of these women were black. She said that she faced more discrimination during her legislative career

because she was a woman than because of her race.

I especially like the quote shown above: Progress is made by implementing ideas. It's the same thing Mayor John Engen said at our Soroptimist Conference in Missoula last October. It's one of the things I love about **our club**.

Here are a few more quotes from Shirley that I take to heart:

"In the end anti-black, anti-female, and all forms of discrimination are equivalent to the same thing: anti-humanism"

"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair"

"SERVICE is the rent you pay for a room on this earth"

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Claudette Colvin, age 15, preceded Rosa Parks refusing to relinquish her seat on a bus in 1955

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Computers wore skirts and had black faces 1943: Katherine Johnson, Mary Jackson, Dorothy Vaughan and others. All broke professional barriers for black women & played key roles in getting us closer to the stars.

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Interracial marriage was illegal in the United States for over 300 years (1664 – 1967)

**I AM A
WOMAN.**

**WHAT'S YOUR
SUPERPOWER?**

SOROPTIMIST OF HAMILTON

P.O. BOX 1012

HAMILTON, MT 59840

Submissions to the newsletter can be sent to: <mailto:sinewsletter@gmail.com>

If you submit to either of the above locations, you are guaranteed it will reach us!