

# S O R O P T I M I S T

Soroptimist International of Hamilton

Hamilton , Montana

**Best for Women**

Volume 21 Issue No. 6 January 2019

## CALENDAR

<b>Jan 3</b> noon	Business meeting, BJ's
<b>Jan 10</b> noon	SOLT/Speaker mtg at BJ's
<b>Jan 17</b> noon	BOD meeting, BJ's
<b>Jan 31</b> 5:30	Social at the Edge
<b>Feb 7</b> noon	Business meeting, BJ's
<b>Feb 14</b> noon	SOLT/Speaker mtg at BJ's
<b>Feb 21</b> noon	Social at the Edge

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## PRESIDENT'S JANUARY MESSAGE

One year ago I wrote my first Presidents Introduction for the newsletter, thanking Marcia, introducing my theme of HEROS and outlining some of the ideas I had for the year. This January I want to reemphasize these goals. They are: 1) to discuss ISSUES that affect women in the valley and 2) to emphasize SERVICE. I picked the words INSPIRE, CELEBRATE and EDUCATE as my driver for our meetings.



I have had mixed success at meeting these goals. That's OK. That's what goals are about. Something to strive toward. Our list of service is so impressive. Since 2014 our scholarship program has grown from \$4,700 to over \$20,000 with 17 different awards and scholarships granted. This past year we have discussed and learned about homelessness, poverty, trafficking, crime, incarceration, healthcare and the importance of education.

I am very proud of the work we are doing at the Corvallis primary school. It costs us almost nothing (background checks) to volunteer 7 hours a week to help girls and boys with their schoolwork. The message that these volunteers send to these kids is that we care about them, that they are worth our time and energy to help them succeed. It is incredibly rewarding and it makes a difference.

As a club we value our friendships with one another. We support women and girls in our community and that includes our own club members. For some of you 2018 was a great year. For others it was challenging, perhaps full of hardship. It is so important to me that we support one another. That is part of our mission and it makes our club stronger.

Now onto 2019!

PRESIDENT, SUE MAC

## Be Aware. Be Cautious. We have been Hacked

Our SI Hamilton account has been hacked. Someone has the capacity to send messages out using our [sihamilton@soroptimist.net](mailto:sihamilton@soroptimist.net) email. They will look like they came from me. Yesterday they threatened me that if I don't send money they will send pornography to all my contacts. I am going to stop sending any messages from [SIHamilton.net](http://SIHamilton.net) from here on out. You will still get the SIHamilton newsletter emails since they come from a different account. I have contacted Governor Marti to find out if this is happening to other clubs and will proceed accordingly.

Did you know?

People can send comments to us via the "square" we use to process credit card payments in the See's trailer.



This landed in our inbox just before Christmas: "exceptional service and organization"

### SIA Strategic Plan: Four Pillars

- Programs / Impact
- Membership / Engagement
- Fundraising / Philanthropy
- Public Awareness / Recognition

Sue Mac talked about this SIA strategic plan at our last meeting and will be elaborating on it in the next few months.

## Adopt a School Project

Everything continues to go well with our new project at Corvallis Elementary with Liz Jameson and her kids. We each received a Christmas note from the kids (see attached), which each of the kids signed.

Every time I arrive, several of the kids will ask how Mary Lou is doing. They really miss her, even though she was only able to be there for two sessions.

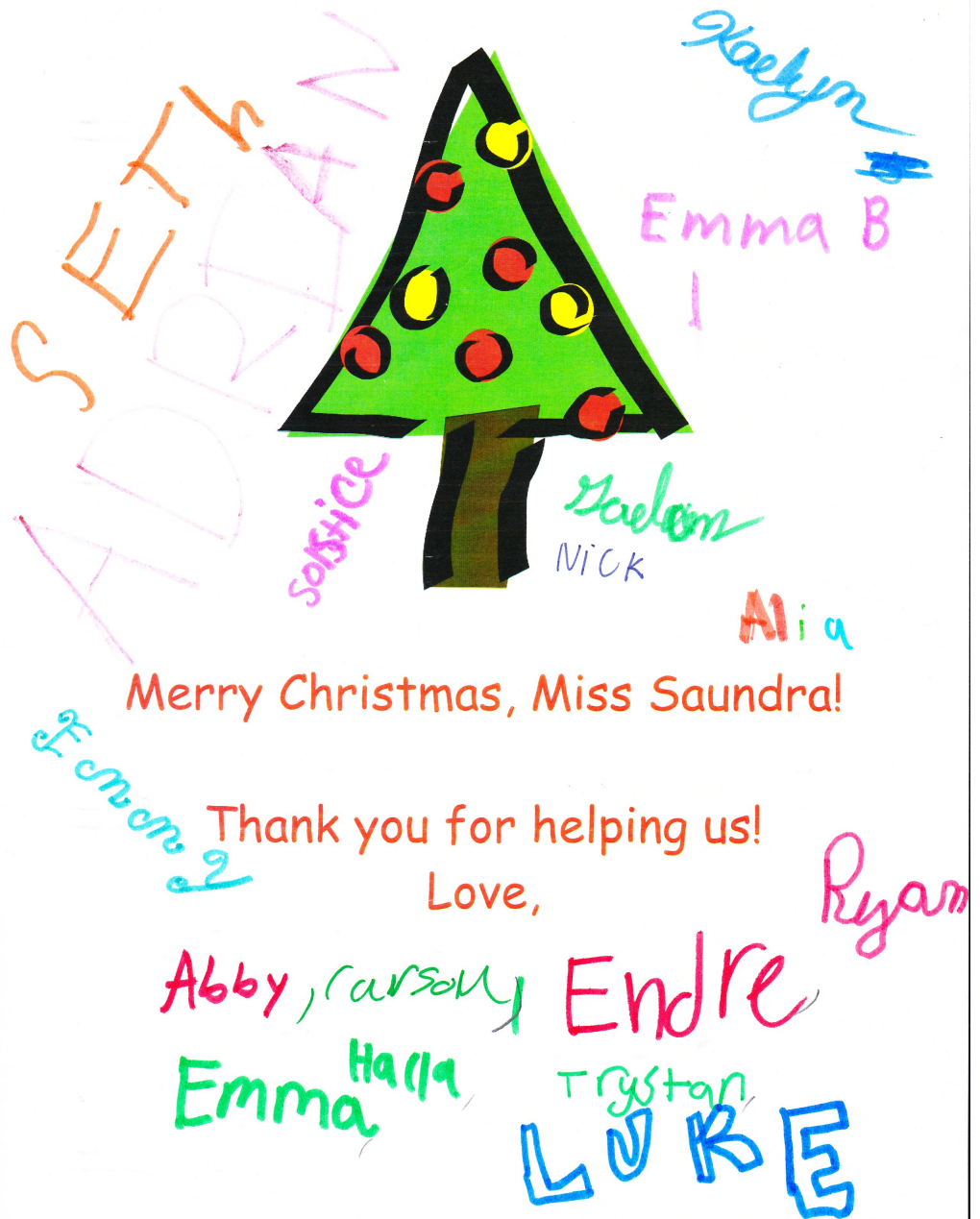
This is a great project. We are making a significant difference to these kids, giving them some much needed attention and encouragement.

I like to place my "Volunteer" sticker in different places and the kids like to point out that I still don't know where to put it.

Sandra

Above:  
Christmas note from the class

Sue Mac works with Emma







## **FREE COMMUNITY EVENT**

### **“Ending Commercial Sexual Exploitation”**

**Wednesday, January 9, 6-7:30pm**

**University of Montana, UC Theatre (3rd Floor)**

In this community workshop, Seattle based presenter Peter Qualliotine will share insight from three decades of work to end CSE about how we can work together to create and sustain efforts to:

- **Provide robust survivor-centered exit services for youth & adults.**
- **Promote accountability of sex-buyers and traffickers.**
- **Work along a spectrum of prevention to reduce CSE.**
- **and Organize across multiple sectors to change the cultural and social norms at the root of the problem.**

**Discussion and Q&A after presentation**

## **January 11, 2019 is National Global Human Trafficking Awareness Day**

71% of detected trafficking victims are women and girls

Females are chiefly trafficked for sexual exploitation, but also for forced marriages, begging, domestic servitude, forced labor in agriculture, catering, in garment factories or the cleaning industry or for organ removal

The illegal sex industry is the third fastest growing economic enterprise in the world

72% of the females that have been trafficked are sexually exploited

An estimated 40.3 million people were victims of modern slavery in 2016.

83% of confirmed human trafficking cases in the United States are American born citizens

In 2018, President Donald Trump signed the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act into law, which is aimed at closing websites that enable the crime to occur, and prosecuting their owners and users.





## Christmas Party

It was great as always. And it was so good to see Mary Lou there. Looks like we're truly a multigenerational group.





# SAVE THE DATE

## 101<sup>st</sup> NWR Conference

**April 25-28, 2019**

Northwestern Region 2019 Conference

Skamania Lodge

1131 SW Skamania Lodge Way

Stevenson, WA 98648

It is my pleasure to invite you to the 101<sup>st</sup> Conference of the Northwestern Region Soroptimist International of the Americas to be held April 25-28, 2019 at the beautiful Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, WA. Your meeting team is putting together a conference full of training, sharing and personal growth with plenty of opportunities for fun. There is so much to do in this scenic location. The lodge hosts a spa, zip lines, hiking trails, golf and so much history. The surrounding areas include Multnomah falls, wineries and breweries, fishing, scenic tours/drives, and of course shopping. Please see the attached fliers to plan your trip.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS** To grow stronger together working as one, you need a room to stay in so you and your club members will be well rested for the exciting activities that are planned! Make your hotel reservations **NOW** and take advantage of the group rate that has been negotiated for our conference! **Room Rates:** For single and double occupancy the rate is \$144 per night plus tax and a daily resort fee of \$20 per room. A one night deposit is taken at the time of reservation. Rates are good for two days prior to and two days after the conference based on availability.

**Resort fee includes:** unlimited free local calls; wireless high speed internet in the guestroom, Gorge room, Cascade Dining room and River Rock Lounge; access to three scenic hiking trails, health club, pool and outdoor hot tub, tennis and basketball court time; bike rentals; free parking; fresh hot coffee.

**Deadline:** To get this amazing rate, you need to reserve your room before **March 13, 2019**. But why wait, reserve today to guarantee your room. You can even come a day or two early or stay late so you can enjoy the wonderful amenities the lodge spa has to offer as well as the amazing sites to tour for the same great rate. We want everyone attending to have access to these great rates so don't reserve rooms that are not in your name.

**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.

To make hotel reservations call **844-432-4748**  
mention the group name of Soroptimist International of the Americas, Northwestern Region  
to receive the discounted rate.



## CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP

To grow stronger together, we need your support! Each year we ask clubs and members to 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. The benefits of sponsorship vary depending on the level you wish to contribute. The levels start at \$250, \$1,000, \$1,300, and \$1900. When you help us grow, you will receive benefits such as:

- Recognition in the program (all levels of contribution)
- Special recognition during the program (for levels \$1000, \$1300, & \$1900)
- Complimentary Tell and Sell table, special seating Friday night for up to 10 (for levels \$1000, \$1300, \$1900)
- Complimentary registration and meal package (1 for \$1000, 2 for \$1300 & \$1900)
- Sponsor reception in the VIP lounge with refreshments (for levels \$1300 & \$1900)
- One double occupancy room for the conference at Skamania lodge (for level \$1900)

Check out the sponsorship levels and please consider being *"Growing Stronger Together, Working as One"*

**Deadline for receipt of sponsorship information is March 18, 2019**

We are excited to have Britt Bensen-Steele as our keynote speaker. Britt will be talking to us about taking care of ourselves so that we can help other women and girls. Britt earned a bachelor's degree in exercise physiology and a Master's degree in health education and promotion. She is a yoga instructor that thrives on inspiring and encouraging change, as well as inspiring organizational health. Britt has a diverse background in employee wellness, corporate fitness, breast cancer clinical research and intervention, hospital-based health education, and campus health promotion. She is the author of *Pilgrim-Living Your Yoga Life Every Single Day* and *My Authentic Self: A Journey Through Journal*, and co-author of *Wise Women Speak*. She will also be providing a workshop on Saturday on Stress Management.



## ALASKA AIRLINES DISCOUNT CODE

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

Please use Discount Code ECM001 when booking your flight at [alaskaair.com](http://alaskaair.com) to receive the discount.

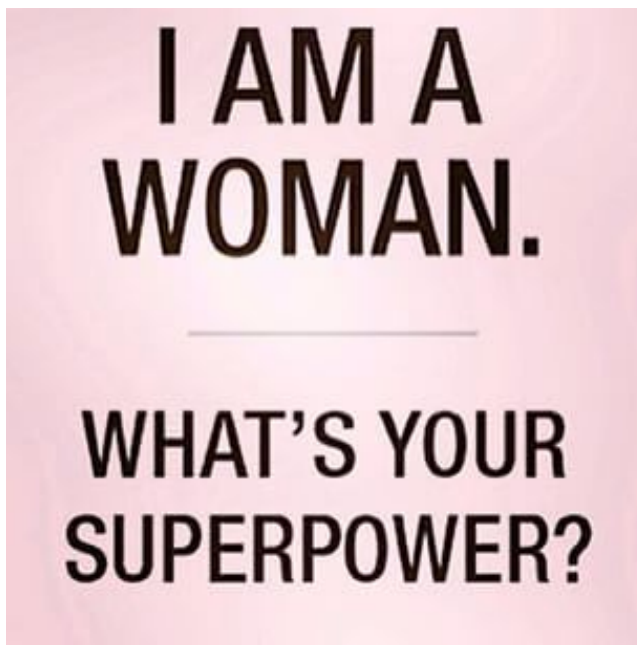
## IMPORTANT CONFERENCE DEADLINES

- February 24, 2019 – Official Call to Conference will be sent via email blast,
- March 13, 2019 – Hotel reservation deadline for the negotiated rate
- March 18, 2019 – *"Growing Stronger Together, Working as One"* conference sponsorship deadline

**SOROPTIMIST OF HAMILTON**

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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!