



The Signpost

Making a Difference for Women and Girls for 96 Years

Soroptimist International of Kansas City
South Central Region

SOROPTIMIST®

August 2022

The Signpost

Investing in Dreams



President's Message Melanie Simpson



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Kay Stewart, Editor

www.kcsoroptimist.org

Soroptimist Kansas City Foundation
Soroptimist International
of Kansas City
1221 West 103rd #224
Kansas City, MO 64114

So August is here, and we have started the year with a bang!

I have heard from many of you about scheduling your committee meetings, and I thank you for your commitment. We have great plans for this year, and I am so excited to see all of you working so hard to make it all happen.

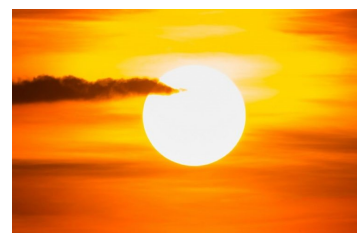
We are planning a new member breakfast to make sure our new members feel welcome and informed about our club and its mission.

Our next board meeting we will be discussing how our club can participate in the trade fair for the South-Central Region Fall Meeting. Please mark your calendars now for October 21-23. Wouldn't it be great to take half our club to Oklahoma City? Lynn has had some great ideas for the trade fair and if anyone else has ideas, please send them my way before the next board meeting.

Let Marie know how you felt about meeting at Pegahs and please share if you have another great place in mind. We want to take advantage of making our in person meetings memorable.

Together We Make A Difference

President Melanie



HOT! HOT! HOT!

August Calendar

August 3
Special & Cultural Events
Committee Meeting
11:30 a.m.
 Charleston's
 8817 State Line , KC, MO.

August 3
Community Services
Committee Meeting
8:00 p.m.
 via Zoom

August 9
Service Objectives Meeting
6:00 p.m.
 Kay Stewart's Home

August 10
Board Meeting
6:00 p.m.
 Shepherd's Center
 9200 Ward Parkway, ste. 200
 KCMO 64114

August 13
Recruitment & Retention
Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m.
 Shack Breakfast and Lunch
 7218 College Blvd
 Overland Park KS 66210

August 17
Business Meeting
6:00 p.m.
 Lynn LeCount's Home
 Roeland Park, KS

Business Meeting

Wednesday, August 17, 2022
5:30 p.m. networking
6:00 p.m. Buffet
Lynn LeCount's Home

Summer Salad Spread

Chicken salad

Ham salad

Tuna salad

Iceberg lettuce

Bibb lettuce

Fresh spinach

Pasta salad

Sliced fresh fruit

Chocolate chip cookies

Raisin oatmeal cookies

Chocolate with chocolate
chips cookies

Bottles of water



Feel free to bring any other
beverage you desire.

\$18

Program

Natasha Kirsch
 The Grooming Project

Collection

School Supplies (see next page)

Please RSVP to
attendance@kcsoroptimist.org
no later than Monday, August 15

Business Meeting

Lynn LeCount has graciously offered her backyard for our August business meeting. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate. If it is too hot, too rainy, whatever, we will move it inside.



School Supply Collection for August 17th Business Meeting

Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday - Missouri

The Sales Tax Holiday begins on Friday, August 5, through Sunday, August 7. (To keep in line with our mission, when able, try to gear purchases toward more “feminine” choices.)

Suggested Items

#2 pencils (24 pack)

package of pens

colored pencils, 12 count package

skinny markers, 12 count package

Highlighters, pack of 2 colors

2 glue sticks

Zippered pencil pouch

single subject composition spiral notebooks

ruler

4 pocket folders with prongs

backpacks



August Birthdays

Wakisha Briggs August 8

Dianne Young August 13

Elaine Fry August 28

Soroptimists Volunteering

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: JERRI COFRAN

Jerri Cofran and Betty Long met by fate, according to both of them. "It was God's will," says Betty. "It was fate," says Jerri.

Jerri first "met" Betty back in March of 2020 during the pandemic. Jerri signed up to be a volunteer Phone Pal, an initiative that was launched during COVID to help older adults to feel less socially isolated and lonely. She called Betty up, and they hit it off right away. Since that day, they have talked on the phone every week like clock-work.

"We talk about our flowers. I love flowers. I have a flower garden in my front and back yard, and Jerri and I have some of the same flowers," said Betty.

Both Betty and Jerri look forward to their weekly check-in every Thursday. "She calls me every week," said Betty. "We used to talk on Wednesdays, but I visit the Senior Citizen center that day so now we talk every Thursday."

Betty said, "She's like a sister to me. You know, somebody that's in my family. I pray for her, too. Anybody she wants me to pray for, I put them down on my prayer list."

Jerri, who learned about Shepherd's Center and the Phone Pals program through Soroptimist Int'l Kansas City, an organization that encourages and empowers women, said that becoming a Phone Pal was a no-brainer for her.

"We can all use another friend. If there's someone out there who needs a friend or uplifting spirit, I am here to help," says Jerri. "She brings a positive light to my life and has a zest for life. She never has anything negative to say," said Jerri.

Jerri and Betty hope to meet in person, for the first time, on Betty's 80th birthday.

If you are interested in becoming a Phone Pal, or know someone who could benefit from having a Phone Pal, contact Adaire Stewart at 816-293-9612 or by email at adaire@kcshepherdscenter.org.



Jerri Cofran, KCSC Phone Pal

Congratulations, Jerri!

Member News

At our June Installation of officers, Marie Parker, Recruitment and Retention Chair, had the honor of inducting our newest member into SIKC. **Angie Guynes is Operations Manager of Shepherd's Center Central.**

We are so happy to welcome her into the club. Next month's Signpost will include a profile of Angie....



Candy Routledge was named Grimco Ambassador of the Month for her volunteer work with Soroptimist. Grimco is a sign materials vendor and sign manufacturer. Candy has worked for them remotely for eight years. It works out perfectly for her as she can devote time to her job, her farm and "the girls". **Congratulations, Candy!**

The screenshot shows a YouTube video player with the title "Candy Routledge Kansas City LEAD SOFTWARE DEVELOPER". The video is from the channel "July Grimco Ambassador Jul 5 2022" and has 41 views as of July 6, 2022. The video player includes a search bar, a "SIGN IN" button, and a list of recommended videos on the right side. The recommended videos include "Man Crosses Over, Told Life's Purpose During Near Death...", "Dr. Peter Kreeft | 10 Lies of Contemporary Culture |...", "Ex Mormon Gives Most Incredible Testimony EVER! WL...", "How To BRAINWASH Yourself For Success & Destroy...", "6 MISTAKES DIYers Make When Wiring Outlets", "The Client Hated This Slab", and "Steven Kotler Mindvalley Talks | FLOW". The video player also shows a progress bar at 0:29 / 2:14 and a "Web capture" button.

July Meeting Notes

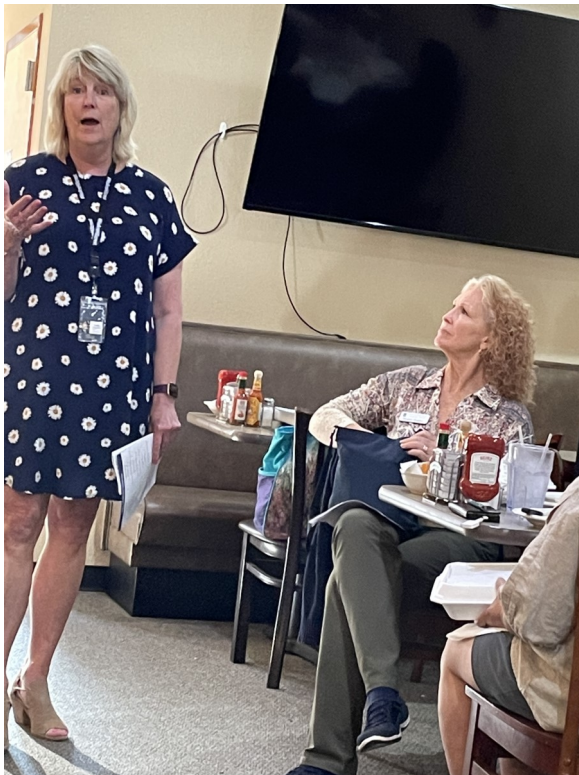
July found us meeting at Pegah's Restaurant in Lenexa, Kansas.

We are trying out some new spots, mainly for a little variety and to see if we can find a location that fits our needs. It is hard to find somewhere that has a private meeting room that can hold all of us at a reasonable cost.

Pegah's was a great place to kick off our new club year. President Melanie shared her expectations and plans for the upcoming year. We all wound up with a calendar that she **STRONGLY** encourages us to keep up to date with all events, meetings, etc. for our club.

We heard from all the committee chairs and most are into their first kick off meetings, gathering ideas and making plans.

We welcomed Barbara Fitzgerald from Hillcrest Transitional Housing to speak to us about their mission to provide housing for homeless families while they are getting their lives moving in a positive direction. She gave us a lot of good ideas for volunteer opportunities at their apartment campus. Our Community Service Committee will research it further. After a really good dinner and business meeting, we adjourned with the Soroptimist pledge.



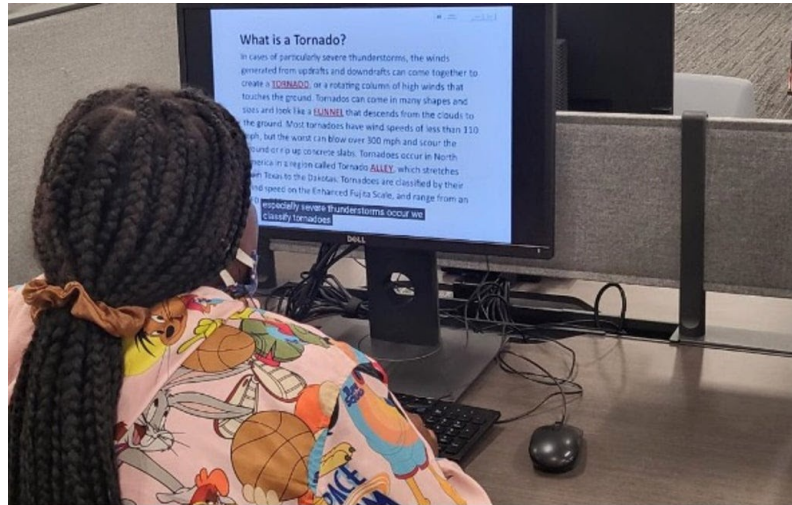
Treasurer
Extraordinaire
Grace Kim



Bridge Leadership Outreach Program

Wakisha Briggs, Founder of the Bridge Leadership Program, has been very busy keeping young women on track through this hot summer. She continues to encourage them to excel.

From Wakisha,
 “As a part of the Bridge Leadership Outreach program, hosted sessions at the Mid-Continent Library located 9253 Blue Ridge Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64138 we gave our students the opportunity to explore and learn about the resources available to them through the library. These resources included STEM, reading workshops and free etiquette classes.”



at



Wakisha received this wonderful note from a grateful parent recently.

“Good morning.

I wanted to take a moment to express to you my great appreciation for you and the bridge leadership program! It has really been a help to Jordyn and myself. As a single mother a program that helps young ladies and gentlemen line themselves up for their future in many

ways helps relieve some of the pressures of helping your child succeed! You and this amazing program has not only helped prepare her by preparation and practice for applications and interviews, finance, financial literacy and money management...but also helped her expand her mind on an Entrepreneur level, Key aspects and the ground work that is necessary for readiness and success were a focus! Allowing her to be in the work program has helped her tremendously! Instead of giving her time up working in a fast food restaurant or other business during her teen years she has been able to work on her artistic skill and business plans! This has allowed her the benefit of seeing that hard work and dedication to what she loves to do can lead to not only some financial security but her being able to establish herself as a business owner! I am extremely grateful for her having this opportunity and pray Gods favor forever on this organization that will allow many generations to come to be able to benefit as much as we have!“



SIA's Virtual 47th Biennial Convention Report

Held July 22-23, 2022.

Kay Stewart attended as SIKC's delegate.

The opening session was held Friday night. The recognition of countries in the Federation was impressive. There were 19 countries represented: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Guam, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, the territory of the Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Taiwan, the United States and Venezuela. The convention was broadcast in seven languages. Wow! It made me realize how much of our world I have not yet seen.

The keynote speaker Friday night was Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Prize Laureate. What an inspirational young woman. She was born in the Swat Valley of Pakistan. Her father ran a school for boys and girls and he felt strongly that girls should have every opportunity afforded to boys. In 2007 she was eleven years old and was accompanying her father to other parts of Pakistan to advocate for girls education. Her father would talk to the men and she would talk to the women. Her activism started then.

The Taliban swept into Swat Valley the next year and from that moment on, women and girls were isolated, housebound and covered completely from head to toe in burkas. No more schooling for girls.

Her father continued to educate girls and one day while she was on a school bus the Taliban pulled her from the bus and shot her in the face leaving her for dead. She was sent to the UK where she underwent multiple surgeries to repair her face. She continued her education and activism in the UK. When she was 17, she was in her chemistry class when the school principal pulled her out to inform her that she had won the Nobel Peace Prize. She is the youngest person ever to receive that honor. She had many offers to fill multiple roles but she knew she must finish her degree if she was to keep her credibility advocating for education for all girls. She graduated with degrees in Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

There is much more. I highly recommend you visit the following website. It will leave you in tears and inspired...

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malala_Yousafzai#Murder_attempt

The General Session was opened by Kazuko Morita, SIA President 2021-2022

Workshops were conducted including Supporting Our Big Goal; Storytelling with Impact; Engaging Globally; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging; and a Leadership Toolbox.

There is too much to include in this written report. Grace Boswell attended as well.

We plan to discuss at the next business meeting in August.

SCR Fall Meeting



South Central Region Fall Meeting, October 21-23, 2022



**Embassy Suites Oklahoma City
Will Rogers Airport
1815 S Meridian Ave, Oklahoma
City, OK 73108**

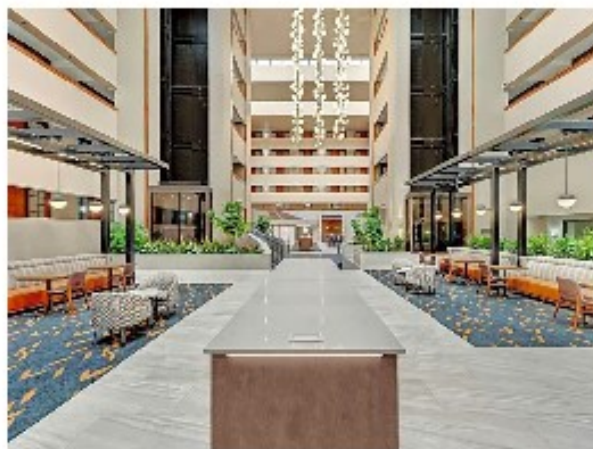
Nightly room rate \$119
Includes 2 free breakfasts per room

Reservation portal now open!

Go to WWW.my-event.hilton.com/soroptimist-international/
or call the hotel at 1-405-682-6000 for telephone reservations.
Mention group code SCR

Amenities:

- 24 hour front desk
- Airport Transportation
- Fitness Center
- Gift Shop
- Swimming Pool - Outdoor
- Contactless check-in and check-out are available
- Free Continental Breakfast
- ATM Machine
- Parking - Self
- Internet Access - Free in room
- Dry cleaning service, Laundry
- Non-Smoking Facility
- Business Center
- Lounge/Bar



Soroptimist History



The Soroptimist Code of Ethics

Did you know that Soroptimist has an official Code of Ethics?

Delegates to the 1932 biennial convention in Sacramento, California adopted a lengthy code of ethics. By 1935 federation president, Amelia Johnson, had appointed a committee to revise this code. A letter to all clubs in the federation requested recommendations on the revision. Several clubs replied that the pledge was a complete code of ethics. The members of the revision committee agreed. The committee proposed a considerably shorter code of ethics, with the pledge appended.

The delegates of the 1936 biennial convention in Kansas City, Missouri enthusiastically adopted this revised code of ethics:

“My business principles exact:
full recognition of the rights of others;
acknowledgement of the responsibilities of citizenship
and the duty of discharging the obligations entailed;
the use of my position at all times to the end that a higher level
of human ideals and achievements may be attained.”

This concludes the series on the History of Soroptimist.
Our challenge is to continue to grow and change with the times while keeping the
original mission of Soroptimist foremost in our minds.
Simply put: Strive to improve the lives of women and girls in our community,
our nation, and the world.

The Soroptimist Rose was developed especially for Soroptimist
by the Soroptimist club of Thames, UK.



Soroptimist International™