

The Signpost

Making a Difference for Women and Girls for 98 Years

Soroptimist International of Kansas City
South Central Region



SOROPTIMIST® June 2025

Investing in Dreams



School's Out!

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Soroptimist International
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President's Message Lynn LeCount



The Signpost

The May 3rd Power of the Purse sale netted \$1,715.80!

Way to go, Ways & Means Committee!!

I'd like to thank Jerri, Marie, Valerie, and all of you who donated inventory and volunteered during the inventory preparation, set up, and sale. Angie and Terri are continuing to sell the remaining purses so contact one of them if you were unable to attend the shopping event at Gallery V.

Kudos to Norma and the Service Objectives Committee for their efforts determining which 501(c)3 organizations would receive this year's grants and arranging a splendid banquet for handing out the checks. It's rewarding to see the various agencies networking towards new collaborations and shared resources.

Looking ahead, it's time to think about on which committees you'd like to participate during the 2025-2026 Club year. Mysti and I are looking forward to brainstorming and strategizing with you on June 14th so bring your ideas and suggestions for making next year as fun and successful as this year has been.

See you June 14th !

President Lynn

2024 - 2025 is the club year
**FOR
GRAND
FUN!**



June Birthdays
Candy Routledge June 1

June Calendar



Board Meeting

June 11, 2025

6:00 p.m.

via Zoom

(contact information to be sent out via e-mail)

Combined Board & Business Meeting

June 14, 2025

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Merriam Library

6120 Slater

Merriam, KS 66202

SKC Foundation Orientation Meeting

June 16, 2025

6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Installation of New Officers

June 18, 2025

6:00 p.m.

The Blue Moose

Lenexa, KS

SIA Roundtable

June 24, 2025

June Combined Board & Business Meeting

Saturday, June 14, 2025

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Merriam Library

6120 Slater

Merriam, KS 66202

Water and snacks will be provided

(see next page for agenda)

Installation of Officers

Wednesday, June 18, 2025

6:00 p.m.

The Blue Moose

10064 Woodland Road

Lenexa, KS 66220

Each attendee will order and pay individually for their meal/drinks.

Food Selections and final guest count are due seven days prior to event.

Please email Marie Parker with your menu selection by Monday, June 9th.

Members go to website: thebluemoosebarandgrill.com and choose your meal from regular menu.

Directions:

The Blue Moose is just north of K10 Highway in Lenexa. Get off at the Woodland St. Exit, go north a short distance till you see the CVS on the left. Turn left there. The Blue Moose is just beyond the CVS.



Combined Board & Business Meeting

It is very important that ALL members attend this meeting to be held on
Saturday, June 14, 2025
9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All committee chairs will present their year end reports including recommendations for the new committee following them for 2025-2026 club year.

You will be selecting which committees you wish to serve on or chair. If you don't want to be "appointed", you need to make your wishes known.

This is the time to do it.

Committees are on pages 16-17 of this newsletter so please use this as your worksheet to be prepared.



Period Poverty supplies will be collected. Please bring them so they can be distributed in a timely manner. The list is on page 4 of this newsletter.



Our Foundation Chair, Marcia Boutz, will be reporting on our Public Support Test.

Installation of Officers

Our new officers are:

President, Mysti Meiers
President Elect, Grace Boswell
Secretary, Candy Routledge
Treasurer, Marcia Boutz
Director, two years, Nora Magee

Delegates; Mysti Meiers, Grace Boswell, Marcia Boutz
Alternate Delegate; Candy Routledge

Foundation: Heather Rollins and Margaret Smith (3 year terms of two years)



Period Poverty Project



PERIOD POVERTY PROJECT (P3) REMINDER

We plan to assemble 120 P3 kits at our July business meeting for Fleetridge Elementary School.

We urgently need...

5" X 7" paper sacks



Overnight pads in a variety of sizes



Flushable wipes (Equate 18-packs for \$1 at Walmart! or individually wrapped wipes)



REMEMBER! You will receive a raffle ticket for every \$5 worth of P3 receipts you bring to the June 14th joint board/business meeting for a chance to win a gift card!

South Central Region 2026 Conference Preparations

We are less than a year away from our turn hosting the South Central Region Conference.

It will be held at the Hilton Airport from April 24-26, 2025.

The SIKC 2026 Conference Committee launched the event during the 2025 SCR Conference in Grand Prairie, Texas where our delegates, Mysti Meiers, Candy Routledge and Marcia Boutz personally invited each club to attend the conference here next year.

The reason we are hosting is that we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of our club.

Stuart Morrow chartered the first club in Oakland, California in 1921. He then started a campaign of chartering clubs of 100 professional women across the United States.

SIKC is the 16th club chartered in the world. This is before there were federations, before there was an SIA, before there was a South Central Region, before Friendship Links in other countries. Kansas City was instrumental in helping to expand Soroptimist by chartering more clubs in the Midwest and working to fulfill the Soroptimist mission of improving the lives of women and girls through education and financial assistance.

We have a fascinating history and if past rosters are any indication, our club was a showcase of strong women in Kansas City. We continue to this day.

Be prepared to assist your 2026 SCR Committee when asked. We will all be expected to help in some way. It will be a wonderful event and so much fun.



Survey Monkey / Please respond ASAP

Our Membership Survey has been a long time coming but is now here and ready for your responses.

Below is the link to the 9 question survey that the Growth, Recruitment & Retention/SOLT Committee would like to use to guide us as we focus on our club's growth and development.

SIKC's 2025 Membership Survey

Power of the Purse



It was another successful Power of the Purse+ at Gallery V on May 3, 2025. The displays of beautiful purses, jewelry and scarves were impressive, and the attendees were having great fun shopping, and buying.

To top it off, we were able to add \$1815.80 to our Ways and Means for this fiscal year.



More Shopping



POP 2025



We did have a good time!!!!



SCR Conference Report from Marcia Boutz

There were 94 in attendance at the SCR conference in 2025: Delegates - 55, Non-Delegates - 31, Region Officers - 4, District Directors - 3, Federation Guest - 1.

There were 22 clubs in attendance out of 28 in the region.

The silent auction was a traditional silent auction with bidding sheets for each entry and a set time for the closing of bidding. The proceeds from the silent auction goes to the Dreams in Action winners next year.

The Laurel Society was done differently. For each \$10 Dollars contributed to the Laurel Society the member received a ticket.

Then there was a drawing for a couple of baskets from those tickets.

The money is given is to be added to the member's Laurel Society account.

Also, the Region Officers and Directors put together a basket Tickets were sold to the members for a drawing on this item. The proceeds from the sale of these tickets went to the operating fund of the region.

The Hospitality Room was next to the Meeting Room. There were both large trays of sandwiches and individual bags of chips. Plus, candy and nuts and other snacks.

They had both store bought and home made items.



Our delegates,
Candy Routledge,
Mysti Meiers and
Marcia Boutz.



Mysti Meiers presented an invitation to all clubs to attend the 2026 SCR Conference and 100th anniversary celebration of Soroptimist International of Kansas City.

Celebration of Service

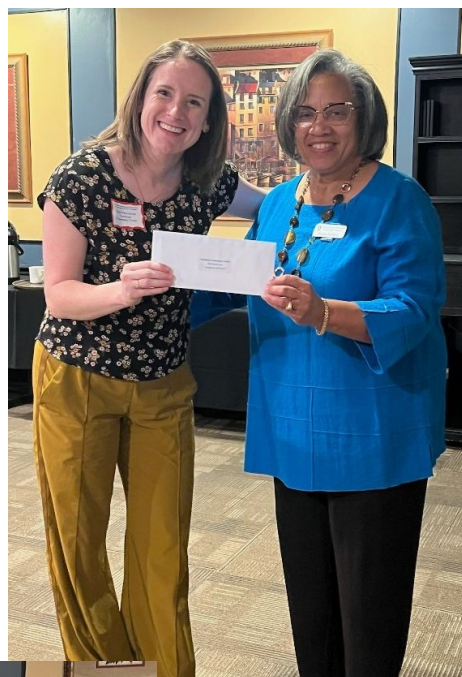
On May 17, Soroptimist International of Kansas City hosted nineteen non –profit organizations to distribute grants to assist them in funding their projects that impact women and girls.

The organizations ran the gamut of babies (Baby Grace) to seniors that are active in our community (KC Shepherd's Center). We gathered at Johnny Cascone's in Overland Park for a delicious Italian meal, some good libations and great networking. Our Service Objectives committee chaired by Norma McKelvy, did an excellent job of determining which organizations met our criteria of helping improve the lives of women and girls in our communities.

The representatives from each organization were able to meet other groups that approach helping women and girls in different ways. There were a lot of business cards exchanged and ideas shared. It is the best night of our club year.



The Service Objectives Committee



More Celebration

Kudos to Norma McKelvy for an excellent program, Danielle Sidney for a beautiful inspiration and Caitlin Miller, the perfect photographer .



2025 Grant Recipients

Assistance League of Kansas City is dedicated to alleviating the consequences of poverty and crises for children and adults in Kansas City. Soroptimist's grant will support their Assault Survivor Kit Program.

Cultivate Kansas City grows food, farms and community in support of a sustainable, healthy, and local food system in greater Kansas City. Soroptimists' grant will help to increase the production and consumption of healthy food for the Juniper Gardens Training Farm and New Roots program.

Fashion Arts Fund provides scholarships and structured mentorship to young women working to build their careers in fashion. Soroptimist's grant will help to fund two scholarships.

FosterAdopt Connect provides support for foster families in the child welfare system. Soroptimist's grant will provide feminine hygiene products through their Sammy's Window store.

Hillcrest Transitional Housing provides housing for homeless families along with financial and educational classes. Soroptimist's grant will sponsor traditional housing for one year.

Hope House, Inc. works to break the cycle of domestic violence by providing safe refuge and supportive services to those impacted by domestic abuse. Soroptimist's grant will be used for client assistance for financial needs.

Jackson County CASA works to provide a healthy transition from foster care to being on their own as they age out of the system. Soroptimist's grant will help assist with their program teaching life skills and providing individual coaching and mentoring.

Keeler Women's Center works to empower women in the urban core of Kansas City through education, advocacy, personal and spiritual development. Soroptimists' grant will be used for direct assistance to women who are in need.

Madam President Camp, Inc. provides camp experience for middle school girls to teach them leadership and self-esteem. Soroptimist's grant will be used to help them create a journal of their camp experiences.

2025 Grant Recipients

Flourish: A Furniture Bank provides furniture for the homeless who are moving to new homes through other social agencies. Soroptimist's grant will help purchase new household items.

Mother's Refuge provides shelter and education for homeless pregnant and parenting young women. Soroptimists' grant will be used to provide internet access and transportation assistance.

Raymore Christian Church (Baby Grace) provides basic necessities to families in need. Soroptimist's grant will help to purchase diapers for infants and toddlers.

Safehome, Inc. works to break the cycle of domestic violence in Johnson County. Soroptimists' grant will help to provide food for the residents.

Salvation Army-Kansas and Western Missouri Division provides housing for homeless families and single women. Soroptimists' grant will help to provide basic medical, dental, nutritional, and household needs.

Shepherd's Center of Kansas City offers programs and services to mid-life and older adults allowing them to live healthy, engaged and independent lives. Soroptimists' grant will help fund their Adventures in Learning classes for seniors.

Adoption and Beyond provides assistance to birth mothers in determining a birth plan without bias or judgement. Soroptimist's grant will help support their Birth Parent Program.

Northeast Community Center provides an all-girls music therapy program during the summer. Soroptimist's grant will help provide the ability to empower underserved girls in their community.

The Nia Project works to improve the lives of Black girls and women by reducing barriers to building success. Soroptimist's grant will support their Black Women Get Fit– their monthly health and wellness program.

ReHope provides healing arts programs for survivors of human trafficking. Soroptimist's grant will help purchase supplies for their Farm Life program.

More Grant Recipients



More Grant Recipients



Committee Selection

Soroptimist International of Kansas City Committee Selection – Club Year 2025/2026

Name _____

PLEASE CHECK THE COMMITTEES ON WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE TO SERVE.

Programs of Service (overseen by Grace Boswell, President-elect)

- * Program Planning Chair, Grace Boswell _____
Committee – All committee chairs
- * Community Service Chair ____ _____
Committee _____
- * Live Your Dream Chair _____
Committee _____
- * Dream It, Be It Chair _____
Committee _____

Technical Committees (overseen by Mysti Meiers, President)

- * Growth & Retention/SOLT Chair _____
Committee / _____
- * Laws & Procedures Chair _____
Committee _____
- * Public Relations Chair _____
Committee _____

(Fiscal Committees (overseen Mysti Meiers, President)

- * Finance/Budget Chair _____
Committee member _____
- Ways & Means Chair _____
Committee member _____
- * Special & Cultural Events Chair _____
Committee member _____

Committee Selection/Year End Report Guidelines

- Service Objectives Chair _____
- 2026 Grace Boswell/Nora Magee
- 2027 Kay Stewart/
- 2028

The Service Objectives Committee and Chair are appointed by the incoming president.
The term of service is 3 years.

If you would like to serve on the SO Committee, please let Mysti Meiers know.

The following positions were formerly committees but are now appointed by our president.
If you would like to serve in one of these positions, please let your incoming president know.

Attendance
Signpost/History
International Goodwill and Understanding (IGU)
Audit

Thank you for indicating your choices. Your selection committee will be meeting in early July to make certain all committees are covered.

If you are asked to serve on a committee or chair a committee, please be prepared to accept or offer an alternative. We will do our best to make certain that all committee assignments meet your specific interests.

We are excited that we are starting a new year and look forward to everyone's participation.



Year End Report Guidelines

Year End Report Guidelines

To: Committee Chairmen and Officers

Re: End of year reports due by May 14, 2025

Please bring four copies, one for your president, one for the secretary, the new committee chair, and your History chair.

Please include the following items as applicable:

Committee name and membership

Accomplishments / activities

Awareness, advocacy, action roles

Hours devoted to these activities

Dollars spent / income

Recommendations for next year's committee chair

Anything else you would like to add.

These reports are important to our Club for several reasons:

Gives us credit for our accomplishments in our own eyes.

Inform higher levels of our accomplishments. (Federation Club Award of Excellence)

Provides a common thread from year to year to help new leaders.

Provides a history for our Club.

Provides new members an education of our structure, purpose, and accomplishments. Gives them something to identify with, live up to, and provides a challenge to go even further.

We need everyone's contributions. They should be complete, yet concise. Please call President Lynn LeCount or President Elect Mysti Meiers if you have question.

Service and Sharing – Soroptimist Success

2025 Soroptimist International of Kansas City, Missouri



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