



SOROPTIMIST®

Soroptimist International of Hamilton
Hamilton, Montana
Northwestern Region, SIA

Investing in Dreams

Volume 23 Issue No 10 Apr 2021

Calendar

- 1 – Mtg ZOOM noon
- 5—Awards Comm Mtg
- 8– Mtg ZOOM— noon
- 15—Board Mtg ZOOM
- 22—5:30 ZOOM social

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April President's Message

Woo hoo! Spring is on its way! It will not be long before we start seeing that amazing Bitterroot spring green. I have already spotted the first robin and the first foal. We are ready for all the joy spring brings!



SI Hamilton is ready to spring forward too. I know our entire membership is ready for the time we can all meet. We have done a great job keeping in touch through the pandemic, but the people around the world are looking forward to re-establishing that human-to-human contact that we all need. Let us look forward to the celebration of our first in-person event. We cannot plan it just yet – but we can definitely see the light at the end of the tunnel. And, as we move to the election of officers in our club, it is a time to celebrate the wonderful tradition of service that SI Hamilton has created in its nearly 50 years. Our club has always been dynamic, and I see nothing but good things ahead.

Si Hamilton has lots to celebrate – we have continued to work in support of our mission and for the goal of doing everything we can to keep members involved. I just want to fill you in on several things happening now in SI Hamilton.

- Our Live Your Dream award winner has also won at Northwestern Region! I am sure you will see more about that in this newsletter.
- With two successful “partnering with local businesses” behind us, we are now working on a possible Cinco de Mayo fundraiser. Laura Reichart and Pat Bodanski are doing the initial legwork.



Continued from page 1

- The Image Roundtable is hard at work! This group is taking a 30,000-foot view of our marketing to the public and to members and are working to make sure our club provides good tools to our members and projects a positive image to the public. The pandemic has forced us to use more on-line tools and it was a perfect time to not only review but also plan. Mary Lyn is chairing the marketing side and Alene Tunny is chairing the membership component.
- The Sees Committee, chaired by Marcia Babowicz did a fabulous job converting to an on-line fundraising effort during the pandemic. Our Easter sales were above projections. While we all enjoyed the ease of the on-line sales, I think we all missed seeing people in our red trailer. I know they missed us, too!
- The Senior Women's Committee could not, of course, have the annual tea during the pandemic. So, they, at the suggestion of Nancy Bussiere, came up with a new project – corresponding with those older women. It was very well received. So well, in fact, that it will probably continue.
- The Nominating Committee, chaired by Vikki Bell, has done a fantastic job of preparing a slate of officers. You will see information about the slate in the newsletter and the election will be held at our April 8 meeting. Many thanks to the committee and a special thank you to those of you who have stepped up to serve in leadership.

Thanks so much to all of you! Seeing how our club members have taken care of each other during all this has been so inspiring to me. You all have shown such kindness and grace – making our world a better place starts with how we treat each other. I have said that this is an awesome group of women many times. I just have to say it again. SI HAMILTON IS AN AWESOME GROUP OF WOMEN!!

Sexual Violence Awareness Month

April is Sexual Violence Awareness Month. No More is a great resource, not only to learn more, but to discover steps we can all take to make a difference! Click on the following link to learn more and take the pledge.

<https://nomore.org/take-action/pledge-driving-change-original/>

Together, we're making a commitment. Take the pledge to:

KNOW MORE

STAND WITH SURVIVORS

NO MORE

Slate of Officers and Board of Directors for 2021-2022

President: Patti Martin
Vice President: Brenda Von Brach
Recording Secretary: Nancy Bussiere
Corresponding Secretary: Pat Bogdanski
Treasurer: Sue Smith (until end of 2021)
Assistant Treasurer: Nancy Hutcheson (Nancy will become Treasurer January, 2022, with Sue becoming Assistant Treasurer)
Delegate: Heidi Gordon
Alternate Delegate: Lori Matz
1 year Director: Marcia Babowicz
2 year Director: Carmela Bowns

Thanks to the Nominating Committee members Brenda Von Brach and Robin Clute!
Nominating Committee Chair, Vikki Bell

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Vikki Williamson Bell

AWARDS

Exciting news!!! Our LYD 1st place recipient, Elizabeth Taylor, is being awarded an additional \$1500 at the NWR level. She will receive her award on Friday evening, April 23rd, during the NWR Conference. Because it is virtual this year, we can all register and share in the excitement! The Call to Conference registration info is below.

The Awards committee is meeting next week to choose the recipients of rest of our club's awards. In spite of not being able to recruit applicants in person, we have a total of 13 applicants this year!. We will wait until we know SIA's decision on the COVID mandate before deciding how we will present these amazing women with their awards.

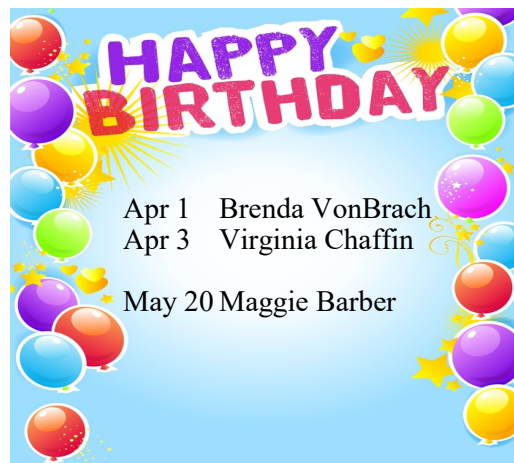
CALL TO CONFERENCE:

**Northwestern Region 102nd
Virtual Conference
April 23 & 24, 2021**

2021 NWR 102nd Conference

Registration is now open through
Eventbrite and it is **FREE!**

Sign up at: [https://
www.eventbrite.com/e/northwestern-
region-102nd-virtual-conference-april-
23-24-2021-tickets-141578961485](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/northwestern-region-102nd-virtual-conference-april-23-24-2021-tickets-141578961485)



March is “Women’s History” Month, so I am testing your skills in a

“History Mystery of Women of the Past.”

There are 8 women described with four clues each.

Answers are found later in the newsletter.

Name the woman:

I was born in London England in 1868. I moved to a farm near Terry, Montana around 1891. I was introduced to photography and my photos are at the Montana Historical Society in Helena. There is a museum in Terry, MT of my work.

I was born in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. I studied art in Chicago and New York City. I moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico in the 1920’s. I’m known for my large, dramatic flower paintings.

I was born in New York City in 1884. I was the niece of a President and a wife of one, also. I was outspoken on civil rights and advocated for women in the workplace. I was the first delegate to the United Nations.

I grew up in Kansas and was born in 1897. My nickname was Millie. I worked as a nurse’s aide in Toronto during the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic. I was the first female to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in 1928.

I was born in 1880 and lived to the age of 92. I lobbied for the 19th Amendment, the right for women to vote. In 1916, I became the first woman to ever hold Federal office. I was a lifelong pacifist and I opposed, and voted against, the USA joining both World War I and World War II.

I was born in 1788 in the Shoshone tribe. I was married to a French trapper at the age of 13. I helped the Lewis & Clark expedition as a guide. In 2003 I was inducted into the National Women’s Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, NY.

I was born in 1911. With my Cuban-born husband I formed a television production studio. I won 4 Emmy awards for my work in TV. I’m often called “the Queen of Comedy.”

I was born in New Jersey in 1888. I went to College at the University of California, Berkeley, earning a Master’s Degree in Physical Education in 1916. While there, I established a hiking club. Every year an award in my name honors young women aged 14-18 for their volunteer actions.

Submitted by: Lori Matz

*“It is a fact that when you change a girl’s life,
you effect her vision of herself and her
immediate world and the world that she will
have an impact on.”*

- Oprah Winfrey



SENIOR WOMEN'S CARD WRITING PROJECT – Updates from Members:

A special bonus for me related to the Senior Women's correspondence program was the opportunity to reconnect with a friend from my college days. One of the recipients that I chose was my father's former secretary! She was an executive secretary who typed my father's dictated letters when he wrote to me. She always included her own personal note. My sisters and I all experienced her warm letters and personal friendship so when I told my sisters about her, they sent letters to her as part of our campaign as well!

I wasn't able to visit her, but she did correspond with me, and we spoke on the phone as it became harder for her to write. During the time that we connected, she turned 100 years old, so I sent her a bouquet. Her thank you note for the flowers warmed my heart!! She wrote, *"Thank you so much! I just received your card and beautiful flowers. What a treat, because that day had been a really difficult one. My phone went out and I sat all day waiting for it to be fixed. That is my only form of communication, so I was a nervous wreck, but then they brought in your lovely flowers and it made my day."*

On February 12th my friend passed away. What a gift to have been able to reconnect with her.

Alene Tunny

Brenda Von Brach received a delightful message from one of her senior ladies: *"I really enjoy getting cards from you. It's so nice to hear from people. I'll be 93 years March 20th. Getting up there. My daughter takes care of me and runs errands. A lot of help. I hope I can meet you some day, when this virus is over with. You take care & God bless. Love, Evelyn"*

Lori Matz' mailbox has been graced with several cards from her new friend, Lucille. Here is the latest:

"I'm from Iowa but came to LA during WWII & worked for Lockheed where we made P38 fighter planes. I met my husband there and we married in 1944. He passed away 6 1/2 years ago when he was 99 1/2 years old. I have a birthday on April 19, I'll be 102 years old. I've had both my vaccines with no problems along with my daughter and her husband." **Members who would like to send a birthday card to Lucille for her 102nd birthday should contact Lori for the address!**

Laura has gifted Nancy Bussiere with regular letters and the two of them are looking forward to meeting in person. Here is the latest one:

"I'm here all by myself so I am lonesome. I have my name in for Virus shots at the Bitterroot Drug. I dread it but they will keep their eye on me for quite a while. Lyle and I were married on April 2, 1988. One of my brothers said, "why not the first??!" Ha-Ha. My parents had a small farm where they raised wheat. He died at 53 when she was 43. They had a few pigs, cows, chickens. They lived near the North Dakota border. I worked there in a hospital and enjoyed caring for the babies. You mentioned stamps. My daughter Wanda used to get me the pretty ones but now she just gets me a roll. Do take care."

1. Evelyn Cameron 2. Georgia O'Keefe 3. Eleanor Roosevelt 4. Amelia Earhart
5. Jeanette Rankin 6. Sacagawea 7. Lucille Ball 8. Violet Richardson Ward (founder and
1st President of Soroptimist)

WOMEN'S HISTORY ANSWERS:

Friendship Link in Halle, Germany

Thank you, Dixie,
for your letter with the wonderful pic from Blodget Canyon
and the news at "Ravalli Republic" about your impressive donation to
scholarship awards.

All this information I'll pass on **our new president**

Ursula Mertens
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Germany

e-Mail: ursulamertens@cloud.com

Dear Dixie,

I am so sorry to hear about Mary Lou Amsden passed away. It brings me to tears
when I remember my (one time with our SI-member Dr. Ingrid
Hoffmann) visits in Montana and Hamilton, when we met Mary Lou. She was
really a wonderful, remarkable person, a SI-sister par excellence and she gave
me/us such a heartwarming welcome and hospitality. R.I.P dear Mary Lou.

The influence of COVID to our life is going on. Hard times. We are
very thankful that no one of our members was or is ill of COVID anyway until
this day. Hope the best of health to you and all members of SI-Hamilton and
their loved ones.

Let`s stay in touch and continue our international friendship.

Best wishes to you all -Yours In SOROPTIMIST

“Distance cannot matter –
ours is a friendship of the heart.”



–Mary Anne Radmacher

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

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