

SOROPTIMIST

Soroptimist International of Hamilton
Hamilton, Montana
Northwestern Region, SIA

Best for Women

Volume 21 Issue No. 10 May 2019

Calendar

May 2—Business Meeting@
noon BJ's

May 9—Speaker/SOLT
Meeting @ noon BJ's

May 16—Board Meeting
@noon BJ's

May 17—SAFE Boot, Scoot
& Boogie 6pm

May 30—Evening Social @
Gini's 5:30pm

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May President's Message

First, an incredible Thank You to the Chocolate committee and to all the club members who helped make Evening Wrapped in Chocolate a success. Pulling off such an event takes a lot of organization and hard work, and we do this as volunteers because we believe in our mission of helping women and girls in the community. And Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of you who made the night a financial success! I glanced at the evenings proceeds and Soroptimist members were generous. Honestly YOU all ROCK! Our success is something to CELEBRATE.



Its SPRING! Soon we will be transitioning to a new President, new Board with a new budget, new ideas and a continued commitment to what we do. The committee signups for the upcoming year will be circulating again soon. Think about how you would like to CHANGE THE WORLD and sign up where you'd like to be involved.

I have a new image and metaphor in my head thanks to Deana and Kelsy: The wolfpack! There's an excellent commencement speech by Amy Wambach (think soccer two-time Olympic gold medalist & World Cup champion) presented at Barnard College (women's college in New York City). It's 25 minutes long but worth watching. Its now posted to our Facebook page. Amy likens the women of the world to the wolves in Yellowstone. When the wolves were reintroduced into the park they upset the balance of power but..... ultimately, over time, the wolves restored balance. She claims that women are no longer "little red riding hoods" but ARE THE WOLVES, surrounded by our wolfpack. Four things we wolves need to do:

- 1. Make failure our fuel. Failure is a gift. Transform it into power**
- 2. Lead from the bench. Wherever you find yourself, lead from there. We are a TEAM**
- 3. Champion each other. Claim the success of one woman as a success for all women**
- 4. Demand the ball. The moment is now (#MeToo, women's issues in spotlight)**

WE ARE
THE
CHAMPIONS

In remembrance: Constance Delaney

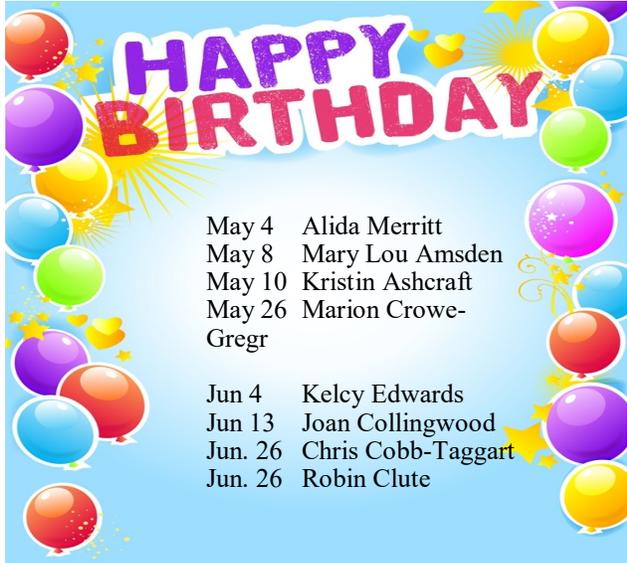
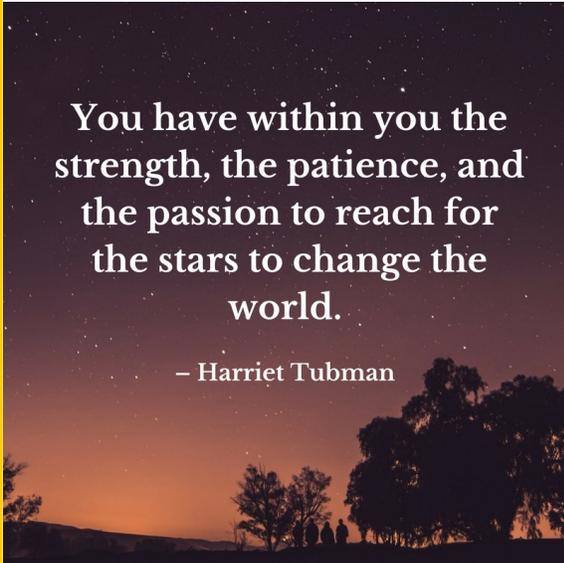
We lost a mama wolf this week. Our beloved Constance went to join the pack playing in the sky. Constance has been a member of Soroptimists since 2001. She was our friend and part of our wolfpack. She helped make Soroptimists be the successful club that we are. Did you know that she was our club historian for awhile and created two beautifully organized notebooks chronicling the many activities of our club? And do you remember her banana hat? It was a classic! It had a banana and a PBJ sandwich attached to it.



Dixie told me a wonderful story this morning about Constance, about making bananas a few years back. After we'd peeled, sticed and frozen all our bananas, we all said Adios. But Constance said "What? Lets go have a drink!" And off we all went for a wonderful evening of sharing stories and laughing. That's what friends are all about.

Her enthusiasm and optimism were contagious. She loved to laugh and she loved being a part of this awesome group of women. Thank you Constance for being the person you were. We love you, and you will be missed.

Patrice suggested that club members may want to make donations to SI Hamilton in her honor. We have set up a fund for those who would like to do this.



- May 4 Alida Merritt
- May 8 Mary Lou Amsden
- May 10 Kristin Ashcraft
- May 26 Marion Crowe-Greg
- Jun 4 Kelcy Edwards
- Jun 13 Joan Collingwood
- Jun. 26 Chris Cobb-Taggart
- Jun. 26 Robin Clute



CELEBRATE AND BUILD FOR THE FUTURE!!

SI Hamilton membership voted in April to support an ambitious campaign – “25 in 5”. Did you know that SI Hamilton will be 50 years old in 5 years? We simply couldn’t have chosen a better way to celebrate than to commit ourselves to building a strong “foundation” for our future.

Wouldn’t it be great to be able to fund a new project? Wouldn’t it be great to send extra money for a wonderful quadrennial Soroptimist International project? In order to do those things, we need to create the next level of funding stability for our club – a foundation. The idea was first discussed a couple of years ago. Last year, it was discussed at the annual past president’s luncheon. This year, the idea was brought forward at the Board of Directors and then passed at a membership meeting in April.

Our goal is to raise \$25,000 in 5 years – it’s a great way to celebrate our 50th anniversary. This fund is not to compete with our normal fundraisers. We’re trying to reach people who believe in our mission and are willing to give contributions, donations, memorials or bequests to the fund. And, hopefully the fund will grow and we’ll be able to have financial stability well into the future. There are many ways to fund the foundation. Remember, 30 years ago we raised \$10,000 in 5 years to start SAFE. There is a committee working on ideas. You’ll be hearing about them as the project grows. The committee is Marcia Babowicz, Dixie Dies, Sue Smith and Teri Polumsky. If you’d like to help, just call any committee member. We’d love to hear your ideas!

Welcome to the May Social, 5 pm May 23, 2019

It will be held at Gini (Virginia) and Pat Rogers home 7 miles south of Hamilton on Old Darby Rd.

DIRECTIONS :From Hamilton go south on 93, turn left on Skalkaho, turn Right on Sleeping Child, Turn right on Old Darby Rd. The house is 1600 Old Darby Rd, 2 miles from Sleeping Child Rd. For t" look for the R&R ranch sign. "

Hope to see you there!

The Laurel Society

Mary Lou and Sandra received their Envoy level in the Laurel Society over the weekend of the SI NWR Conference at the Skamania Lodge just outside Stevenson, WA. The Laurel Society was established in 1994 to honor individuals who have made SIA their charity of choice, supporting the Soroptimist mission. The Laurel Society is Soroptimist International of the Americas' prestigious recognition program for donors who contribute gifts totaling \$1,000 or more. Members that provide ongoing financial support beyond their membership dues ensure that the organization's global programs have the funding needed to serve the women and girls around the world that count on them. Since 1994, more than 6,000 Laurel Society members have contributed nearly \$10 million dollars to help women through the Live Your Dream Awards and other Soroptimist programs. For more information and a form to start your monthly giving, visit <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/donate/individual-gifts.html>



Soroptimist International Northwestern Region 101st Conference



The 101st SINWR Conference was held at the Skamania Lodge just outside Stevenson, WA from 25 to 28 April 2019. While there was so much happening at the conference, here are just a couple of the highlights:

There are several states that do not have a Soroptimist club. Of note is they are rank high on the poverty scale. They include Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky, Arkansas, Georgia, West Virginia

The NWR website is back up! While it is still a work in progress, it is available. <https://www.soroptimistnwr.org/>

The keynote speaker, and leader of the Human Trafficking workshop, was Theresa Flores. She is a survivor of Human Trafficking, and is working to help others who are currently trapped, or are in the process of recovering, from being trafficked. Theresa has founded a program called S.O.A.P. (Save Our Adolescents from Trafficking). They place soap in hotels with stickers on with information on who to call if they are in need of help. For more information on S.O.A.P., visit the website <https://www.soaproject.org>. Some of the significant statistics she share were

- 35% are trafficked by their family

- 62% are tricked into trafficking

- 3% are kidnapped and forced into trafficking

- 88% were in the care of social services

- 89% are women/girls

- 50% are children

- 90% of the arrests are the trafficking victims (vice the trafficker or the purchaser)

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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!