



S O R O P T I M I S T

Soroptimist International of Hamilton

Hamilton, Montana

Northwestern Region, SIA

Best for Women

Volume 20 Issue No. 7 Jan 2018

CALENDAR

<u>Jan 4</u> noon	Business meeting, BJ's
<u>Jan 11</u> noon	Speaker/SOLT mtg. BJ's
<u>Jan 18</u> noon	BOD mgt. BJ's
<u>Jan 25</u> 5:30	Social, The Edge

PRESIDENT'S JANUARY MESSAGE

New year, new president.

I am very excited about my upcoming term as President.



But first, a heartfelt thanks to outgoing President Marcia Babowicz. What a fabulous job she did! Its time to release her from the "chains" of the head table and let her relax and socialize with her Soroptimist friends.

I will add my flare to the legacy Marcia left me. Keep building to make our club stronger, more effective, and always fun.

I mentioned at October's retreat that we would have the "Same Agenda but with a New Outfit". Stay tuned! My theme for our meetings will be "inspire, celebrate and educate". I hope to use our meetings as an opportunity to discuss issues and the service work we do.

Also at the retreat the unveiling of my IDEA BOARD. It will be a reminder at our meetings that I want to hear from you all. I am so impressed with the ideas that surface during our discussions. So often these ideas get lost. I want to capture these ideas, discuss them with the club and maybe make something new happen!

My theme is HEROS. That would be all of YOU!

President Sue Mac

Scholarship Time	2
See's Candy	3
Evening Wrapped in Chocolate	3
Annual Raffle	4
Remarkable Women	4
NWR 100th Conference	5-7
SIH International Scholarship	8
Birthdays	8



SCHOLARSHIP TIME



WHAT A GREAT WAY TO START THE NEW YEAR

It's scholarship application time. All year our club members work to raise money to support our many projects. SI Hamilton is committed to improving the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. A key step to empowerment is education. Our awards provide opportunities to many women, both young and older, who oftentimes fall through the cracks. Applications are now being accepted for all awards. The banner you see in the photo is displayed at the Bitterroot College. Help us spread the word! Talk to likely candidates and urge them to apply. We'll even provide help in completing the applications. Let's all work together to help empower women and girls in our Valley! More information and application forms are on line at www.sihamilton.org/scholarships.

AND...Did you know that females comprise 57% of bachelor degree recipients and 60% of masters degree recipients, yet women have over 2/3 of the total student debt owed in the U.S? 90% of men with a bachelor's degree attain employment while 83% of women do. Faced with greater financial burdens, women are sorely in need of as much financial assistance as possible. Enter SIH....We are blessed this year that our fund-raising efforts have nearly doubled the amount of scholarships we can provide to women enrolled in college, vocational and certification opportunities; close to \$16,000!!! The deadline for scholarships is fast approaching, with the Live Your Dream application due January 15, and all other applications due January 31. Please reach out to family and friends and encourage someone you know to apply. Applications are on our website www.sihamilton.org, and anyone on the Awards Committee is happy to personally meet with an applicant and assist her with the application process. Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 7, 2018 for our annual awards ceremony - This is your opportunity to meet and encourage the women we support in our community.

I AM A
WOMAN.

WHAT'S YOUR
SUPERPOWER?



It is See's season again. **We finished up Christmas with a profit of \$6521.88.** That's about \$1200 more than last Christmas.



Valentine sales will begin January 31. Sign ups will be on our website, sihamilton.org in the next few days. Please sign up there or at a meeting. If you do not want to sign up on line, please call or text Joan Richards at 406-210-2938. Please do not sign up or change your shift on the list in the trailer...sign ups come in at all times on line or by phone and the trailer list is "what was," not "what is." Please contact Joan for changes. We will let you know when the sign up is ready on the website. Thanks to all for the successful Christmas season, especially those who worked numerous shifts.

Ever wonder why chocolate prices keep rising? Read this article: www.usatoday.com/story/money/nation-now/2018/01/02/m-ms-maker-fears-chocolate-shortage-2050-report-says/996962001/

AN EVENING WRAPPED IN CHOCOLATE MARCH 24, 2018

It is count down time for our fundraiser "An Evening Wrapped in Chocolate". We have some great auction items for our silent and live auctions. Our committee is getting geared up now that the holidays are over. Now we need the members to help, we will be asking you once again to support this event by coming, selling tickets, or helping set up or clean up. We once again will have the wine pull but only 30 bottles. If it is easier for you, you can give us money and we will buy the wine, that way we can get a discount.

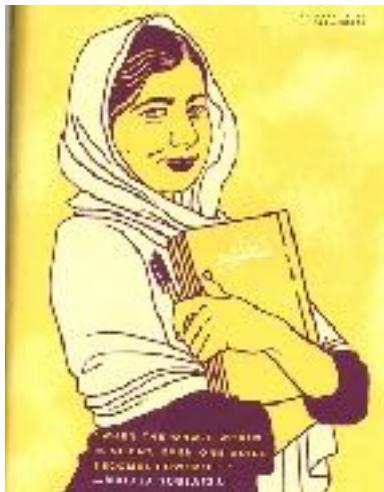
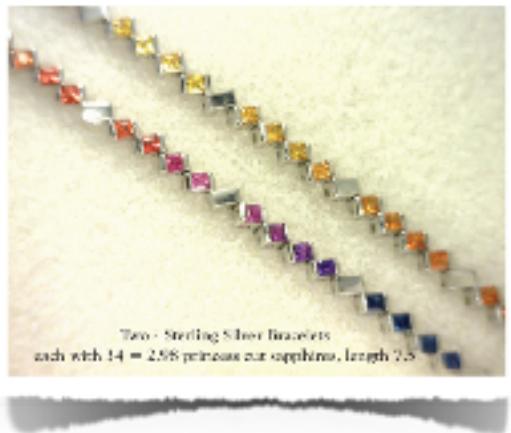
We are hoping we can add considerably more to our scholarships this year but we do need your help.



Patti
Chairman

ANNUAL RAFFLE

It's time once again to kick off our annual raffle. This year we will be raffling two rainbow sapphire bracelets for the price of one ticket. I will be handing out tickets beginning at our meeting on the 4th of January. The tickets will be in envelopes of ten. This year we will have a "Spin It To Win It" wheel. For every 5 tickets you sell you will be given a number. If your number is the lucky one, you will receive a \$100 cash prize! If you cannot make the meetings, please let me know and I will make sure you get tickets. The drawing will be held on March 24th at our Evening Wrapped in Chocolate.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Remarkable Women Changing the World

MALALA YOUSAFZAI

Activist, Pakistan, 1997 -

Once there was a girl who loved school. Her name was Malala. Malala lived in a peaceful valley in Pakistan. One day a group of armed men called the Taliban took control of the valley. They frightened people with their guns.

The Taliban forbade girls from going to school. Many people disagreed but they thought it would be safer to keep girls at home. Malala thought this was unfair and she wrote about it online. She loved school very much so one day she said on TV "*Education is power for women*". The Taliban are closing girl's schools because they don't want women to be powerful. A few days later Malala got onto her school bus as usual. Suddenly two Taliban men stopped the bus and shouted which one of you is Malala? When her friends looked at her the men fired their guns, hitting her in the head.

Malala was rushed to the hospital and she did not die. Thousands of children sent her get well cards and she recovered faster than anyone could have imagined. They thought bullets would silent us, but they failed, she said. Let us pick up our books and our pens. They are most powerful weapons. One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world.

Malala is the youngest person ever to receive the Nobel peace prize

From Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls



SAVE THE DATE For NWR's 100th Conference!

April 19-22, 2018

Northwestern Region 2018 Conference

The Coeur d'Alene Resort

115 S 2nd Street, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Celebrate the Legacy of the Northwestern Region!

Dust off your club scrapbooks – dig deep for those club memories – polish your tiara – and get ready for three and half days of Soroptimist fun, collaboration, learning, celebration, recognition and connecting with the best team of members in the entire SIA organization!

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work is our biennium theme and at our 100th conference we will be **Celebrating the Legacy of the Northwestern Region!** Your region leadership team has been hard at work planning a conference that will have us honoring our past, celebrating our present and looking to the future. You won't want to miss this once in a lifetime milestone event! Review the important "pre-call" information listed below and make sure you follow the directions so you and your club don't miss this fun, educational and historic conference!

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Every team needs a room to stay in when they're on the road! Make your hotel reservations NOW and take advantage of the team rate that has been negotiated for our conference! Room rates are between \$129-\$169 plus tax depending on which tower your room is in. You can choose between the North Tower, Park Tower or Lake Tower. Now we don't have ALL of the rooms at the resort so make your reservation now!

Reservation deadline for the "NWR Soroptimist Conference Rate" is: March 12, 2018

The room block is limited, so don't delay! ALSO – be aware that the resort's policy is to charge for the first night when the reservation is made, so only reserve the rooms that you know you will be using. We want everyone attending to have access to these great rates so don't reserve rooms that are not in your name. ☺ AND - 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.

Room reservations can be made by calling The Coeur d'Alene Resort's Reservation Department at:

855-999-7998

Mention NWR Soroptimist Conference

to get the negotiated rates

ALASKA AIRLINES DISCOUNT CODE

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

Please use Discount Code **ECMZ276** when booking your flight at alaskaair.com to receive a 7% discount. This is available for flights from April 15 – 28, 2018.

CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIPS

The home team can't make the dream work without your help! Each year we ask clubs and members to step up to the plate and 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. Our "Teamwork Makes the Dream Work – Celebrating the Legacy of the Northwestern Region" sponsor packet is available on the region website. When you help make our dream work you will receive benefits such as:

- Complimentary meal packages
- VIP tickets for a private reception with our Keynote presenter, Jennifer Spear, owner of "Clean Slate Strategies/Work Unscripted" and past SIA President Rosemary Reid
- Complimentary Tell and Sell table, special seating and more

Check out the sponsorship levels and please consider being a conference sponsor.

Deadline for receipt of sponsorship information is March 16, 2018

GOLF DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE AT THE COEUR D'ALENE RESORT GOLF COURSE

Come visit The Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course and experience the world's only floating green. Set against the vibrant and sweeping landscape of beautiful Lake Coeur d'Alene, the course is known for immaculate landscaping and memorable service from the time you arrive until you leave the 18th green. It's a golf experience like no other.

2018 Group Rate: \$145 per person - Greens fees include the use of a custom electric golf cart, unlimited range balls and use of our water front practice facility, pre-round sports massage, personalized engraved bag tag, and the service of a forecaddie for the length of your visit to our course.



To Book Your Tee Time Call - 208-667-1653

CELEBRATE YOUR CLUB'S LEGACY

We want to honor the great legacy that all of our clubs have given to their communities. To do this we are asking each club to:

- Submit photos and descriptions of important events and milestones your club has experienced since chartering. These are to be submitted electronically to Governor Stephanie Smith at stephaniesmith1315@gmail.com **NO LATER THAN March 23, 2018**. A Legacy presentation will be created using your club photos and will be displayed throughout the weekend.
- Create a poster collage that celebrates the club's history and legacy. Include items that tell the story of the club's history in the community; the service done over the years and the fun events the members participated in. Posters will be turned in on the first day of registration at the conference and will be on display throughout the weekend. **For planning purposes clubs should use regular size poster board (22x28 inches)** as we may not be able to display posters larger than this dimension.

Additional information will be included in the Call to Conference regarding both of these items.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

We will honor and celebrate individual members and clubs again this year for their outstanding teamwork. We have updated the award forms and this year they will need to be emailed to both Region Secretary Kristi Puckett and Governor Elect Marti Crook. This will help us make sure we don't miss any submissions.

Take time to review the eligibility requirements for the 2017-2018 NWR Club Champion Award, MVP Award and Rookie of the Year Award. We want to recognize your club and individual members' efforts in making our dreams and the dreams of the women and girls we support come to life!

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES

All club members should review the important conference deadlines and dates listed below. The Official Call will be posted on the region website by February 20, 2018 and will include information regarding:

- Registration and Meals (early bird registration is \$50; meal package for seven meals will be \$275)
- Activities planned during the conference
- Conference Agenda
- Resumes for candidates running for region and district leadership positions
- Proposed changes to the NWR Bylaws and Standing Rules
- Proposed 2018-2020 NWR Budgets
- Workshop descriptions
- And much more

Please note that the Delegates' Briefing will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2018 starting at 5:30PM. Registered club delegates should plan on attending as we will be discussing the proposed Bylaws and Standing Rule changes, the 2018-2020 NWR Budgets and other items delegates need to be aware of.

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE DEADLINES AND DATES

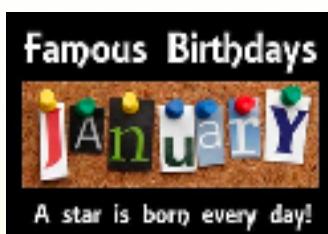
- February 20, 2018 – Official Call to Conference will be available on the region website
- March 12, 2018 – Hotel reservation deadline for the negotiated rate
- March 16, 2018 – *"Teamwork Makes the Dream Work – Celebrating the Legacy of the Northwestern Region"* conference sponsorship deadline
- March 20, 2018 – Early Bird Registration Deadline (registration fee is \$50)
- March 23, 2018 – Photo submissions are due for the Legacy Presentation
- March 31, 2018 – Deadline for Club Giving and Founders Pennies for those clubs participating in the NWR Club Champion Award
- April 1, 2018 – Deadline for NWR Club Champion Award, Individual MVP and Rookie of the Year Awards
- April 3, 2018 – Regular Registration Deadline (registration fee is \$60 – after this date a \$40 late fee is applied)
- April 19, 2018 – Clubs turn in their club poster collage at registration
- April 19, 2018 – Delegates Briefing for all registered delegates – starts at 5:30PM
- April 20, 2018 – Conference begins at 8:30AM



SI Hamilton Scholarships Go International

This year the Board of Directors designated \$500 to assist a woman or women in another country seeking further education. The committee met to select a candidate and chose to award the full amount to a young woman in Guatemala. Our recipient, Yeymy, recently won the SERES Championship Award (fitting title for us!) as an outstanding young leader. SERES is an organization whose mission is to cultivate and inspire youth leaders to create more just and sustainable communities in Central America. In the last ten years, leaders of SERES have trained nearly 3000 young people in Guatemala and El Salvador thus giving them hope to make positive changes within their communities rather than migrating to the United States. Recently SERES won the United Nations, UNESCO Award, for its successful strategies, outreach, and impact on young leaders.

Yeymy has been involved in a public referendum about water rights and recently held public discussions about a new law to privatize water in El Salvador. Yeymy's goal is to become fluent in English in order to expand her leadership opportunities. She is currently studying the 8th module in her English course. In this module, she will continue to deepen her understanding of grammar. She attends classes from Monday to Thursday for two hours a day. She is also part of a conversation club that she attends on Fridays to practice and converse with other young people who are also learning the language. Using her prize money, Yeymy expects to be able to complete the current course and continue on to advanced English courses. Recently, she applied to work in an English-speaking call center where she hopes to be able to apply what she has learned.



Jan. 3	Tami Pickles	Feb. 2	Laura Mertens
Jan. 7	Barbara June	Feb. 14	Alene Tunny
Jan. 17	Deana Wolfe	Feb. 25	Kathleen Graler
Jan. 20	Amy Foote		

**SOROPTIMIST OF HAMILTON
P.O. BOX 1012
HAMILTON, MT 59840**

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!