



# SOROPTIMIST

Soroptimist International of Hamilton  
Hamilton, Montana  
Northwestern Region, SIA

**Best for Women**

Volume 21 Issue No. 8 March 2019

## Calendar

**Mar 1**—Business Meeting@  
noon BJ's

**Mar 6**—Awards Banquet,  
MDMH Conference Room  
5:30pm

**Mar 7**—Business Meeting@  
noon BJ's

**Mar 9**—Linda Massa Youth  
Home Gala

**Mar 13**—SOLT Meeting@  
noon BJ's

**Mar 21**—BOD Meeting

**Mar 28**—Social @5:30  
Place to be determined

**Mar 30**—Area Meeting  
Dillon

## Table of Contents

Awards Banquet	Pg 2
Area Meeting	Pg 3
NWR Conference	Pg 3
Birthdays	Pg 3
Websites	Pg 3
Sue M school stories	Pg 4
This month's HERO	Pg 5
Women's History	Pg 5
Intl Women's Day	Pg 6
Soroptimist Stew	Pg 6
Evening Wrapped In Chocolate	Pg 7

## March President's Message



March. It's the month that our hard work pays off. Fifteen women and girls will receive scholarships or awards from SI Hamilton. I hope you all will be there to cheer them on and support this incredible contribution that our club gives to the community. Soroptimists and The Live Your Dream program fills an important educational niche for "non-traditional students" nationwide. Our club takes that a notch higher. A lot to be proud of.

Thank you Alida, Elaine, Mary Lyn, Sandra, Vicki D, Sue S, Teri and Dixie for making this all happen. Thanks to Joan for all her work to support the Awards program on our website.

Its true that yesterday's non-traditional students are becoming today's traditional students. Not long ago the typical college student was an 18 to 23 year-old, a recent high school graduate, enrolled full-time, with limited work and family obligations. Students today are older, more diverse, and have more work and family obligations to balance.

- 40% are at least 25 years old
- 51% are independent (married, veterans, responsible for dependents)
- 26% are parents and 15% a single parent
- 39% are employed part time and 27% employed full time
- 51% are low income
- 42% are non-white/minority students

***Spread the word. The world is changing and we are making a difference!***



## Awards Banquet

Over 75 in attendance this year and virtually all of our scholarship and award recipients were present, most with their own cheering section!! It was such an honor to recognize the determination, hard work and commitment these 15 women exemplified with almost \$16,000!! Patti Martin so kindly brought a small box of chocolates for everyone, and those chocolates generated quite a few chuckles. Picture this: Awardee biography was read by Award Committee member (Elaine, Sue, Teri, Sandra, or Mary Lyn). Certificate and check was handed to the awardee and a picture was taken by the talented (and bossy J) Vicki Dawson who made sure everyone was in the right spot before the flash went off. Then, the awardee returned to her seat, only to be chased down by someone with a box of chocolates. . Many thanks to Dixie for the inspirational sayings placed on all the tables (a few of which made their way home with attendees) and the gorgeous purple silk petals...simple yet beautiful. Oh, and did I mention the food!! Robert Ashley with Marcus Daly Hospital outdid himself once again with a lovely meat & cheese tray, fruit tray, your choice of soup, chicken Caesar salad, rolls with herbed butter, and we rounded out with cupcakes covered in the most amazing purple frosting. Such an inspiring and fun-filled evening, and we have already received additional contributions and financial commitments for this year's awardees and for next year's scholarships. I would like to thank everyone for their support, time, and energy to make our Annual Awards Banquet an AWESOME event!! Looking forward to next year....bigger and better is the plan. Cheers!! Alida



## Area Meeting: Southwest Sisters

**DILLON**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 30**

Every year the Missoula, Hamilton & Dillon Soroptimist Clubs meet together with our District 4 Director, Terri Kunz to discuss what we're all doing. A great opportunity to meet your Southwest Sisters from the other two clubs. Sandra and Sue Mac are going. It's be lot of fun. Who else would like to go? We are planning to carpool (one day - there and back). Please contact Sandra at [sismail2001-sih@yahoo.com](mailto:sismail2001-sih@yahoo.com) if you would like to attend.

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### 101st NWR Conference

Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA  
April 25-18, 2019

Att: Soroptimist International of Hamilton

Check SoroptimistNWR.org website for full 69 pages of the Call to Conference.  
**REGISTRATION:** \$50 early registration post marked by March 25, 2019. Fee increases to \$60 per person if postmarked between March 26st and April 12, 2019. After April 13, a \$40 late fee will be assessed per person.

You can register online at <https://2019nwrmeeting@eventbrite.com> or contact Sandra Amsden.

**MEALS:** Price for the meal package is \$297 and includes six meals. Individual meals can be purchased as listed on the registration form.

**HOTEL:** Rooms are available for \$164 per night plus tax for all occupancy types. Room reservations can be made by calling Skamania Lodge Reservations Desk at: 844-432-4748 and mention NWR Soroptimist Conference to get the negotiated rates. Last day to make reservations at this rate is March 13, 2019  
OR when the room block is filled.

The workshops and keynote speakers look great. Especially the ones on Human Trafficking.

Our club picks up the expenses for 2 people Sandra Amsden is attending as our delegate. Please contact Sandra at [sismail2001-sih@yahoo.com](mailto:sismail2001-sih@yahoo.com) if you would like to attend.

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### Websites

[soroptimist.org](http://soroptimist.org)  
[soroptimistnwr.org](http://soroptimistnwr.org)  
[liveyourdream.org](http://liveyourdream.org)  
[womenshistory.org](http://womenshistory.org)  
[womenshistorymonth.gov](http://womenshistorymonth.gov)  
[nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org](http://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org)  
[internationalwomensday.com](http://internationalwomensday.com)



# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade ROCKS

This past month has been chaotic. The holiday and the incredible amount of snow precluded Sandra from working with the kids much in February. But Sue Mac had lots of fun helping, and learning, with the kids.

Do you remember the difference between a metaphor and a simile? What is a composite number? Is there a difference between a hurricane, cyclone and typhoon? Can you name the symbols on the Montana State flag? Sometimes it's a challenge to work with 4th graders when you, yourself, can't remember or don't know what you're helping them with.



That last one stumped me. Our state flag: There's a sun, some mountains, water, trees, a pick and axe, and "oro y plata" but symbols? I'm out in the hall helping a 4th grade boy. He gets frustrated with me and walks into the classroom and announces that Miss Sue doesn't know the answer. Can the teacher come out to the hall help him? Yes, it can be embarrassing sometimes!

However, I do believe I'm a tad smarter from working with these kids. We teach each other.

One of my favorite students asked me why he had to learn all this math when grownups can't remember how to do it. My simple answer: *"It comes back quickly when you need to use it IF you learned it once in the 4th grade.*

*That's true about a lot of the information you're learning. It's tucked away somewhere in your brain even if you think you've forgotten it. You can recall it faster when you knew it once. Otherwise you'll be stuck because you never knew".* We had a great day working on his math together.

So here we go: No calculators allowed! Figure this one out: Lisa played golf for 2 days. On her first day she hit the ball 265 yards. On her second day she hit the ball 49 feet and at the end an additional 7 inches. How many inches total did she hit the ball in 2 days? OK, it's not difficult math but it's likely you'll make a mistake converting yards and feet to inches when you do it all by hand. But really, you have to ask yourself, who would ever calculate their golf game in inches? Both of us laughed at that.





## March Hero



No list of women heroes would be complete without [Eleanor](#) Roosevelt. She was truly a champion of women rights, in America and across the world. In her own lifetime, she was recognized as the most famous woman in the world.

Through her impassioned advocacy for the rights of women, children, and downtrodden, she became America's social conscience. She played a major role in the 12-year presidency of her wheelchair bound husband by traveling the world as a factfinder, an ambassador and to bring women into government.

After Franklins death Eleanor became a delegate to the United Nations where she won world acclaim for her forceful sponsorship of the US Declaration of Human Rights, perhaps her crowning achievement.

*All our lives are better because they were touched by Eleanor.*

## National Women's History Alliance

The theme for 2019 is "Visionary Women: Champions of Peace & Nonviolence." This year we honor women who have led efforts to end war, violence, and injustice and pioneered the use of nonviolence to change society. These Honorees embraced the fact that the means determine the ends and so developed nonviolent methods to ensure just and peaceful results.

For generations, women have resolved conflicts in their homes, schools, and communities. They have rejected violence as counterproductive and stressed the need to restore respect, establish justice, and reduce the causes of conflict as the surest way to peace. From legal defense and public education to direct action and civil disobedience, women have expanded the American tradition of using inclusive, democratic and active means to reduce violence, achieve peace, and promote the common good.

From women's rights and racial justice to disarmament and gun control, the drive for nonviolent change has been championed by visionary women. These women consciously built supportive, nonviolent alternatives and loving communities as well as advocating change. They have given voice to the unrepresented and hope to victims of violence and those who dream of a peaceful world.

- from the [Nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org](http://Nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org)

## March is Womens History Month

### March 8<sup>th</sup> is International Womens Day

#### Why you should care?



The whole month of March is dedicated to celebrating women's accomplishments and encouraging girls to reach their goals. While to some people the month may seem overbearing and unnecessary, it is actually important for women all around the world.

The Global Gender Index (2015) ranks countries by how close women have reached parity with men both economically and politically. **The U.S. ranks 28<sup>th</sup>!!!** with Iceland, Norway, Finland and Sweden taking the honors of least gap between men & women. As a country we need to do better than that. Consider our gender pay gap, women's reproductive rights, violence against women, social barriers facing young girls, political representation. There are so many areas where we need to close the parity gap.

Yes, Women's History Month is important. It unites women around the world in celebration and recognition of our strengths, paying tribute to our HEROS, providing both hope and "fuel" for our quest for change.

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#### OUR MISSION

**Empower, educate and encourage women and girls to improve their self-confidence, health and socio-economic standing, both locally and globally**

#### **Soroptimist Stew**

Combine all fundraisers  
Stir until projects are completed  
Serves a whole COMMUNITY

-Submitted by Mary Lou from  
2002

# An Evening Wrapped in Chocolate

A fundraiser for Soroptimist awards & scholarships for Ravalli County women

April 25, 2019



**Red Rooster**  
Assorted chocolate desserts  
& heavy hors d'oeuvres

**Blodgett Canyon Cellars  
Higherground Brewing Co.**  
No host  
Complimentary 1st Glass

6pm to 9pm

\$40.00 per person  
\$75.00 per couple  
\$300.00 table of 8

## A fun-filled evening includes

Fabulous Live Auction

Music by Bitterroot Baroque

Silent Auction

Jewelry Raffle

Wine Pull

Tickets are available online at [sihamilton.org](http://sihamilton.org)  
Chapter One in Hamilton or call 406-360-3902



SOROPTIMIST  
World for Women

Bitterroot River Inn, 139 Bitterroot Plaza Dr. Hamilton

*Educate a woman, change a community*

*Thanks to our sponsors 100% of proceeds will go to scholarships*

