

South Central Region Spotlight



May 2025



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Governor Leigh's Message

Hello fellow Soroptimists,

I hope you are all getting a chance to catch your breath after this last whirlwind South Central Region Conference. We took care of business, raised \$1700 for Our Dreams In Action with the silent auction, honored four women with LYD awards to the tune of \$15,125, and managed to have some fun as well. Dancing the night away at Chicken and Pickle, and getting a taste of SI Grand Prairies fundraiser "The Sneaker Ball".

I hope to see you all again in Wichita for the District Meetings, October 17th & 18th. In the meantime we have the Leadership Roundtable on June 24th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Cost is \$50 per member. Go to soroptimist.org under events to get the full picture. And let's not forget our 2026 South Central Region Conference in Kansas City next year. Block the date now! Rooms reservation deadline is very important as the World Cup is in Kansas City the following week. Rooms may not be available after the reservation cutoff date. April 24th and 25th 2026 will be the 100th South Central Region Conference, as well as the celebration of the Kansas City, Missouri clubs 100th year. Did you know that the Kansas City club was the 16th club chartered for SIA? More details are in the Region Conference 2026 article below.

A new South Central Region Award was unveiled at this years conference. The Public Awareness Olympics form was given to every member present and will be sent out to club presidents and treasurers very soon. But start work earning those points now. We also gave out the Norma Caldwell Communicate and Grow Award for the last time. Congratulations SI Muskogee. After much discussion, and the decline in entries, it was decided to discontinue the Norma Caldwell award. The traveling plaque will be returned to SI Greater St Louis in 2026 as Norma was one of their own.

We also chose to start honoring outstanding club members, or those behind the scenes that never look for recognition. We honored 12 outstanding women during the conference.

As you see, it was a busy and eventful weekend. I hope you will make plans to join us in Wichita come October and again in Kansas City for the 100^{th} SCR Conference in April of 2026.

All my best until we meet again,

Governor Leigh

scrsoroptimist.org

From the Conference



Nobody but Freda plays pickleball in pearls!



First time attendees



Hanaring Artstanding

Manaring Artstanding





SCR Board & Federation Visitor Peggy all dressed up!



Good times
& Great Friends in
Grand Prairie, Texas





LYD





Across the diverse countries and territories of Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.® and around the globe, many women and girls face difficulty accessing or affording essential period products. This widespread issue, known as period poverty, often leads to absenteeism from work and school, negatively impacting their future.

In honor of May 28, World Menstrual Hygiene Day, Soroptimists are coming together to highlight this issue and take action on ways we can help.

What is period poverty?

The inability to afford or access menstrual products, hygiene facilities, and education to manage menstrual health.

What causes period poverty?

- **Stigma**: Cultural taboos and misconceptions about menstruation that lead to shame and misinformation.
- **High Cost of Menstrual Products**: Many women and girls cannot afford sanitary products due to financial constraints. They are taxed as luxury items in many places despite being a necessity.

Lack of Water and Sanitation Facilities: Inadequate access to clean water and sanitation hamper this lack of access in and of itself causes immense difficulty for women and girls in their everyday lives. As a result, girls may miss school and fall behind in their education, while women may miss work, affecting their income and economic opportunities.

Take Action

With our May Soroptimists UpliftHER focus on the impact of period poverty, you can:

- Help spread awareness by sharing SIA social media posts and graphics
- Share your projects that address this issue with the hashtag #SoroptimistsUpliftHER

Provide period products to schools, agencies, or other nonprofits in your area to make a direct impact. Be sure to report it as a <u>Big Goal Accelerator Project</u> to help us reach our Big Goal.

Together we can break the cycle of period poverty, empowering women and girls to pursue their education, careers and dreams without barriers. Let's take action and UpliftHER today!

Region Conference 2026, 100 years of service

The 100th South Central Region Conference will take place on April 24th and 25th, 2026 at the Hilton Kansas City Airport, 8801 NW 112th St, Kansas City, MO 64153. Rooms are \$139.00 per night, with check in after 3 p.m. and check out at noon. There is complimentary parking and wi-fi, as well as a shuttle to and from the airport. The reservation deadline is April 1, 2026. The World Cup will be coming to Kansas City shortly after our Conference and the hotel expects to be sold out with many people arriving early. It is extremely important that you get your club's reservations in before the cutoff date.

We will also be installing Governor Elect Teresa Young of Plainview, Texas as Region Governor at this conference, as well as the Region Board members. An invitation has already been extended to the incoming SIA President, Sue Riney as well. Unfortunately she expects to be in Japan at that time.

Lets make this a HUGE celebration! We only turn 100 once.

SI PONCA CITY, OKLAHOMA News



Human Trafficking can happen to anyone, shared Captain Matt Varney of the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics (OBN) during a special forum on the subject sponsored by Soroptimist International of Ponca City (SIPC). Over 60 people from the area attended this first program at Pioneer Technology Center. Captain Varney serves over the OBN Human Trafficking Unit and its initiative "You Are Not Alone". He defined Human Trafficking as the exploitation of someone for the profit or benefit of someone else.

Risk factors include low income, runaway youth, homelessness, substance abuse, and others. He gave examples of cases they have worked and some of the statistics in Oklahoma. He talked about both sex

trafficking of minors and labor trafficking where people are forced into labor or services using force, fraud or coercion. "The truth is that Oklahoma has a human trafficking problem, because there are people in Oklahoma who purchase human beings for cheap labor and illicit sex," he said.

He said that state government and law enforcement are working to make people more aware of this issue. July 1, 2024 HB 2054 amended 21 OS 1029 regarding "Johns" paying prostitutes. February 5, 2024 HB 3540 was passed replacing the term "child prostitution" with the term "child sex trafficking" in Oklahoma statutes.

August 29, 2024 Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt helped the OBN launch the multi-agency initiative "You Are Not Alone". This initiative speaks to all demographics. Its aim is to educate people about the types of Human Trafficking and empower them with the resources to support and aid them in recovery. The goal is the prevention of Human Trafficking. They maintain a 24-hour Human Trafficking Hotline (855) 617-2288 and distribute posters and stickers with a QR code for "visitors" to access information.

SIPC is a part of Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) whose focus for January is the issue of trafficking. SIA focused on projects that increase access to education for women or girls who have experienced trafficking. January 11 is recognized globally as the International Day of Human Trafficking Awareness, making January a meaningful time to learn more about this critical issue Soroptimists can help through the Soroptimists UpliftHER SIPC is part of Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc., a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. A 501(c)(3) organization that relies on charitable donations to support its programs, Soroptimist also powers LiveYourDream.org—an online community offering offline volunteer opportunities in support of women and girls.

The local club provides financial assistance to women who are head of household through the annual Live Your Dream program. Ponca City High School senior women are supported through annual scholarships.

For more information about how Soroptimist empowers women and girls, go to www.soroptimist.org. For information about the local Soroptimist Club contact President Lilly Freeman, 580.716.7360 or lillyfree60@outlook.com.

SI PONCA CITY, OKLAHOMA News (continued)



Dream It Be It (DIBI), Soroptimist's signature program for young girls helps girls grow up to be strong, successful, happy adults. The program provides girls with access to professional role models, career education and the resources to live their dreams. By participating in this program girls learn about career opportunities, setting and achieving goals, overcoming obstacles to success, and moving forward after setbacks.

Soroptimist International of Ponca City (SIPC) concluded the seven sessions this year with eighth grade girls with a luncheon with local professional women. Under the leadership of DIBI Chair Cindy Wigley for the tenth consecutive year SIPC has conducted the program for eighth grade girls at East Middle School in Ponca City, OK.

Following Covid, we expanded the program with the use of Soroptimist materials from the SIA website. This included some of the handouts to make the program interactive. Approximately 35 girls participated in the monthly sessions held during the school's lunch hour this year. Fortunately, we have a church, public library and City Hall across the street from the school where the sessions were held.

Each of the one-hour sessions our club provides lunch for the girls and present a specific topic. There are handouts which are put into folders for each girl presented at the final session of the year. In some sessions there are group participation games and in others round-table discussions. Special speakers are also brought in for specific topics. The girls discuss careers, dress for success, what employers expect, mental health, healthy habits and Soroptimist curriculum of setting goals, overcoming obstacles, etc.



The final session of the year women community business leaders are invited. Each girl at the beginning of the program indicated types of careers that interest them. At the final luncheon program each girl is paired with three different professional women. They begin the luncheon at the table of one woman and then move to a second table and third table to learn about that woman's profession and what is involved. At the conclusion each participant was presented a certificate and a DIBI bracelet. "We hope the girls learn at least one new thing, if not more, to help them make good choices that will eventually lead to making a difference in their lives as they move into adulthood," said Cindy Wigley.

SI ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS News

Soroptimist of Arkansas City Awards \$1,000 Live Your Dream Scholarship to Local Nursing Student



Soroptimist International of Arkansas City is proud to announce that **Dionne Baxter** has been selected as the recipient of the 2025 Live Your Dream Award, receiving a \$1,000 scholarship to support her educational journey.

Dionne is currently pursuing her Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) certification through WSU Tech, with plans to graduate in May 2025. She has worked as a certified nurse and medication aide for two years and is dedicated to expanding her skills to better serve her community.

"I love what I do, but I know I have more I can give back to my community," Dionne shared. "My long-term goal is to return to school in the Registered Nurse (RN) program."

The Live Your Dream Award is a signature Soroptimist program that provides financial assistance to women who are the primary financial support for their families, helping them achieve their educational and career goals. The Arkansas City club is honored to support Dionne as she works toward her dream of becoming a nurse.

Soroptimist Girls Recognized at February 26th Meeting



Shown left to right: Cory Palmer, Jasmine Calvo, Reagan George, Presi Tharp, Lydia Lyman, Kyleigh Schmidt, Kierslynn Waggoner.

Pictured above are the high school seniors honored as **Soroptimist Girls** at our meeting on February 26th. Thank you to the Board members who worked to make this inspiring luncheon meeting successful: Virginia Donaldson, Pam Zimmerman, and Tricia Blatchford.

Our Club has been honoring and encouraging outstanding girls since 1957, and several years ago we added a Soroptimist Girl Scholarship to our list of named scholarships.

SI ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS News (continued)

Human Trafficking Event Held March 10th

In observance of International Women's Day, Arkansas City Soroptimist sponsored a Human Trafficking Presentation on March 10th. Cowley County Undersheriff Christina McDonald did an outstanding program titled "Human Trafficking Vulnerability and Resilience" with great interaction with her audience.

Human trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons by improper means, such as force, abduction, fraud or coercion, for an improper purpose includingorced labor or sexual exploitation.



Above are members Karen, Tricia, Linda Neal, and Pam Zimmerman at SI/Ponca City, OK human trafficking event in late January.

THE STATS:

The International Labor Organization estimates there are 40.3 MILLION victims of human trafficking globally. 80% of them are trapped in forced labor. 25% of them are children. 75% are women and girls.

Cowley County 2024

reported 101 Missing Persons (runaway juvenile); 33 reported sexual Offenses (Rape, Sexual Assault, juvenile offenses); 3 reported stalking.

Signs of Human Trafficking

Are there multiple people living in one space?
Are people living with their employer or at their job site?
Are there bruises or other signs of physical abuse?
Is the person submissive, depressive, or fearful?
Is there evidence of the inability to move or leave a job?
Are minors not in class during school hours?
Does the minor have a "boyfriend" who is noticeably older?
Does the person show signs of drug addiction?
Does the minor refer to sexual situations that are not age-appropriate?
Is the person inappropriately dressed for the weather?
Is the person accompanied by someone who seems controlling?
Does the person appear hungry or malnourished?
Are there sudden changes in attire, behavior or material possessions?



Above: Christina McDonald during presentation and on left are some of the participants. Thank you to Tricia Blatchford and Karen Zeller for the efforts to bring this important topic to our local community.

How to take action -

- •Educate yourself about online traffickers and how they use social media for recruitment
- •Trust your instincts if something seems off, report it
- •Support survivor organizations and advocate for stronger policies
- •Educate others spread awareness locally
- *Watch for red flags
- *Know who is qualified to help victims

SI EL DORADO, KANSAS News

Soroptimist International of El Dorado KS Celebrates 70 Years

On March 21, 1955 "Soroptimist International, a new women's group with a charter list of 26 members, made its bow in El Dorado Monday night. This new organization receives the cordial welcome of the entire community."

Rolla Clymer, Editor, El Dorado (Kansas) Times March 23, 1955



A Night to Remember—Chartering of El Dorado's Soroptimists: From Left...Faith Loomis, First President; Freda Schirley, District Director from Kansas City; Ora Forest, Regional Governor; and Lillie Sanders, President of Soroptimist International of Augusta, El Dorado's sponsoring club.

SI EL DORADO, KANSAS News (continued)

Things have changed a little since 1955, but our mission to *improve the lives of women and girls through education, empowerment and opportunities*, has not. We are a club of only 12 today, but we are no less effective than those first 26. They dressed to the nines in 1955, had formal dinners, and membership was limited to women executives in business; or owner/ co-owner of businesses, or professional women. There could not be two women representing the same type of business. Today, we welcome any woman who is passionate about the mission and is willing to give their time and treasure to it. In 1955, dues were set at \$20.00 per year with a total yearly budget (for 27 members) of \$540.00. We are proud to continue serving our community of women and girls in their endeavors to reach their goals.



For every quarter of our club year, we choose an organization or cause to contribute to. The donations are totally voluntary. For this club year, we chose to donate to the First Christian Church food pantry, the Family Life Center/Safehouse, the Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital Foundation, and the BCC nursing/teaching scholarship.

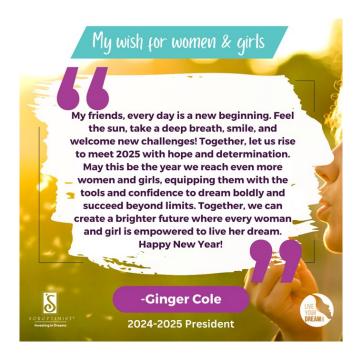
Soroptimist members Deb Teter, Bebee Thomas, Jane Davis, and Jolene Remsberg present Darla Carter, Executive Director of the Family Life Center a check. The Family Life Center is a shelter for women and families escaping domestic violence.



For the last 15 years, Soroptimists have helped the First Christian Church serve the Community Thanksgiving meal. This years helpers are: Jolene, Carol, Jane, Sandy, Deb, Joni, and Janett.

SI EL DORADO, KANSAS News (continued)





The December project for our club was assisting the Sunlight Child Advocacy Center Here, President Bebee delivers bags of infant and children socks and underwear for the children housed at the Children's Home. Pictured above is Cortnie Killen, Family Advocate and Liaison.



One hundred years ago, the Soroptimist Club of San Jose, California, chartered on December 4, 1924, making it the eighth club in what would become Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc., and the 10th Soroptimist club worldwide.

HUTCHINSON, KANSAS News

It was heartwarming to witness the time and dedication invested in developing the "Mommy and Me" dance as a new fundraiser in February, culminating in a hugely successful and fun, affordable community event.

Another annual event is the spring Women's Show and Family Health Fair offered to the public free of charge. This year the show wouldn't have happened without many members and volunteers going above and beyond. Food, vendors and screenings were enjoyed by all ages with an estimate of 1376 attending. The effort members put in has resulted in an expanded opportunity to give more and to add an honorable mention category to the Community Impact Award.

This year, we had the privilege of honoring an additional five more senior girls. March's closing event celebrated women and girls and their dreams of education. Approximately 35 people came to an evening event celebrating all our winners, hearing about new community development and learn about our important work.

Hutchison SI fundraisers go to support our members, recruitment, and the following local awards. Live Your Dream Award: SI-Hutch grants up to two awards of \$1500 each year to women in the community who are furthering their education and need financial assistance.

Community Impact Award: SI-Hutch established the Community Impact Award for high school senior girls who are involved in the community and wanting to further their education.

Aavon Powers Sponsorship: In 2018, the Aavon Powers sponsorship was established to provide financial assistance to help recruit and retain members.

Hutchinson Emergency Fund: This fund was established to provide financial assistance to help women that are head of the household and are in need of temporary assistance.



SI Hutchinson Members

HUTCHINSON, KANSAS News (continued)



The two boys in the photo were the sons of member Gabriella Martinez. One of our potential members shared these words at our business and recruitment social on April 26. "As a single mother seeing all the promotions for the Daddy and Daughter dances each year, I wanted something to share with my boys."

I think she was right on track, we had over 300 attend for the first Mommy and Me fundraiser event and profited over \$4,000. Bringing a younger generation to the club helped us to think outside the box. The event was coordinated by several of our newest members, Krystina Oliver, Gabriella Martinez, Alexis Martinez and Nicole Rogers and Kim Norwood and Nancy Fure were also on the committee.





SI KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI NEWS



SI: Kansas City had a busy spring!



February: We began a Period Poverty Project for Fleetridge Elementary School.

March: We organized an International Women's Day fundraiser at O'Neill's Restaurant.



April: We honored our Live Your Dreams awardees, elected the 2025 - 2026 officers and trustees, inducted a new member, Terri Goddard, and invited all of you to get jazzed up for the 2026 SCR Conference scheduled in Kansas City on April 24-25, 2026.





We congratulate our President-Elect, Mysti Meiers as a recipient of the South Central Region Outstanding Soroptimist Member award!





SI WINFIELD, KANSAS News



LEGACY FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

On January 29th Cassandra Davis, member and co-hort members Nancy Martin, Roxann Taylor and Stephanie Nulik attended the Power of the Purse and Legacy Foundation's joint session on Building Leadership. This is the first session in a series of 4 that are all based on building our organization's capacity

to become stronger and more effective. The day was spent with designated members from other local organizations who also received grants from either Power of the Purse or Legacy Foundation.

Information was presented by members of Legacy Foundation including Yazmin Wood and Timothy Rosproy. The day was spent learning how to build leadership within each organization. It included presentations, group and team work and discussion times. It was very informative to hear that most of the organizations struggle with the same issues we do such as membership participation and involvement. At the end of the day long session we were given a homework assignment due at the April 30th session which was to develop a strategic plan for our organization.

To complete this assignment the Winfield SI Board met with Yazmin Wood, Director of Legacy to develop our strategic plan. After meeting, the "in process" plan was presented to our membership for their input and suggestions. The final document will be submitted on April 30th and we will receive a stipend from Legacy. Our goal is to use this Strategic Plan to guide our goals as Winfield Soroptimist.

SI AUSTIN, TEXAS News



Our club celebrated two outstanding women who received Live Your Dream Awards. Both have faced adversity and have found the strength and resilience to keep moving ahead to build better lives. Ashley and Tiffany are both nursing students who are nearing their goals, and each received \$1,500.





We also helped 5 single moms at The Refuge Ranch, a residential program for women and their children, and have experienced obstacles such as domestic violence and poverty. This was the first year of this partnership and we were grateful to be able to contribute to these women's journeys back through education and counseling, to healthy new lives. The award was accepted as a Big Goal Accelerator Project, and SIA shared an article about it on the SIA blog.



We gave our memorial Ava Crofford Community Service Award to an outstanding teen girl who serves her community, and who is college-bound next year. The \$1,000 grant will help with expenses, reducing how much she needs to earn. She plans to attend the Air Force Academy and has received a recommendation from her congressman, to follow her dream to serve our country. By reworking the application

from prior years, we also had this approved by SIA as a Big Goal Accelerator Project. As a result, we have 100% of our program spending going to projects that support the SIA Big Goal of serving half a million women and girls!



Everything takes on special meaning in this, our 80th year, as a Soroptimist club. We are planning a celebration on June 14 at the Texas State Capitol, and we would like to invite reps from all clubs to attend.

SI ROCKWALL, TEXAS News



The Children's Advocacy Center for Rockwall County is the signature program of SI Rockwall. Club members wore blue to the meeting in April in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness month.



L-R: Front row - Giovanna Psolka, Cindy Lindley, Rhonda Wright, Frances Roberts, Debbie Roa, Janet Parrick, Karen Straughan, Janette Wold, Kim Sweet, Gail Scoggins, Back row - Lynette Coughlin, Charisa Hauser, Angela Furguson, Linda Johnson, Delia Watts, Debbie Branch, Mary Rodriquez, Madelyn Hill, Del Osborn, Sue Reeves, Kami Webb, Jody Wright, Norma Morris, Sandy Webb



SI ROCKWALL, TEXAS News (continued)

Region Conference Photos



L-R: SI Rockwall members Charisa Hauser, Cindy Lindley, Gail Scoggins & Rhonda Wright



Shebra Hackett SI Grand Prairie,
District Director



Sandy Hansen -SI Rockwall Charter member memorial



Oree Freeman, Conference Speaker, SI Grand Prairie 2025 LYD Recipient



Teresa Young, SI Plainview, Governor-elect

SI GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS News



Family and friends were in attendance at our February Girl of the Month. All senior girls honored by their school were eligible for our two Honoring Her Awards.



Members provided information about our club at a Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce luncheon. (Left to right; Krystal, Reace, Taylor, Shebra, Tarrance.)



We later learned SI-GP was one of seven nominated for the Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce Nonprofit of the Year Award. We didn't win, but there's always next year! (Melinda, Shebra, Tami, Pat, Dandreon.)

SI GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS News (continued)



(Back; Liz, Pat, Marilyn, Donna, Dawn, Michelle, Detra, Doranna, Reace, Shebra, Geralynn. Front: Petra, Tami, Li Ling.)

Our 3rd annual Honoring Her Sneaker Ball was a great success. Everyone dressed up and wore sneakers. Dinner, dancing, silent and live auctions, a 360 photo booth and awards program kept things lively. Those recognized included two Honoring Her, two SI-GP Scholarships, a Liggett Scholarship, and our club's Live Your Dream winner. Women in our community were also recognized: Women Investing in Women Award, Business Advancing Women Award, Ruthe Jackson Spirit of Volunteerism Award, Woman of Distinction Award, two nonprofit SI-GP Grants, the Sowell Grant, and the President's Award. We were especially pleased SI-Dallas members were in attendance.



Each year we participate in Lifeline for Families' yummy fundraising event, Soups On 4 Love. (Pat, Michelle, Tami, Marilyn, Angela, Melinda.)



Our future young Soroptimist Sherry, played the piano as her mother Li Ling Clifton proudly looked on.

SI GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS News (continued)



Back; Liz, Pat, Marilyn, Donna, Dawn, Michelle, Detra, Doranna, Reace, Shebra, Geralynn. Front: Petra, Tami, Li Ling

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Kelly, Shebra, Dandreon, Mary, Jorga, Marilyn, Pat, Dawn

Planning for the Sneaker Ball and the 99th SCR Conference kept us busy. Yet we still had time to support the Grand Prairie Hispanic Chamber of Commerce at their Empower Embrace Excel Women's Leadership Brunch.



SI-GP President Petra 2023-25, and 2025-26 Vice President Elect Tami, Liz, Marilyn, Doranna, Lala (SI-Dallas), Shebra.

We reciprocated by attending SI-Dallas' "A Star is Born" luncheon award presentation. Attending a Soroptimist event without doing any of the related work was quite a new experience!

SI GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS News (continued)



Alicia, Doranna, Bre, Liz, Donna, Dawn, Mary, Shebra.

Hosting the 99th SCR Conference was quite an experience. We all worked together to "get 'er done." SI-GP members creating Conference welcome bags.



Debra SI-Dallas, Marilyn SI-GP

At the Conference we listened to singers, speakers with great messages, drew names for goodie bags, enjoyed hospitality food, and wore our dreamcatcher blouses. We connected old friends and made new ones. The new presentation of "An Outstanding Soroptimist Member" certificate recognized a member from each club.



Kelly, Reace, Dawn, Liz, Marilyn, Geralynn, Pat, Shebra, Dandreon, front: Doranna, Detra, Petra.

Saturday night at Chicken N Pickle dinner, dancing, more awards and pickleball topped off the Conference. SI-GP AMAZING SI-GP members SI-GP wants to THANK EVERY-ONE who made this Conference a huge success.. We now appreciate in a whole new way clubs who've hosted a Conference and those who are hosting in the future.

SI ALVIN, TEXAS News

Soroptimist International of Alvin held its 26th Annual Men Who Cook event on Saturday, March 1st. All proceeds from the event will benefit scholarships and local non-profit organizations.



Best Appetizer

The cooks for this year's event were Gabe Adame, Adam Arendell, Todd Arendell, Rick Barnes, David Becker, Dr. Robert Exley, Terry Droege, Morgan Fernandez, Alfred Froberg, Lenny Garcia, Gabe Garza, Marshall Hoskins, Justin Kelly, Cody Kettler, Craig Kettler, Keith Kingham, Christopher Matula, John Matula, Andrew Mendoza, Keko Moore, John Murray, Luke Roach, Junru Roland, Jody Schibi, Joe Schneider, Landon Stickler, Tadd Stickler, Steve Urick, and Chris Vaughn.

Men Who Cook was made possible thanks to our many sponsors including Head Chefs sponsors ADDI Printing, Bayway Chevrolet, Depco Power Systems, Scott Salter for Alvin City Council, Texas Advantage Community Bank, and Veterinary Hospital of Alvin.



Best Entree



Best Dessert



Best of Show

SIOA participates in numerous fundraisers each year, such as Men Who Cook, to provide grants for local groups and help women directly with scholarships and resources for other needs.

The Alvin Chapter meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at Alvin Community College. For more information on Soroptimist please email sioalvintx@gmail.com

SI ALVIN, TEXAS News (continued)



Sous Chef Sponsors were All American Pest Control, Alvin Rotary Club, Alvin Sunrise Rotary Club, AMOCO Federal Credit Union, Arendco Construction & Remodeling, Ben Garcia Memorial Fund, Brazoria County C & R District #3 , Jim and Mary Jane Crumm, DeKeyzer Law Firm , Chad & Debbi Fontenot, HomeTown Bank , Joe's Bar-B-Que, Lozano Tire, Janell S. Marin CPA & Ameriwaste, Mutina Plumbing, Ro-Berg Concrete, Schneider Investment Group, Inc., Senator Mayes Middleton, TDEC, Inc. – Electrical Contractor, The Becker Group, The Chris and Lindsey Vaughn Team at RE/MAX American Dream, John and Tiffany Wennerstrom, and Wildflower Boutique.

Prep Cook Sponsors were Boom Boom Construction, Joe's Bar-B-Que, Keating Toyota, Patsy Moeskau and Texas Dirt Works.





SI GREATER ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI News

Our 2025 80s Blacklight Bingo Bash fundraiser, held on Saturday, February 22, was another SUPER RAD SUCCESS!! We had over 250 Bingo players and we raised over \$13,000!! We can't wait to award these funds to our deserving Live Your Dream Award and scholarship recipients next year!! Everyone had a radical time dressed up in their 80s finest and dancing to that totally tubular 80s music between Bingo rounds. And we again used the event as an opportunity to do a period supplies drive to benefit the St. Louis Alliance for Period Supplies – we collected over 6,500 supplies to donate!! We're already planning for and looking forward to doing it again next year!! And a special shoutout from President Cheri to her bodacious homegirls – THANK YOU SO MUCH to all of our members who work so hard to make this a can't-miss event year-over-year!!





