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Investing in Dreams

# Sorooptimist International of Grass Valley

[sigv.org](http://sigv.org) [www.sorooptimist.org](http://www.sorooptimist.org)

[sorooptimistsnr.org](http://sorooptimistsnr.org)

[sigrassvalley@gmail.com](mailto:sigrassvalley@gmail.com)

## April 2026 Newsletter

Dear Members,

As we step into Spring, it reminds me of a season of renewal, growth, and fresh opportunities. This reminds me that progress is often built on small, consistent steps—and as an organization, we continue to move forward together with purpose and momentum.

Over the past month, I've watched Day for Women come together and now the beginning of a new project – Anti Human Trafficking Awareness Walk. I'm inspired by the dedication, creativity, and collaboration of these project team members. WOW! Good job! Whether it's through ongoing projects, or the everyday efforts that keep things running smoothly, each of you plays an important role in our shared success. Thank you for the energy and commitment you bring.

Looking ahead, our recent retreat offers us a chance to refocus on our goals and embrace new challenges. I encourage everyone to stay engaged, share ideas, and continue supporting each other as we grow.

I'm excited about what lies ahead and confident in what we can accomplish together.

I wish you a productive and positive month. Get outside, relax and enjoy this amazing Spring weather.

With appreciation,

Debbi and Bonnie

Co-Presidents

### ***SIGV Calendar***

#### **Thursday, April 2nd**

Business Meeting

5:15-5:30pm Social

5:30 - 7:00pm Meeting

NCCA

149 Crown Point Court

St.A, Grass Valley, CA

#### **Thursday, April 16th**

Board Meeting

5:00pm

Verger Mortgage

231 E Main St., Ste A

Grass Valley, CA

All members welcome!

Please RSVP to Debbi

### ***May Birthdays:***

Patty Rogers - 22nd

### ***Planning Ahead:***

#### **Thursday, May 7th**

Business Meeting

Usual Time & Location

#### **Thursday, May 14th**

### **Outstanding Efforts Award**

**Luncheon**

12:30-1:30pm

NCCA

149 Crown Point Court

St.A, Grass Valley, CA

#### **Thursday, May 21st**

Board Meeting

Usual Time & Location

#### **Thursday, May 28th**

**Celebration of Service**

6:00-7:00pm

NCCA

149 Crown Point Court

St.A, Grass Valley, CA

# **Nominating Committee**

## **Proposed Slate of Officers**

The Nominating Committee of Judy East, Tessa Marmorstein and Marlene Sharon met and put forth this slate of officers:

### **SIGV Slate of Officers for 26-27:**

President	Debbie Sutton
Secretary	Candice Nutting
Treasurer	Tina Skrukrud
Asst. Treasurer	Kim Wydra
Directors	Kim Jones
	Mindy Trygg
	Marlene Sharon
Delegate	Patty Rogers
Immediate Past President	Bonnie Resendes

**Thank you to all you volunteered. We hope that others will consider serving as officers next cycle.**

## **Soroptimist Mission**

**Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.**

**The organization's mission is to transform the lives and status of women and girls through education, empowerment and enabling opportunities.**

**Soroptimist International envisions a world where women and girls will achieve their individual and collective potential, realize aspirations and have an equal voice in creating strong, peaceful communities worldwide.**

**Investing in Dreams**

**Soroptimist International of Grass Valley  
is sponsoring  
Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Event**

After our highly successful 2024 Anti- Human Trafficking Symposium  
we are offering a

**Family Awareness Event - A Fun Run or Walk for AHT!**

This is a community strong event - United Against Human Trafficking.

**May 30th, 10am - 12 pm at Western Gateway Park, Penn Valley**

**Picnic Area 4**

**10:00am - 12:00 pm**

**Check-in starts at 9:30am.**

This family event welcomes all ages and skill levels of walkers or runners  
on this 2 mile course.

Special walk for ages 3-6 year old includes a ribbon and a lollipop!

Youth under 18 are free. Only \$15 for adults. First 75 adult registrants will receive a t-shirt.

All entrants will receive a swag bag!

There will be vendors, snacks, t-shirts for sale.

Walk at your own pace - talk to your friends and family - there will be human trafficking  
facts and figures along the route for information and awareness.

This event encourages families and children and friends  
to open a dialog on human trafficking.

Event is accepting only 12 vendors.

Registrations open in April on <https://www.sigv.org>

Please fill out Waiver and Release to participate.

Questions? Contact Patty Rogers: [patlynrogers@hotmail.com](mailto:patlynrogers@hotmail.com) or Kristina Shramek: [kshramek@att.net](mailto:kshramek@att.net)





## Day for Women

The Day for Women event was held March 21 at Sierra College and welcomed over 80 participants. Seventeen speakers presented one-hour workshops on a wide range of topics, including several attendees who were new to both the event and the campus.

Lunch and morning snacks were coordinated by Tina Skrukruud, room monitors by Kristin Plante, and registration and name tags by Debbi Sutton. The event raised over \$900 through a drawing featuring baskets designed by Bonnie Resendes.

Feedback on the speakers and topics was excellent, with increased participation from younger women. Three women inquired about membership, and several former members expressed renewed interest.

Thank you to the committee and all volunteers. Collaboration between the Council and SIGV was outstanding, and strong promotion through social media (Kim Jones), banners, posters, and brochures helped successfully raise awareness of our club.





# Let's Get Ready for Incheon! Soroptimist International of Americas

SIA's 49th Biennial Convention in Incheon, South Korea, will be an unforgettable experience filled with connection, inspiration and global celebration.

Registration is opens!

Join SIA and the Convention Committee for a live walkthrough of the convention website and registration. They will highlight special events, what's included with registration, and where to find menus, attire details, and more. Since all attendees must register online, this is a great opportunity to learn the process and ensure you don't miss a thing. <https://events.zoom.us/ev/>

## SNR 50th Annual Conference June 5-7, 2026 Reno, Nevada 50th Anniversary!

**Education is the key to gender equality,  
which has yet to be achieved anywhere in the world.**

- 1 in 3 women has been beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in her lifetime. (Amnesty International USA)
- 1 in 4 high school-age girls in the United States does not graduate. (National Women's Law Center)
- Of single mothers under 30, only 7% have finished college in the U.S. (The Shriver Report)
- Women earn \$.52 to every \$1 earned by men (global average). (World Economic Forum)

**We work to empower women every day.**

At Soroptimist, we are all about empowering women and girls



# SIGV Retreat

## March 7th, 2026



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16 club members attended SIGV's annual retreat to review 2025 projects, committees and fundraisers.



Judy East facilitated this brainstorming session where new ideas and projects were formulated for 2026/27.



# SIGV 2026 Grants

The SIGV Grants Team met and established guidelines and a schedule for this year's grants project. Members on the team include Judy East Fran Freedle, Kimberly Jones, Kate Richiger, Kristina Schrameck, and Debbi Sutton.

Grant applicants must follow the adopted grant guidelines providing contact information, proof of non-profit status, a mission or vision statement, a 2-page proposal including a description of the project or service to be funded, and an explanation of how their proposed project comports with our SIGV mission to improve the lives of women and children in Nevada County. They also must provide financial information including a project and agency budget.

Grant applications are due on or before April 15. Applications can be accessed from [grants@sigv.org](mailto:grants@sigv.org). or members can solicit applicants.

This year's Celebration of Service will be held Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at NCCA, our General Meeting location.

A spreadsheet showing grants awarded for the past 5 years will be used during the review. Funding decisions will be announced by April 30 and presentations of grants will be at a special Celebration of Service program on May 28.

Members are encouraged to invite non-profits in our community to apply.

We invite grant proposals for up to \$2,000 and plan to award \$12,000 this year.

Fran Freedle, Grants Project Team Leader



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**also available on our Website.**

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