



## Soroptimist International of St. Lucie Newsletter

Welcome to the Soroptimist of St. Lucie's First Newsletter Issue! We are thrilled and honored to be able to reach you in this manner, and we hope you will learn more about us, support our activities, and volunteer and donate in any way you can. Find out more on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/HelpLadies](http://www.facebook.com/HelpLadies)

**MEETINGS:** Unless otherwise announced, we meet on the **second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.** in the **Sandpiper Room of the Saints Pub (formerly 19<sup>th</sup> Hole, 2601 SE Morningside Blvd., Port St. Lucie).** Meet and greet dates for new guests, planning sessions, and special speaker events are just a few of the things that keep our group excited and vital!



Pictured are Mary Jo Horton, Past Governor, our President, Dr. Ophelia McDaniels, Ruth Davis, Vice President, Diana Gregory, Financial Secretary, and Cheryl Nolte, Chaplain. Missing was Edna June-Johnson, our Treasurer.

**Our Vision:** Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

**Our 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.

**Core Values:** Education, Gender Equality, Empowerment, Diversity & Fellowship

**Current Officers:** President: Dr. Ophelia McDaniels  
Secretary:  
Treasurer: Edna June-Johnson  
Financial Secretary: Diana Gregory

Vice-President: Ruth Davis

**Committee Chairs:** Membership: Ruth Davis  
Fundraising: Crystal Samuel  
Dream It Be It:  
Laws & Regs: Diana Gregory  
Live Your Dream: Frances Wright-Harris

Finance: Diana Gregory  
Publicity: Cheryl Nolte  
Comp. & Review: Ruth Davis

**Up and coming!** Women getting equal pay and recognition is one of our core values, and we want to promote this event - part of the 66th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. This is a great opportunity for all Soroptimists to take part in the United Nations! Learn more: <https://www.soroptimist.org/for.../what-new/2022/csw66.html>.



**Human Trafficking is one of Soroptimist global initiatives! We hold an annual symposium to inform others in our area. Please watch for the next symposium.**

**Past President Brenda Montoya delivered one of our care packages to First Responders at the St. Lucie County Fire Department during the pandemic.**





You asked for it – you got it – our annual fundraiser “Spring Fling Fashion Show” Here are pictures from 2022!

**Our next Fashion Show is set for April 15, 2022!**



**President Dr. Ophelia McDanials awarding a raffle basket at our 2022 Spring Fling event - such fun!**



**Presentation of Live Your Dream Awards by Frances Wright-Harris (R) at Spring Fling 2022**



**Carol Brandlein models fashion at our Spring Fling event**



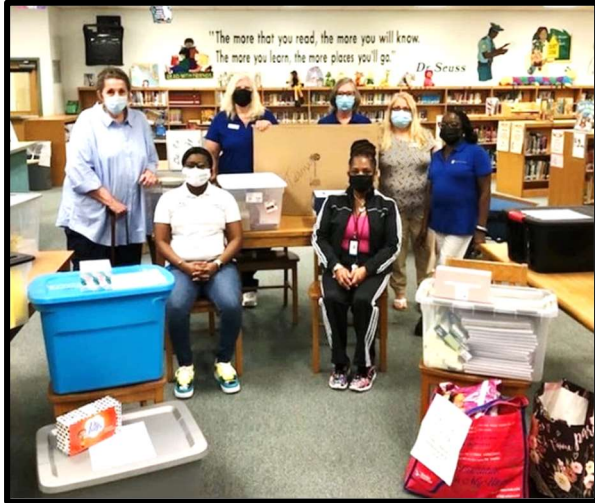
**Our own Kathy Fricke Blanton, now Region Governor, is everywhere! Here she is selling tickets for our annual Spring Fling Fashion Show raffle!**



**L: Brenda and Ruth looking Fine at our Fashion Show; R: Guest Lillie Samuel smiles as she wins a raffle basket!**



**Even during the pandemic, we found ways to help education by donating school supplies to 12 classes at Chester A. Moore Elementary in Fort Pierce.**



**Pictured with seated students are Diana Gregory, Barbara Spyke, Kathy Blanton, Brenda Montoya, and Edna June-Johnson**



**Pictured at the school are: Barbara Spyke, Kathy Fricke Blanton, and Edna June-Johnson**

**We hold yard sales to raise funds several times a year.**



**Frances Wright-Harris and Carol Brandlein are ready for this summer's yard sale!**



**Selfie by Crystal Samuel with Tracey Nichols, Brenda Montoya, Cheryl Nolte, Frances Wright-Harris, and Kathy Fricke Blanton.**



**Our Membership Committee keeps us busy with Meet & Greets, social outings including movies, lunch dates and more. Keep reading to learn about membership benefits!**



**We enjoyed dinner with guests during our August 2022 Meet and Greet! Six of our guests became members!**

**You are invited to our next Meet & Greet on July 1, 2023!**

### **Membership Benefits:**

Soroptimist uses annual dues to ensure our members have a fun and meaningful club experience while accomplishing our collective mission—today and into the future. Surveys tell us members value the following benefits from their membership:

**Mission-based programs.** Members experience joy and a sense of

accomplishment by working with other like-minded women on global programs that provide women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

**Connections & Personal Development.** Members grow professionally and personally. Through friendships with club members, relationships in your region, and [connections](#) with members from diverse countries and backgrounds, you are able to grow your network. The opportunities for leadership development provide professional growth.

**Access to a Team of Non-Profit Professionals.** Members receive guidance and resources from [SIA headquarters](#), enabling them to enjoy a meaningful club experience as they change communities for the better.

### **Individual Benefits:**

- [Best for Women](#), our monthly fully translated electronic newsletter which keeps you updated on Soroptimist initiatives and activities.
- Leadership development and networking opportunities at club meetings, region conferences, [the biennial convention](#), and other events.

- Opportunity to engage and provide feedback through [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#), [Instagram](#), online surveys and other market research activities.
- Access to contact information for other members, clubs and leaders through our [online directories](#).
- Invitations to take advantage of special offers and discounts through our [Corporate Sponsor Program](#), which enables members to receive personalized, value-added services from like-minded organizations that support the SIA mission.

**This just in!**  
**SIA Announces Inaugural Leadership Development Opportunities**

Get ready to experience leadership development in a whole new way at SIA’s first Leadership Round Table and Soroptimist Leadership Fellows Program! All members are invited to attend SIA’s virtual 2023 Leadership Round Table and invited to apply for the two-year Soroptimist Leadership Fellows Program.

**June 22 and June 23, 2023, 6 - 9 p.m. EDT (virtual)**

- Fully interpreted
- Early registration opens December 19, 2022

Leadership Round Table is an evolution of the Governors Round Table and will be open to ALL SIA members so they can access critical leadership development content. By attending the Leadership Round Table, you will develop your skills and be part of the ever-changing and growing Soroptimist organization.

Take this opportunity to learn and become a better overall leader or address your interest in becoming a future Soroptimist leader. Workshops and materials are being carefully developed based on your feedback and recommendations we’ve collected in surveys over the past several years.

Please note that the Leadership Round Table will be held annually—**virtually in odd years, and face-to-face following the biennial convention in even years.**

**Save the date for the 2024 Leadership Round Table in Bellevue, Washington, July 27-28, 2024!**

**Newsletter Editor: Cheryl L. Nolte**

**We appreciate your Membership and Sponsorship!**

We could not accomplish our vision and mission without your support!  
**Please continue to sponsor our activities and initiatives to help women and girls!**