

# Soroptimist International of St. Lucie, Florida

Issued August 1, 2023



SOROPTIMIST®  
Investing in Dreams

**Welcome to the Soroptimist of St. Lucie's** Second Newsletter! 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/Helppladies](http://www.facebook.com/Helppladies)

**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 19th 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!

**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.

**We are looking for volunteers! As a Club, we are simply *the best* at helping others; now our Club itself needs more volunteers to do the important work of this great organization. To volunteer, go to the club website, [www.sistlucie.org](http://www.sistlucie.org), or email us at [info@sistlucie.org](mailto:info@sistlucie.org).**



Region Gov.  
Kathy Blanton  
with SISL  
President  
Ophelia  
McDaniels and  
Gov.-Elect  
Barbara  
Spyke, at  
Southern  
Region  
Conference on  
May 5<sup>th</sup>.



**Region Governor and SISL member Kathy Blanton speaks as participants line up at the Southern Region Conference on May 5<sup>th</sup>.**



**Having Sombrero fun at Conference - ... with Gov.-Elect Barbara Spyke**

**Yard Sale time! Soroptimist of St. Lucie holds a yard sale several times a year, with lots of items donated to choose from. Why not donate or volunteer for the next one?**



**Spring Fling – our Big Fundraiser – We had a record-breaker on April 15 at the Pelican Yacht Club – See the fun! Our President Dr. Ophelia McDaniels and Commentator Dr. Frances Harris invite You!**



**Above - Soroptimist of St. Lucie club President Dr. Ophelia McDaniels shows the banner of guest Sabine Blanc Barbier, from the Soroptimist International European Federation, French Soroptimist club of Chamalieres, at the January 12 meeting, while Kathy Blanton, Region Governor, and Barbara Spyke, Region Governor-Elect, look on.**

**Below, the Soroptimist of St. Lucie members celebrate with Sabine – we were wowed!**



**Models extraordinaire! Commentator Zelia M. McDuffie (center) presented fashions by Cato's, Town Center in St. Lucie West**



**Guest Speaker was Rickesha McQueen, Prevention Specialist, Student Assistance Program with New Horizons of the Treasure Coast, and winner of the 2022 St. Lucie County Community Impact Award.**



**Live Your Dream Awards presented by Dr. McDaniels (l) and Dr. Harris, (r), to Aiyat Irrahman ElGamil, Trisha Burke and Kaynesha Briggs – Congrats!**



**Calling out the winners are Dr. Frances Harris, Barbara Spyke, and Kathy Blanton**



**Modeling and showing off the Raffle table - ..... Below is our Tracey Nichols announcing the happy winner, of one of the baskets!**



**Loveable Fashions by Cato's! And, we had desserts, too!**



**And we had a Silent Auction, too – here's another happy winner!**

**Soroptimist Dignitaries – Southern Region Governor Kathy Blanton and Past Governor Nidia Bernstiel say, "Job well done!"**



## Upcoming Events:

Meetings: 6 PM Sandpiper Room, Saints Pub

July 13

August 11

October 12

November 2 (9<sup>th</sup> not available at venue)

December 14

July 27-29, 2023 - Soroptimist International Convention – Dublin, Ireland –

Monday, October 2, 2023, is **Go Purple Day** – a national day of action during Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Saturday, October 28, 2023 – District Fall Meeting – at the Fort Pierce Yacht Club in Fort Pierce

April 19-21, 2024 – Annual Spring Region Conference - Hilton Peachtree City – Atlanta

July 24-27, 2024 – Soroptimist of Americas Convention - Bellevue, WA

## Soroptimist Pledge

I pledge allegiance to Soroptimism and to the ideal for which it stands.

The Sincerity of Friendship  
The Joy of Achievement  
The Dignity of Service  
The Integrity of Profession  
The Love of Country

I will put forth my greatest effort to promote, uphold and defend these ideals for a larger fellowship in home, in society, in business -- for country and for God.

**Did you know:** The relationship between the United Nations and Soroptimist – Our DREAM programs directly support five goals and 12 targets from the UN Agenda for Sustainable Development!

The Soroptimist International of St. Lucie Club was established in 1995 as part of the Southern Region of Soroptimist International of the Americas.

## Soroptimist Dream Programs

(Excerpts from the SI of the Americas website):

At Soroptimist International of the Americas, we dream big – we want to help all women and girls to live their dreams. We want every woman or girl who could benefit from our **Dream Programs** to have access to them. We have defined our target population as women and girls who face obstacles to their success such as poverty, violence, or pregnancy. And of course, each of our **Dream Programs** has specific eligibility requirements. We set out to do this and found there were about **20 million women and girls** in our countries and territories who could benefit from our programs.

This is one of our Dream Programs:



*Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls®*  
Preparing Girls for a Brighter Future

This is another:



*The award-winning Live Your Dream Awards program helps head-of-household women gain the resources they need to improve their education, skills and employment prospects.*

## Our 2021- 2031 Big Goal

Invest in the Dreams of Half a Million Women and Girls through Access to Education. Together we are preparing our organization for 2021-2031 Big Goal: Invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education. This has involved multiple opportunities for region, club, and individual member engagement in building our 2021-2031 BIG GOAL and defining strategies to ensure its success.