

# The Signpost

Making a Difference for Women and Girls for 98 Years

Soroptimist International of Kansas City  
South Central Region



SOROPTIMIST® January, 2025

The Signpost

Investing in Dreams



President's Message  
Lynn LeCount



Happy New Year to all!

I read a great essay by Meeghan de Cagna that encourages everyone to replace the usual New Year's Resolution(s), generally long gone by February, with a new mindset. She recommends choosing a "word of the year" that relates to something in our lives that we want to give more attention. Thinking about the word for the year reinforces our desired mindset, which could help us transition to new or different choices over the year. I'm tackling "consistency" for 2025. It's so easy to get distracted by the firehose of data and demands coming at us. So, I'm going to work towards a consistent mindset to help me focus on what's important during 2025.

A huge thank you to Mysti for chairing the January meetings while Jon and I escape the winter blues for a few weeks.

*Best wishes to each of you for a healthy and happy New Year!*

President Lynn

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[www.kcsoroptimist.org](http://www.kcsoroptimist.org)

Soroptimist Kansas City Foundation  
Soroptimist International  
of Kansas City  
1221 West 103rd #224  
Kansas City, MO 64114

2024 - 2025 is the club year

FOR  
GRAND  
FUNd!

## January Calendar

January						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### Board Meeting

January 8, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Shepherd's Center  
9200 Ward Parkway  
Kansas City, MO 64114

### Post Holiday Party

April 6, 2025

2:00-4:00 p.m.

Kay's Home

(See page 3 for details)

### Business Meeting

January 15, 2025

6:00 p.m.

O'Neill's Restaurant  
9417 Mission Road  
Leawood, KS 66206



January Birthdays

None this month-Phooey...

## January Business Meeting Wednesday, January 15, 2025

O'Neill's Restaurant  
9417 Mission Road  
Leawood, KS 66206

5:30 p.m. Social Time

6:00 p.m. Dinner

### Menu

Choose your own meal off O'Neill's Menu.

Go to <https://www.kconeills.com>

Make your choice. Your cost will be the amount shown on the menu plus 9.11% tax and 20% gratuity.

Payment will be due upon arrival at O'Neill's.

It is important that you be seated at the table prior to 6:00.

### Live Your Dream Awards

Marcia Boutz, chair of LYD, will be presenting the awards to this year's winners.

Please be sure to welcome them and make this a wonderful event.



RSVP to Heather Rollins

at [attendance@kcsoroptimist.org](mailto:attendance@kcsoroptimist.org)

**no later than Friday, January 10**

## April Post-Holiday Party

*All,*

*Trying to pull a post holiday party off in January is just not working. Some of us are still exhausted from the holidays, others of us are either fighting Covid or have a partner that needs lots of attention right now.*

*So no, that is not a typo you see in the calendar.*

*Your Special & Cultural Events Committee, discussed, agonized, and finally decided to make it a post-post Holiday Party, like in the Spring.*

*So we chose April 6 which is before Easter and should work for most of us. It will be at Kay's home on Sunday, April 6 from 2-4 pm.*

*We will work out the details, just be assured we will have plenty of snacks and libations.*

*You can also be assured we will have no threat of snow or arctic air to dampen our party vibes.*

*Mark your calendar now.  
Whatever we do, it will be fun...*



## Coming Soon! International Women's Day

*"Please invite your friends now" for the March 19th fundraiser at O'Neill's.*



O'Neill's has graciously agreed to sponsor a fundraiser at their restaurant in honor of International Women's Day for our Soroptimist Foundation.

A portion of the proceeds from that evening's meals will be donated to our club.

This a chance to have a great meal out with your friends and family and know that part of it will come back to SIKC.

To be a successful fundraiser, each SIKC member is encouraged to invite her friends, family and colleagues to dine at O'Neill's that day. Better yet, think of it as organizing your own evening out with your friends! There will not be a business agenda. Should an urgent vote be needed for last minute business, there might be a brief discussion in the private dining room, but then we'll promptly return to our tables of friends and fun in the main dining area.

More details will follow from Jerri, Marie, and the W&M Committee in February but, for now, let's get those invitations underway!

*International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day celebrating the historical, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also observed in support of taking action against gender inequality around the world. We all know the world couldn't run without women (we mean, just listen to Beyoncé). This is the day to appreciate their efforts!*



# Soroptimist Combined Holiday Party

SI Kansas City Northland took on the hosting duties for our annual combined club Holiday Party this year. They chose Conrad's in Liberty as it is a central location for all the clubs. SI St. Joseph always makes the hour long drive down I-29 to join us. It is always so much fun to see old friends and get caught up.



SI St. Joseph



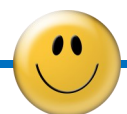
Kay and Linda Houston SI-Liberty



Linda and Sandy Maag SI Kansas City Northland



The blue tongue club... SI KCN brought in a beautiful sheet cake with our logo decked out in dark blue frosting. It was delicious but there were after effects.



## More Holiday Celebration....

This year, our club decided to adopt a family through Don Bosco. They selected a Sudanese family recently arrived in the United States as refugees. They are made up of Mom, Sofia, and four children, Anna (15), Demu (13), Riziki (10), and Mwaju (6). Demu is the only boy and he really wanted a ball. But what kind of ball? Sudan is not known for enjoying basketball, baseball or any of the other sports, but soccer? You bet! A soccer ball along with a pump was one of the many gifts supplied by our club.

### **We really went all out.**

There were hoodies, a purse and eyelashes for Anna along with lotion, sweaters and leggings.

Demu received the soccer ball, some crocs, a remote controlled car and a hoodie. Riziki received a hoodie, crocs, toys, some fur shoes, and art supplies. Mwaju got her Barbie Doll, Barbie House, Barbie Car, a mermaid doll and a warm sweater and leggings. And Mom Sofia? She received a beautiful fur trimmed coat, gloves, snow boots, a blanket, a robe and slippers.

That is just the stuff we can remember. There were a ton of packages and a whole bunch of Aldi Grocery gift cards. Oh, and they wanted a snow shovel. Santa brought them a good one.

Snow should be fun for the kids this year.

Sudan is too close to the equator to get snow so it will be an event.

Just before Christmas, Tanya Johannes, Jerri Cofran, Dianne Young, Marcia Boutz, Caitlin Miller and a whole bunch of our members took the wrapped gifts to the Red Bridge Library where Tanya and her husband loaded all the gifts in their truck to get ready for their visit.. A few days later, Tanya, her husband, Mysti and President Lynn dropped off a huge pile of wrapped presents. It's a good thing Tanya has a really big truck in the family.

### **We did good.**



Meeting at Red Bridge Library



## And Yet More Holiday Celebration....



Tanya's report: The mom greeted us with a hug and huge smiles, the kids were home from school and helped carry the packages into the family's front room-which was quickly filled between the kids and all the packages.

The back of Steve's F150 was so full of presents Mysti and Lynn got to hold the overflow on their laps.



### A Footnote:

We ask that everyone who contributed to the adopted Sudanese family, please email to Tanya Johannes by January 23rd the following information required by SIA for our Big Goal Accelerator Project application:

- 1) Estimated amount of costs you spent towards the SIKC adopted family (gifts, shipping, wrapping paper, bows, gasoline, tax, etc.)
- 2) Estimated number of hours you invested in the project (baking, researching, shopping, wrapping, delivering, etc.)

## Committee News

### **Service Objectives:**

Norma McKelvy, chair of Service Objectives wants to remind everyone that the Service Objectives grant application period ends January 27, 2025.

Members should forward our application link to those 501(c)3 agencies with specific programs that support girls and women and encourage them to apply.

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### **Community Service:**

Danielle Sidney, Community Service Chair, has announced that our club will be taking part in the **Period Poverty Campaign**. Fleetwood Elementary in the Raytown School District is happy to be chosen as the recipient for the project. Danielle will provide all the details of the campaign at our January 15 club meeting with goal of having a feminine hygiene products collection at our February club meeting.

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