



Welcome to 2022 Soroptimist International of  
Conejo Valley Winter Bunny Tales



#### OFFICERS

President: Karen O'Mullan  
Vice President: Suzanne Walker  
Treasurer: Dixie DiCeglie  
Asst Treasurer: Debbie Cutler  
Recording Secretary: Cheryl Klepper  
Asst Recording Secretary: Carole Blake  
Corresponding Secretary: Nancy Nevitt  
Asst Corresponding Secretary Sherry Love  
Delegate: Leslie Escoto  
Delegate: Debbie Cutler  
Director 1-year: Jacque Turner  
Director 2-year: Ramona Evey



**2021-2022  
President's Theme:  
"The Power of You!"**



## **President Karen's Message**

**We are off to an amazing start this year!**

I am excited to announce that in the past month we have added two new members to our club. Please join me in welcoming Marisa Folz and Dee Dee Haury. They bring such energy and enthusiasm to our club. I cannot wait to see the wonderful things they will do. Our small but mighty club is certainly growing.

In addition to gaining members, we are planning our annual events (Margarita Mix Off and Poker Run), organizing our first Dream It Be It workshop, helping our Live Your Dream recipients, and so much more.

Let us not forget our Program meetings. I hope you will be able to attend our Program meeting on February 15<sup>th</sup> at Los Robles Greens. We will be joined by guest speaker Sara Langberg. Sara Langberg is an Aeromechanical Engineer at AeroVironment and she will share information about the Ingenuity Mars Helicopter.

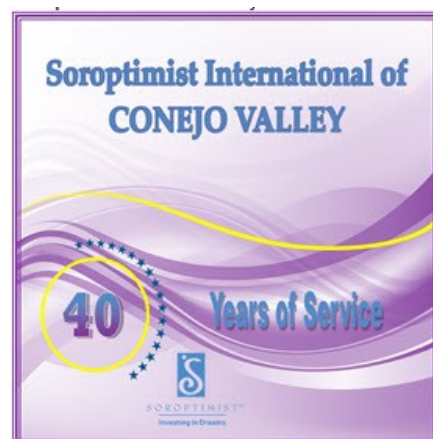
Last but certainly not least, we are making arrangements for the club's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. While this milestone was in 2021, due to COVID we postponed the celebration to this year. Mark your calendars for May 17, 2022!!!

As you can see, Soroptimist International of Conejo Valley is doing many incredible things this year. All of this would not be possible without the fabulous club members, their families, our sponsors, and our supporters. I am truly grateful for all they do.

**Warmest wishes,  
Karen O'Mullan  
President SIOCV**



# SI Conejo Celebrates the Holidays at an afternoon gathering hosted by Debbie and Don Cutler



# Soroptimist of Conejo Valley continues to add new members



## Meet Dee Dee Haury

Dee Dee originally found Soroptimist through Sharon Jones (retired Regional Director) who then was introduced to Ramona Evey. Dee Dee has been involved in many philanthropic endeavors including her own Non Profit organizations. Her interests in Soroptimist are focused on combating Human Trafficking and would like to put her talents to work focusing on large donor opportunities to contribute to the efforts of the club.

Some of her work included sending used sporting equipment to orphaned children in Rwanda, hosting a Holiday Boutique in her home where vendors would give a portion of profits, provide food items, and gifts. She would then take the proceeds and donate to a charity of choice focusing on women children and indigent men.

She also supporting migrant workers with shortages of baby food and diapers in Santa Rosa Valley one year when the community was especially hard hit from a winter freeze.

Dee Dee is currently widowed, has a daughter Dana Baker, son in law, Jeff Baker and two grandchildren 8 years old Zane and 5 months old Vincent. she has been in the Mortgage Industry and currently works for Loan Guys in Woodland Hills. With her skill set we are excited to have Dee Dee on board.

## Meet Marisa Folz - Another New Member for SI Conejo Valley



Marisa is originally from Camarillo and had relocated to Arizona with her husband and two daughters Alexis and Emma. After relocating, Marisa became a single parent raising her children and moved back to California.

Her career has mainly been focused on Human Resources early on focusing on employment saving plans and stock portfolios. She is currently at Aerovironment, a local manufacturer of Drone technology for military and commercial application, where she is in charge of compensation analysis.

Daughter Alexis is currently attending California State University at Channel Islands studying Psychology and Emma has recently graduated high school and is employed in retail at the Oaks Mall.

Marisa was introduced to Soroptimist by Carole Blake, however she has family members who are involved in other non-profit organizations so joining Soroptimist was something of special interest to her. Marisa is interested in focusing on efforts to combat Human Trafficking and supporting Women and Girls efforts.

We are so pleased to have Marisa join our excellent group of passionate women.





## And Meet Kristin Irwin our newest member

Kristin found SI Conejo Valley through an article in The Acorn, a local publication. She is originally from Conejo Valley, where she attended Westlake High School, and returned to the area to raise her two children. Her daughter Katelen is currently a student at UCSB studying Zoology and her son Max is a student at Thousand Oaks High School. Kristin is practicing law for NBC Network. She has demonstrated a heart for charity in the past with her work at the Charity League, and was a volunteer with Manna, our local Conejo Valley food bank. Outside interests are traveling (upcoming trip to Kenya), Musical Theater, and reading. Kristin is looking forward to putting her skills to work for stopping human trafficking.





Sharon Fisher  
SI President



“ SOROPTIMISTS BELIEVE WE CANNOT STAND BY WHILE WOMEN AND GIRLS FACE OPPRESSION AND VIOLENCE, IN AFGHANISTAN OR ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD. FOR 100 YEARS WE HAVE MOBILISED TO SUPPORT WOMEN AND GIRLS. AS WOMEN AND GIRLS FLEE OR FACE PERSECUTION IN AFGHANISTAN, NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT. ”

# Looking Forward to Upcoming Events



**February 1 - Business Meeting Los Robles Greens 6:00 pm**

**February 15 - Program Meeting Featuring Sara Landberg (flyer below)**

**March 1 - Business Meeting Los Robles Greens 6:00 pm**

**March 15 - Live Your Dream Program Meeting Los Robles Greens 6:00 pm**

**March 14 to 25th - On Line session of the UN Commission  
on the Status of Women - Details Below**

**March 26 - Poker Run Fund Raiser**

**April 5- Business Meeting Los Robles Greens 6:00 pm**

**April 19 - Program Meeting Los Robles Greens 6:00 pm**

**April 22-24 Camino Real Region Spring Conference**

**May 3 - Business Meeting Los Robles Greens 6:00 pm**

**May 17 - 40th Year Anniversary Celebration Los Robles Greens**

**Upcoming 47th Biennial Convention Seoul S. Korea  
July 22 thru July 25 - Details below**



## **Malala to Serve as SIA 2022 Convention Keynote Speaker!**

**Together In Motion  
47th Biennial Convention  
July 22 - July 25  
Seoul S. Korea**

**SIA is thrilled to announce Nobel Laureate Malala Yousafzai as our keynote speaker for our 2022 Convention on Friday, July 22, and Saturday, July 23. Malala will speak that Friday.**

**The virtual convention will bring thousands together for professional and personal development and focus on our Big Goal of investing in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education by 2031.**

**Early bird tickets for the event will go on sale from February through April 30. "We are committed to helping women gain economic empowerment through education," says Iesha D. Brown, Vice President of Stakeholder Engagement. "Our 2022 Convention will provide actionable opportunities including virtual training sessions, access to new resources, as well as powerful speakers such as Malala." Malala's message about the importance of education for girls comes as the global pandemic has amplified the growing need for access to education. Due to COVID-19, an estimated 47 million additional women and girls have fallen into extreme poverty. With the Malala Fund reporting that 20 million more secondary school-age girls could be out of school after the COVID-19 crisis has passed.**

**Malala will be joined by other soon-to-be-announced speakers who will offer strategies to tackle current challenges in sessions on leadership, personal development, and Soroptimist's unified efforts to help half a million women and girls live their dreams.**

**Malala is a strong activist for girls' education, the world's youngest Nobel Peace Prize laureate, and the author of "I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World"—as well as other best-selling books. Malala has a powerful story to share, and we cannot wait to be immersed in her story leading up to and during our 2022 virtual convention!**



**Are you interested in participating  
at the 66th session of the  
UN Commission on the  
Status of Women?**

**Here's your chance! Dates are  
March 14 to 25, 2022.**



**Given the unique circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, no formal registration is needed for CSW66 and virtual attendance is open to all.**

**Themes will include:**

- **Priority theme: Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes**
- **Review theme: Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work**

**If interested in attending, email Wanda Price,  
SIA Representative to the SI Advocacy Committee at: [wprice4121@aol.com](mailto:wprice4121@aol.com).**

**Live Your Dream Chair -  
Suzanne Walker has been  
working with applicants to  
select our Award Winners this  
year, soon to be announced.**



# Service To the Community is Still a Priority for SI Conejo Valley



SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE CONEJO

## Our service project for November 2021

Conejo Valley Manna Food Bank

*pictured from left:*

Susanne White, Leslie Escoto, Cheryl Klepper, Suzanne Walker and Sherry Love worked with the Manna Food Bank helping to sort various food items in preparation for Thanksgiving 2021

December 2021 the club filled out holiday cards for Ventura County Area Agency on Aging constituents

## January 2022:

SI Conejo Valley donated an additional 11 Tote Bags to Interface Children & Family Services, a non-profit organization that provides assistance to trafficked victims through Heart House. The tote bags included personal hygiene items, pajamas, shower shoes, toiletries, snacks, socks, and gift cards.







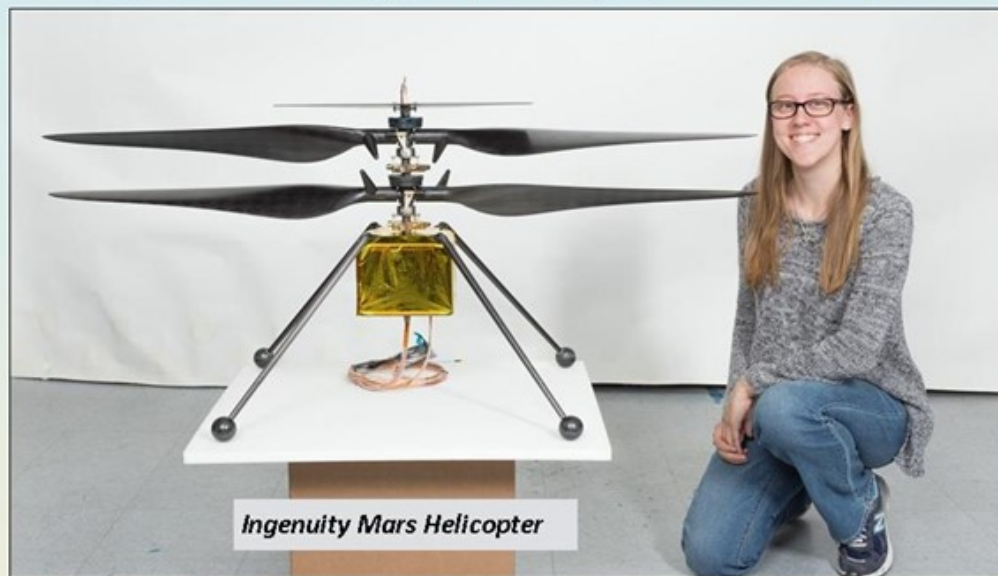
Soroptimist International of Conejo Valley  
invites you to attend our  
**February 15th Program-Dinner meeting**

Featuring Sara Langberg  
Social time: 5:30 pm - Dinner: 6:00 pm  
followed by the Program

**Los Robles Greens Golf Course,  
299 S. Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91361**



***Sara Langberg, aeromechanical engineer at AeroVironment, will tell us what reimagining flight looks like for Ingenuity Mars Helicopter, currently operating on Mars with the Perseverance rover, AeroVironment's involvement in the project and her own experiences working towards the very first powered flight on another planet.***



*Langberg with Ingenuity, history's first Mars helicopter. Photo courtesy of Sara Langberg.*

### ***About the Speaker:***

***Sara Langberg is an aeromechanical engineer at AeroVironment and one of the designers for the Ingenuity Mars Helicopter project. She has Bachelor's degrees in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering from University of California, Davis.***



Dinner cost for guests is \$20.00  
**Please RSVP to Sherry Love no later than February 13, 2022.**  
by email at [cslove2@verizon.net](mailto:cslove2@verizon.net)  
**or 805-498-9921**

## What are Members Up To and Announcements



Meet Quinn Cutler on the left - newest addition to the Culter Clan.  
On the Right is Maya Oliva Marche is the newest member of the Evey family.  
Maya was born on March 5, 2021, born a preemie at 5lbs 6 oz.



Left is a picture of  
Dixie Diceglie's son,  
Joe, competing in  
Wrestling for the World  
Cup held in Finland.

He came in 3rd in his  
weight class. He is a  
heavy weight.

Congratulations to Joe!





On January 30, 2022, several SI Conejo Valley members supported the Simi Valley Soroptimist Club event by attending the “Wake Up” documentary film presentation that focused on the Human Trafficking issues in our local communities.

(pictured from left: Jacque Turner, Sandy McDougall, Nancy Nevitt, and Dixie DiCeglie. Also attending were Susanne White & Dee Dee Haury)



Ramona and Darryl Evey set sail on the SilverSeas Cloud cruise ship to Antarctica on January 2. They flew to Santiago, Chile to board the ship. After spending two days on Drake Passage, one of the most treacherous voyages connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, they reach the beautiful continent of Antarctica. Zodiac cruises and kayaking led them to see thousands of penguins, seals, whales and beautiful icebergs.

Their trip ended with wine tasting in Casablanca, Chile.

## Amazing Salmon with Spinach Cream Sauce - Debbie Cutler

1. Make Sauce, keep on warm while cooking the fish
2. pan sear fish in cast iron skillet or grill it
3. Serve in shallow bowl, pour sauce in bowl - lay salmon on top
- 3-4 Salmon filets salt, pepper and touch of garlic seasoning

### Sauce Ingredients:

2 cups of chicken broth or fish stock (I use chicken broth with a little clam stock)

1 large shallot diced

1/3 cup white wine

3 tablespoons vermouth

1 1/4 cup mascarpone cheese

large bunch of fresh spinach leaves with stems removed

### Make Sauce:

In medium saucepan, sauté shallots in olive oil, then add stock and reduce (about 10-15 minutes). Add wine and vermouth, continue to simmer about 3 minutes until sauce thickens. Add mascarpone cheese whisk in to combine and keep on simmer till lightly thickened, about 2 minutes. Add fresh spinach and simmer until softened. Ready to pour in bowls and lay fish on top. Sauce consistency is like that of soup.



### Soroptimist Vision & Mission

#### VISION

Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

#### 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 - Soroptimist International of the Americas is committed to:

**Gender Equality:** Women and girls live free from discrimination.

**Empowerment:** Women and girls are free to act in their own best interest.

**Education:** Women and girls deserve to lead full and productive lives through access to education.

**Diversity & Fellowship:** Women from varied backgrounds and perspectives work together to improve the lives of women and girls.

#### Soroptimist Pledge

I pledge allegiance to Soroptimist  
And to the ideals 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.