



Program/Business Meeting Tuesday, February 12 – 5:30 p.m. Olive Tree Venue

The speaker this month is **Dr. Ruth Bohlken**, owner of Advocates For Active Aging. Regular physical activity has been shown to improve both mental and physical health. Dr. Bohlken is a certified facilitator for Canary Health offering online workshops: Better Choices, Better Health.

PLEASE NOTE: Social hour is at 5:30. **The program will begin promptly at 6:00.** Dinner will be served following.

Be sure to make your reservation by Noon on Friday.

Thoughts on Why We are a Member of Soroptimist of Wichita

While attending the 5th Annual Anti-Human Trafficking Conference this year, I spoke with a couple of ladies that acknowledged and reminded me of what we as Soroptimist accomplish with our work. Sometimes, we forget what we stand for in our community and what good work that SIA- International organization does in the World.

First, while covering the information table at the conference, I spoke with a lady from a Sedgwick County Division that works with women in their Residential Program. I asked her if she was familiar with the work of the Soroptimist Club and she smiled and said yes. She then told me her story. In 1997 her husband left her with a young child. She was working on her education at WSU and didn't know how she was going to finish her education. She was outside the financial aid office and started crying. She was very upset and the person from the office came out, saw her distress and asked her what was wrong. She told her. The lady then walked her into the financial aid office with her arm around her and assured her that she could get help.

She received our WSU scholarship for 2 years that allowed her to finish her education. She is now the Administrator of the residential program for Sedgwick County and will be using our bookmarks in her counseling of those women.

Continued on page 3

-  ~ **Sherry Grady**
President
-  ~ **Donna Ard**
Vice President
-  ~ **Karen Harmon**
Recording Secretary
-  ~ **Roshelle Ford**
Corresponding Secretary
-  ~ **Kathy Newsome**
Treasurer
-  ~ **Leann Barth**
Past President

A global volunteer organization that improves the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment..

Dates to Remember

February 12	5:30pm
Program/Business Meeting Olive Tree Venue	
March 5	5:30pm
Board Meeting Candle Club	
March 12	5:30pm
Program/Business Meeting Olive Tree Venue	

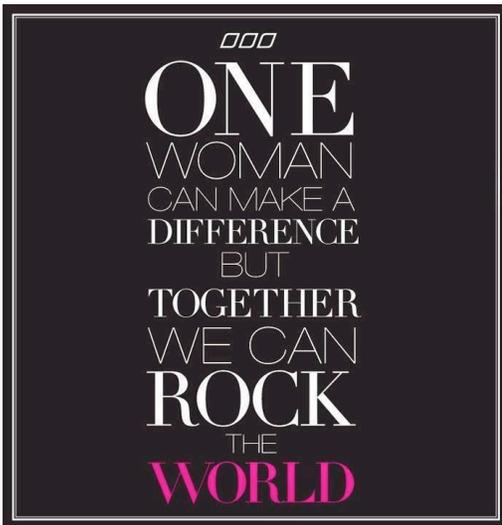
Meet Dr. Terra Reusser



Dr. Terra Reusser is from North Platte, Nebraska, a graduate of the Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry in Lincoln, Nebraska. After receiving her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree, she began her career in Wellington, Kansas. She and her husband, **Dr. Ty Reusser**, have been dentists in the Wichita area for over 20 years, and in 2009 formed R2 Center for Dentistry.

Terra donates much of her time to local charities and organizations. She has provided her services for the Kansas Mission of Mercy and the Donated Dental Organization, and she & Ty are also involved in a number of non-profit organizations such as Make a Wish and Special Olympics. They have 5 beautiful children, 2 daughters and 3 sons, and love to spend their free time traveling as a family.

Terra was introduced to our club by **Marilyn Wells**, and shares our passion for supporting and empowering women. She said, "I am so honored to be a part of this group. Women supporting women is such a worthy cause, and I'm so excited for this journey."



With Sympathy



Our club was saddened by the passing of our member Dorothy Harmon on January 17, 2019. Dorothy had been an active member of our club since 2003 – including attending the Christmas Gala in December. In accordance with wishes of her family, a donation from the Soroptimist

Club will be made to:

Francis & Dorothy Harmon Scholarship
c/o WSU Foundation
4205 E. 21 St. N.
Wichita, KS 67220

Individuals members are encourage to also contribute to this scholarship fund in memory of Dorothy.

February Birthday



Rhonda Lewis

20

Thoughts On Why We Are a Member of Soroptimist of Wichita

Continued from page 1

In one of the breakout sessions, **Dorothy Stucky Halley**, the Director of the victim Services Division of the Office of Attorney General since 2007 spoke about improving the response to Human Trafficking Survivors. After introducing myself to her, she proceeded to tell me about her experience testifying at the United Nations and that Soroptimist International has a seat at the International table on Human Trafficking. I know I have heard that before but talking with her reminded me of what SIA International is doing worldwide for the benefit of women and girls. We can be proud of their work as we continue to do our work in Wichita.

One of the women sent a message later saying, “I really enjoyed visiting with you at the Human Trafficking conference. For years, I’ve wanted to share the impact that the Soroptimist group has had on my life. It felt great to do that!”

At the conference we met up with many of our Community Partners and we were able to distribute many of our bookmarks. **Dr Karen Countryman-Roswurm** always expresses her gratitude to our Club for the sponsorship and the volunteer work we do to make it go smoothly. She even acknowledges our **Marilyn Wells** for her work in obtaining sponsors for the event. Congratulations Marilyn and thanks for representing our Soroptimist Club so very well.

Judy Haglund

February Lunch Bunch

Newport Grill will be the location for our next lunch gathering. We will meet at noon on Tuesday, February 26th at the restaurant, 1900 N Rock Rd., in the Bradley Fair shopping center. All members are invited, as well as any guests who are interested in Soroptimist activities. Reservations are not required; however, if you know you will attend please email me (barthleann@aol.com) so that we can give the restaurant an estimate on seating.

Our January lunch was held on January 22nd at the Sweet Spot. In spite of rain and the threat of ice, seven brave ladies attended.

We hope for better weather for our next lunch and that many of you can attend.

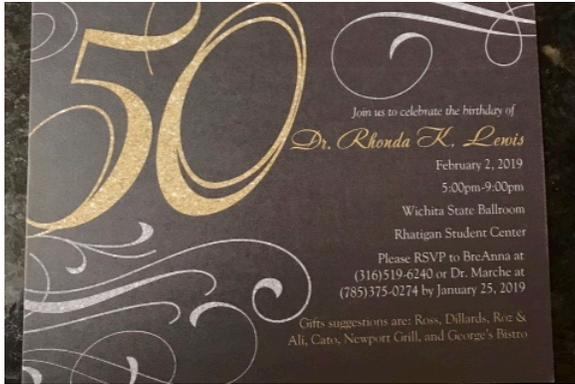
Leann Barth



The Live Your Dream Award committee met on Saturday, January 12th to review seven applications for the LYDA program. From

these applications we decided to interview four of the applicants. From the committee, Cam Wilson, Marilyn Wells, President Sherry Grady and I met with these women and learned more about their goals and personal hardships. At the conclusion of these meetings we decided to recommend LYDA be given to all four applicants. We will be presenting this recommendation at the February meeting on February 12th for membership approval along with additional information of the applicants. The awards will be presented at our Annual Awards Banquet on April 9th.

Kathy Newsom
Live Your Dream Award Chairperson



Sorry we missed your party, Rhonda
Hope you have a great 50th

“Soroptimist International of Wichita, KS has been a co-sponsor of this annual statewide anti-human trafficking conference since its inception in 2015.”



“SIW Members volunteered at SIW’s booth, assisted with conference registration and moderated the breakout sessions for the conference: Standing (l-r) - Marilyn Wells, Kathy Newsom, Judy Haglund, Debi Lawson and Cam Wilson; seated - Terra Reusser and Sherry Grady; not pictured: Genee Kubin

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL

CRUISE NIGHT

BENEFIT FOR THE SHELTERS AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES

FEBRUARY 24TH, 2019
5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

HYATT REGENCY WICHITA
400 West Waterman, Wichita, KS

TICKETS

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO MAKE RESERVATIONS

Contact Kara at 316-264-8344 ext. 1262
or events@CatholicCharitiesWichita.org

Join us at one of the premier fundraising events as we **unpack memories** from Cruise Nights past. Savor the finest cuisine from Wichita’s top chefs, and toast to new friends and old. Enjoy bidding on our live and silent auction items.

All proceeds benefit homeless families and women and children of domestic violence of the shelters at Catholic Charities, St. Anthony Family Shelter and Harbor House Domestic Violence Shelter.

INDIVIDUAL

\$150 ONE TICKET
\$115 IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE

GOLD SPONSORS:

P.O. Box 48163
Wichita, KS 67201
soroptimistwichita.org

Send Newsletter items by the first Tuesday of the month to:
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1401 W River Blvd. #4E
Wichita, KS 67203-3300
316-943-2066 or 316-737-3768
mnfhansen@cox.net

District I Director Chosen

The South Central Region is excited to announce that Leigh Hedgpeth, SI Vandalia, IL will be District I's new Director. I know with Leigh's past experience on the board and years in Soroptimist will make this transaction effortless and she will be a great District I Director. Leigh's contact information is listed below. Please join me in welcoming Leigh into this position and thank her for taking on the leadership role!

Jennifer Reeves
South Central Region Governor



Bellevue, Washington • July 22-25, 2020

Save the Date

Join SIA for our convention in July 2020. Be there to kick off our 100th anniversary celebration!