



*Musings from the SAR-I # 79 Associate Princess  
Lady Kowena Suckstorf*

Well, I jumped into the SAR-I time machine this last year and move ahead on the Line at warp speed. Unfortunately, Lady Irene had to step down and I am going to miss seeing her up ahead of me in the procession to High Priestess. The good news is she is still is a member and we will see her again when life gives her a breather!

I am accelerating my learning and prep for my responsibilities as Princess and High Priestess (remember, I lost a year). I attended four other Florida court installations this past March to get better acquainted with my counterparts and to start building relationships among our ladies. I attended Grand Council and learned a lot more about our order, its history, and purpose.

My plans going forward include figuring out how to accommodate members who cannot attend weekday meetings and make them truly feel a part of our LOS family. We also need to work on methods to increase overall membership. Any suggestions and help on this would be greatly appreciated.

The website is getting better with time. We have added a photo gallery accessible from the home page, and are in the process of building a Frequently Asked Questions page. Send your questions and answers if you have them to me. If you don't have the answers, we will find them. The usefulness of our website is only as good as the information included in it. We expect to see content submitted by the officers, directresses, and special event leads, but anyone can submit content. You don't have to wait for a newsletter either. There is a new link on the bottom right corner of the home page that provides instructions for what to include when you submit content. The web administrator (happens to be me at the moment) is not responsible for developing the content, **you are**. She can guide you when necessary but will not guess at what you intended.

On another note, we have begun getting things together for the annual fashion show. There are committee chairs this year for the various tasks and they will be the focal point for their assigned area. We have met and made some initial decisions. For example, the enduring title for our future fashion shows will be 'Runway for Love.' The theme for 2025 is 'Helping Children Soar.' The 2025 show will be at Laurel Oak Country Club again since they are generously giving us the same pricing. That allows us to keep the tickets at \$55. Last year's goals were 250 people and a profit of \$5000. We sold 175 tickets and netted \$7500. We earmarked less than 2% of that for our operating expenses. The rest went to directly support Shriners Childrens. This year the goal is still 250 people but a profit goal of \$10,000. It is going to take all of us to reach that goal. We need you to sell tickets, to get out and obtain sponsorships and to collect high end items for the 'opportunities to own' events at the fashion show. If you need ideas on how to do that, just ask.

My wish for our court is to raise expectations for ourselves and our court; to deepen our efforts at meaningful support for the children and our other interests in the community.