

## Where do these funds come from?

The RLM Board of Directors diligently seek and accept contributions, gifts and bequests to fund these loans. But without your help, these funds cannot be replenished in order to award additional loans in the future.

How you can help:

- When a friend or loved one passes away, consider making a donation in their memory to the RLM fund;
- Make a donation in honor of someone's birthday, anniversary, special event or "just because you love them";
- Include RLM in your annual giving when you are planning your donations for the year;
- Consider passing the hat each month at your Club meeting; or
- Designate the proceeds from one of your fundraising events to the RLM fund.



## Applicants Wanted!

If you know someone who is pursuing a graduate degree, needs financial assistance and qualifies for an RLM interest-free loan, please give them an application packet and encourage them to apply.

If you need any further information or have questions, contact:

**Nancy Kitchens, President  
Ruby Lee Minar Soroptimist  
Memorial Fund, Inc.**

**P. O. Box 18861**

**Huntsville, AL 35804**

**Phone: 256-527-7358**

**Email: [RubyLeeMinar@gmail.com](mailto:RubyLeeMinar@gmail.com)**



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**Soroptimist International  
Of the Americas**  
**Southern Region**

## Who Was Ruby Lee Minar?

Ruby Lee was born in Glendale, MT, and moved with her family as her father, a Baptist clergyman, organized churches in Montana and Idaho. Her parents later founded the Children's Home Society in Trenton, NJ. When her father was unable to officiate at Sunday morning services, Ruby Lee preached the sermon for him.

During grade school, high school, and college, Ruby Lee earned respect as a playwright, actress, producer and director. At Kalamazoo College, she was President of the Young Women's Christian Association. She earned a Master's Degree in Biblical and Patristic Greek from the University of Chicago.

After several year of teaching, Ruby Lee married newspaper reporter John Milton Minar and then made their home in Washington, DC.

Ruby Lee's profession changed from teaching to real estate developer. She was the first to develop large subdivisions in Arlington County, VA, just out-side Washington, DC, correctly predicting that Arlington County would become DC's bedroom community. Hers was at one time the largest real estate office in and around Washington; and she was a member of the Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax Real Estate Boards, the Virginia Real Estate Association, and a Director of an Arlington bank.

Never satisfied with material successes, she became intensely interested in the spirit of service to city, state and country. She

joined Soroptimist, recognizing that organization's tenets as a constructive and cooperative plan to better conditions by improving existing laws or by organizational or individual work and real thought.

In 1922, Ruby Lee was selected as the Washington, D.C. Soroptimist Club's first President, and in 1928 she was chosen as the first National Soroptimist Club President. In that capacity, she traveled to Europe to help form the International Federation of Soroptimist Clubs and to form its charter aims, which included fostering world peace.

In 1940, Ruby Lee moved to Miami Springs, Florida, where she again stepped into organizational and community work by forming the Soroptimist Club of Miami Springs-Hialeah and worked diligently to help organize several other Soroptimist Clubs in south Florida.

As a true leader in the world of professional women and in Soroptimist, it is easy to see why Southern Region chose to name its Memorial Fund in her honor



## About Ruby Lee Minar Soroptimist Memorial Fund, Inc.

The by-laws for the Ruby Lee Minar Soroptimist Memorial Fund, Inc. were developed for the purpose of providing interest-free loans to women who are pursuing graduate degrees.

Interest-free loans are available to qualified applicants for graduate study in fields of their choice. An applicant's legal residence must be within the states of the Southern Region, but the applicant may attend school elsewhere.

Loans are granted for tuition, books and necessary equipment. Loans are paid directly to the educational institution of the recipient's choice following completion of the loan process.

Consideration for a loan is based on: scholarship and educational background; need; general character; credit worthiness of co-signers; and any other circumstances bearing on the general qualification of the applicant.

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