



THE SNAIL

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER BY
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF CHICO

DECEMBER 2018

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

Calendar

December 12

Last meeting of 2018

January 16

Birthday Luncheon

January 18

Birthday Bash

Dec 5

Jan 2

Feb 6

Mar 6

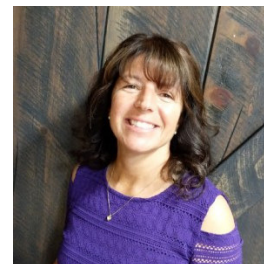
Business Meetings



There is a special commemorative pin/pendant available for purchase and the proceeds go to the President's Appeal. See the website (SorooptimistInternational.org) for more information. They are currently about half way to the goal of raising \$450,000 for the two year effort. Thank-you for your support SI Chico!

PRESIDENT'S APPEAL

by President Bonnie Chapman



Did you know that December 10 is Human Rights Day? Appropriately, each year on that day, the President of Soroptimist International puts out the call to all clubs to make a small contribution to her chosen project corresponding with human rights and our Soroptimist mission.

Soroptimist International President, Mariet Verhoef-Cohen, 2017-2019, has chosen her President's Appeal to be all about water. Her "Women, Water & Leadership" effort currently has two transformative projects underway in Kenya, and Bulgaria.

Near Nairobi, Kenya, 74 women farmers are participating in the Mwihoko project with the support of the SI Union of Kenya. The SI Union includes twelve different clubs and 156 total members. They are part of a unique training and educational program focused on leadership, sustainability, clean water and energy sources and developing economic growth for their community. The project is considered a model, and it is anticipated that other parts of Kenya will develop the same program.

SI Plovdiv in Bulgaria along with Earth Forever Foundation have implemented a project called WeWash (women empowerment through water, sanitation and health). WeWash is helping unemployed and low income women learn about sanitation and helping provide access to clean water to increase food production. The program is also teaching leadership and business skills to the women. Ultimately, this program will help provide employment for up to 100 local women.

These President's Appeal projects are outstanding examples of how we as Soroptimists can make a collective impact locally and globally. If you are interested in learning more about these projects, you can visit SorooptimistInternational.org and click on the President's Appeal link.

We will have an opportunity at club to make a small contribution to this effort.

COMMITTED TO HELPING OUR COMMUNITY

New Members

We have inducted 6 new members
in the past 3 months!
If you have not met them yet,
please introduce yourself.



Vanessa Haro

Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

Lupe Medrano

Homemaker

Eileen Ross

Manager, Butte College
Cosmetology & Barbering



Brandie Pruis

New Accounts Representative
Northern Calif. National Bank

Alecia Williams

RN, Enloe Medical Center

Maureen Duquette

Retired, Past President of SI Chico

DISASTER HITS

by Natalie Conrad

Soroptimist of Chico and Soroptimist of Bidwell Rancho wasted no time jumping to action during the Camp Fire. We held a joint emergency meeting on November 9th. This set in motion a joint portal for collecting donations. We also changed our website and public Facebook page to make it easier for the public to make donations. Many members pushed this information out on social media and within their personal networks.

We contacted all present/past members we thought may have been affected and offered assistance. As of this writing, 16 members are displaced and 8 of those have lost their homes. We have offered many items including: interim housing, cat food, underwear, and gift cards to name a few.

We have adopted a few families as well and even secured an RV for a family of 6 who needed housing (Thanks Kit Oldham)! In addition, we were just awarded a \$24,000 grant from North Valley Community Foundation! We are planning to keep working to help with recovery needs well into the New Year.

DUELING PIANOS

by Jackie Travis



We hosted the 2nd annual Dueling Pianos fundraiser on November 3rd at the Sierra Nevada Brewery Big Room. A slide show preceded President Bonnie Chapman's welcome address while Vice-president Billie Araiza acted as MC.

Highlights of the night included: a silent auction with over 20 gift baskets; 71 bottles of wine sold at the wine pull; a buffet dinner; a dessert auction of 8 fabulous desserts donated by local bakeries, including our very own Chef Ann Leon; a cupcake sale prepared and donated by committee members; as well as beautiful decorations coordinated by Carrie Pavis and Natalie Conrad. Entertainment for the evening was provided by the talented musicians/entertainers "Killer Keyz".

The evening was a success due to the hard work of all our club members who donated wine, worked a shift, bought or sold tickets, donated items and more. This was truly a group effort, which resulted in a net profit of approximately \$14,500.

SOLT*

*Soroptimist Orientation
Leadership Training
by Joyce Brown

The Soroptimist Village Foundation Corporation was born in 1959 by the alliance of nine Los Angeles area Soroptimist club. Their mission was then, as it is now, helping low-income seniors or aged seniors who are financially unable to afford market rate housing.

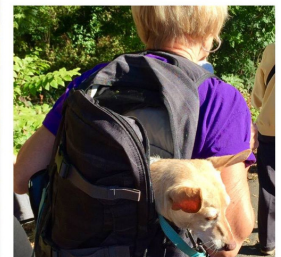
The groundbreaking ceremony for the Soroptimist Village housing project took place in 1963. The Village has since celebrated over half a century of activity, during which it helped an untold number of needy seniors, enlightening their sunset years. And counting...



Check it out!
<https://soroptimistvillagefoundationinc.org>

ALZHEIMERS WALK

by Bonnie Chapman



Team Chico – Way to Go!

Our team surpassed our goal of raising \$10,000! Our final total monies raised was actually \$10,587. We accomplished this by combining our efforts to fundraise via our own member donations, friends, family and our Giving committee adding financial support.

The coordinators at the local Alzheimer's Walk office could not say enough about our group and the outstanding results for a first-time team. And that's not all! We also showed up the day of the Walk in full force, sporting our purple Walk shirts or our blue Soroptimist volunteer shirts, and we managed the entire registration operation with about 15 volunteers from our club. Again, so many compliments from the event organizers. Then... about 35 members and one dog participated in the flower ceremony that identified each person in attendance as either a supporter, caregiver, family member or person with the disease. It was a moving and impactful experience. Finally, we all walked on a spectacular, sunshine-filled day around lower park. We enjoyed each other's company and reveled in a very successful effort. A collective impact homerun. Well done, team!



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women®

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Share our website @
www.SoroptimistChico.org

If you would like to opt out of receiving this newsletter, email natalieconrad@sichico.com

#SoroptimistStrong



Through the generous donation of \$2,000 by Soroptimists International of Chico, the Valene L. Smith Museum of Anthropology at Chico State was able to award 14 summer camp scholarships this summer to underserved elementary students from 3 area schools: Marigold, McManus and Sierra View.

The children ranged in age from 6-12, and none of them had ever attended camps in the area before. Additionally none of the parents have a college education.

This camp is a unique program in our community that provides access to primary docs & artifacts to teach educational concepts of history, science, literacy and geography in a museum setting. As you know, many families cannot afford to provide these types of enrichment experiences that plant educational seeds for the future. Additionally, studies have shown early access to college campus programs for elementary school students is crucial in their continued learning success and higher education aspirations. Your contributions this year made that happen for these children.