



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams



June 2020

Volume 2, Issue 4

Calendar

Business Meeting

June 3

Committee Review

June 10

President's Farewell

June 17

Home & Garden Show

July 25-26

Tentative Dates due to COVID-19

SI Chico Installation of Officers & Summer Picnic
Merlo Park,
Stirling City—Aug. 23

Retreat
Railroad Park Resort,
Dunsmuir
Sept. 18—20

All above dates are tentative



President Carrie Pavis Final Recap

would. I am forever grateful to Bonnie she is the kind of friend everyone deserves. Thank You doesn't even begin to say how grateful I am to have her by my side.

What a year! Last year at this time I was haunted by the fact that I had agreed to be SIC President. I don't even remember giving my speech at my induction, I was that nervous.

Then, I had to get through my first meeting, my first board meeting, and my retreat. Each time I thought I might pass out. I just kept taking it one step at a time. I have to say it was a lot easier than I thought it would be and I have grown so much. There is no way I could have done this alone, Bonnie Chapman, who strongly encouraged or as I would say "got me into this" has stood by me every step of the way just like she said

I also couldn't have done this without my board and my co-chairs, you amazing ladies seriously make me look good. Every time I think I may need to check on something or remind someone of something that needs to be done, it's already handled. Thank you, to all of you! I would also like to mention two other Soroptimist sisters who have gone above and beyond this year. First, Nancy Hanson, is the most organized person I know and has been such an amazing Secretary, she has been one step in front of me all year. She is like a little angel sitting on my shoulder giving me a nudge, reminding me to get going, and we do. Thank you, so much Nancy you are the BEST. The other Soroptimist is Joyce Brown who is the encyclopedia of Soroptimist.

She is always there for me when I have a question, when I need something sent out to the membership quickly, she is on it. Thank you, so much!

This year has definitely not been normal or what we expected, and as we navigate our way through Zoom and Social Distancing, I want to thank all of you who have jumped in and learned how to manage the technology and have attended meetings and socials with us. We have had up to 40 members on Zoom and have been lucky to have our SNR Governor, our District 1 Director/ Governor-Elect attend meetings.

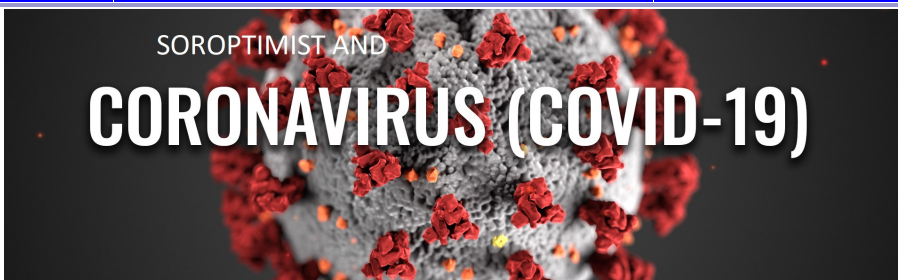
Finally, I want to express my deep thanks to each and every member. I am so grateful that you put your trust and faith in me to be your SIC President. This is a journey I will never forget.



Congratulations 2020-2022 SNR Board of Directors



 <p>2020-2022 SNR Board of Directors</p> 		 <p>SNR DISTRICT 1 KERRI COBBE SI SACRAMENTO</p>	 <p>SNR DISTRICT 2 GALE J. PYLMBR SI GRASS VALLEY</p>
 <p>SNR REGION GOVERNOR SARAH CAVARICO SI TRUCKEE-SEASIDE</p>	 <p>SNR REGION GOVERNOR-ELECT LISA FITZGERALD SI REDWELL-RANCHO</p>	 <p>SNR DISTRICT 3 MELLE CLAYTON SI SACRAMENTO</p>	 <p>SNR DISTRICT 6 JENNIFER POOL SI ST. JOHNS</p>
 <p>SNR REGION SECRETARY SARAH LEE SI SACRAMENTO</p>	 <p>SNR REGION TREASURER SHEKHAN BOK SI OF REDWELL-RANCHO CHICO</p>	 <p>SNR DISTRICT 9 JESSICA HENRY SI TRUCKEE-SEASIDE</p>	 <p>SNR DISTRICT 10 STACEY WILKINSON-CLIPPING SI METHUEN/LAS VEGAS</p>



By Bonnie Chapman

Who would have thought? This life we are now living laden with restrictions and covered in masks, intermingled with fear is nothing any of us anticipated. Each of us is doing our best as individuals to persevere and navigate shelter in place. Although nothing is normal, the ability to have shreds of normalcy in our days and weeks have helped us cope. Our organization and local club has done a wonderful job of pivoting and adapting to a new approach in getting our work done and serving both our membership and community. Here is a summary of Soroptimist and Covid-19.

Soroptimist International affirms the importance of our ongoing work. There are a few poignant articles about lesser seen impacts of Covid-19 including the Pandemic and Organized Crime and one about ramifications of shelter in place on domestic violence. Sharon Fisher, the President of Soroptimist International speaks in her message of the great solidarity we share by being part of a strong, vibrant group of women from around the world. We make a difference together.

<https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/tag/covid-19/>

Soroptimist International of the Americas has messaging on their website encouraging clubs to focus on dream programs and support women during this difficult time. They have the infographic, pictured on the right, that emphasizes the great need and shows how important our work is in supporting women.

Governor Lane from our own Soroptimist Sierra Nevada Region, has shared stories of resilience in our local area clubs. In a recent eblast, she wrote about how we have all been adapting and learning to operate virtually. Some clubs have even had an uptick in attendance with members who normally cannot attend in-person meetings, now able to attend virtually. Governor Lane also pointed out that the women who we strive to serve are often those most heavily impacted by Covid-19. She reiterated that women and girls need us now more than ever. I agree.

Finally, here at SI Chico, as always, we have risen to the occasion. President Carrie restarted our weekly club meetings on Zoom and we have all done well learning the platform and (mostly) being patient with one another. We had a fun Zoom happy hour/trivia night and many committees have met online. We continue to vote on motions, give away money, award scholarships to deserving young women and plan for our future service, despite being home. Some of us created a wonderful surprise to show our members the love and appreciation they deserve and planted signs in everyone's front yard. There was joy in giving and receiving. Though many of our plans have changed and the way we meet is different for now, we must remember that this is temporary. Our work and service to the community is not. Hang in there everyone. There is work to be done.

We are in uncertain times as the world faces a global pandemic. While no one is immune to COVID-19 and its effect on our lives, we know that women will suffer the most.



Women were doing three times as much unpaid care work as men before the onset of COVID-19.¹ As schools close, caregiving and virtual schooling responsibilities for children are falling even more heavily on women.



Women employees dominate the industries that have been most economically impacted by closures: hospitality, restaurants, and domestic workers.² These women are being laid off and facing the pandemic without health insurance.



The majority of frontline healthcare workers are women. Their risk of infection is increasing as they face shortages of protective equipment.



Women in domestic violence situations are even more at risk as they experience isolation while sheltering-in-place with an abuser.

Live Your Dream Award recipients are facing all of these realities along with additional challenges. They need our support now more than ever ...



Ninety-two percent of *Live Your Dream Award* recipients are single and providing financial support and caregiving for an average of two dependents.



More than half of our *Live Your Dream Award* recipients have experienced gendered forms of violence.



Live Your Dream Award recipients are on the front lines fighting this pandemic—nearly 80 percent of them go into fields like healthcare, mental health, or education.

How can you support your Live Your Dream Award Recipients?*

- If you're sewing masks, share masks with your recipients.
- Ask how you can support those working in essential positions.
- Consider whether your club can assist past recipients with their need for technology for education.
- Share local domestic violence resources with all of your past recipients.
- Share online resources to assist parents with helping to educate their children.
- Simply reach out and check in over the phone, email, or postal mail. Connection helps all of us feel less isolated.
- Send a care package of essential items like toilet paper, sanitizing products, or shelf-stable food. Include fun items as well, such as magazines, candy, or anything that may bring a bit happiness to your recipient or her family!

¹Women and COVID-19: Five things governments can do now. *Ibhatta, Anita*. UN Women, March 26th, 2020. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/3/news-women-and-covid-19-governments-actions-by-ded-bhatta>
² *Ibid.*
 *Always follow physical distancing and safer-at-home advisories from your local authorities while implementing any of these ideas to keep you and your community safe.



Events Committee Recap

With the onset of Covid-19, all events for SIChico were put on hold. Here's what we had planned and what has changed.

On April 29th we had planned to visit the new Anthropology Exhibit on the CSU Chico campus. As you know, it was cancelled.

Installation for Billie Araiza was going to take place Monday, June 15, 5:30 at Canyon Oaks Country Club. Sadly, the celebration of Billie and her newly elected board has been postponed. The good news is that we will be holding the Installation in conjunction with the Summer Picnic, August 23, 11:00 am at Merlo Park in Stirling City. We will be sending out more information about the Installation/Picnic in the coming weeks, so look for it in your e-mail.

With Covid-19, retreat plans are up in the air right now



Fundraising Committee Recap



Thank you Executive Chef Ann Leon for your Culinary Creations

2019-2020; Fundraising Featuring Food and Fun

We at SI Chico are so thankful for an extremely successful year in raising funds which was headlined by our second Epicurean Rendezvous. Chef and Soroptimist sister, Ann Leon was at the helm of steering our event to be the premiere foodie event of 2019. The fundraising committee worked all summer and up to the event, which was held on Sunday, October 13 at Manzanita Place.

There were 17 wineries and 1 brewery which were all paired with tastings throughout the evening. No one left hungry!! The food was sumptuous and began with a huge spread of dips, cheeses, and accompaniments, followed by passed appetizers. We were then seated and treated to a tour through multiple courses and tastings which dazzled everyone's palates. The feast was rounded out with the reveal of the dessert parlor which held tables laden with decadent treats for all. The care taken in planning, preparing, and presenting this spectacular menu was a true highlight of the evening.

We were fortunate to have great sponsors for the event, some returning and some new. Cali'flour Foods, The Virginia Jones Foundation and B'urban Kitchen were our three main sponsors. The Virginia Jones Foundation generously donated additional money to fund our decoration of Manzanita Place. The room was truly transformed, and we were able to give the event the cachet and look to match the menu and theme. All of this resulted in giving those in attendance an elevated experience that they will all remember and hopefully spur them to attend again in the future. Sponsorships were also given by Cal-Water and we had many in-kind donations.

We held an extensive silent and live auction as part of the fundraising effort. The silent auction featured donations from many local businesses and vendors and baskets kindly created and donated by our members as well. The live auction had some great items and top-notch experiences including a diamond necklace and a chef's table dinner for 8 at B'urban Kitchen. Mollie Openshaw was the Emcee for the evening and did a wonderful job as our auctioneer.

A slide show with photos of our history and work in the community and beyond was streaming in the early part of the evening. Billie Araiza gave a short presentation to the crowd, letting them know who we are and what we do as Soroptimists. We heard later from several people that they really did not realize the extent of our work and contributions. One of the great benefits of a big event is educating audiences about our mission and service.

The evening wrapped with the sweet sounds of Decades. This local band is a favorite for good reason. They played all the best dance tunes and as usual, SI Chico and all our guests brought the best moves to the dance floor. There is nothing better than grooving to the beat with a great group of friends at the end of a fabulous fundraiser featuring food and fun!

Thank-you again to everyone who made our event a giant success. Special thanks to Ann Leon and the fundraising committee of 2019-20. You gals are the best. We have \$40,000 to utilize for our club works next year because of all this effort. Bravo SI Chico.

Welcome New Members



Jami McNamee



Julie Jones



Katie Salcido



Erica Wuesthube

Live Your Dream Awardees March 11, 2020
Coordinator Rosie Potestio



Presenters and Awardees at our LYD Ceremony: Linda Allen, LYD team, Idalee Montgomery, Rosie Potestio, LYD Coordinator, Aimee Ellingson, Shawn Murphy, LYD team, and President Carrie Pavis

MAKING MASKS WHILE IN QUARANTINE

Our sewers in our club made masks for people in our community including the Peg Taylor Center. Great job ladies!



Congratulations to Carol Braziel, Bev Rozendaal and Linda Sheppard for their membership, dedication and service for 30 years. They are also all SIC Past President's.



SURPRISE

April showers bring May flowers and this May what's popping up all over Chico, Durham, Paradise, and Oroville are these lovely Soroptimist yard signs. Who are these Soroptimist fairies planting these signs? They are Carrie Pavis, Bonnie Chapman, Billie Araiza, Sara Beacham, and Joyce Brown.

Special **THANK YOU** to Bonnie for coming up with this lovely surprise.



SURPRISE

May 12 Drive by Lisa Fitzgerald's house to celebrate her newly elected position as SNR District 1 Governor Elect

Coordinated by SI Bidwell Rancho



CONGRATULATIONS

To everyone that received their years of service recognition pins. Left to right: Stephanie Giacovelli 5 years, Lauren Wright 5 years, Nancy Hanson 5 years, Linda Bates 15 years, Kit Oldham 5 years, Carol Braziel 30 years, Bev Rozendaal 30 years, Linda Sheppard 30 years. Presenting the pins is Sandi Decker.