



SOROPTIMIST®  
Investing in Dreams



December 2021

Volume 4, Issue 2

## President's Message

### Calendar

#### Business Meetings

Dec. 1

Jan. 5

Feb. 2

#### Programs

Dec. 8— NRRWF Refuge

Dec. 15—Butte College  
Foundation

Jan. 12— Need speaker

Jan. 19—SI Chico Birthday  
Party

Feb. 9—Home & Heart

Feb. 16—College Student  
Awards



Hello Fellow Soroptimists,

It's hard to believe that we are heading into our fourth month of the club year. Time flies when you're having fun! (Dance party, anyone?) We have been very busy during the first few months of our club year. I will try to recap everything we have been doing.

We started the year approving our operating budget for the club year. (The club year runs July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022). We had a challenging year last year, as did most nonprofits, and our finances reflect that challenge. To help close the budget gap, the admin committee advised us on several ways to fix the budget gap, and our club voted to move the excess available funds from the Legacy Fund in the amount of \$3,640 to our operating budget. Fundraising has their work cut out for them this year, but so far, the committee and the club has really stepped up our game to help close the

funding gap, too. Internal fundraising helps fund the operations of the club using various ways and means, like Christmas in November, Happy Dollars, Soroptiwear, and the \$100 for 100 years letter.

Speaking of fundraising, we had our Fall Bistro Bag fundraiser, and boy, was it delicious. Thank you to the fundraising committee for organizing a wonderful fall treat for us and raising funds for next year's giving. Remember, external fundraising dollars raised this year go to giving for next year. The more we raise this year, the more we give away next year.

We welcomed four new members this fall. Welcome to Theresa Draper, Nikki Stadler, Lois Buchter, and Amy Griffin. We are so excited to have you as a part of our club. Keep an eye out for more Getting To Know Us events to invite friends who are interested in joining. Membership is a part of the SI Objectives committee. This is an important committee that houses the objectives and programs that come from SIA, our federation. The programs include membership, the Live Your Dream award, and Dream It Be It. SIA's Big Goal for 2021-2031 is to invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education. Our contribution as SI Chico to SIA's Big Goal starts locally with the dream programs – Live Your Dream and Dream It, Be It. We will have more information for these projects in the spring, including my President's Project. Everyone is welcome to help in the planning process. The more, the better. I want everyone in our club to join this focus and help increase our impact in these Dream Programs in any way you can help.

In Magalia, Pine Ridge School unveiled the stained-glass art project we helped fund as part of the Camp Fire recovery efforts. Thank you to Shari Hopper for spearheading this project and to Past Presidents Billie and Bonnie for attending the unveiling.

In October, the events committee hosted Retreat at the Chico Masonic Family Center. It was so much fun to get together to talk about our club year and the goals we are working together on to achieve. The events committee really outdid themselves on this event. I can't wait for the club's birthday in January 2022. We also attended the district 1 meeting via Zoom in October. The next district meeting will be in the winter.

The giving committee has been busy this fall. With the help of a generous donor from within the club, the giving committee has selected the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation and Transitional Living Program as the recipient of the Mental Health Grant of \$10,000. We also have several hands-on projects we are working on. These include: Salvation Army Bell Ringing, Girls on the Run 5K Course Monitors, and the Boys & Girls Club of Northern California's Holiday Gift Shop.

We also helped at the Butte Humane Society's Grand Opening in November. While this wasn't an official hands-on project, we had an amazing opportunity to meet the community and tell them about Soroptimists. Telling the community about Soroptimists is the Communications committee's number one job. In coordination with the 100-year Anniversary ad hoc committee, the club has received some amazing coverage in the community. Most of this coverage has been about Soroptimist International's 100-year birthday.

Continued on next page



### President Sara's Message Continued from page 1

SI Chico and SI Bidwell Rancho coordinated to have a banner hung in Downtown Chico for a month to celebrate Soroptimist International turning 100 years old; this banner will be stored for future use. Together with SIBR, we updated the city limit signs for our clubs; these are located at HWY 99 coming in from the south, HWY 99 coming in from the north and HWY 32 coming from the north. The 100-year ad hoc committee also arranged to have billboards put up over town. Have you seen them? We had eight in October and November and will have four up in December. Additionally, we have had some great press coverage in the Enterprise-Record and Mercury-Register.

But the best part of the 100-year celebration was getting to attend the Girl Scouts of Northern California's groundbreaking ceremony on October 2, 2021. We were invited to partake in this momentous event as one of the major donors to their project on Floral Avenue. Past Presidents Bonnie Chapman and Billie Araiza, both key members of the 100-year ad hoc committee, were there to be a part of this occasion, as well as communications chairs Joyce Brown and Laura Burghardt. Many other club members were in attendance, too. Our club is giving the Girl Scouts of Northern California \$20,000 to help build the outdoor Pavilion and outdoor bathroom at their new property.

In closing, I want to wish everyone happy holidays and hope you get some time to relax and unwind. I am looking forward to some downtime coming up in the next couple of weeks over Thanksgiving and then, again, over Christmas and the New Year. We will continue working on our upcoming events and projects to serve women and girls who thirst for greatness as we move into the next six months of our club year.

Until then, don't forget to dance it out!

*President Sara*

#### *Pine Ridge School Stained Glass Unveiling*



#### *Chico Masonic Center Retreat Photos*



#### *Butte Humane Society Grand Opening*

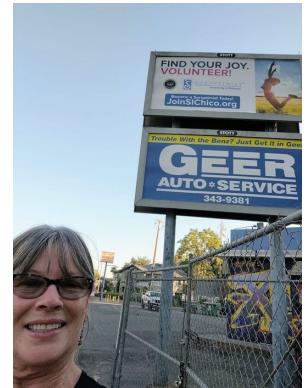


More photos on page 7



Downtown Banner

Billboards around town



Girl Scouts of Northern California's groundbreaking ceremony on October 2, 2021





## SDR District 1 Meeting Oct. 30, 2021

By: Delegate Director Bonnie Chapman

### The Highlights

- Sierra Nevada Region (SNR) Governor Sara spoke about the importance of clubs getting back to meeting in-person. She said that each club should have a designated "Covid protocol" person for larger gatherings and events.
- The region lost 100 members over the course of the pandemic and 3 clubs are disbanding including SI Orland and SI Redding. We now have 52 clubs in our region. Comparatively, there are 1,221 clubs in SIA and 27 disbanded during Covid.
- Lots of encouragement for recruitment of new members and younger members. The median age of members in our region is 64.
- We were encouraged to have prior award recipients, especially from the distant past, come back and update us on their lives. This can be profound.
- SI Chico was acknowledged in four of the five possible areas for recognition for club achievement including

Participation in Live Your Dream  
Participation in Dream it Be it  
Club Giving  
Donating to Founders Pennies

- SNR Governor Elect Lisa talked about her upcoming transition to the job and the many volunteers she is seeking. There are tons of volunteer opportunities large and small within the region if you are interested, President Sara has the info. There are also positions in the Federation if you have some interest in volunteering at that level.
- Plans are well underway for our April conference, in person at the Atlantis **April 1-3**. Hopefully we will have a fun crew attend from SI Chico.
- SIA's convention will be in Seoul Korea in July of 22, so far about 10 Soroptimists from the region plan to attend. If you are interested, they will be coordinating travel etc.

Thanks to Billie, Carol Burr, Jami, Janet, Kathy, Lupe and Bonnie for attending the virtual meeting.



**REGISTRATION FOR  
SNR APRIL 2022  
CONFERENCE IS  
NOW OPEN!!**

**CALL 1-800-723-6500 –  
and reference**

**46<sup>th</sup> Sierra Nevada Soroptimist  
International Conference**

*or click*

<https://reservations.travelclick.com/98418?groupID=3271008>

**Conference dates:**

**Friday, April 1, 2022 thru Sunday, April 3, 2022**

***Room prices are amazing!!***

Wednesday & Thursday nights \$79 each night

Friday & Saturday nights \$149 each night

All rooms have 2 Queen Size Beds

Rates are not valid for Saturday night stays only

**Register soon to lock in your rate!!**



<https://reservations.travelclick.com/98418?groupID=3271008>

## Welcome New Members



Amy Griffin, Accounting  
Lecturer at CSUC

Sponsor: Bonnie Chapman

Hobbies:  
Downhill skiing  
Scuba Diving



Lois Buchter, Legal project  
Manager

Sponsor: Kimm Randle/  
Margaret VanLaanMartin

Hobbies: sculpture, writing,  
stained glass, tapestry work,  
painting, drawing



Nikki Stadler, Real Estate

Sponsor: Sara Beacham

Hobbies: Spending time with  
her kids, going to Santa Cruz



Theresa Draper, Insurance

Sponsor: Kathy Erickson

Hobbies: Crafting, reading,  
repurposing projects, antiquing,  
volunteering/community  
support

## Fur Baby and Member of the Month



### September

Meet Carhartt and Cruz, President Sara's fur babies. Carhartt is a terrier mix and is almost 4 years old. She loves to steal empty water bottles from the recycling bin at the gym where she is often an assistant trainer. Carhartt's new brother is Cruz. Cruz is a 3-year-old Boxer rescue who joined the family at the end of April.

Beside being a dog lover, our SI Chico President Sara keeps busy with many things. She owns two businesses, B Fit, a personal training gym and 25<sup>th</sup> Hour, a bookkeeping and payroll firm. She is a newly minted Wildcat, starting a graduate program in Kinesiology this fall. In her free time (what free time?!), she trains for future body-building competitions, spends time with her hubby, family and friends and re-watches her favorite shows, Grey's Anatomy and Friends. She is a longtime Soroptimist and is passionate about making a difference in the lives of women and girls. We woof you President Sara!



### October

Meet Foxy Lady and Lucy, Joyce's fur babies. Foxy Lady, aka, Miss Fox is a Pomeranian and is approximately a year and a half. Foxy Lady came to live with Joyce as a foster on Thanksgiving Day last year. After no luck in finding Foxy's owners, Joyce became her fur-ever mom. Foxy's new sister is Lucy. Lucy is a 4-year-old Pom/Chi that needed to be re-homed. We did a meet and greet July 21, and it was love at first sight for both fur babies.

Besides being a dog lover, SI Chico Communications Committee Co-chair Joyce maintains SI Chico's website, is Editor of our weekly Eblast, Editor of our quarterly newsletter the Snail, Roster Coordinator, creates all our Evites, Sign ups, Surveys and other activities as needed. She is active in the Chico Elks Lodge #423 and is a Past Exalted Ruler (PER) of Murrells Inlet Elks Lodge #2797 in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina.



### November

I am happy to introduce myself to all of you Soroptimists! My name is Sophia and I'm a Havanese. I just celebrated my 10th birthday. Fun fact: I share the same birthday with my mom ... but she's much older than 10.

My kin were bred for aristocrats and lived in palaces and estates. I might not live in a palace but I'm spoiled just the same.

My name is Lupe Medrano and I am one of your Director Delegates and Fundraising Co-Chairs for the year. I was born and raised in the little town of Colusa about 50 miles north and attended college at Chico State. I graduated with a degree in Child Development and Psychology and with baby #1 on the way. My plan was to stay home until my daughter started school – but by her first day of kindergarten, baby #2 was on the way! My husband and I just celebrated our 23rd wedding anniversary and I have had the privilege of being a stay-at-home mom and working as a volunteer through every stage of my children's lives. My daughter is now 22 and my son is 16 and after what seems like a life-time of volunteering in my children's activities - PTOs, Girl Scouts, National Charity League and soccer leagues – it's time to focus my attention on volunteering in my own club with my own interests. My good friend Bonnie Chapman introduced me to SI Chico in 2018 and I have been an active member since.



### Fundraising Committee

Co-chairs Lupe Medrano & Maureen Duquette



Our Fall Bistro Bag fundraiser was a big success – bringing in a profit of \$7,500! This was in big part to our donations and sponsorships and the Fundraising Committee thanks all of those who participated in the purchase of a meal kit. The fall meal included Sous Vide Bistro steak and pesto fettuccine with Delicata squash, accompanied by a delicious green salad and garlic bread. Many thanks to Bacio Catering for making this delicious meal specifically for our fundraiser.

Thank you sponsors and a special thank you to Bacio Executive Chef Angel Lang



### Christmas in November

Internal Fundraiser Co-chairs Maureen Duquette & Kimm Randle



Christmas in November was a great fun event. We enjoyed over 70 varied donations from our club members, all of which were interesting and oh so tempting!! The addition of the festive centerpieces on each table, which were for sale, (Kimm's great idea), made our lunchroom look exciting and added to the Christmas spirit.

We had Christmas music, courtesy of President Sara's playlist. The Fundraising committee aided by other club members who signed up to help and President Sara, were able to keep the enthusiasm and party atmosphere going.



We made an estimated \$3400.00 in profit. This is so amazing. Thank you so much to all of you that donated items and centerpieces and to all of you that purchased the excellent variety of items. You are all very special women.

Huge thank you also to the Fundraising committee members and other club members who helped put all this together.

Maureen Duquette, Kimm Randle Co chairs  
Internal Fundraising



### Giving Committee

Tri-chairs Kim Huber, Sue Ligon & Nancy Hanson

Feb 16, 2022, College Awards (CSU Chico & Butte College)

- Soroptimist International Goodwill & Understanding Scholarship
- Soroptimist Graduate Scholarship
- Soroptimist Aging and Gerontology Education Scholarship
- Butte College Scholarship Foundation



### Butte Humane Society Grand Opening November 6, 2021

Coordinator Joyce Brown

Thank you Janet, Jami, Sara, Linda Bates, Carol Burr, Theresa, Jeanne, Joan & Carolyn for volunteering at the BHS Grand Opening. The weather was a bit challenging, but we did it! Here are some photos from the event.



### Local Hands-on Projects

Girls on the Run of the North State Coordinator, Bonnie Chapman



#### Girls on the Run 5K – Nov. 13, 2021

Pictured: Amy G, President Sara B, Carla B, Linda A, Janet E (and Ollie), Joan S (and Xena), Bonnie C, Dawn F, Sandi D

#### What we do:

- Assist with the Girls on the Run Celebration 5K
- Work as course monitors making sure that girls know where to go and don't make a wrong turn
- Provide encouragement and cheer for the amazing accomplishment these young girls are achieving in running 3.1 miles

## Local Hands-on Projects Continued



**Coordinators Giving Committee**  
**Tri-chairs Kim Huber Sue Ligon & Nancy Hanson**

We will be supporting a Holiday Store for the Boys & Girls Club of Chico

The Boys & Girls Club is looking more for toys this year. They have a good amount of clothing being donated.

Toys ( ages 5-18 )

Educational/Learning toys (colors, words, interactive)

Headphones (for the older kids)

Board games, Puzzles, Books ( to encourage family time)

Wrapping Paper so the Parents can wrap their gifts

Gifts purchased can be dropped off at Sue Ligon's house, 3052 Gallatin Gateway Chico or brought to our next luncheon on December 1. **We need all gifts to be delivered to us by December 1.**

You can also purchase grocery gift cards of both \$25.00 and \$50.00 to help families.



## A Dash of S.O.L.T

**(Soroptimist Orientation Leadership Training)**

**Submitted By Linda Kerch**

We all should know that Soroptimist started in the USA in Oakland in 1921. What we may not know is that the original Soroptimist club was influenced greatly by the Rotary club whose men's club promoted the support of professional women as well as the ideals of service and internationalism.

It seems that the Soroptimist movement started because the early Soroptimists were unwilling to accept the subordinate position implied by the structure of the Rotary.

## Mission Statement

Through International partnerships and a global network of members, Soroptimists inspire action and create opportunities to transform the lives of women and girls by: Advocating for equity and equality; creating safe and healthy environments; increasing access to education; Developing leadership and practical skills for a sustainable future.

## Principles of Soroptimism are:

- The advancement of the status of women
- High ethical standards
- Human rights for all
- Equality, development and peace and,
- The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace