



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams



June 2022

Volume 4, Issue 4

President's Message

Calendar

Business Meetings

June 1

June 15

Sara's Farewell Meeting

June 8

Last Board Meeting

June 13

Installation of Officers

June 1



Hello Fellow Soroptimists,

Wow! What a couple of months we have had! This has been a busy time for our club. Over the last few months, we accomplished our first 1-day Dream It, Be It conference and President's Project: Advocate for Great. Both conferences were overwhelming and hugely successful. I honestly feel like our club has accomplished so much that I can't remember everything we did. Let's give it shot.

Since the whirlwind of our 100-year celebration and birthday party, where our club received a Proclamation from the City of Chico, we have hosted two conferences and attended one conference. We are filled with love and community spirit. We continue to give away money and raise more for next year's giving.

In April, we attended the Sierra Nevada Region Conference for the first time in three years. It did not disappoint. It was three days of learning, winning, mixing, and mingling. We also did some business. The delegates (for conference delegates include the President and two appointed delegates) voted on a region bylaws change and voted for our new district 1 director. If you haven't heard the news, our very own immediate past president, Billie Araiza, was voted to serve on the SNR 2022-2024 board as the District 1 Director. I anticipate our club will host a district meeting or two in the coming years. At SNR conference, we won a 2nd place award for outstanding social media. We have social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube. Joyce and I post regularly to Facebook and Instagram, and still have some work to do on the other platforms. Joyce also manages our outstanding website. Find us on social @siofchico on most platforms.

April continued to keep us busy. My President's Project came to life on Friday, April 8, 2022, at the Chico Women's Club. This event targeted women in their 20's who need access to mentors as they search for their passion in careers and education. After a catered dinner from Bacio Catering, keynote speaker Catherine Calarco delivered an outstanding message to the 15 guests and 10 Soroptimist volunteers. Catherine is a worldwide thought leader, speaker, and lecturer at MIT. She received a scholarship from SI Chico in 1978. Here are some of the highlights from her talk

What is your dream for the future?

The circle of where pay, bliss, and what you're good at meet.

What is your superpower? What is your kryptonite?

What are your stress management techniques?

Be authentic. Build resilience. Give value. Stay curious. Be brave. "I am smart."

Be in the room where it happens.

Be the light. Kindness. Compassion.

Be an advocate. Celebrate the advocates in our life.

Continued on next page



Advocate for Great!

President Sara's Message Continued

We also had a mentor panel of three amazing women from the community. Here are the questions the mentors answered:

1. What woman in your life has had the biggest impact on your life other than your mother or grandmother?
2. If you could go back to your 20-something self, what advice would you tell yourself?
3. What importance did you put on money in selecting your (career) path?
4. What's your favorite and least favorite part of your journey?
5. How do you approach balance in your career and personal/family life?

The takeaways from both the keynote and the mentor panels run parallel and complement each other. Be brave, unapologetic, and authentic. Be an advocate. Surround yourself with supportive partners and have confidence.

The next day, Dream It, Be It came to life. This was the first year of delivering a one-day conference of the Dream It, Be It curriculum. We once again partnered with SI Bidwell Rancho to deliver the materials. The conference covered everything from discovering dreams, exploring careers, how to set goals, rising above obstacles, turning failure into success, balancing stress, and bringing it all together. My co-chair, Babette Maiss, and I completed the DIBI evaluation on the SIA portal just last month before heading to New Clairvaux for wine tasting. We were so pleased with the way the one-day DIBI conference turned out that both of us have agreed to co-chair the Dream It, Be It committee again next year as we deliver another one-day conference.

As the year draws to a close, our club continues to work together to accomplish our mission – help women and girls improve their lives by gaining access to education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. I look forward to the rest of the club year and to passing the torch and gavel to the next group of club leaders as we work together toward a collective goal.

Don't forget to dance it out!

President Sara



Pictured above keynote speaker Catherine Calarco with President Sara



In the News

By Joyce Brown



Soroptimist International of Chico (SI Chico) Awards \$4,500 total in Scholarships

On Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at their luncheon, Soroptimist International of Chico, awarded 4 well deserving Women & Girls Scholarships.

Pictured: left to right SI Chico member Janet Earl, Dottie Locke Imagining Possibilities Awardee Jessica Summers, SI Chico member Carol Burr, Positive Parenting Awardee Adrianna Snelling, SI Chico member Diane Fossum, Betty J Boles Professional Step Up Awardee LaJauna Powell, SI Chico 2022-2023 President Sara Beacham, and Violet Richardson Youth in Service Awardee Destiny Lee



Soroptimist International of Chico (SI Chico) Presents Live Your Dream Awards

On Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at their luncheon, Soroptimist International of Chico, awarded 3 well deserving Women Live Your Dream Awards, each receiving \$1,200 totaling \$3,600.

Pictured: left to right Live Your Dream awardee, Mai Xiong , SI Chico Live Your Dream Coordinator, Linda Allen, Live Your Dream awardee, Angel Finerock/Bliss, SI Chico 2021-2022 President, Sara Beacham, and Live Your Dream awardee, Sonada Tavizon



Janice Walker, Director of Chico Project S.A.V.E. educated Soroptimist International of Chico on what their organization does

This all-volunteer non-profit organization collects and recycles medical and dental equipment and supplies which are donated to people in our community as well as to people all over the world. If you are need of medical or dental equipment, contact them first, chances are they have it. Next week they are getting ready to ship equipment to Ukraine.

Pictured: Soroptimist International of Chico President Sara Beacham & Director of Project S.A.V.E. Janice Walker

In the News Continued

By Joyce Brown



Soroptimist International of Chico donates \$2,500 to the Peg Taylor Center

SI Chico donated \$2500.00 to the Peg Taylor Center to help them refurbish their activity program's Arts and Craft Preparation Area.

Pictured: Left to right: SI Chico 2021-2022 President, Sara Beacham, Peg Taylor Center Program Director, Cori Miller, and SI Chico Tri-chair Giving Committee, Kim Huber



Boys & Girls Club of the North State received \$3,500 from Soroptimist International of Chico

Soroptimist International of Chico at their luncheon on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 gave the Boys & Girls Club of the North State \$3,500 to help support the Boys & Girls Club in serving economically disadvantaged local youth.

Pictured (left to right) are Sue Ligon, Soroptimist International of Chico Tri-Chair Giving Committee, Sara Beacham, Soroptimist International of Chico 2021-2022 President, Erin Kennedy, Boys & Girls Club Director of Case Management, Kathy Erickson, Soroptimist International of Chico President Elect & Linda Bates, Soroptimist International of Chico Giving Committee

Welcome New Members



Mary Ann Neal
Retired RN
Sponsor: Amy Griffin



Beth Parsons
Youth 4 Change CEO
Sponsor: Nancy Hanson



Jennifer Lasell
Library Technician
Sponsor: Kathy Erickson

Sierra Nevada Region Conference Report, April 2022

By: Delegate Director Bonnie Chapman

- 42 of our Regions 53 Clubs attended the conference with 220 total in attendance. The theme of the conference was storytelling and most presentations wove that into how we present our programs and clubs to others.
- SI Chico had 12 in attendance including 2 first timers.
- Financial report of the region shows them having a balance of \$240,000
- Our club was awarded 2nd place for great presence on social media.
- There was consistent messaging and discussion about the Big Goal and our collective impact, which is to have our Dream Programs reach half a million girls and women in the next 10 years.
- There was an amendment to the SNR Bylaws proposed which would allow members to continue membership in a club of their choosing regardless of where they live. Such members would participate in a hybrid manner. Other regions have already enacted this type of change. Our region had a spirited discussion, and, in the end, the amendment passed.
- There is a pot of money for endowment grants that weren't used during Covid. These are up to \$1,000 and the application window is September 15-March 1. If we have a project that we would like funded, apply next year.
- In our region, during 2020/21, 10,178 girls were served by Dream it Be it programs which is actually a 41% decrease (due to the pandemic). Numbers are expected to increase in 2022/23
- The biggest news is that our own Billie Araiza was elected as the new Sierra Nevada region District 1 Director. We are super proud of her and look forward to supporting her in this new leadership position over the next biennium.
- Otherwise, fun was had by all who attended. There were a few winners at the blackjack tables, a few martini's shared, lots of laughing and we can't say much more since what happens at conference, stays at conference. Join us next time!

SAVE THE DATE

WORKSHOPS For Incoming Club Officers

Mark your calendar now to join us for our annual

SOROPTIMIST DEVELOPMENT RETREAT

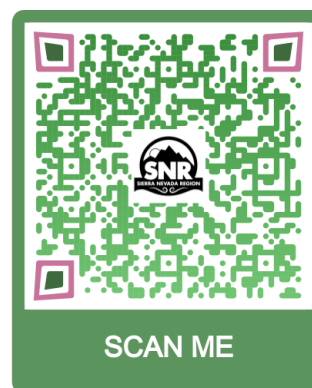
July 30 & 31, 2022
Atlantis Casino & Spa
Reno, NV

FUN FUN FUN

NEW MEMBERS
This event is a
DON'T MISS!

WORKSHOPS For Club Committee Leaders

Come share how your club does life-changing, meaningful work in an atmosphere of friendship and fun.



Scan to hear a Spotify playlist that's sure to excite you about attending SDR!

[SDR Registration](#)

Reserve your hotel room at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa 800-723-6500 and reference "Soroptimist International - Sierra Nevada Region" or click [here](#) to book on the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa website

Communications Committee Year End Report

Co-chairs Joyce Brown & Laura Burghardt

Members: Jennifer Lasell, Gail Nottingham, Carrie Pavis, Linda Sheppard, Billie Sommerfeld, Margarita Vega

Liaison: Kathy Erickson

Our budget for the year was \$3,000 – by end of year we will have spent \$2,432.44 leaving a remaining balance of \$567.56

We met the 4th Thursday of the month via Zoom at Noon. Except for Nov., Dec., Feb., & March. Our 1st meeting was held Aug. 26, 2021, via Zoom. Our last meeting of the year was April 28, 2022.

Social Media/Website Eblast/Snail:

Joyce continued to maintain our SI Chico website, post on social media sites, produce the weekly Eblast and the quarterly Snail newsletter. Bonnie remained our proofreader for the Snail. All webmail has been forwarded to the proper officer and Co-chairs.

Past newsletters can be found on our website at: <https://soroptimistchico.org/category/the-snail/>

Past Eblasts can be found on our website at: <https://soroptimistchico.org/category/newsletters/>

100 Year Legacy:

Joyce procured the domain name "JoinSIChico.org" for the banner and billboards that were placed all over Chico in celebration of SI 100th birthday. Joyce also contacted the City of Chico requesting a proclamation in honor of our 100 years, which, the request was granted. It was presented to us, along with SI Bidwell Rancho at our birthday luncheon celebration on Jan. 19, 2022, by Acting Vice Major Kasey Reynolds.

Chico ER Articles:

Communications Committee placed 12 Snapshot articles in the local paper

Communications Committee placed 2 Press Releases in the local paper

Sara had an exclusive Chico ER interview – Nov. 16, 2021 – RE: SI Chico 100-year celebration

Our luncheon meetings, where dates & times were in the Wednesday edition of the ChicoER

Fundraisers:

Posted them on our website, social media events page and announcements with the Chico Chamber of Commerce. They were:

Fall Bistro Bag

Coffee Fundraiser

New Clairvaux Vineyard Wine Fundraiser

Communications end of year recap submitted by Co-chair Joyce Brown, May 16, 2022



Fundraising Committee Year-End Report

Co-chairs: Lupe Medrano & Maureen Duquette

The year 2021-2022 was a challenging one to create events to raise sufficient funds for our Club's next year giving needs, but our committee got creative with successful fundraisers.

We held the **Fall Bistro Bag Fundraiser**, using Bacio Catering as our partner. We made major efforts to boost sponsorships which were successful. We raised \$8047 with this fundraiser, thanks to our generous club members support and our sponsorships.

The Fundraising Committee ended the year with 2 more fundraising efforts – coffee and wine!

Our Coffee Fundraiser was organized with Amy Louis and her connections with the Thanksgiving Coffee company. They designed our special SI Chico labels and placed them on each coffee bag. Our members were busy taking coffee orders from friends, family and neighbors – just like selling Girl Scout Cookies! We sold 200 bags of coffee and our efforts brought in a \$1400 profit.

For our Wine Fundraiser, we paired up with New Clairvaux Vineyard, who set up a special website page for us and took online and in-person orders, giving our club back 20% of the sales. Our club also had a SUDS at their tasting room and SI Bidwell Rancho joined us. This last fundraiser of the year brought in a profit of \$487. Thank you to all members who helped with our fundraisers this year!



Our total **external fundraising effort** is **\$9934** for use in 2022-2023 year.

Internal Fundraising had a good year of fundraising, thanks once again to our wonderfully generous club members.

Christmas in November was very successful and raised \$3,400.

Our Happy dollars have raised over \$1,600 so far. The special **\$100 for 100 years challenge** raised \$2,500. We have raised close to \$600 in **sale of Soropti-wear**. We hope to reach **\$8,150 in Internal fundraising** for our club operating income in 2022-2023.

Thank you, club members, for your invaluable support of all our fundraising efforts.

Lupe Medrano, Maureen Duquette, Kimm Randle



Membership Year End Report

By: Bonnie Chapman

Membership was led by Bonnie Chapman and assisted by Amy Griffin and the SI Objectives committee as needed. Each Getting to Know Us event was publicized among the members and Evite's were sent to prospective new members and some current members as it pertained to them (if they were inviting a friend or were a board member).



After attending GTKU, those in attendance were followed up with via email and phone call and always invited to attend club meetings.

Membership hosted the following Getting to Know Us events:

- August 2021, Bonnie Chapman's backyard

October 8, Wine Time

December 10, 2021, Allies Pub

January 2022, Stoble Coffee and Wine Time

February 2022, Bellachinos

Friday March 11, The Pour House (This GTKU was combined with SUDS as a "Mixer" event)

April 2022, Bidwell Perk

We had 3 inductions of new members and a total of 12 newcomers to SI Chico were added. 1 was a former member who re-joined and 2 were transfers from another club.



Newbies Night out, an annual fun event for all new members and their sponsors will be held on June 7 at Linda Allen's house with a Fiesta theme. Lots of good food, drinks and camaraderie.

Anniversary Pins for the entirety of 2021-22 will be distributed at the final business meeting of the year. The committee noted that we would like to continue the once each year recognition of member's reaching milestone anniversaries.

Next year we are planning a joint recruitment mixer with SI Chico and SI Bidwell Rancho at some point in early fall and we will see how this goes. It's a good idea to try it out. ☺



Giving Committee

Tri-chairs Kim Huber, Sue Ligon & Nancy Hanson

Women & Girls Awards & Scholarships April 13, 2022 Winners:



Adrianna Snelling
Positive Parenting Award



Destiny Lee
Violet Richardson Youth in Service



Jessica Summers
Dottie Locke Imagining Possibilities



LaJuana Powell
Betty J Boles Professional StepUp

[Read all about our winners by clicking here](#)

Live Your Dream Awards

Coordinator: Linda Allen

Live Your Dream Awards April 20, 2022 Winners:



Angel Finerock/Bliss

I am twenty years old, and a junior at Chico State studying Political Science with a focus in sustainability. I am very passionate about environmental issues. After I graduate, I plan to work as a paralegal as a way to do my part to protect the planet and natural resources.



Sonada Tavizon

I am currently completing my two-year RN program through Butte College. With over one thousand hours of clinical practice in a hospital, I know I am well prepared. I will finish in December of 2022. My dream is to work in the emergency room at Enloe Hospital.



Mai Xiong

I am currently attending Butte College. Eventually, I plan to finish a bachelor's degree in creative arts and then launch my own photography business.

[Read more about our winners by clicking here](#)

Above and Beyond Awards - The Backstory

By: Bonnie Chapman & Lupe Medrano



Above and Beyond recognition awards have been given out in SI Chico for decades in some iteration or another. The basis for these awards is that they recognize our members who are truly going above and beyond in their contributions to the work we do in our club. Of course, we all have basic responsibilities, and those volunteer hours are appreciated and important. At times, there is even more to do and those who step up to take these tasks are given a little something extra. Nowadays, we have an array of charms that can be attached to a bracelet or pin and worn with pride. Each Above and Beyond charm comes with a sweet thank-you card with a fun saying. We've been doing the charms for about six years, but prior to that have had a whole assortment of these type of awards and even have called this recognition system various things, depending on the choice of each president.

There are probably many more, but going back 10 plus years, the awards were called "That a Girl's". At that time, most members were wearing the traditional Soroptimist blue sash which held our membership pins and all the other swag each member had gathered with such recognition. There were ribbons (In Health and Service) and buttons (Safe Savvy and Strong) and pins (Superstars) in various shapes, sizes and with different motto's, based on each President's theme. They have also been called Kudos and recipients were given a chocolate Kudo's granola bar.

Whatever the style, these fun little extras bring smiles and come with lots of appreciation to those who receive them. We couldn't do it without you!



ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARDS 2021/22

AMY GRIFFIN
 AMY LOUIS
 BARBARA EVANS
 BILLIE ARAIZA
 BONNIE CHAPMAN
 CARLA BEE
 CARLYN DUSINBURY
 CAROL BRAZIEL
 CAROL BURR
 CARRIE PAVIS
 CYNDI MURDOCH
 DAWN FEDELLI
 GAYLE AYLWARD
 JAMIE MCNAMEE
 JANET EARL

JEANNIE SMITH
 JOAN STONER
 JOYCE BROWN
 KATHY ERICKSON
 KIM HUBER
 KIMM RANDLE
 KRIS JOHNSTON
 LINDA ALLEN
 LINDA BATES
 INDA KERCH
 LINDA SHEPPARD
 LOIS BUCHTER
 LUPE MEDRANO
 MARGO GRAHAM
 MARY ANN NEAL

MAUREEN DUQUETTE
 MICKIE ROWLAND
 NANCY HANSON
 NIKKI STADLER
 PAM BALDWIN
 ROSEANN BRADLEY
 SANDI DECKER
 SARA BEACHAM
 SHARI HOPPER
 SHAWN MURPHY
 SUE BECHTOL
 SUE LIGON
 THERESA DRAPER
 VALERIE BOWBY

Fur Baby and Member of the Month



March

Riley & Amy Griffin

Meet Riley, an 8-month-old pup that belongs to new member Amy Griffin and her husband Michael. Amy didn't want a dog but finally said yes to this adorable labradoodle after much convincing from her family. She has since fallen in love.

Amy teaches at Chico State and loves skiing, mountain biking and scuba diving. Her and her husband recently became empty nesters. They have two wonderful daughters Kallie and Aisling in their 20s that live in Reno.



April

Ollie & Janet Earl

I got my Ollie the day before Christmas. Wags n' Whiskers was having an adoption fair in the parking lot by their store. Ollie was the only one not barking, had Corgi ears and Dachshund body and looked at me with sweet eyes. He was rescued in Stanislaus County. Wasn't intending to get a dog (famous last words). He has been my walking partner in Bidwell Park - every day! He is 16 years old and in great shape.

I have been a member of SI Chico for 18 years; La Donna Joyner was my sponsor. I love the mission of Soroptimist and have enjoyed being with strong women who are full of positive energy. I have met lifelong friends. I'm truly blessed to be a Soroptimist.



May

Yachi, Tiger & Kathy Erickson

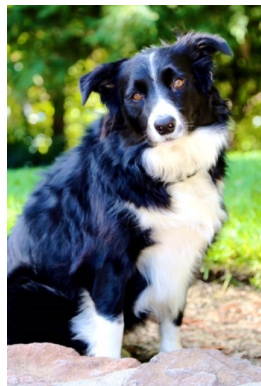
Yachi is the fur baby ripping up paper. She found our family in November 2020 on a cold, rainy day. She ended up in our backyard with a cut hind leg. We gave her food and water, and within a week she moved into our house where she has been spoiled ever since. This picture is of her doing one of her three favorite things, ripping up paper (packing paper is her favorite but she also enjoys a good paper handle bag!) Her other two favorite things are eating (and begging to be fed) and hunting for live snakes and dead rats or birds, all of which she's been known to bring inside to play with.

Tiger is the sexy cat model. She and her sister Boots (who passed in January 2021) came to our family in April 2008. They were rescue kittens who came from a feral colony. She is still very active, probably to keep up with her little sister (Yachi.) She spends most of her time sleeping and hissing at Yachi. Tiger sleeps practically on top of my neck at night, or under the covers if she can sneak in. Her quirky habit is carrying a crocheted doll sweater in her mouth around the house and meowing for her lost baby (at least that's what we think she's doing). As soon as she realizes that a human is present she drops the sweater and goes about her day. I often wake up with 3 sweaters on the bed at my feet after a busy night.

I joined SI Chico in April 2012. I served on the Home & Garden and then Fundraising Committee, focused on Internal Fundraising. I began my time as Lunch Lady in September 2016 or 2017. I have served as a Delegate, Vice President, currently President Elect, and will serve as President beginning July 1. I have 3 children, all of whom I am extremely proud (You will get to meet them at Installation June 1.) My husband Russ owns a civil engineering and surveying company here in Chico. We will celebrate 25 years of marriage this coming July! I have been a Girl Scout leader for the last 13 years and will be staying on to annually help plan our local weekend camp after this school year ends as well as serve on the site c committee for the location our Soroptimist club donated to this past fall. I am at the 18 1/2 year mark with Tupperware, looking forward to going back to in-home parties now that the pandemic has lightened up. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family and cats, and baking/cooking. I am so proud to be a Soroptimist and very grateful to have the chance to know so many amazing women in our club!

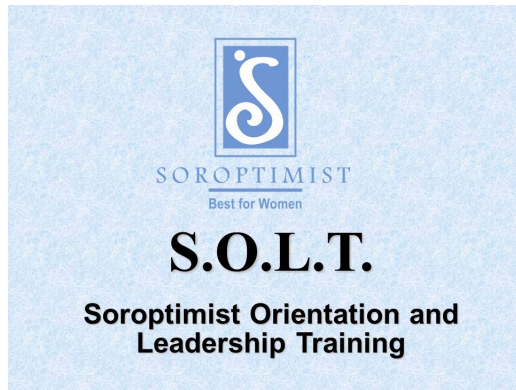
June

Xena & Joan Stoner



My name is Xena, warrior princess, and I am a border collie. I was born on a ranch in Klamath Falls and my mom, Joan, found me at a rodeo when I was 8 weeks old. I've been spoiled from the start, but I am very well-behaved when needed. I used to do agility and was good at it, but I had knee surgery 2 years ago, so my jumping days are over. Unlike most border collies, I don't fetch frisbees and am not that interested in toys but will do anything for treats. My favorite thing is to go on walks with my mom and her friends in the park. I especially like it when people we meet in the park have treats in their pockets. I can always find them, and my cute face is hard to resist, so I get more than a few treats on my walks. I will be 11 years old in June.

My Mom, Joan, joined Soroptimist in 1997. Susan Evers-McCauley was her sponsor, and her sister Jane Alt was president a few years before. She tells me that she really enjoys the friendships she has made in Soroptimist and I do too because Mom takes me to many events. She has been a president and treasurer of our club. When not taking me for walks, she loves to read, play the piano and garden. She has a son and daughter and three grandchildren who she is looking forward to spending more time with whenever she is fully retired. You may even know her daughter. Her name is Sara



A Dash of SOLT

(Soroptimist Orientation & Leadership Training)

By Linda Kerch

Stuart Morrow a past organizer of the Rotary Clubs visited the Parker Goddard Secretarial School in Oakland and was inspired to consider a club for business and professional women.

Originally membership was limited to only one member per professional classification. The professions charter members consisted of Multigraphing, Skin and Scalp treatment, business college partner, Real Estate, Piano teacher, Optometrist and the proprietor of a corset and blouse store.

The original group met at the Hotel Oakland in the dining room for lunch. The group decided that their name tags were to be orange with blue lettering.

By August the group had grown to 14 members and here it is noted that Miss Violet Richardson was the featured speaker that day. She was in charge of physical education at the Berkeley School.

By the 6th meeting the club had grown to 27 members! Seven new members were welcomed. It was at this meeting that Violet Richardson became a member. Helena Gamble also became a member at this meeting and is one of the most influential members in the coming years. She worked to charter new clubs with Morrow and after the federation was formed in 1928 she was appointed historian.

From this meeting the following phrases should still resonate 100 years later:

- We meet for Recognition plus Cooperation equal Service.
- Perhaps the most prophetic statement is "A big movement has been started by this club".



Dress A Girl Hands-on Project

Submitted by: Cyndi Murdoch



Si Chico has done it again! Eleven past and present members plus a couple of their friends came together during two sewing sessions at Cathy's Sew-N-Vac to create 42 dresses. Donated fabric and the generosity of these individuals' time produced a wonderful donation to the Dress-a-Girl Around the World campaign that is under the umbrella of the Hope 4 Women International organization – their mission is to bring dignity to women and girls around the world. These dresses will be combined with other donations and shipped to third world countries – wherever there are girls in need.

A huge shoutout to all that contributed to our hands-on project. Kit Oldham, Carrie Pavis, Bonnie Chapman, Faye Mitchell, Carol Burr, Jami McNamee, Joan O'Brian, Billie Araiza, Gail Holbrook, and Deann Decker.

Thanks for making it a success...Laura Burghardt & Cyndi Murdoch; Co-Chairs.