



SOROPTIMIST®  
Investing in Dreams



March 2022

Volume 4, Issue 3

## President's Message

### Calendar

#### Business Meetings

March 2

April 6

May 4

#### Programs

Mar. 9-Carla Bee

Mar. 16-Project S.A.V.E.

April 13-Women & Girls Awards

April 20-Live Your Dreams

May 11- Dream It Be It

May 18-Chico Community Acupuncture

#### President's Project

April 8

#### Dream It Be It

April 9



Hello Fellow Soroptimists,

Happy 2022! As the New Year begins, the work we do as Soroptimists continues. Since we were here last, a lot has happened in the past few months and more great things are on the horizon.

January was especially exciting as our club celebrated its 92nd birthday. A huge thank you to the entire events committee for throwing such a fun party. Check out this issue for more details of the event. More importantly, at our birthday party, we had a very special guest. As part of Soroptimist International's 100th birthday, our club along with SI Bidwell Rancho received a Proclamation from the city of Chico presented by Vice Mayor Kasey Reynolds. This official government declaration was issued to our clubs to

publicly honor Soroptimist International and our two clubs with the outstanding volunteer work we do in our communities and worldwide to fulfill our mission of providing women and girls access to education and training to achieve economic empowerment.

We continue to work tirelessly each month leading up to our first one-day conference for Dream It, Be It. This SIA signature program is geared to help girls in high school get the tools they need to achieve their education and career goals. Modules cover dream building, a career panel, managing stress, and so much more. Our club continues to work together with SI Bidwell Rancho to put on this conference. We have also received monetary support for this year's DIBI from SI Yreka.

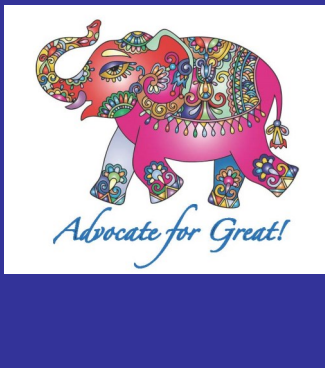
The evening before the one-day Dream It, Be It conference will be my President's Project event. Don't be mad, but we changed the name, again. It dawned on me that my signature phrase and elephant logo fit the theme for the evening. Therefore, the evening is being dubbed, Advocate for Great: An evening to connect with women leaders in the community. I have secured our keynote speaker, Catherine Calarco, and the ad hoc committee is working to get a panel of community leaders together. The idea is to connect 20- somethings with female business and community leaders to help mentor this younger generation as they navigate a very challenging time in their lives – answering questions like, "Do I go to school," "How do I start a business," and "Am I doing enough for my community?" Our club has recently partnered with the Chico State Women in Business for their 4th Annual Business Summit. We are sponsoring 10 women to attend the event in the hopes to get this target demographic to our event.

Dates to put in your calendar: Friday, April 8, 2022 – Advocate for Great, President's Project. Saturday, April 9, 2022 – Dream It, Be It, signature SIA one-day conference. Saturday, April 9, 2022 – SUDS!!!

If you want to get involved in the planning of either the President's Project or Dream It, Be It, please reach out for our next planning meetings.

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

*President Sara*



## In the News

By Joyce Brown



### Soroptimist International of Chico Granted \$10,000 to the Salvation Army

The purpose of the grant is to acquire workbooks and materials needed for the Co-Occurring Disorder Curriculum. As clients complete their assessment, the treatment plan will include interactive journaling, group therapy, and one-on-one counseling. Each client has different needs, which will determine the course of treatment to include chemical dependency, trauma informed practice, or co-occurring disorder, with many requiring a combination of these approaches. The funds were donated to the Soroptimist Club, by a member of that club, to be used for mental health counseling services.

Pictured from left to right SI Chico members Kim Huber, Barbara Evans, SI Chico President, Sara Beacham, Salvation Army, Major Ray Yant, Administrator and Jodene Setera, Program Director, and SI Chico member Nancy Hanson (photo contributed by Joyce Brown)



### Soroptimist International of Chico and Bidwell Rancho receive a Proclamation from the City of Chico

On January 19, 2022, Soroptimist International of Chico and Soroptimist of Bidwell Rancho were presented with a Proclamation from the City of Chico Vice Mayor Reynolds in honor of their organization's 100-year Anniversary. Their mission is to provide women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. Accepting the Proclamation were Babette Maiss, Past President SI Bidwell Rancho & Sara Beacham, President SI Chico.

Soroptimist of Chico also celebrated their 92nd Birthday.



### Soroptimist grants \$2,520.00 to Youth for Change

The funds will provide healthy snacks to the young participants during sessions focusing on mental health topics. These workshops are helping to improve lives through intervention and teaching life management skills to kids. SI Chico has been helping our community for 92 years and counting and the club is proud to help with this program and its important focus.

**Pictured:** Left to right, Kathy Erickson, SI Chico President Elect, Sara Beacham, SI Chico President and Beth Parsons, Youth for Change Chief Executive Officer (Contributed by Joyce Brown)

## In the News Continued

By Joyce Brown



### Proclamation recognizes Soroptimists 100th birthday (Press Release)

At a luncheon, City of Chico Vice Mayor Kasey Reynolds presented Soroptimist International of Chico and Soroptimist International of Bidwell Rancho a Proclamation in recognition of Soroptimist International 100th birthday. Soroptimist International was founded October 3rd, 1921. Accepting the Proclamation were Soroptimist International of Chico's President, Sara Beacham and Soroptimist International of Bidwell Rancho's Past President, Babette Maiss. Both clubs have improved the lives of Chico's women and girls by:

- Disbursing approximately 7 Soroptimist Live Your Dream Awards® annually to local women to help them get the education and training they need to improve their employment prospects and economic standing
  - Holding Soroptimist Dream It, Be It® events that have put 75 local girls on the path toward achieving their career goals
  - Bringing awareness to local human trafficking and domestic violence organizations to get women the legal and economic resources they need to break free from their former lives
  - Providing \$75,000 to fund the Salvation Army's Women's Wing and providing equipment for their fitness center
- Supporting the local Girl Scouts of Northern California with \$20,000 donation as a part of the 100-years of service to our community
  - Numerous other scholarships and education support to women and girls in our community
  - Providing annually Bus passes to Fairview High School Students

Soroptimist International of Chico, was chartered January 11, 1930, celebrated their 92nd birthday at the luncheon.

Soroptimist International of Bidwell Rancho was chartered June 9th, 1987.

Both clubs work to provide women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

Pictured above from left to right, Soroptimist International of Bidwell Rancho past President Babette Maiss, Chico Vice Mayor Reynolds and Soroptimist International of Chico President Sara Beacham pose with the proclamation Jan. 19, 2022 in Chico, California. (Contributed by Joyce Brown)





## SNR District 1 Winter Meeting Jan. 29, 2022

By: Delegate Director Bonnie Chapman

There were 19 Soroptimists in attendance at the District 1 Meeting which was held on Zoom, January 29 from 10 a.m. to noon. In attendance from SI Chico were the following members;

President Sara

President Elect Kathy

Vice President Amy

Director Delegates, Bonnie, Lupe and Janet

Members, Maureen, Billie, Gayle, Barbara

### The Highlights

1. Presentation by Elaine Cassel regarding the success of SI Elko's Dream it Be it program. This particular program had huge buy in from their school district which made it easy to implement and allowed them to have broad reach. Elaine had a number of suggestions regarding reaching out to the community to find pockets of girls to participate in our program, even if it's very small. Ideas included Girl Scouts, continuation schools, Juvenile Detention centers, high schools via counselor recommendations and general word of mouth. They also offered a scholarship which she felt was valuable.
2. Presentation by guest speaker, Seaira Harrington, Social Worker. She spoke on the topic of self-care. Her presentation included 8 dimensions of wellness and tips to stay healthy. One quote she shared really resonated; "We are all doing the best we can with what we know and where we are" She also showed us a Ted Talk that was really good and worth checking out; It's by Chitra Aiyar on the topic of How to Build Community when you feel isolated. Link attached here.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/chitra\\_ayyar\\_how\\_to\\_build\\_community\\_when\\_you\\_feel\\_isolated](https://www.ted.com/talks/chitra_ayyar_how_to_build_community_when_you_feel_isolated)

The information from this presentation will be forwarded to President Sara and shared with our membership.

3. Announcements were made regarding registration for the Sierra Nevada region conference taking place in Reno at the Atlantis hotel, April 1-3. Conference registration will open on February 1 and hotel reservations are available at conference rates anytime. If you are interested in attending, let President Sara or the Director Delegates know and we can coordinate driving and hotel rooms.
4. A \$100 dollar gift card was raffled off to a Soroptimist attending the meeting and our own Lupe Medrano was the big winner!! Hooray!



### PLEASE RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM AT THE ATLANTIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

WE NEED TO SEE THAT WE ARE IN A POSITION TO MEET THE CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION WITH THE ATLANTIS FOR THE FOR THE SNR APRIL 2022 CONFERENCE!!

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!!**



46th Sierra Nevada

Soroptimist International Conference

[Click here to register for Conference](#)

[Call to Conference](#)



*Courage and curiosity lead to dreaming, learning and doing.*

### Events Committee

#### Co-chairs Jackie Travis & Kris Johnston

On January 19, 2022, SI Chico celebrated its 92nd birthday with a party organized and conducted by the club's Events Committee. The committee members participating in the event were Cyndi Murdoch, Roseann Bradley, Carla Bee, Sharadin Castaldo, Nikki Stadler, Jeanne Smith, Val Bowlby, Joyce Mickelson, Amy Louis, and co-chairs Kris Johnston and Jackie Travis.

Also of note is the fact that Soroptimist International is celebrating its 100-year anniversary. The City of Chico's Vice-Mayor Reynolds attended the party and honored both SI Chico and SI Bidwell Rancho with a proclamation in recognition of our service to the community.

The theme of the celebration was "Welcome to the Big Top" with circus decorations, music, games, and activities, (including a Photo Booth, corn hole game, popcorn machine, bingo games and prizes delivered by our Ring Master, Carla Bee). Dessert included cupcakes made by Cyndi Murdoch and Roseann Bradley. Prizes were furnished by Sharadin Castaldo. The Corn hole game was decorated by Nikki Stadler. The Photo Booth back drop was donated by Kris Johnston and Joyce Mickelson was the photographer. The entire room was adorned with balloons and other festive circus decorations. Also, SI Bidwell Rancho members brought honey treats for everyone to take home and enjoy.

A good time was had by all.



Events Committee



Carla, Vice Mayor Reynolds & Jeanne



President Sara, Past SI Chico & SI Bidwell Rancho President's



SI Bidwell Rancho Members & Governor Elect Lisa Fitzgerald

## Fundraising Committee

Co-chairs Lupe Medrano & Maureen Duquette



The fundraising committee has completed the first round of coffee sales and sold 200 bags of coffee, earning us a profit of \$1400! Many thanks to Amy Louis for connecting us with Thanksgiving Coffee. We had ground and whole bean options of a light roast, medium roast, and decaf.

Thank you to the members who sold and purchased coffee bags. We hope to do another round of sales soon!

Women at their best, working to help other women to be their best

Soroptimist International of Chico (SI Chico) is a large club with a long and distinguished history in our community. As Soroptimists, our focus has always been on service and we are committed to improving the lives of women and girls in our community, our country, and around the world. Through service projects we strive to raise money in order to continue to donate money and time to the community and around the world. Your purchase of this coffee is contributing to our efforts. We invite you to visit our website to learn of the many programs and scholarships you are helping fund.

[SoroptimistChico.org](http://SoroptimistChico.org)



Thanksgiving Coffee Co., 1900 S. Harbor Dr., Fort Bragg, CA 95432

## Giving Committee

Tri-chairs Kim Huber, Sue Ligon & Nancy Hanson



College Student Awards were given out to 5 deserving college students of February 16, 2022.

Butte College Scholarships - These scholarships acknowledge and support those students who are committed to achieving their academic goals and who demonstrate potential to be successful in their future career paths. This is a club only award with selection process completed by Butte College.

2 Butte College Students received this award, they are:

Zaya White



Autumn Lattermore



### CSU Chico Soroptimist Graduate Scholarship

Established by Dr. Valene Smith and SI Chico, this scholarship is awarded to business or interdisciplinary graduate students at CSU Chico, who embodies the Soroptimist spirit of service.

This is a club only award with selection process completed by CSU Chico.

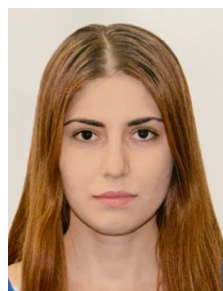
This was awarded to Anthony Ruiz



### CSU Chico Soroptimist International Goodwill & Understanding (IGU) Scholarship

Established by Dr. Valene Smith and SI Chico, this scholarship is for non-resident international students who have completed at least 24 units at CSUC.

This was awarded to Ani Ushikishvili



### CSU Chico Soroptimist Aging & Gerontology Education (AGE) Award

Established by Carol Burr and SI Chico, this scholarship is awarded to Concentration Year Students accepted into the School of Social Work, CSUC.

This was awarded to Jennifer Small



### Local Hands-on Projects



**Coordinator: Sandi Decker**



December 8th, 2021 Jeanne Smith & Linda Kerch rang the bell at Grocery Outlet



December 10th, 2021 President Sara & Sandi Decker rang the bell at Hobby Lobby



December 11th, 2021 Nikki Stadler & friend Yvonne rang the bell at Tractor Supply



### Dress A Girl

**Coordinators: Cyndi Murdoch & Laura Burghardt**

We are hopeful that it will soon be safe to get together at Cathy's Sew & Vac, so be on the lookout for announcements in the e-blast and at club. In the meantime, if anyone would like to make some on their own, let us know – we can get you started.

Cyndi Murdoch 530-519-2997 [cyndimrdch@gmail.com](mailto:cyndimrdch@gmail.com) or Laura Burghardt 530-864-6632 [Laura@ChicoLaura.com](mailto:Laura@ChicoLaura.com)

We are always on the lookout for donations of fabric suitable for girl's dresses, and if you know any seamstresses/quilters, they are always welcomed.



**Coordinator: Carolyn Dusenbury**

Catalyst has asked us to help with bed linens (sheets, pillows, and blankets) for twin beds, any color or pattern is fine. We encourage white because, if soiled, they can be bleached.

There is a box behind the lunch table for your gently used linens or hair supplies until March 2nd.

A check or cash donation is always useful. These will be pooled to purchase twin bed sheet sets. Make checks out to SI Chico. There will be an envelope near the collection bag.

They also requested shampoo, conditioner, hair accessories. Please no travel sizes.

Call or email me if you need items picked up.

Thanks for your assistance!!

Carolyn at [cdusenbury@csuchico.edu](mailto:cdusenbury@csuchico.edu) or (530) 894-3058

## Local Hands-on Projects Continued



### Coordinators Giving Committee

Tri-chairs Kim Huber, Sue Ligon & Nancy Hanson

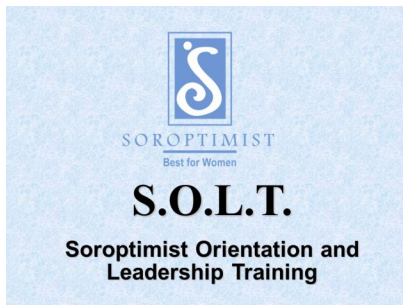


This year the Giving Committee for our holiday hands on project decided to go with a different approach in Adopting a family. We chose to support the Boys & Girls Club Holiday Store.

Thank you to all the members who so generously donated. We delivered 111 gifts which included, 24 games, 8 puzzles, 27 assorted toys, 2 book sets, 12 headphone's & accessories, 38 items for girls (makeup, brushes, socks, & jewelry). Plus, additional items, 20 rolls of wrapping paper and 3 food gift cards.

Alex Beehner (pictured with Sue) & staff were extremely thankful & grateful for all things that Soroptimist does.

Thank you for making it a great Success!



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

(Soroptimist Orientation Leadership Training)

Submitted By Linda Kerch

There are 5 separate Soroptimist Federations under the umbrella of Soroptimist International.

**Soroptimist International of the Americas.** Our main program, Live Your Dream has disbursed about \$30 million to almost 20,000 women since 1972. Today we have about 30,000 members across North America, Latin America and the Pacific Rim.

**Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific** includes 13 countries in the Asia Pacific Region. Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Mongolia, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Cambodia, Thailand, Samoa, Singapore, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Myanmar.

**Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Ireland.** This federation has consultative status at the Economic and Social Council at the United Nations. There are 270 clubs which stretch to Asia the Caribbean and Malta.

**Soroptimist International of Europe.** This federation along with UN status holds status at the Council of Europe and the European Woman's Lobby. Today it is the largest of 5 federations with approximately 31,500 women across Europe, Middle East and the Caribbean

**Soroptimist International Africa Federation.** This federation was inaugurated in June of 2020. Clubs are in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guremea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Maureteius, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

With more waiting to be chartered.



**Fur Baby and Member of the Month**



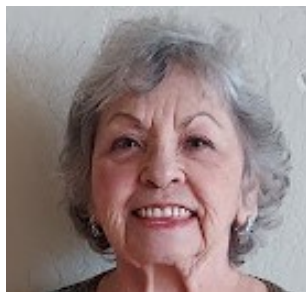
**December**

**Nikko & Bonnie Chapman**

Nikko is our 15 year old Brittany Spaniel. She is a real beauty and has been a terrific family dog. She is named after Nikko, Japan a pretty northern town that our family visited just prior to getting Nikko as a puppy. Our first dog, also a Brittany was named Kobe after Kobe, Japan where Ken and I lived teaching English before kids and serious life. Nikko sleeps most of the day but she still loves to run around like a puppy. She also loves to swim in our pool during warm weather, lap after lap. Brittany's are known to be very energetic and she lives up to that. She is the queen of the house and gets whatever she wants now that the kids don't live here any more.

I have been a member of SI Chico for 8 years and have worn many hats in my relatively short membership (compared to some!). I have been a Director Delegate twice, co-chaired Service (Giving) and Fundraising, served on Communications, Events and SI Objectives and was Vice President, President-Elect, and President during 2018-19. I love the club and all of you members. I am also very involved with Girls on the Run and have coached for many years and now serve as coach trainer and board member. I love to run and cycle and work out with President Sara. My husband Ken and I do a lot of traveling and recently bought an RV which we are really enjoying. We have two kids, Zoey (27) just got married in September to Luke who is terrific and our son Tanner (22) is in graduate school at the University of Redlands. Along with Ken, I write for Edible Shasta Butte Magazine and love learning about the many food related topics that we discover in our articles

**Welcome Transfers from SI Red Bluff**



**Faye Mitchell**

Retired from Banking



**January**

**Chai & Carla Bee**

Meet Chai our 6 year old Apple Head Chihuahua.

She's obviously a special little girl, who enjoys her walks through Bidwell Park, traveling with us in the RV and snuggling anytime she can.

She's very timid and doesn't take to strangers at all. Which makes her a



ferocious watch .... Lol.

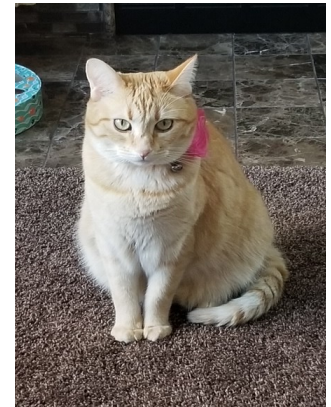
When we're not traveling in our RV, my partner Don & I enjoy kayaking, biking and just enjoying the outdoors.

I joined Soroptimist 3 years ago. I thoroughly enjoy the women I've met and strongly support the mission of supporting women and girls here locally and internationally.



**Shirley Boracci**

Retired from Banking



**February**

**Audrey & Jeanne Smith**

If you don't know me yet, I'm Jeanne Smith and I really enjoy being a Soroptimist! This year, 2022 will be my 5<sup>th</sup> year; and it has been eventful! I've met so many new friends and been involved in so many ways to help our community! I even was able to bring dresses with me to a school in Africa! Every member is unique and gives their best to our goals.

I grew up in Orange County CA, but have been in Paradise and Chico for 47 years! So this is home. I have 2 kids of my own and my husband Don brought 2 more into my life. We share 3 amazing and driven grandchildren. We also share our home with a 3 year old, "Golden Girl" feline "Fur Baby" named Audrey! I enjoy traveling, and have been fortunate to have seen much of the world. Also, I like to gamble, any party is good, gardening, cooking, reading and believe it or not. LAUNDRY!

Here's a little about our darling "Fur Baby", meet Audrey!

She came to our family as a lost 5 week old Orange Tabby. It actually was the same day as the Camp Fire started! Our granddaughter Kristin and fiancé Chris found her hiding under a car on the CSUC campus.

Her's is the classic rags to riches story, she was so dirty when the kids found her; they thought she was a Gray Tabby, but a bath revealed bright orange fur. She is special in many ways, but mainly in the fact that she is a girl, only 20% of orange cats are female! I know right?

Audrey loves to sport seasonal collars, play with her toys, especially her unicorn that requires human interaction, hanging out in her cat tree which allows her to keep an eye on her "squirrel friends" and the birdies, treats and following us around the house and yard. She listens carefully when we talk to her and responds with a knowing meow. She loves her people whom she sleeps between every night, humans who come to visit, and 2 dogs Sid and Daisy.