

Happy Talk



S.I. San Bernardino
Golden West Region

January, 2019

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The challenges for 2019

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas with family and friends.

On December 7, 2018, we held our annual Holiday Auction and it was a fun and festive evening with great food and wonderful auction items. Thank you to all members, family and friends for being there to support our club.

On December 13, 2018, we held our annual Ornament Exchange. No one was shy taking ornaments from one another. But it was all in holiday spirit and we all had so much fun and lots of laughs. The same evening we held our induction of 2 new members. We welcomed them and are so happy they are in our club!! The evening was fun and full of holiday spirit!

Now as we start January, 2019, we will be focusing on participating in a Human Trafficking Awareness Event scheduled for the end of January. Also, SI of San Bernardino received completed Live Your Dream applications. They are being reviewed to make sure they include all pertinent information and supporting references. A big THANK YOU goes to Chair Judy Holbeck who has diligently worked her way through the process. The LYD application process had new/updated procedures for clubs to use. We will also be preparing for our WINGS project (Women Inspiring and Nurturing Girls to Succeed). This event is scheduled for March 2, 2019. This program helps young women think big. The day includes guest speakers, informative workshops,



dream boards, raffles, lunch and much more.

My theme as SISB President for 2018/2019 is **Imagine, Spark, Activate**. As we take on 2019, what do we **Imagine** ourselves doing as a Soroptimist; what **Sparks** us; and how will we **Activate** those dreams and sparks? I look forward to taking on 2019 with each of you!

President Michelle

Imagine, Spark, Activate

Club Calendar

- 1-3 Business Meeting
- 1-24 Board Meeting



Websites

- (SI) soroptimistinternational.org
- (SIA) soroptimist.org
- (GWR) goldenwestregion.org
- (SISB) sisanbernardino.org

Update on Barb Cooper

It has been 3 weeks since Barb suffered a stroke and your editor is pleased to report she is making good progress. She's able to move her left arm and is getting some feeling back in her fingers. Her hard work with her thera-

pists and her family members that are helping her is paying off. She's finding she is surprisingly dexterous with her right hand for a "lefty." Her positive attitude and willingness to work hard pays off. She

can make her own peanut butter sandwich, however has some trouble with a tube of mayonnaise. Her sense of humor is still in tact, however, and she remains undaunted. Get better soon!



No birthdays this month

Holiday Auction

SISB's Holiday Auctions are always eagerly anticipated each year and many former members continue to attend. The auction held this past December was well attended and all enjoyed good food and drinks. Christy entertained all with her ability as the auctioneer. The auction items were unique and there was some very competitive bidding. Lots of good choices for gifting or keeping.

The Native Sons are always very generous in allowing the club to use their parlor

each year for which the members are very grateful. All members pitched in to make this a very festive and worthwhile tradition!



Special helpers who coordinated the event included Michelle and Judy for her assistance to the auctioneer.



Cathie nated the event, who was the liaison with the Native Sons and assistance to the auctioneer.

A great introduction to a holiday season!

Ornament Exchange

Another great holiday tradition of the club is the Ornament Exchange. Sheila has hosted this event for several years and it is always a joy to share in her hospitality. A cozy fire in the fireplace, beautiful holiday decorations and fun events on the agenda made it a memorable evening. Sheila organized several games which kept everyone on their toes to compete for the prizes at the end of the game. All also enjoyed good food donated by the members.



The exchange of the wrapped ornaments contributed by everyone was a very lively affair. The many beautiful, unique and unusual ornaments were coveted by many. At the end of the exchange, everyone went home very happy with their final choices!

It was a very festive evening with lots of laughter and good spirits as well as some silliness. Silliness is one of our specialties when we get together socially!!

The members were also proud to welcome new member Pat Balthazor and the return of a former member, Roberta Bamert, following their induction to the club by Gladys.

It was an evening for warm, fuzzy feelings on the part of all who attended on a cold, blustery night.

Budget Review

The members recommended a review of the club's budget to be done mid-year. The Executive Board will be meeting together for a special meeting to conduct this review. The goal is to evaluate where the club stands in meeting the approved budgeted goals and to determine if recommendations to amend the budgeted amounts are necessary or appropriate. It may also be necessary to explore any options for additional fund raising if it is needed to cover the budget.

Budgeting and watching the purse strings is not a pleasant task, but each of the members should be responsible for knowing the financial situation of the club and for acting responsibly when tasked with the club's various spending projects.

After the review, any recommendations for amending the budget will be presented to the members and no changes will be made without the majority's approval. There may also be a need to recommend

additional fundraising projects which also will be decided by the majority vote of the members. Likewise, it may be necessary to reduce some of the club's planned donations.

The ultimate goal is to continue to add new members which goes a long way to improving our resources. It just makes good dollars and "sense."

What's in your future?

The San Bernardino club has supported Federation projects for many, many years. Some have been called by other names, but they still are a major focus for the members.

Currently, the Live Your Dream program is nearing its final stages to select club winners who go on to compete at Region level. Federation finalists are then featured in the Federation magazine, *Best For Women*. Chairperson, Judy, will be announcing the club's winner very soon.

The Dream It, Be It program gets underway shortly and the club's WINGS event is the time to interact with the girls who benefit from the club's efforts. Members always look forward to this interactive event and it is rewarding to the members to receive their feedback and words of appreciation.

Trafficking of women and girls has long been a focus of Soroptimists and the club will be participating in this program as well. It is difficult to imagine what others

experience when faced with the many challenges of abuse, addiction, and poverty in today's society. It must seem like an impossible hope to find a way out of these very difficult and desperate circumstances.

Solutions don't come overnight and when Soroptimists continue to focus together to work on these solutions, there is no greater satisfaction than witnessing the changes to lives of women and girls in need.

I resolve to.....

How many make New Year's resolutions?
How many are actually kept?

It would seem that keeping resolutions manageable would work best. That means keeping them realistic and meaningful. Also important is to keep the number of resolutions to a minimum. One resolution could be to "not let myself become overwhelmed with too many improvement projects at any one time."

Why not make a resolution to improve your knowledge of Soroptimist procedures and protocols. The goal should be to aim for more efficient meetings. This means no talking out of turn or too long or on another irrelevant issue. Wait to be recognized by the President before speaking. This means not interrupting the person who is already speaking. It means to keep it brief and on point without going on and on about what you think. Well

organized meetings that handle business efficiently and quickly are more interesting and much less chaotic. Respecting others by remembering these rules goes a long way in keeping the club on track.

We should not let our enthusiasm for speaking our opinions or in dominating the discussions take over the meeting from the Chair. What do you resolve to do?

Season's Greetings

Your Editor has received their annual Christmas greetings from SI Tauranga, New Zealand, our friendship link club. Look for it in the correspondence folder at the meeting, but in the meantime, their message to our members is repeated below.

*To members of SI San Bernardino
Have a wonderful Christmas and
continue your good work in 2019!
S.I. Tauranga*

Judith

Betty

Laurie

Liz

Bar

Doreen

Carol

Del



Making a Difference for Women

Soroptimist improves the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment

S.I. San Bernardino
P. O. Box 1372
San Bernardino, CA 92401

President .. Michelle Gomez
Vice-President .. Gladys Weems
Secretary .. Barb Cooper
Treasurer .. Lupe Castaneda
2-Year Director .. Cathie Weber
1-Year Director .. Judy Holbeck

Meetings

1st Thursday
6:30 p.m.

Our Lady of the Assumption School
796 West 48th Street
San Bernardino, California 92407

Ideas to Ponder

I will greet this day with love
in my heart. For this is the
greatest secret of success in
all ventures.

—Augustine “Og” Mandino
American author, 1923-1996