

Happy Talk



S.I. San Bernardino
Golden West Region

January, 2020

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Imagine, Spark, Activate

Happy New Year everyone!

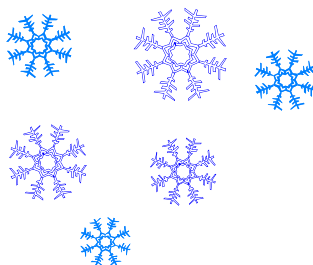
As Soroptimists, I know the New Year brings anticipation of our goals, events, fundraisers, new members and more. How many women will we impact through our Live Your Dream awards? How many girls and women can our club help to empower in our community and internationally, to pursue their dreams and have a better future?

My theme as President is Imagine, Spark, Activate and I know I have said this before, but as we begin a new year we have a new begin-

ning. What do we **Imagine** ourselves doing; what are our dreams? What **Sparks** us, what is near and dear to our heart and what is our passion? How will we **Activate** our dreams and goals. We are each unique and have gifts and talents to bring and share!

As we move into 2020, I am excited for all that we will accomplish as we work together to empower and impact the lives of girls and women.

Empowered Women Empower Women!



Enjoy the view of
our Mountain tops!

Wishing everyone a wonderful New Year!

President Michelle

Imagine, Spark, Activate

Club Calendar

- 1-2 **Business Meeting**
- 1-25 **Human Trafficking Awareness Walk**
- 1-28 **Board Meeting**



Websites

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

Dates to remember

February 7, 2020
Bunco party

March 7, 2020
WINGS event

May 2, 2020
Tea project

May 28, 2020
Spring Conference
Twin Arrows Navajo
Navajo Casino Resort

July 22, 2020
SIA Convention
Bellevue Hyatt
Regency
Bellevue, Washington

August 7 and 8, 2020
Leadership Training
Ontario, California
(dates and place are tentative)

**Happy
Birthday**

No Birthdays!

Meeting protocols

Robert's Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority for the club as stated in Article XVI of the club bylaws. All members should know the difference between a business meeting and a committee meeting. A business meeting is held for the purpose of conducting the business of approving minutes, hearing financial reports, having reports from various committee chairs, including ad hoc committees, discussing pending conference and convention dates and general discussions relating to the club's activities. The President presides over business meetings and prepares an agenda for the meeting. There may be motions made to be voted on relating to the club's financial affairs as well as accepting recommendations from committee chairs acting on behalf of their respective committees they represent. Ideally, a business meeting should be relatively brief and not one that involves interactive discussions by the members on subjects not relevant to the business agenda. It is not for sharing information about what fun one might have had at a recent social event or a detailed discussion on their personal activities on a committee assignment. A member must first receive permission from the

Chair to speak to the body. That does not give her permission to go on at length about whatever subject she brings up. If a member has a question, she should address it to the President. If the President feels it could be better answered by a committee chair, she will ask the chair to address the group with her answer. It should not develop into a back and forth exchange between the member who asked the question and the chair who has been asked to answer it. Nor should others voluntarily chime in on the subject. This creates chaos and makes it especially hard for the Secretary to take accurate notes when others are all speaking at the same time. Chaotic meetings inevitably become a deterrent for a prospective member who is considering if she wants to be a part of the club. Other guests also see the club as disorganized and messy in their approach to conducting business.

A committee meeting is called by the committee chair for the purpose of planning a project. It includes the nitty gritty details of the project as well as who is assigned to handle a specific function for the committee. The chair has the option of delegating such assignments for invitations, decorat-

ing, set up of a room, food, etc. The chair will be asked to recap the activities of the committee at a business meeting. This does not require a detailed and involved description of all the little details. A committee meeting may be somewhat less formal than a business meeting and group discussions may work OK.

Each project should have a project budget developed by the committee and is separate from the general club budget approved in September. It is important that all committee members keep their expenses within the project budget. A final financial report should be prepared after the completion of the project and ideally should be within a few weeks of the end of the project. It is incumbent upon the chair to insure all bills are turned in promptly and are supported by receipts. A copy of the project budget should be given to the club President and Treasurer in order to know if a voucher presented for payment is supported by the approved project budget.

Let's all resolve to be familiar with these procedures and follow them!

A Tea Project

The members have been asked to consider a new project for the club year and for lack of a better title it is being referred to as a Tea Project. A poll of the members in December resulted in a majority in favor of proceeding with plans drafted by Lupe Castaneda. She proposed a tea, but not totally like the many past Victorian Teas the club has sponsored. She has researched a new venue and is suggesting it will be smaller in size due to our smaller membership at this time. She has also proposed it not be a fund raising event as its goal, but to be a "break even" event. The program would also be developed as a recruitment event as well as using the opportunity to distribute the club's service awards.

Lupe and her co-chair, Barb Cooper, have visited the venue and agree it is very adaptable to what the event would require. She has made a deposit to hold the date and has contacted a caterer which the club has used in the past very successfully. Her plans will be recapped at the January business meeting and she and Barb will be scheduling planning meetings for a committee and delegating specific assignments to members. The date that was proposed and accepted is Saturday, May 2, 2020. Lupe has also started to contact possible sponsors to help with funding. In addition, monies set aside in the general budget in September for a recruitment project would be reallocated to the Tea project.

A more specific name that would be appropriate is yet to be determined. There will still be the opportunity for members to decorate tables to reflect a theme for each table. The venue has the ability to provide table cloths and napkins in a variety of colors as well as dishes and table utensils and glass ware. This means less work for the members. A centerpiece and other touches related to the table theme will make for a colorful event.

All members are expected to support the event as it promises to be new and exciting and could very possibly develop into a long term project.

WINGS

The club's WINGS project for this club year is set to take place on Saturday, March 7, 2020. Cathie Weber is chairing this year and she too will be reporting to the members at the January business meeting. The club has typically scheduled this event in recent years to coincide with the Soroptimist Saturday of Service. The club has also been able, with a few adjustments, to adapt this project to become a part of the Dream It, Be It project of SIA.

This project has been a very satisfying one for the club and fulfills the goal of improving the lives of young girls. It is designed to help them know their dreams and to focus on developing on reaching their dreams of empowerment through education in order to achieve their future goals.

A new year is now beginning and the members are ready to pitch in and help in the planning and development of this meaningful project.

Keep tuned in for updates and further information on the details of this project.

*Women
Inspiring
And Nurturing
Girls to
Succeed*

Christmas Greetings from SI Tauranga

Once again Gladys Weems has received a Christmas card signed by each member of SI Tauranga, New Zealand along with a personal note of greeting. The card will be passed around at the January business meeting for all to read. Note that Gladys, in turn, has sent a Christmas greeting to their club from the members of SISB. SI Tauranga has been the club's friendship link for many years and Judith Lowes has been our contact in the New Zealand club.

E-mail has enabled her and Gladys to keep in touch throughout the year and to pass on to the members their activities and accomplishments of each club to each other. A copy of each issue of the club's newsletter is also sent to SI Tauranga. We've all learned that we are very alike in our thinking and goals, making the world seem smaller and closer to each other. If a member is planning a trip in that direction, it would be worthwhile to

include a visit with our "sister" club. Our members have welcomed one of their members in the past and several of our members have been privileged to meet some of the members of SI Tauranga on occasion while traveling in their part of the world.

Happy New Year SI Tauranga and keep cool while we keep warm!

Saying "God Bless You" to a Sneezer

From Curious Customs by Tad Tuleja

Many peoples around the world are heartened by hearing someone sneeze. Among these sternuphiliacs, or sneeze-lovers, are the Maori of New Zealand, who believe that the creator god Tiki sneezed life into the first human being; the Zulus of southern Africa, who take the sneeze as the sign of a beneficent spirit; and the ancient Hebrews, who identified sneezing with life, because they recognized as Maria Leach (1954) observed, that "the dead never sneeze." Some American Indian peoples said that a good sneeze clears the brain.

But sternuphilia is by no means universal. In many European cultures, sneezing traditionally is associated with death, and it is to this sternuphobic tradition that Americans generally belong. You are very close to death when you sneeze, it is widely believed, because sneezing can expel the soul, and thus life, from the body. There is a linguistic, if not medical, logic to this superstition, since the Latin word *anima* means both "soul" and "breath of life." So we say "God bless you" to a sneezer as a charm against the

danger of the moment. Neglecting this magical utterance could mean that the sneezer would end up in the next world.



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

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

Mission Statement

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

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 can be changed
by what happens to me
**But I refuse to be
reduced by it.**

Maya Angelou