

Happy Talk



S.I. San Bernardino
Golden West Region

June, 2018

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Moving forward

Here we are in the middle of June and soon it will be another year completed! My term as President is coming to an end and soon there will be a new Board of Directors. I have thoroughly enjoyed being the President of our club these past 2 years and hope I have served you all well. It has been challenging, fulfilling and fun. Serving in this capacity has allowed me to grow personally and professionally and I have learned from each experience. It has given me more insight to what our club has done and what I know we are capable of accomplishing. I know

that the coming year will be filled with some new ideas and I look forward to assisting President-elect Michelle and the Board as much as possible. We may be a small club, but we are mighty in what we have done with limited members and funds. Join me in making the next year one of our best so let's do even more in helping those women and girls in our community and beyond that need our support!

President Cathie



From Cathie
To
Michelle



Awards Dinner

The Awards Dinner held on Thursday, May 17, was a "feel good" event. It was held at the Native Sons of the Golden West and members and guests with their families and sponsors attended. We were entertained by Julia Vesa, the music student who received a keyboard, by playing it for us.

The Live Your Dream award winner, Alysha Savala, spoke to the group confirming her dedication to reaching her goal in Business Administra-

tion with the help of the club's monetary award.

The Salvation Army representative, Anne Metu, was thankful and appreciative of the club's check for their transition housing for women and their young children.

The members also awarded a scholarship to Mattie Harrison who is working to become a pediatric nurse.

All enjoyed a catered meal

and an evening of social interaction with good people. The members can be very proud of how much we do with so few members. The goal is to grow and increase the awards that are given in years to come for a bigger impact in the community. The club also contributes to the SIA Club Giving Campaign and to International projects.

Congrats to all!

The 3 R's

Club Calendar

- 6-7/6-9 Spring Conference
- 6-14 Business Meeting
- 6-29 Installation



- ### Websites
- (SI) sorooptimistinternational.org
 - (SIA) sorooptimist.org
 - (GWR) goldenwestregion.org
 - (SISB) sisanbernardino.org



- 6-8 Judy Holbeck
- 8-24 Michelle Gomez

Winding down the end of a club year

The proposed changes to the club bylaws and standing rules were once again presented to the members at the June business meeting for the purpose of discussion and voting on whether or not to accept the proposals. Many of the proposals were simple housekeeping and/or making them current with the club's needs. Some items had become obsolete and the recommendation was to delete them. A major consideration was the recommendation to increase the club's dues by \$20, making the new dues \$170.00 beginning

July 1, 2018. Club dues have not been increased in recent years but increases in costs and SIA dues and fees created a need for an increase in order to be better able to meet the club's administrative costs. This increase will help when added to the club's W & M projects throughout the year which adds funds to the Treasury. Recruiting new members will also be a big help in helping with these costs. In addition, it should be noted that the schedule for dues payments was changed

for those paying 1/2 at July 1 and 1/2 later. the second payment will be due January 1, rather than October 1. An added section would read, "Alternate arrangements for a payment plan may be arranged between a member and the Executive Board upon request." All proposals were adopted and will take effect on July 1. Revised bylaws and standing rules will be prepared and sent to members via an e-mail attachment. Also an updated roster will be forward by e-mail.

New stuff

Committee assignments will be prepared by the new President, Michelle. If you have a preference, now would be the time to let Michelle know so she can consider your wants and likes as much as possible. It should also be noted that all members will be assigned to work on more than one committee.

A notice of the \$20 dues increase will be sent via an e-mail attachment and prompt payment is appreciated.

The club's officers will be installed, Friday, June 29, at the home of Cathie Weber. It starts at 6:00 p.m. and Cathie will pre-

pare dinner for the members and guests. Flyers have been sent and members are asked to respond ASAP (no later than 6-22) whether or not they will attend and the number of guests they may have. Please refer to your copy of the flyer.

The new officers are:

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

Installations are always fun and the plan is to be relaxed and informal and be prepared to enjoy each other, to celebrate the year ending and look forward to the year beginning July 1.

More new stuff

Michelle is working on an exciting agenda for the Summer Retreat to be held on Saturday, August 18. The time of the retreat and location will be listed in a flyer to the members, to be issued at a later time.

Some topics that were introduced at the Spring Conference will be included in discussions at the Retreat and there will possibly be a brainstorming session on issues of interest to the members. It is a great opportunity to participate and have a voice in club planning in many areas. Recruitment, Ways & Means projects,

retention of members to name only a few will be considered. It is informal and plan to be comfortable and well fed, and above all, plan to attend, participate, enjoy and learn.

Something to be aware of — since the members have voted to reduce the number of meetings, there is no luxury of time to take on lengthy discussions of important issues at the business meeting. The members have voted to hold a second Thursday in reserve for special meetings as well as social events. Unfortunately attendance is sometimes low as it is not

considered as important to attend as it is at business meetings. All major decisions concerning law changes, projects, how and where money is spent and other club issues are to be decided by the members with a majority vote of the members. This includes recommendations from committees as well.

Every member's opinion is important and at the end of the day, the goal is to agree on what the majority decision is regarding an issue.

Beer Fest

Discussions regarding a second Beer Fest for the new club year have been ongoing. The members agreed that the first event was fun and an exciting new project, but like all initial efforts, it needs some changes and tweaking from what the members felt worked great and some not so great. The general agreement is to hold the event in October, a date to still be determined. The location is being discussed as well. How to bring in more participants which means higher ticket sales, but at a lower cost than last year is a

subject that has been discussed. Having more sponsors would also be a help in helping to raise more income. Some assignments have also been made to explore some of these areas as well as scouting a different caterer. All is still very much in the early planning stages, but it will be imperative for the members to hustle so as not to get behind in what needs to be started well ahead of the event. Early ticket sales is helpful just as seeking sponsors will be helpful. All have agreed it is a good project to build on and developing it

can seem a slow process, but the members have learned from past projects that methodically tackling the changes needed is all of the above mentioned issues is necessary for success. It's well worth working on it!

While the club does not meet formally in July and August, the need to hold informal meetings for planning events that take place relatively quickly after the September 1, formal beginning of business activities is apparent and each member should be ready to accept this challenge.

Spring Conference

Six members attended events at the 40th Annual Spring Conference, June 7-8, 2018. Just a little trivia question—What club hosted the first Spring Conference of the new Golden West Region? Give up? SI San Bernardino was the hostess and Gladys Weems was the Chair. It was held at the SB Convention Center and the Hilton Hotel was where all commuters were housed. Lucille Toller was the Governor of the Region and Sandra Krueger was the

Club President.

The members attended on varying days. It was interesting to hear the reactions from the newer members who attended for the first time and their enthusiasm for Soroptimist goals and accomplishments is always a plus. Those attending shared their experiences with each other at the June business meeting on June 14. Membership is also an issue and many speakers and workshops focused on how to

effectively improve in recruitment efforts as well as retention of members. The focus has been and still is on adding younger members and keeping them engaged. While members value the experience and wisdom that comes from older members, there is always a need to bring in younger members with new ideas but who are also willing to embrace ideas that have been around for a while.

What is a mentor?

A major subject at Spring Conference was mentoring. The dictionary defines "mentor" as a wise and loyal counselor, one who advises. A mentor can also be considered a teacher in some instances. An important goal of a mentor is to recognize a person's talents and abilities and to encourage a person to develop in order to be able to reach their goals. Offering guidance and advice is the role of the mentor. Sharing their wisdom and encouragement is important. While it is important to make members feel welcome and to be comfortable when working with the members, mentoring is more than acting as a big sister to make a new member feel welcome. Every member can work to make a new member feel welcome and should be ready to do so. If a member is a mentor they must be certain the information or

"training" they give is accurate and consistent with the protocols and procedures of Soroptimist. Misinformation is never helpful. Making yourself available to answer questions will encourage a new member to come to you for information and training.

Reaching out to new members when appropriate is a way a mentoring relationship is established. It cannot be forced or contrived. It must feel "right" and comfortable for both parties. It's always possible to be a mentor to more than one person as well as a person may look to more than one person to go to with questions, etc., when seeking someone to be a mentor to them.

It's also possible to be tempted to offer personal advice and counseling, however, this should be thought through very care-

fully in order to avoid interfering in one's personal life when trained counselors would be a better choice.

Become a friend, a mentor and a trusted advisor and you will be rewarded in knowing you have made a positive difference in one's life and in the organization.

If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.

—John Quincy Adams



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

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 .. Cathie Weber
Vice-President .. Barbara Reynolds
Secretary .. Michelle Gomez
Treasurer .. Gladys Weems
Director .. Judy Holbeck

Meetings

1st and 3rd Thursdays
6:30 p.m.

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

Ideas to Ponder

We relish news
of our heroes,
forgetting that we are
extraordinary to somebody, too.

—Helen Hayes
actress, 1900-1993