

Dear Soroptimists of Bidwell-Rancho,

At the end of the year we would very much like to send our season's greetings and tell you about our club activities in 2018.

We are 36 members from 37 to 87 years of age. In October 2018 Vera Schneider-Bonnemeier took over as president. She is a freshly retired ophthalmologist with lots of energy. Vice president is Martina Humborg a pharmacist. Our club secretary is Irmgard Klotz, an interior architect who joined our club coming from another SI club in the region, and gynaecologist Sylvia Vornhecke covers "international affairs". Eva Hoffmann, a banker, still takes care of our finances and Sabine Schiller-Lerg (our communications consultant) continues to set up our programme.

Sadly Ursula Franke (a former university lecturer of Philosophy) our longest active member died at the age of 92. She still managed to complete a philosophical book shortly before she passed away. She was well recognized in Muenster's cultural society and a symposium was held as remembrance service.

This year we do have a few guests and we will accept Kerstin Baumgaertel, a primary school teacher as new member in December. Our new "goddaughter" whom we invite to our club meetings for one year to experience the idea of Soroptimism is 24 year old Marie-Sybil, a law student.

As you know one of our ongoing club projects still consist of supporting "Cactus" the theatre group of young students (some who immigrated to Germany from African countries), so that they do learn to express themselves in German, interact with German students, understand our culture and get self-confidence. This group is run by Barbara Kemmler, one of our club members (she is an actress herself). She even organized theatre projects in various African countries.

Another project is sponsoring a German language class offering practical trainings in various jobs for women refugees who live in Muenster. As language is the key for integration we think this is especially important.

We do support a talented student of Music in Muenster for one year so that she does get extra lessons which her parents could not afford to pay (this year it is a flute player).

Together with 12 SI-Clubs of the region we continue the "Soroptimists go for water" project donating money for water projects in Africa. This time we sponsored a well for a primary school in Baback, Senegal, where 200 school children will grow their lunch from their own kitchen garden.

Two of our members held a professional rhetoric seminar and raised 2.700 €. And one member who is a professional restorer working with gold paint (e.g. furnishing Arabian yachts) gave a hands-on seminar for club members and thus gained some money for the club.

For three years all German SI clubs raised 306.182 € to support a school for Syrian refugees in Turkey before they were allowed to enter the Turkish school system.

In May 2019 we will organize our fifth benefit-concert with excellent German and Japanese student musicians, hoping to raise about 5.000 € for our projects.

During the year 2018 our talks covered work at a job center or at the International Office of Muenster University, Martin Luther and 500 years of reformation, the 101st German Catholic Convention, which was held in Münster, Peace Projects and several guided tours of museum exhibitions covering the Peace issue (100 years after the Great War 1918 and 370 years after the Westphalian Peace treaty of Muenster in 1648). Beatriz Chadour-Sampson, former member of our friendship-link St. Albans, UK, gave an inspiring talk about the jewelry collection at the V&A museum in London.

We really enjoyed having had Babette Maiss as guest in October and all of us were very much impressed by all the activities of your club and the amount of money you are able to collect. She informed us that the "Camp Fire" destroyed the neighbouring city of Paradise and that you are collecting money for help. We will make sure to send some money soon, because we would like to support your service.

All of us wish you a very happy Christmas time and all the best for a successful Soroptimist life in 2019 and we are looking forward to seeing you some time soon.

In friendship,

Your Soroptimists from Muenster

Dear Scroptimists from Bidwell-
Rando / Chico,

The Scroptimi'st Club Münster
wishes you a successful year 2019.

Season's greetings from Germany.
We have loved to see Baselt here
and would be happy to host you
as well some time in the future.
In friendship

Sabine Phillo-Rey

S. Schmitz

G. Sander D.D.

Angela Isert
Barbara Taunel

Heide

Veru Le-de-Bouen

Eva Hoffner

Heide

Silo Trippen

Gritte Heide

Sarah Rex

Al. G.

A. Schmitz
A. Schmitz
A. Schmitz

A. Schmitz

A. Schmitz

Meri-Gr. Thunbrat

W. Schmitz

Sabine Phillo-Rey

Sylvia Karmy

Maria Bause

Mariko Karmy

Al. Schmitz

Stefanie Schmitz

Heide

Frohe Weihnachten Merry Christmas Feliz Navidad
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Prettig Kerstfeest Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas
Feliz Navidad Prettig Kerstfeest Joyeux Noël Feliz Navidad
Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas
Frohe Weihnachten aus



Münster

