



SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF BIDWELL RANCHO - CHICO

Club Retreat Notes Sept 7, 2025

10:30 a.m., Babette's home, 4280 Green Meadow Lane, Chico

Members present in bold (alpha list, by first name):

Angie Little	Melanie Kopping	Maxine Guynn	Venita Tuter	
Anne Marie Chik	Kim Goosmann	Melanie Kopping	Yvette Sanfilippo	
Babette Maiss	Kim Sayers	Michelle Chambers		
Beth Lougee	Layne Diestel	Paula Wilson		
Della Miller	Linda Lucena	Sally Mendez		
Gayle Luna	Lisa Fitzgerald	Sheron Box		
Judi Merlo	Marie Hartman	Susan Bandstra		

Members visited and enjoyed a potluck brunch together.

Babette asked everyone to:

- Sign a congratulatory card to commemorate SI Trinity County's 50th anniversary. Treasurer Paula gave Michelle a \$50 SIBR check to include when mailing the card.
- **All members should sign up for at least one position on the Committee List; with a small membership, everyone needs to participate in multiple activities and all fundraisers.**
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0945AAAB2CAAF49-58007494-committee#
- Update personal information on the roster (please text or email changes to Michelle)

The Board has decided to **order dark blue aprons** with white Soroptimist logo. \$25 + tax; members need to let Babette know if they want to order by **Tuesday Sept 9th**.

Please make a big push to sell Lobster Feast Tickets; firm closing date of sales is Sept 16th.

All members should plan to help with a task(s) at the event – even if buying a ticket to eat (i.e., set up, drink ticket sales, check-in, pouring, etc).

SIBR has an opportunity to participate in a community Lip Sync contest on Feb. 21, with tri-purpose; branding, fundraising, and fun! Babette and Michelle will attend an information meeting, (all members are invited, too): Wednesday, September 10th at 6 p.m. **Rescheduled to Thursday, October 2** Haley Music Therapy, 2550 Floral Ave, Suite 10, Chico.

SI Chico invited SIBR to a SUDs (social) on **Friday Sept 19th** at Lassen Traditional Cidery, 643 Entler Ave, Unit 52, Chico, 5:30pm - 7pm. **Please try to attend!**

The next Club meeting will be **Sept 23rd - our Program meeting** at Bidwell Golf course, 5:30pm. The theme from President-elect Layne is *Get to know your Club*. Dinners at Bidwell Gold Course cost \$22 per person for meetings in the smaller room and \$25 for meetings in the large room. Let Financial Coordinator Melanie know whether or not you'll be attending.

Lisa and Kim are planning to attend SI Trinity County's 50th anniversary celebration in Weaverville, and they invite others to do so. October 4th at 5:30 p.m., Trinity Alps Restaurant & Lounge
No-host cocktails at 5:30 with dinner following. Tickets are \$55.20.

Information and ticket link on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Soroptimist-International-of-Trinity-County-61550917547324/>

[There are a few motels in the area; Kim and Lisa plan to stay at the 49er Gold Country Inn, 880 Main St, Weaverville, (530) 623-4937]

The members present simultaneously used their cell phones to take the **DISC personality quiz**, which forms an assessment after participants answer several questions about personal tendencies. Being aware of one's own traits as well as other people's differences can make communication and working together smoother, more enjoyable and successful. The four personality categories overlap, but are generally:

D Dominant; direct, assertive, independent and decisive.

I Influential; confident, engaging, and extremely approachable.

S Steady; naturally reserved, supportive, consistent, and loyal.

C Capable; extremely analytical, and utilize process, logic, structure and rules.

To consider where we are as a club and where we can improve, Babette led a **Club Operating Roadmap** (COP) discussion regarding the 5 Pillars of a non-profit. The group decided on a current score from 1-5 for each pillar:

- 3 Membership (dues-paying members): Participation, engagement, retention
- 5 Program: The mission, the *why* the organization exists, non-money-earning activities
- 3.5-4 Fundraising: Any event or activity to raise funds for the organization
- 4 Brand recognition: Community awareness, social media, Marketing, public relations
- 5 Governance: Bylaws, policies, procedures, budgeting, meetings

Group brainstorming and input:

- **Membership ideas**

- A new Administrative Committee is being formed to create a Club Handbook
- Invite attendees at fundraisers to come to a social mixer shortly after the event (within 2 weeks), with opportunity to learn about and join Soroptimist
- Look for corporate engagement opportunities
- Participate at diversity-oriented events
- Participate in focused group/topical meetings such as job recruitment, entrepreneurship, and career-specific gatherings/associations, etc.
- Have an info table at events such as Farmers' Market and community events
- **Regarding retention**, members suggested:
 - social activities/gatherings
 - more frequent SOLT refreshers (Sorop. Orientation and Leadership Training)
 - Several members recommend more thorough mentoring for new members, including having 2 mentors for support
 - Have members sit with a variety of others at meetings
 - Stay on track at the business meetings – less chit chat
 - Refrain from openly dismissing or debating ideas brought forth by members

- **Programs**

Dream It, Be It (DIBI)	Career Closet
Live Your Dream (LYD)	Santa Project
Santa Project	The Big Goal
Human Trafficking (HT)	Uplift Her
Fairview High School	Woman Empowerment Project

- **Fundraising**

Fashion Show 5K Run / Walk
 Lobster Feast Paint and Sip
 Bunko
 New ideas: Silent Disco, Music Bingo, Lip Sync Contest, Public forum or symposium

- **Branding**

Facebook and Instagram, eblast, newspaper, radio and tv spots, SIBR website,
 New ideas: Table at local events, add QR code to business cards, use business cards, wear Soroptimist clothing around town to spark conversation

- **Governance**

Bylaws, Rules and Procedures, Club operating Plan (COP), meetings, budget

The group adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Michelle Chambers, SIBR Secretary