Soroptimists International Chico

Special Events Committee
Year End Report 2019-2020

Tri Chairs: Sue Ligon, Mickie Rowland, Cyndi Murdoch
Committee Members: Lauren Wright, Gail Holbrook, Maureen DuQuette, Mary Moss, Roseann Bradley, Stephanie Giacovelli, Valerie Bowlby, Michelle Siracusa, Dawn Fedeli, Margarita Vega, Patricia Cockcroft, Billie Summerfield, Sue Makey, Stephanie Rogers, Katee Riesinger

Meetings: We met monthly at noon, on the 4th Wednesday of each month, at Tri-chair's homes and then at La Hacienda. The La Hacienda proved to be the best option since we secured the back meeting room and ordered lunch from their menu.

Budget: We ended the year with +$329.26. out of a budget of $1,300.

Programs: During our 3/month lunch meetings, the programs were divided as follows…

- President Carrie (includes monthly business meetings) 10
- Objectives committee -1
- Giving committee – 3
- Events committee 4
- Fundraising committee 1

The reminder of the meeting slots (9) were filled with various speakers

5th Wednesday's Socials: The Events Committee was responsible for creating a social activity for the months that contain 5 Wednesdays. The first such social occurred October 30th. We met at the picnic tables in Wildwood Park. Everyone brought a sack lunch with committee members providing desserts. On January 29th we met at Panera Bread. The restaurant provided a semi-private area on the side near the fireplace. Everyone ordered their own lunch, and we were able to socialize "around" the long table they had prepared. Our last such social was to have happened April 29th at the Anthropology Museum, but because of Covid-19 we had to cancel the event.

Summer Picnic: This event is the kick-off to the club's new year. All club members and their families were invited to attend this potluck dinner. Announcements were made via e-blast and e-vite. The membership was divided alphabetically and asked to bring a main dish, a salad or dessert. Drinks were provided by the committee. This year's picnic was held on Saturday August 24th in the late afternoon, outside on the lawn/gazebo area of TJ Farms. They graciously volunteered to host the event free of charge. The barn area was used to stage the food and drink stations. We were able to use their round tables and covered them with white plastic tablecloths. Colorful bandanas were used to anchor the simple centerpieces of babys' breath & greenery in mason jars. Approximately 26 members along with a few family members attended.

Annual Fall Retreat: Retreat is the time for the new president and attending club members to bond, as well as to brainstorm goals and ideas for the upcoming club year. The Warehouse was the venue for our one-day event this year, held on September 7, 2019. The Theme was Maxine – as a continuation from Installation. Members were greeted at the door with a pallet decorated in Maxine cartoon quotes along with a "real life" Maxine. Continental breakfast was served before the presentation of the strategic plan, followed by a guest speaker – Patricia Hunter, who spoke to balancing life while giving back to our community. Technology presentations shouldered both sides of the lunch break, with food being provided by The Italian Guy. More technology workshops filled out the afternoon session, which ended with a "make it and take it" craft activity served with wine, laughter and camaraderie. 30 members attended.
Birthday Party: An old fashioned tea party was the theme for our clubs 90th Birthday Celebration, held at the Elks Lodge on 1/15/2020. Committee members volunteered to decorate and host a table of 8, complete with tablecloths, napkins, place settings and centerpieces. Table Hostesses wore all black accessorized with lots of pearls and bling. Gourmet Teas,Truffles and mini cupcakes rounded out the uniquely themed settings. Maureen DuQuette gave a history of proper English Tea traditions and A SOLT presentation was given by Carolyn Dusenbury.

Cocktail Party: On January 10, 2020, 28 members and their spouses were treated to a special evening hosted by Roseann Bradley. Members provided appetizers and desserts, and brought their own drinks. The ambiance of a crackling fire and candles in Roseanns wonderful farmhouse created the perfect backdrop for lots of good conversation and fun.

Installation: The final event of the year is the installation ceremony for the new President and other board members. Canyon Oaks Country Club was to have been the venue for President Billie Araiza's Installation. We were planning a simple theme highlighting the color green. Off white tablecloths with green napkins, with simple centerpieces of colorful floral bouquets of flowers from Trader Joes/Costco. Succulents planted in green rimmed margarita classes were to be used as hostess gifts. Unfortunately, because of Covid-19, the event had to be postponed. It will be held in conjunction with the Summer Picnic, August 23, 2020.

The Special Events Committee would like to thank President Carrie for her support and appreciation throughout the year. The tri-chairs would also like to thank all the committee members for their hard work and contributions in making this such a successful year..