

What we do

Service & Fundraising: Two Sides of a Coin

With our mission of improving the lives of women and girls comes the responsibility of raising the funds necessary to fulfill these goals. All new members along with several seasoned members serve on the Ways and Means committee, planning fundraising activities and establishing the goals for the year. Whether on the committee or not, all members participate in fundraising.

Typically we have two to four fundraisers a year. Each member is involved in fundraising, whether it's selling raffle tickets, arranging chairs and tables for a dinner-auction, or acquiring auction prizes. There's sometimes a suggested amount each member is asked to raise or a suggested number of tickets to sell, but rarely is there a definitive quota.

Fundraising is an integral part of our activities. Without it, our service projects would not be possible.



Bonding Together to Meet Our Goals

No one would call us "dull Joan's" for we are anything but all work and no play. Socialization not only helps develop our friendships, but facilitates our working together on service projects and fundraising by creating bonds between us.

When there's a fifth Monday in a month, we hold a Home Dinner at the home of a member or at another public meeting place. Annually, each member is assigned to one of these dinner committees. The committee develops the menu, provides the food, and decides on any special activities. Visitors, including husbands, are encouraged to attend Home Dinners.

Our annual celebrations help us know each other well. Our holiday party is great fun, full of banter and laughter and traditionally includes our own take on the "Twelve Days of Christmas." Girls Nights Out are impromptu social gatherings, such as movies with dinner, or local theatre presentations.

Meeting Together to Learn and to Act

Our club meetings are held weekly on Mondays at noon. During typical weekly meetings, in addition to visiting and sharing with each other, we'll have a speaker or special program. It's during our club meetings that we learn about projects we may later adopt for service or to which we may grant service funds. By attending regularly, members suggest new goals, contribute ideas for existing programs, and develop lasting, meaningful friendships. Voting members are responsible for meeting fees regardless of attendance. To encourage free and open discussion, business meetings held the second week of the month are open to members only.



How much does it cost?

The total cost per year will vary slightly depending on whether a member is active or retired and on how much money she contributes to fundraising activities. An average amount, however, would be around \$1000.00 per year. This covers dues, meeting fees, and contributions.



Who's a Soroptimist?

We members of Soroptimist International of Vallejo are active and retired business and professional women. Representing the full gamut of professions and career paths, we range in age from young women to octogenarians. Some of us are able to contribute a greater amount financially, others have more time to spend on service, and still others have unique talents and abilities. All are important. All are irreplaceable.

We are part of Soroptimist International, one of the most noteworthy organizations in the world dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls. Through the Soroptimist organization we are encouraged to hone our leadership skills and let our voices be heard.

As women who are neither afraid nor ashamed of sometimes laughing at our individual foibles or of crying at the world condition, we choose to make a difference. We care. We are Soroptimists.



The Face of Soroptimist

For further information
about our service projects, refer to the
pamphlet

"Our Commitment to Service"



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Soroptimist International
of Vallejo

*Working together to improve the lives
of women and girls,
in our local community and throughout the world*