

2023-24 Personal Projects Q&A

What is a Personal Project?

A Personal Project is an individual or small-group fundraiser, designed to bring in at least \$50 per person for the club. Personal Project money goes toward club operating costs, but anything above our operating costs goes into the Community Service fund, which is what we use to fund the Live Your Dream programs.

We also use Personal Projects to introduce people to the Sorooptimist mission. When someone attends one of these mini-events, you can share with them what we do. So be sure to branch out, and include non-members in your PP.

Why the bigger push for Personal Projects this year?

We lost both of our normal fundraisers, and have to start over to build two, new, big fundraisers. Because we are getting such a late start on the fall fundraiser, we decided that emphasizing these small fundraisers could help to close the money gap. And to make it fun, Fun, FUN, we're going to inject a little friendly competition to crown a Personal Project Queen – the member who earns the most between now and June 30.

Spread the word, spread the fun!

It's instinctive to put together a PP event, and then announce it only to the club. Of course, we members want to know about these fun events, because a core of us suffers from FOMO – Fear Of Missing Out.

But budgets are limited, and we can't support everything. So we encourage you to think "beyond the club." This is a chance to introduce the Sorooptimist mission to a wider world. You'll get extra points for every non-member who participates in your PP.

Got any ideas?

Of course! Here are a few, some that have been done and some that are new ideas:

ONE-TIME EVENT IDEAS

GARAGE SALE, BOOK SALE, "ANCIENT MEDIA"

SALE: Ask your neighbors to contribute items and help you sell. Or, do it as a member group. Lori, Diane and Judy High (not pictured) used to do an



annual used book sale in a garage as their PP. It made about \$400 each time. This might still be a moneymaker, even in these digital times. Or, you might expand it to an “Ancient Media Sale” — CDs, DVDs, books, video games, etc.

PARTY: Lots of ideas for fun, unusual parties. Dinner party. Foreign Lands Appetizer Party. Martini party. Teetotaler Tasting Party. (There are some new non-alcoholic beers and wines; let’s see how good they taste; and add a mocktail or two.) Make-a-craft party. Get-a-friend-to-glide-off-the-Torrey-Pines cliffs party. (Yes, Teri Haskins did this for Dirty Deeds, Brenda Janssen was the brave soul, and about 8 of us paid \$30 each to watch!)

THEATER PARTY: Oceanside, Carlsbad and Vista have some great live theaters, and many offer a group rate. Get a block of tickets at a discounted rate, sell them at the normal rate (or more), add appetizers or desserts.

LEMONADE/COLD WATER/HOT CHOCOLATE STAND: Do you live near a golf course, or trailhead? Set up a cold (or hot) beverage stand for a few hours!

LEAD A HIKE: Plenty of people want to hike the hills in North County, but need a guide who knows the trails.

THE TRENDY RESTAURANT GATHERING: Is there a hot new restaurant in town? Talk to the owner and see if he/she would be willing to do a fixed-price menu, and stop by the table to meet everyone. You charge more than the fixed-price and donate the overage.

ONGOING PERSONAL PROJECT IDEAS (a little all year long)

AIRPORT RIDES: Drive your friends to the airport for a donation.

BAKED GOODS: Lots of people will pay for homemade baked goods, especially if it’s for a good cause. Let your friend circles know you’ll take orders for cookies, cobbler, birthday cakes, whatever is your culinary talent. Or, bake a bunch of Christmas cookies and put out the word.

RETAIL SALES: If you have a close relationship with a retail shop, arrange for an afternoon, a day, or even a day per month where a percentage of sales are donated to SIOC.

EXPERTISE: Do you have a particular skill or talent, such as gardening, organizing, or social media savvy? Let your friends know you are raising \$\$\$ for a good cause, and charge them for a consultation.