



4-8 July, 1999 XVI Soroptimist International Convention,  
Helsinki, Finland

**Friendship and Food**

by *Sherry Luz, Marysville-Yuba City Club, Sierra Nevada Region, SIA*

The Soroptimist tradition of exchanging ideas and friendship over a meal has been well exercised during the last four days. Over a wonderful lunch of salmon and salads, new friends from the Netherlands, India and the U.S. came together to discuss a handicap swimming pool in the Netherlands, building public toilets in India, breast cancer research promotion in the U.S. and how our three individual clubs are making a difference in our world. The conversation continued in our Soroptimist way to the difference in educational viewpoints to how our sons have been trained, or not, to accept our young women's progress to equality.

What an exchange in a little over an hour! How I wish more Soroptimists could have an experience such as this.