



# SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

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January 2017

[www.sitmnev.org](http://www.sitmnev.org)

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## Calendar

- Jan. 19 – Making a Difference for Women Kick-off
- Jan. 26 – Live Your Dream Award
- Jan. 26 – Sip & Social, Napa Sonoma South, 5-7 p.m.
- Feb. 1 – Making a Difference for Women, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Feb. 2 – A Retrospective of Reno history in news and photos
- Feb. 7 – Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Staybridge Suites
- Feb. 9 – Business Meeting
- Feb. 11 – District 5 Winter Meeting, Best Western Airport
- Feb. 16 – Public Awareness Committee
- Feb. 23 – Membership Committee

## SITM Meets...

**Thursdays at Noon**  
 at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa  
 Second Floor Convention Center  
 \$20 for lunch  
 RSVP to [sitmtruckeemeadows@hotmail.com](mailto:sitmtruckeemeadows@hotmail.com)  
 no later than noon on the Tuesday before the Thursday meeting.

### Soroptimist Is:

a global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.



[www.sitmnev.org](http://www.sitmnev.org)

## Happy 2017 Everyone!

What a wonderful 2016 year we all had! From the meetings to the fundraisers. What a truly wonderful 2016.

I want to first start out by thanking each and every one of you and your family and friends. Being part of such an active nonprofit takes a lot of personal time away from your businesses, family and friends. I just want to recognize all of your efforts. Each and every one of you has sacrificed for this club each and every day. Thank you all for the



*Fundraising Co-Coordinators Penney Leezy and Barbara Atwell prepare to draw the winning ticket from the 50/50 Raffle. For a recap of the total raised and the winning ticket, see page 2.*

countless hours you have all, so selflessly given.

January and the New Year, marks a new beginning. There are new people to meet, new foods and wine to be tried, new adventures to explore and new memories to create. I encourage you all to let go of the past, focus on the future and make your wildest dreams come true in 2017!

From my family to yours, we wish you all the very best in 2017!

President Jennifer



## A Reminder About Meeting Reservations

The Attendance Committee would like to remind members, if you are unable to attend a meeting, send an email to the Attendance Committee at [sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com](mailto:sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com) no later than noon, on Tuesday before the meeting.

- If you wish to bring a guest, please notify the Attendance Committee at [sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com](mailto:sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com) no later than noon on Tuesday before the meeting.
- For special meetings like Women's Scholarships or Thanks to Youth, the deadline is no later than noon on the Monday before the meeting.

Failure to notify the Attendance Committee means that you will be charged for the luncheon at the usual cost.

## Holiday Social Highlights and 50/50 Raffle Recap

Holiday sweaters, a guessing game and the wrap-up to the 50/50 Raffle were all highlights of SITM's December 15 Holiday Social.

Members dressed in their most festive, or most hilarious, sweaters to be judged as best sweater. Because they "looked so hot", Patty Downs and Carmela Cipollina were the winners, receiving a Santa hand-held fan and Santa candy.



Enjoying lunch and celebrating the holiday were, from top clockwise, Millie Mitchell, Kay Dunham, Chris Fegert, Penney Leezy, her sister Linda Webber, Jo Ann Roberts, Paula Ringkob and Carmela Cipollina.



Christy Clark was the seller of the winning ticket in the 50/50 Raffle.

Members at each table were presented with a Christmas Stocking each filled with the same 10 items and asked to "feel" the items and guess the contents. (The contents were a candy cane, jingle bell, cookie cutter, pen, ornament, battery, a quarter, scissors, tape, and gift bow.). The winning table guessed nine of the 10 items and was awarded with sweet treats of Snow Top Toblerone chocolates.

The winning ticket for the 50/50 Raffle was drawn by Fundraising Co-Coordinator Barbara Atwell and Penney Leezy. The raffle drive was begun in September and members sold tickets to grow "the pot" to \$6,055. The winning ticket was sold by Christy Clark to Gunther Prossor, her sister-in-law's father. Christy called him during the meeting and when he didn't believe her, she put the phone on speaker so all of the members could shout

their congratulations. Mr. Prossor collected \$3,027.50.

Members also took the opportunity to bring in toiletries for girls who are clients of the Nevada Youth Empowerment Project NYEP supports the unsupported youth in our community, who have "aged out" of the foster care system and helps them prepare for self-sufficiency.



Patty Mamola takes her turn guessing what's in the stocking, while Enid Oliver looks on.



Wearing their "hot" sweaters are Patty Downs and Carmela Cipollina.



Margie Hermanson, Jean Neddenriep and Monica House.

Holiday Social..Continued from page 2

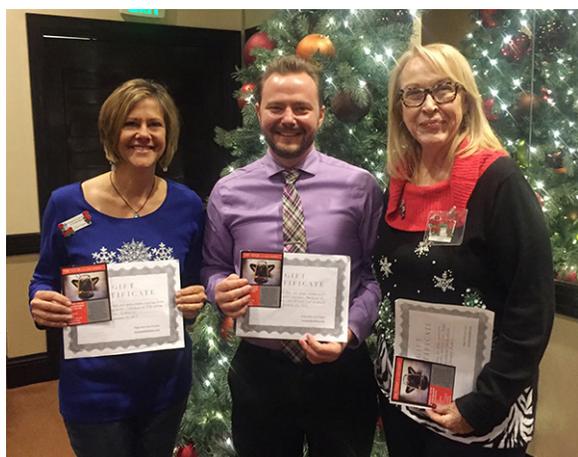


Some of the toiletries donated by members for the girls supported through the Nevada Youth Empowerment Project (NYEP).



### Unfinished Christmas Business

Members of the Education-Youth Committee, Shirley George and Connie Steinheimer delivered 30 gifts to Hunter Lake Elementary School for CIT (Children in Transition) children and some of their siblings. The gifts were purchased by SITM members and the committee did all of the wrapping. Thank you members for the donations and your time to festively wrap the gifts.



Door prize drawing winners who received some free yoga classes were, from left, Christ Fegert, and Enid Oliver to the right. In the center is Enid's colleague Andrew Roref.

Vice President-Technical Barbara Atwell and President-Elect Rikki Hensley-Ricker



With so many members wearing their "hot" sweaters, a panoramic camera was needed.

## Don't Miss the February 2 Meeting A Retrospective of News and Feature Photos over the Past 50 Years

Whether you grew up in the area, or you are a newbie to the Truckee Meadows, you will want to attend the February 2 meeting and bring a guest.

Marilyn Newton has been covering the area for the past five decades as a journalist and photographer for the Reno Gazette-Journal. Her award-winning work is almost as fascinating as the news and events she has covered from 1963 to present.

Fires, floods, politics, new developments, and a cast

of the area's "characters" are all included in her photos and commentary in "A Retrospective of News and Feature Photos over the Past 50 Years".

Come and see how much the Reno area has changed or stayed the same through the camera lens and the observations of this pioneering woman.



Marilyn Newton

## Meet Our Live Your Dream Awardee at the January 26 Meeting

By Pam Robinson, Education-Women Co-Coordinator

A very deserving woman will receive the SITM Live Your Dream Award at our January 26 meeting. The Education Women Committee received several amazing applications, and you will be excited to hear about the young woman we are honoring. We will be awarding \$1,250 to her. Her information has already been forwarded to the Sierra Nevada Region for further consideration.

their education or receive training, and was formerly known as the Women's Opportunity Award.

**The Education-Women Committee is now currently seeking applicants for our undergraduate and graduate scholarships with a deadline of February 15.**

Be sure to bring a guest to this memorable presentation on January 26!



Dear SITM Members:

I would like to thank you for your ongoing interest and support of Northern Nevada HOPES. Through the generosity of this community, we are able to provide quality healthcare services to medically underserved children, families and individuals. For this we are grateful.

HOPES, which started nearly 20 years ago as northern Nevada's only comprehensive HIV clinic, has evolved into one of our regions only true community health centers. Thanks to your generosity, HOPES opened The Stacie Mathewson Community Wellness Center – a 38,000 square foot medical facility that has enabled us to increase patient capacity from 4,500 patients to almost 7,000 in just the first eight months and 10,000 individuals by 2017.

*The letter continues on to explain the beginnings and history of HOPES.*

Thank you for your generous support.

Sharon Chamberlain  
Chief Executive Officer

*(For a complete copy of the letter and HOPES annual report, see Corresponding Secretary Jeanne Naccarato)*



Our guest speaker will be Arthi Sachdev, a previous Nancy Gomes/Mary Gojack/Sue Camp scholarship winner who graduated just last month from UNR with a major in business marketing. She has a strong interest in helping women affected by abuse and preventing human trafficking.

The Live Your Dream Award is given to women who serve as the primary wage earners for their families and seek financial assistance to continue

### Corrected Contact Info for Georgia Baker-Flambures

Last month, this newsletter published a new address for member Georgia Baker-Flambures, who recently retired and moved with husband Jon to Arizona. The address was incorrect (it was missing a digit). Here is the correct address. Georgia recently had an accident where she tripped and fell and broke her jaw.

Georgia Baker-Flambures  
20100 N. 264th Drive  
Buckeye, AZ 85396  
[gabake@aol.com](mailto:gabake@aol.com)

## Making a Difference for Women Seeks Volunteers for February 1 Event

SITM's annual Making a Difference for Women skills training seminar will be held this year on Wednesday, February 1. The timing of the event was changed from a Saturday to a Wednesday to better accommodate the participants' needs and availability of childcare and transportation.

The seminar will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa.

Members are asked to volunteer time, even if you can't stay all day, to help stage the event for our guests and make it an educational and memorable day for them.

Volunteers are needed for (but not limited to):

- Setting up the Clothes Closet in the morning
- Staffing the closet in the afternoon
- Packing and hauling any left-overs
- Morning registration
- Group Leaders for participants
- Interviewers for the Mock Interviews
- Attending and mentoring at the luncheon
- Models for the Fashion Show

Co-Coordinators Rikki Hensley-Ricker and Jeanne Naccarato will have sign-up sheets at the upcoming meetings. If you can volunteer even

a few hours during the day, your time is appreciated.

Thank you for your support!

### MADFW is February 1 Drop off clothes at Ethan Allen

The Making a Difference for Women skills training seminar is scheduled for Wednesday, February 1 and your gently used clothing, shoes and accessories, appropriate for work, are needed for the Clothes Closet at the end of the event.

Once again Jeanne Baxter has graciously offered storage space at Ethan Allen. Drop off your donations at Ethan Allen (located at 9065 S. Virginia Street, Reno).

**Donation Hours:** Tuesday – Saturday;  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Donation Drop Off:** Near the flagpole and be sure you mention the donation is for Making a Difference. Check in at reception if you need assistance.

**\*\*Please mark the size(s) on the clothing items and provide hangers to allow for easy storage and transportation.**



## Girls Moving Forward Project Focuses on Gender Discrimination

### Friendship Link Club SI/Punè Metro East

By Monica House, IGU Committee Co-Coordinator

SI/Punè Metro East recently participated in the 16 days of activism against gender violence. This is an international campaign that starts on November 25, International Day Against Violence Against Women and goes through December 10, International Human Rights Day. Every year during this time, Soroptimist and other organizations worldwide join together to raise awareness and take action to end violence against women and girls.

This past year SIPME held a workshop for the girls in their Girls

Moving Forward Project on finance and entrepreneurship. During the workshop they talked about gender discrimination in the work force. Gender discrimination includes physical, sexual, emotional and economic violence, unequal resource distribution and unequal decision-making power.

The purpose of including this in the workshop was to create an awareness for these young girls from low economic backgrounds –

advocating their right to be free from violence and gender discrimination.



Girls participating in SI/Punè Metro East's Girls Moving Forward program attend classes on gender discrimination.

**Member Profile - Annette Friedlander****A Lifelong Teacher Who is Still Engaged**

By Annette Friedlander

Hi, Everyone. My name is Annette Friedlander, and I am so proud to be a member of this wonderful Soroptimist organization. I have a wonderful brother, Stanley, who is five years my senior. We recently traveled with him and his wife on a trip to Hawaii. No one could have a more wonderful brother. When we were little, he took me everywhere and even bought me a bike with his paper route money.

I was born in Los Angeles where I met Sandy, my wonderful husband of fifty-four years. We have three wonderful children. Two, along with their spouses and children, live in Reno. My youngest lives in Los Angeles with her husband and two dogs. I have three grandchildren. The oldest, Laura, attends UNR. Her sister, Jamie, is a junior at Galena and is currently the drum major of the band. My youngest, Justin, is playing freshman basketball at Bishop Minogue.

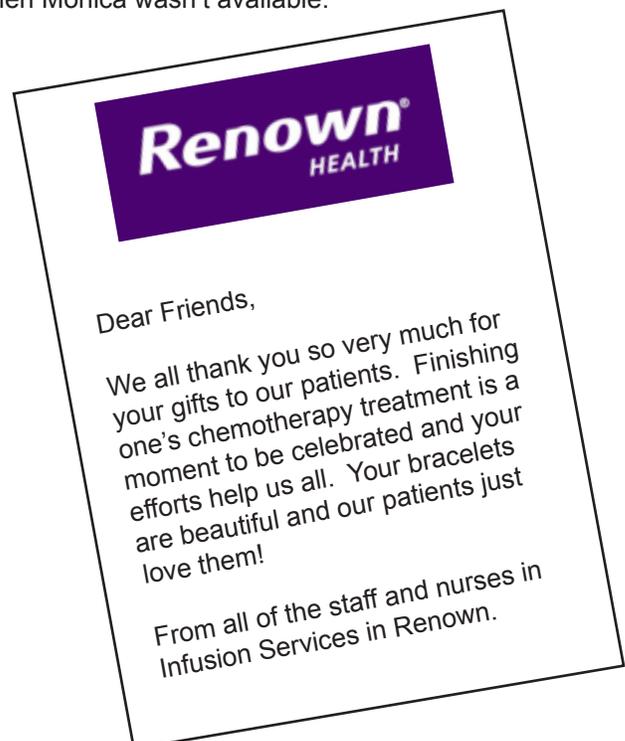
It seems that I have been a teacher my whole life. I first taught kindergarten and then every grade in elementary school. I loved third grade the most. I am currently working part time as the drama teacher at Brookfield School. It is so much fun doing musicals and watching the children shine.

I am thrilled to be a member of Soroptimists because of all the wonderful things they do. I attended the "Thanks to Youth" luncheon last year and cried my eyes out.

*Annette and Sandy Friedlander*

Working at the garage sales for IGU and wrapping presents for Thanks to Youth gives me so much pleasure. Everyone has been so warm, friendly, and welcoming. I look forward to helping women and getting to know all of the members. Many thanks to Monica for bringing me to meetings and being my sponsor. Thanks also to Penney who filled in when Monica wasn't available.

*The Friedlander Family, from left, son Dr. Steve Friedlander, Annette, Billie (Sandy's older brother) and husband Sandy Friedlander.*



## January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Month

*January 11 was National Human Trafficking Awareness Day*

By Doris Phelps, Human Rights/Status of Women Coordinator

Human trafficking is an issue on the world stage and is given voice through the United Nations with the UN Office on Drugs & Crime as well as through the UN Human Rights Council (which will meet soon for its 34<sup>th</sup> Session, February 27-March 24).

In the United States, the federal government has taken action in this past decade by signing two major proclamations which have been amended and re-authorized each year since first adopted. In 2007, the U.S. Senate designated January 11 as National Human Rights Awareness Day. Beginning in 2010, by Presidential Proclamation, each January has been designated as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Month. In addition, the Victims of Trafficking & Violence Protection Act was adopted in 2000 and the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act was adopted in 2014.

In observance of these special dates, the Human Rights/Status of Women Committee hosted guest speaker Kelly Ranasinghe, J.D., Senior Program Attorney with the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) on January 5. Kelly is also lead attorney on the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Child Sex Trafficking. He trains others extensively in combating commercial sexual exploitation of children and domestic violence, including teen dating violence.

This month, NCJFCJ is publishing a series of blogs authored by experts on domestic child sex trafficking. The series is in honor of Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Kelly and NCJFCJ has asked Soroptimist to promote the series to members and to others through social media, Facebook, Twitter or via E-mail. here: <http://www.ncjfcj.org/Judges-Perspective-Working-with-DCST-Victims>

### How Can Courts Help Child Sex Trafficking Victims?

By Kelly Ranasinghe, JD

Victims of child sex trafficking are one of the most marginalized populations in the justice system. Every year, hundreds of child sexual assault victims run the risk of being arrested, locked up, and prosecuted because they are commercially sexually exploited, and forced into prostitution.

January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, a time to reflect on the realities for victims of sex trafficking. The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), which celebrates its 80th anniversary this year, has been steadfast in its position that victims of child sex trafficking should never be prosecuted for their own victimization. To quote Rights4Girls, a national organization working to end sex trafficking and gender-based violence, "There is no such thing as a child prostitute."

Criminalizing children for their own exploitation is illogical and self-defeating. For centuries, prostitution has masked rampant sexual violence perpetrated against women and girls. The stigma of criminalization prevented victims from coming forward about abuse and provided an advantageous situation for exploiters. Traffickers capitalize on women and children who are young, disabled, addicted, gender non-conforming, impoverished or members of a community of color. All of these traits create unjust barriers to accessing court remedies. Victims also face an uncertain reception from law enforcement who may be untrained in trauma or trafficking dynamics. Victims risk violent reprisal from their exploiter and face the stigma of sexual victimization when disclosing in small or rural communities. In short, the system has always been stacked against the victim and in favor of the exploiter.

In Nevada, where approximately 80 percent of the state is rural, programs that assist survivors are few and overburdened. In Washoe County, Awaken is an organization specifically dedicated to survivors of sex trafficking. But in rural areas survivors may be forced into a Hobson's Choice of disclosure – "Reveal your sexual victimization to everyone, or get no services," an inequality that drives victims back to their exploiter and sends the message that disclosure is not beneficial or rational. More courts are recognizing that this cannot continue. This is why the NCJFCJ works to train judges to create systems that allow victims to disclose safely, and access holistic support from the moment they contact the court system. Trauma sensitive services, wraparound programs, housing support and immigration advocacy are all part and parcel of the best judicial response programs. This wide range of help only exists because the juvenile court can consolidate and organize services.

For more information on specialized trafficking courts, visit [www.ncjfcj.org](http://www.ncjfcj.org). To learn how you can join the fight against sex trafficking, visit [Rights4Girls.org](http://Rights4Girls.org).

*Kelly Ranasinghe is a senior program attorney for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, based in Reno.*

## December Board & Business Recap

By Faye I. Andersen

**Editor's Note:** The following contains discussion and reports of the SITM Board at their January 10 meeting. The Business Meeting was canceled on January 12, due to snow and winter driving conditions.

### Meeting Cancellation Reminder

The Attendance Committee would like to remind members, if you are unable to attend a meeting, or wish to bring a guest, please send an email to the Attendance Committee at [sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com](mailto:sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com) no later than noon, on Tuesday before the meeting. Failure to notify the Attendance Committee of your absence in a timely manner means that you will be charged for the luncheon at the usual cost.

### Sip & Social Gathering After Work on January 26

Celebrate the start of the New Year with your fellow Soroptimists and friends at a "Sip & Social" on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at Napa Sonoma South, 7671 S Virginia St in Reno. Sign-up sheets will be made available at club meetings, or contact Vivian Ruiz at 775-686-8778 to RSVP. See page 1 for more details.

### Making a Difference for Women set for February 1

Making a Difference for Women is coming up quickly and will be held on Wednesday, February 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The committee is seeking volunteers to work the day of the event, even if you can only donate a couple of hours. They are also looking for your gently-used work attire to contribute to the Clothes Closet. See the complete story on page 5. Contact Co-Coordinators

Rikki Hensley-Ricker or Jeanne Naccarato for more information or to volunteer.

### District 5 Winter Meeting Set for February 11

District 5 Director Sarah Carrasco has announced that the District Winter Council Meeting will take place on Saturday, February 11 at the Best Western Airport in Reno. SI/Washoe County will host the meeting, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The meeting will include Round Table discussions on the SIA Program, Dream it Be it, and a discussion of human trafficking issues, to see if they could lend themselves to a district-wide effort. Watch for more program details to learn how to register.

### Money Matters

Some \$200 was donated during December Happy Dollars for the Soroptimist International President's December 10<sup>th</sup> Appeal. That was added to a \$100 budgeted donation for this annual appeal. Happy Dollars for January are designated for the Sierra Stickers group to buy material and other supplies. Several of our members are "stitchers" in this group.

Due to the last minute scramble for Air Race calendars, it looks like final sales from calendar sales and artwork sales by artist Dan Whitkoff at the Reno Air Races will net \$4,276.

### Membership Changes

The Board approved an extended leave of absence for Teresa Mentzer through 2017 for travel and personal reasons.

## How to Raise Funds for SITM Without Really Trying

We should be receiving our first quarterly check from the Smith's Community Rewards program. The four participating families have earned us \$13.06 by shopping at Smith's. Thank you to all who are participating.



Sign-up by visiting [www.SmithsCommunityRewards.com](http://www.SmithsCommunityRewards.com). Create an account and designate SITM. Our organization number is #17204, or search "Sor" to find SITM. Swipe your Smith's card each time you shop.

If you do not have a Smiths Rewards Card, they are available in store at the service desk and there is no charge. SITM will receive 3% of all eligible purchases.



Sign up at [www.escrip.com/shares/](http://www.escrip.com/shares/) with your email, your 10-digit phone number and create a password. Then designate SITM as your chosen charity. Our group ID number is 500825778. SITM can earn up to 3% back on qualified purchases at Save Mart Supermarkets (excluding items like alcohol, tobacco and milk).



Shop at AmazonSmile. Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). You can use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, select SITM to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.



Register for eScrip + Benefits at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) and download the Benefits App to your mobile phone. Link your app to your credit card or bank account and pay for your purchases, in person and online, using the app (instead of an individual credit or debit card). When you sign up, select SITM as your favorite nonprofit and the club will receive a percentage of your purchase, depending upon the merchant. Lists of participating merchants can be found on [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com).

# SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



**President Jennifer Burnitt**  
[sitmjn@gmail.com](mailto:sitmjen@gmail.com)

**Editor Faye I. Andersen**  
[fia@pyramid.net](mailto:fia@pyramid.net) or  
775-358-5149 or 432-5822

### Contributing to this issue

- Jo Ann Roberts
- Jennifer Burnitt
- Niki Ewing
- Doris Phelps
- Monica House
- Vivian Ruiz
- Connie Steinheimer
- Pam Robinson
- Annette Friedlander

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows  
P.O. Box 20125 • Reno, NV 89515  
[www.sitmnev.org](http://www.sitmnev.org)

**Board Meets monthly on Tuesday**  
following the first Thursday, 5:30 p.m.  
Staybridge Suites  
10559 Professional Circle, Reno

### SITM Board 2016-17

- President  
Jennifer Burnitt
- President – Elect  
Rikki Hensley-Ricker
- VP/Technical  
Barbara Atwell
- VP/Service  
Alysia Peters
- Recording Secretary  
Doris Phelps
- Corresponding Secretary  
Jeanne Naccarato

- Treasurer/General Fund  
Anna McArdle
- Treasurer/Service Fund  
Kay Dunham
- Director, 2 Years  
Vivian Ruiz
- Director, 1 Year  
Pam Sutton
- Delegate  
Bev Perkins
- Alternate Delegate  
Lynne Catrow
- Parliamentarian  
Margie Hermanson



For information about our organization, check out these Soroptimist Websites:

- Sierra Nevada Region: [www.soroptimistsnr.org](http://www.soroptimistsnr.org)
- Soroptimist International of the Americas: [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)
- Soroptimist International: [www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org)



## Did you know . . .

Reprinted from Soroptimist International of the Americas



# SOROPTIMIST

## Moving Forward in FY15/16

### EMPOWERING WOMEN & GIRLS THROUGH OUR ACCESS TO EDUCATION DREAM PROGRAMS

#### LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARDS

- **1,355 deserving women** received an award (+5%)
- **\$1.9 million** in education grants was disbursed through the program (+7%)
- **82%** of recipients who completed their education increased their standard of living
- **81%** club participation rate (+3%)



#### DREAM IT, BE IT

- **8,634** girls participated
- **80%** said they have the tools to overcome obstacles to their success
- **87%** feel more prepared to pursue their career goals
- **24,825** volunteer hours by clubs (+27%)

