



SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

Volume 22 • Issue 9

March 2017

www.sitmnev.org

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Calendar

- March 16 – Dr. Purna Subedi Update on Nepal Project
- March 23 – Finance/Governance Committee
- March 30 – Fundraising Committee
- April 6 – Thanks to Youth Kickoff
- April 11 – Board meeting, 5:30 p.m., Staybridge Suites
- April 13 – Business Meeting
- April 20 – Economic & Social Development
- April 27 – Women’s Scholarship Luncheon

SITM Meets...

Thursdays at Noon

at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa
 Second Floor Convention Center
 \$20 for lunch
 RSVP to 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.



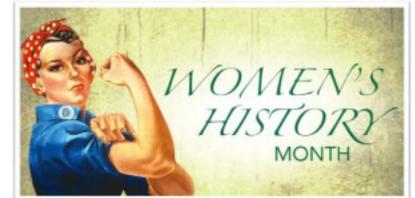
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March is Women’s History Month



With the days getting longer and springtime just around the corner we leap into March with a renewed sense of excitement! The snow is finally melting and we are seeing a glimpse of what this fresh new year has to offer. Your energetic and spirited natures never cease to amaze me. This March, I encourage you all to dance to your own rhythm, ebb to your own flow, shine bright and let your spirit roar with the passion that each as every one of us makes our own history within this and other like organizations. I thank you all for the hard work and dedication you have shown to SITM and each other.

President Jennifer Burnitt



Dr. Purna Subedi to Speak March 16

The International Goodwill and Understanding (IGU) Committee reminds members of a special presentation to be made March 16. Dr. Purna Subedi will present an update on the Nepal project our club has been involved with for the last 17 years. This update will bring new insight into the difference we are making in this region of the world -- one young women at a time.

Dr. Subedi has prepared a presentation that includes new photographs and exciting news of the future for women in Thulipokhari, Nepal.

Please attend and consider bringing guests. It will be a wonderful time for you to share with your friends and co-workers what SITM is doing in the area of international service.

Another Way to Raise Funds for SITM

Fundraising Co-Coordinators Barbara Atwell and Penney Leezy show off the beautiful quilt crafted by Jan Bogikes that might be yours, if you buy a raffle ticket for \$5, or five tickets for \$20. Penney and Barbara will be selling tickets at the Thursday meetings and during the upcoming Sierra Nevada Region Conference at the Atlantis. Your help is needed April 28 & 29 in the Market Place to staff STM’s sales table at conference. Sign-up sheets for shifts will be circulating at meetings. You don’t have to be an official attendee at conference to staff the sales table.



Slate of 2017-2018 Officers for Election Announced

Thank you to the following members who have agreed to stand for election to the following offices for the 2017-2018 Club Year. You are all admirable for wanting to be a part of the leadership team for SITM. The election will take place at the April 13 Business Meeting.

President-Elect

Jeanne Naccarato

Vice President, Service

Barbara Atwell

Penney Leezy

Vice President, Technical

Harmony Hobbs

Dot Watts

Corresponding Secretary

Carol Dinneen

Recording Secretary

Patty Mamola

Treasurer/Service Fund**

Delegate

Valerie Hahn

Alternate Delegate

Moshay Akala

The following officers are completing a multi-year term of office.

President: Rikki Hensley-Ricker

Treasurer/General Fund: Anna McArdle

Director, 2 years: Jennifer Burnitt

Director, 1 Year: Vivian Ruiz

** The Treasurer/Service Fund position has no candidates. The Governance Committee is meeting to consider a change in Club Bylaws and/or a reorganization of the office to facilitate a willing member in this office.

Election of officers will commence at the April 13 Business Meeting. Nominations for any office may be made from the floor, with the candidate's willingness and a short bio from the candidate.

If you will not be attending the April 13 Business Meeting, you may vote by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are available from Coordinator Faye I. Andersen, along with instructions on how to submit them to her at: 2398 Valencia Way, Sparks, NV 89434

Thanks to Nominating Committee Coordinator Faye I. Andersen and members Jeanne Naccarato and Dot Watts, for their work to bring this slate forward for election.



SAVE THE DATE

Save the Date, April 27 for a 75th Celebration of Soroptimist International of Reno. SITM's chartering club is celebrating their 75th Anniversary on Thursday April 27 from 5-7 p.m. Location is tentatively set for the Atlantis and further details are to come. So, put this on your calendar and come recognize our "mother club" and celebrate their milestone.

Public Awareness for Nonprofit Organizations

The Public Awareness Committee hosted KOLO-TV-8 Anchor Sarah Johns and Digital Sales Director Ashley Fritsche at the February 16 meeting. The pair spoke about public awareness and promotion and why it's important for nonprofit organizations. They outlined their KOLO-Cares program connecting the community with nonprofit organizations and events.



*KOLO-TV-8 Anchor
Sarah Johns*



*Ashley Fritsche KOLO-TV-8
Digital Sales Director*

Two Federation Programs Highlighted at District 5 Winter Council

Excerpted from the Delegate's Report by Margie Hermanson

Ten SITM members attended the District 5 Winter Council Meeting on February 11 in Reno. Members Jo Ann Lessly and Patty Mamola were among the 12 "first time attendees" at the meeting, presided by District Director Sarah Carrasco and attended by Sierra Nevada Region Governor Vicki Watson and Governor-Elect Lane Parks.

Melissa Holland, Executive Director of Awaken spoke about the organization's hope to purchase a home for their clients. Awaken is a community organization raising awareness and working to end sex trafficking. The organization is also looking for a full time Program Director.

Amie Laughlin, Immediate Past President of SI Washoe County was introduced as the new Anti-Trafficking Advocate for Nevada. She will join Joanne Tremelling, who is the Sierra Nevada Region Anti-Trafficking Coordinator. Joanne has concentrated her efforts in California and now it is hoped that Amie can do the same for Nevada. The region is also looking for a Soroptimist to do

the same thing in the Las Vegas area.

Director Sarah gave some brief information on services that are available in Nevada. However, there is no task force in the Reno area to help with the anti-trafficking effort. The small amounts of funds that are available are usually delegated to southern Nevada. There are currently bills in the Legislature to help victims that are in an emergency situation.

Director Sarah mentioned that Renown Medical Center has done some training for their staff to recognize when someone comes in that may be in a traffic situation. A general discussion was held on what the clubs can do to promote awareness of this horrific problem.

Discussion after lunch centered on the DREAM IT BE IT program and projects several clubs have undertaken. Patty Mamola gave a brief rundown of SITM's proposed new project to promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education to elementary school girls.



Jo Ann Lessly and Patty Mamola were recognized as First Time Attendees.

Director Sarah made the following announcements and reminders:

- District 5 is 100% for club participation in the Live Your Dream program.
- She reminded clubs to have members take the Fellowship Survey that was emailed out in the SNR E-Blast.
- Members' assistance is needed for different jobs at the SNR Conference in April. Think about volunteering.



Ten SITM members attended and participated in the District 5 Winter Council on February 11 in Reno. Seated from left are Jo Ann Roberts, Patty Mamola and Carmela Cipollina. Standing from left are Margie Hermanson, Faye Andersen, Doris Phelps, Jo Ann Lessly, Penney Leezy, Kay Dunham' and Rikki Hensley-Ricker.

Inspiring Messages from Three Ruby Award Recipients

Three amazing women were honored at the March 2 meeting as SITM's recipients of the Soroptimist Ruby Award: for Women Helping Women. The Human Rights/Status of Women

Committee Coordinator Doris Phelps superbly outlined the award and briefly introduced each recipient before inviting nominators to come forward to speak of their nominees.

Sherri Rice was nominated by Katy Simon Holland, a former SITM member. Sherri has dedicated her entire career to helping women and families. Early in her career, she ran the Mammography Center and was instrumental in advocating for federal policy changes to enable mammograms to be federally funded for low-income women. She directed the YWCA and led the organization through its transition to become the Evelyn Mount Community Center. Sherri founded the highly successful Access to Healthcare Network. This organization has become a national model for giving low-income women and families the opportunity to receive



Doris Phelps presents a check to Karen Carey, SITM's Ruby Award recipient, for the Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCEDSV).

Each recipient received a framed award certificate and a check for \$250 payable to each recipient's nonprofit organization.

Karen S. Carey was nominated by Sue Meuschke, the Executive Director of the Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCEDSV). Karen is currently President of the Board of Directors for NCEDSV. She has worked to end partner violence, sexual assault and child abuse in Nevada for nearly 30 years. Her career has taken her from Las Vegas to Douglas County and Lake Tahoe. She has served on numerous local and state boards, commissions and task



Sherri Rice, founder and president of the highly successful Access to Healthcare Network is one of this year's Ruby Award recipients.

Committee solicited nominations for the award from members and local organizations.

forces. Since retiring last year she has formed her own consulting business to provide coaching and consultation from her years of experience.

The Ruby Award honors deserving women in our community who have made a significant difference for women and girls throughout their business or profession, community or personal and volunteer contributions. These women serve to inspire and encourage other women to explore and act upon ways to assist women and girls. The award is named for Ruby Lee Minar, the first Soroptimist Federation President in 1928.



Sue Meuschke, Executive Director of NCEDSV, outlines Karen Carey's work to end partner violence, sexual assault and child abuse in Nevada.

Karen Carey's nomination has been forwarded to the Sierra Nevada Region for consideration for the Region Ruby Award to be presented at the annual Region Conference April 28-30. Her work

closely aligns with the region's focus on sexual exploitation, violence and trafficking of women and girls.

the highest quality healthcare services at a discounted rate. Sherri is a former member of SITM.

Barbara Pinocchio was nominated by Jo Ann Roberts. Barbara and her husband J.P Pinocchio are the founding members of Moms on the Run, founded after the death of Barbara's sister from cancer. Funds raised through Moms on the Run help cover the everyday living expenses of northern Nevada families enduring the

Ruby Awards..Continued from page 4



Katy Simon Holland, a former member of SITM speaks about Sherri Rice's accomplishments in or community.

hardships caused by catastrophic circumstances, with a primary focus on assisting individuals with breast and gynecological cancers. More than 98% of the money raised goes directly to local women to pay for their financial needs while they are in treatment. Funds are also raised through Runway for Life, a wine luncheon, silent auction and fashion show; also Ride for the Tatas, a motorcycle poker run featuring fun stops, prizes and a dinner party.

Committee member Pam Sutton also presented information about International Women's Day, March 8.

Pam stated that the first International Women's Day was held in the U.S. in 1909. Although the principle of equality between women and men was a part of the original Charter of the United Nations signed in 1945, the UN only began celebrating International Women's Day in 1975. With support from the UN, International Women's Day has become an internationally recognized platform celebrated worldwide to promote fundamental human rights initiatives for women. The 2017 theme for International Women's Day



Jo Ann Roberts details the generosity and incredible efforts of Barbara Pinocchio's event fundraising which helps Nevada families cover everyday living expenses caused by catastrophic circumstances, primarily focused on individuals with breast and gynecological cancers.

is "Women in the Changing World of Work: Planet 50-50 by 2030."

The program concluded with committee member Lynn Robins' reading of the poem, "Imagine a Women" by Patricia Lynn Reilly. The poem was printed on bookmarks for each luncheon attendee.



The Soroptimist Ruby Award recipients, along with their nominators are from left, Sue Meuschke, Karen Carey, Sherri Rice, Katy Simon Holland, Jo Ann Roberts and Barbara Pinocchio.



A thank you letter from Sue Meuscke, Executive Director of the Nevada Coalition to END Domestic and Sexual Violence for the \$250 donation in the name of Ruby Award recipient Karen Carey.

Dear SITM:

Thank you for your recent donation to NCEDSV. This gift specifically, and the overall support of people like you, are what make it possible for us to continue to meet our mission to be the statewide voice advocating for the prevention and elimination of domestic and sexual violence through partnering with communities.

Last year alone, we administered more than one million dollars in assistance to fund shelters, hotlines and support services. During that time, service programs responded to over 63,000 contacts from victims of domestic violence across Nevada. Thank you again for your contribution to help us continue this important work!

A thank you note from Lisa Perryman, SITM's Live Your Dream 2017 Recipient of \$750

Dear Women of Soroptimist,

Words cannot describe how grateful I am for each and every one of you. Each one of you has made a dramatic difference in my and my son's life through your trust and support. I really appreciate you spending your time and sharing your experiences and wisdom. I will do my best in the days ahead to make all of you proud of my accomplishments. Thank you.

Member Feature – Patty Mamola

A Lifetime of Firsts for This Member

By Faye I. Andersen

As SITM members alternately grumble and marvel at this winter's record-breaking snow and rainfall, it's nothing compared to where new member Patty Mamola grew up and attended school in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Patty was inducted as a new member in August 2016 and has already had an impact on SITM and its members. But, that's nothing new for Patty.

She graduated college with a degree in civil engineering, at a time when few women were studying in the field, and even fewer graduated. (In the 1980s only 5.8% of engineers in the U.S. were women.) Heading to school with an art scholarship, she soon decided that engineering was more interesting. Her sophomore year was pivotal, after one of her professors encouraged her to pursue a field different from engineering. Her resolve for engineering was set. It led to a personal philosophy for Patty of, "You shouldn't judge other people." Today, it's hard not to point out that Patty's professional pursuits, achievements and contributions to the field of engineering have far exceeded that critical professor's career.



Patty's three children--Brandon, Kari, and Jennifer--supporting Mom at a national engineering conference in San Antonio, TX.

After graduation she applied for and was granted a rotational engineering position with the Nevada Department of Transportation offered to outstanding engineering students around the county. "I packed up my bean bag chair, my bed and TV and headed out for Nevada," Patty said of her nearly 2,000 mile trip. The job helped her get a taste of the different departments at NDOT.

Her 14 year tenure with NDOT, eight of which were in Las Vegas, propelled her to become the first woman resident engineer with the agency and first woman to head the operations division for the agency. At one point, being the first, she said, "It made my life

miserable, but I learned great skills to overcome."

Very few women go into construction engineering, according to Patty, but her tenure in Las Vegas included major work on Interstate 15 and US95, plus construction of the Blue Diamond Road between Las Vegas and Pahrump. She has served nine years on the Nevada State Board of Professional Engineering and Land Surveyors, twice serving as chair. Her work and state roles eventually led her into a seat on the National Council of Engineers and Surveyors. Patty served as its' first female president in the 94 years of its existence.

Leaving NDOT, Patty took up the position of western region Construction Services Manager, covering the western U.S. for a large national engineering firm, another first for this woman. It would eventually lead her and a partner to open their own private engineering firm, taking on contractual and new work for cities, counties and the state.



Patty with her daughters Jennifer and Kari enjoying their favorite family sport at Mt Rose Ski Resort.

"I was a single mother and sometimes it was hard to balance the work and kids, but having my own firm gave me more flexibility," Patty says about raising her son and

[Continued on page 7](#)

Member Feature - cont. from page 6

two daughters. "We all love to ski and my kids grew up on Mount Rose," Patty reminisced. Twenty-six-year-old daughter Kari is moving back to Reno from New Zealand in April. She also has a 24-year-old son, Brandon serving in the Nevada Army Guard in Kuwait with the Customs and Border Patrol. Her 20-year-old daughter Jennifer is moving soon to Las Vegas to attend school.

Flexibility was also key in fulfilling her duties on state and national engineering governance boards, which sometimes required as many as 200 days per year traveling. She also took up running, completing 10 marathons and 12 triathlons. Eventually the physical stress coupled with the mental stress took a toll on her health, but she hopes to be able to get back to it or something similar soon.

Today, Patty is Deputy Chair of the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) – Engineer Coordinating Committee, which works to establish and enforce engineering standards worldwide and facilitate the mobility of engineers among cooperative countries.

She accepted her current position as Executive Director of the Nevada State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors last June. In need of financial services, she rekindled her relationship with Kay Dunham. "Kay was always telling me about Soroptimist projects," said Patty. "I do a lot of work for nonprofit professional organizations, but I wanted to do something for the community." Within weeks she started "dating" with the club, as she calls it, checking out SITM, our members and meetings. It was a match.

Patty is most excited about the member's acceptance and excitement over her recent proposal to form an ad hoc committee to develop a program of STEM education for at-risk girls at Hunter Lake Elementary School. She reports it is going well and the committee is meeting with Hunter Lake Principal Amanda McWilliams this month.

Getting girls into science and math professions has been a very personal and lifelong passion for Patty. As the first woman to work, manage and lead in many engineering positions herself, she's a walking role model for girls who want to follow in her footsteps.

Membership Message: How to Build and Support Leaders

By Kay Dunham, Membership Co-Coordinator

Recently the Membership Committee held an exercise with our club members to discuss how to build and support leaders. The discussion was lively with many fantastic ideas offered.

Building Leaders:

Delegate responsibility to committee members and board members; lead by example – be positive, encouraging and kind; mentoring – build on each individual's strengths; start with small tasks – baby steps – use co-coordinators as a training experience; encourage and build confidence; hold a leadership workshop; no cliques! Encourage open discussion, see the bigger picture, use careful language; give new leaders positive feedback and the tools to do the task; take a new member to a board meeting.

Supporting our new leaders is the important next step. Our members had many excellent suggestions

including a hilarious "how not to" segment!

Show respect, celebrate micro-wins, ask if they need help, bring solutions to problems, be careful to not criticize and complain, volunteer to help and actually help, share information, praise a job well done, provide a committee "binder" to pass to the next coordinator, say "Thank You", provide a positive safety net.

How "not" to support our leaders:

Sabotage at every turn
Never miss a chance to gossip
When you are asked – say NO
Block your email and never respond in time
Don't ever volunteer
Plan your vacation during all important club functions
Never agree to anything new!



Co-Coordinator of the Membership Committee Kay Dunham and Patty Mamola are having some fun while presenting a program on supporting leaders.

Building new leaders is essential to a healthy club. Without new ideas, clubs grow stagnant and lose direction. We must celebrate our leaders by thanking them for stepping up to hold those leadership positions.

Friendship Link Update– SI/Punè Metro East**Sign this Petition to End
Female Genital Mutilation in India**

By Connie Steinheimer

Nisha Ghosh, the Charter President of SITM's Friendship Link Club, SI/Punè Metro East, reported last month to the IGU Committee that SI/PME has championed a cause to End Female Genital Mutilation in India. Participation is a personal decision, but you can help them by going online and signing a petition to the Union Minister for Women and Child Development in India. You can find it here:

https://www.change.org/p/end-female-genital-mutilation-in-india?recruiter=23883502&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=share_email_responsive

Or go to www.change.org End Female Genital Mutilation

In part, the petition says: "We urge the Government to **pass a law banning this practice in India**, such that anyone found involved in aiding, abetting and perpetrating this practice should be punished. Pressure of this law and fear of punishment will be the best way to **put a stop to this cruel practice.**"

The goal is to garner 150,000 signatures to forward to the Indian Government to end the practice of FGM in India.

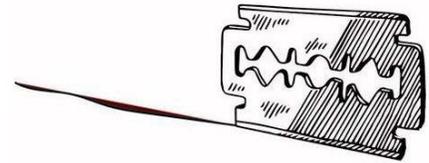
The World Health Organization defines Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) as "the partial or total removal of the female external genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons." In some cultures, FGM is believed to preserve the virginity of girls and keep them "pure" until marriage. It is also believed to keep girls faithful to their spouses because of lack of arousal during intercourse. The UN

has classified FGM as a human rights violation.

Here are some comments about FGM attached to the petition

"At the **age of seven, I was subjected to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** in Mumbai, in a most unhygienic and clandestine manner. The **shock and trauma of that day are still with me.**"

"Like me, there are thousands of my **Dawoodi Bohra sisters who have been subjected to genital cutting as children and even today thousands of Bohra girls are being subjected to this practice**, since it has been ordained by the clergy of our community."...

**END FGM**

"FGM has no health benefits, in fact **it harms girls and women** in many ways. It involves **removing and damaging healthy and normal female genital tissue**, and interferes with the natural functions of girls' and women's bodies. FGM is often **done without anesthesia**, without medical supervision and **sometimes the procedure goes horribly wrong.**"

"It often leads to **pain, shock, tetanus, genital sores, excessive bleeding**, etc. It also has long-lasting psychological impact on the victims, ranging from **sexual disorders, and fear of sexual intimacy, nightmares** and post-traumatic stress disorder."

Keeping in touch with Nisha Ghosh

Nisha Ghosh from Punè, India accepted SITM's Grant of Friendship and traveled to America in 2009 where she spent a couple of weeks with SITM members and spoke at that year's Sierra Nevada Region Conference. Returning home she helped charter a new Soroptimist Club, becoming the Charter President of SI/Punè Metro East. SITM sent monetary gifts and established a formal Friendship Link with SIPME.



One of their first projects was to establish a "Girls Moving Forward" program patterned after SITM's "Women Moving Forward", a forerunner to Making a Difference for Women. Monica House and her mother have traveled to Punè to visit Nisha and the SI/PME club and members.

Read about SI/Punè Metro East's many projects and recognitions by visiting their website at <http://www.sipme.co.in>

Thank you from Bristlecone Family Resources

Thank you for making Bristlecone Family Resources the recipient of \$327 in Happy Dollar for September. Your generosity is felt by our clients and our staff.

In appreciation,
Bristlecone Family Resources Staff



March Board & Business Recap

By Faye I. Andersen

Slate of Officers for 2017-2018 Announced

The Nominating Committee presented the slate of members willing to stand for election to office for the 2017-2018 Club Year. Copies of the slate, along with bios on each candidate were distributed at the March Board and Business Meeting. For the complete list, see page 2.

Afghan Delivery Set for Thursday March 16

Whether you've crocheted afghans, donated yarn or are just interested in STM's afghan project, members are invited to join Diana Dillon and Niki Ewing on March 16 at the Volunteers of America Family Shelter in Reno. Let Diana know if you plan to attend, because doors are locked at the shelter. They will start deliveries following the Thursday regular meeting. Thank you to everyone who crocheted approximately 160 afghans for distributions to the families.

New Fundraising Proposals Approved

Fundraising Committee Co-Coordinator Barbara Atwell and Penney Leezy brought two fundraising proposals for approval of the membership at the March Business Meeting. The first was to begin a fundraising raffle of a beautiful quilt crafted by member Jan Bogikes. Tickets are \$5 each or five tickets for \$20. They will be on sale at each Thursday meeting and then the quilt will be taken to the Sierra Nevada Region Conference for sales in the Market Place. The lucky winner will be drawn Saturday night at conference. Members approved the \$50 display fee at conference, and enlistment of member volunteers to staff the display Friday and Saturday at conference, April 28 and 29.

The second proposal was to being another 50/50 raffle with a longer lead time than last year. This one would run between April 15 and December 14. Ticket prices will be the same, or \$10 each, three tickets for \$25. The winning ticket drawn will split the proceeds 50/50 with the club retaining the other half. Plans are for tickets to be sold at conference in April, the Soroptimist Development Retreat in July and the Fall District Meeting. Members will also be asked to sell tickets.

SI/Reno to Celebrate 75th Anniversary

Save the date, Thursday, April 27 from 5-7 p.m. for a celebration of 75 years of Soroptimist service by SI/Reno. The membership approved a gift of \$75 to the club in celebration of this milestone. Tentative plans are for the celebration to take place at the Atlantis, the

night before the opening of the Sierra Nevada Region Conference. SI/Reno was SITM's chartering club on October 23, 1978.

Happy Dollars for February & March

A total of \$313 in Happy Dollars was collected during February for the Women's and Children's Center of the Sierra. March Happy Dollars are designated for the IGU Committee.

Membership Changes

Remaining on leave is Teresa Mentzer through June for family and personal reasons; and Alysia Peters through June as she works at the Nevada Legislature in Carson City.



Attracting Younger Members at YPN Nonprofit Event

Membership Co-Coordinator Kay Dunham and Patty Mamola attended the Reno-Tahoe Young Professional Network's nonprofit organizations night, held at the Habitat for Humanity store and warehouse in Sparks on February 23. Approximately three dozen nonprofit organizations participated as YPN members visited and learned about many of the organizations in our community. Patty and Kay, of course, were dispensing information and encouragement to join Soroptimist, along with Kay's baked chocolate chip cookies and free wine charms.

YPN's mission is to cultivate an informed and involved professional community in the Truckee Meadows in order to retain and attract young and diverse talent.



Kay and Patty at the SITM booth.

Women's History Month – A Flashback

At the March 2 meeting celebrating Soroptimist Ruby Award recipients, time was taken to also celebrate International Women's Day, March 8 and March as Women's History Month. During her presentation, Pam Sutton noted that the Nevada State Senate had just passed the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), some 35 years after its deadline.

The Equal Rights Amendment, which proposed the 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, was ratified by Congress in 1972. By its extended deadline in 1982, it had failed to garner the required approval of 38 states, falling short by three including Nevada.

During Happy Dollars, Faye Andersen remarked that years ago Soroptimists had marched for women's rights in downtown Reno and promised to unearth a photo taken at the march.

What was it all about? "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."



Soroptimists joined a women's march down Center Street in Reno in the early 1980s. Holding onto the Soroptimist banner (wearing a green blouse) is SITM Charter Member Cecelia P. (Ceec) Abrahams. The march proceeded to the steps of the Washoe County Courthouse, where women dressed in white delivered speeches made by the early-day suffragettes from the 1800s.

Soroptimists Celebrate March Birthdays



President Jennifer Burnitt directs the celebration of members with March birthdays. From left are: Linda Lamke, Patty Downs, Kay Dunham, Jeanne Naccarato and Doris Phelps.



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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
 Soroptimist International of the Americas: www.soroptimist.org
 Soroptimist International: www.soroptimistinternational.org



Did you know . . .

Discontinuing the Use of the SI Emblem A message from Sierra Nevada Region Governor Vicki Watson



SI



SIA

In January 2017, the board members of Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) considered the branding of Soroptimist in regards to clubs and regions. This was in preparation for our 100 year anniversary in 2021. SIA is working to make our brand of the S logo recognizable and known in communities. If you attended last fall's district meetings you heard me speak about the multitude of images we use to represent ourselves and, possibility, the dilution of our message.

So, after much consideration of alternatives, risks, rewards and consequences, the SIA Board decided to discontinued the use of the SI emblem across all clubs and regions in a concerted effort to brand ourselves as Soroptimists. Many years ago, SIA made the decision to move away from using the SI emblem. This was from advice from several marketing firms that viewed the SI emblem of the "white women with upraised arms" as old fashioned and culturally insensitive. This resulted in the S logo we all use today which has been trademarked.

The SIA board is asking that any clubs still using the SI emblem to please phase it out by December 31, 2019. See the [guidelines for clubs and regions here](#) and the SIA logo above.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I welcome your comments.

SNR Conference Sneak Peak!



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL SIERRA NEVADA REGION

41st ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Conference Highlights:

- Anti-trafficking workshop Friday afternoon
 - “Under 40s” panel discussion
- Honoring award winners: club awards, Live Your Dream, Ruby, Fellowship
 - Guest speakers Shirlee Draper and Sharon Lacey



Shirlee Draper

Live Your Dream Award
2014 Finalist - SIA
2014 Recipient - Rocky Mountain Region
2014 Recipient - SI Salt Lake City



Sharon Lacey
Motivational Humorist



April 28 - 30, 2017

Atlantis Casino Resort Spa
3800 S. Virginia St, Reno, NV 89502

Use code 'SOROP17' to reserve rooms:
<https://www.atlantiscasino.com/reservations>

Registration details will be in Call to Conf.!

Call to Conference Coming Soon!