

In this issue

- 1 – President's Message, Attendance Reminder
- 2 – Ruby Award, Making a Difference, Laurel Society, Parliamentary Procedure
- 3 – Whispering Vine Fundraiser
- 4 – Live Your Dream
- 5 – Dream It. Be It.
- 6 – New Member Kim Coulter Davis
- 7 – District 5 Winter Meeting
- 8 – Board & Business Recap
- 9 – Nomination of Officers
- 10 – Staff Box, Did You Know

Calendar

- Feb. 21 – Membership and Attendance
 Feb. 26 – Making a Difference for Women, Atlantis
 Feb. 28 – Fundraising
 March 7 – Ruby Award Presentation
 March 12 – Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., President Jeanne's Home
 March 14 – Business Meeting
 March 21 – Nepal Pledge Drive
 March 28 – Finance & Governance

SITM Meets...

Thursdays at Noon
 at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa
 Second Floor Convention Center
 \$22 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.



The Race is On for the Next Six Months

Here we are in February surrounded by more snow than I can ever remember in Reno on a February morning, and all I can think about is that silly groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil. He lied!

In less than 10 days we will be hosting our Making A Difference For Women (MDFW) event. The date is February 26th at the Atlantis. It is an all-day event designed for underemployed and unemployed women to provide them an opportunity to practice job interview skills, dressing for success, managing their credit situations, and information on continuing education and community resources. The day is designed especially for these ladies to help them be successful in their next job search. I'll be there in the capacity as your President, but I'll also be setting up the Clothes Closet the day before, available to help attendees fill out grant applications, and of course promoting SITM. If you haven't signed up to volunteer it's not too late; we always need interviewers, models, and personal shopper help in the Clothes Closet.



Sierra Nevada Region Governor Lane Parks visited SITM at the February Business Meeting.

The next few months SITM members will experience a whirlwind of activity in our community with our Ruby Award, IGU Pledge Drive, Thanks to Youth Scholarship luncheon, and Education-Women Scholarship luncheon. Then April 26-28 we attend the Sierra Nevada Region Conference; a time we gather to greet and meet other Soroptimists, catch up on our Region's activities, recognize achievements, and listen to dynamic speakers. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. As always, many thanks to those who

Continued on page 2

An Urgent Plea from the Attendance Committee

If you know you will not be attending a Thursday SITM noon meeting, you need to let the Attendance Committee know by noon on Monday before the meeting.* You can send your cancellation by email to sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com. If you know you have upcoming business or vacation and must miss a Thursday meeting, just let them know in advance at the attendance table.

The committee needs to let the

Atlantis know the lunch count by the end of the day Monday. So you can fudge that noon deadline by a few hours, but not days.

If you find your attendance situation changes during the week, you can still let the committee know and they will do their best to include your absence or any additional guests.

**You can also find this deadline and contact information in the front of the Club Roster.*

Continued from page 1

make our events a success and bring their personal passions to aid women and girls in our community and around the world.

They truly understand success does START with me!

As the snow continues to fall, stay warm, dry, and safe.

President Jeanne

Ruby Award Recipients to be Named March 7; Bring a Guest

Plan to attend the March 7 meeting and bring a guest. The Empowerment for Women Committee will be honoring this year's Soroptimist Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women recipients. The committee has named three recipients this year, all worthy candidates for their work helping women.

The award honors women who, through their professional or personal efforts, are making extraordinary differences in the lives of women or girls. Their work has had a significant impact, and also inspires and encourages other women.



Making a Difference for Women is Next Week

It's less than a week away ... SITM's annual Making a Difference for Women all-day skills training seminar will be held on Tuesday, February 26 at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

If you haven't already signed-up to volunteer, Co-Coordinator Carol Dineen and Dot Wats need volunteers to:

- Conduct mock interviews
- Work in the Clothes Closet
- Help facilitate the event
- Model work-appropriate attire
- Supply small items for the "Goodie Bags" given to attendees, like Kleenex, sticky notes, high lighters, etc.

If you can't volunteer for the whole day, your help could be used for any portion of the day. The cost of the continental breakfast and lunch is \$35. Make checks payable to SITM. If you can just stay for lunch, the cost is \$22. There's no charge if you don't plan to stay for the meals.

Darlene DeLancey Joins the SIA Laurel Society and Legacy

SITM member Darlene DeLancey joined the Soroptimist International of the America's (SIA) Laurel Society in January. She joins 35 other SITM members (plus two former and two deceased members) who are part of the Laurel Society. She joins two other SITM members who are Laurel Legacy members.

The Soroptimist Laurel Society was begun in 1994 by SIA. It is intended as a fundraising and recognition program. Donors who contribute \$1,000 or more are recognized with a special pin indicating levels of giving, including attaché members, envoy members, diplomat – all the way up to the Inner Circle, and that recognizes members contributing \$100,000 or more. Laurel Legacy is a program



President Jeanne Naccarato presents a Laurel Society Pin to Darlene DeLancey.

of planned giving opportunities to leave a life-changing legacy through bequests, charitable annuities, trusts and other options.

Parliamentary Procedure – It's Just Pancakes

The "Not Ready for Parliamentary Time" Players presented a scripted play at the January 31 meeting titled. "Parliamentary Procedure – It's Just Pancakes". Featuring SITM Board members, the "players" tested some tenants of Soroptimist protocol, motions and amendments and how parliamentary procedure guarantees members' rights and makes for smooth-running and efficient meetings.

Parliamentary Procedure Players



Whispering Vine Fundraiser and Member Get-Together

A big thank you to Whispering Vine for the opportunity to raise funds through the sale of wine flights at their three establishments in Reno. Plus, another big thank you to members, their friends and family who ventured out to Whispering Vine on January 30 to enjoy the vino, the food and the good company.

SITM was the beneficiary of the sale of 99 featured wine flights that day, which raised \$1,545 (including some donations from members who couldn't participate). Besides the fundraising, members expressed their pleasure in being able to have some social time together.

Thank you to Chris Fegert for her contacts and arrangements with Whispering Vine. Thank you to Fundraising Committee Co-ordinators Darlene DeLancy and Linda Walker for their promotion of the event and work encouraging attendance.



A happy crew at Whispering Vine, from left, Jo Ann Lessly, Sarah Carrasco, Eve Johnson, her friend Debbie Handke and Mary Beth Roselli.



Drew and Jeanne Naccarato



Eileen Fuller, right with two friends, from left, Vicki Curwen and Kay Tietz.



Margie and Bob Hermanson



Valerie and Blane Harding.



Millie Mitchell, center, with friends Linda Wycoff in the Nevada shirt, and Carol Parkhurst.

Meet the 2019 Live Your Dream Awardee

Kirsty Heedick was honored at the January 24 meeting as SITM's 2019 Live Your Dream Awardee and presented with \$1,500.

Kirsty is a single mom of a seven-year-old son. The reality of raising a child alone presented many challenges that made attending school very difficult. To pursue her dream of becoming a nurse, she became part of Truckee Meadows Community College's (TMCC) Educational Partnership Re-Entry program, which helped with childcare.

Kirsty worked as many hours as she could, first at PetSmart as a groomer, and most recently in the Counseling Center at TMCC and the Microbiology

Prep Lab. She worked hard to be accepted into nursing school and took extra classes to increase her GPA. She started nursing school in fall 2018.

Kirsty wants to inspire love and compassion, as her grandmother did for her at a young age. Her grandmother was a nurse and from a young age, Kirsty knew she wanted to follow in her footsteps. Kirsty strives to be a role model for other single mothers and show them that, although it can be hard, it will all be worth it in the end. Once she obtains her RN, Kirsty wants to transfer to UNR to obtain her bachelor's degree. She hopes to work in labor and delivery and help other incredible mothers and their children.



President Jeanne Naccarato with 2019 Live Your Dream awardee Kristy Heedick

Celebrating the Live Your Dream Program and Awardees

The Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) Live Your Dream (LYD) program dates back to 1972, although it has been awarded under various names in the past 47 years. Since that time, SIA's Soroptimist Clubs have disbursed more than \$30 million to 30,000 women who have overcome life's challenges and were determined to turn their lives around. Soroptimists invest in women's education because it transforms lives and communities. SITM has awarded nearly \$35,000 in Live Your Dream Awards since 1998.

The Live Your Dream Award is intended for women, who are the primary financial support of themselves and their dependents, have a financial need, and are enrolled or accepted into a vocational/skills training program or an undergraduate degree program.

At the Live Your Dream Award luncheon on January 24, SITM members were privileged to hear from two past awardees and learn how their past awards affected their lives and career paths.

Danielle Mathews is a Nurse and Supervisor at RENOWN

Past awardee Danielle Mathews was working as a mental health technician in 2013 while attending nursing school full time at TMCC. Her son was five-years-old at the time. She received SITM's Women's Opportunity Award (forerunner to LYD) and also one of the club's re-entry women's scholarships. Danielle worked with children who suffered social and behavioral issues. She overcame having been a victim of an assault and faced the issue head on by prosecuting the perpetrator and seeing him sent to prison.



Danielle Mathews

Danielle graduated from TMCC in May 2014, receiving her Associates Degree in nursing. She is currently a supervisor for pre-op and recovery room at Roseville Surgery Center at RENOWN.

Veronica Villareal is completing her degree at WGU

Veronica was SITM's 2016 LYD Awardee and also a re-entry women's scholarship recipient. Veronica became a mother at age 13. She and her son became part of the foster care system. At the end of her junior year in high school she found herself pregnant again. With the help of teachers and friends she graduated from high school before the baby came. Veronica received her Associate of Science Degree from TMCC in 2017. She is currently attending Western Governors' University (WGU) and is expected to receive her Bachelors of Science Degree in Business Management in November 2020.



Veronica Villareal

live
YOUR
dream

Recent STEM Education Program Focuses on “Coding” and Robotics

The Dream It. Be It. Committee provided a demonstration in “coding” and robotics at the February 7 meeting. After some instruction from Co-Coordinator Kay Dunham, members had their chance to practice “coding” with a tablemate using Lego pieces to build a “tower”.



The DIBI girls concentrate on computer coding, as Millie Mitchell looks on.

The exercise was practiced by the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade girls at Hunter Lake Elementary School just two days earlier, as part of SITM’s Dream It. Be It. program. Committee members Jo Ann Lessly, Sarah Carrasco, Eve Johnson, (Eve’s

participated last year. A hand-out titled “Marilyn Pearson’s Top Picks” was also available, listing a sampling of educational downloadable apps for kids and grandkids.



Dream It. Be It. Career Support for Girls is a program of Soroptimist International of the Americas designed to help girls grow up to be strong, successful, happy adults. It provides girls with access to professional role models, career education and the resources to live their dreams.

SITM’s DIBI program for grade-school-aged girls is designed to bring self-esteem; encourage science, technology, engineering and math skills (STEM); foster a growth mindset in the girls; and bring resulting community benefits.



The DIBI girls collaborate on how to “code” commands for their robot.

Co-Coordinator Kay then demonstrated coding and robotics with Kim Davis posing as a robot and accepting “coding” commands from Kay.

friend) Debbie Handke and Mary Beth Roselli were on hand at the DIBI meeting to assist the girls in understanding and practicing coding and robotics.

At the SITM meeting, DIBI member Millie Mitchell explained the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) focus of SITM’s DIBI program for girls at the school. This year’s class has several girls who

THE DIBI Committee meets with the girls at Hunter Lake Elementary School every-other Tuesday at 3 p.m. The next meeting is February 19. Members are welcome to join them for any of the sessions. Contact Co-Coordinators Kay Dunham or Patty Mamola for more information.



Kim Davis in the foreground poses as a robot as Kay Dunham gives verbal coding commands to turn left or right, go forward, etc. Looking on is Millie Mitchell.

Welcome to New Member Kim Coulter Davis

I grew up in Northern Minnesota. A small town called Bemidji Minnesota. Bemidji recently made the news this winter when wind chill temperatures were over 60 below zero. I can remember it getting that cold when I was younger, which is why at age 26 I decided to head West. I moved to Reno, Nevada in 1988. I fell in love with Reno and Tahoe right away and even learned to fly small airplanes out of the Reno and Stead Airport. I received my Private Pilot Certificate in 1989 and have enjoyed many years of flying around Nevada and California. My flight instructor even taught me how to ski, which I have enjoyed skiing at almost every resort in Tahoe for many years.

I have a step sister and two step brothers. One brother lives in Minnesota and my sister and other brother live in North Carolina. I have two children; my son Brent is 27 and my daughter Lex is 25. Both are proud to say they are Battle Born Nevada natives. My daughter just got back from traveling abroad over a year ago and decided to start school again, she will be graduating from TMCC this spring and possibly onto UNR afterwards, depending on her choice of where she wants to attend. She is living at home with me and her step dad Lennard, so UNR looks appealing to her since home means no rent. My son Brent is almost done with his 2nd year of law school. He is attending Hastings School of Law in San Francisco.



Kim with husband Lennard Davis.

design department. I have worked in sales/marketing or business development capacity since 1997 starting with my first construction industry job at Ledcor Group of Companies. I have also worked in sales/business

development and recruiting capacity for both Robert Half Accountemps and for Express Employment. I currently work for Dinter Engineering, an electrical engineering firm in the capacity of Director of Business Development. My



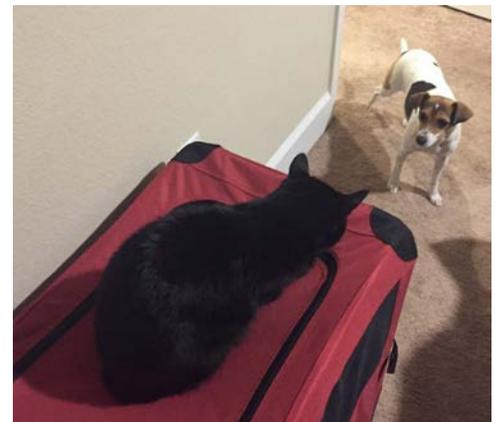
Kim with son Brent and daughter Lex.

husband is an Architect and currently works for Van Woert Bigotti Architects. We have common interests in our work, and we seem to know a lot of the same people in business.

I have been a volunteer for SPCA and Civil Air Patrol and have served as Volunteer, Scholarship Committee Chair and Past Chairman for the Reno High Sierra 99s, a women's pilot organization that was founded by Amelia Earhart. I also served as a volunteer for CREW a Commercial

Real Estate Women's organization, I served as a founding member of the Northern Nevada Chapter, and I also served as Secretary and am a Past President. I have known past members of Soroptimist and have also researched organizations that I wanted to volunteer and found that Soroptimist is the best match for me. I believe in the club's mission of improving the lives of women and girls. Jeanne Naccarato was kind enough to be my sponsor.

Our crazy pets. My husband has a cat named Slinky and I have a crazy Jack Russell named Tori. The cat is loyal to Lennard and the dog to me, and no one else. It is a challenge for me to have company at my home because the dog does not want anyone to come near me. When I have gatherings, she must be kenneled, which is annoying because she whines and barks a lot. I adopted her from SPCA, and she has past issues of being returned so many times, which I believe made her very insecure. I think she thinks people are coming to take her away from me. That is the best I can figure for her behavior. She is a funny and cute little dog though.



Slinky and Tori.

District 5 Winter Meeting Held Despite the Snow Storm

Excerpted from Delegate Diana DeMatei's Report



District 5 Director Sue Chambers.

Eleven SITM members attended the District 5 Winter Meeting, held February 9 at the Tamarack Junction in Reno.

District 5 Director Sue Chambers presided over the meeting. At the opening she shared her thoughts on "Pulling it All Together". Her Goals for District 5 are to mirror the Sierra Nevada Region's goals, including Trafficking, Membership, Live Your Dream, and Dream It Be It. She focused on making a collective impact in empowering women, especially impressing on young



Governor-Elect Sarah Carrasco outlined the upcoming SNR Conference and Soroptimist Development Retreat.

women that education is the key. She also shared a definition of empowerment: to enable someone to do something and to become stronger and more confident.

Members joined three Breakout Sessions, with topics including Live Your Dream, Dream It. Be It., Newsletter, Membership, Leadership, Fundraising, Trafficking, and Insurance/Liability.

Luncheon speaker Susan Ackerman, presented the background on the founding of Inspire Reno, a Women's Entrepreneurial Center. They provide a creative and positive environment for women in the community to grow both personally and professionally. Their unique and holistic approach to Empowerment provides women with

the keys to success in all areas of their lives.

In the afternoon, Presidents of the District 5 Clubs in attendance gave brief reports on activities and news of their clubs. The session revealed lots of fun fundraising events, clever membership campaigns, the amounts of scholarships and awards presented this year, and how each club is working to meet the SNR and Federation goals for programs and membership.

Fundraising Co-Coordinator Linda Walker sold \$190 worth of raffle tickets for three small items she brought to the meeting.



The lucky winner of SI/Washoe County's huge wine cart was new member Kim Davis.

The meeting concluded with the drawing of the door and raffle prizes. All five winners were from SITM,

including new members Kim Coulter Davis, the winner of the HUGE wine wagon from SI/Washoe County.



Taking a break, standing from left are: Kim Davis, Anna McArdle, Linda Walker and Penney Leezy. Seated is President Jeanne Naccarato.



Attendance at the district meeting was limited, with only 27 members braving the day's snow storm.

February Board & Business Recap

By Faye I. Andersen



New Members inducted during the February Business Meeting were, from left, Kim Coulter Davis, Beth Schell and Laury Macauley. Presiding over the induction were Patti Doty, at right and Patty Downs.

Congratulations and welcome to three new members: Kim Coulter-Davis, sponsored by Jeanne Naccarato; Laury Macauley, sponsored by Sarah Carrasco and Beth Schell, sponsored by Patty Downs. All three were inducted at the February Business Meeting. We're glad you've joined us ladies.

SNR Governor Lane Parks Visits

We were honored with a visit from Governor Lane at our February Business Meeting. She was in town conducting business with the Atlantis concerning our upcoming SNR Conference, April 26-28. She also provided an update on conference activities and the upcoming Soroptimist Development Retreat (SDR), set for July 27-28. We will be joined this year at SDR by Soroptimists from the Sierra Pacific Region. It should double the event in size.

Fundraising Committee Exploring a High Tea

The Fundraising Committee proposed a motion, which was approved by the membership, to explore and begin making plans for a High Tea fundraiser in fall 2019. Members will be needed to help with planning and logistics as the activities unfold. The committee has already researched some locations, prices and possible themes. Watch for future announcements about the event and how you can help.

Nominating Committee Seeks Candidates

At the February Board and Business Meetings, a Nominating Committee was established to recruit a slate of candidates to stand for 2019-2020 election to the SITM Board. President Jeanne selected Faye I. Andersen, Coordinator; the board selected Diana

DeMatei and the membership selected Patty Downs. If you are interested in any elected positions see any of these ladies. Elections will be held at the April Business Meeting. See page 9 for more information.

Public Awareness Social Media Achieves Growth

On behalf of the Public Awareness Committee, Pam Sutton shared a report from Coordinator Vivian Ruiz on the status of SITM's social media updates, particularly on Facebook. In the past 16 weeks, 58 posts of SITM activities and related items have been shared on SITM's Facebook page. During that time, our posts reached 11,742 people, were "engaged" 2,185 times and shared with others 163 times. The top three viewed posts were: 1) The national campaign billboard – "Girls should learn history. And make it". 2) Thanks to Youth seeking Unsung Heroes and scholarship applicants; 3) Celebrating 40 years of service. Thanks Vivian for all you do for SITM.

District 5 Winter Meeting Delegates Report

SITM Delegate Diana DeMatei reported on the District 5 Winter Meeting, held February 9 at the Tamarack Junction in Reno. Eleven SITM members attended and participated in breakout sessions. President Jeanne reported on club activities, and five members won all of the door and raffle prizes. See page 7 for more details.

Note the Date Change for Thanks to Youth

The annual Thanks to Youth program has changed from May 16 to May 30 to accommodate an overflow convention booked by the Atlantis for May 16. The Atlantis underwrites the cost of the luncheon in order for SITM to raise funds that day for youth scholarships. Currently, President-Elect Penney Leezy is working with the Atlantis for a location for SITM to hold its regular Thursday luncheon on May 16 somewhere in the hotel.

January Happy Dollars Benefit Youth Empowerment

Happy Dollars, in the amount of \$296, were collected in January for the Nevada Youth Empowerment Center. February Happy Dollars are designated for the Nevada Stitchers, who donate handmade quilts, afghans, stuffed animals, baby items and hats to children at-risk in the Reno-Sparks communities. Our Happy Dollars are used to purchase fabric, yarn and other materials for their projects.

Membership Changes

The Board approved a continued leave of absence for Barbara Atwell through June, for family reasons. Doris Phelps continues on leave through March 31, for personal reasons; and Kathy Hudson remains on leave through April 12, for health reasons.

Nominations Now Being Accepted for SITM's 2019 – 2020 Club Year

It's hard to believe it's time to start the process of nominating new SITM officers for the 2019-2020 Club Year.

Would you like to become part of the leadership team to guide SITM next year? Now is your chance. It's time to nominate a member whom you think would be good in these positions. Nominate yourself too. The Nominating Committee will ascertain members' willingness to serve in office.

At the February Board and Business Meetings a Nominating Committee was named to prepare a slate of members willing to stand for election. Faye I. Andersen was named committee coordinator by President Jeanne Naccarato. The board selected Diana DeMatei, and the membership selected Patty Downs.

In the next month these three members will be

distributing nomination forms for the following positions.

President-Elect
Vice President – Programs
Vice President – Membership
Secretary
Treasurer – Service Fund
Delegate

The positions of President, Director and Treasurer - General Fund are completing their terms of office.

A slate of members willing to stand for election will be available next month, along with candidate bios. The election will take place at the April Business Meeting.

Help Wanted!

Seeking a Member to take on SITM's Service Fund Treasurer Position

Do you have a head for numbers? Experience working with computer accounting programs?

SITM is looking for you. We mean it. We need you to volunteer for the Treasurer - Service Fund position.

According to current Treasurer- Service Fund Lynne Catrow, QuickBooks is the accounting program used for club accounting. Duties include:

- Attending meetings regularly
- Collecting happy dollars weekly
- Weekly trips to the bank to deposit happy dollars and other funds received
- Keeping financial records in QuickBooks
- Balancing the accounts monthly
- Preparing reports monthly for board meeting
- Working with each committee on their budget

If you have questions, contact Lynne Catrow. If you are interested in volunteering, contact any member of the Nominating Committee – Faye I. Andersen, Diana DeMatei or Patty Downs.



Celebrating Birthdays in February were Lynne Catrow and Gayle Kmetovicz.

Save These Dates

Sierra Nevada Region Conference

April 26-28, 2019

Atlantis, Reno

Soroptimist Development Retreat

July 27-28, 2019

Atlantis, Reno

District 5 Fall Meeting

October 12, 2019

Hosted by SI/Truckee-Donner



SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



President Jeanne Naccarato

naccsitm@gmail.com

Editor Faye I. Andersen

fia@pyramid.net or

775-358-5149 or 432-5822

Contributing to this issue

- Jo Ann Roberts
- Jeanne Naccarato
- Penney Leezy
- Kay Dunham
- Kim Davis
- Lynne Catrow

SITM Board 2017-18

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| President | Jeanne Naccarato | Treasurer/General Fund | Pam Robinson |
| President – Elect | Penney Leezy | Treasurer/Service Fund | Lynne Catrow |
| VP/Program | Dot Watts | Director | Rikki Hensley-Ricker |
| VP/Membership | Chris Fegert | Delegate | Diana DeMatei |
| Secretary | Linda Walker | Parliamentarian | Margie Hermanson |

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows
P.O. Box 20125 • Reno, NV 89515
www.sitmnev.org

Board Meets monthly on Tuesday
following the first Thursday, 5:30 p.m.
President Jeanne Naccarato’s home



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



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

Did you know . . .

Sierra Nevada Region 43rd Annual Conference



April 26 - 28, 2019

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

Use Code SNRVR19 to reserve rooms:
<https://reservations.travelclick.com/98418?groupID=2403051>

Registration details will be in the Call to Conference

Call to Conference Coming Soon