

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



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www.sitmnev.org

President's Message



A friend of mine once told me that the best thing about fall is the change of colors but she isn't a Soroptimist. And yes, while the leaves on the trees are beautiful right now, our club activities make fall just as lovely. The Air Races, a Fall District Meeting, the IGU Garage Sale, the Candidate's Forum, speakers invited by the Health and SOLT Committees and a Gold Party Social all

filled the last few weeks with nonstop enthusiasm. Between the Air Races and the Garage Sale, the club earned almost \$14,000!! Congratulations ladies!!! This is something we all should be very proud of. Thank you again to all our members, their families, and friends as well as all our amazing volunteers for the countless hours put into both of these club projects!!

We were very fortunate to have Pat Wetzel, Founder and Member of the Anti-Cancer Club and Amber Barnes, an Associate with the Leadership Research Institute speak to our club at the last couple of meetings. Both speakers were energetic and very inspiring to us all! Thank you to all of our committees that work so hard to make all of our meetings enjoyable and informative ones!!

As your President, I was so honored to accept the three Club Awards at the Fall District Meeting in Fallon on

September 22, 2012 on behalf of our club. It was very exciting for SITM to be recognized and congratulations to all of you for your efforts!! It was also nice to see Governor Janice, District III Director Stacey, and other Soroptimists from our region.

It has also been fun watching our members open and acknowledge the gifts they have received from their Secret Pals. Thank you again to the Hospitality Committee for bringing this enjoyable exchange of gifts back to our club and don't forget to wear your hat to the Halloween Social on October 25th!!

Happy Halloween!!

President Becky



Get out and vote: From left, Jennifer Crowe, Valerie Hahn and Eileen Fuller, check out the campaign literature during the Candidate's Forum hosted at the September 20 meeting. Eighteen candidates for local and state office joined SITM members for lunch and each gave a brief introduction of themselves and a pitch to vote for them this November. Thanks to President-Elect Margie Hermanson for arranging an informative meeting.

In this issue

- 1 – President's Letter
- 2 – Board and Business Update, Club Calendar
- 3 – Soroptimist Birthday
- 4-5 – IGU Garage Sale
- 6-7 – District III Fall Meeting
- 8 – Monthly Highlights
- 9-10 – Laurel Society Facts
- 11 – Staff Box, Did you Know ...

September Board & Business Update

By Faye I. Andersen

September was a busy month for club business, fundraising and the Fall District III Meeting

District III Fall Meeting

Six SITM members attended the District III Fall Meeting September 22 in Fallon. During the meeting, President Becky Moody was presented with three Club Awards. Delegates Report and photos on pages 6 & 7.

Bylaw Revision Passes

The second reading of a proposed revision to Club Bylaws was passed by the membership at the October Business Meeting. The revision allows any SITM member of any status (regular or life) "in good standing to be elected to or retain office in the club". This revision applies only the SITM Bylaws and has no effect on SNR, and SIA Bylaws and SI Constitution.

Gold Party Nets Cash for Members & Club

An evening Gold Party/Social was held at member Shirley George's on September 27. Several members attended and six brought their unwanted or broken gold jewelry. While members enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and desserts, a reputable gold buyer meet with each member directly and paid her for her gold. In addition to the cash for members, SITM earned \$250 for its Service Fund Treasury.

Wine Pairing Fundraiser Set for November 7

Here's your chance to join a fundraising wine pairing on Wednesday evening November 7 at Napa Sonoma. The evening will feature four different wines served with a four-course food pairing. Tickets are on sale at SITM Meetings or by contacting Jennifer Burnitt. Seating is limited to 30 and the cost is \$40 per person.

Trick or Treat for UNICEF

Those small boxes on your table at meetings throughout October were placed there by the IGU Committee. They're for Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF. Bring your spare change, or folding money, and donate to the cause at any weekly meeting.

25th Garage Sale a Success

SITM's semi-annual Garage Sale was another success. After a Friday night set-up, the one-day event raised

\$2,081 for the IGU Committee's project to educate girls in Thulipokhari, Nepal. Thirty-five members volunteered their time to work the garage sale this Fall.

Happy Dollars for September and October

September saw \$369 in Happy Dollars raised for the Aimal Halim Education Fund, for this young man (and former interpreter for U.S. Troops) from Afghanistan to attend the University of Nevada. October Happy Dollars are designated for Quest Counseling & Consulting, providing substance abuse, mental health and co-occurring disorders for adults and adolescents.

Membership Notes

The Board approved leaves of absence for Mary Mead through December for health reasons; and for Joan Hughes, through April 13 for travel. Remaining on leave are Kathy Martin and Teresa Mentzer through November for work and personal reasons; and Jayne George through December for work reasons.

Calendar

- October 18 – IGU Committee – United Nations Day (10/24/12)
- October 18 – Beads for Strength – Marilyn Pearson's home --5:30-7:30 p.m.
- October 25 – Halloween Social – Hospitality Committee
- October 28 – SNR Board Meeting, Las Vegas
- November 1 – Human Rights/Status of Women Committee
- November 6 – Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m.– Dermody Properties.
- November 7 – Wine & Food Pairing – 6-8:00 p.m., Napa Sonoma
- November 8 – Business Meeting
- November 15 – Public Awareness- Website-Facebook Committee
- November 23 – DARK, Thanksgiving
- November 29 – Education Youth Committee

Celebrating Soroptimist's Birthday - 1921-2012

SITM celebrated Soroptimist's 91st birthday with a cake and a short program on the founding of our organization.

The following is excerpted from "History Soroptimist International Association", published for the Golden Jubilee, 1971 by Beatrice F Hyslop, Historian.

"It was by chance that Stuart Morrow, a professional organizer of men's service clubs, including Rotary in 1905, called on a secretarial school in Oakland and found its head was a woman. The result of his conversation with Mrs. Adelaide E. Goddard led Mr. Morrow to start organizing women's service clubs based on vocations. He got together about ten women, including Violet Richardson of Berkley (later Mrs. Ward) and after six months of research and meetings, the first Soroptimist Club was launched in California, with the future Mrs. Ward its first President.

The installation, with eighty women in evening dress, was held in the Ivy Room of the Oakland Hotel on October 3, 1921. Since there were eight women from Berkley, the club was called the Alameda County Soroptimist Club until in 1928, a separate Berkley Club was formed. This first one then took the name of Oakland."

The name Soroptimist was coined from the Latin "soror" meaning sister and "optimia" meaning best. Thus, Soroptimism has been interpreted as "the best for women".



THE SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1921

New Civic Club in Oakland Soroptimists Is Its Name

Eighty Business and Professional Women Organize Like the Rotarians.

Socially speaking, Soroptimist Club made its initial bow on Friday night with a theater party at Fulton Theater, Oakland.

This organization, composed of eighty charter members and organized in September, is built along similar lines as the Rotary, Lions and Kiwanis Club, which are men's organizations. It is composed of business and professional women, only one of each type of profession or business being eligible to the club.

The proceeds from this affair on Friday night will be used to swell the coffers of the club treasury. The club has pledged itself to support a part in the Christmas tree pageant which is to be held at Oakland Civic Auditorium. Besides this there are other ambitions which are being considered, namely, the assisting of a girls' club and a boys' club at one of the schools whose purposes they indorse. Another interest touches ex-service men taking vocational training.

Soroptimist Club meets every Monday regularly for luncheon at Hotel Oakland in the blue room. Miss Violet Richardson, supervisor of physical education in grammar and junior high schools, Berkeley, is president of the club. Other officers are Mrs. Sue L. Ballard, vice president; Mrs. Nellie M. Drake, treasurer; Mrs. Helena M. Gamble, secretary, and five directors—Miss Gladys Leggett, Mrs. Adelaide Goddard, Mrs. L. W. Rollar, Mrs. Doris C. Tilton and Miss Edna Kinard.

Heads Soroptimists



Miss Violet Richardson, president of the new Soroptimist Club of Oakland.

—State Photo.

Invoking women mentors on Soroptimist's 91st Birthday: For Soroptimist Founder's Day, Amber Barnes, an Associate with the Leadership Research Institute, discussed leadership and developing talented women. Amber helps organizations attract, advance, and retain women and teaches women about personal leadership to attain that illusive balance between home and work. Thanks to Jennifer Burnitt, Liz Lukasavich, and Niki Ewing for inviting Amber to speak to SITM on October 4.

SITM Marks 25th Garage Sale



25th Garage Sale: Donations from members, family and friends to SITM's September 28 garage sale netted \$2,081. A total of 35 members and volunteers worked a combination of Friday night set-up and Saturday sale. This was SITM's 25th garage sale since beginning the semi-annual tradition in 2001. Proceeds from all of the garage sales have benefited the IGU Committee's project to educate girls in Thulipokhari, Nepal through dormitory and school scholarships.



District III Fall Meeting in Fallon

Excerpted from Delegate Mich Glazier's Report

The Sierra Nevada Region Fall District III Meeting was held on Saturday, September 22, 2012, hosted by SI/Fallon. It was preceded by a truly entertaining pre-meeting party on Friday night at Lattin Farms, a ranch that grows the world-famous Hearts-of-Gold cantaloupe. Sue Camp and Mich Glazier attended and were treated to great food, fabulous decorations, good company, and they were able to buy fruit from the farm's fruit/vegetable stand.

"Unmask Your Potential" was the theme for the day. SNR Governor Janice Labadie covered several club and region topics throughout the day including:

- Strategic planning and the redistricting of the region to achieve more balance in the number of clubs in the seven districts. Andrea Jones has been named to head up strategic planning for the region.
- She encouraged more diversity among club members
- SI President Alice Well's 2012 December 10th International President's Appeal will be "Birthing in the Pacific" addressing the nonexistent neonatal care which leads to a huge death rate in infants.
- SNR's project "My Sister's House" in Sacramento has opened a second home to address the human trafficking taking place along the I80 corridor.



- Announcing SITM Past President Patti Dory as the new coordinator for the SNR Celebrating Success Awards.

President Becky Moody accepted three awards at the district meeting for achievements in the 2011-2012 Club Year, including the Annual Club Award, the Club Giving Award and recognition for participation in the Women's Opportunity Award (WOA).

Sue Camp gave the report for SNR Governor-Elect Jackie DeMartini on clubs and membership. At the end of the club year in June two clubs had given up their charters – S/Portola and SI/Folsom Orangevale.

SNR Treasurer Vicki Watson reminded clubs of the November 15 tax deadline and she recommended Quick Books as a good software package for nonprofits.

Federation Liaison for Program Joanne Valentine emphasized the region's "Golden Ticket" allowing clubs to invite two potential members to join Soroptimist and the region will pay \$100 to bring these new members to the next district meeting.



Federation Liaisons for Program and Public Awareness, Gina Grether and Lane Parks both spoke about human trafficking. Gina gave an impassioned pleas for "My Sister's House" and the work they do to rescue girls as young as 13 from trafficking. Lane spoke about foster children as one of the biggest sources of trafficked children in the United States.

Some important dates were announced.

- SNR Annual Conference April 26-28, 2013. SI President Alice Wells will be attending and speaking on Human Trafficking.
- Soroptimist Development Retreat (formerly COTR) July 26-27, 2013
- SIA Federation Convention in Vancouver, July 23-26, 2014



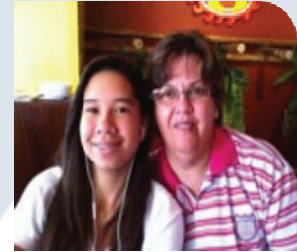
Race for the Cure: From left, former member Kris Olsen, and members Pam Robinson and Niki Champ participated in the Susan G. Komen Race for the cure on Saturday, October 7.



"Join, Give, Live": Pat Wetzel, the founder of the Anti-Cancer Club spoke at the September 27 meeting. After diagnosis in 2009 with incurable non-Hodgkins Lymphoma, Pat founded the organization and speaks to groups about the group's motto, "Join, Give, Live". Pat described the group as a "Kick-ass, take charge group of people dealing with cancer" that has partnered with about 80 businesses to provide services to patients, their caregivers, and families. Thanks to Niki Ewing, Scarlet Ewy, Millie Mitchell, and the Health Committee for inviting such a dynamic speaker.

Everything gold: Cliff Raymond, President of Valley Goldmine in Sparks, right, and his daughter Nicole, seated, are flanked by Shirley George and Mich Glazier. Shirley hosted an evening "gold party" at her home in September. Members brought their old broken or unwanted gold jewelry and gold fillings and while they were sharing hors d'oeuvres and desserts Cliff analyzed and weighed their gold and paid cash to each participating member. Cliff also donated \$250 to SITM for the opportunity to hold the gold party. Members had such a good time, another gold party will be planned for the future.





Laurel Society

What is the Laurel Society and why was it established?

The Laurel Society was established in 1994 to honor individuals supporting the Soroptimist mission. The Laurel Society was created to show appreciation and recognition to donors for gifts that would ensure continued funding for Soroptimist programs.

How do I become a member of the Laurel Society?

Normally individuals make a personal contribution to Soroptimist to become a member of the Laurel Society. An individual can also be honored with Laurel Society membership by her family, her club or her friends as recognition for exemplary service, leadership recognition and special life events.

How are my Laurel Society contributions used?

Laurel Society contributions are used to fund Soroptimist programs and awards: Women's Opportunity Awards, Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls, Soroptimists STOP Trafficking, Violet Richardson Awards, Ruby Award and the Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence. For more information about how contributions are used, review SIA's [Annual Report](#).

What kind of recognition is given for Laurel Society contributions?

All Laurel Society members are acknowledged with a thank you letter and pin representing their membership level. Recognition is also often given at region conferences. Laurel Society members receive exclusive invitations to SIA functions, such as the Laurel Society event at convention.

Please note that because of the large number of Laurel Society members, invitations will be extended to active Laurel Society members - those who have contributed an additional \$250 or more to their Laurel Society in the current biennium.

The recognition levels are:

<u>Contribution</u>	<u>Level Designation</u>	<u>Stone Color</u>
\$1000-\$2,499	Attaché	Sapphire
\$2,500-\$4,999	Envoy	Ruby
\$5,000-\$9,999	Diplomat	Diamond
\$10,000-\$24,999	Ambassador	Pearl
\$25,000 or more	Inner Circle	Custom Pin

"Our organization is comprised of professional women that work in different areas, and the interaction with a diversity of opinions has been very important in my professional life and in forming my leadership skills. My collaboration for the Laurel is an incentive to continue the Soroptimist work."

~Ana Cecilia Fagundes~

What meaning does the Laurel Society pin hold?

The Laurel Society pin was designed to include the laurel leaves from the Soroptimist emblem. The laurel leaves are symbolic of victory and typify friendship and success, much like committed Soroptimist members. Diplomatic terms were chosen to describe the levels of membership because international goodwill and understanding is the cornerstone of Soroptimist service. Members of the Laurel Society are emissaries of the Soroptimist mission to improve the lives of women and girls. The Laurel Society pin holds SIA's "S" logo because the Laurel Society is a recognition program of Soroptimist International of the Americas.

**Can a club become a member of the Laurel Society?**

No. The Laurel Society is a recognition program for individuals. If a club wishes to honor someone with Laurel Society membership, they should complete a Laurel Society contribution [form](#) naming the individual and submit the form to headquarters along with their contribution. Clubs are encouraged to support Soroptimist programs through Club Giving and Founders Pennies.

Is it possible to make a donation to another member's Laurel Society?

Yes. Soroptimist often receives donations in honor of a member for exemplary service or in celebration of an anniversary, birthday or in memory of a loved one. The contribution is credited to the member's Laurel Society at the request of the donor. The donor should complete the Laurel Society contribution [form](#) noting the honoree's name and send it to headquarters along with the contribution. Clubs wishing to honor an individual with Laurel Society membership must remit the name of the member when submitting the initial contribution.

Does the contribution need to be paid all at once?

Each unrestricted gift of \$100 or more from a member—or in honor of a member—to Soroptimist is credited toward membership in the Laurel Society. Headquarters tracks total contributions and will send a pin when the member reaches the next recognition level.

If I set up a monthly contribution, will it count toward my Laurel Society membership?

Yes. Contributions received through monthly giving are credited to the donor's Laurel Society. The Monthly Giving Program is available for members who want to support Soroptimist programs and work toward membership in the Laurel Society. Monthly giving is easy for the donor, decreases the expenses of fundraising, and puts more money into Soroptimist programs. Click [here](#) to enroll online or download an enrollment form.

If my employer will match my contribution, will it be credited to my total Laurel Society contributions?

Matching gifts are a great way for Soroptimists and supporters to maximize personal contributions and increase the impact of their gift. By taking advantage of a company's matching gift benefit, you may be able to double, or even triple, the amount of your contribution. Check with your company's human resources or payroll department to see if the company offers a matching gift program. Ask for the donation guidelines and a matching gift form. Complete the matching gift form and submit it to Soroptimist along with your contribution. SIA will verify your gift and return the form to your company. The company sends their matching gift directly to SIA.

Will Soroptimist accept any gifts other than cash for recognition in the Laurel Society?

Soroptimist will gratefully accept gifts of stock and property toward membership in the Laurel Society. The donor is credited for the cash value of the gift at the appropriate contribution level. Contact Nancy Montvydas, Senior Director of Development, at nancym@soroptimist.org if you wish to give stock, property or gifts other than cash.

How can a Laurel Society member find out the total contributions credited to her name?

This information can be obtained by sending an e-mail request to siahq@soroptimist.org.

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Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

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SITM meets every Thursday noon at the Atlantis Resort & Spa, 3800 South Virginia Street in Reno, second floor convention center. For reservations www.sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com. no later than 8 a.m. on the Wednesday before the meeting. Lunch is \$16.

Soroptimist is an international organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world.



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 . . .

The Ridge House is celebrating their 30th Anniversary with a brunch, keynote speaker and silent auction on Saturday, October 20 at 10 a.m. at the Grand Sierra Resort. Ridge House serves the criminal justice population through prevention, intervention and rehabilitation treatment. They are long time partners with SITM's semi-annual garage sales and they haul-away all of our unsold items after the sale. A donation of \$10 is suggested.

Join Cindy Burk at an SITM table at the 2012 Celebrating Women in Leadership Dinner on November 28. The Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada will honor four local outstanding women -- [Krys T. Bart](#), [Stacey Crowley](#), [Caryn Swobe](#), [Dr. Amy J. Khan](#), and [Tammy Dermody](#). Cost for a table of eight is \$125 per person. Support the Girl Scouts.



Award Winning: *President Becky Moody shows off three awards presented to SITM at the Fall District III Meeting for achievements in the 2011-2012 Club Year, including the Annual Club Award, the Club Giving Award and recognition for participation in the Women's Opportunity Award (WOA).*