

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

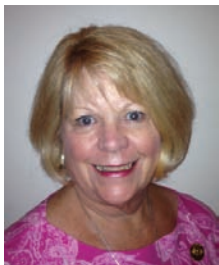


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www.sitmnev.org

A Diverse and Busy Fall Continues for SITM



This has been a very busy month for SITM Members. We have worked many hours at the Air Races, made 40+ bracelets for the Infusion

Center at Renown, learned about colonics, had a speaker about Bridging out of Poverty and received our Secret Pals. On top of that we had a Garage Sale to support the girls in Nepal. Diversified is quite an understatement to the many subjects we have covered. I think I can truthfully say Soroptimist has something for everyone.

October 19 we have the District III Meeting at NV Energy. There has been some issues with communication but our own Sue

Camp has taken it over and it will now be a not to miss meeting. You will have a chance to meet members from our neighbor clubs. The Sierra Nevada Region Governor Janice Labadie will be there and give you the latest news on Soroptimist. If you have not heard Governor Janice speak you are in for a treat, she is a wonderful and fun speaker with much humor interjected in her subjects. We are the Host Club so it would be nice to have a good showing from SITM. SI Reno will be doing the food. The cost is \$28.00 and you can make your reservations with JoAnn Roberts. And remember FIRST TIME ATTENDEES will have their way paid by our club.

October 24 is another date to SAVE. It will be another food and wine pairing at BISTRO 7. Jennifer Burnitt is setting this up. As I write this I do not have the menu, but I can assure

you it will be wonderful. Jennifer is quite the "foody" and she knows the great restaurants in town. All of the Wine Pairing Dinners have been delicious and lots of fun. Cost is \$40.00 per person. Get your reservations (aka..MONEY!!!) to her ASAP as this restaurant will only hold 25 people. This is such a fun, easy way for us to make additional funds. This event is the essence of my plan for FUN, SERVICE and FRIENDSHIP!!

By the time this goes to print we will be half way into October. Halloween will be a heartbeat away. With that will be our annual Halloween Party/Meeting. The Hospitality Committee has once again got some fun in store. Our meeting this year is on Halloween, so start looking for your scary or not so scary hats, masks, shirts or shoes. We will dress up and celebrate our service with our friends and have lots of fun.

Happy October and may all your pumpkins be happy ones.

President Margie



Happy Birthday Soroptimist

Some founding members of the first Soroptimist Club, including Charter President Violet Richardson, standing second from left. See full article on page 2.

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Happy 92nd Birthday Soroptimists

Happy 35th Birthday SI/Truckee Meadows

Reprinted from "Soroptimist – A Brief History January 2010" from the SIA Archives

At the beginning of the 1920s, women in North America had established themselves in the political arena through suffrage and in the professional world as a result of World War I.



Stuart Morrow

The time was right for women actively engaged in professions and careers to come together for mutual support and friendship, and to serve the communities to which they belonged. The time was right for Soroptimist.

In the spring of 1921, Stuart Morrow, an organizer of men's service clubs, visited Oakland, California. In search of a potential

member for a men's service club, Morrow called on the Parker-Goddard Secretarial School, presuming it was run by men and found instead Miss Adelaide Goddard and Miss Mabel Parker owned the school. Explaining his mistake, Morrow excused himself. As Morrow left, Miss Goddard remarked she would be interested in joining such a club for women if he ever considered forming one.

Goddard's remark set the wheels in motion for Stuart Morrow. He contacted a number of business women in the community, and invited them to a preliminary meeting on May 21. Of the six women in attendance, only one showed real interest. This woman began recruiting her acquaintances and on June 21, a luncheon meeting with 10 women officially launched the club toward its

goal of 80 members to receive a charter from Morrow.

This core group met once a week, and continued to gather the names of eligible women from Alameda County; they also chose the name Soroptimist for the organization, coining a word from two Latin words "soror"—woman and "optima"—the best.

On September 26, the charter was closed and officers were elected with Violet Richardson (Ward) serving as the president.

The presentation of the charter and an installation ceremony took place on October 3, 1921, the day officially celebrated as Founders Day.

In 1927 Stuart Morrow agreed to sell all rights, title and interest in the name "Soroptimist" and all the rights in the corporation for \$5,500. While eight clubs underwrote the purchase, all clubs, including those in Europe and Great Britain, contributed. The American federation was formed at the Washington, DC, conference in 1928. (The federation was to be self-governed and self-supported,

but was united with the European federation as the Soroptimist International Association.)

Soroptimist continued to grow and thrive for decades, expanding into several countries and territories around the world. In 1985, the first mission statement of Soroptimist International of the Americas was adopted. The mission focus of improving the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world, was implemented in 2004.

Today, Soroptimist International has almost 95,000 members in about 120 countries and territories who contribute time and

financial support to community-based and international projects that benefit women and girls.



Members and guests attending SI/Truckee Meadows chartering party on October 21, 1978. Seated from left are Shirley Godfrey, Marcia Cobian, Jaci Jones, Roberta Friedman and Teddy Hollenbeck. Standing from left, Ceec Abrahams, Mary Frazini and Madeline McKillip.

Garage Sale Proceeds Grow With the Addition of Designer Boutique

By Connie Steinheimer

The IGU sponsored garage sale provided income for the Nepal Project and totaled \$2,800.

The committee determined they would try a boutique where higher priced items could be sold for more than was usually charged during our garage sales. We kept track of the sales to determine if we would continue this in future garage sales. In addition the committee did some presales for both boutique items as well as traditional presales to family and friends. This included the usual frenzy of member Friday night sales.

Thank you Enid Oliver and Patty Downs for setting up and staffing the Designer Boutique Friday and Saturday. It accounted for an increase of 20-25% of our proceeds from the overall garage sale.



Friday afternoon and evening the members, family and friends were able to set up the sale items on the tables and racks, which were pre-set on Thursday by Jeff Ostomel (Connie's husband). In total for all days,

Items have been stored at Ethan Allen almost since the last garage sale in June. Jeanne Baxter and her staff load up the moving truck and deliver the items, along with gently used furniture her staff picked up from their customers when they delivered new furniture. They also delivered the rolling racks we use for display. Thank you so much Jeanne for the wonderful donation of time, space and man power. It truly makes the difference to our success each year

the members worked approximately 44 shifts (ranging from 2-6 hours) each for approximately 160 hours. In addition, non-members worked about 37 more hours for a grand total of 197 hours volunteered. The committee would like to thank all of our members and their family and friends for support, time and love in making the sale a success.

Friday night was set-up and margaritas, chips, salsa and pizza donated by Jo Ann Roberts and Scarlet Ewy. Saturday morning dawned early with coffee and donuts and mid-day lunch was provide by donations from Connie Steinheimer, Paula Ringkob and Jennifer Burnitt (who secured the lunch donation). Water and ice donated by Linda Lamke and Joan Hughes kept us hydrated both days. Thank you to all of our donors, especially you who donated your items for sale.

Calendar

- October 17 – Health Committee C.J. Bawden, Communications Officer for the Silver State HI Exchange
- October 19 – District III Fall Meeting, NV Energy
- October 24 – UN Day; IGU Committee, Dr. Carina Black
- October 27 – SNR Board Meeting, West Sacramento
- October 31 – Hospitality Committee, Halloween Social
- November 7 – Human Rights/Status of Women, International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women
- November 12 – SITM Board Meeting, NV Energy
- November 14 – SITM Business Meeting
- November 21 – SITM Member Arts & Crafts Boutique

You can follow our weekly activities on:



Fall SITM Garage Sale



Fall SITM Garage Sale



World Traveler Makes Reno Her Home By Faye I. Andersen

World traveler, proud Mom and Grandma, avid tennis player, cyclist, swimmer and Pilates freak -- That's just a partial description of Chris Fegert. For her 50th birthday



Chris at a sprint triathlon at Lake Berryessa in 2012, the big 50 b-day bucket list item, with Krista Kip and Christina from Alaska.

she completed a sprint Triathlon at Lake Berryessa and came in third in her age group. She joined SITM last spring and her sponsor is Valerie Summersille-Hahn.

Chris' Dad was in the Air Force, so the family moved around a lot when she was young, living in Las Vegas, Arizona, North Carolina and England. The story was her family lived in Liverpool above a pub where the Beatles played in the 1960s.

Later her Dad flew for Pam Am and Chris says, "We were fortunate to travel." Some of the most memorable trips were to Italy, Switzerland, the Caribbean, cruises, Hawaii and ski trips all over the U.S. and Austria.

Her favorite trip was to Tahiti when she was 10. "It was just my dad and me for a week," she said. "It was special. We went to luaus, snorkeled, and rowed out to the reefs in an outrigger," she recalls. There was just one mishap, when the beautiful and colorful coral they were bringing home made a terrible (and embarrassing) odor in the plane.

The family finally settled in San Mateo where Chris attended grammar and high school before moving on to San Francisco State University. She graduated from UNR with a degree in Nutrition.

Chris spent 10 years in residential lending and said she "loved it", but she worked for a builder and was laid off in 2008 when the housing market collapsed.

"It was the best thing that could have happened," Chris recalls. She took some time off, did some soul searching and learned about HOPES. "When I visited for the first time, I was shocked to learn Reno had an HIV clinic and more shocked to find out the infection rate was highest in middle aged women (me) and youth 15-22 (my son was 16 at the time), she said. She asked if they needed volunteers, and was hired that day to be an event coordinator.

"I loved it and five years later still love it," she said. Today, Chris does community relations work for Northern Nevada HOPES and says. "It's my mission to educate and bring awareness to our community about HIV." Founded in 1997, Northern Nevada HOPES is a nonprofit community health center based in downtown Reno, that offers integrated medical care and support services.

Chris has been married to Keith for 14 years and they have two sons and two daughters between them, aged 21-31, and five grandkids. The love of their lives is their dog Oliver, a three-year-old puggle (pug/beagle) that's going on one. He enjoys his daily dog walks, road trips and sleeping in between his parents. He loves his new friend "Bubba", Valerie's dog who is also a puggle. Double puggles!

Another important part of Chris' life is her volunteer work for the Sparks Christian Fellowship. She is a small group leader for third to fifth-grade boys. She says, "It's rewarding and challenging and I am always learning something new."

But there's more. Chris is the "neighborhood liaison" for all barbecues, potlucks, Christmas parties and updates. "Yes, I am serious," she says. "We are so blessed to have wonderful and fun neighbors."

Chris we know just exactly where we can use your talents. SITM is lucky to have you.



Chris and family, from left to right: Son Tyler (20) and ex girlfriend, Trista (27) and Ada (1), husband Keith, Breanne, (29) and Caleb (2) and Breanne's husband Brandon, Josiah (6), Chris and Nathaniel (4). Missing Trista's husband and Matthias (3).

October Board & Business Update

By Faye I. Andersen

SITM members banded together and raised and donated money over the past month. Work by members, friends and family at the Reno Air Races netted a tidy sum, as did the Oct. 5 garage sale. Club donations benefitted SIA, the Reno Air Races and the Empowerment Center.

Reno Air Race Results

Totals are not yet complete, but this year's sales of calendars and art, plus to the work of members, their family and friends at the Reno Air Races is expected to net close to \$16,000. Nearly 200 calendars were sold this year and commission from art sales at the SITM Booth at the Air Races netted close to \$2,500. Air Race Queens Diana Dillon, Kay Dunham and Niki Ewing should have a complete account in about a month.

Another Successful Garage Sale

Pre-sales, Designer Boutique sales and regular Saturday sales netted nearly \$2,800 for the IGU Committee's October 5 garage sale. Once again, members, family and friends worked a total of 187 hours over the course of Friday set-up and Saturday sales to make for another successful event. Read the full story on page 3.

Recent Donations

Treasurer – Service Fund Kay Dunham reports that she has made the budgeted \$1,000 club donation to our federation, Soroptimist International of the Americas. The club also donated \$300 to the annual Reno Air Race dinner held during the races.

Wine and Fun Offered on October 24

Jennifer Burnitt has the next SITM Wine Pairing Dinner set for October 24 at Bistro 7. Four dazzling small plates, paired with generous wine pours await you for \$40 per person. Seating is limited to 25 for this event, so get your reservations and money in to Jennifer, if you wish to attend. You can contact her at jburnitt@aandhins.com. This is a fundraiser for SITM and it not limited to members.

Afghan Lessons and Donation to the Homeless Shelter

Diana Dillon has again offered crochet lessons to anyone wishing to learn. An "Afghan Party" will be hosted at her office, after work on Monday, November 11 – Swag/Blue Moon, 1375 Greg Parkway, Suite 105 in Sparks. Contact Diana, diana@swagblue.com for a list of things to bring to the gathering.

Once again, the club would like to make and donate afghan's to the Women's Homeless Shelter in Reno. You can come take lessons, or crochet Afghans on your own. Contact Diana for more information.

Are You Artistic, Crafty or Creative?

At the Thursday, November 21 program meeting, SITM will host a Members Boutique. Members are invited to bring for sale, or just show off how artistic, crafty or creative you are to the rest of the members. We know we have jewelry makers, artists, gourd and glass-crafters and fabric "stitchers" in the club. What do you do that you would like to showcase? Let President Margie know if you wish to participate so there will be a table for your wares.

Libby Booth's Christmas Store Needs Help

Each year Libby Booth Elementary School holds a Santa's Store for kids "shopping" for their parents, brothers and sisters. New or gently used items are appreciated. Coffee mugs, key chains, hats, gloves, tee shirts, etc are all welcome. Plus they can use wrapping paper, holiday gift bags, ribbon and bows. Contact Dot Watts, WattsD11@charter.net, or Shirley George, razdaznv@yahoo.com, if you have questions.

Happy Dollars for September and October

Happy Dollars of \$369 were raised during September for the Empowerment Center, which provides safe and sober housing to recovering addicts and alcoholics. October Happy Dollars are designated for Awaken, fighting against sex trafficking in Reno.

Membership Update

Members remaining on leave are Georgia Baker during the month of October for back surgery; and Ploypun Pihakane through January 8 for work.



At the October 3 meeting, speaker Nadine from Serenity spoke about the benefits of colonic therapy and alternative therapy for cleansing the body of toxins.

Members Try Their Hands at Bracelet Making



At the September 26 meeting, members completed 22 bracelets to donate to the Renown Infusion Center. Ed Hartman from the Infusion Center came and spoke to us about the joy when patients' treatments are completed and the excitement to receive a bracelet to celebrate that completion.

Thank you so much to Bev Perkins for organizing the meeting and to our own jewelry maker Penney Leezy for making sure our knots would hold on the bracelets.

Pam Robinson, looking a little stressed by the task and Barbara Atwell try their hands at bracelet making.



President-Elect Pam Sutton is concentrating on her bracelet.



From left, IPP Becky Moody, Ed Hartman from the Renown Infusion Center Oncology Unit and Niki Ewing.



Penney Leezy with the results of members' bracelet making endeavors.

The Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Awards

By Pam Robinson

The Women's Opportunity Awards program was established in 1972 to assist women with primary financial responsibility for their families to obtain the skills-training and education necessary to improve their employment status and standard of living for themselves and their family. Each year, \$1.5 million in club, region and federation funds are awarded to more than 1,000 women in SIA's 19 member countries and territories. The women receiving these financial awards may use them for any costs associated with their educational efforts, including tuition, books, child care, and transportation.



The deadline to apply for the SITM Women's Opportunity Award (WOA – another acronym!) is December 13, 2013. Education Women Committee Co-coordinators Patti Doty and Marilyn Pearson and committee are currently contacting local schools to distribute the applications.

The WOA recipient will be honored at our luncheon in January, and her application will be forwarded to Sierra Nevada Region for consideration for a further award. Danielle Matthews was our recipient last year and went on to receive a Region award. The Region's winner goes on to Federation as well. Our award amount is typically \$1,000, but this year \$1,500 was budgeted. Some of our previous WOA recipients have also qualified for our re-entry women's scholarships.

If you know of a deserving woman, please ask her to apply for this award. Applications may be found on the SITM website (www.sitmnev.org) and will be sent to TMCC, UNR, and other institutions by the Education Women Committee.



On October 19, speaker Diane Thorkildson, Executive Director of Tru Vista Foundation, spoke of the organization's mission to provide bridges out of poverty and transition families through drug and family court matters.



SITM Perfect Pairings

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows invites you to join us for a spectacular food & Wine Pairing at Bistro 7. A special selection of food and wine have been perfectly paired to create this dazzling small-plates-four-course event.

Thursday - October 24th, 5:30pm -8:00pm
Bistro 7 - 7111 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV
89511

\$40.00 Per Person (All Inclusive) -
Nonrefundable

RSVP Contact:

Jennifer Burnitt (775) 338-0020 / Email:
JBurnitt@AandHIns.com

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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 7 p.m. on the Tuesday before the meeting. Lunch is \$17.

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 . . .

Cheri Fleming is the New SIA President

Cheri Fleming of Valencia, Calif., is serving a one-year term as president of the board of directors for Soroptimist International of the Americas, a global volunteer organization of women who work to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

As president, Fleming oversees strategic planning and program development for the organization. She will also lead Soroptimist's efforts to increase its collective impact in helping women and girls around the world lead better lives.

Fleming is a member of Soroptimist International of Greater Santa Clarita Valley, Calif., one of 1,300 Soroptimist International of the Americas clubs that exist to improve conditions for local women and girls. A member since 1999, Fleming has held several leadership positions within the organization, including region governor, governor-elect, district director and club president.

