

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



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www.sitmnv.org

Happy Thanksgiving from Presient Margie!!!

I am so thankful for all the wonderful meetings we have had and to the members that have put them on. I am thankful for the many volunteers we had at the Air Races and to the members that wrote thank you notes to all non members that worked. I am thankful for the District III Meeting turning out so well. I am thankful for Sue Camp for taking on coordinating the meeting. I am thankful for JoAnn Roberts for doing the registration. I am thankful for Jennifer Burnitt for standing at the raffle table and selling tickets. I am thankful to all the members of SITM that attended. Everyone pitched in and did something to make it a wonderful meeting.

I am thankful for the IGU Committee and the very informative speaker, Dr. Carina Black they secured for their meeting. I am thankful for another fun Wine Paring Dinner. The turnout was smaller than usual, but those that attended were very thankful they were there. I am thankful for the Hospitality Committee having such a fun Halloween Party. I am thankful for everyone that wore hats, shirts and costumes. I am thankful for the Human Rights/ Status of Women Committee and their wonderful speaker, Jen Robinson from Awaken. I am thankful we were able to donate our October Happy Dollars to help this wonderful organization.

I am thankful for my board and all that they do to help me look like I know what I am doing. I am thankful for each member of this amazing club. I am thankful for you, my friends.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all! --- Love, Margie



President Margie delivers Soroptimist created bracelets made for the Renown Infusion Center with her grandson Carter Eck.

SI President launches December 10 Appeal for Solar Lamps and Cookers

The Human Rights/Status of Women Committee will make a special presentation at the December 5th SITM meeting.

Can you imagine finding time to earn your living if you had to spend hours every day collecting firewood? Or how you would study with no electric light in the evening? One quarter of the world's population do not have reliable access to electricity; 70% of these are women and girls living in developing countries.



Ann Garvie

I first became aware of the scale of this problem at UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York in 2012. Several side events

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highlighted the health implications of the continued use of firewood in generating poisonous air pollution and the perpetual darkness which prevents women and girls from learning. It is a problem that will only get worse with the diminished availability of firewood in the very near future for rural communities in Africa, Asia, and South America.

That is why I have chosen to support projects providing women with education on renewable sources of energy and solar cookers and lanterns for my December 10 Appeal.

*Ann Garvie
Soroptimist International President
2013-2015*



SI Denmark and SI Kenya joint solar project.

News of our Friendship Link with SI Pune Metro East

By Monica House

SI Pune Metro East continues to work hard to improve the lives of women and children in India. Our club can be very proud of being an integral part in helping their club get established in India and in supporting them in their efforts to support themselves.

Recently, they have had to deal with the horrific communal riots in Uttar Pradesh in Muzaffanagar between factions of the Muslim and Hindu communities, where children have been displaced and are living in camps.

The club is currently working on raising funds for the psychosocial care which includes trauma counseling, educational material, etc. for the children and families. Their club serves as an inspiration for us to continue assisting our own in times of need. This fall, the riots have left 62 persons dead and rendered 40,000 homeless, according to India's news media.

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Looking for More Applications for Women's Opportunity Awards

By Pam Robinson

The December 13, 2013 deadline to apply for the SITM Women's Opportunity Award (WOA) is coming soon. Education Women Committee Co-coordinators Patti Doty and Marilyn Pearson and committee have contacted local schools and distributed applications. We've received some good applications, but are looking for more.

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.

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.

If you know of a deserving woman, please ask her to apply for this award. Applications may be found on the SITM website (www.sitmnmv.org) and have been sent to TMCC, UNR, and other institutions.

SITM Hosts the Fall District III Meeting

Excerpted from Delegates Reports by Bev Perkins and Mich Glazier

Fifty-four Soroptimists from around District III and the Sierra Nevada Region attended the Fall District Meeting held in Reno on October 19 and hosted by SI/Truckee Meadows. The meeting was conducted by District III Director Stacey Sawyer. Past Governor and SITM member Sue Camp acted as host club coordinator for the meeting. The SI/Reno club provided the meals. Sixteen SITM members attended.

Featured during the day were several updates from SNR Governor Janice Labadie, which included: a welcome and explanation of the "Golden Ticker" program for potential members in attendance; updates on Soroptimist International, Soroptimist International of the Americas and the Sierra Nevada Region.

Of particular note was Governor Janice's challenge to clubs to honor current or past women in the military by inviting them to meetings and inviting them to attend Region Conference in April.

Federation Liaison for Fundraising Kay Dunham gave a report on club giving and encouraged members to join the SIA Laurel Society. SNR's Soroptimist Celebrating Success Coordinator Patti Doty encouraged clubs to submit applications for Federation and Region Club Awards. In her position on the Region Nominating Committee, Patti encouraged members to submit nominations for region and district office.

During the afternoon, the eight clubs of District III reported on current or upcoming fundraisers, projects and programs

A total of \$137 was raised from Happy Dollars for the Women Honoring Women Who Serve Project.

A raffle of items donated by SITM members raised \$599 for the club.

Photo Captions:

Top: Let to right: Sierra Nevada Governor Janice Labadie; President Margie Hermanson; President-Elect Pam Sutton; and District III Director Stacey Sawyer.

Bottom: Director Stacey presides at the Fall District III Meeting. She's flanked on the left by Governor Janice and Governor-Elect Jackie DeMartini; and on the right by SNR Treasurer Vicki Watson and Secretary Sarah Walker.



Calendar

- November 28 – DARK for Thanksgiving.
- December 3 – Afghan Social at Diana Dillon's office after work
- December 5 – Honoring Past Presidents; SI President's Annual Appeal Project
- December 10 – SITM Board Meeting, NV Energy
- December 12 – SITM Business Meeting
- December 14 – Salvation Army Gift Deliveries and Breakfast
- December 19 – Holiday Social. Watch for particulars.
- December 26 – DARK for Christmas
- January 2 – DARK for New Years

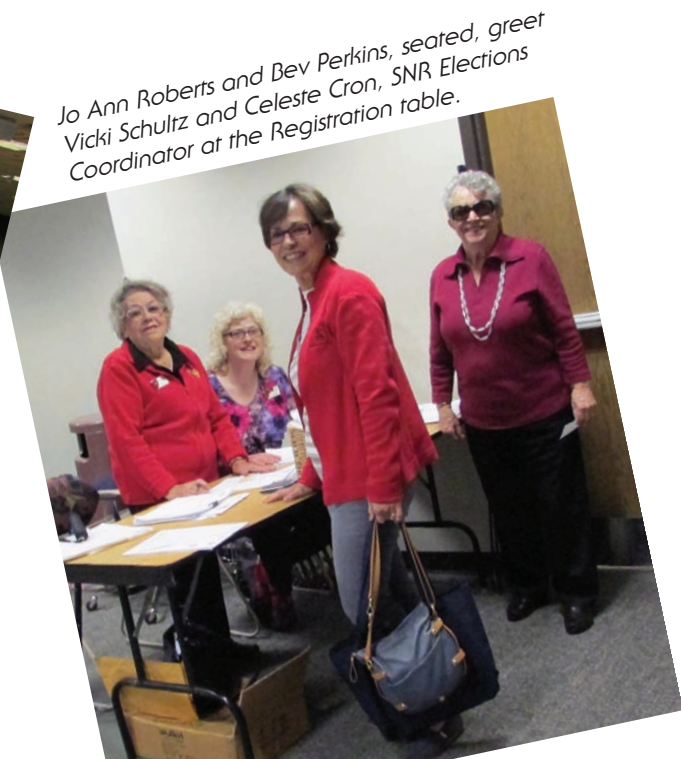
You can follow our weekly activities on:



Fall District III Meeting Continued



President Margie, Delegate Mich Glazier and VP -Technical Vivian Ruiz sold raffle tickets for a chance to win an SITM member's donation.



Jo Ann Roberts and Bev Perkins, seated, greet Vicki Schultz and Celeste Cron, SNR Elections Coordinator at the Registration table.



Delegate Bev Perkins and Past Governor and Host Club Coordinator share a laugh during a break.



SI/Reno members sold Sorptri-Wear.



Air Race Roses

Members were asked to write about a member that went above and beyond or did something special while working out at the Air Races.

Diana Dillon gives everything to Air Races for nine days. No one is more responsible for the success of this event than her. The club owes her a special thanks.

Diana, for everything.

Niki sent her Nanny Meghan when she heard how crazy things were. Meghan started herding the line, came back the next day as a bagger and cashiered all afternoon. Then stayed for tear down.

Becky Moody for creating our new yellow vest position – end of the line monitor.

Lauri (our lunch server) from the Atlantis heard our plea for volunteers, came out twice and also recruited two other volunteers as well.

Doris Phelps for her work assisting six Job Corp students who helped us out.

For our new members who all contributed significantly – Anna McCardle, Chris Fegert, Sarah Galetti, Suzanne Dotten, Ploypun Pikane and Barbara Arwell. Many of these members also recruited family members as well.

Dot Watts, who went out of her way to orient me to this new experience. Thank you!

Linda Lamke was always cheerful while working and helping with her husband setting up many shelves and unpacking countless boxes.

Chris Fegert, Anna McCardle, Angela Owings, Margie Tankersly and members who are new cashiers.

Vivian Ruiz sent her husband in her place when she was unable to come out to the Air Races. He is amazing!

Ana Nadimi drove back out to help set up on Monday!

Sue Dotten, Diana and Kay.

Kay and Diana – can't separate them. This was my first time volunteering. It was crazy busy and overwhelming, but Kay and Diana were so caring, helpful, kind, classy chicks! That is what made it so smooth and enjoyable. Did I mention patience? Anyway, they so went above and beyond for me!!

Server Laurie was such fun to work with as a bagger at cashier #1. Thank you Laurie.



Public Awareness Coordinator Niki Ewing directed the October 17 meeting where members carried out a part of our public awareness by writing individual thank you notes to all of the volunteers who help SITM operate the merchandise booth at the Reno Air Races. She also helped remind us of the many ways we can gain awareness of Soroptimist through our formal and informal communications.

A Bewitching Bucket of Fun



Bucket of Fun Continued



November Board & Business Update

By Faye I. Andersen

Welcome to new member Lynne Catrow, who was inducted at the November Business Meeting. Lynne is sponsored by Pam Robinson and is a past recipient of an SITM Nancy Gomes-Mary Gojack Re-Entry Scholarship. She is a Realtor with Ferrari Lund. Welcome Lynne.

Announcement of Important Upcoming Dates

A busy month of club activities were reported at the November Board and Business Meetings. Mark your calendars.

Dec. 3 Afghan Social at Diana Dillon's office after work
 Dec. 5 Honoring Past Presidents; SI President's Annual Appeal Project
 Dec. 14 Salvation Army Gift Deliveries and Breakfast
 Dec. 19 Holiday Social. Watch for particulars.

District III Fall Meeting a Big Success

SITM hosted a successful District III Meeting, with help from SI/Reno members supplying the food. Past Governor Sue Camp acted as host club coordinator, with the aid of many members to help with logistics, registration, set-up, donation of raffle prizes and overall participation. Complete story and photos on pages 3 & 4.

Club Bylaws Change to be Voted December 12

The Finance Laws & Resolution Committee proposed a Club Bylaw change that received its first reading at the November Business Meeting. Co-Coordinator Becky Moody presented a thorough report of proposed changes, detailed on page 10. The overall impact will reduce the size of the SITM Board. A final vote on the change will be taken at the December 12 Board Meeting.

IGU Events in the New Year

The IGU Committee is planning ahead and has received approval to conduct their 2014-15 Pledge Drive for the Girls' Dormitory and Educational Scholarships in Nepal. Approval was also given to conduct a garage sale in Spring 2014 for the same purpose.

Club Financial Matters

Paula Ringkob, Co-Coordinator of the Finance/Laws & Resolutions Committee presented the Board with their regular review of SITM's dual treasuries and found both to be in good order. She also asked Bev Perkins, CPA to present the Club's Tax Return to President Margie for

signing and filing. Thanks to all for looking after our club finances.

Happy Dollars for October and November

Some \$366.75 in October Happy Dollars were raised for Awaken, which is fighting against sex trafficking in Reno. November Happy Dollars are designated for Kid's Cottages, which are protective shelters where police or social workers bring children after they have been removed from their families.

Membership Update

Ploypun Pihakane remains on leave through January 8 for work.



A few of the members taking advantage of the "Afghan Social" on November 11 at Diana Dillon's office were (from the left), Bev Perkins, President Margie Hermanson, and Patti Doty. Pam Robinson is seated in the foreground. Members can learn to crochet or just "join the gang" as they make afghans for the Women's Homeless Shelter. The next social/lesson will be held on December 3 at Diana's office after work.

An Unexpected Cheerleader Turned Community Leader

By Julia Ratti

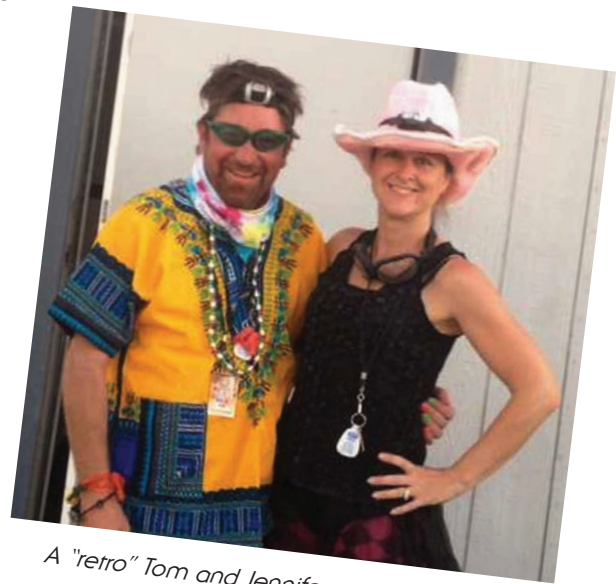
Jennifer Crowe has more than a decade under her belt as a member of Soroptimist. She was sponsored by Janice Hoke and joined in March of 2002. Janice and Jennifer knew each other as co-workers and journalists extraordinaire at the Reno Gazette Journal. Jennifer had parlayed her Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from UNR into a successful career as a well-respected reporter and editor. She also spent time as an Adjunct Journalism Professor at UNR. Her first job was as an obituary writer!

In 2002 Jennifer left her position as Assistant Opinion Editor to dive into the world of politics where she worked as a fellow in the office of a United States Senator from Washington and then served as Press Secretary for a Congressional campaign. Since 2004, she has worked as a freelance writer and communications consultant for small nonprofits and small businesses. Last month, Jennifer and her husband Tom opened Tom Clark Solutions, a new business focused on providing services for government and regulatory affairs, public and community relations, and strategic thinking.

But enough about work – Jennifer has been married to Tom for 11 years and together they are proud parents of six-year old Addison who is in first grade at Jesse Beck. Jennifer was born in Sylmar, California in the San Fernando Valley where life as a kid was ruled by school, dance (ballet, tap, jazz), and Girl Scouts – in that order. A self-described nerd, she had good friends who were also nerds and she always had her books. It was in high school that she got into the school paper and student government and learned that she wanted to report the news.



Jennifer and Tom with Addison



A "retro" Tom and Jennifer at Burning Man

She relates the following story, "I was a total late bloomer. As a kid I was super shy and in middle school had to start wearing glasses. Total nerd. When I got to high school I was still a wallflower. Then it was time for cheerleading tryouts. I had wanted to be a high school cheerleader as long as I could remember. I also knew that if I made it, my parents would have to cave and get me contacts. So I went to the practices and tryouts and made co-captain of the JV cheerleading team. Some of my friends thought it might be a joke or a sign of how bad the cheerleaders were at our school. No one knew I had taken dance and gymnastics until just the year or two before. Needless to say, more than a few jaws dropped at our first pep rally when I'm helping lead our squad. We were good roo. First team at our school to ever make it to a regional competition. I still have all my cheerleading stuff, though Addison has hijacked my pom poms."

She also cares deeply about her community and continues to find time to contribute. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Reno Air Races, Nevada Women's Fund and volunteers her time to provide media relations assistance on projects for the Food Bank of Northern Nevada. When she finds herself with free time Jennifer likes to cook, golf with her husband, drink wine with girlfriends and organize things in her house.

Jen states that it is hard for her to attend lunch with her unpredictable schedule but she really enjoys being in SITM. She is also so proud of our club and the things we accomplish and she is grateful to be able to help when and how she can with events and media.

Bylaw Changes to be Addressed at December Business Meeting

Proposed Club Bylaw revisions were presented by the Finance/Laws & Resolutions Committee at the November Board and Business Meetings. The proposed recommendations would reduce the number of SITM Board members from 14 members to 11 members for Club Year 2014-15 and 10 members for Club Year 2015-16.

The F/L&R Committee recommends that to better utilize the talents of our members:

- a. The President-Elect be designated as a club delegate;
- b. Eliminate one of the director/delegate positions; eliminate the two director/delegate/alternate positions; and change the term of office of the remaining director/delegate to one year.
- c. The director/delegate and director/alternate positions currently serving a two-year term would complete their two year terms, which would expire June 30, 2015.
- d. Eliminate the Corresponding Secretary position, expand the Recording Secretary duties to include these responsibilities, and rename the position "Secretary".

The committee is also recommending changing the names of the two committees: Public Awareness/Website and Roster/Data Base to Public Awareness and Roster respectively.

The second reading of the proposal, along with any debate, will take place at the December Business Meeting and a vote of the membership will be taken.



Valerie Sumersille-Hahn, Co-Coordinator of the SOLT Committee, left, conducts the new member induction for Lynne Catrow, with her sponsor Pam Robinson. Lynne is a Realtor with Ferrari-Lunch Realty and is a past recipient of SITM's Nancy Gomes-Mary Gojack Scholarship.



In celebration of United Nations Day October 24, the International Goodwill and Understanding Committee presented speaker Dr. Carina A. Black, Executive Director of the Northern Nevada International Center. NNIC's main objective is to foster better understanding between people through our public diplomacy programs, our language and culture projects and foreign policy forums.



A small but enthusiastic group enjoyed the Wine Pairing Dinner on October 24 at Bistro 7 organized by Jennifer Burnitt.

SITM Update

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 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 . . .

Girls from Libby Booth Elementary School who made it to Troop Camp at Camp Waisu II this summer because of Happy Dollars donated last year by SITM members.

