

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



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www.sitmnev.org

A Busy Month, the Countdown to Christmas

Can it really be just a couple of weeks until Christmas? I am so far behind this year, I think I must be ahead for next year. But I refuse to get upset, it will get done and if not...oh well.....

Soroptimists have had a busy month. The highlight was our meeting on December 5 to honor Past Presidents. We had a very nice turn out. It was so wonderful to hear the stories of where we came from. If we do not know where we are from we will never know where we are going. This meeting was so delightful, I think it may become an annual event. Our club is amazing with how many Past Presidents are still active members. Thank you all for attending.

The Member Holiday Boutique was a lot of fun. We missed some of our best artists who could not attend. Again this may be another annual event. It was very well received and enjoyed by all.

The board and business meeting resulted in some Club By-law changes that will put our board membership in better scale to the active membership. We will be eliminating the two alternate delegate positions. The Finance Laws & Resolutions Committee worked very hard with these changes and special thanks are being sent their way.

The Holiday Season is such a special time of year. It is my very favorite...I love the songs in the stores, I love the decorations everywhere, I love the snow on the ground, I love pulling out 44 years of Christmas ornaments and remembering when and where we got them. It is a time of reflecting on our blessings and on memories of past years. We look back and remember the small things that were said and done in previous years. I lost my father December 22, 1999. It was sad of course but both Bob and I, along with our youngest daughter (who was home for Christmas from college in Boston) were all very sick with the flu. Our plans were to go to California to have Christmas dinner with family so I had nothing in the house to eat, even if I had felt like cooking. We ended up with some low fat, low salt chicken noodle soup for dinner. One can feed us all...it was so terrible. We watched the movie Planes, Trains and Automobiles. None of us have ever laughed so hard. We had so much sadness in our hearts and we all felt so sick but somehow that movie gave us hope things would get better.

I hope each of you have a Planes, Trains and Automobiles in your life this Holiday Season.

Love, Margie



President Margie, left, and Mich Glazier, Thanks to Youth Co-Coordinator, accept an \$1,800 check for the Thanks to Youth program from member Becky Moody, right. Becky's employer, DP Partners is a long-time supporter of the youth program.

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20 Things You (Probably) Don't Know About Bev Perkins

By Sarah Galetti

Bev Perkins represents the true spirit of Soroptimists. She is giving, kind and is committed to improving the lives of women and girls. I became a member of this club because Bev took the time to answer my questions and when I met her, she took the time to show me around and introduce me to other members.

I wanted to know a bit more about Bev, which is why I chose her as the featured member for this edition of the SITM newsletter. I asked Bev to list 20 things about her life that she would like our members to know about her. Did you know Bev Perkins:



Bev being installed as SITM's 2009-10 President

- 1) Was once a horse show judge in Northern California and Oregon.
- 2) Raised horses on a small farm in Siskiyou County. (both while in my 20's.)
- 3) Many of you don't know, Bev has bone-straight hair and has been getting it permed for 30 years. The color(s) is/are natural, however.
- 4) Her favorite job was working in a bank.
- 5) She went to Norway in the 80's with her parents and loved it because she was "short" there - but they made me come home.
- 6) Even though she does not believe in it, Bev has been divorced 2 times.
- 7) Bev once drove a Porsche over 100 mph. (she drives the speed limit now.)
- 8) When she was born her grandmother thought she would never walk.
- 9) Bev has done or assisted in doing every facet of home building.
- 10) She taught people snow skiing in Las Vegas.
- 11) Bev used to make the second-best pie in

the family, but her grandma died and nobody else bakes anymore, so she guesses she is the best now.

12) Bev sailed across Lake Tahoe in a boat with the plug missing and a stream of lake water the size of her thumb pouring in. (She thinks it was great fun.)

13) She passed all 4 parts of the CPA exam on the first try. (a big deal in those days.)

14) Bev still has her tonsils. (getting desperate, can you tell?)

15) She has wrapped shower gifts in paper older than the bride.

16) Bev and her sister once made a wooden coke bottle on their father's lathe.

17) Bev was once Worthy Advisor of Rainbow Girls.

18) In the photo taken at her installation as President of SITM, Bev is hidden in the back of the group photo.

19) She speaks at least 5 words in 5 languages.

20) Bev came this close to being a singer in a folk group. (I turned them down.)

Thanks Bev for sharing some of your life with us.



Bev and Carolina

Calendar

- December 19 -- Hospitality Christmas Party
- December 26 -- Dark
- January 2 -- Dark
- January 9 -- Health Committee
- January 14 -- Board Meeting, NV Energy
- January 16 -- Business Meeting, Atlantis

You can follow our weekly activities on:



A Legacy of Past Presidents Honored in December



Past STM Presidents gathered at the December 5 meeting and each gave a memorable and sometimes hilarious accounting of the events and circumstances of their year serving as President. Besides reminiscing, members got a glimpse into the humble beginnings of some of the projects we still conduct today. They could also laugh or marvel at some projects that were phased out over time.

As many Past Presidents as we could locate were invited to the meeting. Norma Rash (11-12) braved the mountain pass to attend lunch. Janice Hoke (88-89), Laurie Chappelle (84-85), Meg Price (93-94), Mykee Becker (81-82), also attended. Our regular attendees and Past Presidents, JoAnn Roberts, Faye Andersen, Paula Ringkob, Georgia Baker, Doris Phelps, Jean Neddenriep, Patty Downs, Connie Steinheimer, Sue Camp, Diana Dillon, Kay Dunham, Pam Robinson, Marilyn Pearson, Bev Perkins, Becky Moody and Patti Dory rounded out the celebration.



Mykee Becker, SITM President from 1981-82, spoke about the early days of SITM.



Jean Neddenriep and Meg Price carry a solar cooker.

The Human Rights/Status of Women Committee made a brief presentation at the December 5 meeting explaining SI President Ann Garvie's December 10th President's Appeal project – to provide solar lamps and solar cookers to women in Kenya. The committee demonstrated a solar cooker and then passed the "cooking pot" around for donations earmarked for the appeal. Some \$130 was collected during the meeting, plus an additional \$250 from the committee's annual budget will also be donated to SI President Ann Garvie's project. Thank you to everyone for your kind donations.

Member Holiday Boutique Brought Smiles and Sales



The Member Holiday Boutique was a big hit with members – both the artsy kind and the buying customer kind. Artisan and crafters among our members were on hand to offer their wares for sale – everything from hand-sewn jewelry and quilts to hand-made cards and painting were on display and for sale. Unfortunately, three of our most prolific artisans: Pam Sutton with glassworks, Penney Leezy with jewelry and Jan Vey with specialty clothing were unable to make it this time. Thanks to all who could participate.



Holiday Cheer on Tap for December Board Meeting

SITM's Board members gathered at the December Board meeting at President Margie Hermanson's home for dinner and an ornament exchange. Of course, the hard-working board members completed their work like usual and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to mix a little pleasure with business this time of year. Thanks for serving the club, all year long.



Soroptimist Founders Pennies Tie to WWII

By Doris Phelps

Q. What do Soroptimists and World War II have in common?

A. Founders Pennies.

Each year, SIA club members contribute to Founders Pennies and these funds help to support the grants to Women's Opportunity Awards presented through the Sierra Nevada Region and other SIA programs. These programs serve to improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world.

The tradition of giving pennies began in 1943. Clubs collected one penny for each year of Soroptimist's existence and used the money to help re-establish clubs in Europe that had been disbanded as a result of pre-World War II political conditions and the war itself. The purpose of the funds has changed over the years to include scholarships, youth awards and other awards to improve the status of women.

For the 2013 club year, Founders Pennies are set at the suggested amount of \$.06 per member times the number of years that SIA has been in existence – that's 92 years - since 1921! For this year,

$$$.06 \times 92 = \$5.52 \text{ per member}$$

Founders Pennies are typically a voluntary contribution, but the Sierra Nevada Region made them a mandatory contribution payable each year through member dues.

For more information, visit the SIA website at www.soroptimist.org.

December Board & Business Update

By Faye I. Andersen

As we speed to the end of the calendar year, we have almost passed the half-way mark for the Club Year. Despite the holiday festivities and distractions, SITM continues at a rapid pace with business and projects.

Holiday Party and Gift Exchange Dec. 19

The Hospitality Committee will host a holiday party at the regular Thursday noon meeting, December 19. Members are asked to bring a gift for exchange with another member. The price-range should be limited to \$10-20. Wear your Christmas sweater and join the fun.

November – December Happy Dollars

A total of \$215 in November Happy Dollars was collected for Kid's Cottages, protective shelters for kids removed from their families. December Happy Dollars are designated for Volunteers of America, which operates Reno's Homeless Shelter.

Club Bylaw Changes Debated

At the December Business Meeting, the membership heard and voted on potential changes to the SITM Bylaws regarding size of the Club's Board and some committee name changes. See below for a full report.

Updating SITM's Communications Model

The membership approved a proposal by the Public

Awareness Committee to add LinkedIn and Instagram to SITM's arsenal of communications tools. Coordinator Niki Champ, who already maintains SITM's Facebook page, proposed to extend the club's reach to both professionals and younger women. Instagram is a quick and free way to share a photo of a club activity and short message. LinkedIn is a social networking website for people in professional occupations and used for professional networking. If you want to check this out, for Instagram go to #sitrukkeemeadows. The LinkedIn address is in process.

Afghan Party to Resume in New Year

Due to bad weather, SITM's last afghan lesson and get-together by members was canceled. A date will be selected in January to resume the afghan making party. If you'd like to learn to crochet, or even if you do know how to crochet, you are needed to make Afghans for donation to women in Reno's Homeless Shelter. Contact Diana Dillon for more information.

Membership Update

The Board approved a leave of absence for Eileen Fuller through January for travel. Remaining on leave is Ploypun Pihakane through January 8 for work.



SITM member Jan Veys is battling cancer and many members contributed squares to a quilt for Jan, complete with a heart in the center. Thanks to all who made squares for the blanket and for Marilyn Pearson having the "put it together" party at her home and for Pam Robinson doing the edging.

Club Bylaw Changes a Mixed Bag

At the December Business Meeting, the Finance/Laws & Resolutions Committee made the second reading of proposed changes to the Club Bylaws, which were primarily aimed at reducing the number of SITM Board members from 14 to 11. The issues were thoroughly debated and the result was a mixed bag. The membership voted to:

1. Eliminate two director/alternate positions; but rejected the proposal to also eliminate one of the two director/alternate positions. This vote made the proposal to name the President-Elect as a Club Delegate moot, so it was tabled until next meeting.
2. Retain both the Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary as two separate positions and not combine the two.
3. Rename two Club Committees from Public Awareness/Website and Roster/Data Base to Public Awareness and Roster.

The proposed Club Bylaw changes were referred back to Committee for further review.

Salvation Army Gift Delivery and Breakfast



Salvation Army Gift Delivery Continued



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P.O. Box 20125 • Reno, NV 89515
www.sitmnev.org

President Margie Hermanson
margiedesigns4u@sbcglobal.net

Editor Faye I. Andersen
fia@pyramid.net or
fandersen@nvenergy.com
775-358-5149 or 834-4822

Newsletter Committee
Pam Robinson
Connie Steinheimer
Julia Ratti
Sarah Galetti

Also contributing to this issue
Margie Hermanson
Niki Champ
Jo Ann Roberts
Doreen Rogers
Bev Perkins

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 . . .



**The Soroptimist Ruby Award:
For Women Helping Women**

Nominations now being accepted through January 17

The Soroptimist Ruby Award honors women who, through their professional or personal efforts, are making extraordinary differences in the lives of women or girls. Honorees are women who have worked to improve the lives of other women or girls. Their work has had a significant impact, and also inspires and encourages other women.

Last year's recipient was Becky Blank, founder of Aly's Prom Closet, providing prom wear and accessories to needy high school students in the area in order for them to attend their proms.

The Human Rights/Status of Women Commute is seeking nominations by January 17. The form is simple, plus you should include a statement (limited to 750 words) describing why the nominee should be the recipient of the award.

To obtain a nomination form, contact Committee Coordinator Party Downs or check your recent Friday Digests for a PDF.