

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



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www.sitmnev.org

President Margie Welcomes Members to a New Club Year

We can not begin our new year without first reflecting on the past. President Becky went out with a bang. Our year in review was amazing when we look back on all that we did. The dollars donated and the hours spent are a tribute to each of you and all that you bring to this club. Thank you Past President Becky for a wonderful year.

Now we begin a new year.... where do we start? And how do we get everything done? My head spins every night with thoughts of SITM and all that I would love to see achieved. Usually when I wake up I have forgotten what I was thinking the night before.....but the one idea that does stay true to my thoughts is that I want this year to be one of fun, service and friendship. I feel it is important to do the service with fun and with the fun comes true friendships. For those of you at the installation on June 27 you met or at least saw 6 friends of mine from Pleasanton, California. I met these women through a Junior Women's Club. (We aged out at 35 so you KNOW it was a long time ago) We all served our community



Immediate Past President Becky Moody, right, and current President Margie Hermanson have a laugh during the installation of new officers directors and delegates at the June 27 meeting.

and put our heart and soul into our projects. Because of the service we did, we had fun and from the fun we had, we formed friends that became a lifetime gift. We can also have that gift from our club. Even if we are doing the most amazing project in the world, if we do not have fun and feel we are doing it with our friends we will not retain our members. So this is why I am so strong on the fun and friendship part of Soroptimist.

Our first meeting was wonderful. Thank you Jennifer Burnitt, VP Service. I think we got some great ideas. The next regular meeting will be with Vivian Ruiz, VP Technical. I saw her agenda and you are in for another fun meeting. As much fun as these are, there is so much to be gained from listening to the members. Thank you all for participating.

Now I must say.....I am one lucky President. This is the best board ever. What an amazing group of women. I thank each of you for agreeing to join this crazy ride we are on. Errors may (WILL!!) be made by me, but with your help I may be able to keep them minimal. Here we go....get your cute shoes on, grab that fabulous purse, add some jewelry and ACCESSORIZE YOURSELF WITH SERVICE!!

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SITM President Margie Hermanson, right, is shown with SI/Reno's 2013-14 President Pam Sloan and SITM member Georgia Baker following their club's installation of officers in June.

SITM's New Officers Accessorized for Service



SITM member and Past SNR Governor Sue Camp acted as installing officer for incoming President Margie Hermanson and her 2013-14 officers, directors and delegates. "Accessorize Yourself With Service" is Margie's theme for her year.

Serving as 2013-14 SITM Officers,
Directors and Delegates are:

President

Margie Hermanson

President-Elect

Pam Sutton

Vice President, Service Committees

Jennifer Burnitt

Vice President, Technical Committees

Vivian Ruiz

Corresponding Secretary

Dot Watts

Recording Secretary

Sarah Galetti

General Fund Treasurer

Vicki Schultz

Service Fund Treasurer

Kay Dunham

Directors

Becky Moody

Patty Downs

Delegate 1 Year

Mich Glazier

Alternate Delegate 1 Year

Penney Leezy

Delegate 2 Years

Bev Perkins

Alternate Delegate 2 Years

Enid Oliver

Parliamentarian

Jo Ann Roberts



Past SNR Governor and SITM member Sue Camp, left, acted as installing officer.



Calendar

July 25 – VP Technical meeting of Technical Committees.

July 26-27- SNR- Soroptimist Development Retreat-Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

July 28 – SNR Board Meeting – Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

July 29 – Committee Coordinators' meeting at President Margie Hermanson's Home, 5:30 p.m.

July 30 – Fundraising Potluck for Aimal Hamil at Ana Nadimi's Home

Aug. 1 – Air Races Kick off

Aug. 8 – Dark for Hot August Nights

Aug. 13 – Board Meeting, NV Energy

Aug. 15 – Business Meeting

You can follow our weekly activities on:



SITM's Annual Year in Review

A highlight of every Club Year is the annual Year in Review. As the name implies, it is a review in photos of the club's activities during the previous year, presentation of the President's Scrapbook filled with the year's activities and the revelation of the member receiving the Ceec Abrahams Award for outstanding service during the year (which was delayed a week for the surprised recipient to attend). At this year's review there was also a surprise for three members, all Past Presidents of SITM, that remain active in the week-to-week club activities and annual projects.

Thank you to the Photo/Scrapbook Committee, headed by Marilyn Pearson and Dot Watts and all of the members who took photos, contributed materials and other memorabilia of club activities to make both the annual slide show and scrapbook a fabulous success.

Three Past SITM Presidents, Monica House, Judge Connie Steinheimer and Doris Phelps were surprised and honored at the Year in Review Meeting to learn that they are the club's newest members of the Soroptimist International of the Americas Laurel Society. To complete the surprise, family members and friends were invited to join in the joyous occasion.

The Laurel Society was established in 1994 to honor individuals who have made SIA their charity of choice, supporting the Soroptimist mission. The Laurel Society was created to show appreciation and recognition to donors for major gifts that would ensure continued funding for Soroptimist programs.

Membership at the attaché level in the Laurel Society begins with a \$1,000 contribution. Members receive a specially designed pin which includes the laurel leaves from the Soroptimist Emblem.



Niki Ewing, was surprised with the Ceec Abrahams Award silver bowl and flowers as she was named this year's outstanding member. Selected from member nominations, this award seeks to recognize an "every member" for her tireless efforts. Niki certainly matches the description of a member who volunteers readily, perhaps without being asked, is always there when you need her, is reliable and responsible and demonstrates her support of the organization and its goals.



From left, Monica, Connie, President Becky Moody, Doris and Kay Dunham, serving as the Sierra Nevada Region's Federation Liaison for Fundraising.

Dot Watts, Scrapbook Co-Coordinator, in the foreground, presents a "stuffed to the max" scrapbook to President Becky Moody as a remembrance of her year.



Meet Your New SITM President by Margie Hermanson

My husband (of 44 years) and I have lived in Sparks for 33 years. I used to say I had lived in California most of my life... then it hit me how old I was and this made Nevada my home for half of my life! We moved here in 1980 because of Bob's job. We lucked out with the home we purchased and had great neighbors. Dinners, block parties and kids playing in the courtyard helped make the transition easier for this California native. It was during this time that I started my second career (first one, in California, was in banking).

I was a Sales Rep in the grocery business. I loved what I did and made some lifelong friends (Sue Camp being one of them). But the job did not seem to be enough so I joined PTA (President), Junior League and a sales club called Nevada Travelers Club. It had no purpose except to entertain store managers and buyers. In the early 80's it was a "good ole boys" club. For about six years I was the secretary because and ONLY because I was a woman. The club was fun and I am proud to say I was elected the first and only female president.

One day I saw an ad in the newspaper for a decorator at JC Penney. That started my third and last career. At long last I had found my true calling. From there I went on to work at Ethan Allen and met Jeanne Baxter. She talked about Soroptimist and I thought I might just have to check out this club. The first time I went to a meeting I knew I was finally at

home. I now have my own business doing design consulting.

I have three children. Son Erik is a firefighter, married, lives in Elk Grove, California and has two sons ages 14 and 16. Oldest daughter Erin is a flight attendant, is married, lives in Seattle and has a daughter, 10 and son, eight. Youngest daughter, Jennifer is married, lives in Sparks and has two sons, seven and four. We are so lucky our children still like us despite all the

errors that can and are made as young parents. Bob and I were married at 21, had a baby at 22 and purchased our first house and moved into it on my 23rd birthday. After those two years...being your President should be a piece of cake!



The Hermanson siblings: Jennifer, Erik and Erin



Bob and Margie Hermanson



Happy Dollars to a Good Cause

Sue Camp, right, presents a check for \$349 from April Happy Dollars to Sonya Griffin, founder of Aiden's Gift, a local charity started by a family whose eight-month old baby was affected by shaken baby syndrome.

Lunch Under the Trees at SITM Grove

Some of SITM's retired members had heard about SITM's grove at Rancho San Rafael and decided to go check it out. They were treated to an hour-long tour with Dr. Ed Kleiner who has been with the Arboretum since its inception 27 years ago. SITM has a grove of Maple trees with a sign pointing to the grove, a bench with an SITM plaque on it plus a listing of our grove on the Arboretum map. "We were really proud of our trees and would like to suggest a meeting there sometime," said Marna Griffin.



Those who enjoyed lunch under the trees were, from left, Linda Lamke, Paula Ringkob, Carol Dinneen, Marilyn Pearson and Patti Doty. The photo was taken by Marna Griffin, who submitted this story.



SITM/IGU Semi-Annual Garage Sale

Members of the Friday set-up crew stop long enough to pose for a group photo. The sale netted \$2,991 with proceeds to benefit Nepal dormitory/scholarship/animal assistance and other IGU projects.

Thanks to Youth Luncheon Honors Scholars and Heroes

This year's Thanks to Youth Scholarship recipients and "Unsung Heroes" were honored at the May 23 meeting. Five youth scholarships were awarded and six "Unsung Heroes" received \$200 shopping sprees. KTVN news anchor/reporter Erin Breen acted as MC for the event, which was attended by approximately 300. The luncheon, which is underwritten by Mr. John Farahi and the Atlantis, raised over \$11,000 for next year's scholarships.



Youth Scholarships

Natalie Bourdase – Galena High School – aspires to become a veterinarian

Kimberly Manriquez – Hug High School – plans to attend UNR and major in psychology

Caitlyn Morton – Carson High School – plans to become a child life specialist at William Jessup University of California.

Rebekah Paton – Galena High School -- plans to attend UNR to pursue a degree in nursing.

Thomas Simcox – Reno High School – is pursuing a career in graphic design at TMCC.

"Unsung Hero" Awards

Nathaniel Hudson – eighth-grader at Pine Middle School – honored for rescuing his infant niece and nephew from a house fire.

Lidia Martinez – Spanish Springs High School – is a role model for her family and a coach for youth soccer.

Jaci Hernandez Escobar and Filorio Ramirez – fifth-graders at Veterans Memorial who collected 275 stuffed animals to help children less fortunate.

Francisco Serna – Incline High School – Works full-time to support his family and volunteers to help others learn English.

Lauren Sweet – McQueen High School – is an outstanding volunteer at high school and beyond.

Marilyn Pearson took "Unsung Hero" Jaci Hernandez out for her TTY shopping spree and offered this account.

"She brought her whole family: sister, nephew, brother and mom. We started at Grassroots books where it was free book Friday so everyone got a book. The 4 and 5 year old boys were really happy about that! Jaci bought several books for herself and some DVDs for her sister. Next stop was Sears where this photo was taken. Jaci got jeans, t-shirts, and a pair of shoes. She was pretty thrilled. I don't think she gets many new clothes. Most are hand-me-downs from Good Shepherd. That was the first \$100. Jaci asked to save the second \$100 for the laptop her family is saving up for. It was a great shopping spree!



June & July Board & Business Update

By Faye I. Andersen

Welcome to new member Margaret "Margie" Tankersley, who was inducted at the July Business Meeting. Margie is the office manager for DeVinney & Dinneen. She was sponsored by Carol Dinneen.

June and July Happy Dollars

A total of \$501 was raised from members and guests during June for President Becky Moody's chosen charity, Go Red for Women to end heart disease. The organization is affiliated with the American Heart Association. Happy Dollars collected in July are designated for Family Counseling Services (sponsor agency for Aly's Prom Closet) to help purchase computers.

Upcoming Happy Dollars

The following months have been designated for specific organizations to receive Happy Dollars. Request for open months should be submitted to President Margie Hermanson.

August -- Very Special Arts for art workshops in after school programs for youths at risk, requested by Niki Ewing.

September --The Empowerment Center, requested by Georgia Baker

October -- Awaken, an organization working with agencies combating sex trafficking, requested by the Human Rights Status of Women Committee.

New Lunch Price is \$17; Extra Charge for Extra Tables

Beginning this month, the cost of the weekly luncheon has increased by \$1 to \$17. In addition, recent meetings have attracted "overflow crowds" with the Atlantis scrambling to set up extra tables. So far the hotel has kindly waived their extra set-up fee when attendance exceeds the reservation count.

The Attendance Committee asks members who are unable to attend a meeting, or plan to bring a guest, to notify the committee at sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com no later than 7 p.m. on the Tuesday evening prior to the meeting.

167 Years of Perfect Attendance

Speaking of attendance, 17 SITM members were awarded Perfect Attendance at the July Business Meeting. See page 10 for a listing of these outstanding Soroptimists.

Changes Coming to SITM Website

Design and maintenance of SITM's website (www.sitmnev.org) is being shifted to Niki Ewing and the Public Awareness Committee. President-Elect Pam Sutton has been maintaining the website since inception and she will work with Niki and the committee to transition the responsibility.

Membership Notes

The Board approved leaves of absence through September for Lynn Robins for surgery and Patti Doty for travel; for Marna Griffin through October 12 for travel; for Ploypun Pihakane through January 8 for work.

Long-time member and Past President Gayle Baxley recently retired and is moving to Panama with husband Glenn. Her new email address is GayleBaxley@gmail.com.

SITM Charter member Barbara Vucanovich passed away last month at the age of 91. Barbara was the first woman to represent Nevada in Congress and went on to serve the 2nd Congressional District for 14 years, from 1983-1997.



New member Margie Tankersley, right, and her sponsor Carol Dinneen, are shown during the induction ceremony.

Members Bid Farewell to Gayle Baxley

SITM members gathered at Pam Robinson's home on July 11 for a potluck and farewell to long-time member and Past President Gayle Baxley. Gayle recently retired and is moving to Panama with husband Glenn. We'll all miss Gayle and her ever-present smile at SITM events. Her new email address is GayleBaxley@gmail.com.



All Hail These “Perfect” Members

At the July Business Meeting, 17 of SITM's outstanding members were recognized for a cumulative 169 years of Perfect Attendance. This feat is achieved by attending weekly meetings, of course. But “make-ups” are credited for attending Club Board meetings; District, Region, Federation and International meetings, and meetings of other clubs.

Perfect attendance awards were presented by Attendance Committee Member Marilyn Pearson to the following members:

1 year: Pam Suttron and Betsy Dart
 2 years: Scarlet Ewy and Dot Watts
 4 years: Mich Glazier and Vicki Schultz
 6 years: Margie Hermanson
 7 years: Becky Moody
 8 years: Bev Perkins and Gayle Baxley
 10 years: Patty Downs
 12 years: Sue Camp
 16 years: Diana Dillon
 17 years: Kay Dunham
 18 years: Georgia Baker
 23 years: Pam Robinson
 30 years: Jo Ann Roberts



Fundraising Potluck for Aimal July 30

SITM members and guests are invited to a fundraising potluck dinner being hosted at member Ana Nadimi's home on July 30. The occasion is to raise money to support Aimal Halim's education at the University of Nevada, Reno. Aimal was an Afghan translator for U.S. forces when he met Lt. Col. Kurt Neddenriep, executive officer for the 1st Squadron, 221st Cavalry of the Nevada National Guard. Kurt brought Aimal to America to study. Kurt and wife Katie, along with several SITM members have been supporting Aimal's pursuit of an education through donations, mentoring and other assistance. Kurt is the son of SITM member Jean Neddenriep.

If you would like to attend, please sign-up on the clip board being circulated at the club meetings.

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Also contributing to this issue

Margie Hermanson
 Becky Moody
 Jo Ann Roberts
 Pam Sutton
 Niki Ewing
 Paula Leyba
 Michelle Jones
 Gayle Baxley

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 . . .

Throughout history women and girls face additional obstacles and discrimination solely because of their gender. Soroptimists, as an organization of business and professional women, we feel uniquely qualified to help women and girls live their dreams.

Quick Facts

- One in three women have been beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in their lifetime.
- Women work two-thirds of the world's working hours but earn only 10 percent of the world's income, and own less than 1 percent of the world's property.
- Of the more than 110 million children not in school, approximately 60 percent are girls.

2012-2013 YEAR IN REVIEW

\$78,803 donated to the community & Soroptimist projects
4,269 Volunteer Hours raising funds and supporting community projects

CONTRIBUTIONS to COMMUNITY

\$36,000 in Women's Scholarships

7 Nancy Gomes/Mary Gojack Re-Entry Women's Scholarships and 4 Jack Simon Memorial Graduate Women Scholarships; 1 Women's Opportunity Award.

\$11,400 Youth Scholarships & Awards

Scholarships for 5 High School Graduates; 6 Thanks To Youth "Unsung Heroes" Stipends; 1 Violet Richardson Award and her designee Make A Wish Kids Wish Foundation.

\$11,224 Making a Difference for Women

All-day skills training seminar for 85 unemployed or under-employed women, plus Educational Grants & Stipends for 13 participants, (including the purchase of 6 computers, scrubs, bus passes and rent for 2 residents at Step 2, grant writing and Excel classes and a health check up for one attendee.)

\$4,497 SI/SIA & SNR Donations

Soroptimist International President's Appeal Project Birthing in the Pacific; Soroptimist International of the Americas' Club Campaign; SIA Founder's Pennies; SIA Laurel Society; Sierra Nevada Region Project My Sister's House donation and 6 hand-crocheted afghans; new club SI/Folsom El Dorado Hills.

\$4,028 in Member Happy Dollars

Nevada Youth Empowerment Project; New 2 U Computers; Aimal Halim Education Fund and Family Support; Quest Counseling & Consulting; Lila Barber Cerebral Palsy treatments; December 10th SI President's Appeal, Birthing in the Pacific; Food Bank of Northern Nevada Backpack for Kids; Girl Scouts of the Sierra Libby Booth campers; Volunteers of Americas, Reno Homeless Shelter; Aiden's Gift for shaken baby syndrome; Koz's Kids at Kid's Kottage foster care; Go Red for Women.

\$11,654 Miscellaneous Club & Member Donations

Women's skills training grants; Youth school supplies; Ruby Award recipient Becky Blank and her designee Aly's Prom Closet; donation of prom dresses and accessories to Aly's Prom Closet; Ridge House; Trick or Treat for UNICEF; 462 hand-sewn reading pillows for students at Libby Booth Elementary School; 60 hand-crocheted afghans for women and children at Volunteers of America's Reno Homeless Shelter; 42 hand-crocheted scarfs for Bristlecone Family Resource Center; 50 boxes of cereal for the Food Bank of Northern Nevada; 100 pounds of toiletries for homeless served by Good Shepherd; 94 "Beads for Life" handmade inspirational bracelets for patients at Reno Cancer Center; Santa's Workshop gifts and gift wrapping for Libby Booth Elementary School; Member contributions to Making a Difference for Women Skills Training Seminar.

Awards & Recognitions

SITM received the Sierra Nevada Region Celebrating Success Award for Public Awareness, Second Place for "Facebook and Website; and SNR Newsletter, 3rd Place. SITM Women's Opportunity Award recipient Danielle Mathews, was also selected as a Region WOA recipient.

Source of Funds

\$40,000	Scholarships & Grants
\$13,870	Reno Air Races Proceeds
\$ 3,185	Perfect Pairings Dinners & Raffles
\$11,400	Thanks to Youth
\$20,220	Nepal Project Pledges, Fundraising, Unrealized Gain & Interest
\$ 4,028	Happy Dollars
\$10,704	Member Designated Gifts

\$ 103,407