

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



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Committees and Members Are Engaged in a Very Busy Fall

We've had an exceptionally warm and beautiful fall here in Reno, with mild days and spectacular sunsets. I hope many of you have taken the opportunity to stand in the falling leaves and enjoy the dynamics of the season.

And speaking of dynamics, it seems to me that SITM has been especially productive recently. The IGU garage sale not only netted \$3700 for our projects in Nepal, but also provided clothes for our Making a Difference for Women program's clothes closet and for Libby Booth Elementary School – and all the left overs are donated to Ridge House.

The Membership and Public Awareness Committees are both busy with innovations including a new website, afghans are being crocheted for the VOA's Women's and Children's Homeless Shelter and handmade inspirational Beads for Strength bracelets are being fashioned for patients at Renown Infusion Center Oncology Unit. Applications and nomination forms for Youth and

Women's Scholarships, Unsung Heroes and the Ruby Award have already been distributed and we have several applicants for the "Live Your Dream" award. Soon it will be time for the Salvation Army Holiday Senior Gift Distribution!

The Celebration of Life for Sue Camp

was truly inspiring. In spite of the storm, people came from all over to share memories and remember our dear friend. As we look ahead to the holidays please remember to take a deep breath from time to time and, as I do, appreciate the bond of friendship and support we enjoy as Soroptimists. **President Pam Surton**



Who knew beading is so much fun? Members of the group making "Beads for Strength." Clockwise from left are; Rikki Hensley-Ricker, Doris Phelps, Enid Oliver, Niki Ewing, Carol Dinneen and Bev Perkins. Behind the camera is Marilyn Pearson.



SITM President Pam Surton with District V Director Noel Trim displaying awards presented to the club at the Fall District Meeting.

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SI/Puné Metro East's "One Billion Rise" Program

By Monica House

On October 23, Monica House, on behalf of the IGU committee presented "One Billion Rise", a program launched by SITM's Friendship Link Club, SI/Puné Metro East, India. The "billion" refers to the UN statistic that one in three women will be raped or beaten in their lifetime. This is a scary statistic, and Monica spoke about what Soroptimists around the globe are doing to end this violence against women and girls.

Monica also explained how SITM's Happy Dollars sent to SI/Puné Metro East are helping them to develop a program called "Safe Touch" to educate and empower the next generation and to bring about change for women and girls in the Indian Society. Since last spring, SI/Puné Metro East members and recruited educators and other professionals, they have reached 3,182 children.



Monica House

For the program, Monica wore an Indian dress, Churidar Kurta, that she wore in 2012 while visiting our Friendship Link Club in India. The meeting was thought-provoking and disturbing, but aimed to raise awareness about violence against women and girls.



Calendar

- November 20 – Holiday Boutique, members' arts and crafts sale
- November 27 – Dark – Happy Thanksgiving
- December 4 – Open Meeting
- December 9 – Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Disability Resources
- December 11 – Business Meeting, noon, Atlantis
- December 13 – Breakfast and Salvation Army Gift Delivery
- December 18 – Hospitality Committee, Holiday Social

You can follow our weekly activities on:



District V Fall Meeting Launches a Busy Year

Excerpted from a report by Bev Perkins

Nine SITM members attended the first District V meeting, following the Sierra Nevada Region restructuring, on Saturday, October 25 hosted by SI/ Truckee-Donner. It was also the first meeting of new District Director Noel Trim, a member of the host club.

During the morning session Sierra Nevada Region Governor Jackie DeMartini updated members on region activities and requests including:

- Requesting a half-dozen photos from each club (including one with club banner) to be sent to Director Noel for use at next year's conference.
- Soliciting ideas for next year's Soroptimist Development Retreat.
- Offering the region's Speaker's Bureau, including region officers and committee coordinators to help clubs with speeches, programs and ideas.



SITM members attending the District V Meeting, from left were President Pam Sutton, Penney Leezy, Georgia Baker, Jo Ann Roberts, Anna McArdle, Kay Dunham, Bev Perkins, Margie Hermanson and Faye Andersen.



Past SNR Governor Sue Miller, left and Past Governor Jo Ann Roberts at the sales table at the meeting.

Governor Jackie also gave a recap of the activities of the 43rd Biennial SIA Convention in Vancouver this past July.

- Amendments to SIA Bylaws debated at convention will be sent to clubs for review and voting.
- A dues increase is anticipated, beginning next year and spread over four years.
- The Women's

Opportunity Award has been changed to the Live Your Dream Award.

- The "Dream It, Be It" program is replacing the Violet Richardson Award for youth.

Governor Jackie asked clubs to place six items in their budgets this year:

1. An international item;
2. A federation item;
3. A region item;
4. A program or project matching our mission;
5. Participation in "Dream it, Be it";
6. Participation in Live Your Dream.

She presented club awards to the presidents. SITM received certificates for participating in the Live Your Dream program and for Club Giving to the federation.

SI President Ann Garvie's December 10th President's Appeal again this year is "See Solar, Cook Solar" including solar lanterns for women in Zambia and solar cookers for women in Fiji.

- The 20th SI Convention is scheduled for July 9-12, 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey.
- SIA will hold its 44th Biennial Convention in Orland, Florida on July 20-23, 2016.

Several Region Coordinators and Federation Program Chairs gave reports on purpose and deadlines for various region and federation programs.

Club Presidents, including SITM's Pam Sutton each gave brief reports on programs being pursued by their clubs. The meeting concluded with a slide presentation of recently departed Past Governor and STM member Sue Camp.



SITM Corresponding Secretary Anna McArdle, far right, was recognized with other "first timers" at a District Meeting.

A Lifetime of Travel, Adventure and Business

Member Profile by Susanna Money

I come from a family of five where I am the youngest of three...one middle brother (currently running my father's oldest Real Estate business, Money Realty in Chula Vista, California) and one older sister (owner of Roxanne's Birkenstock in Fresno and San Luis Obispo). My father and mother came to California from Wisconsin and loved family camping in the Cuyamaca Mountains and vacations on Catalina Island on our boat named Roxanne... after my sister. I was a late bloomer and never thought, when I was in my teens, I would go to college and accomplish so much in my lifetime.

I have been blessed with an excellent education having traveled in the late 60's around the world with World Campus Afloat. Studying while visiting 13 countries carrying a full semester of classes (which is now attached to the University of Virginia) and did graduate work at University of California and Point Loma College in my home town of San Diego, California.



Susanna Money and best buddy Cash.

I specialized in Early Childhood Development. I worked in retail for the Bicentennial celebration for San Diego as a buyer and manager of their gift shops while working toward graduation. Having worked and saved in the 70's, I traveled Europe for six months in a pop top camper surviving three devaluations of the American dollar and world emotions about Vietnam, crossing "Check Point Charlie", then the Communist borders of Czechoslovakia where they ripped my camper apart searching for bibles and upon returning home, just missing the shootings in Munich at the Olympic Village.

I earned my Montessori Degree from the St. Nicholas Training Center in London and graduated from San Diego State. I taught for 10 years, five years in private schools and was weaned away by the public schools where I taught another five years. With the travel bug still in my veins and a leave of absence, I traveled to Guatemala for several years and worked as the Sub-Director (vice principal) of the Collegio Interamericano (Pre School through 12th grade) in Quetzaltenango,

four hours in the highlands from Guatemala City. I wrote curriculum and curriculum guides helping the school prepare the children of missionaries for entry into colleges stateside.

Returning home I moved to Reno in 1982 with a major career change. I became CEO of Money Enterprises, Inc., opening Birkenstock Comfort Concepts (comfort footwear and natural fiber clothing) in the Reno Town Mall.

Trying to provide natural fiber clothing and comfort concept footwear exclusively was a real tough learning curve as a buyer. There was hardly a natural fiber being made in the polyester era. The business grew from 900 to 3000 square feet over the years. I later opened The Bazaar Global Collections carrying products I discovered in my world travels: fabrics, scarves, glassware, Polish and Mexican pottery, jewelry from around the world and whimsical home decor items.

The Chamber of Commerce and March of Dimes (remember the 1st Bachelor Bid in the USA???...that was in Reno) were my community involvement for many years. I completed a planned retirement of my two businesses for January 2010 after 30 years in the business. I immediately did more traveling – with no worries. I recently traveled to Catalina for a weekend and visited

the hotel where I worked as a maid for a few college summers. I am still very good at cleaning toilets, showers and changing beds! A great learning experience that has served me all these years... I belong to some wine tasting groups and a gardening club....love to putter.

Retiring in January 2010, I now walk my Dobie, my best buddy, every morning where he can run freely and I can visit with "walking" friends. I find a little wine on the patio with the BBQ going is a great evening for me. I still enjoy entertaining, old collectibles, organizing fun events, other people in all shapes and forms....and I am a movie buff.



Susanna in hat at Santa Barbara.

Members Celebrate with Halloween Spirit

The Hospitality Committee invited members to wear a funny hat or dress in costume for the October 30 SITM meeting. Many did both, creating an hilarious scene at the Atlantis for lunch. They also hosted a Halloween-themed drawing contest, Valerie Summersille Hahn's guest, Rose Carron, drew the winning picture. The best costume award was presented to member Chris Fegert, whose costume was so good, her identity was in question with some members.



Liza Chapin and Chris Fegert during the costume contest. Chris was selected for best costume.



Marilyn Pearson and spider friend.



Our "flapper girls" Anna McArdle and Vivian Ruiz.



Becky Moody and Cindy Burk were two of the costume judges.



Linda Lamke with her "boyfriend".



Two more costume judges, Doreen Rogers and Joan Hughes.



Dot Watts and Bev Perkins take a break from lunch.



Mich Glazier with her flaming hat.



Georgia Baker-Flambures as Perdita, the mother of 101 Dalmatians.



Penney Leezy and guest.



Barbara Atwell and Anna McArdle



President Pam Sutton and President-Elect Vivian Ruiz ready to start the program, along with Margie Hermanson and Liza Chapin.



SITM members were in the Halloween spirit at the October 30 meeting.

Education-Youth Supports Our Partner Libby Booth School

By Doris Phelps

Teacher Recognition Continues

The Education-Youth Committee continues its very special recognition of the 60 hardworking, dedicated teachers and staff at Libby Booth Elementary School. In October, committee members Shirley George and Mich Glazier set up a Nevada Day & Halloween themed party in the teachers' lounge. They gave Nevada-shaped notepads to each teacher and staff member along with "Boo Bags" filled with Halloween candy. Apple cider was also available all day for the teachers and staff to enjoy. Everyone commented how delighted they were with the gifts and treats!



Shirley George and Mich Glazier, members of the Education-Youth Committee show off the "Boo Bags" filled with candy and Nevada-shaped notepads for Libby Booth teachers.

Apple cider was the drink of the day for Teacher Appreciation at Libby Booth.



Education-Youth Co-Coordinators Teresa Mentzer and Connie Steinheimer examine books with the librarian at Libby Booth School.

November Book Drive for Library

The Education-Youth Committee would like to share with members the good news regarding the donation of 16 new books from Sundance Books for the Libby Booth Library.

There is an opportunity for our members to adopt one or more of the books listed below. With the members' donations, the Education-Youth Committee will be able to purchase the following books. The price of the books ranges from \$10 to \$19 and the plan is to purchase two copies of each book.

1. The Year of Billy Miller, by Kevin Henkes
2. I Pledge Allegiance, by Pat Mora
3. One and Only Ivan, by Katherine Applegate
4. Elephant in the Garden, by Michael Morpurgo
5. Dog Called Homeless, by Sarah Lean
6. The River, by Gary Paulson
7. Night John, by Gary Poulson
8. Dog Song, by Gary Paulson
9. Hatcher, by Gary Paulson
10. The Blessing Cup, by Patricia Polacco
11. Thank You Mr. Falker, by Patricia Polacco
12. Mr. Waynes Master, by Patricia Polacco
13. The Junkyard Wonderers by Patricia Polacco
14. The Art of Miss Chew, by Patricia Polacco
15. Jake and Lily, by Jerry Spinelli
16. Sis for Silver, by Eleanor Coerr

You can also purchase the books yourself and drop them off at Teresa Mentzer's office by December 15.

November Board & Business Update

By Faye I. Andersen

Congratulations to new member Rikki Hensley-Ricker, who was inducted at the November Business Meeting. Rikki is the Fundraising and Public Relations Manager at Bristlecone Family Resources. She was sponsored by Kay Dunham. Welcome Rikki.



Newly inducted member Rikki Hensley-Ricker, center, receives her Soroptimist pin from sponsor Kay Dunham. Conducting the induction ceremony for Rikki was Georgia Baker.

Delegates Report of District V Fall Meeting

SITM Delegate Bev Perkins gave a detailed report on the happenings of the District V Fall Meeting, held October 25 in Truckee, California. For excerpts from the report, see page 3.

Happy Dollars for October & November

A total of \$382.30 in October Happy Dollars was raised for Disability Resources and New 2U Computers. Happy Dollars for November are designated for Crisis Call Center.

IGU Funding Nepal Projects for 2015

The Board recommended and the membership approved a motion brought by the IGU Committee to wire transfer \$15,550 to the club's Nepal project to cover expenses. A complete breakdown of the funds can be found on page 9. In their report to the Board, Co-Coordinator Connie Steinheimer and Jeanne Baxter reported that since the Nepal project was founded, SITM has conducted 14 garage sales netting \$72,305. Over 900 girls have graduated with the aid of SITM scholarships.

Membership Exploring Riverwalk District Wine Walk

The Membership Committee presented a proposal to the Board and membership to submit an application to become a community partner with the monthly Wine

Walk program of the Reno Riverwalk District. The idea is to increase visibility in the community for Soroptimist at information booths and wine stops during the event. Membership voted to proceed with the application. The committee will work with the district to determine a future month to participate.

Book Drive in November

The Education-Youth Committee is seeking donations towards the purchase of specific books for the Libby Booth Elementary School library. Money or books can be turned in to Teresa Mentzer. See Page 7 for more details.

Convention Bylaw Amendments Under Review

At the 43rd Biennial Convention in Vancouver, held in July, SIA clubs voted their recommendations on nine different SIA Bylaw Amendments that would provide updates on club membership and dues, selection of Fundraising Council members and rescinding or updating certain SIA resolutions on various issues.

President Pam has a copy of all of the proposed amendments (27 pages) that she can email to any interested members. They have been referred to the Finance/Bylaws Committee for review and recommendation for the club's vote. These will be reviewed at the December Business Meeting.

Membership Update

There were no new requests for leave of absence nor any resignations. Remaining on leave of absence is Lynne Catrow through January 8, 2015, for work reasons.



Singing "Happy Birthday Soroptimists" are four of the November birthday celebrants, from left, Carol Dinneen, Dor Watts, Vicki Schultz and Georgia Baker-Flambures.

\$15,550 To Be Sent to Nepal in November

By Paula Ringkob

A recent report from Thulipokhari, Nepal, conveys the impact SITM has had upon the village: SITM's projects have raised the status of women in the region by offering an opportunity for education to nearly 900 girls from all across the spectrum of the country's ancient caste system; allowing them to hold jobs outside the home, such as teacher, shopkeeper, bank clerk and various government jobs. Girls are less likely to be married off at 14-15 years of age and are now marrying closer to their twenties. The Goat Project and Vital Seeds Programs have increased Mother's Groups ability to sell goat meat (now sustaining itself). Their crop yields enabled women to raise money by selling produce to nearby villages. The Animal Assistance program continues to be successful.

Jeanne Baxter remains in frequent contact with the Thulipokhari Board which administers the funds wired to the village according to SITM's general directions. They provide input on how funds are utilized plus areas of ongoing need. Together with Scholarship donations and garage sale proceeds, reports from this Board provided the basis for the IGU Committee's voting to send a \$15,550 wire transfer to Nepal on November 13, 2014.

Funds are earmarked for scholarships (\$8,000), dormitory staffing (cook and housemother) and maintenance (\$2,450), library (books, computers - \$2,000) and \$3,100 for the Animal Assistance and Vital Seeds Programs. At this point, the Goat Project is sustaining itself. The most recent wire transfer was sent in Fall 2013. The IGU-Nepal Project is funded by donations, fall and spring garage sales and earnings on funds at the Community Foundation of Western Nevada.

Mark Your Calendars for Gift Delivery

By Doris Phelps

SITM's annual gift delivery project for the Salvation Army is just around the corner.

When: Saturday, December 13

Club members are encouraged to invite family and friends to join in for a heartwarming morning as we deliver Christmas packages to seniors in our community. The day starts out with breakfast at Nothing To It café at 7:30 a.m. The address is 225 Crummer Lane, just off South Virginia Street. Cost for breakfast is \$17 per person. Gift pick up at the Salvation Army is at 9:00 a.m., location TBD. Stay tuned for further details from event coordinator Diana Dillon.



The Soroptimist Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women

Nominations Sought

By Patty Downs

The Human Rights/Status of Women Committee is soliciting nominations for "The Soroptimist Ruby Award for Women Helping Women". This annual award recognizes women in our community who are supporting the ideals of Soroptimism and who, through their professional or personal efforts are making extraordinary differences in the lives of women or girls, and/or their work has had a significant impact and inspires and encourages other women.

The nomination form can be completed electronically and then copied for submission. You do not need to obtain the signature of the nominee. We will only obtain the signature if the woman is selected by SITM, and her application is moved to the Sierra Nevada Region for consideration at that level. Deadline is January 16, 2015.

The recipient will be honored at an SITM meeting in February and a donation will be made in her name to the charity of her choice.

Submissions should be made to Patty Downs.

Past Ruby Award Recipients:

2013-2014

Cary Groth, UNR Athletic Director, retired

2012- 2013

Becky Blank, Aly's Prom Closet

2011-2012

Marcia Hoch, TMCC

2010-2011

Lilli Trincherro, Celebrate Diversity Endowment

2009-2010

Maureen McKissick, City of Reno

Donna Clontz, GSSN Board

Kareen Prentice, Domestic violence programs

Perri Finch, Komen Race for the Cure

Joni Kaiser, CAAW

Mich Glazier, TMCC

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Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows
P.O. Box 20125 • Reno, NV 89515
www.sitmnev.org

President Pam Suttonpam@crystalwindglass.com**Editor Faye I. Andersen**fia@pyramid.net orfandersen@nvenergy.com

775-358-5149 or 834-4822

Newsletter Committee

Pam Robinson

Doris Phelps

Paula Ringkob

Also contributing to this issue

Jo Ann Roberts

Pam Sutton

Patty Downs

Teresa Mentzer

Niki Ewing

Marilyn Pearson

Pati Doty

Monica House

Bev Perkins

Susanna Money

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.orgSoroptimist International of the Americas: www.soroptimist.orgSoroptimist International: www.soroptimistinternational.org

Did you know . . . Why Women and Girls?

Excerpted from the SIA Website

Soroptimist means "best for women" and that's what we strive to be—an organization of women at their best helping other women to be their best. As a volunteer organization of business and professional women we feel uniquely qualified to help women and girls live their dreams.

It's true that both men and women live in poverty, face discrimination and must overcome obstacles. But throughout history—in every country in the world—women and girls face additional obstacles and discrimination solely because of their gender.

Why do women and girls need our help? Consider just the following:

- One in three women have been beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in their lifetime.
- According to a recent report, of the 600,000-800,000 people trafficked across international borders annually, 80 percent are female.
- 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 a total 550 million working poor, 330 million (60 percent) are women.
- Two-thirds of the 880 million illiterate adults are women.
- Of the more than 110 million children not in school, approximately 60 percent are girls.
- Pregnancies and childbirth-related health problems take the lives of nearly 146,000 teenage girls each year.