

# SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



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## Reflections of a Successful Year

It is really hard to believe that a year has passed since I was installed as your President. That day was so exciting, yet filled with fear that I would not do a good job. There was a point that day where I thought "What have I just done?? How can I fill the shoes of my predecessors? They know so much and I know so little". Well that fear left as fast as it came when I realized we all wear different shoes. I brought accessories and a very large sense of humor about my weaknesses (aka the \*G%\$# computer!!) I have had the VERY best board and coordinators any President could ask for. Never once have I had to worry about projects, deadlines or anything else. You have all done your job and followed up on everything that needed to be done. I got to sit back and accept the glory of your hard work but I do know where it belongs. Thank you all from the very bottom of my heart for this year.

My goal this year was to have fun. I am hoping that each



*New District V Director Noel Trim and President Margie at Thanks to Youth.*



*Thanks to Youth Coordinators Pam Robinson, far left and Mich Glazier, far right, are shown herewith speaker Brian Polian, UNR Football Coach and President Margie Hermanson. See page 4 for additional Photos.*

of you had a feeling of fun at the meetings and projects we did. I know I did. I am sure there have been Presidents (of other clubs) that the year has seemed like it was three years long...not here. This year has seemed about three months long. I am very sad to see the year end but I know upcoming President Pam will do a wonderful job and the new board will be fantastic. It is time for a change and I will be the one smiling in the "cheap seats" enjoying the transformation of the club year.

I want to thank each of you for the honor of serving as your President for 2013-2014. I have truly enjoyed every day and I will forever be grateful for the opportunity you gave me.

With much love, Margie



*Niki Champ hosted an evening membership social at the Montreaux Country Club on May 20.*

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Dear Soroptimist ladies,

My husband, Bert and I would like to thank Soroptimist ladies for hosting and coming to the baby shower for little Isabelle. We are honored and we appreciate your time. You are the most generous group of ladies. The shower was sweet and lovely. This is the beginning of a new chapter in our life. We are so excited that you made it extremely special with the baby shower. Thank you so much! We could not begin to express how much we appreciate you. We are blessed to have this amazing group of ladies in our lives. We can not wait for Isabelle to meet all of you.

Sincerely,  
Ploypun and Bert



### Calendar

- June 19 – Year in Review
- June 26 – Installation of Officers
- July 3 – DARK
- July 18-19 – Soroptimist Development Retreat, Atlantis, Reno

You can follow our weekly activities on:



## Former Scholarship Recipient, Now an SITM Member

By Pam Robinson

Inducted in November 2013, Lynne Catrow is one of our newest members. But she isn't new to Soroptimist. Lynne received a Gomes/Gojack scholarship from SITM in 2009 when she was a student at TMCC.

Lynne was raised in Redondo Beach, CA and moved to Sparks during her junior year in high school. Her dad was an aerospace engineer and helped put a man on the moon while working in Houston. Her mother was a teacher but stayed at home to raise Lynne and her two brothers who are 6 and 8 years older than she is. The family moved temporarily to Alice Springs in the outback of Australia when Lynne was 4 years old which was an adventure! The family vacationed each year in Yosemite with lots of wonderful memories.

Lynne admits she wasn't the best student in high school, mostly being interested in the social life. She married at age 18 and moved to Norfolk, VA with her Navy husband. After he got out of the Navy they lived in Maryland and Pennsylvania, but moved back to Sparks in 2003. Lynne had three children by then, ages 6, 4, and 1-1/2 and was a stay a home mom. Her husband was in the Navy reserve and was deployed to Iraq. After his deployment he returned to tell Lynne their marriage was over, and they divorced in 2006.

Nursing was the career Lynne initially dreamed of, so as a single mother of three, she returned to school at TMCC. She wanted to be either a nurse or an xray tech. At about the same time her mother was diagnosed with brain cancer and died soon after. Her father passed away a few years later.

While she was in school Lynne became an assistant to a friend who was a realtor. She also worked part time at TMCC as an academic advisor. She decided to get her real estate license and became a realtor with Ferrari Lund in 2007. Meanwhile, she was struggling to keep her house, and met Dan Catrow who moved in as her roommate. They were good friends whose relationship grew. They started dating 6 months later, got married, and welcomed their son Connor, who is now 5-1/2. All this time she continued to attend TMCC and received her AA degree in Spring 2010.

Lynne learned about SITM when she applied for a scholarship. She has always been involved in her childrens' activities, has volunteered at their classrooms, been a sports mom, and participated in church activities at Sparks Christian Fellowship. She feels Soroptimist is a

wonderful way to give back. Her favorite project is the Salvation Army gift delivery. It's a great opportunity to deliver gifts with her children, and her family volunteered twice more for additional Salvation Army deliveries last Christmas.

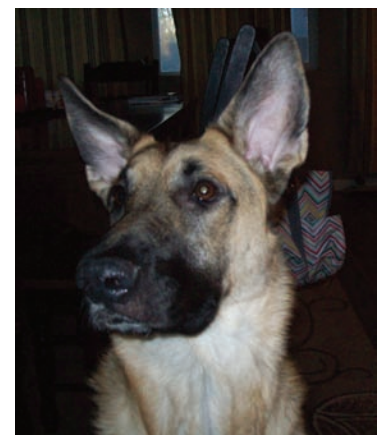
All four of her children participate in sports. Ben, age 17, runs cross country, is in honors AP classes, works at Port of Subs, and will graduate next year with plans to attend UNR. Ashley, age 15, attends TMCC High School, sings, and taught

herself guitar with no prior musical background. Ian, age 12, lives for football and is in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Mendive, and Connor, age 5-1/2, plays soccer and will start first grade in the fall at Beasley Elementary. Her husband, Dan works at UPS. And they have a rescue dog, Mallory, a German Shepard who is afraid of everyone except their family. They are a busy family!

Lynne loves the outdoors--anything to do with water and the mountains. Her favorite activity would be hanging out in a floatie on the lake with a cold drink while camping. She has a great circle of good friends who see each other often and she is always up for fun! Although she is enjoying her real estate career, she does hope to return to school someday to be a nurse. Her fun loving personality is evident to everyone she meets, and Lynne looks forward to getting to know everyone in SITM better and participating in all our club activities.



*Lynne Catrow and family: husband Dan, son Ben 17, daughter Ashley 15, son Ian 12 and son Connor 5.*



*Family member Mallory*

## Thanks to Youth Luncheon a Fabulous Success!

By Pam Robinson

Over 230 people attended our recent Thanks to Youth luncheon. Our club raised over \$12,000 with the possibility of a few more dollars coming in. A big thank you goes to all the members who sponsored tables, worked with their employers to contribute extra funds, donated raffle funds or prizes, and sold tickets and brought friends, family, and co-workers.

We awarded five \$2,000 scholarships to deserving high school seniors and gave \$200 shopping sprees to five amazing unsung heroes. The Education Youth Committee chose excellent recipients!

Our raffle was extraordinary with themed baskets and prizes for the recipients as well, and Co-Coordinator Pam Robinson and Mich Glazier send hugs to everyone on the Thanks to Youth Committee for their planning and organizing!



Youth Scholarship recipients from left, Kenia RamirezMoreno, Jerson Valdez, Nicole Winckelmann, Andrea Carbajal Infante, Lucia Rivera Salas.



Ticker Sellers Holly Wellborn-Hight and Vivian Ruiz.



Aimal Halim who joined us for Thanks to Youth, is surrounded by some of SITM's most ardent supporters, Kay Dunham, Mich Glazier, Becky Moody and Jean Neddenriep.



Unsung Heroes from left, Jeremy De Los Angeles, Kristina Ierace, Cassi Salo, Lianna Hill and Eloisa Diaz-Armenta.



Ticket sellers Eileen Fuller and Ana Nadimi.

## SI Punè Metro East Adopts One Billion Rise Program

By Monica House, IGU Committee

On February 14, 2013 people in more than 190 countries rose and danced to demand an end to violence against women and girls as part of the One Billion Rising movement. The word "billion" refers to the statistic that one in three women will be raped or beaten in their lifetime, or about one billion. The campaign was initiated by playwright and activist, Eve Ensler (known for her play *Vagina Monologues*), and her organization of V-Day. Many International clubs including Belgium, Canada, India, Turkey, UK and USA took part in this global initiative.

For SIPME, whose members are still enraged by the tragic gang rape of Jyoti Singh, the New Dehli student in Dec 2012. This call inspired a program of action. Their members gathered at a small café to plot and plan a new project to change attitudes and prevent gender-violence among the new generation of young minds through outreach programs in the schools.

Ten of their members attended training on gender sensitization and child abuse so they would be able to conduct workshops in the schools. Club members put together presentations in three areas including "Stay Safe", "Growing Up-Adolescence and "Gender Sensitization". They also prepared modules for teachers and parents about the importance of "listening to your children".

Initially, it was challenging for SIPME to get into the schools, as they were told there was not time, it was not necessary, the parents would object, exams were going etc. However, they did not give up and club members who had connections with the schools were able to help get them in overtime. In the workshops, members encourage the children to have a voice and tell their stories around gender sensitization and violence.

SIPME says "just as you walk for cause, or run for charity, you can dance to rise to dissolve barrier borders of all kinds in unison for a borderless global shame." SIPME knows that it's a slow ride to a big number of "One Billion", but in just eight months SI Punè Metro East has already made a difference by reaching the minds 3,985 school children.



*The international organization was founded as One Billion Rising. SIPME has decided to call their program One Billion Rise.*

## See Solar, Cook Solar:

### Helping girls study in Zambia and empowering women in Fiji

*Reprinted from The Global Voice, Soroptimist International*

Soroptimist International is delighted to announce the first two projects that will benefit from President Ann Garvie's See Solar, Cook Solar Appeal: schoolgirls in Zambia will receive solar lanterns to assist them in their studies, while solar cookers will be used to help empower women in Fiji. In Zambia, only 1.5% of rural women complete their secondary education. One difficulty is the lack of reliable electricity, which limits when they can study.

Since 2012, SI Lurgan (UK) has partnered with girls' education charity Camfed to provide solar lanterns to

female students in Zambia. One hundred lanterns have already been distributed. See Solar, Cook Solar will enable Camfed to provide lanterns to many more girls identified by their communities as being most in need of support.

In Fiji, Soroptimists are developing a programme to provide solar cookers to women in remote locations. They are working with the Ministry of Women, Welfare & Poverty Alleviation, who are already promoting solar lighting schemes to empower and enable opportunities for women and girls. See Solar, Cook Solar will enable this project to be extended to solar cooking.



## 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Garage Sale is Huge Success!

By Patty Downs

The garage sale raised \$2,761. Of the total, \$350 can be attributed to the boutique and \$100 is the donation of Norma Webster's raffle prize winnings from Thanks to Youth.

The next garage sale is only a few months away, and donations can be stored at Ethan Allen:

1. You can drop them off at the Ethan Allen warehouse between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.
2. You can call the store at 826.1722 to make arrangements for drop off of larger items requiring assistance.
3. For dropping smaller items not requiring assistance, you can check with the receptionist in the main store anytime Saturday through Monday during store hours, which are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

If you have clothes for the boutique, hanging racks used to store clothes are available at Ethan Allen – please tell warehouse personnel assisting you what boutique items are to be hung on the racks. We are looking for higher end items for the boutique. If you do donate to the boutique please label and size items accordingly.

Thanks to everyone for donating and/or working at the sale because it takes a village to make this happen.

Thanks also to Jeff and Connie whose support of SITM is invaluable.





## Garage Sale Continued



## May Board & Business Update

By Faye I. Andersen

Final financial details, recaps of recent programs and hand-offs between retiring and incoming officers were the June highlights as President Margie presided over her final Board and Business Meetings.

### Garage Sale Results

The IGU Committee reported the final results of the May 31 garage sale. Proceeds totaled \$2,761, with a big thank you to all members who participated. The board and membership approved the next garage sale to take place in late September or early October. Dates will be announced. See complete story and photos on pages 6 & 7.

### Friendship Link Club's New Project

The committee also announced it has selected our Friendship Link Club, SI/Punè Metro East's project, "One Billion Rise" as the recipient of the March Happy Dollars, along with their \$200 committee funds for a total of \$742. See complete story on page 5.

This year's Thanks to Youth program netted over \$12,000 with a few additional dollars still to come. Five Youth Scholarships were presented, along with five "Unsung Heroes" were awarded \$200 shopping stipends. Brian Pollian, UNR's Football Coach was the featured speaker. See complete story on page 4.

### Air Race Budget and Dates Set

The Air Race Committee submitted their budget to the board and membership in June. The committee anticipates proceeds of \$12,000. Work dates were announced as set-up September 7, with work shifts from September 8 through September 14.

### Member Dues Are Due

It's that time, as we start a new club year, for members to remit dues to General Fund Treasurer Vicki Schultz. She has emailed bills to each member. Cost is \$171 for regular members for the upcoming year.

A total of \$339 was collected during May Happy Dollars for Disability Resources. The June Happy Dollars are designated by President Margie Hermanson. She has chosen the Canine Rehabilitation Center and Sanctuary as the recipient.

### Club Retreat Set for August

President-Elect Pam Sutton proposed and the

membership approved a Club Retreat to be scheduled in August. Former member Katy Simon has agreed to facilitate the event. Watch for the date to be announced.

### MADFW Grants Announced

Educational Grants and Stipends stemming from applications submitted by Making a Difference for Women attendees have been announced. So far, a total of \$4,000 has been awarded for six computers/laptops; four work-related courses; three work appropriate "uniforms"; and one GED course fee.



*Holly Riley author of "Allowing – A Portrait of Forgiving" and "Letting Life Love You – The Allowing Handbook" spoke to members at the June 2 meeting.*



*NV Project co-founders Melissa Fritz and Lieutenant Colonel JoAnn Meacham spoke at the May 29 meeting about their project to assemble and ship "care packages" to military members serving overseas.*

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P.O. Box 20125 • Reno, NV 89515  
[www.sitmnev.org](http://www.sitmnev.org)

President Margie Hermanson  
[margiedesigns4u@sbcglobal.net](mailto:margiedesigns4u@sbcglobal.net)

Editor Faye I. Andersen  
[fia@pyramid.net](mailto:fia@pyramid.net) or  
[fandersen@nvenergy.com](mailto:fandersen@nvenergy.com)  
775-358-5149 or 834-4822

Newsletter Committee  
Pam Robinson  
Connie Steinheimer

Also contributing to this issue  
Margie Hermanson  
Jo Ann Roberts  
Patty Downs  
Monica House

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](mailto: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](http://www.soroptimistsnr.org)  
Soroptimist International of the Americas: [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)  
Soroptimist International: [www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org)



## Did you know . . .



A message from SIA President Cheri Fleming

It's official: The Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Awards program is now the Soroptimist Live Your Dream Awards program! Soroptimist International of the Americas signature program's inspirational new name highlights the primary goal of the program: to help women live their dreams.

The program participation materials have been updated to reflect the program's new name and visual identity. New for the 2014-2015 club year is the Live Your Dream Award Club Participation Toolkit. Everything needed to participate in the program is included, from distributing applications and holding application workshops to finding judges and recognizing your award recipient.

Since the application deadline will now be November 15, clubs will need to get applications to potential applicants earlier, or distribute applications year-round. It is our hope this new deadline will make both participating and applying easier—and in turn, increase the number of women we are able to assist!

Please remember that despite these changes to the name and visual identity, our wonderful program will not be changing. The program will continue to help women increase their standard of living and achieve the dream of a better life for themselves and their families.