

SITM UPDATE ~ "Positively Magic"



Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



Volume 10_07

April 2007



Letter from the President *by Pam Robinson*

Elections are over and we have a new slate of officers elected for the upcoming year. It's hard to believe this year has passed so quickly. Thank you to everyone who participated and agreed to serve as Board Members in 2007-2008.

Thanks to Youth is just around the corner. Our members play a big part in this event with selling tickets and getting corporate sponsorships, so please help this wonderful cause for children's scholarships.

Spring is in the air and budgets are too. I've emailed everyone a copy of the budgets. Please review them since we will be discussing them at our upcoming Finance Committee meeting.

Speaking of committees, please start thinking about which committees you would like to serve on next year, because it will be sign-up time before we know it. If you have been on the same committee for more than two years, I would like to encourage you to spread your wings and try something new. Fresh ideas and fresh faces can bring new life to our projects and renewed sense of purpose to our members.

I am happy to be serving as your Club President this year and look forward to what is in store for our club and its members in the coming years.

President Pam Robinson

What's Coming Up *by Lynn Robins*

April 19th: Finance Committee Budget
Vicki Schultz and her committee will present the budget for the up coming year.

April 26th: Education Women Luncheon
Kimberly Rossiter and her committee will be presenting 12 deserving women with scholarships. UNR President Dr. Milton Glick will be the speaker. This is part of what we, as Soroptimist are all about.

Helping and supporting women reach their goals.

May 3rd: SOLT

Margie Hermanson and her committee will be presenting an interesting program regarding Soroptimist Orientation & Leadership Training or SOLT as we know it. Which is always fun and educational.

May 10th: Business Meeting

Board Members 2006-07

- Pam Robinson-President
- Gayle Baxley-President Elect
- Jo Ann Roberts-Parliamentarian
- Sarah Carrasco-VP Service
- Judi Miller-VP Technical
- Treasurer G.F. -Michelle Jones
- Treasurer S.F. -Linda Buszka
- Recording Secretary-Marilyn Pearson
- Corresp. Secretary-Jennifer Crowe
- Governor Elect—Sue Camp
- Director 1 year— Diana Dillon
- Director 2 year— Kay Dunham
- Delegate 1 year-Tracy Turner
- Delegate 2 year— Kelley Kordonowy

Inside this issue:

President's Letter	1
What's Coming Up?	1
News of Our Members	2
Board Business News	4
Upcoming Birthdays	5
Member Profile	5
Tidbits of the Month	6
What You Missed	6
Photo Gallery	7
Community Events	8
Contact Us	8



News of Our Members

Lots of Happy Dollars were expressed for Purna and the Subedi family for the presentation and update of the Nepal project.

Cheryl Powell & Marilyn Pearson even said they joined after seeing the presentation two years ago. President **Pam Robinson** couldn't believe her daughter was turning 40. We don't believe it either Pam. She was also happy that her assistant Polly could attend as a guest. **Gayle Baxley** was celebrating Glenn's Birthday and 37 years of being married to him. Congratulations! **Connie Steinheimer** thanked the Subedi family for coming to see us, Ethan Allen Staff for their continued support of the IGU Garage sales. **Connie's** daughter Joslynn choreographed a play at Hug High School and it's going very well. **Jeanne Baxter** commended her team on what a great job they do and beamed with excitement over the Subedi's visit. **Norma Webster** thanked Jeanne for having the foresight to bring Purna to the U.S. **Billie Mendiola** said it was nice to see so many of her co-workers from Ethan Allen at lunch. She also was proud to announce her grandson just turned 7. **Kay Dunham** took a little spring break up in Boise. **Georgia Baker** gave a Happy Dollar from **Linda Buszka** for the shopping spree at Bed, Bath & Beyond. **Jennifer Crowe** told everyone that budget cuts were going to effect Bristlecone's funding, so opportunities like Happy Dollars make a difference. **Paula Ringkob** was happy to give to the cause of the month, Bristlecone Resources. **Marilyn Pearson** wanted everyone to know she's working up the animal assistance ladder with her goal being a water buffalo. **Norma Rash** said rather than give her grandkids more toys, she adopts animals in their name. Speaking of animals, Vickie Butler is not sure how she will explain "Water Buffalo" in her checkbook register when her husband sees it. **Margie Hermanson** is taking her 60th in stride. She requested that her friends only bring gifts or cash which she can donate back to Bristlecone or CAAW. She also said she had a fun time working with her daughter at Ally's Prom Closet. **Sue Camp** reminded **Margie** that after twenty plus years of friendship, **Sue's** still younger, by FOUR days. **Sue** also declared she has a granddaughter on the way. And she was able to go to Palm Desert with former SITM member and friend, **Donna Herz**, where they had a great time. **Eileen Fuller** was happy that the Women's Expo had 51 interested members, a lot which came from the Nepal Marketing materials. Her grandson is celebrating his 1st birthday soon. **Marie Edwards** is so happy that after years of traveling back and forth, her kids are moving closer. **Laurie Chappelle** enjoyed seeing Purna and the Baxter family. **Laurie's** Sunday ser-

vices are averaging about 50 guests per week with two services on Easter. **Faye Andersen** thanked Purna, his family and the **Baxter's** for their contribution to the program. She also explained the difficulty of finding white, cotton panties for the SIPD, she had to go to several stores before finding them. **Chris Otto** of SI Truckee Donner was pleased she could join us. She asked everyone to Save the Date of June 2nd for a wine tasting fundraiser her club is holding. **Thuy Schneider**, our head recruiter, brought four guests and expressed what a nice time she had at the Women's Expo. **Kathy Martin** will have a booth at the Reno Home show for those who'd like to stop by. **Enid Oliver** is on her way to Palm Desert for some shopping, eating, swimming and good old R&R. **Doris Phelps** was sad, but glad that Lucy Dog is starting cancer treatments. **Michelle Jones** thanked her two guests, Barbara and Linda, for coming. **Dorie Guy** has actually been to Nepal and could relate to the stories being shared. She was also glad to see her two long time friends from SI Truckee Donner.

In a SITM Reunion Luncheon, a fun time was had by all. Several former members returned to share memories and updates on their lives. A trip down memory lane watching a video of "the Original Calendar girls" strut their stuff had lots of people smiling from ear to ear. **Marna Griffin** was happy to be back after several weeks of recuperation from a foot injury. **Thuy Schneider** brought some more guests who are interested in membership. **Bev Perkins** shared that **Tracy Turner's** mom was having her back surgery and it was going well so far. She also was pleased that two of the five people she called from the Women's Expo were definitely interested in membership. And she expressed the amazing skill level of the "calendar girls." **Billie Mendiola** announced that Ethan Allen had several positions open and passed the word along to members. Her son was celebrating 27 years. **Lynda Asato** thanked our violinist for the beautiful program music, and she introduced her beautiful daughter visiting all the way from Hawaii. **Dorie Guy** apologized for being late, but said she had a good excuse...she was caught up at the Social Security Office for 3 hours. **Lynn Robins** had cataract surgery and the other eye is next. One down, one to go. **Linda Fine** and **Kit Prendergast** of SI Washoe County had a great time visiting with everyone. Life member and original calendar girl, **Shirley George**, got a kick out of watching the video. She said **Connie Steinheimer** took her job as director very seriously and the images brought back lots of wonderful memories. **Sue Camp** thought the reunion was a great idea and thoroughly enjoyed it. She also pointed out how **Lynda Asato** was



News of Our Members (con't from page 2)

beaming with her daughter by her side. **Gayle Kmetovicz** wasn't ready for lunch to end; her alternative was home where she had her 89-year-old mother-in-law, 21-year-old son, his friend and a baby. **Kay Dunham** has a house full of dogs while she dog sits. Her granddaughter Supriya was off to Disneyland to celebrate her 19th birthday. **Kay** shared that the calendar girls meeting was the first she attended and after seeing it, joined the club! **Diana Dillon** thanked co-coordinator **Michelle Jones** for a job well done on **Monica House's** shower. **Niki Champ** had lots of fun at the shower and shared that she was not celebrating her "23rd" birthday like **Diana Dillon's** granddaughter Margret assumed, it was the other way around. Either way, we hope it was a joyful celebration. Speaking of birthdays, **Cheryl Powell's** mom turned 89. **Jo Ann Roberts** thanked the Recruitment and Retention committee for organizing a successful reunion. **Faye Andersen** wanted to give Happy Dollars to support the Sack Lunch program. **Vickie Butler** wanted to honor her friend Nancy who had passed. After several months of "not having enough time," her friend was no longer with us. **Vickie** reminded us to pick up the phone and call those who are on our mind, because all we really have is today. **Jean Neddenriep** admitted that she was the guilty party who provided the calendar girl tape. **Becky Moody** expressed fond memories of the Calendar Girls because she was at that meeting. **Patty Downs** shared a funny story about wanting to send her parents a rose for every year she has been alive, but unfortunately the florist said they couldn't send "that many." So she settled for a dozen. She also had a fun weekend get-away with **Marie Edwards** down in Placerville. **Monica House** thanked members for the wonderful shower and gifts, which included cooking classes, massages and great beach towels for their wedding in Fiji. **Paula Leyba** assured Monica that she could be her photographer in Fiji if necessary. **Carol Dineen** was excited that two more families had been approved for Habitat Houses. In the mean time she and her husband invested in a fixer-upper, with a lot of fixing up to do. **Carole Criddle** received a top sales award from Cruise Planners. And in a bad turn of luck, her car was hit for the second time in an elementary school parking lot. **Marilyn Pearson** got lots of laughs when she apologized to **Carole** on behalf of Washoe

County School District. She was happy to be spending a weekend in LA with her daughter. Former SITM Member **Chris Olsen** is celebrating 5 Years Cancer Free! She says she has become very active in Solace Tree and it is a wonderful organization helping children work through the loss of a loved one. **Kelley Kordonowy** wanted to support the Sack lunch program and gave a summary of her own sack lunch idea, non-perishable goodie bags she keeps in back of her car if she see someone in need, they get a bag. President **Pam Robinson** is thrilled with her Soropti-house...decorated in part by Billie Mendiola and Margie Hermanson.

Our customers are already lining up!
We need your donations!

SITM's Garage Sale

Saturday, May 5, 2007

at Judge Connie
Steinheimer's home
1140 Alpine Circle, Reno

Workers needed for
Friday night set-up and
Saturday's sale.

Sign up today!

Drop-offs
accepted
beginning
Monday, April 30

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."

Eleanor Roosevelt

April Board/Business News *by Faye I. Andersen*

Congratulations to the **2007-2008 SITM Officers, Directors and Delegates** elected at the **April Business Meeting**. These members will serve with **President-Elect Gayle Baxley** in leading our club beginning July 1. For a complete listing, see page 5.

Thank you to all of the members who stood for election and for your willingness to serve the club.

Thank you to **Nominating Committee Coordinator Cindy Burk** and members **Jennifer Crowe** and **Margie Hermanson** for a smooth-running nomination and election process.

New Budgets for 2007-2008

Finance Committee Coordinator Vicky Schultz reported drafts of the **General Fund** and **Service Fund Budgets** have been established for the **2007-2008 Club Year**, thanks to the hard work of **Treasurers Michelle Jones** and **Paula Ringkob**.

Copies were available at the **April Board and Business Meetings**. **President Pam Robinson** has also emailed copies to all members for review. A vote of the membership to adopt the draft budgets will be taken at the **June Business Meeting**.

New Member Prospects from Women's Expo

Recruitment & Retention Co-Coordinators Eileen Fuller and **Thuy Schneider** reported on the success of SITM's booth at the Women's Expo last month. Committee members staffing the booth spoke to hundreds of women about Soroptimist and netted 51 interest cards from potential members.

The committee is now contacting these women and inviting them to lunch. If you see them at an SITM meeting or event, make sure to introduce yourself. Three cards were turned over to **SI/Washoe County** for those interested in a monthly evening meeting and two cards were sent to **SI/Carson City** for women living or working in that area.

Good job R&R Committee. Thanks to the members who spent time staffing the booth and recruiting potential members.

IGU Garage Sale on Tap for May 5

Time once again to clean out your closets and bring your treasures to the **IGU Committee's** May 5 Garage Sale at **Judge Connie Steinheimer's** home. Volunteers are needed Friday, May 4 after work for set-up and pricing, and Saturday during the sale. Sign up on the clip board circulating at club meetings.

As always, proceeds benefit the IGU Committee's dormitory/scholarship project for girls in Thulipokhari, Nepal.

SITM to Host 2008 SNR Conference

At the request of **SNR Governor-Elect Sue Camp**, SITM has agreed to host the **2008 Region Conference**. At this year's Region Conference, SITM members must extend an invitation to the membership. It can be serious, funny or somewhere in-between. If you have some ideas, contact **President Pam Robinson**.

Donations Still Needed for Movie Basket

Each year, clubs in the **Sierra Nevada Region** are asked to donate baskets for raffle at **Region Conference**. Proceeds benefit the **SNR Endowment Fund** this year. SITM elected to create a "Night at the Movies" basket and **Michelle Jones** agreed to create a masterpiece for the event. Michelle is seeking DVDs, movie snacks and other creative items to put in the "basket". If you're stumped for an idea, she'll take cash and do the shopping for you. Deadline for donations is April 26.

Deadline for Underwear Drive Nears



At the **District Winter Council** meetings **Governor Poco Davis** issued a challenge to clubs to bring a duffle bag full of underwear to conference for donation to the "Cool, Clean, Comfortable Kenya Project". Now known as the Soroptimist International Panty Drive, or SIPD, the panties will be carried to Kenya by HEART (Health Education for Africa Resource Team) health professionals during their next sojourn to the villages in Kenya.

The project is seeking ONLY white, cotton briefs in sizes 6, 7 & 8. **Carol Dinneen** is collecting them at each meeting, but her deadline is April 26. She's filled up two duffle bags so far and is hoping to carry a third to **Region Conference**.

S.I.T.M. Member Profile

(what you might not know) By Tracy Turner



F-stops, shutter speed, lighting, angles ... all are elements critical to making a memorable photograph. Paula Leyba, owner of The Image Gallery and a member of SITM since 2005, lives to take photographs. In fact, that passion for the perfect photo is what led her to SITM in the first place.

Paula has known Jeanne Baxter for over 5 years as a client. Jeanne talked to Paula about Soroptimist on a number of occasions, but schedules just didn't work out for Jeanne to get Paula to a meeting. Later, while Paula was looking at a potential studio on California Street, she met SITM member Pam Bobay. Through several conversations, Pam told Paula about Soroptimist and invited her to an SITM meeting. The rest is history!

Paula has been a professional photographer since she was 18 years old. She knew at 12 years old, when she picked up a camera for the first time, that she had found her passion. Since then she has worked as a photographer and owned her own studio since 1999. Her first studio was near the Pioneer Theater and next door to the Park Wedding Chapel. She's been in her studio on Rock Blvd. for the last five years.

Since she's been in Soroptimist, Paula has served on the Arts, Authors, and Autos; Scrapbooking; and Newsletter committees. Since she works a sporadic schedule with many last-minute demands, she hasn't yet ventured into serving in

an officer position—but she hasn't ruled it out either!

Paula's most enjoyable experience in SITM has been working on AAA—as a volunteer as well as having a booth of her wares at the event. During meetings, she really enjoys the funny stories she hears during Happy Dollars.

Paula is an adventurer at heart. She loves to travel to different countries, experience their cultures, and photograph the people and sights. She has been to Australia to take an underwater photography course and scuba dive the Great Barrier Reef. She went on a photographic adventure through northern Italy. She's whale watched in Alaska and photographed an Inuit celebration. She and her fiancé, John, travel to Cabo San Lucas each year. Most recently, she traveled to China. During that trip she climbed the Great Wall, visited the Forbidden City, and went to Tiananmen Square. Ask her about her visit to the Chinese Medicine Shop!

Paula is a member of several professional organizations besides SITM: National Association of Professional Photoshop Users, Professional Photographers of America, Wedding Portrait Professionals International, and The U (a newly formed Reno-based organization of local women business owners).

Paula's dream studio is a portrait gallery—where clients would be able to tour a variety of photography: portraits, scenics, black-and-whites, and the works of other photographers. She's love this studio to be located in the arts-and-culture district of Reno.

Happy Dollars

Bristlecone Family Resources is the recipient of \$645 in **March Happy Dollars**. The Trinity Episcopal Church sack lunch program for the homeless in downtown Reno has been designated to receive **April Happy Dollars**.

Thuy Schneider Running for Woman of the Year

The Board has granted permission for **Thuy Schneider** to solicit the membership to support her campaign to raise money for leukemia and lymphoma in her bid to be named Woman of the Year. According to her "campaign manager" **Eileen Fuller**, members can support Thuy by filling tables at the grand finale dinner, donating items to be auctioned at the dinner, or by just making a donation. Contact Eileen or Thuy for more information.

Leaves of Absence and Member Changes

The Board extended a leave of absence through April for **Diane McDonald** for business reasons. Remaining on leave are: **Pam Sutton** through April for personal reasons; **Terrie Schulte**, through May for work reasons; **Patti Graham** through June for personal reasons; and

Linda Buszka through June for relocation to Phoenix. The board accepted with regrets the resignation of **Linda Haering**.

Election of 2007-08 SITM Officers

The **2007-08 SITM Officers, Directors and Delegates** elected at the April Business Meeting to serve with **President-Elect Gayle Baxley** are listed below. An * indicates officers completing a multi-year term.

President-Elect
VP/Technical
VP/Service
Record. Secty.
Corres. Secty.
Treasurer/Service
*Treasurer/General
*Director/2 Years
*Director/1 Year
Dir/Del./2 Years
*Dir/Del/1 Year
Alt. Dir/Del/2 Yr
*Alt. Dir/Del/1 Yr

Marilyn Pearson
Carol Dinneen
Tracy Turner
Becky Moody
Bev Perkins
Paula Ringkob
Michelle Jones
Pam Robinson
Kay Dunham
Marna Griffin
Kelley Kordonowy
Liz Lukasavich
Billie Mendiola

Tidbit of the Month *by Paula Leyba*

This is two of 2500 images I captured on my trip to China. Thought you might enjoy.

Have so many different and unique images. Hope some day to share with all of you.



- China is the third largest country in the world, behind Russia and Canada.
- One billion, three hundred million citizens of the People's Republic of China, who's history spans more than 5,000 years, are living in the vast country which occupies a single time zone. That's 2,500-3,000 persons per square mile!
- Beijing's population is 13.5 million strong and Shanghai's is 18 million.

Exploring more than fifty centuries of China's history as well as its present race toward the future will be etched in my memories and photographs. I highly recommend traveling to this amazing country of history and culture.

“To be able to practice five things everywhere under heaven constitutes perfect virtue...[They are] gravity, generosity of soul, sincerity, earnestness, and kindness.”

[Confucius](#), *The Confucian Analects Chinese philosopher & reformer (551 BC - 479 BC)*



What You Missed *by Liz Lukasavich*

Did you miss these meetings? Participation is the price of membership. (Wise old Soroptimist saying.) If you missed these meetings, you didn't get the full value of your membership. Here's a recap of what you missed since the March Business meeting.

March 15 - Environment Committee Coordinator, Niki Champ, recruited representatives from the Nevada Wilderness Project as speakers. Their powerpoint presentation covered some of the project's wilderness excursions to the Great Basin National Park, Valley of Fire, and Lake Tahoe. Members were so captivated by the beauty of our state parks and the possibilities for adventure that several asked if NWP could arrange a hike for SITM members. Thanks to Niki's follow-up with NWP, on Saturday, May 19th, NWP will lead a trip to the Incandescent Rocks in the Virginia Mountains northeast of Reno. The sign up sheet for this outing will make the rounds at upcoming luncheons. Sign up early. Bring a friend!

March 22 – Thanks to Youth Committee

March 29 - IGU Coordinator, Connie Steinheimer, arranged for Dr. Purna Subedi to update our membership on our “Removing Barriers to Education for Girls in Thulipokhari, Nepal, Project. Dr. Subedi reported that SITM is now meeting the educational needs of 53 girls in this remote village as well as improving the standard of living for the

villagers. It was wonderful to see so many guests and visitors from our sister Soroptimist clubs attend this special program.

Reminder: Don't forget that in addition to the scholarship assistance we provide for this project, donations are also requested for the Animal Assistance Program. This program provides low-cost loans to the poorest of the villagers to purchase animals to help feed their families and generate income. Please contact Connie if you need a pledge form for the Girls and Animal Assistance Donations.

April 5 – The Recruitment and Retention Committee, under the leadership of Co-Coordinators Eileen Fuller and Thuy Schneider, did a smashing job of bringing several former members, potential members, and family guests together for this fun-filled meeting. Reminiscences included the “Calendar Girls” video taped in 1994. Yes, that challenging routine, those form fitting uniforms, and the fancy footwork have been captured on tape for posterity.

Additionally, Scarlet Ewy and Marna Griffin prepared an informative handout on “The Power of Happy Dollars.” The figures show that in just 24 months (2005-2006), SITM members raised and distributed \$11,871.00 to a wide range of projects for the benefit of many. Kudos to all for this awesome accomplishment!

SITM Picture Gallery



Purna Subedi gives a slideshow presentation and update about our Nepal Project.



Former SITM member Kit Prendergast says hello to Jo Ann Roberts at the SITM Reunion.



Prom Season means Ally's Prom Closet needs our help. There to lend a hand are Billie Mendiola, Candy McAuliffe, & Gayle Baxley.



Several Members attended the Shower for Monica House, held in a beautiful conference room at Michelle Jones' First Independent Bank of Nevada.



Newest Member Joeleen Scoglio smiles with President Pam Robinson on the day of her induction in March, 2007.



Several were out for a night on the town to support CAAW at their dinner. Back: Jennifer Crowe, Barbara Pierson & guest, Carrie Porter, Front: Christel Neldner, Sue Camp, Jo Ann Roberts.



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SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women



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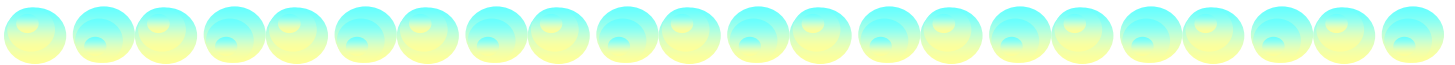
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Tracy Turner-Contributor

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Victoria Mendoza-Contributor

News of our Members (Happy Dollars) recorded by: Laurie Chapelle, Scarlet Ewy, Evelyn Decker, Patty Downs, Marna Griffin, Margie Hermanson, Paula Ringkob, Faye Andersen & Kelley Kordonowy



Celebrating May Birthday's!!!



- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Billie Mendiola | May 3rd |
| Carole Criddle | May 7th |
| Venus Janes | May 11th |
| Candy McAuliffe | May 14th |
| Linda Haering | May 18th |
| Thuy Schneider | May 21st |
| Patricia Williamson | May 22nd |
| Liza Chapen | May 22nd |

