

SITM UPDATE ~ "The Power Within: to Make a Difference"

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



Letter from the President by Gayle Baxley

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I am sitting here writing my message for this month with the NFL football playoffs playing on the TV. This made me think that I can make a comparison between our 2007-2008 Soroptimist year and a football season. We have been rolling along, but now we are entering into the playoff season. Things are really heating up. Yes, we have already had the Air Races, an IGU garage sale and a District meeting. But now, the events come fast and furious. First comes our Winter District meeting in Portola on **February 2**. I hope many of you will consider attending. Then, on **March 15** is one of our big events, the Women's Training Project seminar. No time to rest, though, as **April 5-6** is the Women's Expo, where we will have a booth along with SI of Reno and SI of Washoe County. Next comes the Region Conference on **April 25-27**. We are hosting this event, so everyone's involvement will be needed. And we still have Thanks to Youth and the Women's Scholarship Luncheon.

Maybe the comparison is not that great, after all. They only have to play 16 games, 3 play-offs and a Super Bowl. We work hard all year. They play for money and glory. We work to better the lives of Women and Children in our community and throughout the world. Come to think of it, in my mind you are the real stars. You are the strong, powerful ones. Thank you all for signing up to play. And welcome to our newest recruit, Dorothy Nash Holmes. She is a returning Soroptimist, so we look forward to her participation.

Quotes by Women About Leadership by Various

Women constitute half of the world's population, perform nearly two thirds of its work hours, receive one-tenth of the world's income and own less than one-hundredth of the world's property.

United Nations Report

The government says it would cost \$26,310.00 per year to have someone do all the daily jobs women do as a matter of course.

Canadian Status of Women Council

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world ... it is the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

I discovered I always have choices and sometimes it's only a choice of attitude.

Judith M. Knowlton

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Don't agonize. Organize.

Florynce Kennedy

When it comes to getting things done we need fewer architects and more bricklayers.

Colleen C. Barrett



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Volume 4_11

January 2008

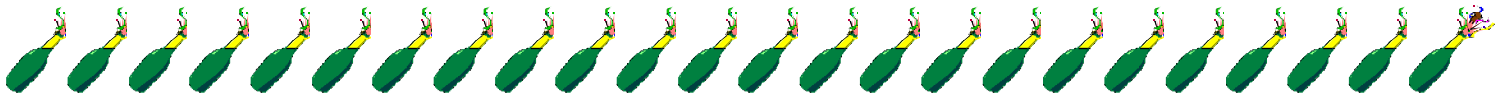
Board Members 2006-07

- Gayle Baxley—President
- Marilyn Pearson—President Elect
- Jo Ann Roberts—Parliamentarian
- Carol Dinneen—VP Technical
- Tracy Turner—VP Service
- Becky Moody—Recording Secretary
- Bev Perkins—Corresponding Secretary
- Michelle Jones—Treasurer G.F.
- Paula Ringkob—Treasurer S.F.
- Kay Dunham—Director 1 year
- Pam Robinson—Director 2 years
- Kelley Kotonowoy—Delegate 1 year
- Marna Griffin—Delegate 2 year
- Billie Mendiola—Alt. Delegate 1 year
- Liz Lukasavich—Alt Delegate 2 year

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News of Our Members—HAPPY DOLLARS!

December 13, 2007

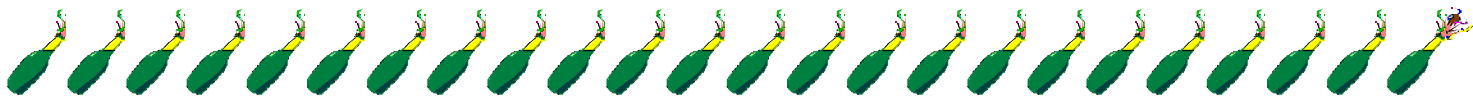
GAYLE BAXLEY had her 60th birthday and celebrated with a trip to Angels Camp and wine tasting in Murphy's. **CAROL DINNEEN** is going to run away from home. Her dog survived in spite of eating 11 (YES... ELEVEN!) rocks. Her daughter had surgery for her gallbladder and now has pink-eye. AND her grandson has a sinus infection. Not a good week Carol! **GEORGIA BAKER** really enjoyed delivering gifts to the Seniors. It was Jon's first time to see what we do to help others. He really appreciated it. She is also happy as she got new countertops in her kitchen. **DAWN PONTRELLI** is happy for the past year, for the holiday ahead, for her Mom being here, and also for the great friends in SITM and for her husband returning home. **PAM ROBINSON** enjoyed a company get-together at her house. They had no tree, but she did put up a few decorations and it looked festive. Her assistant Polly's son played the piano and it was wonderful! **MONICA HOUSE** had a wonderful week in San Francisco with her mom, cousin and aunt. They celebrated her Mom's 70th birthday with great shopping and wonderful food. **NIKI CHAMP** has set a date to get married: February 15th in Maui. CONGRATULATIONS NIKI!!! **VICKI SCHULTZ** is happy that Nicole is coming home for the holidays. She will be making a stop in Las Vegas to see her new niece. The baby is now a whopping 5lbs 10 oz. **GESTURE** has some great gift baskets for the holiday season. Check them out at gesturegifts.com **MARGIE HERMANSON** is sad to miss the meeting next week, but is happy she will be in San Francisco with some friends. They will be seeing the Symphony's Colors of Christmas and Beach Blanket plus attending a party at some old friends' house.

December 20, 2007

President Gayle Baxley began with her wishes to all for Happy Holidays and reminding us that we would be "dark" for 2 weeks, next meeting on January 8th. **Diana Dillon** gave Happy Dollars for all of the participants in the White Elephant Gift Exchange today. **Michele Jones** gave happy dollars for the meeting today and to wish all Happy Holidays. She will be going to spend them in Ely with family. **Marilyn Pearson** is anticipating an interesting visit as her daughter's boyfriend will come home with her for 10 days. **Patty Downs** gave happy dollars for her and her sister's first experience with a naked senior on gift delivery day. She also had a great trip to Dallas, a city where you can literally shop until you drop. **Sue Camp** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for safe and Happy Holidays to everyone. She spoke about the many times they've gone to Mexico on a golf trip this time of year, and is experiencing withdrawals. They find now that they are going after all! **Kay Dunham** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for her White Elephant gifts, but doesn't think she'll be taking the Chinese dragon with her on her trip next year. She is now packing

for her Dec. 26th trip to Disneyland. **Beck Moody** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for her "hot lobster" white elephant gift and for the senior gift delivery with her son and husband. Husband's GPS was useful and her son got lots of hugs. They had one eccentric delivery where they called the lady - she was at home but wouldn't come to the door and asked them to leave the gifts on her patio. **Georgia Baker** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for Jon accompanying her for the gift delivery and it's emotional result. More importantly, Jon got a bacterial infection that took him to the I.C.U. complicated with his diabetes, he neared kidney failure and it was a very scary night. The Renown South Meadows staff was wonderful, and thank God Jon is now back on his feet. **Pam Robinson** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for the fun but icy gift delivery with Jo Ann Roberts in Raleigh Heights. She got a snowboarding pig as her gift. She's going to take off a snow day of her own tomorrow, and also is going to Steamboat, CO. for family and skiing soon! **Dorothy Nash-Holmes** gave HAPPY DOLLARS with an apology to Patty Doty for the "Vagina Monologues Statue" which was the winner today for the worst gift. She also told us a sweet story of her grandson who was praying for snow in the mountains but not where the old folks would have to shovel it. **Laurie Chapelle** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for being away for awhile, 3 weeks. She didn't realize how tired she was until she went away on a cruise. They took a detour to Key West to avoid a hurricane. She is excited and grateful that they had 74 in attendance at St. Catherine's last Sunday. **Patty Doty** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for being the winner and thanks to Dorothy for the auspicious prize. She wasn't able to do the gift delivery but made cookies with her grandkids. **Paula Leyba** finally finished the photos for all of the Christmas parties, and now has one day to shop before going to Ely for a family Christmas. She wishes a Merry Christmas to all. **Jean Nedenreip** missed the delivery but had time with her kids instead. She will be going to Phoenix in January to see Afton. **Paula Rin-kob** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for the Sudoku game she got, but it's way too large to take traveling. Also congratulations on Dorothy's impending induction to SITM. **Beverly Perkins** gave a happy check for the program and gifts. She stole the mind trap game. In her team's gift delivery, they were met at the door of a senior building by some anxious helpers who were not on their list to receive gifts. She heard that another service club had adopted the building and hopefully they would be getting gifts later. She'll be going to Redding with her mother and sister. She was also happy to have her friend Tora as her guest today. **Catherine Nicholson** was happy to be seated next to Bev (her sponsor) today. She passed her licensing exam with New York Life; she took her husband and daughter with her on gift delivery day. **Kay Dunham** remembered more: Glad to have her husband help with the 24+ food boxes to Washoe Mill apartments, they also took some extra puzzles. She deemed Dorothy to be in charge of White Elephant gifts from now on. Please think good thoughts for her assistant Tina, having a lumpectomy today. **Kasey La Foon** gave happy quarters as she used her strength to help Carole Criddle deliver the food boxes. She was saddened by one lady who was whispering

(Continued on page 3)



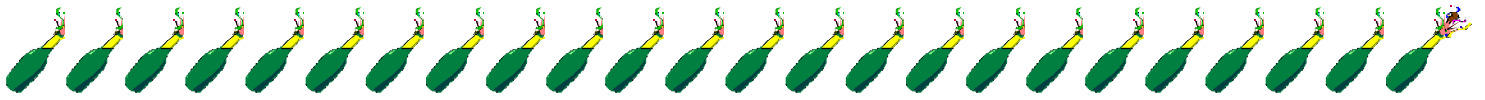
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and paranoid that her upstairs neighbors were making methamphetamines. She was excited about her latest sales challenge: she's only got 22 lipsticks to go. This will be her first Christmas with her fiancé and his large family. **Eileen Fuller:** HAPPY DOLLARS to advise Paula to shop out at Wildflower Village for unique gifts. Also she demonstrated the latest pet portrait she just finished as the last Christmas commission, asking members to consider such a gift for an animal lover they know next year. **Vicky Butler** went with her spouse for gift delivery in Sun Valley. Besides lots of hugs, they met Martin, an 86-yr.old partially blind man who used to be a painter. He said their visit was helping in a sad time - he had lost his pet 2 days before. It appeared that he had painted his pets previously. Afterward they wondered what they could do for Martin. They talked with him about getting another dog, but he didn't think it would be fair to the pet since he feels his days will be too few. Just say a prayer for Martin. She was thankful that the family lost in the snow was found safe. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. **Terry Bacon** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for the program and her Halloween candleholder. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. She is going to be entering the job market: with 25 years in public service, legal and human relations fields, she would be an excellent administrative assistant. **Candy McAuliffe** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for her gift deliveries with her daughter. They only had 7 gifts, but they were all spread out. One lady at a rehab center had her little cubicle filled with personal belongings. She was so excited about her gift that she asked if she could open it right away. Sure, why not! She and her daughter helped her put on her new blue sweater. She told them that she recycled her stuffed animals to others. Candy slipped on a ramp at another delivery where the senior was mortified, having complained to the landlord about the drips down through her leaky window and on the ramp. They were glad to give her the \$100 Wal-Mart gift certificate and got some rock salt to help with the slippery ramp. She has learned something about kidney stones with her recent health challenges. Oxcilates are found in certain foods that are now off limits: black tea, asparagus, strawberries, green peppers, etc. **Vicki Shultz** went with Connie Steinheimer and it was unusual to have no kids to help this time. She's glad to have her daughter Nicole here to embarrass with her bragging. She got a 3.88 g.p. last semester. Also she now has a brag book on her new grandchild! **Norma Rash** gave HAPPY DOLLARS because she's thankful she didn't fall when she shoveled neighbors' walkways. The gift delivery with Bev was great fun. They are leaving to see friends in Calaveras County, and then to Folsom with family. Her dad had quite an episode at the home where a woman was "chasing" him (she's 86 and he's 90, so not much of a race.) Dad said she was too bossy and wanted to touch him too much! **Linda Lamke** gave

HAPPY DOLLARS as she couldn't go on the gift delivery this year. She had a baby shower to attend. They are going to California to spend the holidays with the kids who are all spread out. **Bille Mendiola** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for her Puff the Magic Dragon gift. All the kids are coming this year. **Jo Ann Roberts** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for the visiting at breakfast before the deliveries, and thanks to Pam for doing the driving. All the houses they visited were clean and warm, with hugs all around. She has given the gift of time with Travis and the twins. **Faye Andersen** gave HAPPY DOLLARS for the Launching Pad, our cause this month. Also for her Fallonopoly game, which she will take to a co-worker from Fallon. Also a reminder to all that the wonderful White Elephant gifts will be welcome at the spring Garage sale!

January 10, 2008

Numerous members honored the induction of new member, Dorothy Nash Holmes, by giving happy dollars. Also many club members acknowledged Mike Homes and his past work as a great Soroptimister. **Enid Oliver** – Going to a Spa in Mexico and she and her husband bought a Saddlehorn Ranch in Taylorsville. **Cindy Burk** – Enjoyed a trip to San Diego for the Holidays which included attending a Monday Night Football game. Her husband, Nelson is retiring from the Fire Dept. and starting a new CPR and First Aid Training business. **Pam Robinson** – Enjoyed a great ski vacation in Steamboat Springs, Colorado with family. There were lots of photos taken of the trip. **Margie Hermanson** – Her grandson does not have to have surgery for 3-5 years. Her husband was diagnosed with prostate cancer and will have surgery by the end of the month. She is embarking on a new business selling Silpada Silver Jewelry. **Faye Andersen** – Welcome to new member Dorothy and it's good to see her husband Mike and brother Paul at the meeting to support her. **Kay Dunham** – Fabulous trip to Disney World over the New Year's holiday. **Marna Griffin** – Excited about the Women's Training Project and the work of the committee. **Barbara Daily** – Happy about today's program and the upcoming service projects. **Sue Camp** – Happy to be leaving for Acapulco on Sunday. She was also very happy to have retrieved most of her company's data which appeared lost when it was transferred to a new computer. **Vickie Butler** – Happy for Liz Lukasavich's friendship and the fact that she and her husband joined Vickie's family for holiday dinner. **Scarlet Ewy** – She's happy that her room addition is more or less done. She's made a resolution to take Sunday's off. **Paula Leyba** – Happy to have had two weeks of vacation time during the holidays; however she may have injured her knee when her foot slipped when she was getting into her car. **Becky Moody** – Wished everyone a Happy New Year and she enjoyed being home for the Holidays. **Dawn Pontrelli** – Enjoyed her Florida vacation during the Christmas holidays and her time with her mother. **Dorothy Nash Holmes** – Happy to return as a member of SITM and the friendship and service of Soroptimist. **Norma Rash** – Enjoyed the Christmas holidays with her family and the visit of her two grandsons. Happy to welcome back Dorothy as a member of SITM.



November Board/Business News by Faye I. Andersen

SITM Board and Business Actions

Welcome to new (returning) member **Dorothy Nash Holmes**. Dorothy was inducted at the **January Business Meeting**. She was sponsored by **Paula Ringkob**, but member **Pam Robinson** re-introduced her to club members. Welcome back Dorothy!

Women’s Training Project Underway

Planning for SITM’s newest (and yet unnamed) service project in conjunction with JOIN Nevada is progressing towards the March 15 event to be held at the El Dorado Hotel and Casino. The board recommended and the membership approved a \$5,000 budget for the event to be taken from the club’s “excess fund” budget. Expenses include meals for the day, venue expenses, raffle prizes, printing and miscellaneous costs.

A presentation by the special service committee will be made at the January 17 program meeting. Come prepared for a brainstorming session to name this project. Also, plan to sign-up and volunteer to work the day of the event.

Scholarships/Grants Added to New Project

At the committee’s request, the Board also recommended and the membership approved an allocation of \$5,000 from the **Women’s Scholarship Fund** in order to provide scholarships/grants to attendees of the training to continue their educational pursuits.

Three Clubs; One Expo

SITM will join with **SI/Reno** and **SI/Washoe County** at this year’s Women’s Expo, April 5 & 6 at the Reno Convention Center. SITM’s participation last year was such a great source of new members and awareness that SIR and SIWC will join us as a united front for Soroptimists in the area.

The Board recommended and the membership approved an expenditure of up to \$300 towards ex-

penses for the Expo including the creation of a joint website – www.BestforWomen.net – to link to the Women’s Expo website and recruit new members. Soroptimist is the featured nonprofit at this year’s Expo, therefore registration costs were waived for the event booth.

Attend the District II & III Meeting February 2

Plan now to attend the joint **District II and III Winter Council** meeting to be held Saturday, February 2 in Portola. A “Healthy Heart” will be the theme and members are encouraged to wear red for the day. Nurse Pat Elliott will be conducting a “Soroptimist Health Fair” in the afternoon. A Friday night event will be held at the Chalet View in Portola for those arriving early.

Look for the sign-up form at club meetings, or see **President Gayle Baxley** to attend. First-time attendees are paid for by the club.

Christmas at Libby Booth Elementary

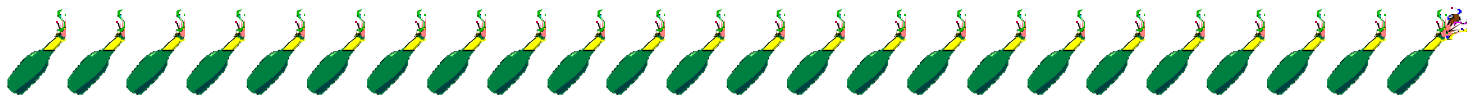
The **Education-Youth Committee** played Christmas elves before the holidays for students at Libby Booth Elementary, our adopted school. Each of the 520 students received wrapped packages including tablets, pencils and candy canes. The committee also delivered 42 dozen cookies for the school’s community sing-a-long. Thank you to the generous members who donated money to make the holidays a little brighter for these students and their families. Thank you to the committee members who wrapped and decorated the packages for the students.

Membership Changes

Members remaining on leave were: **Dorie Guy** through January for business and personal reasons; **Marie Edwards** through January for personal reason; and **Gayle Kmetovicz** through February for medical reasons.

The board accepted with regrets the resignation of **Barbara Pierson**.





Check it Out-SIA's New Webpage!

Soroptimist International of the Americas has updated the Federation's website. To check out the newly improved interactive website, go to:

www.soroptimist.org

New features include:

- Trouble-free access to documents;
 - New polls and blogs;
- Quick & easy website translations.

If you haven't logged in for a while, note that there is a new login process. Members will no longer login using their email address. Users must enter their member number as the username and password to gain access to password protected areas.

(Your member number can be found on the mailing label of "The Soroptimist" magazine mailed to your home. Or, contact **Treasurer-General Fund Michelle Jones** for your member number.)

If you previously changed your password online, that part of the login will still work. All members are encouraged to change their password once logged into the site.

What's Coming Up *By Carole Criddle*

- January 17, 2008**OPEN
- January 24, 2007**Arts & Culture
- January 31, 2008**Education Youth
- February 7, 2008**Environment
- February 14, 2008**Business Meeting

What you Missed *By Carole Criddle*

December 20, 2007

The Hospitality Committee were great elves and reindeer, orchestrating a gift exchange of true white elephant gifts. There was much laughter and goodwill. For Happy Dollars, many of our members recounted experiences during Senior Gift Delivery.

January 10, 2008

Today's meeting heard a request from the Recruitment and Retention Committee for seed money for the Women's Expo to be held in April. The \$300 request was granted. The Women's Training Project Committee presented its budget for its upcoming event. The budget was approved. We also have our Call to District Meeting. It will be held on February 2 in Portola. Mark your calendars and plan on attending. Treasurer Michelle is handling the sign ups.

Member Profile *By Carol Dineen*

Marilyn Pearson

When I volunteered to help with the member interviews, I immediately thought of our next president, Marilyn Pearson. It seemed like a good opportunity to get to know her better and for other members learn about this interesting woman.

Marilyn is one of those rare native Californians. She was born in Palm Springs but her family gradually worked their way up the California coast, eventually settling in Santa Rosa where she attended high school. Following high school she attended the University of Oregon in Eugene. Marilyn holds a Masters Degree in Speech Pathology and her career has involved working with children with disabilities in one manner or another. She is currently employed by the Washoe County School District in their Assistive Technology Program.

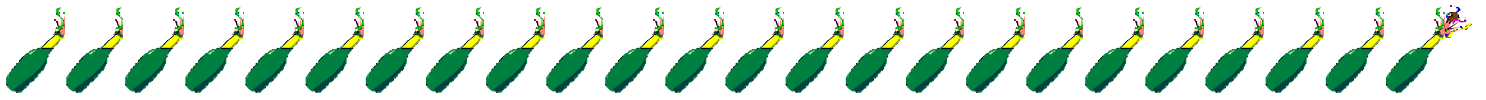
Marilyn and her husband Nick have been married for 31 years and have two children, a daughter who lives in Baltimore and is working on her doctorate, and a son who lives in Reno and works for IGT. Prior to moving to Reno 17 years ago, Marilyn and her family lived in Minnesota which she still misses.

Our future president has a number of hobbies: she makes jewelry, does silver smithing, enjoys knitting, crocheting and needle work and, along with her husband, gardens. The tomatoes she has shared with members attest to their ability as gardeners. Marilyn also plays the piano, guitar, violin and at one time the clarinet. She said she keeps taking violin lessons hoping to master the instrument but so far she is not ready for the concert circuit.

An article about the Nepal project brought Marilyn to SITM. She was somewhat familiar with SITM prior to seeing the article as she had been involved in applying for a grant through a Soroptimist club. Marilyn had been looking for a new group of people to interact with and a way of getting involved in service projects. Faye Andersen became her sponsor and the rest, as they say, is history. She has served as the recording secretary for two years and been active on many committees and projects.

Marilyn is looking forward to being our President and already has some ideas about things she wants to accomplish. It should be an exciting and interesting year with this remarkable woman at the helm.

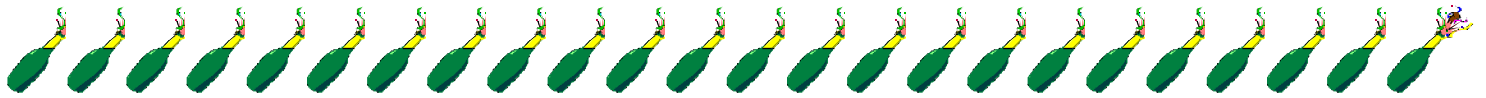




Pictures and Announcements

2007 Holiday Party





Pictures and Announcements



Mark the Date
Saturday, March 15, 2008
Women Moving Forward Seminar
Eldorado Casino

Quote of the Month
Happiness is a Voyage not a destination.
There is no better time to be happy than...
NOW!
Live and Enjoy the Moment
Unknown





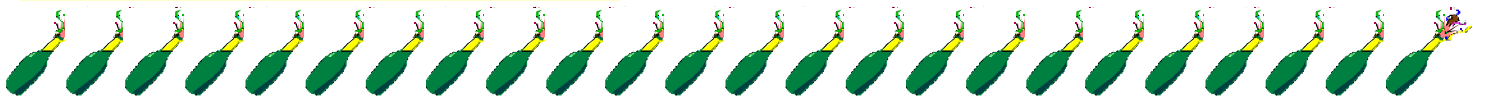
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SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women



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*News of our Members (Happy Dollars) recorded
by: Margie Hermanson, Jo Ann Roberts, Norma
Rash, Eileen Fuller, Carole Criddle*



Celebrating February Birthdays!!!



Linda Buszka..... February 27
Janice Hoke..... February 13
Gayle Kmetovicz..... February 22
Kathryn Martin February 6
Marilyn Pearson February 8

