

SITM UPDATE - We are the World

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



June 2009



President's Message — June 2009

By Marilyn Pearson

This is a commercial for volunteering to become President for Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows. I really can't think of another time in my life when I've felt so fulfilled in a job outside my home. I've truly enjoyed every minute of being your president this year.

Well, maybe not every minute . . . those first few Board and Business meetings were nerve-racking but I finally got the hang of it. Occasionally members had issues for which I had no answer. There is that perennial table leg situation sitting next to the podium. And the times when my computer crashed or my printer ran out of ink. . . but, really, it's been wonderful.

The reason it's been wonderful is because of you, the members. All presidents are given tons of support by past presidents who've been there and done that. During my first few months as president, I received emails and notes saying "hang in there, you're doing great". Our Committee Coordinators were responsive to new ideas based on our Club Survey last May and came up with terrific programs this year. Board members agreed to meet at my house even though they had to squeeze in around the table and dodge my feisty cat.

President Elect, Bev Perkins, was absolutely wonderful, supporting my ideas and whispering important facts and names to me when I forgot. She also is responsible for making sure SITM got all the awards and recognition it deserved this year. **Parliamentarian Jo Ann Roberts** was invaluable to me, as she has been to many SITM presidents, providing gentle guidance and the comfort of knowing she'd always be there to answer all those crazy questions new presidents ask.

Thank you for an absolutely wonderful year. I hope you'll all consider serving our club as President one day. (Insert catchy promotional jingle here!)

Youth Scholarship Recipients Honored at Thanks to Youth

The **Thanks to Youth and Education/Youth Committees** are pleased to report this year's event was attended by approximately 300 members, honorees, guests and friends. The luncheon raised a net total of \$12,744.42 that will be used for next year's youth scholarships.

Thanks to all of the members who sold tickets, brought guests, sponsored a table, bought raffle tickets or helped out in a myriad of ways to make this year's Thanks to Youth a success.

Liz Lukasavich, a member of the **Education/Youth Committee** presents a scholarship recipient with a certificate.

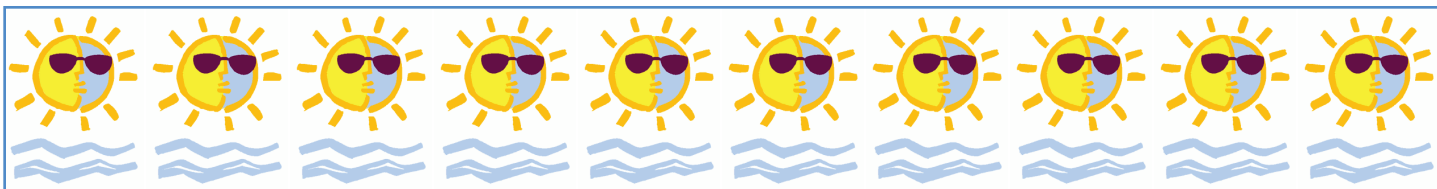


Board Members, 2008-09

- Marilyn Pearson – President
- Bev Perkins – President-Elect
- Ann Steckline – VP Technical
- Jennifer Crowe – VP Service
- Becky Moody – Recording Secretary
- Dorothy Nash Holmes – Corresponding Secty.
- Norma Rash – Treasurer/General Fund
- Paula Ringkob – Treasurer/Service Fund
- Pam Robinson – Director, 1 year
- Gayle Baxley – Director, 2 years
- Marna Griffin – Delegate, 1 year
- Paula Leyba – Delegate, 2 years
- Patti Dory – Alt Delegate, 1 year
- Cheryl Powell – Alt Delegate, 2 years
- Jo Ann Roberts – Parliamentarian

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Board/Business News	2
Thanks to Youth	1,3
Garage Sale	4,5
What You Missed	5
What's Coming Up	5
Birthdays	5
Happy Dollars	6-8



Board/Business Update

Note: SITM will be dark July 2. No meeting due to the July 4th holiday.

President Marilyn Pearson conducted her last Board and Business Meetings and next month **President Bev Perkins** will take the helm. However, due to some scheduling conflicts, the **July 7 Board Meeting** will be conducted by **Past President Pam Robinson** at her office, Met Life Home Loans, 6151 Lakeside Drive, #1000 (south of McCarran Blvd., and south just past Lakeridge Point Shopping Center.)

Club Budget for 2009-10 Set

The **Finance Committee** and the **General and Service Fund Treasurers** presented their review and recommendations for the 2009-2010 Club Year Budgets at the **May Board and Business Meetings**. With some modifications, requested primarily by committees, both budgets were approved by the membership at the **June Business Meeting**.

If you'd like a copy, please contact either **General** or **Service Fund Treasurer**.

Thanks to Youth a Big Success

The **Thanks to Youth Committee** reported the May 21 luncheon netted \$12,744 for next year's scholarships. The **Education/Youth Committee** reported honoring eight **Youth Scholarship** recipients and six **Unsung Heroes**. See page 3 for photos.

WMF to be Featured at COTR

President Marilyn announced that SITM's **Women Moving Forward** program will be featured at the **Sierra Nevada Region's Club Orientation & Training Retreat** this year. **Dorothy Nash-Holmes** has agreed to develop a presentation.

Happy Dollars

May Happy Dollars were collected in the amount of \$251, and with the club's match, totaled \$501 for the American Lung Association's Camp Breathe Easy. **June Happy Dollars** have been designated for the Sierra Nevada Stitchers, whose members make quilts, T-shirts, stuffed animals, and baby clothes for local children's charities.

Membership Update

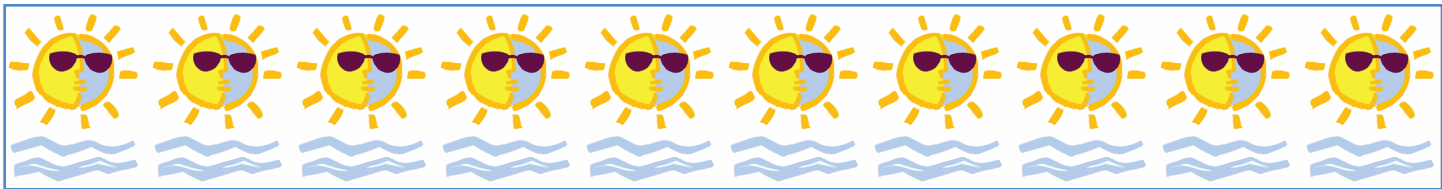
The **Board** granted a leave of absence for **Barbara Daily** through June for personal reasons. Continuing on leave are **Kimberly Rossiter**, **Pat Levy**, **Michelle Jones** and **Diane McDonald** through June for work reasons; **Vicki Butler** through June, since she is living in Mexico; and **Karen Keister** through June for school. **Gayle Kmetovicz** and **Dawn Pontrelli** are both currently on leave for medical reasons.



Economic & Social Development Coordinator Teresa Mentzer, left, and Judge **Connie Steinheimer** pose with just a few of the 948 diapers donated by SITM members to the Women's and Children's Center of the Sierra. Thanks everyone for the donations.

SITM Update

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THANKS TO YOUTH



Teresa Mentzer congratulates one of the raffle winners at **Thanks to Youth**.



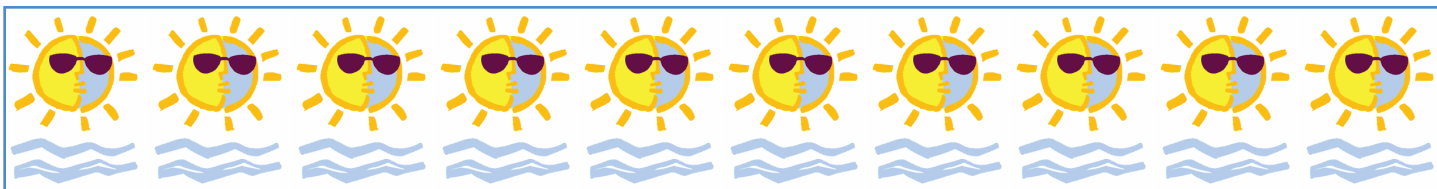
Six youth, from third grade through high school, were honored as **Unsung Heroes** at the annual **Thanks to Youth** luncheon for service to home, school and community. Each will receive a \$250 stipend for shopping.



Some principals of **Thanks to Youth** are from left, **Thanks to Youth** Coordinator Gayle Baxley, President Marilyn Pearson, Education/Youth Committee member Liz Lukasavich and Education/Youth Coordinator Ann Steckline.



Eight **Youth Scholarships** were present at the May 21 **Thanks to Youth** program, totaling \$16,000. The eight are graduating seniors from Reno-Sparks area high schools.



Another winning garage sale

With a bit of a wet start on Friday night, the **IGU Committee's** 18th semi-annual garage sale was another smashing success. Some 31 members, plus six others joined in the fun to set-up Friday night or work the sale on Saturday. Despite an earlier than normal closing time, the net proceeds for the day were still \$2,401.

Thanks to all of the members who donated items and worked the sale. Special thanks go to Jeff Ostomel and Stan Mentzer for their on-going support and assistance with this project; and to Wally Prendergast, our consummate "garage sale seller". Debbie Rovere, from **SI/Washoe County**, also helped with pricing Friday night.



Billie Mendiola and Candy McAuliffe were part of the "set-up crew Friday night.



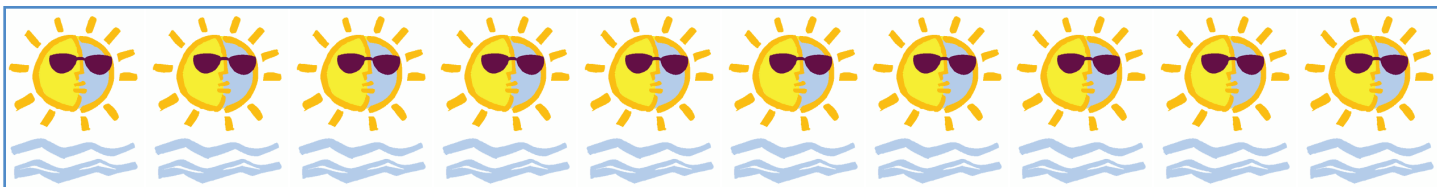
Judge Connie Steinheimer, seated left, and Jo Ann Roberts prepare to check-out a customers at the cashier's table.

Ridge House, a local social service organization that helps those who have been in prison re-enter the community, again "swarmed" the sale at the end of the day and hauled off all of the left-overs.

Total proceeds from all 18 garage sales, and their associated donations and sales, have netted \$45,620 over the past nine years. All proceed go to support the club's dormitory and the tuition and scholarship programs for girls to go to school in Thulipokhari, Nepal.



Karon McDonald, a Nancy Gomes – Mary Gojack Scholarship recipient, joined Doreen Rogers folding some of the mountains of clothing donated to the garage sale.



Some of the afternoon crew working at the garage sale paused long enough for a group photo. Seated from left: Tracy & Jeff Turner, Wally Prendergast and Georgia Baker. Middle row from left, Sonya Hem, Billie Mendiola and Judge Connie Steinheimer. Back row, from left, Barbara Dailey, Pam Robinson, Candy McAuliffe and Judie Henderson.

What you missed

Did you miss these interesting and informative meetings?

May 28 – Preparing for the next Club Year, **President-Elect Bev Perkins** conducted committee sign-ups. By the end of meeting most technical, service and fundraising committees were filled and all had coordinators. Way to go members!

June 4 – “It’s all about YOU”, the quarterly social presented by the **Soroptimist Orientation and Leadership Training Committee**, discovered members in attendance had a total of 503 years of Soroptimist service. And, there wasn’t nearly enough time to tell all of the stories members had about their favorite projects, fondest memories, best Soroptimist job and other funny moments.

June 11 – **June Business Meeting.**

What’s Coming Up

June 18 – You won’t want to miss this “Year in Review”, by the **Photo/Scrapbook Committee**. It’s an annual look backyards at all of the wonderful, funny, poignant and Soroptimist moments and life in photos. **Laurel Society** honors will be presented.

June 25 – Installation ceremony for **President Bev Perkins** and the officers, directors and delegates of the **2009-2010 SITM Board**. Don’t miss it.

July 2 – **Dark, no meeting.**

July 7 – **SITM Board Meeting** at **Pam Robinson**’s office, Met Life Home Loans, 6151 Lakeside Drive, #1000 (south of McCarran Blvd., and south just past Lakeridge Point Shopping Center.)

July 16 – The **Air Race Committee** will prepare us for sales at this year’s Reno National Championship Air Races.

July 23 -- Blogs, Vlogs, Twitters & Tweets, presented by the Public Relations/Website Committee.

July 24-25 -- **Club Orientation & Training Retreat (COTR)** at the Atlantis Hotel Casino

July 30 -- Artown International Folkloric Ballet (children’s dance troupe), presented by the **Arts & Culture Committee**.

Celebrating July Birthdays

Meg PriceJuly 8

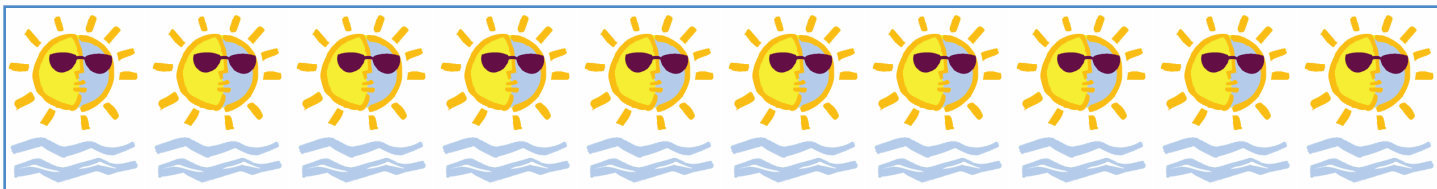
Jo Ann Roberts.....July 9

Diana Dillon.....July 18

Kimberly Rossiter.....July 24

Patty TucekJuly 25

Carrie Porter.....July 27



News of our Members

By Jo Ann Roberts

May 28, 2009

The meeting today provided members the opportunity to select the committees on which they wish to serve for the 2009-10 SITM club year. The Happy Dollars will be donated to the American Lung Association of Nevada for Camp Breathe Easy, a four day overnight camp that provides youth the opportunity to learn how to manage their asthma.

President Marilyn Pearson had Happy Dollars for everyone who signed up to serve as Committee Coordinators. Happy Dollars were paid by **Pam Robinson** for the **Thanks to Youth** celebration on May 21. She also let us know she is selling tickets for the Macy's Shopping Day. Pam also related to us comments made by one of her borrowers who had been called for jury duty and served on the jury in **Judge Connie Steinheimer's** court. One of the other jurors had his cell phone with him and it went off during the trial. After he turned it off, the Judge turned to the jury and said very nicely, "Please turn your cell phones off" and went back to the trial. The borrower thought Judge Connie did a great job handling the trial and dealing with the cell phone issue. Happy Dollars from **Sonya Hem** for the **Hospitality Committee** and her wonderful bridal shower. Also Happy Dollars for **Patty Downs** and C.J. for hosting the party at their home.

More Happy Dollars from **Georgia Baker** for the **Thanks to Youth** celebration and she related her experience at the Suits and Sneakers Ball which benefited the Cancer Society. There was a golf package at Wolf Run Golf Course as a silent auction item valued at \$9,000 and she was able to purchase it for \$1,600! And, she and Jon have been fly fishing the East Walker River, but the river has risen due to the snow melt and is running cold and swift. **Margie Hermanson** spent the weekend in San Luis Obispo visiting friends and on the way home stopped in Pleasanton to visit more friends. They enjoyed good food, good wine, and good friends. Special Happy Dollars from **Patty Downs** for the opportunity to host the shower for **Sonya Hem**. She also had Happy Dollars for **Thanks to Youth** with so many young students who do so well for themselves and the community.

Jean Neddrenriep will miss the next meeting as she will be spending the time in Elko with her son and his wife before he leaves for Afghanistan. Happy Dollars from **Connie Steinheimer** regarding the garage sale to be held at her home on May 29-30. Don't be alarmed when you see the porta-a-potty at their home due to the construction being done! **Rosalie Henry** had Happy Dollars as she will be gone for the next ten days as she visits family.

Very Happy Dollars from **Candy McAuliffe** to let us know her daughter has applied for and received some grants from the

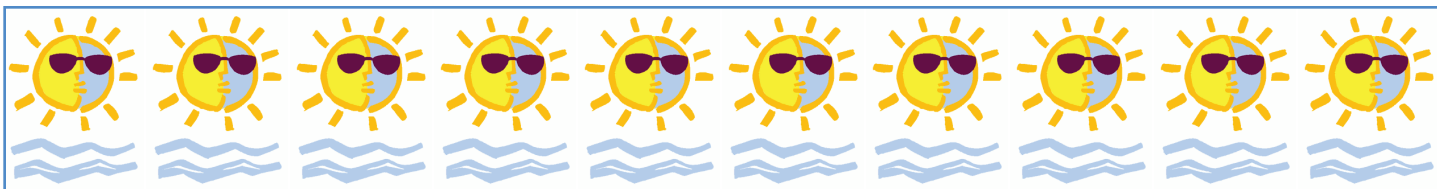
school she will be attending in the fall. She will receive 50% off per credit! **Enid Oliver** had Happy Dollars for **Sonya Hem's** shower and the fun time everyone had there. Thankful Happy Dollars from **Gayle Baxley** for everyone who helped with **Thanks to Youth** on May 21. She was also happy to attend the North Valleys High School scholarship awards event where her granddaughter was honored with a scholarship for college.

Deborah Albrecht had Happy Dollars as her oldest son has graduated from college and is now working for the government in Wyoming. But there were sad dollars also as she reported her 92 year old neighbor had died the previous evening. Happy Dollars from **Billie Mendiola** as she let us know she kept her grandsons for part of the day last week and they spent their time looking for bugs. All the rocks in the yard have been moved as the boys continued their quest for the bugs! **Paula Ringkob** paid Happy Dollars for the **Education Youth** and the **Thanks to Youth Committees** for their program on May 21 where scholarships were awarded and **Unsung Heroes** recognized. Also for **President Elect Bev** and the successful committee signups.

Happy Dollars from **Doreen Rogers** as her grandson was two months old on May 28. She also said she knows why mothers should be young with the full time job of being a mother to infants. **Lynn Robins** had Happy Dollars to let us know about the dinner and wine pairing her and her husband enjoyed at Butcher Boy. She suggested these dinners might be a fund raising project for SITM. Happy Dollars from **Carrie Porter** for the new **Attendance Committee** and the new coordinator **Lynn Robins**.

Happy Dollars from **Faye I. Andersen** for **Jo Ann Roberts** on her induction to the Sparks High School Hall of Fame. **Vicki Schultz** had Happy Dollars for **Thanks to Youth** and to let us know she was able to see Mary Poppins in New York and she said it is a delightful play. Also, her daughter Nicole has graduated from SMU where the speaker was Barbara Bush. Happy Dollars from **Norma Rash** for **Thanks to Youth**. Norma brought her neighbors to the event and they were able to learn more about Soroptimist. Norma also let us know that on May 22 she went to Folsom where her seven year old grandson was participating in a school play entitled "Neighborhood Helpers."

Jennifer Crowe had Happy Dollars as when she attends the Board Meetings she brings Addison and is learning how to balance everything including papers, bags, etc. Happy Dollars from **Carol Dinneen** who has missed the SITM meetings for three weeks. The wedding went off very well but three days before the wedding, her son-in-law was laid off from his job. **Bev Perkins** had Happy Dollars for her 20 year wedding anniversary on May 27. That same day her husband left Maine for approximately 30 days at sea in the North Atlantic. The 90 foot cruise ship he is on will be in the North Atlantic for oceanic exploration.



June 2009

Page 7

June 4, 2009

Today's meeting was presented by the **Soroptimist Orientation and Leadership Training Committee (SOLT)** with **Patty Downs** as coordinator. It was a member social which involved discussing Soroptimist experiences. The members at each table answered such questions as "How long have you been a Soroptimist?"; "What is your oldest memory of the Club?"; and, "Have you traveled with or for Soroptimist."

The Happy Dollars for June are the President's request and **President Marilyn** has asked for the Happy Dollars to go to the Sierra Nevada Stitchers. For over 16 years this volunteer group has been making quilts, T-shirts, stuffed animals, and baby clothes for local children's charities.

Happy Dollars from **Jennifer Crowe** for the cause and for the program which was a fun meeting. She is very happy the legislative session has ended and Tom is home more to the delight of Addison and herself. On June 3, the Air Race Board traveled to Travis Air Force Base for a tour and Jennifer was able to fly in a C-130 which was exciting! **Lynn Robins** had Happy Dollars to tell us her favorite Soroptimist experience was attending the **SIA Convention** in New York City and seeing the flags of all the countries being brought into the meeting room. Many Happy Dollars from **Jo Ann Roberts** for a most successful **Garage Sale**. She had thanks to everyone who worked, donated items and purchased items and mentioned again this year we are our own best customers as \$760 was collected Friday night before the garage sale began.

Dorothy Nash Holmes paid Happy Dollars for the cause and especially for the toys that are provided to children. They have been invaluable in court situations where the children are in a difficult and uncomfortable situation as they testify. Happy Dollars from **Sue Smith** for the **SOLT** orientation during a lunch with the **SOLT Committee** members. **Marna Griffin** had Happy Dollars for the program and the cause and for the garage sale. She arrived at the sale on Saturday with a mountain bike and the wheels weren't on the ground for more than 30 seconds when there was a buyer for this treasure. Way to go, Marna!

Happy Dollars from **Kay Dunham** for the program and reminding us what makes us special. She also let us know Supriya has been hired as a massage therapist at the Peppermill for the summer. **Sue Camp** had Happy Dollars for the program and for the cause. Sad Happy Dollars from **Paula Leyba** who was sorry she missed the garage sale but she has been using last year's purchase, a large red umbrella. With all the rain it has been very useful. She also wanted to support the cause.

Pam Robinson was happy for the program and to announce it is almost the anniversary of her birthday. She was happy to let us know her daughter sent her a birthday card indicating her age as

42! Happy Dollars from **Margie Hermanson** for the program. She missed the garage sale as she had to go to Phoenix to close up the condo there. Her husband, Bob, drove a U-Haul truck back home and on the long trip hit some heavy winds around Walker Lake. Margie has a lot of furniture and other items for sale; if you might be interested, let her know.

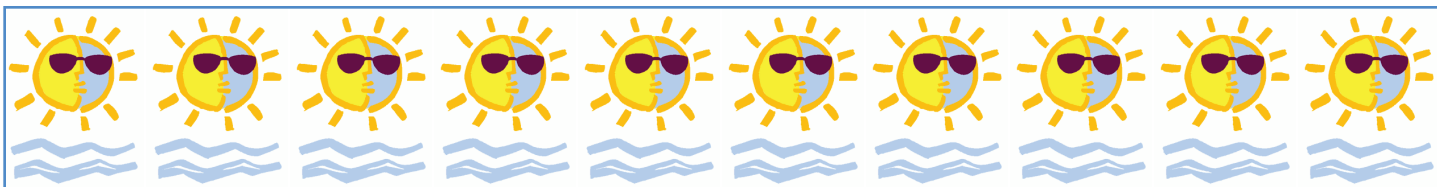
June 11, 2009

This was the monthly business meeting and included celebrating birthdays, approval of the budgets for the 2009-10 Club Year and **President Marilyn** thanking the Committee Coordinators and Board Members for their service during her Club Year. Happy Dollars from **President Marilyn Pearson** for the Board and the members of SITM for their work during this past year. **Ann Steckline** had thankful Happy Dollars to thank President Marilyn for her great leadership during the year. Happy Dollars from **Dorothy Nash Holmes** for an incident that occurred to her last week. She was doing emergency orders in her office after the staff had left which meant she had to do the work herself. Dorothy was stuffing the completed documents into envelopes; reached into the desk drawer for a glue stick and instead picked up her chap stick. After being upset because the envelope flaps wouldn't stay stuck, she realized what had happened. So, she just taped the envelopes shut and sent them off!

Happy Dollars from **Becky Moody** for President Marilyn and she is glad she doesn't have to do any more minutes! Two years was enough. **Norma Rash** had Happy Dollars for President Marilyn for her efficiency and organization. Her theme allowed us to have Nisha here. Norma also had thanks for Nick Pearson for allowing us to invade his space and for helping with the clean-up after the Board meetings. **Paula Leyba** and **Teresa Mentzer** had Happy Dollars for President Marilyn and the Board.

Eileen Fuller had Happy Dollars to comment on the great year our Club has had. She was in Dallas and missed the meeting of June 4. Eileen also had thanks for **Teresa Mentzer** and her great ideas for **Recruitment and Retention** this year. Happy Dollars from **Vicki Schultz** for the great year we have had. She will miss the meeting of June 18, much to her regret, as she will be in San Francisco meeting with clients and managers. Vicki also had Happy Dollars for her guest, Millie, who will be inducted in August. There were Happy Dollars from **Pam Robinson** to commemorate her nine consecutive years on the Board; she has been a member of the board for a total of eleven years. She also played in the Girl Scout Golf Tournament as **Marna Griffin**. Thanks to Facebook, Pam is keeping up with her grandson's activities.

Happy Dollars from **Gayle Baxley** for President Marilyn and the Board. Also for her granddaughter and her graduation from North Valley High School where she was awarded a scholarship and honored with academic awards. **Marna Griffin** was Happy



for Marilyn and the Board. On June 10, she had the opportunity to speak to one of our former scholarship winners. She has graduated from the Dental Hygienist program at TMCC and is now looking for a job. On June 21, Marna will be in Idaho to see her daughter-in-law in an Ironman competition. She had sad dollars to let us know the Girl Scout Camp will not be opened this year and possibly next year due to financial issues. She and other volunteers will be doing some maintenance work at the Camp. Happy Dollars from **Rosalie Henry** to let us know there will be a Reno Kite Fly day at Lake Tahoe on July 11. Details are available from Rosalie.

Happy Dollars from **Margie Hermanson** for the opportunity to attend the **SI/Washoe County** installation. Margaret Hall, former SITM member, is their new President and it was a very enjoyable evening. She also let us know **Kris Olsen** was there and sent her greetings to everyone. Last week, Margie let us know she had some furniture and other items for sale. Now some of those items are in **Billie Mendiola's** garage but she still has dishes, pillows and other household items for sale. **Faye I. Andersen** had Happy Dollars for President Marilyn and for her leadership. Happy Dollars from **Nicki Ewing** for the great year we have had.

Kay Dunham had Happy Dollars for President Marilyn's tremendously successful year. And for the Board, the Treasurers and the **Finance Committee**. **Billie Mendiola** is happy for

President Marilyn and the Board and for the treasures from **Margie Hermanson** most of which will go to Mike's office. Rather sad Happy Dollars from **Sue Camp** as she will miss the **Year in Review** on June 18 as she will be in Orland for the installation of the officers of **SI/Orland**. And, her grandson Finn is five years old today!

Happy Dollars from **Candy McAuliffe** as her son has graduated from High School. She said she was sorry to have missed a lot this year but is looking forward to next year and being more involved with SITM. Her husband, who is an artist, has painted a violin picture for a fundraiser for the Reno Philharmonic Orchestra. **Carrie Porter** had Happy Dollars for her grandson Marc Codega's graduation from Bishop Manogue High School and he will be attending Cal Poly in the fall. Happy Dollars from **Linda Lamke** as June 13 she and her husband will be celebrating their 39th Anniversary. Her granddaughter and a friend are going to be spending a week with Linda and her husband. Linda is happy a friend is coming so the girls can do things together and Linda won't have to.

Lynn Robins had Happy Dollars for President Marilyn and the members of SITM. Her two dogs have returned from Doggie Camp, aka a kennel, and she let us know one dog lost two pounds and the other dog gained two pounds! Happy Dollars from **Enid Oliver** as she has found the steak knives she purchased for the ranch. She was concerned they had mistakenly been taken to the Garage Sale!

Lighten Up & Join Us!

Club Orientation Training Retreat

July 24 & 25, 2009 Atlantis Casino Resort, Reno



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Join Soroptimists from throughout the Sierra Nevada Region Friday night and Saturday for this annual training retreat for new club officers and members interested in learning more about our organization.

- Friday Night Dinner and District Meetings
- President's Workshop
- Treasurer's Workshop
- International Involvement
- Getting Your Message Out
- Shopping & Networking
- Secretary's Workshop
- Fundraising Ideas
- Club Projects & Ideas
- & Much More

Cost is \$85 for dinner, breakfast and lunch, plus the COTR Binder. SITM pays the cost for its club's officers and first time attendees. Individual registration is required by July 10. See President Marilyn for a registration form.