



President's  
Message 1

Board Meet-  
ing Update 2

New Mem-  
ber 3

Region 3  
Board Meet-  
ing/Solar  
Cooker

What You 4  
Missed

Sad Tidings 4

SOLT 4

Happy \$ 5

Interested in 6  
Joining Us?

Editorial 6

District III 6  
Fall Meeting

Microlend-  
ing 7

TIS Maga-  
zine 7

Calendar 8



## President's Message

The Dog Days of Summer are upon us. These hottest and most sultry days are called "dog days" because, long ago and far away, it was believed that Sirius, the Dog Star, because of its close proximity to the summer sun, was responsible for the hot weather. Now we know we can't blame the stars and instead we just enjoy the warm days and cooler nights and get ready for colder days to come.

Consider the Possibilities: When Sirius was ruling the weather, there were no electric blankets, no thermostats, no running water, no Raley's or Costco or Whole Foods, and certainly no trains, planes or automobiles. Today as the Dog Days dwindle we prepare instead for our mission of helping women and girls, many of whom still live without elec-

tricity, supermarkets and cars. We can come together as individuals



President Patti

to make a difference.

As we were recently reminded during the induction of our new member, Tamera Schnarr, we are individuals—each with separate but equally important

skills and abilities—and it is in the blending of these qualities that our club finds strength and purpose and is bonded in our common mission and in our friendships.

As the days cool into autumn, we will stock shelves and sell stuff; we will gather our gently used belongings for yet another garage sale; we will attend meetings and learn; we will cheer on the Aces and write our checks to prevent cancer; we will run for the cure—we will work together to make miracles.

I hung a new bird feeder by my deck yesterday and this morning, as I sipped my tea, at least fifteen birds of various hues and songs came for breakfast. As I watched and listened, I was reminded that even the smallest contributions can have glorious outcomes.



# Board Meeting



Everyone is invited to attend board meetings and food is served.

So What happens at SITM Board Meetings?

## Board/Business Update

Welcome to new member Tamera Schnarr, who was inducted at the August Business Meeting. Tamera was sponsored by Jennifer Crowe-Clark.

## R&R Committee Gears Up for New Members

The Recruitment & Retention Committee has a busy fall planned for new and prospective members, as well as an August 26 meeting for all members. Angie Fairbanks, owner of Action Business Coaching will be the speaker that day.

The Fall Recruitment Social will be held on October 26, in conjunction with the Hospitality Committee, and will feature a Halloween theme.

Quarterly Rookie Lunches will continue at Country Garden Restaurant, with the next luncheon scheduled for October 8.

R&\$ is also looking at being represented at upcoming fairs and expos featuring women.

If you know of a prospective member, contact Coordinator Teresa Mentzer or any member of the R&R Committee for assistance. The committee has plenty of new ideas to find SITM new members and to keep them.

## Visitor to SITM Board Meeting

At the August Board Meeting, members greeted visitor Chris Askin, President & CEO of the Community Foundation of Western Nevada. Chris explained the functions of the foundation, how money is collected, invested and disbursed. SITM's Women's Scholarship Funds and IGU/ Nepal Project Funds are invested with the Community foundation. SITM's own Tracy Turner is Program Officer for CFWN.

## SITM Members Attend COTR

President Patti Doty and IPP Beverly Perkins co-reported on their attendance, and the attendance of other SITM members, at last month's Club Orientation & Training Retreat. The annual event attracted 250 Soroptimist from around the Sierra Nevada Region for a Friday-Saturday retreat for club officers and members at the Atlantis Resort & Spa in Reno. Other SITM members in attendance were President-Elect Norma Rash, VP-Service Mich Glazier, VP-Service Patty Tucek, Corresponding Secretary Doreen Rogers, Jo Ann Roberts and Faye I. Andersen.

## Happy Dollars Doubled

Happy Dollars for the month of June (President

Bev's choice) totaled \$505 and were sent to the Women's and Children's Center of the Sierra. Some \$320 in July Happy Dollars were collected from members and doubled through the club budget for a total of \$640. The July Happy Dollars were split between the Food Bank of Northern Nevada and the Food to Feed the Poor Program. August Happy Dollars are designated for Habitat for Humanity and Sierra Nevada Stitchers.

## Financial matters

Mutual of Omaha Bank has been selected as the bank to continue to hold the club's \$30,000 CD for another year.

On another financial note, Gayle Baxley, CPA, has been selected to prepare SITM's annual tax report for the club.

The final total net proceeds for Thanks to Youth were reported at \$11,413 including donations, ticket sales and basket raffles.

## Membership Changes

The Board approved a Leave of Absence for Marna Griffin through December for family travel. Remaining on leave are Sonya Hem Giroux through December following the birth of son Jack; and Paula Leyba through September for work reasons.



# Meet Our New Member

Please be sure to introduce yourself to our newest member, Tamera Schnarr. She is sponsored by Jennifer Crowe-Clark and has been waiting to join for

some time now. A couple of things got in her way until now like having children and starting a new business all at the same time. She is the proud

Owner of a beauty salon, new mother and happy to be a part of our group.

WELCOME TAMERA!

# Region Board Meeting

As most of you are aware, Betsy Dart brought a project to us called the Solar Cooker Project. This project was already being supported by the SI Fallon

Club as well but it was Betsy and Past Governor Jo Ann Roberts who thought it might work well as a region project. Governor Kay agreed to have it on

the agenda for her first Region Board Meeting where Betsy presented the idea to the board. The board voted to support the project as a region

project. Below is the flyer made up by Past Governor Faye for the Fall District Meetings. Congratulations to all involved.

	<b>SIERRA NEVADA REGION</b> Soroptimist International of the Americas	
<b>SOLAR COOKER PROJECT</b> Protecting & Empowering the Women of Darfur		

## HELP THE WOMEN OF DARFUR

This project is to help the women of Darfur as developed by Jewish World Watch. This organization is committed to protect refugee women and girls from rape, beatings and other forms of violence. The refugees have fled the genocide in Darfur, a region of Sudan, and are currently in refugee camps in Chad. Since 2003, Black Africans have been driven out of their villages and it is estimated that at least 400,000 people are dead and 2.7 million have been displaced. About 250,000 refugees live across the border from Sudan in Chad with 80% of them being women and children.

A solar cooker works on the premise that heat from the sun can be harnessed to cook food. Reflection of solar heat is transmitted through a transparent surface, such as a plastic bag, which lets heat in but does not let it escape. The heat is absorbed by a black pot inside the bag and that heat is transferred to the food inside the pot. Just a cardboard lined with a reflected surface such as foil can cook with energy from the sun.

There are many benefits to solar cooking including reducing the need for frequent firewood collection

which is done by women. As firewood is depleted, the walk to obtain wood greatly increases. Two solar cookers can save one ton of wood each year, reduce greenhouse gasses and as there is no need to tend a fire, women are free to do other tasks in safety. The solar cookers create an environmentally sustainable solution using renewal energy of the sun. There are health benefits related to reducing smoke produced by a fire including respiratory issues. Solar cookers are safer than wood-burning stoves which can burn the women who use them as well as safety for children.

The solar cooker project has an income-generating aspect. Raw materials are sent to the camps and refugee women are hired to assemble them on site. Others train the women and girls over 15 years of age in the cooker's proper use. After a camp is trained, a maintenance program is instituted to repair and replace cookers as needed.

Each lightweight, small and fairly inexpensive kit costs \$30. Included in the kit are two solar cookers, two pots, two pot holders, a year's supply of plastic bags and skills training for refugee women and girls.

<i>Yes</i> , Sierra Nevada Region Soroptimists want to bring solar cookers to the women in refugee camps!	
Name _____	
Mailing Address _____	
_____	
Donation amount \$ _____ (payable to Sierra Nevada Region)	Mail to: <b>Gina Grether, SNR Treasurer</b> P. O. Box 3485 Chico, CA 95927

## What You Missed



Don't forget the Air Races September 12 to 19th. Order red shirts from Diana Dillon now if needed.

**July 22**—Environment Committee. There is so much to learn but we keep plugging away at it with outstanding speakers.

**July 29**-Kay and Diana brought us all up to speed about the Air Races and what to expect. Club Red shirts are available and can be ordered from Diana but get that order in.

**August 5**-Hospitality due to Hot August Nights, our meeting was held at "Nothing To It Culinary School". We enjoyed

delectable delights such as Turkey brie sandwiches and chicken Caesar salad washed down with Ice Tea and Lemonade. See photos in this issue.

**August 12**-Business Meeting which moved right along. Birthdays were celebrated and our newest member, Tamera Schnarr was inducted sponsored by Jennifer Crowe-Clark. Gayle Baxley, CPA was selected to do our tax return for the club.

**August 19**-Public Relations/

Website meeting was chock full of information about our website, our public awareness efforts and our Facebook page where we now have 124 friends. If you do not have a password for the website or forgot yours, Coordinator Pam Sutton is more than willing to help you.

Note: The Health Committee is sponsoring a Beads for Strength beading evening on August 24 at Tina Smith's home.

## Sad Tidings



It is with regret that we announce the passing of two of our past members in this club.

Evelyn Decker, a member of SITM from 2005 to 2007 was a victim of domestic violence and passed away on August 1st in Oregon. She leaves behind an 18 year old son. Our efforts

to eradicate this violence will carry on in her name.

Sandi Hutchins died on August 9th. A member from 1991-1996, Sandi will be remembered for her generosity, kindness and for the beautiful baskets that she put together for our annual Spring Fling.

Sandi along with her husband, owned and operated Ben's

Discount Liquors. After the sale of the business, they moved to Genoa. She is survived by her husband; two sons and a daughter; plus a step son and daughter; eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers the family has asked that donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association of Northern Nevada.

## A Little Bit of SOLT

Just to keep you educated about Soroptimist, we will be asking questions in each edition of this newsletter with the answers being posted in the following newsletter. We hope that you learn something new and have some fun doing it.

1. The logo to the left of this story represents

what?

2. Name the Director of Program for SIA.
3. Name the Federations of Soroptimist International.
4. Your Soroptimist pin is worn where?
5. Where should your name badge be worn?
6. COTR stands for what?

7. How many board members are there on our region board?
8. Name the current President's Appeal.
9. Do you have to work the Air Races?
10. Name our current governor.



# Happy Dollars

August Happy Dollars  
by Marilyn Pearson

**Doreen Rogers** had a fun camping trip to Antelope Lake with her grandchildren. **Joan Hughes** hosted two guests from Soroptimist clubs in California. **Teresa Mentzer** and **Kris Olsen** reminded members of the Colon Cancer event at the Reno Aces game and have tickets for purchase. **Debra Sanborn** completed her move to her new house. **Tina Smith** had 18 people at her daughter's birthday party and has a new Yorkie, "Honeybee" a rescued dog. **Michelle Jones** is happy to be at a club meeting after being on vacation. **Vivian Ruiz** had an emotional month. Her friend's husband died rescuing a person in Mexico (it was in the paper), one of her clients passed away, and she knows the family of the 14-year-old girl who was shot in Sacramento. Vivian will have surgery on her ear for hearing

loss. **Rosalie Henry's** Chi gong trip to Las Vegas was tiring after 6 days of energizing. **Eileen Fuller's** art will be featured in the Window to the World show at the Artist's Coop during the month of August. **Niki Ewing** and her sister ran a ½ marathon in San Francisco. **Linda Lamke** took her grandkids to Wild Waters during a thunderstorm. **Azadeh Nadimi** went to Edmonton Alberta for her nephew's wedding. **Carol Dinneen** reports the mouse in her car is gone but her dogs treed a bear at Lake Tahoe. **Sue Smith's** daughter and grandkids visited for three weeks and now she needs a rest. **Marilyn Pearson's** son got married at Arrow Creek golf course. Her daughter is doing better, after a break up, thanks to some retail therapy. **Bev Perkins** tangled with the IRS for a client and won. **Scarlett Ewy** celebrated her 42nd wedding anniversary at a beer garden in California. **Billie**

**Mendiola** husband's nose is looking better after skin cancer surgery. **Georgia Baker** moved into her new house. Linda Buzka was her guest at two meetings. **Betsy Dart** met her daughter's new boyfriend, "with fingers crossed", in Santa Barbara. **Tracy Turner** rode her bike many hilly miles on a trip to Italy. **Ann Steckline** got training at a family counseling service camp. Her youngest son got engaged in Santa Cruz. **Margie Hermanson** looked for a perfect chair and wound up with three chairs and a table. **Patty Downs** attended her 30<sup>th</sup> high school reunion. **Dorothy Nash Holmes** walked her precinct for her run for district judge. **Kathryn Kever**'s family made it through her chore list without complaint. **Liz Lukasavich** thanked members for all their support since her husband passed. **Monica House's** son has a chance for a part in a TV show.



## Nothing To It Luncheon

In case you missed our luncheon at the "Nothing To It Culinary School", you missed great food and fun. Here are examples:



## Interested in Joining Us?



Our newest member Tamera and her sponsor Jennifer.

We are an international organization of business and professional women working to improve the lives of women and children with the emphasis on girls. We strive to make a difference in our world while at the same time making a difference in our communities.

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows was chartered in 1978 and currently has 83 enthusiastic members. We meet each week at the Atlantis Resort on Thursday

at noon. The cost for lunch is \$16 and we invite you to come and join us to learn more of what we are about and the fun that we have giving back to our community and the world.

So how do you do that? You can rsvp to [sitruckee-meadows@hotmail.com](mailto:sitruckee-meadows@hotmail.com) or contact our Coordinator Teresa Mentzer at (775) 329-



5523. We would love to have you and look forward to meeting you.

## Community by editor Sue Camp

As we all know by the influx of media campaigns, election time 2010 is fast approaching. As someone who has been extremely involved in this community for many years, I would like to pass on my advice for how to approach this critical time for our community. This is my opinion and not the opinion of any of our club's officers or members. That

being said, here are a few of my observations.

First of all, do all that you can to educate yourself about the candidates and issues that you will be facing on the ballot. Do your own research and talk to people that you trust concerning their knowledge of those running for office or issues. Do not rely solely on the media because as we are all

aware, they do not always get it right.

Next, once you have decided to support a candidate or issue, do so wholeheartedly. Lend financial support when possible as campaigns for office and questions are expensive.

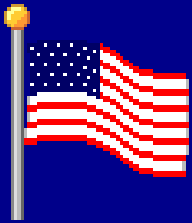
Most important of all, never neglect your duty to vote. We as women fought very hard for this right and must exercise it.

## District III Fall Meeting

The date for the first District III Fall Meeting of the biennium has been set as October 9th in Susanville, California. As always, our club likes to send as many members as possible and in fact, pays for the registration for first time attendees at these fun gatherings. But what can you expect? Read on!

Fall District Meetings give you the opportunity to have updates first hand as to what is happening in our region, federation and international organization. It is a time when you can lovingly lift ideas from other clubs to use as your own. You gain friendships with other clubs and members that

you will keep for a lifetime if you so choose. You get to spend quality time with fellow club members and maybe get that opportunity to learn more about your fellow SITM members. You are supporting your new District Director but most important, you will have a good time, guaranteed.



## Microlending by Joan Jackson

*Editor's Note: Following is an excerpt article written for the Soroptimist International Magazine by Joan Jackson, President of the newly chartered SI Victoria Westshore (chartered May 2010) and Past President of SI Chico (Sierra Nevada Region) 2003/04.*

Microcredit is a system through which people without collateral or a financial track record may secure small loans for their use towards their business or (less often) personal lives. Sometimes these loans are just a few US dollars, but these few dollars can make an enormous difference in the lives of the person and her/his family.

In 2004, Matt Flannery and Jessica Jackley "witnessed the power of microfinance firsthand." Returning to California they created Kiva.org, "the first person-to-person micro-lending website, empowering individuals to lend to entrepreneurs around the globe."

Lenders are able to access the website, select entrepreneurs and arrange to lend funds in a secure online environment. Brief information about the requesting person, the project that is planned and the loan that they require, is given on the Kiva website.

Lenders log on, "shop" for a person requesting a loan and make a se-

cure payment to the entrepreneurs in increments of US\$25.

Multiples of people form the online lending group; each person's money is repaid securely as credit back to the lender's password-protected site. Since 2004, US\$131 billion has been lent by 700,000 lenders around the globe to 333,000 entrepreneurs and more than 82% of these entrepreneurs are women.

Members of Kiva Lending Teams lead as individuals but have the option to count each loan they make towards the overall impact of one of their teams.

[www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org)



## Accessing TIS (SI Magazine)

The Soroptimist International Magazine (TIS) has now gone electronic and will no longer be mailed to members.

As those of us who are more seasoned members are aware, this magazine used to be produced on a quarterly basis and then mailed to subscribers. While it was always fun to get the international mailing,

the electronic version is far more efficient.

If you have an interest in receiving the electronic version of this magazine, merely send your email address to [editor@soroptimistinternational.org](mailto:editor@soroptimistinternational.org)

They will put your name on the subscription list at no cost to you and you will receive your magazine via email.

If you are interested in viewing the current issue (June 2010) go to :

<http://content.yudu.com/Ato42z/TIS2/> and you will be able to flip through the pages of the current magazine.

The magazine will also be available through the federation websites but it is easier to get it sent directly to your inbox.



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# August 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5 "Nothing To It!" Meeting	6	7
8	9	10 Board Meeting	11	12 Business Meeting	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Public Relations/ Website Com	20	21
22 "A night at the Ball Game!"	23	24	25	26 Recruitment & Retention	27	28
29	30	31				

# September 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Education Youth	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Business Meeting	10	11
12 Air Races	13 Air Races	14 Air Races	15 Air Races	16 Air Races Health	17 Air Races	18 Air Races Dist VI Fall Mtg
19 Air Races Dist V Fall Mtg	20	21	22	23 Ad Hoc Commit- tee-Dating Violen	24	25 Dist II Fall Mtg
26	27	28	29	30 Pres Elect Norma Rash		