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## President's Message

When I think of November, I think Thanksgiving. For me, it's a time to gather with family and friends, enjoy good conversation, good food, and good wine. Depending on the size of your family, it may mean meeting potential new family members or introducing the infant newcomers. Regardless of the size of the gathering or the food served, it's a day set aside to give thanks.

We've much to be thankful for this year. None of our members or their families was injured at the Air Races when the plane crashed into the spectators. As I write this message, our members' homes appear to have been spared from the Caughlin

firestorm. In the last few months, our club has come together time and time again to support one another and our community. And as Soroptimists, it's the "coming together" that enhances our lives. We join together in knitting scarves and purchasing gifts in support of the Libby Booth School Santa's Workshop. In December, Happy Dollars will fund our club's donation to the Soroptimist International President's Appeal, "Birthing in the Pacific". Saturday, December 10, it's breakfast at Nothin' to It and delivering gifts to low-income seniors in partnership with the Salvation Army. And don't forget the fun we have at our Holiday Social which this year in-

cludes a "Wild and Crazy" socks exchange. Together we serve others, support one another in the good times and bad times, and simply enjoy the time we are together.

The holiday season is upon us. Let us be thankful for family, friends, and our fellow Soroptimists.

President Norma



## A Poem by Melody Beattie

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life.  
It turns what we have into enough, and more.  
It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity.  
It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend.  
Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.  
- Melody Beattie

## Board/Business Update *by Faye I. Anderson*

### November 2011



Board Meeting  
Held November 8,  
2011



*Board Meetings are held each month on the Tues-day prior to the second Thursday of the month. All are invited to attend and see the discussions at the board meeting.*

Gear up for a month of holiday events and programs from now until the end of the year. The board recommended and the membership approved several familiar programs including the Salvation Army Senior Gift Delivery, the Libby Booth School's Santa's Workshop and the Holiday Social in December.

#### **Santa's Workshop at Libby Booth**

Carol Dinneen is collecting items for this year's Santa's Workshop at Libby Booth Elementary School. Please bring small holiday gift items, appropriate for school children to give to parents or siblings, to club meetings. The week of December 12, Carol will be looking for members who can volunteer some time during school hours to help children select items and wrap them for gift-giving. She is also accepting gift wrapping and ribbon, gift bags and tape.

#### **Wild & Wacky Holiday Social**

Wild & wacky socks that is... The Hospitality Committee will be hosting the annual Holiday Social at the regular club meeting on December 15. Members are asked to bring some wild & wacky socks wrapped for the gift exchange.

#### **Soroptimist Grant of Friendship**

SITM Member Monica House has accepted a Soroptimist Grant of Friendship from SI/Puné Metro East in India. Monica and her mother (a former Soroptimist) will travel to Puné, India (about 70 mile inland from Mumbai, India) in March where they will be hosted by the club. Two-plus years ago SITM offered a Grant of Friendship and hosted Nisha Ghosh, a Soroptimist from India. Upon returning home Nisha worked to found the Puné Metro East Club. SITM and SI/Puné have been Friendship Link Clubs ever since.

Monica is also looking into the possibility of visiting our girls' dormitory and the girls attending school on SITM scholarships in Thulipokhari, Nepal.

#### **Membership Notes**

Remaining on leave are: Marna Griffin through December for extended travel to Oregon; Vivian Ruiz through December for employment changes; Holly Welborn-Hight through January, while she attends law school; Kathryn Keever through March for personal reasons; and Joan Hughes for her annual winter leave to Mexico.



## The Soroptimist Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women

The Human Rights/Status of Women Committee is seeking nominations for the annual Soroptimist Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women. The award honors women who use their personal or professional influence to improve the lives of other women.

Up to \$750 will be donated to the charitable organization of the recipient's choosing. She then advances to the region and federation levels of our organization for additional honors.

Complete a simple application form and include up to a 750-word description of your nominee's qualifications. Nomination forms are available at club meetings, or go to <http://www.sitmny.org> to download an application. The recipient will be honored at the club's March 29, 2012 meeting.

### **Eliminating Violence Against Women** by *Faye I. Anderson*

Each year, on November 25 (the International Day to Eliminate Violence Against Women), members participate in the Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence.

In 1994, Soroptimist International of the Americas made the prevention of domestic violence an organizational focus.

The campaign targets domestic abuse as a workplace concern, because it affects both women and business, as most women work and they do not leave abuse behind while at the workplace. Abusers often harass their partners at work. In worst case scenarios, abusers come to the workplace and threaten their partners and their co-workers.

At SITM's regular Thursday, November 17 meeting, the guest speaker will be from Safe Embrace, a family violence intervention and prevention program.

As business and professional women, Soroptimists are in a position to educate people in the workplace that women have the right to live free from violence. [Learn more about the Soroptimist Workplace campaign and access resources that address domestic violence as workplace issue](#)



*Nisha Ghosh and SIA President Pat Donohue at the SIGBI Convention*

## *Holiday Cheer for Seniors* by Faye I. Anderson

Grab a Soroptimist partner, family-member or friend and plan to play Santa to some seniors on Saturday, December 10 during SITM's annual Salvation Army senior gift delivery.

The day begins at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast at Nothin' To It, 225 Crummer Lane in Reno and gift pick up begins at 9 a.m. at the Salvation Army's offices at the corner of Sutro Street & Oddie Boulevard. Teams spend the morning delivering Christmas gifts and greetings to needy seniors in the Reno-Sparks area.

Children and well-mannered pets are welcome to join in the deliveries.

Sign-up to attend and pay for breakfast at any upcoming SITM meeting.

## *Another Woman* by Carol Geneya Kaplan

*The following poem was taken from the website [www.kubatana.net](http://www.kubatana.net)*

Today another woman died  
and not on a foreign field,  
and not with a rifle strapped to her back.  
and not with a large defense of tanks  
rumbling and rolling behind her.

She died without CNN covering her war.  
She died without talk of intelligent bombs  
and strategic targets.  
The target was simply her face, her back,  
her pregnant belly.

The target was her precious flesh  
that was once composed like music  
in her mother's body and sung  
in the anthem of birth.

The target was this life  
that had lived its own dear wildness,  
had been loved and not loved,  
had danced and not danced.

A life like yours or mine  
That had stumbled up  
from a beginning  
and had learned to walk  
and had learned to read,  
and had learned to sing.

Another woman died today,  
not far from where you live;  
Just there, next door where the tall light  
falls across the pavement.

Just there, a few steps away  
where you've often heard shouting.  
Another woman died today.

She was the same girl  
her mother used to kiss;  
the same child you dreamed  
beside in school.  
The same baby her parents  
walked in the night with  
and listened and listened and listened  
for her cries even while they slept.

And someone has confused his rage  
with this woman's only life.



# SITM Photos



*President Norma is now officially a cowgirl!*

*Marilyn & Bev got hung up in the tire!*



*The check was successfully delivered!*

# December 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Human Rights/Status of Women	2	3
4	5	6 Board Meeting	7	8 Business Meeting	9	10 Senior Gift Delivery
11	12	13	14	15 Holiday Party	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 DARK	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 DARK	30	31

# January 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Board Meeting	11	12 Business Meeting	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Ed Women	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Health/Making A Difference	27	28
29	30	31				



Win a one-year lease on an Acura TSX Tech or US\$10,000 cash prize!

Drawing will take place during the 42nd Soroptimist Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii, July 18-22, 2012.

Donation:  
\$50 for one ticket  
\$100 for three tickets



For 90 years, Soroptimist International of the Americas has been improving the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. Soroptimist programs effect fundamental change for women through economic and social empowerment. Your contribution supports Soroptimist programs that help women live their dreams.

Go to the Soroptimist International of the Americas website at [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)

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Certain articles taken from SI Global Voice Newsletter and SIA's monthly e-newsletter

*Anyone interested in membership, we would love to have you! We meet every Thursday at noon at the Atlantis Casino Resort on the second floor convention area. Lunch is \$16 so join us!*