



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Board Update	2
SI Announcement	4
SITM Announcements	5
Friday Digest, Digest!	6
Calendar	8
Newsletter Team	9



President's Message

Be the One!

Happy New Year! It was great to see so many of our members at the first meeting of 2012 after the two week Christmas break. It's nearly impossible to believe that half of the club year is behind us. The phrase "time flies when you're having fun" comes to mind as I reflect on the first six months of my term as your president.

This month we heard from Vice President of Service Ann Steckline that our hard-working service committees have accomplished much. Honorees for the Women's Opportunity Award, Ruby Award, and Violet Richardson Awards were selected. Our members helped wrap over 2,200 Christmas gifts at Libby Booth School. Funds to paint the girls' dormitory and build a security fence have arrived in Nepal and work will soon begin. Plans are in progress to implement the Teen Dating Violence project in partnership with Safe Embrace. Planning is well underway for the Making a Difference for Women event scheduled to take place

March 3 and the Thanks to Youth event on May 24. Vice President of Technical Mich Glazier reported that our technical committees have also been busy improving the SOLT presentation, revising our budget and reviewing our



bylaws, updating the club roster, maintaining our website and Facebook page, gathering photos and information for the scrapbook and Year in Review, and keeping track of our "comings and goings" at the weekly meetings. Whew, we have been working hard as Soroptimists to improve the lives of others!

As we focus on Soroptimist programs and projects, I hope we are also developing the next generation of club leaders. The Nominating Com-

mittee will be selected in February. Per our club bylaws, I will appoint the coordinator, the Board will elect the second member and the third member of the nominating committee will be elected by the club membership at the February business meeting. I hope you will consider serving Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows (SITM) as an officer or a committee coordinator.

I believe one thing that sets SITM apart is its legacy of leadership. One of my favorite quotes is, "A true leader is not the one with the most followers but the one who develops the most leaders". I would challenge each of you to "Be the One" to encourage and develop the leadership qualities in others so that President-Elect Becky will have strong leaders to support her next year much as I have had this year.

In service,
President Norma

Board/Business Update *by Faye I. Andersen* **January 2012**



Board Meeting
Held December 6,
2011

SITM began the New Year with the induction of new (really returning) member Kathy Martin, sponsored by Mich Glazier. Welcome back Kathy!

The New Year also began with a report of progress by Service Committees by VP Service Mich Glazier and VP Technical Committees by Ann Steckline. Congratulations to all of our club committees for your hard work this past six months.

Lunch Prices Unchanged

A 2012 lunch contract with the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa to provide weekly lunches and meeting space has been approved by the membership. Lunch prices remain the same, but the service charge has been increased slightly. The weekly cost to members will remain at \$16 per week.

Combat Teen Dating Violence

A program proposed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Teen Dating Violence has been approved by the membership and the committee will be looking for volunteers to help structure the program and provide content. The project, in conjunction with Safe Embrace, proposes to conduct and/or become part of proposed classes each semester to bring learning about combating dating violence, on-going self-esteem and successful living courses.

Sponsor Girls' Education in Nepal

The IGU Committee has been approved to conduct their annual solicitation to educate girls in Nepal. Members will be presenting an update on SITM's dormitory and scholarship program for girls in Thulipokhari, Nepal at the March 1 meeting.

A donation of \$300 supports one girl for room and board in the dormitory and tuition scholarship for a year of schooling. A \$150 donation pays for tuition only for a girl for a year. Donations are also welcome for SITM's Animal Assistance program providing low-cost loans to families in Thuilpokhari to purchase water buffaloes, goats, chickens or bee hives.

Pledges and quarterly payments, as well as donations in any amount, are welcome.

Donate Toiletries to TRAIN

Toiletries, like the travel and hotel-sized soap, shampoo, lotions, toothbrushes and paste, etc., are being collected for TRAIN (Treatment Resources Alliance for Individualized Need), a project brought to members by Dorothy Nash Holmes. The TRAIN project is a plan by community providers and business entities to provide services to enable the homeless and other individuals to reintegrate into the community. Diana Dillon and Niki Ewing will be collecting the toiletries through February.

Happy Dollar Report

Some \$281 in Happy Dollars were collected in December to support the 2011 Soroptimist International President's December 10th Appeal, "Birthing in the Pacific", a program to lower overall maternal mortality in Papua New Guinea by practical education programs, support for birthing attendants, and provide improved access to delivering in facilities.

January Happy Dollars are designated to "Birthday Matters", a program begun by a Soroptimist from SI/Washoe County to provide birthday parties for homeless, disadvantaged and other children who would not otherwise be celebrated on their birthdays.

Join the Crocheting Social

Get out the crochet hooks and join your fellow members for some crochet demonstrations and lessons on Wednesday, February 1 at 5 p.m. (or come after work) to Diana Dillon's office. (Directions to come.) If you are interested in learning to crochet, or just enjoy the camaraderie, please plan to attend.

Membership Notes

Members on leave include Holly Welborn-Hight through January, while she attends law school; Penney Leezy through March for work reasons; Kathryn Keever through March for personal reasons; and Joan Hughes for her annual winter leave to Mexico.

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

Soroptimist International

Soroptimist International Quadrennial Report Now Available

Soroptimist International recently posted its 2007-2011 Quadrennial Report on their website. The report details Soroptimist activities, projects, fundraising and service efforts from all four Soroptimist Federations.

<http://www.soroptimistinternational.org/assets/media/documents/Quadrennial-Report-2007-2011.pdf>

This is an interactive report! Once online in the report, if you want to learn more about a topic, just click on any picture or blue text to watch videos, view photos, read more details and more ...

Highlights from the SI 2007-2011 Quadrennial Report

- There are approximately 90,000 members in 3,000 clubs in 124 countries/territories.
 - Since 2007, approximately 20,000 on the ground projects have been reported by Soroptimists around the world.
 - On average, Soroptimists report 59% of activities in action/hands on service; 37% in financial support; and 17% in advocacy.
 - Just under 20% of reported work aims to increase access to healthcare, while approximately 15% is aimed at poverty reduction and 15% to end violence against women and girls.
 - Soroptimists serve approximately 1 million women and girls each year.
 - For SI Presidents Appeals in the past four years, Soroptimists have raised (in US Dollars) \$1.3 million US for Project Sierra; \$585,000 for Restoring Dignity – Securing a Future; \$310,000 US for Hopes & Dreams and \$21,000 US for Funding the Future.
 - SI has 19 representatives at six major United Nations Centers; since 2007 we have spear-headed at least 110 international advocacy activities at the United Nations.
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Announcements

District II & III Winter Social

Submitted by Faye I. Andersen

**February 18, 2012 9am-3pm
Corley Ranch (in the Barn)
859 Hwy 395 (south of town)
Gardnerville, NV 89410**

District II and III Directors Trudy Mills and Stacey Sawyer are inviting members throughout the Districts to gather to “Celebrate you ... a Soroptimist, and other Soroptimist members” at a District II & III Social. It will be held Saturday, February 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Corley Ranch, south of Gardnerville.

A registration fee of \$21 includes a catered breakfast and lunch. Deadline for registration will be February 10.

If you plan to attend, see General Fund Treasurer Pam Robinson, who is coordinating attendance for our club.

Making a Difference for Women

Submitted by Kay Dunham

Mark your calendars!

March 3, 2012 is the date for our 4th annual Making A Difference For Women event.

This year’s coordinators, Wendi Dennis and Georgia Baker along with their committee are planning a fantastic day for our participants. We will need all SITMers to sign up for the day to host our guests and conduct the various workshops.

We host up to 100 women for a day-long event filled with workshops and fun. We will have sessions covering topics such as mock job interview sessions, the job application and resume, networking, easy work place fashions, our free clothes closet, and lunch.

Friday Digest, Digest!

Excerpts from the Friday Digests written by President Norma

Just in case you missed it, here's what happened at our January meetings!

Good News From the Air Races!

Diana Dillon announced at the January 5 meeting that SITM received \$9,250 for our work at the 2011 Reno Air Races. This means we will not need to use reserve funds to cover our Service Fund commitments for 2011-2012. The news release this week by the Reno Air Race Association (RARA) was positive with event dates for the 2012 announced as Sept. 12-16. Included in the announcement was a cautionary note that there are numerous challenges to navigate before the event can be held this fall. RARA intends to keep the community and SITM informed on their progress to obtain the necessary permits. We certainly wish them the best.



Business Meeting

Our business meeting, Thursday, January 12 was attended by just enough members to meet the required quorum. Congratulations to Kathy Martin who was inducted as our newest member. Welcome back Kathy! Several of our members were honored with R.O.S.E.'s from fellow members in "Recognition of Seroptimist Excellence". Ana Nadami of the Recruitment and Retention committee, led the celebration of January birthdays for members Jennifer Burnitt, Armenia Karapetian, Teresa Mentzer, Norma Rash, Paula Ringkob, Pam Sutton, and Julia Ratti. President Norma was the only "Birthday Girl" in attendance so she was serenaded by the group. Ann Steckline, VP Service and Mich Glazier, VP Technical, provided mid-year updates from our various committees. Much has been accomplished in the first six months of this club year. My congratulations to our members for their commitment, dedication and service.

Women's Opportunity Award

The meeting on Thursday, January 19 recognized our 2011-2012 Women's Opportunity Award (WOA) winner. The WOA was established by Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) in 1972 to assist women with primary financial responsibility for their families to obtain the skills-training and education necessary to improve their employment status and standard of living for themselves and their family. The women receiving these financial awards may use them for any costs associated with their educational efforts, including tuition, books, child care, and transportation.

Since 2000, when the TAP award was renamed to the Women's Opportunity Award, SITM has awarded \$21,000 to 22 women. This year's honoree, Andrea Lalen-Kasten, will use her award to complete her AA degree in Human Resources Management. Andrea, a victim of abuse as a child, has overcome much in her 26 years. Along with her supportive husband Casey, they care for their special needs daughter while Andrea strives to complete her AA degree while working 30-35 hours each week at Family TIES. Family TIES, a Nevada Family-to-Family Health Information Center, is a family-run non-profit organization that provides information, education, training, outreach, and peer support at no cost to families of children and youth with special health care needs. When Andrea graduates in May 2012, she plans to continue her education in the field of Human Resources. Congratulations to Andrea for her dedication and hard work to improve her life and that of her family's as well. My appreciation to Patty Downs, Georgia Baker, Tracy Turner, Mach Glazier and the Education Women Committee for their work on this award.

Health Committee Presentation

Thursday, January 26's meeting hosted by the Health Committee, featured Janna Vanderhaar of Friends of Nevada Organics. Janna shared information on what is involved in certifying farm products as organic, some of the reasons why organic products often cost more, required annual inspections of organic farms/growers, and why organic farms and products benefit people and the environment. She suggested that if cost prevents consumers from buying all organic, then a place to start is to focus on berries and apples. There was a lively period of questions and answers with members reporting Costco and some of the big box stores are now carrying organic products at reasonable prices. Something for all of us to consider as we balance costs of the food we purchase with benefits to our overall health.

February 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Making a Difference Event Planning	3	4
5	6	7 Board Meeting	8	9 Business Meeting	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Education Youth	17	18 District II & III Winter Social
19	20	21	22	23 Finance and Bylaws	24	25
26	27	28	29 It's a LEAP YEAR!			

March 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 IGU	2	3 Making a Differ- ence Event
4	5	6 Board Meeting	7	8 Business Meeting	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Recruitment and Retention	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 SOLT	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Human Rights/Status of Women	30	31

Recipe for a Wonderful Year

Author Unknown

Take twelve whole months.
Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate, and jealousy.
Make them just as fresh and clean as possible.
Now cut each month into 28, 30 or 31 parts,
but don't make up the whole batch at once.
Prepare it one day at a time out of these ingredients:
Mix well into each day one part of faith, one part of patience, one
part of courage, and one part of work.
Add to each day one part of hope, faithfulness, generosity, and
kindness.
Blend with one part prayer, one part meditation, and one good deed.
Season the whole with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a
pinch of play, and a cupful of good humor.
Pour all of this into a vessel of love.
Cook thoroughly over radiant joy, garnish with a smile, and serve
with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness.

Enjoy!!!

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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!