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SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

President Patti Doty

www.sitmuv.org

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 10

APRIL 2011

President's Message

I love being your President and presiding over meetings that make people laugh and cry. My dear friend Patty Downs was just awarded a Laurel Society membership by my other dear friend Jo Ann Roberts. Tears and applause filled the room as Patty cried, hugged and accepted the honor. Then she spoke about how much Soroptimist meant to her in terms of good deeds and good friends.

Because of Soroptimist, I can claim as my good friends both Jo Ann and Patty as well as the rest of you. And all members

can do the same. Our club



gives us much more than we can ever repay.

Speaking of repaying, we still have work to do: Giving away scholarships, honoring Unsungs, finishing up our club year by planning the budget for next and installing our wonderful newly elected

Board. We will also be making a donation through SIA for immediate use in hands of our Japanese sisters. Also, each of us, in our own way, sends thoughts and good wishes and prayers.

We laugh together, we play together and we cry together—that's what club work and life is all about. We are Soroptimists. Aren't we the lucky ones!



Message from SIA

Soroptimist expresses heartfelt concern for those suffering from the multiple disasters in Japan. It has been and continues to be a devastating time for Japan, which is home to more than one-third of SIA's membership. A special fund has been established to assist women and girls in Japan post-disaster. Learn more about how to [contribute](#), and the ways women and girls suffer disproportionately after disaster strikes by visiting www.soroptimist.org

Board Meeting

by Past Governor Faye I. Andersen



**Board Meeting held
April 12, 2011**

*Everyone is invited
to attend board
meetings and food
is served. You also
get credit for
attendance. They
are usually held
the Tuesday before
the second
Thursday of the
month.*

Congratulations to the newly elected SITM Officers, Directors and Delegates for the 2011-2012 Club Year. Members voted at the April Business Meeting for SITM's new Board members to serve with President-Elect Norma Rash next year. For a complete list, see page 3.

Thank you to Nominating Committee Coordinator Niki Ewing, members Mich Glazier and Lynn Robins for handling the nominations and election.

New Budget and Bylaw Changes Presented;

The 2011-12 Club Budget was presented by Finance/Bylaws Co-Coordinator Vicki Schultz. An electronic version will be mailed to members for review prior to a vote at the May Board Meeting. Contact Vicki and Co-Coordinator Bev Perkins with any questions or suggestions about the Club Budget.

Proposed Club Bylaw changes were also presented at the April Business Meeting and include changing the name of the Ways & Means Committee to

“Special Events” and re-classifying the Making a Difference for Women Committee from a Service Committee to a “Special Events” Committee.

Both the Club Budget and Bylaw changes will be voted upon at the May meeting.

Your Help Needed at Conference

Whether you're attending SNR Conference or not, your help is needed to staff SITM's sales table on April 29, 30 or May 1. SITM is selling “Soroptimists are Hot” battery-operated personal fans. Contact Norma Rash if you have a couple of hours to help out at the sales table.

Gayle Baxley also needs your help at conference as a newsletter reporter covering events at conference. Gayle is editing the SNR Conference newsletter and needs volunteers to write stories about the events at conference. Contact Gayle if you can help.

Items Needed for Thanks to Youth Baskets

If you have items to donate appropriate for the Thanks to Youth Raffle Baskets, please contact Teresa Mentzer. A fundraising raffle of the baskets will be conducted at TTY on May 26, with proceeds going towards youth scholarships.

Happy Dollars

A total of \$398 in March Happy Dollars were collected and matched by the club for a total donation of \$796, which will be divided equally between the Tahoe Rim Trail and the American Lung Association of Nevada's Camp Breathe Easy. April's Happy Dollars are designated for the Patient Care Fund, Access to Healthcare, and the Crisis Pregnancy Center.

Membership Update

The Board granted a leave of absence for Sonya Hem-Giroux through June for work and personal reasons. Remaining on leave is Joan Hughes through May for travel to Mexico.

SIA Convention

19th Soroptimist International Convention - July 10 to 14, 2011, Montréal

Join with Soroptimists from around the world to discover, learn and grow against the backdrop of Canada's best summer city. Register before April 15 and save \$100 on registration fees! Visit the [convention website](#) for more information.



Soroptimist 2011
19th International Convention
July 10 to 14, 2011 – Montréal, Québec, Canada



2009 • 2010





Soroptimist Project Matching *by SIA*

The III District of Bamako is confronted to important problems of insalubrity coming from a high concentration of people living on the same delimited space. The precarious conditions of the population as well as its vulnerability to various infectious diseases make it necessary to find sustainable and appropriate solutions to collect garbage and evacuate [wastewater](#). Young women have organized

themselves in groups to handle the collection of garbage. They are well organized but badly equipped. The Women Association of this District and the SI Club Bamako Espoir would like to contribute to this work by:

1. installing and looking after drain wells;
2. sensitizing women and putting at their disposal [garbage bags](#) at a rea-

sonable price;
3. [Training](#) women on domestic garbage management.

For more information and how to contribute go to www.soroptimistprojects.org



Conditions at Bamako

SITM 2011/2012 Board

Congratulations to the newly elected Officers, Directors and Delegates for SITM's 2011-2012 Club Year. Thank you to each member who answered the call and agreed to stand for election. Each will be installed into their respective offices on June 30 and take office July 1.

* Members completing a predetermined term of office. Newly elected in bold print.

*President Norma Rash
President-Elect **Becky Moody**

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| VP-Service | Ann Steckline |
| VP-Technical | Mich Glazier |
| Corres. Secty | Margie Hermanson |
| Recording Secty | Teresa Mentzer |
| Treasurer-Service | Betsy Dart |
| *Treas.-Technical | Pam Robinson |
| Director (2 yr) | Patti Doty |
| Director (1 yr) | Beverly Perkins |
| Dir./Delegate (2 yrs) | Tina Smith |
| Dir./Delegate (1 yr) | Vivian Ruiz |
| Alt. Dir./Del. (2 yrs) | Ana Nadimi |
| Alt.Dir./Del. (1 yr) | Rosalie Henry |



Laurel Society Presentation *by Faye I. Andersen*

SITM's newest member of the Soroptimist Laurel Society is Patty Downs, thanks to another Laurel Society member, Jo Ann Roberts.

For the past five years, the Laurel Society has raised money through a series of raffles at district and region meetings and conferences. Jo Ann has been a faithful contributor and earlier this year she was notified that she was a raffle winner and recipient of a Laurel Society membership. She decided it was her turn to honor someone with a Laurel Society membership.

Jo Ann selected long-time member Patty Downs for her dedication and involvement in SITM projects and events. Patty has served as an elected officer, including SITM President. During the presentation at the April Business Meeting, Jo Ann said, "Patty is someone you can count on to be there no matter what the task and she will always give a 100 percent effort."

Congratulations Patty, and way to go Jo Ann.





Bridge the Gap for Aimal by Faye I. Andersen



President Patti, Aimal, Jean Neddenriep and Lt. Colonel Kurt Neddenriep

Members attending the March 31 meeting heard an extraordinary tale of military heroism, people-to-people projects and friendship. Lieutenant Colonel Kurt Neddenriep (yes, he's Jean's son) and his "brother" Aimal spoke of their meeting and time together after Kurt's Nevada National Guard 1-221 Cavalry Unit was deployed to Mehtar Lam Afghanistan.

Aimal served as "cultural advisor" and interpreter for Kurt and his unit. Aimal's father was killed when he was six-months-old and he spent his youth doing odd jobs to support his mother and sister while he went to

school and soaked up languages. With Kurt's help, 22-year-old Aimal became one of four Afghans in win a student visa, and after passing exams he is now a student living in the dormitories at UNR.

Aimal has applied for a green card in order to work, and Kurt and family and friends are raising money to help support his tuition, plus provide stipends for him to send home to support his mother and sister. An account in Aimal's name has been set up through the university to collect donations to pay for his schooling. Total tuition and fees per semester is

approximately \$10,000 for foreign students.

If you can donate, please make checks payable to Board of Regents – FBO Zabittullah Aimal and send them to Kurt Neddenriep, P.O. Box 281383, Lamoille, NV 89828. Aimal is also available to speak to groups about growing up in Afghanistan and his role as "cultural adviser" for American troops there.


You can read more about Aimal at:

www.nevadasagebrush.com/blog/2010/11/15/afghan-student-braves-war.

bridge ^{THE} gap

will you help with tuition?

bridge ^{THE} gap




fact>
77% OF AFGHANS CANNOT READ OR WRITE.

fact>
AFGHANISTAN NEEDS EDUCATED PROFESSIONALS TO CREATE A BRIGHT FUTURE.

read more about aimal at www.nevadasagebrush.com/blog/2010/11/15/afghan-student-braves-war


In 2009-2010, the largest mobilization of Nevada soldiers since WWII deployed to Mehtar Lam Afghanistan. Their cultural advisor was a young man named Aimal who had lost his father when he was 6 months old.

The Nevada officers helped Aimal gain acceptance at UNR and now they need your help. Contingent upon Aimal maintaining a 3.0 GPA, LTC Neddenriep is paying for all room and board, plus a monthly stipend for Aimal to send back to his mother in Kabul.



will you help with tuition?

how can you help?



1. MAKE A TUITION DONATION WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO "NEVADA BOARD OF REGENTS - FBO ZABITULLAH AIMAL".

Total tuition and fees per semester is approximately \$10,000 for international students.

2. HOST A FUNDRAISER DINNER IN YOUR HOME.

- Invite friends that are willing and able to make a donation towards Aimal's tuition.
- Arrange a time that Aimal can attend and join you.

> Enjoy an engaging evening where Aimal will discuss his experiences growing up in Afghanistan and his hopes for a bright future for his country.

consider>
MAKING A PLEDGE FOR AN ANNUAL DONATION CONTINGENT ON AIMAL'S SEMESTER GPA.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "NEVADA BOARD OF REGENTS - FBO ZABITULLAH AIMAL"
Mail to: Kurt Neddenriep
P.O. Box 281383
Lamoille, Nevada 89828

expert

"Aimal Haïm stepped out of his one-man tent and into the darkness of the Afghanistan night. He was walking across the base to deliver his daily report when the sky lit up with mortar fire." © The Nevada Sagebrush, Catherine Stokes

bridge ^{THE} gap

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "NEVADA BOARD OF REGENTS - FBO ZABITULLAH AIMAL"
Mail to: Kurt Neddenriep
P.O. Box 281383
Lamoille, NV 89828



will you help with tuition?



Please add me to your email list for updates about Aimal (email)

Please keep this donation "Anonymous"

Check this donation to (Name)

I WILL CONSIDER FUTURE DONATIONS IF AIMAL AVERAGES A 3.0 GPA OR BETTER.

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SITM UPDATE

SIA President Sharon Visits SITM by Sue Camp

We were honored to have SIA President Sharon Fisher join us for our Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women Luncheon. She spoke to us about the many changes happening not only within our federation but throughout the Soroptimist organization as a whole.

Several of our members as well as members of other clubs

joined us for a dinner the night before at PF Chang's. We were happy to share our special guest with other clubs and enjoyed the time that we had with our SIA President.

My insight is that President Sharon is exactly the type of leader that we in the Sierra Nevada Region have been looking for. She is a good listener but also has the strength to voice her opinion and ask the right

questions. What a breath of fresh air.

Our thanks to President Sharon for graciously fitting us into her schedule and allowing us the opportunity to get to know her better. What a great experience it was.



President Sharon & President Patti

Friday Digest by President Patti

Friday Digest 3-18

Bill Carlos, horticulturalist at the Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden, educated us yesterday about "Adaptive Ornamentals and Native Plant Species." Bill's last bit of advice was to prune your roses on tax day.

Friday Digest 3/25/11

The Human Rights/Status of Women Committee treated us to a spectacular Ruby Award for Women Helping Women luncheon. Mich Glazier introduced our honoree, Marcia Hoch, who gave a wonderful acceptance speech—not about herself, but about the TMCC Re-entry Center, describing it as TMCC's "hidden gem". She recounted stories of women who have been helped through the 26 years of the program and who have gone on to great success. Then she spoke of her personal attachment to the RUBY of our award, that there are 3 prongs to hold the ruby in place: First is the value of education; 2nd is a job; and 3rd is a mentor, someone who believes in you.

Friday Digest 4/1/11

Wow!! "Continue to see the Positive," urged Major Kurt Neddenriep, son of Jean and one of yesterday's program speakers. The Economic & Social Development Committee brought us Kurt and his "brother," Aimil Zabit, who told us about Afghanistan. Kurt was in Afghanistan with the Nevada Army National Guard protecting and defending but also bringing kindness and hope to an area most of us cannot imagine. The Go Green Strategy is aimed at creating partnerships with the people, bringing them funds and projects and helping them become self-sufficient. Sound like a Soroptimist project? He said a gift of the National Guard was "bringing a civilian mindset to the project" and helping to change the Afghan mindset. Sobering facts: His group survived 26 IAD(bombs) attacks & collected 57 Purple Hearts; 2 legs were lost; all of his came how but four in an associated unit did not. Kurt describes his reason for speaking about his experience as "a way to change perceptions about Afghanistan." (See the story about Kurt's translator on the previous page)

Friday Digest 4/8/11

Today's program was brought to us by the Health Committee, Rosalie Henry and Vivian Ruiz Co-coordinators. Nutritionist and naturopath Janet Henshaw spoke about alternative health treatments.

Friday Digest 4/15/11

So who says a business meeting can't be exciting? Bring you to tears? Achieve rousing applause? Yesterday's meeting did all three. We elected our new board for 2011/2012, Jo Ann Roberts honored Patty Downs with a membership in the Laurel Society and we heard the first reading of bylaws changes. All done within our allotted time.



Upcoming Event

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF TRUCKEE MEADOWS PRESENTS



Thanks to Youth

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2011

NOON TO 1:30 P.M.

ATLANTIS CASINO RESORT

COST \$20

Come join us as we celebrate the good deeds done by our community's youth.

Sponsorships available at \$250 for a table of 8

Please provide:

Sponsor's Name _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

(Please return info with check payable to SITM to Cindy Burk, c/o Mutual of Omaha Bank, 6275 Neil Road, Reno, NV 89511)

Reservation and Ticket Information Contact:

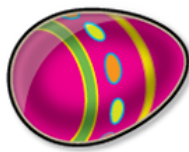
Contact:

Cindy Burk at cindy.burk@mutualofomahabank.com

Marilyn Pearson at atthrrmp@gmail.com

Vicki Schultz at vschultz@sfginc.com





Women's Scholarship Luncheon April 28th

Just a reminder that April 28th is our Annual Women's Scholarship Luncheon and you just won't want to miss it. It is an excellent opportunity to bring guests and we would encourage you to do that. Don't forget to RSVP for them at www.sitruckee Meadows@hotmail.com

At this luncheon you will also have the opportunity to meet your region board members. Many of them have already confirmed that they will be in attendance. This is a great time to get to know them better and to let them know of the wonderful things that SITM has accomplished.

So put it on your calendar right now while you are thinking about it. This is something that you will not want to miss. I realize that I already said that but it is just that important and you don't want to be kicking yourself later for what would be a huge mistake.



We will be giving our \$35,000 in scholarships!

SI Pune Metro East Update by Sue Camp & Nisha Ghosh

As most of you know, our Friendship Link with the SI Pune Metro East Club is now one year old. The following is a update from President Nisha Ghosh:

Thank you for forwarding the newsletter which we all enjoy reading and knowing about your club activities and for me, its so great to see familiar faces in the newsletter. Sending you below a short report of our first anniversary celebrations with loads of photographs. Again we have to state that a lot of this has been possible because of the generosity of our friendship link club, SI Truckee Meadows.

The First Event
A workshop for girls called **Girls Moving Forward**, the fourth one

and a combined effort of 5 clubs.. We were able to combine education, empowerment, IGU and of course bonding with the Best my own tagline. We spent the whole day at Phulgaon, a village 30km away where these sessions were held for 22 girls. SITM gave us monetary support to conduct this project.

The Second Event
Women Weave Wonders—a fun filled and information loaded meant for our visitors and modeled by our members at a pot luck on a lazy Sunday afternoon. The visitors were given handouts on the weaves/the styles of sarees/of different traditions and also of different jewelry.

The Third Event
A formal presentation of our year long work, our bonding with the best and the award. Our guests were our partner NGO's, our friends and our supporters. Highlight a vibrant speaker, Senior journalist Vinita Deshmukh who fired everyone with her plain speaking on Relevant journalism—the need of the hour. Later that evening a dinner with the soroptimists and overseas guest in attendance. Games and charades made us all relax.

Thank you for all the support and friendship.

President Nisha Ghosh



Women Weave Wonders Event



Nisha at the 3rd Event



Girls Moving Forward



April 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Health	8	9
10	11	12 Board Meeting	13	14 Business Meeting	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Thanks To Youth	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Scholarship Luncheon Region Board Meeting	29 Region Conference	30 Region Conference

May 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Region Conference	2	3	4	5 Education Youth	6	7
8	9	10 Board Meeting	11	12 Business Meeting	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Committee Signups	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanks To Youth	27	28
29	30	31				



Miscellaneous Photos



← Jo Ann Roberts, District II Director Trudy Mills, Sue Camp and President Sharon



Sue Camp, President Sharon, President Elect Norma Rash and SIWC President Marsh Hughes →



← Aimal

Margie Hermanson, Aimal, Lieutenant Colonel Kurt Neddenriep, Jean Neddenriep →



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Betsy Dart
Marilyn Pearson
Tina Smith
Nisha Ghosh*

Photographers
Gayle Baxley

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!