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SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

President Patti Doty

www.sitmuv.org

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 12

JUNE 2011

President's Message

Happy spring into summer. Mother Nature has finally granted us warm sunny days in which to finish out our club year. It seems like only yesterday that I asked you all to "Consider the Possibility" with me. You've been with me the whole way, thinking and working creatively to craft events that were even bigger and better than before—think award-winning Making a Difference for Women and fund-raising Thanks to Youth plus scholarships, Ruby Awards, WOA awards, and Violet Richardson awards; think award-winning Recruitment and Retention with many new members and fun parties; think Nepal Project & garage sales that bring education and life improvement to a tiny Nepalese village; think Senior Gift Delivery and Christmas wrapping at Libby Booth; think award-winning newsletter, website, and

Facebook; think all our other programs where we learned about ourselves, our community and our world.



The transition of club leadership has already begun with a joint Board meeting this month. President-Elect Norma and her Board are eager to begin their year and continue our great tradition of fun and service. I am grateful that past presidents still get to serve on the Board. We look forward to an Unholiday Party, a stunning Year in Review and a spectacular Installation of Officers on June 30.

2 years ago when I agreed to run for President-Elect I did not envision this moment. I saw an opportunity to serve SITM, to gain leadership skills, and to help women and girls locally and globally. I didn't realize how my friendships would deepen and my dedication to Soroptimist service would grow. I didn't realize that I would be sad in June 2011. Being your President has been time-consuming, sometimes challenging and always fun. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your willingness to "consider" with me, to work hard, play hard and take me into your hearts. Together we've made this year wonderful for ourselves, our community and, a little bit, for the world.

Thank you!
President Patti

Thanks To Youth Winners!



Unsung Heroes



Scholarship Winners



Board Meeting by Past Governor Faye I. Andersen

SITM Update
June 2011

Board/Business Update

Congratulations and thanks to Gayle Baxley and Marilyn Pearson, SITM's new Director/Delegates for the 2011-12 Club Year. Due to the resignations of two members, the board recommended and the membership voted to elect Gayle as Director/Delegate two years and Marilyn as Alternate Director/Delegate, one year to fill these vacant offices. Gayle and Marilyn will join President-Elect Norma during the Installation of new Officers, Directors and Delegates on June 30.

Garage Sale Success

SITM's Garage Sale on Saturday June 3 netted \$2,456 for the IGU Committee's project to provide dormitory housing and scholarships for girls to attend school in Nepal. Some 44 members, along with 16 family members, friends and two of our

women's scholarship recipients all worked a total of 240 hours during Friday night set-up and/or Saturday sales

See page 3 for a complete report on the sale.

Thanks to Youth Totals

The Thanks to Youth Committee reported a 10 percent increase in attendance at this year's Thanks to Youth luncheon on May 26. Seven high school seniors were each awarded \$2,000 scholarships and five Unsung Heroes were recognized and each will be treated to a \$250 shopping spree with a Soroptimist helper.

This year's event boasted an attendance of 282. Sponsor donations, ticket sales and raffle proceeds netted \$11,960 from the event. This fundraising effort will support next year's Thanks to Youth scholarships.

Bylaw Change to Add a "Dark Day"

The Finance/Laws & Resolutions Committee presented the first reading of a Club Bylaw change to add the week of Hot August Nights each year as a week SITM does NOT have a regular meeting. The club already "goes dark" on July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. A final vote on this change will take place at July's Business Meeting.

Happy Dollars

A total of \$208 in May Happy Dollars were collected and matched by the club for a total donation of \$416, which will be divided equally between Step 2 and Adrienne's Smile. . June's Happy Dollars are designated by President Patti Doty for the Lady Nomads, an elite soccer team of Reno girls to offset expenses so financially challenged young women can fully participate.

Membership Update

The Board accepted, with regrets, the resignations of Rosalie Henry and Tina Smith both for personal reasons. .

Thanks To Youth Event by Sue Camp

For over 20 years now our club has sponsored an event that we all lovingly call our "Kleenex Lunch". Each year we honor students who may not have the best grades but who have gone out of their way to help others and make a difference in our community.

Each of our scholarship winners is awarded \$2,000

and our Unsung Heroes are given a \$250 shopping spree.

Thanks to the generosity of John Farahi and the Atlantis Casino Resort & Spa, all funds raised at this event goes to the winners. John and our other sponsors allow us to sell tickets to the event and also raise money with a raffle. Thank you to all of them.

But what makes this a "Kleenex Lunch"? It is the stories of hardship overcome, loss of friends and family and the shared happiness derived from helping others. We quite often are humbled by the good that these young people do and are proud to reward their efforts.

Congratulations to all of our winners!



Board Meeting held
June 7, 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.



GARAGE SALE UPDATE BY PAST GOVERNOR FAYE L. ANDERSEN

Weather breaks in time for SITM's Garage Sale

The clouds and cold weather parted long enough for another successful SITM Garage Sale on Saturday June 4. Proceeds of \$2,456 were raised for the IGU Committee's project to provide dormitory housing and scholarships for girls to attend school in Nepal.

Members and guests enjoyed a Friday night Margarita party with chips, salsa, pizza and donation sorting and pricing. Some 44 members, along with 16 family members, friends and two of our

women's scholarship recipients all worked a total of 240 hours during Friday night set-up and/or Saturday sales

Once again, generous members and friends filled Judge Connie Steinheimer's three-car driveway, with donations overflowing the tables into the street. Thank you to all of the members and visitors who made donations and worked the event. Proving once again we are our own best customers, the first \$300 in sales was made during Friday set-up.

Special mention goes to some unsung heroes who go above-and-beyond to make this a viable event twice a year. Connie's husband Jeff Ostomel

sets up and secures our tables and clothes hanging rod for each sales; along with neighbor Stan Mentzer, Teresa's husband, working the set-up and tear-down each event. Wally Prendergast,

former member Kit's husband, is a perennial volunteer, donating his own items, hauling signs, carrying heavy loads and otherwise assisting with the pricing and identifying of tools, furniture, sporting goods, appliances and some of our more unique items.

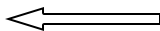
At the conclusion each Saturday, the residents of The Ridge House, lead by Assistant Director Barbara Robinson, swoop in and help pack and haul away any left-over items. (They bring several trucks.) The nonprofit organization provides services to former offenders assisting their re-entry into the community, thus reducing future recidivism.

Some Historical Facts

SITM's garage sale fundraisers were hatched in 2000 in order to raise funds to build the girls' dormitory in Thulipokhari, Nepal. Once the dormitory was completed, the semi-annual sales continued as a revenue source to support the girls housing and annual scholarships. Of course, member participation and the ensuing camaraderie are some other reasons for its continuation and ultimately its success.



Kay Dunham and Judge Connie Steinheimer





Learning English

contributed by Executive Director Leigh Wintz

Now, for a lighter moment! Look at our English language. If you think it is easy to learn, try these:

The bandage was wound around the wound.

The farm was used to produce produce.

The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.

We must polish the Polish furniture.

He could lead if he would get the lead out.

The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.

Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the pre-

sent.
A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.

When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.

I did not object to the object.

The insurance was invalid for the invalid.

There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.

They were too close to the door to close it.

A seamstress and a sewer fell down into the sewer line.

To help with the planting, the farmer taught his sow to

sow.
The wind was too strong to wind the sail.

After a number of injections my jaw got number.

Upon seeing the tear in the painting, I shed a tear.

I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.

How can I intimate this matter to my most intimate friend?

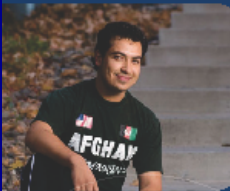
Editor's Note: Since we are an international organization and if you have the opportunity to attend a convention, do imagine how difficult it can be for other Soroptimist members from other parts of the world.

Help Still Needed for Aimal

As you are all aware, an effort is underway to help Aimal Zabitullah. He is a student at UNR and a former translator from Afganistan. Currently he must send \$500 a month home to his family as well as cover his educational expenses. Kurt Neddenriep is currently covering these expenses but he cannot nor should not have to do it alone. Anyone who can help, please do so by sending a check to Kurt Neddenriep at the below address.

Our Unholiday Party raised over \$1,000 for this wonderful young man. As a side benefit, a good time was had by all. Funny what a bit of camaraderie and a bit of wine can do.

how can you help?



*Aimal Haim 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 Skiles

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
Las Vegas, Nevada 89228

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "NEVADA BOARD OF REGENTS - FBO ZABITULLAH AIMAL"
Mail to: Kurt Neddenriep
P.O. Box 281383
Las Vegas, NV 89228

Please add me to your email list for updates about Aimal (email)
Please keep this donation "Anonymous"
Credit the donation to (Name)
 I WILL CONSIDER FUTURE DONATIONS IF AIMAL AVERAGES A 3.0 GPA OR BETTER.

will you help with tuition?

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.

bridge the gap

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Soroptimist Project Matching -

SI Volcan's Soroptimist Training Center for Women and Girls

Once built, the Soroptimist Training Center for Women and Girls will provide a place to train women to work in the growing tourism industry or in other [jobs](#) that

are needed in the area. The club will provide training in sewing and quilting, cooking and baking, manual arts, home economics, gardening, child and geriatric care taking to enable women and girls to obtain a [job](#) and gain a sustainable [income](#) for their families.

For more information, visit www.soroptimistprojects.org.



'63' The Soroptimist Residential Club *by Sue Camp*

Like many of you, I have been a Soroptimist for many years now but until a couple of years ago, I did not realize that such a thing as the Soroptimist Residence existed. Well it does and I visited it in London and want to share with you this best kept secret.

Located across the street from Hyde Park in Central London, the Soroptimist Residence is like a boutique hotel with the exception that it is a Soroptimist Club. They have a small restaurant in the basement that serves breakfast and several rooms available for rent on four floors. I chose a suite because I had both my brother and husband with me the first time but all of their rooms have recently been refurbished and are much like staying in a friend's home. Complete with showers as the minimum, these rooms have all new beds that are extremely comfortable.

The atmosphere cannot be equaled at the Soroptimist Residence. The minute that I got out of the cab, I knew that I had found a home. Once inside, the friendly atmosphere made me feel totally at home. The name Soroptimist

was everywhere naturally. You could read up on club happenings and since they have a meeting room, you could even attend one of their meetings. Just wait until you turn in a make-up from London! That would turn some heads in our club.

Keep in mind that the location is absolutely stellar. Shopping is close by, the tours are right around the corner and the "Swan" Pub next door is a great place to meet the locals. In short, the location could not be better.

So you may be wondering what this would set you back to stay at the residence. The rates are actually quite reasonable and I would suggest that you ask Margie Hermanson for the latest rates since she just returned from her stay at the residence.

So should you be planning a trip to London, give the Soroptimist Residence a try. I guarantee that you will not be disappointed. For more information, their website is:

www.soropclub63.org.uk



Is Soroptimist for Women Like Me? Connie Baehr, Regional Conference, Eugene, Oregon April 1999

"I sometimes ask myself that question. I have what I call "a regular, fulltime job" - it is defined this way: I'm a controller for a rapidly growing company that is involved in many varied businesses. A short work week is 60 hours; many weeks I work 70 or 80 hours. I have 23 people working for me, all of whom would like personal attention from me. I talk to people, sit in meetings, answer questions and make connections from 7 a.m. till 5 p.m. After 5, I sit down to "do my own work".

I've been a Soroptimist for 13 years now, and most of that time, I've been a contributor. Recently however, my club has been surprised when I've made it to a regular meeting. My personal life suffers—luckily, my partner is also very committed to his job and spends much time at work of one kind or another. Despite all that, I hasten to say that I love my job. The challenge and opportunity to expand my skills is tremendous.

Many, many women I talk to these days have very similar lives. My sister, for example, has a job that requires her to work overtime for a portion of the year, all the while raising three very active and involved children, maintaining a home and doing all the duties that go with being a farm wife.

Women's jobs are more and more demanding; employers' expectations are high. Women have husbands, children and other family members and friends, all of whom require attention and effort. Their children frequently have more commitments than they do!

When I joined Soroptimist back in the mid-eighties, it was typical for clubs to have minimum attendance and participation requirements. When a prospective member couldn't make the 2 or 4 scheduled meetings per month, she was discouraged from joining. Many clubs still have these rules, enforced or not.

I recall many discussions with Soroptimists who were choosing not to renew their membership. Why? Because they felt, and still feel, incredible guilt because they can't "do everything".

Soroptimist, like many other service organizations, faces a population of potential members whose lives are incredibly hectic and harried. What was once reasonable to expect is no longer in the realm of possibility. For Soroptimist to survive, grow and continue to impact the world around us, we must rethink our expectations of our members. We must look for the most effective way to accomplish our objectives, even if it is a brand new, untried approach. We must get accustomed to using our influence and any power that we hold to accomplish our objectives. We must stand together, make our voices heard and support each other. We must learn to value our time above all else. And, we must allow Soroptimists to contribute in any way they can.

Is Soroptimist for women like me and my sister? Absolutely! It had better be because without all those tiny contributions from all these hurried and harried women, there will be no Soroptimists. What a tremendous loss that would be to our committees, our club, our region, our nation, our world. Brilliant, isn't it?

(Note from the editor: This speech (1999) was lovingly lifted from the Soroptimist International of Sacramento Newsletter of February, 2009. As was mentioned by their editor at the time, "This speech (1999) is timeless and probably more true now than then.")



Friday Digest by President Patti and President Elect Norma

Friday Digest 5/20/11

Committee signups today and a lot of "stars" as our members filled in the ranks of Service, Technical and Special Events Committees. It is exciting to look forward to our new Board and our new committees and our new club year. Consider the possibilities!!

Friday Digest 5/27/11

President Patti left for the airport shortly after the Thanks to Youth program to enjoy some vacation time. She asked that I send out our Friday digest.



Thanks to Youth

If you were not able to attend this year's program, you missed one of the best Thanks to Youth events EVER!! Congratulations to the Thanks to Youth Committee, Co-Coordinators Cindy Burk and Marilyn Pearson on an outstanding, well organized event. Notable changes

included SITM members ushering attendees to their tables, assigned table seating, specific raffle prizes for our scholarship and unsung heroes, and a program pace which allowed "the winners" to share their appreciation. The Education Youth Committee under the leadership of Co-Coordinators Ann Steckline and Carol Dinneen, selected outstanding awardees for both our scholarship winners and unsung heroes. The honorees demonstrated time and time again why they were selected to receive recognition. Our future is in good hands if today's honorees are any indication. Well done to all who contributed to the success of this event!

Friday Digest 6/3/11

Our meeting yesterday was hosted by the Public Awareness/Website committee. Pam Sutton introduced our guest, Alison Gaulden, Chief Motivator and founder of Agile Campaign Strategies. Alison's website, MyPRCoach.com offers small business owners and entrepreneurs the coaching to conduct their own PR and marketing campaigns without an advertising budget. Alison knew several

Of our members and credited our own Jo Ann Roberts with teaching her much in the area of marketing. It was a very entertaining and informative program. Well done Pam and committee!

Friday Digest 6/10/11

My last business meeting as President. A few tears were shed and many kind words were sent my way. Thank you. We elected Gayle Baxley Director/Delegate 2 years and Marilyn Pearson Director/Delegate Alternate 1 year. Congratulations, Ladies, and thank you for again agreeing to serve SITM.

Friday Digest 6/17/11

Yesterday the Economic and Social Development Committee introduced Dr. Norm Young who told us about "Operation Walk." A team of medical professionals provide joint replacement surgery and follow up for persons in need in under-developed countries. Most recently they did 65 surgeries in 3 1/2 days in Ho Chi Min City, Vietnam. What a remarkable and life-changing service these volunteers provide! More information can be seen at <http://operationwalk.org/>. Thank you, Jean and Margie, for this informative and heartwarming program.

Award Winning Club by President Patti

SITM is the winner of a Truckee Meadows Tomorrow 2011 Silver Star! The award is for our Making A Difference for Women Program. The nomination was submitted in our behalf by Kay

responsiveness to its most vulnerable populations. The award, one of only 4 to be given, will be presented at the TMT community forum on Wednesday, June 29th. Thank you Kay and



Friendly Reminder!!!

Our club will be dark on July 7th so do not show up at the Atlantis or you will be having lunch alone!!

June 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Public Relations Website	3	4 IGU Garage Sale
5	6	7 Board Meeting	8	9 Business Meeting	10	11
12	13	14	15 Unholiday Party	16 Economic & Social Development	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Year in Review	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Installation 2011-2012 Board		

July 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 DARK No Meeting!!	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Thanks To Youth Photos



Top three photos are of our featured speaker School Superintendent Heath Morrison, Member Chris Olsen and various winners.



Music was provided by the Award Winning Youth Group from the Philharmonic

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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!