

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



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SNR Conference, Thanks to Youth, Garage Sale Make for a Busy Spring

"A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself." Joseph Campbell

May is a time of celebration in recognition of our mothers or women who have given themselves unselfishly for others. They are the guiding force and are responsible for making us who we are. Whether it is your own mother or someone you look up to, it is that special woman who has been influential in your life. A true real 'superhero' in every sense of the word. It is these same characteristics that I



President Vivian Ruiz enjoying conference.

see demonstrated by our members. It is through your strength, influence and willingness to jump into even our most tedious tasks that we as a club

have made a difference in the lives of others locally and internationally.

The 40th Annual SNR Conference was filled with much excitement for SITM. It was such an honor for our club to be recognized with an unmatched five awards, which included the Celebrating Success 1st place award for Membership programming. In Public Awareness, SITM was awarded 3rd place for Newsletter, 2nd place for Social Media and 2nd place for Innovative Program and the grand prize recognition was 1st place for Five Star Public Awareness – the Overall Award. SITM was well represented by 17 of our members. Thank you to our members for all of your hard work, dedication, and support. SITM received a lot of recognition during the conference thanks to all of your efforts. It is truly amazing to see how this club continues to "Aspire to Inspire", and what has transpired in the past couple of months has been a wonderful thing to see. Way to go Soroptimists!!! Thank you to everyone for all of your hard work. You all have a lot to be proud of.

Thank you to Penney Leezy and Barbara Atwell for doing such a great job with arranging the vendor booths at conference. A special thank you to Faye Andersen and Jo Ann Roberts for the amazing display and informational booklets that were put together of SIA's history. Also, thank you to Bev



Barbara Atwell, right, presents the #SNRRocks "trophy" to President Vivian Ruiz. Barbara took the photo of SITM members with prize-winning certificates and the photo was proclaimed "best table shot". See Barbara's photo on page 3.

Perkins for stepping up to be our third delegate for the conference, as you did an amazing job representing SITM. I also want to recognize Jan Bogikes and all of the members who had assisted with the selling of raffle tickets of the beautiful quilt donated by Jan as this raised much needed funds for the Club! Great job ladies as all of your contributions truly made the conference unforgettable and special for so many Soroptimists!

Please plan to join us for our Thanks To Youth Luncheon on May 26. The Thanks To Youth Committee will be honoring seven outstanding young scholars with scholarships, as well as 14 young "Unsung Heroes" in recognition for their community service efforts and other activities. Our special guest speaker for the event will be Sharon

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Donations and Workers Needed for Spring Garage Sale

In only a little more than three weeks, the Spring Garage Sale will be upon us. Friday night, June 3 will be set-up, with the sale on Saturday, June 4 at the home of Judge Connie Steinheimer. Workers are needed for Friday afternoon from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m., to help set-up, sort and price. Come join the fun. Margaritas and other refreshments will be served.

Workers are also needed on Saturday, during the sale. Morning donuts and afternoon sandwiches will be available. Sign-up to work from 7-11 a.m. or 11a.m. to 3 p.m. Sign-ups are available at club meetings, or contact Linda Lamke. Ridge House is no longer able to help pack and haul away the unsold items. Catholic Charities will be there to pick up the left-overs, so extra hands to box and bag items would be appreciated.

If you cannot hold onto your items until the garage sale, small household items and clothing can be dropped off on the far left south facing end of the complex at Ethan Allen's warehouse between 9am and 3pm Tuesday through Saturday. There is a "people door" entrance to the warehouse next to a large roll up door facing south. If the roll up door is closed, please ring the bell to alert staff, and enter the warehouse. If it's during lunch, or if warehouse staff is absent, you may leave your items near the door. They will be stored with all donated items.

Please, no drop-offs at Ethan Allen on Friday, June 3. Take your donations directly to the garage sale site.

Please mark higher end items and clothing for the Boutique. Large heavy items which require assistance from warehouse staff may require a little more scheduling due to availability of two warehouse staff members being present to off load. Please call the

main store number, 826-1722, and speak with the receptionist or a manager. Let the attendant know what is involved, and when you would like to drop off those large items, so your trip can be coordinated with staff availability. Feel free to call ahead with any questions you may have. All staff are available to assist.



A gentle reminder to our members and our generous family members and friends donating items to the garage sale. Please make sure that donations of clothing are clean and gently used and only useful household items in good condition and in working order are part of your donated items. Thank You.

President Vivian's Message continued from page 1

Chamberlain, Chief Executive Officer at Northern Nevada HOPES. Please remember to sell tickets for the event, as the money that is raised from ticket sales this year will be used to honor other well-deserving youth in our community next year.

President-Elect Jennifer is very busy preparing for the next year. Please don't forget that committee sign-ups are May 19th. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please be sure to let Jennifer know which committees you would like to serve on. I also encourage you all to try to explore committees that you maybe haven't before, as you may find an undiscovered passion within a new committee.

Our semi-annual IGU Committee Garage Sale is coming up on June 4th. Please encourage other members as well as friends and family to donate and volunteer for the event. Every year I am astonished at the amount of hard work that goes into this event, and volunteering for it is a fun way to connect with your fellow Soroptimists, while also supporting a great cause.

So yes, as you can see, Soroptimists share a lot of characteristics with Superheroes. As my term begins to come to an end, I want to extend a thank you to all of you for being my Superheroes during my year as your President.

Respectfully,
President Vivian

Calendar

- May 19 – Committee Sign-ups for next year
- MAY 26 – Thanks to Youth Luncheon
- June 2 – Membership Committee
- June 7 – Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Disability Resources
- June 9 – Business Meeting, Atlantis

You can follow our weekly activities on:



40th Annual SNR Conference Held in Reno

Delegates Report by Barbara Atwell

The 40th annual Sierra Nevada Region Conference of Soroptimist International of the Americas was held at the Atlantis Casino Resort in Reno, on April 29-May 1, 2016. As this was the 40th anniversary, there was a special display of items representing high points of our history. This display was put together with help from our own Jo Ann Roberts.

2nd place for Innovative Program

And the biggest award of all was 1st place for Five Star Public Awareness – the overall award.

SITM was also presented an award for "best table shot" that Barbara Atwell posted to "#SNR Rocks" on the region's website. The photo was taken Friday night.



SITM donated a "basket" full of emergency supplies as part of the Region Conference annual basket raffle. The raffle raised \$6,422 for the SNR Endowment Fund. Thanks to Margie Hermanson for assembling it all for us.



From left, Doris Phelps, Jeanne Naccarato and Pam Sutton, display the five awards presented to SITM at this year's conference.

There were Friday workshops, one called "Come Visit THE PAST, in Person!" with past region board members. Other sessions included the Candidates Forum, Delegates Briefing and Dream It, Be It, Career Support for Girls.

At the Friday evening dinner Governor Jackie DeMartini recognized first time attendees. This included SITM member Jeanne Naccarato. Life members were honored which included our club members Doris Phelps and Jo Ann Roberts.

The evening was also devoted to presentation of Club Awards. SITM was definitely a leader in receiving awards including:

Soroptimist Celebrating Success, 1st Place for Membership programming.

In Public Awareness, SITM was awarded:

- 3rd place for Newsletter
- 2nd place for Social Media

Laurel Society members and the different levels of membership were also recognized Friday night.

Saturday morning was the start of the business

meeting. SITM's Delegates were President Vivian Ruiz, Bev Perkins, and Barbara Atwell. Of great anticipation was a total revision of the SNR Bylaws. Following presentation by the Laws & Resolutions Committee, some discussion and a friendly amendment, the new SNR Bylaws were passed.

Candidates for region and district offices were presented. Only the

office of Region Treasurer was contested and delegates voted by confidential ballot before lunch.

The Saturday luncheon speaker was Immediate Past President Soroptimist International of the Americas President Poco Davis. She spoke about her adventures as SIA President and destroying curling irons on every continent she visited.

The election results were as follows. Joining our incoming Governor Vicki Watson will be:



Members sharing dinner Friday night at conference, standing from right: Doris Phelps, Penney Leezy, Margie Hermanson, Jeanne Naccarato, Kay Dunham, Pam Sutton, Monica House, Jo Ann Roberts and Faye I. Andersen, Seated are Barbara Atwell and Bev Perkins.

Governor-Elect: Lane Parks
 SI/Citrus Heights
 Secretary: Susan Stropel
 SI/Smith Valley
 Treasurer: Pam Greever
 SI/Placerville
 District I Director: Maureen Mason
 SI/Yreka
 District II Director: Liesl Schmidt
 SI/Marysville-Yuba City
 District III Director: Peggy Ursin
 SI/Elk Grove
 District IV Director: Jerri Curradi
 SI/Lincoln
 District V Director: Sarah V. Carrasco
 SI/Reno
 District VI Director: Sarah Walker
 SI/Las Vegas Valley



Quilt ticket sellers from left, Bev Perkins, Anna McArdle and Doris Phelps.

Saturday Evening started with the Grand March, introducing the Powerful Club Presidents, Past Governors,



Vendor and member Penney Leezy, right, shares a moment with her sister, admiring her jewelry.

The Saturday afternoon agenda included the SIA Federation Report by Federation Director Dona Gaddis Wolf. Federation Membership Report was given by Secretary Lane. SI/Elko was recognized as number two in the Federation for membership growth. Governor-Elect Vicki gave the Federation Program Report.

Additional reports included:

Dream It Be It, Career Support for Girls report was given by Coordinator Monique Hall. Eight clubs in the region have started work on this with four completing it.

SNR Soroptimist Stop Trafficking Task Force Report was given by Coordinator Joanne Tremeling.

Federation Fundraising Report was given by Fundraising Coordinator Linda McDoniels. Endowment Club Grants was given by Coordinator Linda Dye for Coordinator Cathie Duchene.



Vendor and member Barbara Atwell chats in the sales room with Kay Dunham and Margie Hermanson.

2014-2016 Region Board Members followed by the 2016-2018 Region Board Members. Dinner was followed by the installation of the 2016-2018 SNR Board.

Incoming Governor Vicki Watson has selected "Imagine If" for her theme. Each new Board Member was given a lantern to help light her way.

After the installation, we were entertained by The Ghost of Mark Twain as presented by McAvoy Layne.

SI/Woodland hosted a reception for our new Governor Vicki following the evening recess.

Sunday morning was started with the Celebration of Life for members around the region who have passed.

The brunch keynote speaker was Ellen Carson, RN OCN, with Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital. She spoke on cancer care and screening. Her presentation was followed by the Region-level Live Your Dream Awards. Six women were presented with scholarships of \$3,000 each and one was presented with a \$5,000 scholarship and a new laptop. One of the recipients, Ana Chacon, submitted by SI/Reno is also one of our Nancy Gomes/Mary Gojack Memorial scholarship recipient.

The Outstanding "S" Club Award was presented to SI/Burney Fall River/Burney High School for their Middletown Fire Project.

The SNR Fellowship Grant for doctoral students was awarded to Dana Anderson, M.A. Dana was awarded \$4000 and will graduate this summer with her doctorate in Clinical Forensic Psychology.

The SNR Ruby Award was presented to Dr. Kate Tranchel, founder of the Stop Trafficking Foundation,



President Vivian enters the conference hall on Saturday night as part of the President's' March.

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submitted by SI/ Chico. She has mentored the student activist club STOP! (Stop Trafficking of Persons). This is the largest club on the CSU Chico campus. She gave a TED talk in 2014, "Hidden in Plain



Immediate Past SIA President and Past SNR Governor Poco Davis was Saturday's keynote speaker.

Sight" which is now widely used in university classes and public meetings about domestic minor sex trafficking.

All clubs were invited to the SNR Development Retreat, which will be held July 9-10 at the Atlantis Casino Resort, Reno, NV. SIA Director Dona invited all members to attend the 2016 SIA Convention in Orlando, Fla., July 20-23. All members were invited to the 2017 SNR Conference by Lane Parks. The 50/50 raffle was drawn and then the baskets were raffled.

The conference concluded with the Soroptimist pledge led by Governor-Elect Vicki.

SI/Truckee Meadows had a total of 17 members attend part or all of the conference. Attending were Faye Andersen, Barbara Atwell, Georgia



Some of the SITM members set to enjoy Saturday dinner at conference. Standing from left are: Doris Phelps, Margie Hermanson, Kay Dunham, Bev Perkins, Monica House, Barbara Atwell and Penney Leezy. Seated, from left is Pam Sutton, President Vivian Ruiz, Jeanne Naccarato and Pam Robinson.

Baker-Flambures, Jan Bogekis, Diana Dillion, Kay Dunham, Margie Hermanson, Monica House, Penney Leezy, Ana McArdle, Jeanne Naccarato, Bev Perkins, Doris Phelps, Jo Ann Roberts, Pam Robinson, President Vivian Ruiz, and Pam Sutton.



The newly elected SNR Officers and Directors for 2016-2018 were installed Saturday night by Immediate Past SIA President Poco Davis. They are, from left: Governor Vick Watson, Governor-Elect Lane Parks, Secretary Susan Strople, Treasurer Pam Greever; Directors – District I, Maureen Mason, District II Liesl Schmidt, District III Peggy Ursin, District IV Jerri Curradi, District V Sarah V. Carrasco, District VI Sarah Walker.

Thirteen Women’s Scholarships Presented in April

Ten Re-Entry Women’s Scholarship and three graduate-level degree scholarships were presented during a special luncheon on April 28. A total of \$35,000 in scholarships was presented that day.

Over the past 35 years, nearly \$1 million in scholarships has been presented to nearly 400 women through this program.

2016 Jack Simon Scholarship Recipients

Camille Glanzmann	UNR Social Work
Jennifer Tappan	UNR School Counseling
Lauran Evans	UNR School of Medicine



President Vivian Ruiz congratulates Arthi Sachdev, a Business Major at UNR, on her scholarship.



UNR Women’s Basketball Coach Jane Albright, fired up the scholarship recipients and the members with a rousing talk about life’s achievements.

2016 Gomes/Gojack Scholarship Recipients

Amy Heston	Nursing _ UNR
Arthi Sachdev	Business – UNR
Asma Aimal	Political Science- UNR
Ana Chacon	Paralegal – TMCC
Herah Ashraf	Biology – TMCC
Holly Hughes	Government – TMCC
Rebecca Nolan	Science – WNC
Sahrah Ashraf	Science – TMCC/UNR
Sonia Juvera	Business – UNR
Veronica Villarreal	Science - TMCC



Herah Ashraf, left and sister Sahrah Ashraf; Biology and Science Majors at TMCC/UNR, with their mother in the center.



Standing, from left to right are: Veronica Villarreal, Sahrah Ashraf, Asma Aimal, Ana Chacon, Lauran Evans, Arthi Sachdev, Sonia Juvera and Herah Ashraf. Bottom Row, from left to right are: Rebecca Nolan, Camille Glanzmann, Holly Hughes and Amy Heston. Missing that day was Jennifer Tappan.

Thank You SITM from Scholarship Recipients



Georgia Baker-Flambures gives Sonia Juvera,, a Business Major at UNR, an opportunity to speak about her dream of a degree.

Hello Margie,

My name is Sonia Juvera and I was one of the recipients last Thursday, April 28, 2016 at Atlantis Casino. I wanted to say how much I appreciate the Scholarship. I have finished my appointment with the advisor at the College of Business at UNR and I am officially enrolled and ready to start the Fall Semester at UNR in August 2016. Thank you, again. P.S. Even though I did not meet you by face, I knew who you were and I could finally put a face to the conversation. Thank you and the lovely ladies from Soroptimist for such a pleasant afternoon at Atlantis. Maybe someday I will be switching roles and hopefully give back to other women.

Sincerely,
Sonia Juvera

Dear SITM:

I was very happy to learn I was a recipient of the SITM Nancy Gomes/Mary Gojack Memorial Scholarship. I am writing to thank you for your generous financial support towards my higher education.

I am a student at Truckee Meadows Community College completing an Associate's Degree in Paralegal and planning to transfer to the University of Nevada, Reno in 2017, to continue my education. My passion has always been assisting others by helping them achieve goals and improving their quality of life. I feel encouraged to learn, I am going to be the first graduate in my family and this will bring happiness to my grandparents who raised me

I want to help the community that struggles every day to sustain a family, and who is going through legal issues. The first project I have is to help the community with free assistance to fill out court documentations. I am a hard working student who is committed to take advantage of the opportunity that this scholarship will provide to me.

By awarding me the SITM Nancy Gomes/Mary Gojack Scholarship, I am able to concentrate on what is important for me, education. Your financial generosity has allowed me to be one step closer to my goal and has inspired me to help others by giving back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help other students like me achieve their goal just as you have helped me.

Sincerely,
Ana Chacon



Ana Chacon, at left, a paralegal student at TMCC, speaks about how she dreams of helping people. In the background are Education-Women Committee members Norma Charette and Barbara Atwell.

Marilyn Pearson - Her "Gifts Keep Giving"

By Norma Charette

The gift of a kind smile is one that is a certainty when you come into contact with Marilyn Pearson! She has spent many years spreading cheer and the wonderful gift of her warm smile onto many that know her. Marilyn was born in Palm Springs, California and moved with her family to central California where she graduated from Montgomery High School in Santa Rosa. She continued her academic journey and graduated from the University of Oregon and obtained her Master's Degree in Speech Language Pathology. During her college days in Oregon she "lived life to the fullest" as any college student should. She learned a great deal outside of the classroom and spent many months exploring her inner self during what she giddily referenced as her "hippy daze!"

During her journey days and beyond in Portland, Oregon, she met and married her adoring husband, Nick Pearson whom she has now been married to for



Marilyn and Nick Pearson

40 years. They have two adult children, Jenni and Nate and they spent some of their earlier married years living in Minnesota before relocating to Reno in 1992. Marilyn's degree has been continually put to great use while working in Minnesota and now in the Reno area as she enjoys working with special needs children. Fortunately for her (and for our Reno based families) when she and Nick relocated to Reno she was able to continue her work at Picollo, a school that focuses specifically on kids that have moderate to severe

disabilities. Her skillfulness and passion for working with our young folks is an attest to her passion for her work, her generosity to help others and her loyalty to truly making a difference.

Marilyn officially retired in 2008 and today enjoys spending her "free time" on many new adventures. One blessing is that she is able to spend quality time with her grandchildren, Oliver (2) and Avery (5), almost every weekend. The term "racing around with the kids" doesn't even come close to some of the fun stories she shared with me about their time together. Marilyn knows how to



The "cool grandma" giving granddaughter Avery a driving lesson.

be the "cool grandmother" and knows how to show off her driving skills with her granddaughter, Avery.

Marilyn has been a member of Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows since 2004. She joined initially to connect with comrades and friends outside of her work and chosen profession. Luckily for SITM, since joining in 2004 she has served in several leadership capacities ranging from Recording Secretary to President to Director as well as served on several committees and has recently received the Ceec Abrahams Award in 2012.

Her hobbies include quilting; she works with a weekly quilting group, Sierra Nevada Stitchers, consisting of 10-12 members that have convened and created a Not For Profit Agency status. Their most recent effort was a donation of time making 250 quilts that were given to agencies serving children-at-risk in Reno and Sparks. She and her husband also spend their retirement time traveling and have made the journey to Maui, Hawaii

each year for the past 17 years. She also has spent a great deal of time volunteering as a Big Sister. For the past seven years she has shared experiences and her warm "gifts" with a beautiful young woman named Jaci. She has been Jaci's Big Sister since Jaci was a second grader and has included Jaci in some of the SITM events over the years.

It is the compassion and dedication of women like Marilyn that makes me, as a new member, very proud to be affiliated with SITM. Marilyn's gifts are those that at times may not be physically touched but are certainly felt deep within all our hearts!

Marilyn and her little sister Jaci.



Liza Chapen and President Vivian Ruiz were on hand at the May Business Meeting to be serenaded with "Happy Birthday".



Three members of the Note • Ables entertained SITM members at the May 4 meeting. From left are: Jeff Bloyd, Mark Geeson, Michael Lahnala.



Sarah Toney, Development Director for the Note • Ables spoke to the club at May 4 meeting. Note • Able Music Therapy Services, provides lasting change in all ages and abilities.

May Board & Business Update and Meeting Highlights

By Faye I. Andersen

Money matters topped the May Board and Business Meetings as we caught up with Treasurers' Reports and approved several other matters.

Treasurers' Reports and More

The March and April Service and General Fund Treasurers' Reports were presented in May. Air Race Committee Coordinator Diana Dillon presented the budget for this year's art and calendar sales at the Reno Air Races. After expenses and commissions to the Air Races, the committee anticipates a profit of \$1,500 for this event.

On a proposal from Jo Ann Roberts, the Board recommended and the membership approved an unbudgeted item of a \$50 donation for a gift to outgoing Governor Jackie De Martini. Donations from clubs in the region will go towards an upgrade to Governor Jackie's Laurel Society membership. This was previously in the budget and missed during this year's budget proposals.

Remaining Delegates Funds for this year of approximately \$500 were proposed and approved to be expended on the club's delegate to the SIA Convention in July in Orlando, Florida. Outgoing President Vivian Ruiz is the club's delegate to this federation convention.

Thanks to Youth is May 26

SITM's annual Thanks to Youth recognition awards and youth scholarships is set for May 26. Seven youth scholarships and 14 Unsung Heroes will be recognized. Each member was asked to sell four tickets to the event. Vicki Schultz is accepting your ticket money, but she also needs to know how many will be attending for seating arrangements. Volunteers are needed at the start of the event to act as greeters and to direct our guests to their seats. Let Chris Fegert or Valerie Summersille-Hahn know if you can help.

Two more volunteers are needed to accompany our Unsung Heroes recipients on their shopping sprees that afternoon, after the event. If you have some time and can help, contact Teresa Mentzer or Connie Steinheimer.

Fundraising Proposal Approved for August

Barbara Atwell from the Fundraising Committee presented and the membership approved a fundraising proposal, "Dining Out for Women and Children" engaging local restaurants to donate a percentage

of their sales on a day in August. The committee will be working on soliciting restaurants. Members' help and suggestions are welcome.

Diaper Drive During May

The Human Rights/Status of Women Committee is accepting donations of diapers throughout the month of May to donate to the Women's and Children's Center of the Sierra in honor of our Ruby Award recipient Moshay Akala. Sizes 4, 5 & 6 are needed most. Bring them to any Thursday meeting, or contact any member of the committee. Donation of money will also be accepted, if you don't have time to shop.

Making a Difference Grants Underway

So far, six attendees at this year's Making a Difference for Women have been awarded grants to assist them with advancing their dreams of future employment. So far, a total of \$2,150 has been granted to provide three laptop computers to students needing them for classwork. Two additional attendees were given grants for textbooks. One grant was awarded to a woman to enroll in classes.

The MADFW Committee is still working on applications and more grants will be awarded.

Club Bylaw Revisions Underway

At the April Board and Business Meetings, the Finance/Bylaws Committee brought the first draft of new Club Bylaws and accompanying Policies and Procedures to the club. Members were asked to review both documents and provide any comments back to Co-Coordinator Pam Sutton. At the May Board meeting, the committee decided they needed more time for review and to incorporate changes. A new draft will be presented at the June Board and Business Meetings.

Happy Dollars for March

Happy Dollars for March were misstated last month. The corrected total for March Happy Dollars was \$340 (not \$281) and the proceeds were collected for the IGU Committee's Nepal Project. Happy Dollars for April totaled \$424.25 collected for the Nevada Stitchers, who produce hand-sewn blankets, hats and other items for local hospitals and children's organizations.

Membership Changes

Remaining on leave of absence through June are Kathy Hudson for medical reasons and Jan Bogikes, for travel.

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SITM meets every Thursday noon at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, 3800 South Virginia Street in Reno, second floor convention center. For reservations www.sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com. no later than 7 p.m. on the Monday before the meeting. Lunch is \$19.

Soroptimist is an international organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world.



For information about our organization, check out these Soroptimist Websites:
Sierra Nevada Region: www.soroptimistsnr.org
Soroptimist International of the Americas: www.soroptimist.org
Soroptimist International: www.soroptimistinternational.org



Did you know . . .

Live Your Dream: Education & Training Awards for Women



The Live Your Dream Awards assist women who provide the primary source of financial support for their families by giving them the resources they need to improve their education, skills, and employment prospects.

- Each year, more than \$1.6 million is disbursed through cash awards at various levels of the organization.
- Many recipients have overcome enormous obstacles including poverty, domestic violence, and drug and alcohol abuse.
- The awards may be used to offset any costs associated with efforts to attain higher education, such as books, childcare and transportation.

The Live Your Dream Awards involves three levels of cash awards. The program begins at the local Soroptimist club-level, where award amounts vary. Local-level award recipients become eligible for region-level awards of either \$3,000 or \$5,000. Region-level award recipients then become eligible to receive one of three international-level awards of \$10,000.

Since the Live Your Dream Awards program began in 1972, about \$30 million in education grants have been disbursed to assist tens of thousands of women achieve their dreams of a better life for themselves and their families.