



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

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July 2020

www.sitmnhv.org

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Calendar

- July 23 – Program TBD
- July 30 – Program TBD
- Aug. 6 – Dark
- Aug. 13 – Program TBD
- Aug. 18 – Board Meeting at Ana Nadimi’s home
- Aug. 20 – Business Meeting

Prior to each meeting President Millie sends a link to join the meeting via Zoom, if you would like to attend that way.

SITM Meets...

Thursdays at Noon

at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa Second Floor Convention Center \$25 for lunch.

RSVP to info@sitmnhv.org no later than noon on the Monday before the Thursday meeting.

Soroptimist Is:

a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.



President Millie’s Theme is “You’ve Got a Friend”

And we’re off! Welcome to the 2020-2021 Club Year. As we all know, we’re sailing off into uncharted territory keeping our club operating and our programs going forward during a pandemic. I can’t promise you that it will be smooth sailing. I can almost guarantee that we are going to have to do some things differently and be creative. Yet who better than the women of SI Truckee Meadows to be challenged like this? We are a creative and resourceful group. Who would have imagined six months ago we’d be meeting via Zoom, for goodness sake!

How did I arrive at the theme for this club year, “You’ve Got a Friend”? I thought back on the many times we have asked the membership “Why are you a Soroptimist?” and the answers were as you would expect: the good things we do like scholarships for returning women students, Thanks to Youth, our program in Nepal, Making a Difference for Women, the STEM program at Hunter Lake Elementary

- and the friendships. “I’m a member of SITM because of the friends I’ve made” is always right at the top of the list.



Then the Carole King/James Taylor anthem of the mid-70s started playing in my head. “When you’re down and troubled and you need a helping hand...” I was reminded of the many times I have witnessed the helping hands of one member extended to another, extended to a woman or

young girl in the community, and extended to women and girls across the globe. “You’ve Got a Friend” sums up so much about being a Soroptimist to me - about how we serve and lift women and girls up and how we support one another.

I think we often overlook this aspect of our belonging to SI Truckee Meadows.



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New Lunch Protocol for Reservations

We’re living in a new world with lots of changes and that includes your reservations for Thursday meetings at the Atlantis. For now, please alert attendance **IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING** by Monday noon before the meeting. President Millie is sending weekly notices for the lunch choices that should be indicated, along with your reservation. (Sorry, no buffets.)

Email your meeting reservations to the Attendance Committee at this new email address — info@sitmnhv.org before Monday noon.

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We tell others about all the good things we do in the community and abroad, yet it's really the friendships that bring us here week after week.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in me. It is an honor to be your president, to work alongside each and every one of you as we continue in our mission to

provide women and girls here in our community and across the globe with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment – to be fulfilled, to live better lives.

You've got a friend,
Millie Mitchell, President

Thank You From Immediate Past President Penney M. Leezy



I was truly surprised with all the heartfelt gifts. All I can say is thank goodness I had the mask on to absorb all the joyful tears!. Jan Bogikes, the quilt is just stunning, you know me so well! President Millie, the Mary Oliver Dog Songs book is truly special. I will pop the cork on the Prosecco in the coming week and thank you President Millie, for the Past President's Pin. I will wear it with pride.

Two words, "Thank You", just don't seem strong enough to exemplify what I feel. So, I would like to leave you with a phrase from Audrey Hepburn. As a film, and fashion icon, she demonstrated staunch humanitarian



beliefs throughout her life. One of her favorite quotes was: *"For beautiful eyes, look for the good in others; for beautiful lips, speak only words of kindness; for poise, walk with the knowledge that you are never alone."*

Thank you ladies from the bottom of my heart.
Penney M. Leezy, Immediate Past President

Soroptimist International "Road to Equality Pin"

Purchase through Soroptimist International Newport Harbor Area

Limited Quantity Available in USA

Cost \$45 (\$5 for mailing) orders of more than 3 will be sent Priority for \$10*

Credit card payment also available with 4% fee (\$46.80/pin)

Check payable to SI Newport Harbor Area

Mailed to: Dawn Marie Lemonds

14411 Heights Drive

Tustin, CA 92780

Phone # 714.709.3686

For more information-dawnmarie.lemonds14@gmail.com



“You’ve Got a Friend” is President Millie’s 2020-2021 Theme

By Pam Sutton



President Millie Mitchell being installed by Margie Hermanson

In a unique celebration featuring facemasks and a combination of in-person members and many more attending by Zoom, SITM installed the 2020-2021

Board of Directors. Incoming President Millie Mitchell's theme is "You've Got a Friend" which, she says "sums up

so much about being a Soroptimist – about how we serve and lift up women and girls and how we support one another". She adds "When we talk about SI/Truckee Meadows, we talk about our good works, but it's really the friendship that bring us here week after week".

Acting as the Installing Officer,

Margie Herman provided each officer with a wine glass filled with individually wrapped chocolates, because sharing a glass of wine and fine chocolates are just what friends would do.



VP /Program Laury Macauley

The original ceremony was scheduled for June 29, but had to be moved to July 16, due to the pandemic.

President Millie is joined by President-Elect, Valerie Hahn; Vice President/Program, Laury Macauley; Vice President/Membership, Patti Doty; Secretary, Paula Ringkob; Treasurer/General Fund, Linda Walker; Treasurer/Service Fund, Ana Nadimi; Delegate, Angela Owings and Director, Penney M. Leezy. Doris Phelps will serve as Parliamentarian.



VP/Membership Patti Doty



Secretary Paula Ringkob



President-Elect Valerie Hahn



Treasurer/Service Fund Ana Nadimi



Treasurer/General Fund Linda Walker



Delegate Angela Owings



Director Penney M. Leezy



Parliamentarian Doris Phelps

July Board & Business Recap

By Faye I. Andersen

President Millie Mitchell conducted her first Board Meeting on July 14 at the home of Service Fund Treasurer Ana Nadimi. Thank you Ana for opening your beautiful and spacious home for this month's and future Board Meetings. President Millie's first Business Meeting was conducted on July 16 at the Atlantis. Both meetings, included members in-person and members on Zoom. Proof that Soroptimist ingenuity and perseverance continues.

Welcome Two New Members

Welcome to two Soroptimists who are transferring their membership to SITM. Holly Nash is a Past President and former member of SI/Oxnard in Camino Real Region in southern California. Beth Sharp is a Past President and former member of SI/Sutter-Yuba in the Sierra Nevada Region. The pair will be inducted at a ceremony during the August Business Meeting.

A Thanks to Youth "Drive-By" Alternative

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Thanks to Youth luncheon had to be cancelled. Instead, The TTY and Education/Youth Committees will substitute a "drive-by" celebration for each individual scholar and Unsung Hero. Please join the committee on Thursday, July 30 at 6 p.m. in the parking lot of Ethan Allen, 9065 S. Virginia Street in Reno. The committees are looking for "cheerleaders" and members to attend and congratulate the students.

SITM Now Has a Club Zoom Account

The board recommended and the membership approved an expenditure of \$14.99 per month for one-year to purchase a dedicated Zoom account for use by the club at regular meetings. The account is also available to committees who wish to meet on Zoom, or have a hybrid in-person meetings with members logging online to the meeting via Zoom. See President Millie if you'd like to set up a meeting on Zoom.

MAD as a HATTER High Tea on Hiatus

Darlene DeLancey, Co-Coordinator of the Fundraising Committee, reported that the committee has decided to put the MAD as a HATTER High Tea on hiatus for 2020, rather than dilute the integrity of the fundraiser by doing something that may end up producing a mediocre result. The committee has some alternative fundraising plans for the fall, including the ever-popular Holiday Bake Sale with some other surprises. Stay tuned!

The Calendars are Coming!

The annual supply of 2021 "Ghosts" Vintage Airplane Calendars by aviation photographer Phillip Makanna have arrived. The price is still \$17 each. Once again, Doris Phelps has taken over the logistics for the sale of calendars. Announcements for calendar pickup or sale will be made at the weekly meetings. Last year, members purchased and donated 47 calendars to local veteran's organizations.



Scholarship Recipients for 2020 Announced

The Education/Women Committee has finished reviewing their applications and interviewing candidates for the 2020 women's undergraduate and graduate-level scholarship recipients. Committee Co-Coordinator Sarah Carrasco and Laury Macauley have detailed their work and identified the recipients, who received a total of \$41,000 in scholarships. See pages 7 and 8.

Additional Budget Request for Education/Women

The board recommended and the membership approved a motion from the Education/Women Committee to add \$400 to the committee's budget to cover expenses occurred in the 2020-2021 year that should have been expended in the 2019-2020 year. The delay in expenditures was due to difficulties the committee had in carrying out their duties during the Covid-19 government mandated shut down.

Committees Must Have a Back-Up Plan

As committees begin to meet and plan their projects

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for the upcoming Club Year, President Millie advises committees to engage in making “back-up plans”, whether they be alternative fundraising plans, distance learning for students, virtual interviews and judging of candidates, or anything else. With the uncertainties and limitations on things like in-person meetings, it is imperative to have a “Plan B” (even a “Plan C” might be necessary) in this changing environment of Covid-19 restrictions.

Happy Dollars are Designated for 2020-2021

Nonprofit organizations set to receive the proceeds of monthly Happy Dollar collections were recommended by the Board and approved by the membership for the 2020-2021 Club Year. Members were asked to submit their requests in advance. All months except one have been designated, so if you missed this opportunity, submit a request for Happy Dollars to President Millie. Forms can be found on the club’s website at www.sitmnv.org, in the “Members Only” section.

Happy Dollars for L.E.A.D. with Horses

June Happy Dollars netted \$676.80 for L.E.A.D. with Horses. Leadership, Education & Active Development through hands-on activities with horses, providing experiences for children and youth facing challenges.

Happy Dollars for July are designated for the Eddy House, which works with homeless and at-risk youth to develop life and job skills necessary for sustainable independence.

You Can Still Contribute to Happy Dollars

Don’t forget there is a “donate button” for Happy Dollars on our website, www.sitmnv.org. Or, you can always mail a check to Service Fund Treasurer Ana Nadimi. Make sure you designate Happy Dollars in the “notes” on your check.



Celebrating July birthdays were Eve Johnson, left, and Jo Ann Roberts.

2020-2021 Happy Dollars

At the July Board and Business Meetings, the board recommended and membership approved the following organizations for the respective months during the 2020-2021 Club Year.

August – Artists Co-Op of Reno Building Fund

– Requested by Eileen Fuller and Faye I. Andersen

September – Care Chest

– Requested by Darlene DeLancey

October – Women & Children’s Center of the Sierra

– Requested by Faye I. Andersen

November -- Children of Persia

– Requested by Ana Nadimi

December -- Soroptimist International President’s Appeal

– Requested by Liza Chapen & Angela Owings, Co-
Coordinators of Empowerment for Women Committee

January -- Northern Nevada HOPES

– Requested by Valerie Hahn

February -- Communities in the Schools – Western Nevada

Chapter -- Requested by Cinammon Davies

March -- Food Bank of Northern Nevada

– Requested by Doris Phelps

April -- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

– Requested by Sarah Carrasco

May – Open

June – Make a Wish Foundation

– Requested by Margie Hermanson

July – Noah’s Animal House

– Requested by Millie Mitchell

SIA's 46th Biennial Convention Goes Virtual!

JULY 22-24, 2020

#SIAConv2020

Although we can’t come together in person, we are excited to bring convention to you as an online experience. While this can’t take the place of the fun and fellowship gathering together brings, we hope you’ll enjoy a different kind of convention from the comfort of your home.

Watch convention co-chairs Sue Riney and Stephanie Smith share the daily activities you can look forward to during SIA’s virtual convention!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=6b65qIKwVbQ&feature=youtu.be>

A digital convention program was emailed to all members in early July.

Saying “So Long” for Now, but Not “Goodbye”

We'll be missing two of our members due to them relocating to different states. But that doesn't mean we can't still stay in touch.

Barbara Atwell recently moved to Mississippi. Her email remains the same: Barbara@quiltedb.com. Her new address is: 2221 Taylor Blvd, Gulfport, Mississippi 39507. She's currently living with her daughter nearby, but will be in her new home as soon as the remodel is finished.

Even more recently, Kim Coulter Davis is on her way with husband Lennard to the Orlando area of Florida. Her email addresses remain the same: kim@dinter.com and kimcoulterdavis@gmail.com.

Here's a message from Kim.

“I would like to let the club know that I will truly miss everyone and have enjoyed my time spent with SITM. I'll be thinking about everyone on my long journey driving from Reno all the way to Orlando, Florida with my husband, our dog and cat. We have sold our home and everything in it and will be starting anew in Florida. I will be working from home for Dinter Engineering and my husband will be working for Scott + Cormia Architecture in Orlando. I wish all of my SITM family all the best and will cherish my time spent in your company.”



Thank you Barbara and Kim

Both Barbara and Kim left behind substantial donations of yarn to be distributed to the members of the Afghan Social group to crochet even more afghans. Kim also donated a bag of toiletries for the next time SITM has a toiletry drive for any reason.

33rd Annual Thanks to Youth

Honoring Young Heroes in Our Community

Be There July 30 at 6 p.m.

Please come and help celebrate SITM's Thanks to Youth scholars and Unsung Heroes at a special “drive-by” event on Thursday, July 30 at 6 p.m. at the Ethan Allen parking lot (9065 S. Virginia Street).

Five Tips to Look Your Best on Zoom

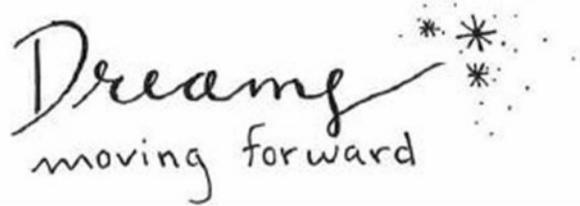
*The following is excerpted from an article
in the Reno Gazette-Journal*

Are you one of the participants who sits in a shadow, or one who takes your phone with you while you listen in and everyone can see where you go, including the bathroom? Or maybe you are one of those hosts who shows off more of your ceiling than your face.

Whatever the situation, most of us can benefit from improving our appearance on a Zoom call. Even though you're working from home, you still want to treat every meeting as you would if you were participating in person. That means taking a shower, getting dressed appropriately and planning out your setting to make sure you have what you need.

Here are five practical tips to help you show up and shine.

- **Camera:** The quality of your webcam and the positioning of the lens set the stage for success or failure. You want to position your camera slightly above eye-level for the most flattering angle. Sit far enough away from the camera so your head and shoulders fill most of the screen.
- **Lighting:** You need to be seen! You need light shining on your face. There are lots of options like desktop LED lights and ring lights. You can even use a household lamp.
- **Wear solid colors** that look good on you and stand out from your background and your chair. Polka dots and stripes or wild patterns are distracting.
- **Microphone:** Generally, the microphones that are built into a webcam don't capture voices very well. An external microphone or headset will significantly improve the quality of your audio.
- **Touch-up:** In the Zoom desktop app, there's a “touch up my appearance” option that applies some skin smoothing. It adds a little blur to soften your wrinkles. It's not Botox or Hollywood-level touch-up, but certainly helps!



By Sarah Carrasco and Laury Macauley, Co-Coordinator of the 2019-2020 Education Women Committee

We would like to thank the Education Women Committee members: Darlene Delancey, Margie Hermanson, Anna McArdle, Patte Robnett, Pam Robinson, Denise Ruprecht, Debera Thomas, Linda Walker, and Norma Webster. The Committee Members were persistent and adaptable in light of the Covid19 situation, these attributes allowed us to complete in person interviews combined with the use of Zoom. Award letters with heartfelt congratulations went out and we recently sent out certificates to each awardee.

Memorial Graduate Student Scholarships are awarded in memory of Jack Simon. Jack was the husband of Jeanne Baxter, Past Club President and Life Member, and owner of Ethan Allen Interiors in Reno. Jack generously supported our scholarship fund-raising efforts by providing his business as a location for our Spring Fling for a number of years. He donated auction items and money, and donated his time and energy whenever and wherever the Club needed him. Jack was an honorary member of our Club, and he proudly wore his Soroptimist pin. After Jack's death in 1994, Jeanne established the Club's first graduate scholarship. Since then the Club has continued to honor Jack by awarding scholarships in his memory.

2020 Graduate Awardees



Janice M. Baker
UNR Visual
Communications Program
\$1,500



Alicia M. Haines
UNR Nursing Practitioner Program
\$4,000



Mary C. Longero
UNR Physician Asst. Program
\$3,000



Yulisa Mendez
UNR Social Work Program
\$6,000



Leanne M. Perez
UNR Medical Program
\$2,000



Masoumeh Saber Zaeimian
UNR Biomedical Engineering Program
\$1,000

Memorial Undergraduate Scholarships are awarded in memory of a distinguished Nevada woman and two beloved former club members.

Nancy Gomes held a seat on the Washoe County School Board and in the Nevada Assembly, forging a path for other women to follow. Prior to her death, Nancy was given the prestigious Distinguished Nevada Award by the University of Nevada and was probably best known as a tireless advocate for Nevada’s women and children. It was fitting to name the Club’s first major scholarship after Nancy Gomes.

Mary Gojack was a charter member of Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows and instrumental in establishing the original Nancy Gomes Scholarship. She worked as a dealer at night to support her children while earning a Master’s Degree in Political Science from the University of Nevada. Mary served in the Nevada Assembly and the Nevada Senate where she sponsored legislation requiring developers to set aside land and money for city parks within or near their developments. Following her death, the Club decided to honor Mary by adding her name to the scholarship program where re-entry women receive assistance to complete their education.

Sue Camp was a longtime Reno resident, active in community affairs and especially active in Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows. Sue served as the Club’s President, then as a District Director of the Sierra Nevada Region and then as Governor of the Sierra Nevada Region. She was especially proud to be a Laurel Society Envoy member. Wearing many hats, she served on or coordinated almost every Club Committee, but her life long passion for educating girls and women frequently lead her to the Education Women Committee, serving more than once as the committee coordinator. Sue passed in 2014.

2020 Undergraduate Awardees



Aida Guerrero
UNR Bachelor of Social Work
\$4,000



Tonya E. Hart
UNR Psychology Research
\$3,000



Evelyn Herrera-Barraza
UNR Health Science
\$2,000



Jessica L. Price
TMCC Nursing Program
\$3,000



Katie Rutherford
TMCC Nursing Program
\$500



Olufunmilayo A. Shedy
UNR BA Communication
\$5,000



Autumn Smith
TMCC Dental Hygiene Program
\$5,000



Lisa M. B. Soule
UNR BS Mathematics
\$1,000

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

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Contributing to this issue

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 Sarah Carrasco
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Board Meets monthly on Tuesday
 following the first Thursday, noon.
 Ana Nadimi's home

SITM Board 2020-21

President

Millie Mitchell

President-Elect

Valerie Hahn

Vice President/Program

Laury Macauley

Vice President/

Membership

Patti Doty

Secretary

Paula Ringkob

Treasurer/General Fund

Linda Walker

Treasurer/Service Fund --

Ana Nadimi

Delegate

Angela Owings

Director – Penney M. Leezy



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



SOROPTIMIST®
 Investing in Dreams

Did you know . . .

Soroptimist Development Virtual Retreat Coming Soon!

A Message from SNR's SDR Coordinator –Maureen Mason

This year we are planning online workshops that will be in video, PowerPoint or Zoom formats for our retreat. Sessions will include information for incoming club officers (President/President-Elect, Treasurer and Secretary), the Soroptimist Dream Programs, best practices and an update on Human Trafficking to name a few. A few sessions and the District Director meetings will be held on Zoom so members can interact with the presenter and other participants. The other sessions will be videos and/or PowerPoints that members can view at their leisure.

All sessions, handouts and evaluation forms will be placed on the region website in a manner similar to what we used for conference. Our target date for the virtual SDR to go live is the last week of July.

Even though we cannot be together for our development retreat we can be together in learning through our virtual program. This is an opportunity for every member in the region to 'attend' SDR and we cordially invite you all to find out what our volunteer presenters, Region Officers, District Directors and program chairs have to share with us. Get comfortable, get curious and see how dreaming, learning, and doing can lead to the best Soroptimist experience yet!

Visit the SNR Website at: www.soroptimistsnr.org



Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

**2019-2020
YEAR IN REVIEW**

\$116,917 Donated to the community and Soroptimist projects
7,424 Volunteer hours raising funds and supporting community projects
CONTRIBUTIONS to COMMUNITY

\$43,500 in Women's Scholarships

8 Dreams Moving Forward Scholarships for Re-Entry Women's Scholarships, 6 Graduate Women's Scholarships; plus three Live Your Dream Awards.

\$26,500 in Youth Scholarships & Unsung Hero Recognitions

Scholarships for 12 high school graduates, plus 12 "Unsung Heroes" recognition and stipend shopping sprees and awards.

\$10,170 Support of SI & SNR Plus Donations

Soroptimist International President's Appeal, "The Road to Equality"; Soroptimist International of the Americas Laurel Society; SIA Club Campaign; SIA Federation Founder's Pennies; SNR Past Governor's Gift; New Club Charter Gift; Member dues and donation to Sierra Nevada Region Endowment;

\$6,263 Member Monthly Happy Dollars

Sierra Nevada Journeys; For Kids' Sake Foundation; Immunize Nevada; Washoe County School District Children in Transition Program; Nevada Youth Empowerment Program; SI President's Appeal; "Road to Equality"; Disability Resources; Juvenile Diabetes Foundation of Nevada; Northern Nevada HOPES; National Alliance on Mental Health; Sierra Nevada Stitchers; Leadership, Education, & Active Development (LEAD with Horses)

\$31,484 Club, Committees, Members, Miscellaneous and In-Kind Donations

Hand-sewed 4,039 facemasks for Medical Professionals and UPS drivers; hand crocheted 200 afghans for the Needy & Senior Ministry for Our Lady of Snows Parish; 50 hand-knitted scarves and hats for Bristlecone Family Resources; 275 books, 706 pairs of socks, 900 toiletry items and 30 loads of laundry washed; donated to the WCSD Children in Transition; 71 Christmas gifts for disadvantaged youth at Hunter Lake Elementary; 47 WWII airplane calendars donated to local veterans; purchased iPADS, Spheros and DASH robots for coding / robotics at Hunter Lake Elementary; 155 Beads of Strength handmade bracelets and keychains donated to Renown Oncology Center; scrapbooks for Youth Scholarships and Unsung Heros.

Sources of Income

\$41,000 -- Women's Scholarships & Grants
\$31,484 - Club, Committees, Members, Miscellaneous and In-Kind Donations
\$13,260 -- Thanks to Youth Scholarship Donations, Sponsorships & Table Sales
\$12,860 -- We're MAD as a HATTER High Tea
\$1,667 -- Garage Sale
\$1,561 -- Airplane Calendar Sales
\$1,743 -- Fundraising raffles, special events and rewards programs
\$4,533 -- Member Monthly Happy Dollars
\$6,008 -- United Way (UPS) Donation
\$3,000 -- Yarn donations for afghans
\$20,195 Materials donations for facemasks
\$1,000 -- SNR Endowment Grant for DIBI)

Grand Total \$137,311