



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

Volume 26 • Issue 11

May 2021

www.sitmnev.org

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Calendar

- May 20 – Beth Macmillan, Artown
- May 27 – Women’s Scholarships
- June 3 – Membership: Ceec Abrahams Luncheon
- June 8 – Joint Board meeting
- June 10 – Business Meeting
- June 17 – Photo Scrapbook/Year in Review
- June 24—installation of 2021-2022 Officers

SITM Meets...

Thursdays at Noon

at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa Second Floor Convention Center \$25 for lunch.
RSVP to info@sitmnev.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.



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This & That Observations of Late

Together again, at last! After six months of gathering on Zoom on Thursdays, thanks to the Coronavirus Pandemic, how wonderful it was on May 6 to sit down and enjoy lunch together at the Atlantis. As I started to recite the words of the Pledge of Allegiance that day, I heard your voices echoing mine after such a long period of silence, alone at my home computer waving my little American Flag for the pledge. I admit it. I got choked up and it took a bit for me to recover and proceed on with the meeting. Welcome back everyone!



I started my term off as president last July warning that we were sailing off into uncharted waters and that it might not always be smooth sailing. Too true for my comfort level as it turned out, yet we have managed to keep the SITM ship afloat and are sailing into port on schedule ready to take on a new crew June 24: our 2021-2022 Board of Directors and the Committee Coordinators for the new club year. If you are currently a Committee Coordinator, it’s time to pull together a short report of your activities during the course of this club year. It doesn’t have to be a

dissertation. Think of it like a road map that could help guide your successor to continue on with your committee’s journey, as well as a short historical re-cap of the past 12 months for our records.

The same goes for the current members of the SITM Board. Each of the officers should have a binder as a guide for their position, thanks to Penney Leezy two years ago as she prepared for her term as president. I used my President Elect binder like a bible. Officers, please gather up your binders, update anything that needs attention, and prepare to hand your binder off to your successor in June.

[Continued on page 2](#)

Women’s Scholarship Luncheon May 27

By Pam Robinson

Seven undergraduate and two graduate students will be honored at our *Dreams Moving Forward* scholarship luncheon on Thursday, May 27. Several of the students are majoring in medical fields, but others are concentrating on business, social work, and technical studies. They are truly inspirational!

Our guest speaker will be Dr. Trudy Larson, Dean of the School of Community Health Sciences at University of Nevada, Reno. Trudy is a former Soroptimist and has an impressive 27-year career at



Dr. Trudy Larson

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This and That...

SIA's modification of the "temporary pause" on in-person activities came at a great time. May 27 is the date for our annual "Dreams Moving Forward" women's scholarship luncheon. We've filed the paperwork with SIA for an exemption to allow us to include non-member guests, most especially our scholarship recipients, at this luncheon! The Education/Women Committee has worked so hard to recruit and screen applicants for our scholarship funds and now we'll get to celebrate these hard-working, inspiring women in person.

Each SITM member values the importance of a good education. SIA's research shows that when women learn, families live healthier lives. When girls have educated moms, they are more likely to be enrolled in school and to reach higher levels of education themselves, and they are more likely to get paying jobs and their financial contributions to their families—and their nations— increase.

What does it cost to continue your education beyond high school these

days in northern Nevada? A lot. Base tuition at UNR for a Nevada resident full-time in 2021-2022 is \$7,470 (2 semesters at 15 credits each), plus another \$1,118 in mandatory fees, and approximately \$1,200 for books. Nearly \$10,000 a year *before housing, food, and incidentals!*

At TMCC in 2021-2022 costs are estimated to be \$3,840 for a full-time student for 2 semesters, plus \$690 for books, for a total of \$4,530 for the year – again, not including housing, food, and incidentals.

Some of our scholarship applicants have chosen to attend one of the area's private, primarily vocational schools such as Career College of Northern Nevada (CCNN) or Carrington College. It's hard to get a clear picture of how much it costs to attend one of these schools because financial aid and loans play a big roll in how they operate. Still, a little digging on the internet reveals that total tuition and fees for the enrolled students at CCNN come out to be around \$25,325 in a year, plus another \$1600 for books and materials. Costs at Carrington

vary by program ranging from \$1400 for a couple of months to obtain a certificate as a phlebotomy technician to \$40,000+ a year to earn an associate degree in Nursing

This is where SITM makes a big difference. While we can't foot the entire bill for someone to continue their education, our scholarship support relieves some of the financial pressure each of our worthy recipients must feel. And every year we also hear that our endorsement, our moral support, of their efforts to continue their education gives them the encouragement they need to continue on.

Our scholarship programs are one of the reasons I became a Soroptimist. I'm looking forward to May 27 when we have the opportunity to meet the next class of SITM scholarship recipients, to applaud their efforts, and encourage them to continue on toward a better future

Remember, you've got a friend in Soroptimist!
President Millie



Reno Aces GM Emily Jaenson on Baseball

What do you do when you're the General Manager of a Triple A baseball team and the COVID-19 Pandemic closes down all team sports? If you are Emily Jaenson, you climb the learning curve and you start your own weekly podcast, entitled "Leadership is Female", where you interview female leaders in sports. The podcast helps women uncover opportunities, gives tips to elevate your career and learning from mistakes and successes.

Emily was SITM's April 22 speaker, and yes, she was the first female GM of a Triple A Baseball Team, the Reno Aces. Today she is just one of three to hold an equal position. From March to July 2020, baseball was in limbo, then it was finally canceled for the year. Besides the podcast, she



and her staff used the time to tackle some big projects at the Reno Aces Ballpark, Greater Nevada Field, in downtown Reno. Grass on the entire field was replaced, with the old sod donated to a local high school. New lights and safety netting were added. Remodeling of parts of the stadium were also in order. The good news today is "Aceball" is back playing their home opener May 13 AND there will still be fireworks from the stadium on July 4 (even though the team will be playing away).

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Women's Scholarships

UNR School of Medicine where she served as a professor, former chair of the Department of Pediatrics, and as associate dean.

As a pediatric infectious disease specialist, she has spent her career focusing on HIV/AIDS and immunizations and has contributed to both fields in research, education and service. She is one of the founders and current Medical Director of the HOPES clinic.

This is a wonderful luncheon to invite guests, and many of our recipients are likely to attend in person with others on Zoom. The Education Women Committee has been hard at work this year, as we received over 50 scholarship applications!

Halfway to 100 Days of Meals for Hope Springs Neighbors

By Doris Phelps

Good job SITM members. As of May 14, forty-two meals have been delivered to the neighbors at Hope Springs. Members and friends have participated in delivering meals, along with deliveries of dog food for neighbors' pets. (They have enough dog food for now.)

Restaurant partners have included Beefy's, Rockin' the Pink, Bueno's Grill, La Posada, UM Market and My Favorite Muffin.

At Hope Springs, the number of neighbors in residence fluctuate each week. Hope Springs is now interviewing and enrolling one new neighbor each week, so there will be 10 neighbors the week of May 17, 11 neighbors the week of May 24 and so on. Subject to change, of course.

If you haven't already volunteered to help with the 100 Meals for Hope Springs, we could use your help. We've got some holes in our calendar for May and June dates. Contact Doris Phelps for information and/or to select a date.

The committee has cash contributions it is holding in reserve to start purchasing meals down the road, especially when the number of resident "neighbors" at Hope Springs approaches their max of 30. We'd like to put off tapping the contribution fund until next month if possible.

Contact President Elect Valerie (valeriehahnsitm@yahoo.com) or Doris Phelps (skippyyellowsub@charter.net) for more details.



Pam Robinson with Jeff McMullen, on-site manager of Hope Springs



Mimi Butler, owner of Buenos Grill with President Elect Valerie Hahn



An Education About Homelessness in Reno



Hope Springs staff

Chris Fegert introduced Josh McMullen as our April 15 speaker. Josh is the on-site manager of Hope Springs, the new transitional housing property run by Northern Nevada Hopes. A licensed social worker, Josh is no stranger to assisting our area's homeless population, which he estimates at about 7,000. Josh is a licensed social worker, has previously worked case management and was the director of housing for Northern Nevada Hopes.



“phased in” one or two per week to make sure they acclimate to their new surroundings and the staff gets a chance to transition as well.

Neighbors are selected to join Hope Springs through a process of case management, assessment of needs and desirability to get off the streets. Once accepted, neighbors are followed by a case manager to arrange medical care, educational classes, socialization, group therapy and whatever else the neighbor might need to be successful in the program.



Hope Springs will house 30 homeless people, called neighbors, with a 60% ratio of women, in their individual “tiny houses”. Common facilities such as bathrooms, showers, laundry and kitchen are also provided, as well as a dog park. Neighbors are being

Don't forget SITM's 100th Anniversary Goal is to provide 100 meals over 100 days to the neighbors at Hope Springs. It can be breakfast, lunch or dinner. Contact Valerie Hahn with questions, or Doris Phelps to select an available date that you would be willing to provide a meal.



Here's some advice from President Millie on preparing meals.

Breakfast is the easiest meal to pull together (and you can drop it off the night before): hot or cold cereal, milk, fruit, maybe a muffin. You could get fancier, but it's not necessary. Lunch is pretty easy too: sandwiches, chips and/or veggies and dip, a piece of fruit, maybe a cookie. Or you could order up from Subway or Port o' Subs. Dinner might be more involved, but can be as simple as Rotisserie chickens or lasagna from Costco, are good options and easy. Add a bag of salad mix and maybe something for dessert and you've provided a nice meal.

If preparing a meal is not possible for some members, you can donate to our 100 Meals project with our online fundraising page on the SITM website. That's the easiest way for the committee to track these donations.



Welcome Back!!! (To In-Person Meetings)



Cinammon & Doris

Twenty-two SITM members enjoyed a safe, socially distanced meal at the Atlantis for our May 6 meeting. Welcome Back. Four others joined us on Zoom. It was so good to see so many members IN-PERSON for a change. The process was repeated for the May 13 Business Meeting.

The Attendance Committee is back in business taking lunch reservations each week by 1 p.m. on Mondays. Send an email to info@sitmnv.org. Even if it is after 1 p.m. on Monday, place a call to Bev Perkins and she will do her best to accommodate you, if she can.



Darlene, Bev & Dot



Zoom Wrangler Pam Sutton

The choice between two plated lunches is announced at each Thursday meeting for the following week. Express your preference when you RSVP for the meeting.

For the time being, guests, including speakers, are only allowed on Zoom, due to Soroptimist International of the Americas current policy.



Dot, Teresa & Marilyn



President Millie & Laury



Kay, Valerie & Carmela

Have You Made Your Committee Selections for the 2021-2022 Year?

If you missed the May 6 meeting and the chance to sign-up for committees, President-Elect Valerie Hahn needs to know your preferences pronto.

As President Millie said in a message to everyone, "We need everyone to pitch in and serve on at least two committees (and our governing documents require it):

- 1 Program Committee (Education/Women, Education/Youth, Empowerment for Women, Community Outreach, IGU, Dream It/ Be It STEM Program at Hunter Lake Elem., STEAM Day) AND
- 1 other committee of your choice from the Membership Committees



Sarah Carrasco
making her committee selection

(Attendance, Membership, Hospitality, Finance & Governance, Roster, Photo/Scrapbook, and Newsletter)

- OR the Fundraising and Public Awareness Committees (General Fundraising, Thanks to Youth, and Public Awareness).

Some of you will remember that not too long ago we had to join three committees: one Program Committee, one Fundraising Committee, and one Membership Committee. Please think about signing up for a third committee. We have some committees that really need a few more members and we need a couple more Committee Coordinators (notes in red).

Dream It, Be It (after school STEM program at Hunter Lake Elementary)

Kay Dunham & Patty Mamola, co-coordinators (2021-2022)

Education – Youth

Monica House and Connie Steinhilber, co-coordinators (2021-2022)

Empowerment for Women

Need two co-coordinators (2021-2022)

STEAM Day (One day event for middle school girls to experience science, technology, engineering, art and math through "imagination stations")

Kay Dunham & need one co-coordinators (2021-2022)

Membership

Cinnamon Davies & Doris Phelps (2021-2022)

Photo/Scrapbook

Beverly Perkins & Marilyn Pearson, co-coordinators (2021-2022)

The Photo/Scrapbook Committee chronicles the activities of the club throughout the year

Fundraising

Darlene DeLancey & Linda Walker, co-coordinators (2021-2022)

Thanks to Youth

Pam Sutton & Cindy Burk, co-coordinators (2021-2022)

Public Awareness

Cinnamon Davies and Jeanne Naccarato (2021-2022)

Thank You From Safe Embrace

Following is a thank you letter from Safe Embrace for the \$200 donation made after Jessica Cisneros spoke to SITM.

Dear Friends:

Thank you for generously supporting Safe Embrace! Your donation contributed to help our mission and continue to help victims of domestic and sexual violence and sex trafficking. Safe Embrace offers a range of free services, including emergency shelter, advocacy, legal assistance, individual and group therapy sessions and transitional housing to individuals affected by domestic and sexual violence. Your support helps victims become survivors.



We look forward to your continued support this year and to sharing our successes with you in the future.

Thank you. Jessica Cisneros, Executive Director

Sierra Nevada Region Virtual Conference Delegates Report

April 30 – May 2, 2021
By Angela Owings, Delegate

“Courage and Curiosity Lead to Dreaming, Learning, and Doing”

A warm welcome was received by Governor Sarah Carrasco to the attendees for the 45th Annual SNR Conference as the events began for Friday night, April 30 - *“The Sierra Nevada Region has put to good use its curiosity and courage in developing a virtual event. I want to congratulate our Conference Coordinator Julie Curl and the Conference Team for their ingenuity in moving forward in spite of the limitations caused by the Covid Pandemic”.*



SNR Governor Sarah Carrasco presides over the conference.

Friday, April 30th Highlights



SI President Sharon Fisher explains her “Road to Equality” President’s Appeal Project.

The Keynote Speaker for the evening was Soroptimist International President Sharon Fisher. Sharon began her term in January 2020 just in time to see the world change, as we heard about the spread of the virus we now know as COVID-19. With active Soroptimist clubs in 122 countries, it was moving to witness Soroptimists around the globe responding to the pandemic in so many creative ways.

Her Presidents Appeal, “Road to Equality”, addresses vulnerable women and girls at risk of being left behind due to gender-based violence and harmful traditional practices. “As we celebrate our 100th Anniversary in 2021, let us dream we can achieve a more Gender Equal society by overcoming barriers preventing women and girls from reaching their full potential.”



The Road to Equality
SI PRESIDENT’S APPEAL 2019 - 2021

Sharon is a charter member of SI of the Langley’s on the west coast of Canada where she serves as a Senior Director for an organization creating awareness and prevention of Elder Abuse in communities across the Province of BC.

The **SNR Public Awareness 5 Star Awards** for the evening were announced for newsletter, website, social media, and Innovative Public Awareness Program. SITM members were highly awarded in many categories, as follows:

- Newsletter: 2nd place to SITM
- Social Media: 2nd place to SITM
- Innovative Public Awareness Program: 1st place to SITM for the “We Can Do It: Soroptimist Seamstresses” program.
- Overall 5 Star Award to: (you guessed it) SITM!! Two years in a row!!!!- boasted current SITM President Millie.

This year, SITM was honored as SNR’s first place choice in the SIA Soroptimist Celebrating Success Fundraising Category. SITM’s entry, “We’re MAD as a HATTER” High Tea will be forwarded to SIA for further competition.

Saturday, May 1st Highlights

The Business Session was Called to Order by Governor Sarah, and it was noted member retention rates are high- and the conference has been well-attended. Nominations and voting occurred for the Nominating Committee. As a reminder, members can become a Laurel Society member, or Stargazer, or Laurel Legacy giving contributor to support our mission to empower and educate girls and women to realize their dreams.



SIA President Penny Babb encourage clubs to keep working to empower women and girls.

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SIA Secretary/Treasurer Jackie DeMartini spoke of clubs' resilience during the Pandemic.

100 Years of Soroptimist: Celebrating Our Bright Past and Brilliant Future

Keynote Speaker Soroptimist of the Americas Penny Babb is serving a one-year term as President of Soroptimist's International of the Americas Board of Directors. President Penny oversees strategic planning and program development for the organization. She will also lead Soroptimist's efforts to increase its collective impact in helping women and girls around the world to reach their full potential.

A member since 1998, President Penney has held several leadership positions at all levels of the organization including region governor and secretary; district director; and club president, vice president, and secretary. President Penny recently retired as the director of law enforcement operations

at Glendale Community College (MCCCD) following a 25-year career with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. She holds a Master of Educational Leadership degree from Northern Arizona University, a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology and criminal justice, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Afro-American studies from Eastern Illinois University. In addition to her Soroptimist involvement, she is a member of Christ's Church of the Valley.

President Penny stated the importance of having a renewed commitment to fundraising and charitable giving. Soroptimist clubs need bold and reimagined financial plans for a brilliant future. Soroptimist clubs need new ideas for recruiting new members and young members. President Penny mentioned it is important to donate to SIA and SI (currently, SITM does both).



SIA Executive Director Liz Lucas gave an update on happenings at headquarters.

Sunday, May 2nd Highlights

A **Celebration of Life Program** was presented in honor and memory of those Soroptimist members no longer with us.



Alexa Valavaris, SNR's Soroptimist Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women honoree.

Congratulations to Alexa Valavaris as the recipient of the **Ruby Award**. Alexa's innovative work at the North Valley Community Foundation began in 2005 when she was hired to rebuild the organization. Under her leadership the foundation has grown from serving a dozen nonprofits to more than 500 by mobilizing social entrepreneurs and philanthropists locally and around the globe. She has generated \$175 million with over \$100 million going to causes in Northern California. When the Camp Fire devastated Paradise, Alexa transformed NVCF into the lead philanthropic organization in the relief and recovery efforts and now has built a COVID-19 response arm to slow the pandemic and provide relief to at risk populations.

Four **Live Your Dream Awardees** were heartfelt and a wonderful reminder of why we joined Soroptimist. Three of the recipients received \$3,000 scholarships and one received a \$5,000 scholarship. Each were very grateful as they shared touching stories of how they overcame obstacles to achieve their dreams, through education and support from their communities and Soroptimist.

SITM had an outstanding showing at conference this year, with 21 members attending one or more, or all three days of the conference.

Following the SNR Conference, at the May 6 SITM meeting, President Millie congratulated Governor Sarah for a job well done and presented her with an orchid.



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Save These Dates



Courage and curiosity lead to dreaming, learning and doing.

Virtual Soroptimist Development Retreat
July 10-11, 2021



100th Anniversary Soroptimist International of the Americas Virtual Celebration!

Day 1 -- September 25 at 7:00 p.m., EST Day 2 – September 26 @7:00 p.m. EST
to celebrate our bright past and to dream big for our brilliant future. Highlights will include:

- Opening SIA's historic time capsule
- Exhibit of our early years
- Interactive game show with chance for prizes
- Launch of a new SIA video.

Stay tuned for more details about this exciting event! View our [Celebration in a Box](#) for other ways to celebrate. Also, be sure to follow the SIA Facebook page for more details using hashtag #Soroptimist100.



BRIGHT PAST
BRILLIANT FUTURE

JOIN THE GLOBAL CELEBRATION – OCTOBER 1-3, 2021

This October Soroptimist International is celebrating its 100th birthday! That's a century of Soroptimists transforming the lives of women and girls around the world - and that is definitely something worth celebrating!

<https://100.soroptimistinternational.org/si100/register>

Registration for the celebration is now open, and we encourage you to sign up as soon as possible to receive the greatest savings!

- Early Bird Registration: Closes 14 June, 2021 / \$40.00
- Regular Registration: 15 June - 14 September, 2021 / \$50.00
- Last Minute Registration: 15 September - 2 October, 2021 / \$75.00



Sierra Nevada Region 46th Annual Conference
April 20 – May 1, 2022
Atlantis Casino Resort Spa Reno, Nevada



Courage and curiosity lead to dreaming, learning and doing.

Soroptimist International Convention Dublin,
Ireland July 27-29, 2023
Challenge the Future



Together in Motion
47th SOROPTIMIST
Biennial Convention
Seoul, South Korea • July 20-23, 2022

Soroptimist International of the Americas
Federation Convention



May Board & Business Recap

By Faye I. Andersen

As we wind down the last of the 2020-2021 Club Year, the pace speeds up with end-of-year tasks and preparations for the 2021-2022 Club Year.

Service and General Fund Budgets Approved

At the April Business Meeting, Finance/Governance Committee Co-Coordinator Vicki Schultz reviewed the Service and General Fund budgets proposed by the committee for 2021-2022. Copies were sent to all members. Committee members have finalized the budgets now and they were presented and approved at the May Business Meeting.

Atlantis Contract Signed for 2021-2022

The new contract with the Atlantis for the 2021-2022 year was presented and approved by membership. A choice between two plated lunches on Thursday will remain at \$25. RSVP your weekly attendance and food preference by Monday noon each week to infor@sitmnv.org. Buffet lunches can be arranged at a higher price and require two servers at the meeting. The contract is in force May 1, 2021 through June 2022.

Fees to Cover Costs to Produce Zoom Meetings

New this year in the Atlantis contract is the addition of a \$90 per meeting AV charge to cover the cost of a Zoom set-up with sound mixer and Atlantis AV personnel.

The Finance/Governance Committee proposed a motion to help cover those costs. The board recommended and the membership approved the club to assess a \$10 per participant per session fee for members attending SITM luncheons via Zoom. This fee will not apply to guest speakers or invited guests who participate in Zoom. Fees will be invoiced monthly and will be re-evaluated no later than December 31, 2021.

Member Dues Set to increase \$3

At the April Business Meeting, membership approved a motion to increase member dues for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year by approximately 3% to \$200 (from \$195) for regular and new members and \$25 for life members. This is a \$5 increase for all categories. Since that time SITM received notice that Soroptimist International of the Americas Club Liability Insurance has increased from \$6 per member to \$9 per member.

In light of this new expense, the Finance/Governance Committee proposed a motion to further increase member dues by an additional \$3 to cover the expense. The motion was approved. Regular and new member dues are now \$203.

First Reading for Bylaw Amendments and Updates

Finance/Governance Co-Coordinator Pam Sutton presented the first reading of proposed amendments to the Club's Bylaws. A copy was emailed to all members for review. Proposed language to be deleted appears with a "strike through" the lettering. Proposed verbiage in red is new language. Some of the changes include: updating nominations and elections, as well as meetings criteria to include new electronic technology; adding criteria for members serving as Club Treasurers. A second reading of the Bylaws will be conducted at the June Business meeting before a vote of the membership is taken.

SNR Conference Delegate's Report

Delegate Angela Owings gave a report on the 45th Annual Sierra Nevada Region Conference, which took place virtually April 30 – May 2. Twenty-one two members attended one or more days of the conference. SITM was honored for its entries into the SNR 5 Star Awards categories including 2nd place for Newsletter; 2nd place for Social Media; 1st place for Innovative Public Awareness; and 1st place in the Overall 5 Star Awards category. SITM also was awarded 1st place in SIA's Soroptimist Celebrating Success category of Fundraising. For more details, see page 7&8.

April Happy Dollars to Benefit NAMI

April Happy Dollars, in the amount of \$287 were collected for the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI). May's Happy Dollars are designated for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

Under the policy adopted last club year, any shortfall in Happy Dollars not reaching \$500 minimum is supplemented by the reserve service funds.

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 Secretary Paula Ringkob. Make sure you designate Happy Dollars in the "notes" on your check.

Reminders to Committee Coordinators

SIA's Soroptimist Celebrating Success Awards are due July 1, 2021. Please review your committee's work and progress in the four categories of Fundraising, Membership, Program and Public Awareness. Let President-Elect Valerie Hahn know if you think your committee has a worthy entry to submit to SIA. Also, a reminder to Committee Coordinators to prepare

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your annual report of committee activities (what you did, what you would change, etc.) to your respective Vice President-Service, Vice President-Program, or President-Elect.

Members on Leave

The board approved leaves of absence for two members: Holly Nash, through June for her husband's passing; Ana Nadimi, for travel and an upcoming family wedding.

Celebrating May Birthdays

Celebrating her May birthday at the meeting was Debbie Handke, May 20. Unable to attend, but celebrating her birthday on May 22 will be Liza Chapen.



Providing Shelter to Pets of Victims of Domestic Violence

Noah's Animal House serves the pets of victims of domestic violence who are receiving assistance from the Domestic Violence Resource Center (formerly CAAW) and other agencies in the area that provide shelter for a variety of victims, but "no pets are allowed" in their shelters.



Marlene Richter, Executive Director of Noah's Animal House joined us at our April 29 meeting to inform us of Noah's founding and the services they provide today. The project began in 2007 in Las Vegas in conjunction with The Shade Tree, which serves women victims of

domestic violence. The Founding member and member of the Board of Directors for The Shade Tree, Staci Columbo Alonso, was shocked to learn the number of women in abusive situations who would not seek safety if it meant they would have to leave their beloved pet behind to be abused as payback, or held hostage to gain leverage.

Thanks to Noah's Animal House, women no longer need to make that choice. Noah's is a full-service boarding facility.

Noah's has now expanded to the Reno area, with a secret location and safe space for the women's pets to be housed and cared for and they can visit and play were their pets in safety. According to Marlene, 34% of the victims they serve come with pets.

Penney's New Address

She's out-of-sight, but not out-of-mind, Immediate Past President Penney Leezy has a new address. She'd love to hear from you.

Penney & George Leezy
14812 W. Huron Dr.
Sun City West, AZ 85375
Cell 775-530-5131
penneysitm@gmail.com



STEP 2 -- 100 Seconds of Soroptimist History

By Bev Perkins

In 1986, when Faye I. Andersen was serving as President of our club, members of our mother club, SI/Reno, founded STEP 2.

STEP 2 is the first substance abuse treatment center in Nevada offering a safe place where pregnant and parenting women can be with their children. SI/Reno members learned that pregnant and parenting women are far less likely to seek treatment for substance use disorders than men with the same issues. Members of SI/Reno felt that pregnant and parenting women should not have to choose between their children and getting treatment.

As a result, the wonderful ladies of SI/Reno got a City of Reno Block Grant which enabled them to buy a small house which then became the beginnings of STEP 2 in Reno. This was back in the days when SITM was holding our Spring Fling as our fundraising event, and SITM donated \$5,000 towards the repair and furnishing of this house, as well as sending members to help clean up the house to make it suitable for use - evidently it needed a little cleaning.

Members SI/Reno remained involved with STEP 2 as the program grew and evolved. The SI/Reno ladies sat on the board of directors of STEP 2 and hosted several fundraisers to support their project.

STEP 2 has grown significantly since 1986 and has a much larger facility now. They are still in Reno and are still offering the much-needed service of providing a safe place for women with children to live while undergoing their substance abuse treatment.

I am so honored to be a member of Soroptimist International, which can boast 100 Years of members like those ladies at SI/Reno who have done such a wonderful and impactful service to our world!



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President Millie Mitchell
milliemitchsitm@gmail.com

Board Meets monthly on Tuesday
 following the first Thursday, noon.

Editor Faye I. Andersen
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 775-358-5149 or 432-5822

Contributing to this issue

Jo Ann Roberts	Doris Phelps
Millie Mitchell	Monica House
Penney Leezy	Valerie Hahn
Pam Robinson	Angela Owings
Bev Perkins	

SITM Board 2020-21

President Millie Mitchell	Secretary Paula Ringkob
President-Elect Valerie Hahn	Treasurer/General Fund Linda Walker
Vice President/Program Laury Macauley	Treasurer/Service Fund Ana Nadimi
Vice President/ Membership Patti Doty	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 . . .

Announcing our 2021-2022 SIA President-elect

Congratulations to **Stephanie Smith**, who has been elected as our 2021-2022 Soroptimist International of the Americas President-elect beginning on September 1, 2021. She will assume the office as SIA President on September 1, 2022 and will serve in that position through August 31, 2023. Best wishes on success as the 63rd President of Soroptimist.



Stephanie Smith
 SI/Oak Harbor, Washington
 (Northwestern Region)



New! Blue Canvas Shield Pin Holder

Display all of your pins proudly on this 3" X 2-1/4" canvas shield (131). Plus, the strong magnet back will eliminate pinholes in your clothing! \$15 at the SIA Store: <https://members.soroptimist.org>.



**100 Years.
100 Meals.**



Seroptimist Intl.
of Truckee Meadows
is a 501C3 Non-profit organization of
business and professional women
passionate about improving
the lives of women
and girls locally and abroad.

Northern Nevada HOPES
is a 501c3 that is dedicated
to building a healthier community
by providing coordinated care
and support for individual
and family wellness.

Please contact Valerie Hahn for Seroptimist International Truckee Meadows
for more information on 100 years. 100 Meals.

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**Seroptimist Intl.
is Celebrating
100 Years of Service
by donating 100 Meals
to Hope Springs.**

Help US Provide
Breakfast, lunch or dinner
including drinks and dessert

How YOU Can Help
Support a local favorite
restaurant and buy
a gift certificate

Donate a monetary gift
SITMnev.org:100 Years.100 Meals

Cook a meal, donate your
time or help with deliveries



Please contact Christina Fegert for information
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