



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

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September 2021

www.sitmnev.org

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Calendar

- Sept. 16 – FUNdraising SITMO
- Sept. 23 -- Pamela Hardt-English, SIA’s Giving Programs
- Sept. 30 – SITM’s Soroptimist 100th Anniversary
- Oct. 7 – 100 Years 100 Meals Celebration
- Oct. 9 – District 5 Meeting
- Oct. 12 – Board meeting, Noon
- Oct. 14 – Business Meeting
- Oct.21 – Aimal on Afghan Refugees

SITM Meets...

Thursdays at Noon

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



www.sitmnev.org

Remaining Grounded During a Very Busy Start to the Club Year

There are lots of great things going on for SITM! We have all been busy getting into our committees and making things happen! I really enjoy being on the zoom calls. I love hearing the ideas going back and forth and members stepping up without hesitation to get it done. It is what encouraged me to be part of this club.

Please remember to get your Air Race Calendar! See Darlene DeLancey to get yours! Be part of our SITMO (Bingo) next week on September 16! Fundraising has a lot of beautiful items for prizes! Bling and Gift cards!

Our 100-year celebration is on September 30! Join us in this celebration as Soroptimist turns 100. The SITM 100th Anniversary Committee has been hard at work as we celebrate all 100 years of Soroptimist empowering women and girls.

SIA’s 100th Virtual Event is September 25 and 26. Have you signed up yet? Will I see you there

on Zoom? What a great way to kick off the celebration!

Do you have your ticket for the October 7 lunch? Please join us in celebrating 100 Years of Soroptimist Service in our community. We are proud to have donated 100 meals for 100 days to the residents of Hope Springs, the first bridge housing community for the homeless in Northern Nevada. I want to give a heart felt thanks to the 100th Anniversary Committee who have met weekly via zoom since January to help guide everyone in participating in this incredible service project. A lot of blood, sweat and tears went into this committee.

We could not have done it without our members and a couple of businesses in our community. I want to thank each member who made a meal or donated to the meal fund. Your SITM 100th Anniversary Committee members are: Bev Perkins, Sarah Carrasco, Chris Fegert, Pam Sutton, Doris Phelps, Holly Nash, Penny Leezy and Jeanne Naccarato. Come to lunch October 7 to see what has been done and the



Continued on page 2

Come Prepared for Fun on September 16



Come and join the fun and put the FUN in FUNdraising on Thursday, September 16 with some rousing games of SITMO (in lieu of BINGO). SITMO cards will be available for 1 card/3 chances to win -- \$30; 2 cards/6 chances to win -- \$50; 3 cards/ 9 chances to win -- \$75. Winners will have their choice of some nice jewelry. Winner of a finale “black-out” game receives a \$100 gift card.

Continued from page 1

impact it has made at Hope Springs. This is an RSVP event so members should make their reservations for themselves and their guests with the Attendance Committee. All others should buy their tickets by accessing the www.sitmny.org website to purchase tickets online. Deadline is October 1. The tickets are \$30 for this special luncheon. Bring your coworkers, friends, and family.

The world around us is chaos right now with Covid, weather, fires, and international news. I am so thankful for Soroptimist. It keeps us grounded with what's needed here in our community. We have lots to do to make an impact. We are making impacts with each member's help, whether at lunch, zoom, or as something as simple as sending a card to someone via mail. It all adds up. Let's keep Moving Forward!

Valerie Hahn, President

2022 "Ghosts" Calendars Still Available for Sale

If you haven't already picked up your 2022 "Ghosts" vintage airplane calendars for sale, Darlene DeLancey has them available at each Thursday meeting. You can also contact her for delivery. The \$17 per calendar price is still in effect for this year. Darlene has some flyers if you would like one for your office, or post it at your gym, club house, local grocery, Starbucks, etc.

For members not wishing to find buyers for calendars and purchase them instead, your calendars will be distributed to veteran's groups in the area.



Soroptimist 100th Anniversary Trivia -- Test YOUR Knowledge

By Doris Phelps
(Answers on page 5)



1. Who inspired the idea for a professional women's organization in Oakland, California in the spring of 1921 when Stuart Morrow, a Rotarian, first began looking to start a new women's service club?
2. In what year was Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows established as a club?
3. There are 5 federations under Soroptimist International; name the last federation to be established.
4. What is the name of SIA's upcoming centennial campaign (2021-2031) to raise money to invest in half a million women and girls through its next Big Goal?
5. What is the address of SITM's website?
6. Who is the 2021-2022 President of SIA (Soroptimist International of the Americas)?
7. Where, in the United States, is SIA headquartered?

Learn About SIA's Giving Programs September 23



Thursday, September 23 is the time to learn all about the Soroptimist International of the Americas Giving Programs, presented by the Sierra Nevada Region's Federation Fundraising Chair Pamela Hardt-English.

Pam will be detailing the Live Your Dream program, Club Giving and the Laurel Society. She will explain how those funds are used to help women and girls in communities that do not have Soroptimist Clubs. She will also discuss SIA's "Big Goal" to empower one-half million women in the next 10 years.

A member and Past President of SI/Truckee-Donner, Pam is a food scientist and works with companies to make sure the foods they sell are safe to eat. She also works with small specialty food companies to help them comply with state and US requirements.

Learn About Afghan Refugees on October 21

You don't want to miss our October 21 speaker, Aimal Halim, who will be speaking about refugees from Afghanistan, what they need and how to help as they begin settling in the Reno-area.

Aimal was born and raised in Afghanistan. He is a graduate of the University of Nevada with a degree in Political Science. Growing up under the brutal civil war that engulfed Afghanistan after the exit of the Soviet Union and the subsequent rule of the Taliban Regime, Aimal learned to speak English and happened upon a job as a translator and cultural advisor for the U.S. Armed Forces.

After numerous missions and over three years later, Aimal received a student visa from the United States in 2010 and has been living in Reno ever since. In 2015, Aimal was selected to be a Rotary Peace Fellow and completed his master's degree in International Politics and Peace studies in England. Aimal is a frequent speaker on his life experiences, his work with the American Military, World Peace and the future of Afghanistan.



Asma, Zahra and Aimal at home.

Aimal married Asma in 2015, and they have a daughter (Zahra) as they currently live in Reno. Aimal works for First Wallstreet Financial Advisors as an associate advisor, and is doing volunteer work with the Northern Nevada International Center helping with the resettlement of Afghan refugees in Reno.



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District 5 Meeting Scheduled for October 9

Reserve Saturday, October 9 on your calendar to attend the District 5 Fall Meeting on Zoom, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. District 5 Director Susan Horst will lead the day's program, entitled "Service: An Act of Kind Assistance". It will include a special message from SNR Governor Sarah Carrasco, plus the Best Service Projects from District 5 Presidents.



In addition, the four Federation Chairs representing the Sierra Nevada Region – Fundraising, Membership, Public Awareness and Program – will be reporting on their areas of expertise.

No need to submit a reservation. No need to travel to a nearby city. No need to pay for lunch. No need to travel home at the end of the day. It just requires a couple of hours of your time. So please join this Zoom meeting.

Celebrate the Soroptimist 100th Anniversary

Thursday, September 30

Please mark your calendars for a special celebration of the Soroptimist 100th Anniversary. Invite your friends! Guests welcome.

Thursday, October 7

SITM is proud to celebrate our very special partnership in community service in providing "100 Meals in 100 Days" with Hope Springs and Northern Nevada Hopes. ** Cost of this lunch is a one-time \$30. Invite your friends! Guests welcome.

Current members and their guests should make reservations to attend in our usual manner, by October 1, RSVPing to the Attendance Committee at info@sitmnv.org.

All others should buy their tickets by accessing the www.sitmnv.org website to purchase tickets online. Deadline is October 1.



BRIGHT PAST
BRILLIANT FUTURE



100th Anniversary SI & SIA Virtual Celebrations!

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>

Last minute reservation: 15 September - 2 October, 2021 / \$75.00

SI Announces 100th Anniversary Speakers

(Reprinted from Soroptimist International)

Here are just a few of the growing list of expert speakers for 1-3 October 2021 during Soroptimist International's virtual celebration. These inspiring women are dedicated to our mission of achieving gender equality and human rights for all.

The First Keynote Speaker Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés,

Soroptimist International is delighted to announce María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, former Minister of Foreign Affairs and of Defense of Ecuador, and former President of the United Nations General Assembly as a Keynote Speaker at the Soroptimist International 100th Birthday Event, taking place virtually between 1-3 October 2021.



Speaker Soon-Young Yoon

A warm welcome to Speaker Soon-Young Yoon, who is the United Nations (UN) representative for the International Alliance of Women and author of "Citizen of the World—Soon-Young and the UN" (Ewha Woman's University Press, 2021). In 2019, she was appointed to the Gender Advisory Panel convened by H. E. Ambassador Volkan Bozkir, the President of the 75th UN General Assembly.

Speaker Emilia Reyes

Emilia Reyes has specialized in gender responsive public policies and budgets linked to sustainable development, including comprehensive disaster risk management and climate change; in those fields she has trained governmental officers from the Legislative, Judiciary and Executive Branch, as well as officers from United Nations agencies at national and regional level.



Speaker Celeste Mergens

Celeste Mergens is the founder and CEO of Days for Girls, an organization many Soroptimists around the world are aware of, or have worked with over the years. She has led the organization since its beginning in 2008, driven by twenty years of nonprofit and business management experience.



Speaker Kim Bogucki

Detective Kim Bogucki is the co-founder of The [IF Project](#), an innovative partnership between law-enforcement, currently and previously incarcerated adults, and community leaders to build commonality, reduce misperceptions and serve as a deterrent to recidivism and future incarceration. A 33-year veteran of the Seattle Police Department (SPD), Kim has developed Internationally replicated programs that create dialogue around issues of social justice between members of law enforcement and the communities they serve.



Soroptimist 100th Anniversary Trivia Answers

(Questions on page 2)

1. Adelaide Goddard, principal partner, Parker-Goddard Secretarial School
2. 1978
3. Soroptimist International of African Federation, inaugurated June 30, 2020
4. Big Dream Campaign
5. www.sitmnhv.org
6. Kazuko Morita from Kyoto, Japan
7. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

From the 1920s to the 2020s – Compare the Difference

As SIA celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year, here are a few items that women might have been shopping for in the 1920's and what they cost:

One dozen eggs, 47 cents; or the equivalent of \$6 in

today's dollars.

Three pounds of macaroni, 25 cents; or the equivalent of \$3.25 in today's dollars.

One pound of round steak, 40 cents; or the equivalent of \$5 in today's dollars.

A new radio, the latest in-home entertainment, \$200; (or the equivalent of nearly \$2,600 in today's dollars, but by 1930, the price fell to \$35 or the equivalent of \$450 in today's dollars).

A Hoover Electric Cleaner (vacuum), \$39; (or the equivalent of nearly \$500 in today's dollars).

This info is from an article "Price check on aisle 1920" from CountryLiving.com.

100 Seconds of Soroptimist History

Soroptimist International Quadrennial Project Sierra Leone

By Bev Perkins

In 2001, Soroptimist International began a Quadrennial Project called Project Sierra, under SI Presidents Margaret Lobo and Hanne Jensbo.

The country of Sierra Leone was then enjoying its fourth year of relative peace after over 10 years of war. Still, most of its population was at that time homeless, and thousands of children were orphaned, Soroptimist saw in these people a great need and decide to help.

As a result, Project Sierra was started to help the women of Sierra Leone with education, medical care and counseling. The Young Mother's Centre was established in a town called Bo, in Sierra Leone, where women received help in getting over their past and building a future for themselves and their children.

By 2009, two years into the project, Sierra Leone was still ranked as the poorest country in the world, with 75% of its people living on an average of less than \$2 per day. The life expectancy of women there was at 42 years, and about one-third of all children still died before their fifth birthday.

But Project Sierra gave them hope, and Soroptimist International was even then beginning to see encouraging results. Stories poured in of women helped by the program, earning money and living longer. Photos were sent in to Soroptimist International showing happy, healthy children, growing and learning how to help make a good future for their country.

Soroptimist helped transform the lives of the people of Sierra Leone by providing everything from school books for children to business start-up kits for young mothers creating a continuing Soroptimist legacy for the women and children of Sierra Leone.



Teen Moms learn food preparation as part of Project Sierra.

A Peak into Economic Development in Northern Nevada

Attracting small businesses to northern Nevada, as well as working with home-grown start-ups is the job of Katie Romanko-Freeman, Manager of Entrepreneurial Development at the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada (EDAWN).

At the August 26 meeting, Katie defined the three teams at EDAWN focused on bringing business with quality jobs to the area – Business Development working with large companies; Entrepreneurial Development, Katie's duties are outlined above; and Workforce Development

and Business Retention.

EDAWN's focus is on wages of \$40 per hour or higher, especially in the area of technology, software and blockchain. Introductions, site visits, relocation assistance and networking with other companies are all part of the services she and EDAWN employ in enticing new companies to our area.



Women in Poverty Hard Hit During Pandemic

The Pandemic has impacted everyone, but women in poverty have been especially hard hit. That was the message from Pam Russell, Executive Director of the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra (WACCS). The small nonprofit is normally engaged with classes and training for women aimed towards education, job placement, English as a Second Language, even parenting classes.

WACCS became much more this past year-and-one-half as the Pandemic dictated the agency begin food distribution and vouchers for clothing through the Assistance League and Good Shepherd's Clothes Closet. The neighborhood they serve is essentially a food desert. Assistance with completing forms for unemployment and other services were provided. Even COVID vaccinations were available at a special event. WACCS continues their Diaper Bank allowing women who participate in their programs to obtain a week's worth of diapers for their children. SITM is conducting a "diaper drive" during September for WACCS.

Donate Diapers Throughout the Month of September

SITM is conducting a "diaper drive" throughout the month of September to benefit the Women & Children's Center of the Sierra (WACCS). WACCS helps women escape poverty in order to provide a better life for themselves and their families.

Members interested in donating diapers should bring them to the Thursday meetings. They may also be dropped off at Doris Phelps' home or Kay Dunham's office in Reno, or Faye Andersen's home in Sparks. All sizes, one through six are needed.

Women participating in WACCS educational, job training and placement programs can access the diaper bank for their children.



Pam Russel, Executive Director of WACCS, shown with diapers donated by generous members at the September 2 meeting.

Mark Your Calendars for New SNR 2022 Conference Dates

The date for the 46th Sierra Nevada Region Conference has been set for April 1-3, 2022 at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa. Plan ahead, because this is about one-month earlier than normal. Previous conferences have typically been held the last weekend in April or the first weekend in May.

With past years' cancellations, changing COVID restrictions, and the on-going conflict with the annual Volleyball Tournament, the date needed to be changed. For a more complete explanation, see Governor Sarah Carrasco's message in the September 1 SNR E-Blast.

The change in date may affect some of the region's program deadlines, likely moving them up. Stand-by for changes to these deadlines,

Beading Bracelets for Infusion Patients



A small, but mighty group convened at President Valerie's home to hand-craft about 20 beautiful beaded bracelets. Once completed, the bracelets are donated to the Renown Infusion Center. When a woman completes her cancer infusions she is invited to choose a bracelet to signify her accomplishment. Beaded key fobs are available for the gentlemen.

Thanks ladies for your dedication.



Soroptimist Grants \$2.8 Million Annually Through its Live Your Dream Awards

*Economically empowering women and creating stronger communities
(Excerpted from SIA News Release)*

Soroptimist International of the Americas awards more than \$2.8 million annually in *Live Your Dream Awards* to 1,700 women. These women face enormous obstacles including poverty, racism, domestic violence, sex trafficking, teen pregnancy and substance abuse. The program is unique in that recipients may use the cash grant to offset any costs associated with their efforts to attain higher education—such as books, childcare, tuition and transportation.



Since the *Live Your Dream Awards* program was launched in 1972, Soroptimist has disbursed about \$35 million in cash awards, helping more than 30,000 women achieve their dreams of a better life for themselves and their families.

The *Live Your Dream Awards* received the 2017 American Society of Association Executives' Power of A Gold Award, a top-level recognition for associations working to make a better world.

SITM has awarded nearly \$35,000 to 34 women since 1998.

September Board & Business Recap

By Faye I. Andersen

Short Board and Business Meetings were the routine for September.

Diaper Drive Continues Through September

SITM is conducting a diaper drive through the month of September for donation to the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra. Please bring diapers to the weekly meetings, or they can be dropped off at Doris Phelps' home, or Kay Dunham's office in Reno or Faye Andersen's home in Sparks. At the conclusion of the diaper drive, a delivery time will be announced for members wishing to visit WACCS.

Approval of Amendments to Club Policies & Procedures

The board recommended and the membership approved a motion by the Finance and Governance Committee to approve changes to SITM's current Policies and Procedures. These changes were reviewed in June, but held for final approval due to other business needs that month. The changes mainly included housekeeping updates and changes to Section A (Delegates) and D (Finances) to increase financial flexibility.

New laptop for the General Fund Treasurer

The board recommended and the membership approved the purchase of a new laptop, with Windows 10 and 365 pre-installed, not to exceed \$500, for the General Fund Treasurer instead of having to transfer files between personal and club laptops.

August Happy Dollars Benefited DDX3X

August Happy Dollars, in the amount of \$326, were collected for the DDX3X Foundation, dedicated to research, education and treatment for this rare gene mutation which affects primarily females. September Happy dollars are designated for the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra, empowering women to rise out of poverty.

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

Celebrating August Birthdays

Three members with September birthdays were in attendance. They were asked what the title of their biography would be if they were to write one. Celebrating September birthdays are:



Celebrating September birthdays were, from left, Bev Perkins (September 18); Eileen Fuller (September 18) and Darlene DeLancey (September 30).



Joanna Moran – September 4



Laury Macauley – September 11



Kaylyn Dazey-Harper – September 12

Don't forget ...

If you are attending an SITM meeting (and bringing a guest), lunch reservations are due by Monday at noon to the Attendance Committee at info@sitmnv.org. The week's menu choices are announced each Thursday for the following week. They are also covered in President Valerie's Weekly Update. If you don't make a reservation, there may not be lunch for you, but the Atlantis will do its best to accommodate you.

Guests are now welcome at the in-person meetings on Thursdays.

Our "Zoom Wranglers" could use your assistance at each meeting to facilitate the mechanics of the hybrid in-person attendee and zoom attendees. They will provide "on-the-job" training.



Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows
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President Valerie Hahn
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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
Valerie Hahn	Cinammon Davies
Bev Perkins	Jeanne Nacarrato

SITM Board 2021-22

President Valerie Hahn	Secretary Kay Dunham
President-Elect Laury Macauley	Treasurer/General Fund Linda Walker
Vice President/Program Carol Dinneen	Treasurer/Service Fund Cindy Burk
Vice President/ Membership Pam Robinson	Delegate Cinammon Davies
	Director – Millie Mitchell



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



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Did you know . . .

The Search for a New SI Executive Director and CEO



Elizabeth M. Lucas

Elizabeth M. Lucas, CAE, MBA, has resigned as executive director and chief executive officer of Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc., effective August 31, 2021. In this role since 2011, Lucas oversaw the overall operation for the global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment; she also worked with Soroptimist's board of directors to craft the organization's strategic direction.

The SIA Board of Directors announced Michelle J. Burnett, SIA Chief Operating and Financial Officer, has been appointed as Interim SIA Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer until the process of hiring Liz's successor is finalized. Following our succession plan, Michelle assumed the roles and responsibilities of SIA Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer beginning September 1, 2021. She will also continue to carry out her current roles and responsibilities as SIA Chief Operating and Financial Officer.



Michelle J. Burnett

The Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer search process is underway. All interviews are being conducted virtually.