



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

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www.sitmnhv.org

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Calendar

- Nov. 25 – DARK for Thanksgiving
- Dec. 2 – Human Rights Day, SI President’s Appeal
- Dec. 7 -- Board Meeting, Zoom at Noon
- Dec. 9 – Business Meeting
- Dec. 16 – Holiday Social and Goodie Sale
- Dec. 23 – DARK Merry Christmas
- Dec. 30 – DARK Happy New Year

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.



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Use Thanksgiving as a Kickstarter to be Thankful Throughout the Year

Happy Thanksgiving to Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows and to all! This is my absolute favorite holiday. My favorite colors with Fall outside, the weather and joyous holiday time as we get to the New Year!



Thanksgiving is a reminder that we have so much to be thankful for in our lives and the world around us. I try to practice this each day. It’s

hard at first, then comes naturally. For every negativity that comes into my thoughts I replace it with 3 things I am thankful for. I like to celebrate it all year! I am thankful for each lady in our club. Each member plays as a special entity in our club whether we see it or not. I am thankful for

our hearts and work that we do. We are not paid or rewarded physically. It is our hearts that are rewarded and others who gain from our work to make their lives better. Try replacing what you are thankful for, rather than worrying about what you don’t have or need.

Busy month ahead! I know the Education/Women Committee, Thanks to Youth and Education/Youth Committees have been working it with meetings and getting scholarship applications in. The 100th Anniversary Committee is getting the last meal at Hope Springs ready for Christmas. Speaking of that, Christmas is coming in a month and we have dark weeks for the holidays. It’s never boring in SITM!

On a sad note, we lost two very special members these past two months -- Patti Doty and Jean Neddenriep. Both

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Two Holiday Projects That Need Your Help

It’s the holiday season and SITM Committees have two projects underway to help children in need this time of year.

The Hospitality Committee is seeking donations of new children’ shoes to donate to the Women and Children’s Center of the Sierra (WACCS.) Dot Watts is collecting the shoes from members at each meeting through December 2.



The Education/Youth Committee is again hosting their “Angel Tree” with names of Children in Transition students at Hunter Lake Elementary. Members are asked to select names and purchase gifts. Teresa Mentzer is handling the gift lists and requests gifts be returned to her or Connie Steinheimer by December 8.

For more details on both projects, see page 4.

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were very dear to me when I first joined SITM. Patti was President and I admired her leadership. Jean was the first member who invited me to coffee when I was going through the worst time in my life. We both walked our dogs to a coffee shop near our homes. I did not know her very well and it was the most pleasant and charming coffee I ever had with someone. I felt she truly cared. We did not talk a lot about my situation. It was very fresh, and I was hurting so bad. She understood that and just wanted to know me and be there if I needed her. She was such an incredible example. I always think, "How can I be that way for others." I am truly thankful for these two ladies who came into my life.

Who or what are you thankful for beyond your family? I bet you can make a big list if you think about it. Thanksgiving should not be the only day we are thankful. It should be a kickstart reminder that lasts throughout the year!

I am wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving filled with memories and love!

President Valerie

Thanks for the "Loving Words"

Following is a note from former member Donna Herz, regarding the recent passing of her daughter Tamara.

Dearest SITM Friends:

All of your "loving words" mean so very much to me. Life changes so, so quickly and never ready. There is a plan for all of us. Tamara said "Goodbye – the love is forever."

Donna Herz

In Memorium – Patti Doty

Patti Doty, a long-time Soroptimist, Past SITM President and active club member, passed away November 10, from brain cancer. Patti was diagnosed almost one-year ago and underwent treatments that extended her life almost a year.

Upon learning the sad news, many members commented on her kindness, bravery, grace and dignity. She was remembered as a fantastic President, dear friend and amazing woman.

Patti was many things to many people. She was a mother and grandmother. She was a Physician's Assistant, Marriage & Family Counselor and a Doctor of Educational Psychology. She actively practiced in all fields, including at the Student Health Services at UNR, while providing counseling services at the same time. Patti was also a published author, an adventurer and world traveler.

When Patti retired from UNR Health Services, she said, "I thought I would work forever, but then forever came. I got over that when I discovered the flexibility to travel."

And travel she did, trekking in the Himalayas, on safari in Tanzania, visiting Nova Scotia, a trip to Antarctica, touring Vietnam and her favorite "go to place", Hawaii for snorkeling.

Patti joined SITM in 2003, at the suggestion of her sponsor, Jean Neddenriep. Both had grown up in Carson City. Unfortunately, Jean passed away September 24. Patti served as Delegate and later became President in 2010-2011, Director and Parliamentarian. She was honored with membership in the Laurel Society in 2012.

Her favorite committee was the Education/Women Committee. She once said, "I like working together with women, sharing time together and doing something worthwhile."

As an author, Patti published three books of fiction, "McClean's Heart"; "Runaway"; and "Finding Home". All are available on Amazon.

Some authors have trouble describing their writing process, but Patti once said, "The scenes come first, then the plot, and I'm always expecting to see what comes next."

In one of the many tributes by members about Patti, one gave a great summation: "Thank you, my friend, for sharing your gifts with all of us; the Love of Adventure, the Love of Writing, and the Love of Friendship. Your smile will remain in all of our hearts and we will find joy knowing that this is not goodbye - until we meet again."



From the book jacket cover of "Finding Home", Patti Doty with her companion Izzy.

Teachable Moments at NCET

by Jeanne Naccarato



Setting up the booth at the NCET Expo were, from left: Holly Nash, Doris Phelps, Cinammon Davies and Sarah Carrasco.

SITM had the opportunity to attend the NCET Small Business Expo on Friday, October 15 and received free booth space to decorate and promote SITM, thanks to Membership Committee Co-Coordinator Cinammon Davies. NCET is Northern Nevada's largest educational and networking organization, that helps people explore business and technology.



Celebrating the completion of set-up were, from left: Cinammon Davies (with Cheshire Cat), Sarah Carrasco and Holly Nash.

SITM members setting up the booth Thursday night and attending Friday were President Valerie Hahn, Pam Robinson, Holly Nash, Sarah Carrasco, Membership Co-Coordinator Doris Phelps and I. The booth was decorated in Mad Hatter Tea theme with Holly and I dressed in our Mad Hatter attire. The day represented an opportunity for SITM

to educate attendees on our mission, programs, and membership. Several SITM attendees commented on their insights of the day.



Jeanne Naccarato pouring tea, along with the High Tea theme.

Pam Robinson thought "We promoted our upcoming Tea beautifully. We did talk to quite a few people who were interested in Soroptimist, so I think it was a good use of our time."

Holly emphasized "Because I was there for the afternoon, the crowd was slower. I had more luck working



Holly Nash, Pam Robinson and Jeanne Naccarato "working the booth" at the NCET Expo.

the vendors. The costumes really helped to promote the event. We need to get personal business cards so that we can be a person of direct

contact and to ensure our ability to make notes and get information as well. It is also a reminder of the Soroptimist name. The fishbowl and give-a-ways are a great idea and people are accustomed to dropping in their business cards at a booth. Great way to expand our reach and our contacts."

Sarah added "My impression of the event is that there was not the attendance in the numbers we were told. I don't know if that is a result of COVID or if the morning was slow compared to the afternoon. I think we need to be very careful when we do events like this with regards to money spent, regardless if it is a member's donation or the club's resources."



Invitations to the 2022 "We're MAD as a HATTER High Tea", accented with tea bags were distributed to attendees at the Expo.

"We did have good conversations and presented male attendees with a description of our organization for them to take home to their wives/girlfriends/daughter. Even ran into a woman who was a prior scholarship recipient whom I am putting in contact with SI Carson City as that is the city she lives in. She became an author of children's books."

As for me, I thought it was an overall positive experience. Talking with vendors and other attendees about Soroptimist was great. Many had questions about our programs, knew women/girls who could benefit

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from our scholarship programs, or were interested in joining our organization. As an educator, I believe that anytime we are afforded an opportunity of teachable moments in our community to speak on the presence and mission of SITM, and especially with such enthusiastic SITM members, it's a winning situation and an opportunity not to be passed up.

Jeanne Naccarato visits with Janel Walsh at the Atlantis Booth.



Sarah Carrasco and Jeanne Naccarato inform an Expo attendee about Soroptimist.

Two Holiday Projects That Could Use Your Help



Donate Shoes and Socks to WACCS for Christmas

Imagine a child receiving new shoes for Christmas. That's what the Hospitality Committee is hoping members will donate this year in lieu of exchanging gifts between members. Hospitality Co-Coordinator Dot Watts has been collecting shoes and socks each Thursday to be donated to the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra (WACCS).

The small nonprofit provides classes and training for women aimed towards education, job placement, English as a Second Language, even parenting classes.

Dot would like to have your donation by December 2. Contact her for questions or further information.

Select an "Angel" and Purchase Gifts for Children in Transition

The "Angel Tree" project resumes again this year sponsored by the Education/Youth Committee. Members voluntarily select an angel containing the name and potential gifts for Children in Transition attending Hunter Lake Elementary School. The limit is \$100 (two \$50 gift tags) that can be split in two or more members. Monetary contributions are also welcome.

Obtain a list of instructions with some specific requirements this year and select an angel(s) by contacting Teresa Mentzer.

Purchases are due to Connie Steinheimer by December 8.

Teresa Mentzer with the "Angel Tree"





Women & Children's Center OF THE SIERRA

Dear Amazing Friends from SITM:

Many years ago, when I was first working at the Committee to Aid Abused Women (CAAW), I remember hearing about SITM and every mention contained an air of reverence. I remember this because I figured that this group must be doing very special work! And I was right!

Thank you for the generosity that you have shown WACCS over the past few months and previous years. You collected more than 3,000 highly essential diapers and coupled that with \$544 Happy Dollars.

Every gift WACCS receives is valued and important. Receiving such a bounty from SITM women who have significantly improved our community and our world is truly an honor.

In Appreciation of the Diaper Donations

On behalf of the women and children of WACCS, thank you!!!!!!

In peace and appreciation,

Pam Russell
Executive Director, WACCS

In a handwritten note, included from Pam, she added:

A few years back, one of WACCS women attended a Making a Difference for Women day. She finished the day with a renewed sense of purpose and enthusiasm to move forward. I am happy to report that she has finished her course of study and has a job offer to start as soon as she passes her licensure exam.

Thank you SITM!



OPENING DOORS TO A BRIGHT FUTURE

SI PRESIDENT'S APPEAL 2021 - 2023



SI President's Appeal 2021-2023 Announced (Excerpted from the SI Website)



"Opening Doors to a Bright Future" is the Soroptimist International (SI) President's Appeal, 2021-2023, officially launching October 1, 2021. Headed by SI President-Elect Maureen Maguire, who takes up her role as President in January 2022, the Appeal, now part of the broader,

recently established Soroptimist International Foundation, springs from the learnings and success of many of the SI Appeals that have gone before; uniting Soroptimists, clubs, unions and the five federations, with the aim of delivering tangible benefits to some of the world's most marginalized women, girls, and their communities. With plans to establish Appeal projects in each of the five Soroptimist federations, the launch project will take place within the federation of the South West Pacific, in the South East Asia Nation of Cambodia.

Building on a tangible thread running through the very heart of Soroptimist work, *"Opening Doors to a Bright*

Future" will cement the Soroptimist belief and commitment to education throughout the life-course, and its immense power and fundamental role as a driver for sustainable development, peace, and equality. Investing in girls' education brings high rewards, breaking cycles of poverty and aiding economic growth. Education empowers women, girls, and their communities, delivering skills and knowledge, whilst increasing confidence. Enabling women and girls to make informed decisions affecting their future wellbeing, health, participation, and quality of life.



*Incoming SI President
Maureen Maguire*

Estimates further suggest 750 million adults are illiterate, with many living in poverty, facing marginalization, and disadvantage. Inequitable access to educational resources and learning is exacerbated by the digital divide, and as such, opening the door to education is an essential goal

in each of our Appeal projects. This criterion will allow us to meet our proposed, measurable objectives, driving real change and lasting impact to families, and the local and broader communities where we work."

100th Anniversary Update for Hope Springs

By Doris Phelps

100 Meals in 100 Days project started March 23 with a weekday meal prepared or purchased and delivered to Hope Springs' neighbors by members of the Committee and other club volunteers. On the 100th day, SITM members had actually delivered 105 meals (a few members delivered more than one meal on their day). With additional enthusiasm and monetary donations, the committee extended the meal delivery program with one meal per week through December 20, 2021. At that time, 19 additional meals will have been delivered.

The committee will also help the Hope Springs neighbors celebrate a complete Thanksgiving dinner. Some dishes will be prepared in advance and some committee members will deliver the ingredients with

recipes for the neighbors to prepare themselves.

Christmas will also be special. The committee is working with another nonprofit organization to prepare and deliver Christmas dinner with the funds provided by existing donations to the committee. In addition to dinner, each of the neighbors will receive a charming Christmas stocking filled with a few necessities and some sweet goodies to enjoy. All the Santa's helpers on the Committee look forward to filling these stockings.

Next spring, SITM will host Northern Nevada Hopes at a very special lunch meeting to celebrate the success of the 100 Meals in 100 Days Anniversary success. Stay tuned for further details.



The Thanksgiving turkey has landed at Hope Springs. A 24-pound beauty, delivered by Margie Hermanson, is displayed by a staff member at Hope Springs.

A Time of Giving

Long and Short-Term Giving – Think of SITM

By Doris Phelps

2021 is coming to a close rather quickly along with the end of the absolutely gorgeous fall season we've been enjoying. As winter approaches, so does the annual review of financial decisions for many of us. Time to make those charitable donations and other plans before December 31. Perhaps one of those discussions about charitable donations and financial planning with your family or financial advisor will include support for Soroptimist goals, specifically for Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows.

Soroptimist International of the Americas effectively highlights its giving opportunity with the Laurel Legacy program. It's possible that, as SITM club members, we can also think about including a legacy gift to our own club and the programs that mean so much to us. A planned gift dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls in our local communities and throughout the world provides the resources and financial continuity for future project and program needs. Such a gift offers SITM and its members a wider vision for success whether it be for scholarships, career education, support for other local nonprofit and charitable organizations, the needs of underserved women, children and seniors, and other priorities for years to come.

We all can choose the legacy we want to leave and optimize our tax and financial benefits at the same time. If you are thinking about continuing your support of SITM for the future, you may wish to consider a gift to the IGU Fund, our scholarship programs or general club support as an example.

Planned giving opportunities include:

- Bequest in your will
- IRS or 401(k) contribution
- Gift of life insurance

Consult your personal financial advisor or perhaps the Community Foundation of Western Nevada for the following giving options:

- Charitable gift annuity
- Charitable remainder trust

You may also wish to contact SITM's Fundraising Committee with any questions you may have.

The Nepal Project Endowment and Funding at the CFWN



Monica House
IGU Committee Coordinator

The IGU Committee’s project “Removing Barriers to Education in Thulipokhari, Nepal” was the topic of the October 21 meeting. International Goodwill and Understanding (IGU) Committee Coordinator Monica House gave an update on the project and introduced Community Foundation of Western Nevada speakers.

Monica recapped the beginnings and growth of the project in 2000-2001 with the building of a dormitory for girls and providing scholarships for room-and-board and for the girls to attend school. The Animal Assistance Fund was added in 2003, allowing villagers to secure low-cost loans to purchase water buffaloes, goats, chickens or bee hives. In 2013 the Vital Seeds project was added supplying vegetable seeds to village women cultivating crops. This was also the beginnings of Women’s Groups (slightly patterned

after Soroptimist clubs), to add group planting and cultivation allowing for new entrepreneur opportunities to raise and sell vegetables to neighboring villages.

The dormitory and school were



Chris Adkin
President and CEO, CFWN

emptied out of students in 2020 and the beginning of 2021, due to the pandemic. Today, the girls are back in the dormitory and school. Vaccinations in Nepal are rising.

Monica said the IGU Committee is now conferring with the Village and Campus Chiefs to determine the need to repair the existing dormitory, or move to construct a new one, near the existing site. A local architect has been tasked with design and cost options for repair versus new construction.

Chris Askin, President and CEO, and Lyndsey Crossley, Philanthropic

Adviser, of the Community Foundation of Western Nevada (CFWN) joined us via Zoom to explain the function of the CFWN and the accounts that SITM holds with them in favor of the Nepal project.

CFWN was established in 1998 as a Nevada nonprofit 501 (c) 3 Corporation.

SITM’s relationship with the CFWN began in order to grow funds raised for the Nepal project with a goal towards establishing an endowment fund, which was formalized in 2017. Currently the club holds two funds with CFWN, including the endowment



Lindsey Crossley
Philanthropic Adviser, CFWN

funds and a non-endowed fund to be able to wire funds to Thulipokhari for the various projects established in Nepal. There are two additional IGU funds at CIT bank which contain funds granted to SITM by Soroptimist International for scholarships and literacy programs.

SIA Names New Exec Director Michelle Burnett

Excerpted from SIA President Kazuko’s notice to members.

Soroptimist International of the Americas President Kazuko Morita has announced that the SIA Board of Directors has named Michelle J. Burnett as our next Executive Director/CEO. She replaces long-time Executive Director/CEO Elizabeth M. Lucas, who resigned in August 2021. Burnett has served as Chief Operating Officer since October 2019.

Prior to Soroptimist, Burnett served as CFO at Turning Points for Children, a Public Health Management Corporation affiliate, that bring social and health services to vulnerable youth and families in Philadelphia.

Burnett holds a Bachelor of Arts in Accounting from Temple University, an MBA from Eastern University and holds postgraduate certificates in human resources management and nonprofit executive leadership from Cornell University and Bryn Mawr University.



November Board & Business Recap

By Faye I. Andersen

The November Board and Business Meetings were a week later than usual due to the Veteran's Day Holiday falling on a regular meeting day.

Women's Scholarship Reserve Fund Change

The Finance and Governance Committee proposed a motion that was recommended by the board and approved by the membership to transfer the \$30,000 Women's Scholarship Reserve Funds currently invested in a CD at CIT Bank to a separate money market account held by the club at CIT Bank. The CD expires December 5. The F/G Committee will further explore the best options for investing this money held in reserve, since the 1980s for a year's worth of women's scholarships.

Holiday Goodie Sale December 16

Now that we can meet in person, the Hospitality and Fundraising Committees proposed a motion that was recommended by the board and approved by the membership to conduct a Holiday Goodie Sale on Thursday, December 16. Members are asked to voluntarily bake items to be sold at the meeting. The proceeds will be designated for the SITM General Fund.

October Happy Dollars Benefited N. N. HOPES

October Happy Dollars, in the amount of \$418, were collected for Northern Nevada Hopes, a community health center providing medical and wellness services to the insured and uninsured in our community. November Happy Dollars are designated for Nevada 211, a program of the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services committed to helping Nevadans connect with the services they need.



Celebrating November birthdays were, from left: Carol Dinneen (November 17); Dot Watts (November 4) and on Zoom, Vicki Schultz (November 5). Hospitality Coordinator Margie Hermanson is standing center.

Celebrating November Birthdays

Three members with November birthdays were in attendance and on Zoom. They were asked to name their worst and best jobs. Also celebrating November birthdays:



Vicki Schultz
November 5



Jeanne Baxter
November 21



Jaci Jones
November 27

Long Distance Member and Traveler

A big welcome to our long-distance member Barbara Atwell, all the way from Gulfport, Mississippi. Barbara has joined us twice in the past month, since she traveled cross country to participate in local Arts & Crafts Shows. Barbara was showcasing and selling her beautiful soft fabric arts in the form of quilts, table cloths and runners, placemats and a multitude of other decorative items. Good to see you Barbara!



SAVE THE DATE

Sierra Nevada Region 46th
Annual April Conference
April 1-3, 2022



District 5 Director Susan Horst**Cultural Trends Shaping the Next Decade**

Sierra Nevada Region's District 5 Director Susan Horst paid a visit to SITM on November 4. She opened her presentation with congratulations and praise for SITM for our "100 Meals in 100 Days" for Hope Springs project. Plus, she thanked the 13 SITM members who joined her virtual District 5 Fall Meeting on October 9.

Director Susan's spoke on recent cultural trends and changes in human behavior as a result of the pandemic. The pandemic has sped up changes to our lifestyles. Years of behavior changes have been packed into a few months, instead of the usual speed of years.

She shared three cultural trends which will shape the next decade. It's important to keep in mind the impact on what we can do as Soroptimists.

1. New virtual worlds. The expanding virtual world is competing now with our physical world. Physical distancing requirements have wedged a divide between people and society, causing a migration to digital environments in order to be able to connect with one another.

This has sped up the introduction of the Metaverse, which is shared space where people can create new identities, explore endless possibilities and spend time with friends. The next decade of virtual spaces will become an integral part of our human experience. For example, Soroptimists meeting virtually has become a standard practice during the pandemic.

2. The Digital Divide is the gap between those with and without access to the internet and is inter-twined with poverty, literacy rates and public health. Over the last century, global poverty has decreased dramatically (from 62% in 1915; to 42% in 1951; to 10% in 2015). Despite these improvements, the pandemic illustrated that 1.6 billion children worldwide lacked access to the internet. (UNICEF statistics)

Access to the internet will become the new battleground in alleviating poverty. If no action is taken by countries, governments or business, it could lead to a digital skills gap which could negatively impact a person's, or a country's standard of living. This is a golden opportunity to reinvent more inclusion into educational models to meet the needs of the 21st century.

3. A creative renaissance is emerging where people can fulfill their full potential. Today there is a renewed understanding of the fragility of life. Creative entrepreneurs and artists will meet the new virtual world to address the challenges of poverty and inequality

of opportunity. This includes an unprecedented opportunity to help women and girls worldwide, leading to economic empowerment and opportunity.

Director Susan concluded with a message about the "Giving Season". Besides being charitable, more important, it is the season for gratitude for those who mean so much to us. For Soroptimists, she noted that "Giving Season" is all year long.



President-Elect Laury Macauley and District 5 Director Susan Horst

"Beads of Strength" Delivery

Doris Phelps and Jeanne Naccarato delivered 20 "Beads of Strength" bracelets recently crafted by a small group of SITM members, to one of the nurses at 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. The nurses say they are so grateful to be able to give especially their long-term infusion patients a small token to symbolize the completion of their infusion journey.



One of the nurses from the Renown Infusion Center receives bracelets from Doris and Jeanne.

Masks-R-On!

Members decorated their COVID-required facemasks in Halloween fashion at the October 28 meeting for "Masks R On" fun and prizes. Table competitions were also held to run the alphabet with Halloween-inspired words. Finally, members tried their hands and pens to draw a pumpkin on a plate on top of their heads. Thanks to the Hospitality Committee for staging a fun and funny meeting, Thanks to photographer Jeanne Naccaraato.



Hospitality Co-coordinator Dot Watts



This coven of good witches won the alphabet game. From left is Cindy Burke, Jeanne Naccarato, Linda Walker and Darlene DeLancey.



Winners of the mask contest were from left: Jeanne Naccarato, Cindy Burke, Bev Perkins, Millie Mitchell and Faye Andersen.



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following the first Thursday, noon.

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SITM Board 2021-22

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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 . . .

Holiday Goodie Auction and Sale

Thursday, December 16, Noon

Show off your baking/cooking talents and bring
Holiday Goodies for auction to the Holiday Social



Whole plates or individual packages of goodies for people and pets.



We had so much FUN last time, let's do it AGAIN!

