



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

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October 2022

www.sitmnev.org

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Calendar

- Oct. 20 -- Shannon Jenson, Step 2
- Oct. 27 -- Halloween Social (wear black and orange)
- Nov. 3 – Angel Tree for Hunter Lake School
- Nov. 8 – Board Meeting, noon, Zoom
- Nov. 10 – Business Meeting
- Nov. 17 – OPEN
- Nov. 24 – DARK for Thanksgiving

SITM Meets...

Thursdays at Noon

at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa
Second Floor Convention Center
\$28 for lunch.

RSVP to info@sitmnv.org no later than noon on the Sunday 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

High Tea Success and More Projects on the Way



With the coming of the autumn season, it feels like SITM has really hunkered down and begun its hard, but fun work for the year.

Through the “We’re MAD as a HATTER”

High Tea on September 17, we raised a great deal of money for our ongoing projects and had a wonderful time doing it. We got to see members who can’t always visit and meet new guests who might be able to join us in the future. The silent auction contained a myriad of fabulous items which all sold and garnered a lot of bids! And the Chico’s fashion show was lovely. It really was a joyous event and one that we hope to repeat

many times in the years to come. Thank you to all the members who donated and volunteered their time and who attended the Tea.

Now that we are entering into the holiday season, SITM can look forward to key projects for families, like the Hunter Lake Angel Tree organized by Education/Youth and the Afghan Project by Community Outreach. SITM will also be taking donations for the Women and Children’s Center of the Sierra for urgently-needed items (as organized by Community Outreach). So, we will have many opportunities during the upcoming holidays to make and gather donations from our friends for these projects that are so crucial in the upcoming winter months.

President Laury Macauley

Welcome New Member Cindy Baines

Congratulations and welcome to new member Cindy Baines. Cindy was inducted at the October Business meeting. She is self-employed with Jordon Essentials, purveyor of health and personal well-being products. Her sponsor is Amanda Bean. Again, welcome Cindy.



Amanda Bean, pins new member Cindy Baines with a Soroptimist pin after her induction. Sarah Carrasco, at left, conducted the induction ceremony.

Save the Date

District 5 Fall Meeting

October 29, 2022

Hosted by SI/Quincy

Special Friday night outing to a local “Follies Show”, October 28 for early arrivals in Quincy.

You’ve already missed the early sign-in, so the cost is \$40. See the informational flyer attached to this newsletter. To register, go to www.soroptimistsnr.org and select District 5.

Members Pitch in to Craft Beads of Strength



Bead Leader Extraordinaire Bev Perkins with her stash of supplies.

Creative members got a hands-on opportunity at the September 15 meeting making Beads of Strength. Bev Perkins, bead leader extraordinaire, prepared packets of beads for members to string during the lunch meeting. Once members complete their tasks, Bev makes sure the knots are secure and an inspirational charm is added. A total of 18 bracelets were made that day and delivered.

The bracelets are donated to the Renown Infusion Center for patients completing their chemo treatments, as a symbol of their achievement.



Dot Watts and Carol Dinneen select bags of pre-measured beads.



Amanda Bean hard at work on her bracelet, with Carmela Cipollini doing the same.



Ana Nadimi 's beautiful bracelet matched her outfit.



President Laury Macauley shows off her bracelet creation.



Marilyn Pearson and Patte Robnette working out their beading pattern.



Millie Mitchell & Deb Thomas sharing their beading experience.

The High Tea was a Fun and Fabulous Success

After months of planning and work, the “We’re MAD as a HATTER” High Tea was an outstanding success, raised a lot of money, and our members and guests all had a great time.

On September 17, from the time the doors opened at 1 p.m. at the Atlantis, until the event concluded,



Handling check-in duties were Kaylyn Dazey-Harper and Linda Walker.



Queen Carmela Cipollini



Sarah Carrasco and Holly Nash showing off their finery.

attendees were in costume, having their photos taken at the photo booth, parading in their hats and costumes, bidding on silent auction items, trying to win a bottle of wine at the wine ring toss, buying raffle tickets to win one of two “wine wagons”. Of course, we were all enjoying tea, sandwiches and desserts, while watching a



Past scholarship recipient Ana Chacon



Past scholarship recipient Olivia Christie.



Kaylyn Dazey-Harper with a future Soroptimist.



Jeanne Naccarato and Beth Sharp ran the wine ring toss game.

wonderful show and display of beautiful clothing from Chico's at the Summit Reno.



Judy Simpson and Pam Sutton.

The event garnered a net profit of just shy of \$21,000 total. That was bolstered by some very generous direct donations in the form of sponsorships and cash donations totaling \$8,500; high quality donations of enticing auction items accelerated

the bidding this year to a total of \$7,160; table sponsors and ticket sales, plus wine wagon raffle and wine toss proceeds rounded out the totals.



A small snapshot of the silent auction tables.

President Laury welcomed all of the attendees and gave a short presentation on SITM projects and accomplishments. Special guest Ana Chacon, a past scholarship recipient who today is a licensed Realtor and paralegal, spoke about her struggles to get an education. She was joined by Olivia Christie, a scholarship recipient who is working now as a substitute teacher, plus continuing her studies towards a degree in secondary education.

A big thank you to the members of the Fundraising Committee for their many months of work, capped off by working hard at the event.

A big thank you to all of the members who donated items for the auction, donated wine to the wine wagon raffles, sold tickets, showed up to join in the enjoyment of the day, wore a costume or a hat, and some even helped "clean up" at the end.

It's hard to imagine the event could have been better.



Alice (Kimberly Taylor), the White Rabbit (Jeanne Naccarato) and the Queen of Hearts (Darlene DeLancey) preparing for tea.



Jeanne Naccarato and Amanda Brown are ready for a High Tea.

Thank You from the Fundraising Co-Coordinators

"Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast."

Alice in Wonderland

Your Fundraising Co-Coordinators, Linda Walker, Margie Hermanson, and Jeanne Naccarato, sincerely thank our fabulous committee members and SITM members for your efforts in the success of the "We're MAD as a HATTER" HighTea of 2022.

And why was it a success?

- Member invites to family, friends, neighbors saw ticket sales soar and 134 attendees on the day of the event.



- Table Sponsors and in kind donations brought in over \$10k
- Donations of 73 auction items generated over \$7k
- Over 100 bottles of wine donated and valued at almost \$2k
- Hundreds of volunteer hours to catalog, setup, and close out the auction.

As we move into October and celebrate Violet Richardson, Soroptimist's first President, we at SITM celebrate and continue to build upon her incredible legacy by hosting a wildly successful fundraising event that will provide the

means to help women and girls live their dreams. And for that we are truly grateful.

Happy Dollar Checks Out in the Community



Valerie Hahn presents a \$500 Happy Dollar check from July to "the Karma Box Guy" Grant Denton.



Long time CASA volunteer Kendra Bertschy, Esq. receives a \$500 August Happy Dollar check from Valerie Hahn.



Doris Phelps presents a \$500 September Happy Dollar check to Marvetta Lewis. Once a resident of the Nevada Youth Empowerment Project, Marvetta is now working for NYEP.

Save the Date for Jewelry, Purses & Scarfs

The eagerly awaited return of "True Colors – Old Treasure – New Future" is tentatively planned for March 8 or 16, 2023 to raise funds for WACCS. Plan to attend, but prior to the event, plan to donate previously-loved jewelry and accessories. Then, plan to make purchases of someone else's' previously enjoyed treasure, with champagne and hors d'oeuvres. Faye Andersen is accepting early donation of items.

Volunteer Opportunities and Interests Come Easy to Nicole DuPont

By Pam Robinson and Nicole Dupont

Originally from the town of Los Gatos in the Bay Area, California, Nicole found her passion for Nevada when she made a visit to the Ruby Mountains outside of Elko with high school friends. Being a city girl, the beauty and expanse of the desert view from the top of the mountains was something she knew she had to visit again. From then on, her plan was to become a Nevadan someday.

Nicole started college at San Jose State University to study education and was able to transfer to UNR in her second year. At UNR, she continued her studies in English with a focus on education. As a French studies minor, she was fortunate to have the opportunity to study for a year at the Université de Pau in southern France. Returning to her studies at UNR, Nicole also worked part-time at a mining office doing administrative work. Nicole completed her degrees in English/French and after a year of student teaching decided that her experience working with adults in her part-time position was actually where she found her true passion and motivation.

Nicole had the opportunity to move back to the Bay Area to start a career in Human Resources. She found that she used many of the same tools providing guidance to adults in Human Resources that she had acquired for teaching. Another job opportunity led her to live in Hermosa Beach where she continued to be a Californian. Every Wednesday night, she enjoyed competitive yacht racing with a team in Marina del Rey where she held a pit position, and on weekends, riding her motorcycle with friends on the canyon roads to the Rock Store where Jay Leno was a regular.

After receiving a national certification in Human Resources, a job opportunity presented itself in Reno. Nicole was happy to move back to Reno where she enjoyed working, being back with friends, and finding volunteer opportunities. She volunteered with the Nevada Museum of Art as it was going through its transformation to its new location on Liberty Street. For 3 years of the museum's annual wine fundraiser, Nicole was the primary volunteer to manage the raffle donations, raffle ticket sales, and raffle basket designs.

Nicole was introduced to her long-term boyfriend Brian by one of her college friends 10 years ago. Brian has been a volunteer with the Sheriff's Washoe County Search and Rescue team for almost 20 years, so he knows safety in the outdoors!



Nicole and Brian

Nicole was fortunate to join Nevada Retina Associates 5 years ago and works with Dr. Friedlander and Dr.

Geraymovych as the Practice Manager. There, she uses her HR background and operational skills to keep the practice running smoothly. She says it's a great staff and loves her job.

In the past few years, Nicole has been tackling some health issues which slowed her down a bit. In 2019, she had open heart surgery to receive a replacement aortic valve. Recovery went well and she was asked by the Go Red For Women, the American Heart Association's women's initiative, to be a spokesperson to raise awareness for National Wear Red Day. Nicole was also proud that year to participate in the American Heart Association's Heart Walk just 8 weeks after

surgery (which she followed with a very long nap!) Since then, she's had related surgery in 2021 and 2022, and now she is happy to say that all is fixed so she can get back to the business of living her best life.

Nicole's current hobby to relax is quilting. Sewing is a new skill, and she likes taking sewing classes at the local sewing shop. She's been working up to long walks and trail hikes which are also some of her favorite things to do.

Calling all Crocheters and Would-be Crocheters

The Community Involvement Committee proposed and the membership approved the re-start of the Afghan Project, for members to crochet Afghans to be donated to one or more nonprofits later in the year.

According to Co-Coordinator Diana DeMatei, the committee hopes to start-up the Afghan Socials in the near future, where members who crochet, or wish to learn to crochet can gather and crochet together. This "class" is open to everyone, from beginner through advanced crocheters. If you don't know how to crochet, but would like to learn, this gathering is for you. You'll need a "Q" crochet hook and yarn. Stay tuned for further details on time and place.

In the meantime, if you have finished Afghans you'd like to donate, you can deliver them to Kay Dunham's office or Diana DeMatei's home. Call first so they know you will be dropping by. Diana will store the finished Afghans.

Addressing Challenges of Women and Children in Poverty



Pam Russell

Pam Russell, Executive Director of the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra (WACCS) brought us an update on WACCS activities at our September 29 meeting. WACCS is a grassroots nonprofit agency that works with women and their children to solve the many issues resulting from poverty.

Pam gave some anonymous examples of clients enduring substandard living, facing eviction, no access to childcare, food shortages, and the list goes on. "We work with women at whatever level she is at," says Pam. "Whatever she needs today," she said acknowledging that WACCS will work on each issue until as many are resolved as possible.

WACCS offers classes on living skills, education and job readiness, which lead to a diaper bank for women to access diapers, a food pantry and a favorite weekly "Mommy and Me" networking circle. A new "Steps to Success" program provides community speakers monthly on a variety of topics.

Through a new grant, WACCS has added Community Health Workers (social workers) who work on the very basic needs of women and children in the community.

WACCS Wishlist

Pam provided a WACCS Wishlist of items that can be dropped off at WACCS, 3905 Neil Road, Suite #2, Reno, Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Diapers

Urgently need sizes 5 & 6

Baby wipes

Over the counter medicine, for adults and children

Menstrual pads (no tampons)

Shampoo, body soap and lotion

Blankets & sleeping bags

Can be "gently used"

Underwear for kids

Urgently need sizes 6-10

New shoes for kids – all sizes

Plastic Grocery bags (used is fine)

Copy paper

Diapers and Underwear Urgently Needed by WACCS

At the September 29 meeting, Pam Russell, Executive Director of the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra (WACCS) expressed an urgent need for a couple of items that her clients are desperate to receive – diapers, size 5 & 6, and children's underwear, sizes 6-10.

The Community involvement Committee proposed and the membership approved a motion to begin a one-month diapers, baby wipes, plastic bags (used OK) and underwear drive for WACCS. If you wish to contribute, you can bring items to the Thursday meeting; take them to Kay Dunham's office, or Diana DeMatei's home. If you are ordering online, you can also have them shipped to Diana's home. Costco has Kirkland brand diapers on sale, until their stock runs out.

New Recipes for a New Bride

New bride Amanda Bean was hosted by Margie Hermanson for an evening "recipe party" at her home. Unfortunately, it was a slim crowd. So, ladies dig through those recipe boxes and books and you can still bring your favorite recipes to Amanda at a Thursday meeting.



“Participating in the Fight Against Human Trafficking”

by President-Elect Sarah Carrasco

While our members do not have the skills to assist on the front line of those who have been trafficked, I am proud to say that our members have other skills which are valuable to non-profit entities who are on the front lines of the fight against human trafficking. Fighting human trafficking includes helping those who have been trafficked and need assistance to regain a normal life. Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows' members have skills which are valuable in doing a golf tournament. It takes a village!

Brenda Sandquist, Founder and CEO of Xquisite shared her passion for the mission of Xquisite with the golfers before sending them off to play.

We all walked away with the general feeling that golfers are very generous and fun. There were 34 prizes with a value of not less than \$100 each. This was a very successful fundraising event. Both clubs are appreciative of Xquisite including the two clubs on the banner of sponsors and donors.

On October 3, SITM members Valerie Hahn, Millie Mitchell and Sarah Carrasco were joined by Soroptimist International of Washoe County members Christine Wells and Sharon Blake at the golf tournament. Our part in this event was to organize the raffle prizes and sell raffle tickets.

This is one example of making it known to the Reno/Carson City Community of how Soroptimist participates in the community. I am hoping that more members of our club participate next year as each of us has the skill set to help participate in a cause which is a focal point of our global organization.



Brenda Sandquist, founder and CEO of Xquisite spoke to the crowd before the tournament.



SI/Washoe County members Christine Wells and Sharon Blake conferring at the auction.



Participants gather at the Xquisite Golf Tournament. Both SITM and SIWC were recognized on the banner as contributors to the golf tournament.



**Violet Richardson
Month of Giving**

Celebrate Founder's Day all October and help carry on the legacy of Soroptimist's first president!



Violet Richardson Month of Giving in Celebration of Founder's Day October 3, 1921

Rerinted from Soroptimist Intentional of the Americas

In honor of the beginning of *The Violet Richardson Month of Giving*, please consider [becoming a Stargazer Monthly Donor](#)—or if you already are one, please consider increasing your monthly gift.

None of our work would be possible without the generosity, passion, and dedication of our members!

Proceed to www.soroptimist.org to donate.

October Board & Business Recap

By Faye I. Andersen

Welcome New member

Congratulations and welcome to new member Cindy Baines. Cindy was inducted at the October Business meeting. She is self-employed with Jordon Essentials, purveyor of health and personal well-being products. Her sponsor is Amanda Bean. Again, welcome Cindy.

High Tea Fundraising Success

Fundraising Co-Coordinator Linda Walker reported the outstanding news that SITM's September 17 "We're MAD as a HATTER" High Tea was a rousing success. Almost final numbers show a net profit of over \$20,000. That includes proceeds from sponsorships, auction sales, wine wagon raffle and ring toss, plus outright cash donations. The final total is still being calculated as a few outstanding expenses and contributions are counted. Way to go Fundraising Committee and all SITM members who made this a successful event. See pages 3&4.

Urgent Donations Needed for WACCS

In response to Pam Russell's list of "urgent needs" for the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra (WACCS), the Community Outreach Committee proposed, and the membership approved, "to hold a one-month drive to collect size 5 & 6 diapers, diaper wipes, children's underwear in sizes 6-10, and plastic grocery bags (used is fine) to benefit WACCS. Pam is the Executive Director of WACCS, who spoke to SITM on September 29.

Diapers can be delivered to Bev Perkins at the Thursday meetings or to Kay Dunham's office in south Reno. If you are ordering online, have them shipped directly to Diana DeMatei's home address. See page 2.

Return of the Angel Tree project.

The Education/Youth Committee proposed and the membership approved a motion seeking "club participation in purchasing, wrapping and delivering gifts to Hunter Lake Elementary School for the needy 'children in transition', who live in motels, mobile homes and shelters in the 4th Street corridor."

Committee members Connie Steinheimer, Teresa Mentzer and Life Member Shirley George have volunteered to coordinate this effort and will have details at the October 27 meeting and the Angel Tree with names available at the November 3 meeting, along with a guest speaker.

Save the date to join a Monday evening, December 12 wrapping party to get the presents ready for delivery to the school by December 19.

Return of the Afghan Project

The Community Outreach Committee proposed a motion, approved by the membership, to "extend our ongoing Afghan crocheting project throughout this club term of 2022-2023, involving the voluntary donation of members' time and money." If you don't crochet, but would like to contribute, the committee will accept yarn for others to crochet. The committee will be making a decision on the recipient of the Afghans in the future.

September Happy Dollars for NYEP

Happy Dollars collected in September were \$494 designated for the Nevada Youth Employment Program (NYEP). October Happy Dollars are designated for the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra (WACCS). WACCS is a grassroots nonprofit agency that works with women and their children to solve the many issues resulting from poverty.

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

Celebrating October Birthdays.

Faye I. Andersen (October 9) and Linda Walker (October 27) with Hospitality Committee Member Margie Hermanson were on hand at the October Business Meeting to celebrate their birthdays.

Also celebrating October birthdays were:



Debera Thomas
October 15



Denise Ruprucht
October 15



Carmela Cipollina
October 23

Return of the Candidates Forum Draws Many Hopefuls

Twenty candidates, in person and on zoom, were joined by SITM members and guests for a total attendance of 60 at the October 6 meeting. Co-Coordinator Pam Sutton and Margie Hermanson introduced the candidates, who were each given three minutes to speak about their candidacy and why they are running for election, or re-election. Thanks to Pam and Margie for orchestrating an excellent program. Here's a reminder of all who participated.

Catherine Cortez Masto
US Senate



Catherine Cortez Masto

Barry Lindermann
US Senate

Darryl Baber
US Representative Dist. 2

Elizabeth Mercedes Krause
U.S. Representative District 2

Ed Bridges
Governor

Brandon Davis
Governor

Ellen Minetto
Washoe County School Board Dist. B

Colleen Westlake
Washoe County School Board Dist. B

Joe Rodriguez
Washoe County School Board Dist. C

Adam Mayberry
Washoe County School Board Dist. F

Graeme Reid
Washoe County School Board Dist. F

George "Eddie" Lorton
Reno Mayor

Naomi Duerr
Reno City Council Ward 2

Jay Kenny
Reno City Council Ward 2

Meghan Ebert
Reno City Council Ward 4

Christine "Chris" Garvey
Sparks Mayor

Dian Vander Well
Sparks City Council Ward 2

Charlene Bybee
Sparks City Council Ward 4

Kendra Bertschy
Reno Justice Court, Dept. 2

Justin Champagne
Municipal Court Judge



Candidate Forum organizers Pam Sutton and Margie Hermanson.



Adam Mayberry



Justin Champagne



Elizabeth Mercedes Krause



Kendra Bertschy

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows
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Board Meets monthly on Tuesday
following the first Thursday, noon.

Contributing to this issue

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Laury Macauley | Pam Robinson |
| Liza Chapen | Monica House |
| Jo Ann Roberts | Pam Sutton |
| Jeanne Naccarato | Margie Hermanson |
| Valerie Hahn | Holly Nash |
| Sarah Carrasco | Nicole DuPont |
| Doris Phelps | Amanda Bean |
| | Diana DeMatei |

SITM Board 2021-22

- | | |
|--|---|
| President
Laury Macauley | Secretary
Kay Dunham |
| President-Elect
Sarah Carrasco | Treasurer/General Fund
Linda Walker |
| Vice President/Program
Debera Thomas | Treasurer/Service Fund
Cindy Burk |
| Vice President/
Membership
Carol Dinneen | Delegate
Bev Perkins |
| | Director
Valerie Hahn |



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 . . .

*Happy 44th Anniversary
Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows
Chartered October 21, 1978*





District 5 Fall Meeting

The theme for the District 5 Fall Meeting is **“Awesome Autumn”**. We will be celebrating the beauty of Fall in Quincy, CA! SI Quincy is excited to be our host for this event!

Our Social on Friday night, October 28, will start with Appetizers at 6PM on the back patio of the Ranchito Motel. (If we have inclement weather, we will move inside.)

Starting at 8 PM we will be attending a local Follies Show at the Plumas-Sierra County fairgrounds – a quick drive from Ranchito Motel. The tickets are \$20 and you can RSVP when you make your motel reservation. There should be time to get dinner between the Appetizers and the Follies.

On Saturday, we will be close by at The Elks Lodge. No transportation is necessary! There will be a Continental Breakfast as well as lunch provided. (Please advise if a Vegan lunch is preferred.) To get into an **“Awesome Autumn”** mood, please wear your Fall colors!

REGISTRATION is available on the SNR Website and the cost is: \$30 per attendee. (This does not include dinner or the Follies on Friday night.)

A member of SI Quincy, Tracy Wixted, owns the Ranchito Motel and is offering a 10% discount on room rates that start at \$99 per night. (You must tell them when checking in that you are with Soroptimist to get the 10% off!) Please call Tracy at the motel directly at 530.283.2265 for your room reservation, the Follies and to RSVP for Saturday’s meeting. The RSVP **DEADLINE is October 15th**!

Ranchito Motel
2020 E. Main street
Quincy, CA 95971
530.283.2265

Elks Lodge
2004 E. Main St.
Quincy, CA 95971

Fairgrounds – Serpilio Hall
204 Fairground Rd.
Quincy, CA 95971
530.283.6272

Can’t wait to see you all at **“Awesome Autumn”**.

Holly N. Nash
District 5 Director
snr_district_5@soroptimistsnr.org
805.218.4322