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## Calendar

Jan 26 – President & CEO, Nevada Women's Fund  
 Jan 31 – Dream It, Be IT, STEM at Hunter Lake Elementary, 3-4pm  
 Feb. 2 – Live Your Dream Awards  
 Feb. 7 – Board Meeting, Zoom  
 Feb. 9 – Business Meeting, Atlantis  
 Feb. 16 – OPEN  
 Feb.23 – Hospitality Committee  
 Hula Dance Lessons  
 March 2 – Community Outreach

### SITM Meets...

#### Thursdays at Noon

at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa  
 Second Floor Convention Center  
 \$30 for lunch.

RSVP to [info@sitmnhv.org](mailto:info@sitmnhv.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.sitmnhv.org](http://www.sitmnhv.org)

## A Half Year Review and Planning for the Future



The passage of New Year's Day always brings with it a great deal of reflection—upon the achievements and failures of the past months

and the dedication to those matters that can be improved in the months to come.

With SITM having achieved so much during 2022 (as I highlighted in previous messages), I find myself focusing on our current successes and the induction of a whole new class of members to our club. With the new six members just inducted and those we added in 2022, our Club has blossomed into a diverse

group of women with energy and enthusiasm to perform great works during 2023.

The continued hard work of the Membership Committee and the commitment of the entire club to expand and grow in both our numbers and in our deeds will ensure that we will emerge from the Pandemic and into the new year at a great pace and sure to reach new heights and goals before 2024.

Among other successes, we can look forward to the completion of the new Nepal dormitory and to another "High Tea" before the end of the year. Truly, there is so much that can be accomplished by the club in the upcoming days, and I look forward to the journey.

Laury Macauley, President

## SITM is Proud to Welcome Six New Members

At the January Business meeting, six new members were inducted by Membership Coordinator Valerie Hahn. Pictured here, from left are: Gail Plass, sponsored by Eileen Fuller; Patricia Elam, sponsored by Amanda Brown;

Billie Logan, sponsored by Monica House. Three new members were sponsored by Judge Connie Steinheimer: Marilee Cate, Kimberly Goodnight, and Jocelyn Ostomel.



## Wrapping the Gifts for the Angel Tree Project



*Connie wrapping a pair of slippers.*

Members gathered at Judge Connie Steinheimer's home on December 12 to tackle the wrapping of packages of gifts purchased and donated for 28 students, including siblings, and 12 families, at Hunter Lake Elementary School. Thank you Connie, for providing snacks and beverages.

SITM members, family and friends donated up to \$100 per child the previous month in selecting and purchasing special gifts requested by the children. Members also made cash donations to help with the purchases. The "angels" on the tree, the gathering and wrapping of gifts were organized by Shirley George, Connie Steinheimer, Teresa Mentzer and Monica House.



*Shirley George wraps a shirt.*



*Monica House with her own pile of boxes to wrap, and/or decorate.*

Nevada Retina Associates' Dr. Steve Friedlander and Dr. Elena Geraymovych donated \$1,690 towards SITM's Angel Tree Project. The generous donation was used to buy larger items such as laptops and tablets, along with jackets, clothing, toys and books for several families. Thank you to Nevada Retina Associates for always stepping up to help SITM members bring some holiday joy to these children and families.

All 28 children received hand-knitted hats, donated by Sarah Carrasco, former SI/Reno member Pam Sloan and Yarn Refuge on Lakeridge Court.



*SITM's Elf Dot Watts assembled all of the goodies for the families into festive buckets.*



*Tag-teaming the wrapping was President Laury Macauley and Sarah Carrasco.*



*Gail Plass and Eileen Fuller preparing to wrap presents.*



*Marilee Cate tackles a pile of boxes to wrap, and/or decorate.*



## Nepal Fundraising Goal Met! New Girls Dormitory Being Built!

by Monica House, IGU Coordinator



*Monica House and Connie Steinheimer provided an update on the Nepal project and construction of the new girls' dormitory at the December 15 meeting.*

Great job everyone and a big thank you to all of you who contributed towards the building of the new girls' dormitory in Thulipokhari, Nepal! We just met our fundraising goal of \$80,000 between donations, Soroptimist International grants, past successful fundraisers, and investment growth at the Community Foundation of Northern Nevada.

We are now in the process of building a new girls dormitory with real windows instead of only wood shutters, running water instead of walking down to the stream, bathrooms instead of latrines, electricity and a safe place for our girls to gather on a roof top! What a difference SITM has made and is continuing to make half-way across the world for girls who would most likely never have had access to education without us.



## Delivering Members' Gifts and Handiwork to Hunter Lake Elementary

After the shopping, the sorting, the wrapping, organizing and bundling, came the delivery of packages and family baskets to the students at Hunter Lake Elementary School.

Thanks to Connie Steinheimer and husband Jeff Ostomel, Shirley and Dennis George, and Teresa and Stan Mentzer for their work to load and unload during the delivery to the school.



*Shirley George, Connie Steinheimer and Teresa Mentzer show off just one carload of children's and family gifts for Hunter Lake Elementary.*



*Jeff Ostomel, in the foreground, loads a bicycle requested by one of the children, with Dennis George.*





*Bev Perkins and Patte Robnett in exceptional Christmas garb.*



*Pianist Pam Robinson*

## Getting Into the Holiday Spirit

Members held a singalong at the December 19 meeting. Accompanied by our member pianists Pam Robinson and Liza Chapen, we all sang some popular holiday songs. We were also entertained by members' Happy Dollars as we told stories of current and past holidays.



*Linda Walker and Jeanne Naccarato, in their sparkly attire.*



*Elf on the Shelf Vicki Schultz.*



*Pianist Liza Chapen with Millie Mitchell.*



*Zoom Wranglers Millie Mitchell and Deb Thomas setting up the cameras for the zoomers in attendance.*



*Getting into the holiday spirit were Patte Robnett, Eve Johnson and Debbie Handke..*



*Holly "Reindeer" Nash.*

## January Board & Business Recap

By Faye I. Andersen

Following a whirlwind of business and motions at the December Board and Business Meetings, January saw a quiet, but momentous round of Board and Business Meetings this month.

The Business Meeting was a joyous occasion that included the induction of six new members to SITM. They are: Patricia Elam, owner of Shannon's Personalized Home Cleaning, sponsored by Amanda Brown; Billie Logan, owner of BB Logans, sponsored by Monica House; Gail Plass, artist, sponsored by Eileen Fuller. The following three new members were sponsored by Judge Connie Steinheimer: Marilee Cate, Deputy District Attorney for Washoe County; Kimberly Goodnight, U.S. District Court Attorney; and Jocelyn Ostomel, Deputy District Attorney for Washoe County.

### Don't Forget the January 1 Change in Lunch Price

The start of January, brings a lunch price increase from \$28 to \$30, due to the new contract with the Atlantis. Luncheon costs are now \$30 for cash or checks, or \$31 for use of a credit/debit card.

### Bank Transfer Completed

Service Fund Treasurer announced the transfer of checking, savings, money market and all other accounts have been retransferred to First Independent Bank. Our previous bank was First Citizens.

### Happy Dollars for SI President's December 10th Appeal

A total of \$425 were collected in Happy Dollars throughout the month for the December 10<sup>th</sup> Human Rights Day President's Appeal (2021-2023). The appeal from Soroptimist International President Maureen Maguire is "Opening Doors to a Bright Future" providing projects in each of the five Soroptimist Federations. Projects are already underway in Cambodia and Uganda.

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.

January's Happy Dollars are designated for the Food Bank of Northern Nevada's Golden Groceries program providing fresh and canned/boxed food to food pantries, senior centers and low-income apartments specifically for seniors.

### Membership Changes

The board accepted with regrets the resignation of member Ana Nadimi.

The board also granted a six-month leave of absence through June 30 for Darlene DeLancey, for health reasons.

### Celebrating January Birthdays.



*From left are: Debbie Handke from the Hospitality Committee, Pam Sutton (January 4); Patte Robnett (January 2); and Paula Ringkob (January 7).*



Also celebrating a January birthday was Teresa Mentzer (January 7).

### Save the Date Changed to March 8, 2023 Red Cross Earthquake Preparedness Social

Members and guests are invited to join Annette Friedlander and the Red Cross on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for a social and a program on Earthquake Preparedness.

According to Annette, the program and instructor aren't your typical program. Instead, they raise a lot of questions about what YOU will do before, during and after the various stages of an earthquake

Due to the date change, you still have time to let Annette know of your attendance. There is a space capacity limit. Stand by for any further updates.



**SITM Update**

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

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[www.sitmnev.org](http://www.sitmnev.org)**Board Meets monthly on Tuesday**

following the first Thursday, noon.

**Contributing to this issue**

Laury Macauley

Liza Chapen

Jo Ann Roberts

Margie Hermanson

Connie Steinheimer

Shirley George

Monica House

Jeanne Naccarato

Diana DeMatei

**SITM Board 2021-22****President**

Laury Macauley

**President-Elect**

Sarah Carrasco

**Vice President/Program**

Debera Thomas

**Vice President/****Membership**

Carol Dinneen

**Secretary**

Kay Dunham

**Treasurer/General Fund**

Linda Walker

**Treasurer/Service Fund**

Cindy Burk

**Delegate**

Bev Perkins

**Director**

Valerie Hahn



For information about our organization, check out these Soroptimist Websites:

Sierra Nevada Region: [www.soroptimistsnr.org](http://www.soroptimistsnr.org)Soroptimist International of the Americas: [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)Soroptimist International: [www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org)

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# Did you know . . .

## Domestic Violence Resource Center Services in Reno

Kristin Kennedy, Executive Director of the Domestic Violence Resource Center (formerly known as CAAW) spoke at the January 12 meeting. Kristin gave an overview of how DVRC and its clients weathered the pandemic, it's current level of services and what is being planned for the future.

According to Kirsten, DVRC saw a 35% increase in Hotline calls for advice, referrals, Temporary Protective Orders during the Pandemic. Their temporary shelter was booked 90% of the time and they provided external lodging (767 bed nights) for 369 adults.

DVRC provides a temporary emergency shelter that offers 28 beds for adults and children for up to a three-month stay. They also provide eight, one- and two-bedroom transitional housing units and 12 apartment units for a subsidized rental fee.

Currently, they have partnered with the University of Nevada, Reno and the Our Place organization to launch a feasibility study for shelter expansion.

DVRC is always looking for volunteers and donations. Their clients are welcome to shop at their "store" located at their offices at 1735 Vassar Street in Reno. Check out their website at [www.DomesticViolenceResourceCenter.org](http://www.DomesticViolenceResourceCenter.org) to discover their needs and what kinds of donations are accepted.



Kristin Kennedy