



# SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CARSON CITY HIGHLIGHTS



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## **THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON WOMEN!**

Molly Walt, Coordinator for the Nevada Commission for Women, oversees the budget and operations of the Commission. She organizes programs and activities and develops new programs. The Commission was founded in 1991 as an information clearing house but became inactive in 1992 until 2014 when Governor Sandoval appointed new commissioners. They are all volunteers and equally politically represented. Molly's presentation focused on the mission and goals of the Nevada Commission for Women. Goals for the Commission include increasing the number of women in leadership roles in government through state board and commission applications. The Commission has held two Women's Empowerment Workshops recently to this end. A task force on financial security is addressing affordable childcare and paid leave issues that prevent women from advancing in the work force. A gender equality in the workplace survey is also a goal of the Commission. The Commission was instrumental in the creation of the Contributions of Women in Nevada Exhibit unveiled in the Capitol Breezeway last month. This exhibit entitled "Silver State Sisters – Women Transforming Nevada" documents the role of women. The Grant Sawyer Building currently runs a film daily titled "The Contributions of Women in Nevada. The Commission is now in the planning stages for Nevada's observance of the National Suffrage Centennial in 2020. The event may include a specialty license plate, a Suffrage Parade and a women's conference partnering with the League of Women Voters who will be celebrating 100 years of service. There is also a Susan B Anthony Quilt project. The outreach to collaborate and publicize results is enhanced with Facebook and Twitter. The Commission is not a lobbying effort, however they testify before the legislature in order to provide information to the commissions that support specific bills having to do with women's issues. For more information the results of their surveys can be viewed on the Secretary of State's portal.



Molly Walt, Coordinator for the Nevada Commission on Women with President Mary Luster

### ***SI/Carson City Highlights***

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## **A Message from our President Mary Luster:**

### **“Dream It Be It” and “Live Your Dream”**

You don't have to be in need to have a Dream! We, Soroptimists, had a 'Dream' to be of service to our community by providing programs that help women and girls who are less fortunate **Dream** and **Live their Dreams**.

WHERE DID THE YEAR GO? The holidays are upon us.

### **HONORS ON THE NEXT TEE:**

It is **STILL** not too early to get nominees in to the Foundation Committee for the “Live Your Dream Award” (LYD). This award assists women who provide the primary source of financial support for their families by giving them the resources they need to improve their education, skills and prospect for employment. Live your Dream recipients may use the cash award to offset any costs associated with their efforts to attain higher education and training, such as for books, childcare, tuition or transportation. If you know of some deserving woman (or women), please let the Foundation Committee know. **LET'S MAKE THIS A HOLE IN ONE!**

The Whole Child Committee, I'm Sure, will welcome any ideas on projects for the “Dream It, Be it” Program that mentors and encourages young girls who are potentially at risk to dream big and on how to achieve her dreams.

Congratulations to Judy Smith, the winner of the Joker Pot at our Business Meeting on October 24, 2018!!!!!!!!!!

AAUW (American Association of University Women) will be selling pecans at our Business Meeting on November 12. YUM, YUM!

Dates to Remember:    November 12, 2018, 5:30 pm Board Meeting  
                                 November 14, 2018, noon, Business Meeting  
                                 December 10, 2018, 5:30 pm, Board Meeting (No Program Meeting this month).  
                                 December 12, 2018, noon, Business Meeting (No Program Meeting this month).

**Being All That We Can Be!**

**HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAYS!**

Mary Luster, President



## **The Four Cs: Community, Collaboration, Curriculum & Creativity**



### **Soroptimist International of the Americas**

#### ***Vision:***

Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

#### ***Mission Statement:***

Improving the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world.

#### ***Core Values:***

Soroptimist International of the Americas is committed to:

- Gender Equality: Women and girls live free from discrimination.
- Empowerment: Women and girls are free to act in their own best interest.
- Education: Women and girls deserve to lead full and productive lives through access to education.
- Diversity & Fellowship: Women from varied backgrounds and perspectives work together to improve the lives of women and girls.

## Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevada 2018 Annual Fundraiser



Begun by Soroptimist International of Carson City as the Legal Fund, the project outgrew our club and became the 501(c)(3) non-profit tax-exempt corporation (federal tax ID 86-0857749) now known as Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevada. VARN's mission is to provide programs that assist low-income residents of rural Nevada access the civil legal system including women, children and immigrant victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Soroptimist was honored at the annual fundraiser held at Silver Oak Golf & Event Center on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

. Current Soroptimist members included our President Mary Luster, Immediate Past President Sherry Griffin Grundy and her Soroptimist husband Tom Grundy, Parliamentarian Didi Chaney, Attorney Kristin Luis, and Attorney Jennifer Merideth. We were also pleased to visit with Attorney Sandra Mae Pickens who was a prior Soroptimist president in 1994-95. The silent auction was cutthroat when President Mary outbid Didi on a weather vane that neither ended up with, but President Mary did win a custom wooden wall rack that was crafted by Sandra Mae's husband, Judge John Schlegelmilch! Kristin Luis beat out Mary for a Lakeridge golf foursome. And much to Sherry's chagrin, Tom won a Tahoe Sky glider ride for two. All proceeds from the silent auction and raffles went to benefit VARN.



Jennifer Meredith, Kristin Luis, Sandra Mae Pickens, Didi Chaney, President Mary Luster, Prior VARN Director Sherry Griffin Grundy & Tom Grundy



Didi Chaney, VARN Executive Director Julie Bobzien and President Mary Luster



President Mary Luster and her wall rack.



Our Community Award from VARN



Julie Bobzien and Mary Luster



## **MEMBERSHIP IN SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF CARSON CITY**

Are you interested in joining an organization empowering women and girls? We would love to have you visit one of our program lunches to experience the joy of giving and receiving the benefits of camaraderie and accomplishment in our local community and the joy of enabling and educating to women and girls globally.

We usually meet for Program Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month and invite you to contact our club for a reservation by calling **297-4890**, or you may visit us on our website at [www.sicarsoncity.org](http://www.sicarsoncity.org). You may also email us at [sicarsoncity@gmail.com](mailto:sicarsoncity@gmail.com) for more information.

You will experience an atmosphere of members with the ability to do together what we cannot accomplish alone.

**Disclosure Statement:** Soroptimist International of Carson City is a IRS recognized tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) nonprofit corporation (Federal Tax ID # 88-6004357), formed and operating in the State of Nevada and registered with the Nevada Secretary of State. The organization's primary purposes are to promote and aid charitable, educational, scientific and other exclusively charitable or public endeavors that promote the advancement of women through volunteer service to the community, to serve as a global voice on issues of importance to women, and to engage in any other lawful activities that further the exempt purpose of the Club. Your donation may be tax deductible pursuant to the provisions of section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. § 170(c).



**Soroptimist International of Carson City**  
**PO Box 794**  
**Carson City, NV 89701**

# SIERRA NEVADA REGION DISTRICT MEETING REPORT

The meeting begins with recognition of first time attendees “May your Soroptimist journey continue with the enjoyment of our unique opportunities to do meaningful, life changing work in an atmosphere of fun and friendship” Past District 4 Director Jerri Curradi.

Governor Lane began with her biennial theme of “Heart of the Dream” programs. The future of Soroptimist depends upon our impact, meeting the needs of women and girls, attracting financial support and engaging in the Soroptimist mission. Therefore, her first goal is to retain 100% participation in the Live Your Dream (LYD) program and increase Dream it, Be It (DIBI) participation. Last year’s club participation in DIBI was 18 out of 54 clubs. The Dream programs focus on education because women and girls are victims of gender identity poverty, violence and teen pregnancy. Our Big Goal for the 2021 to 2031 is to invest in one half million women and girls with access to education. The Dream programs also serve to align club, district, region, federation and international focus so that Soroptimist stands for “Dream.” It is suggested that any of our scholarships can be renamed to include the word “dream” in order to identify Soroptimist and its mission. We should also donate in accordance with our mission. Region clubs’ support for Live Your Dream totaled \$101,000 last year and SNR received \$23,000 received from SIA (laurel society and club giving) to support our LYD awards.

The Dress a Girl Around the World project will continue from last year, however it is not a region project. Last year over 4,000 dresses were donated by SNR clubs.

Governor Lane’s second goal is to increase membership and clubs in our region. Clubs need to ask themselves if they are friendly & open, appreciate their members & thank them, provide a comfortable environment and are easy to deal with. We need to say what we mean, but don’t say it mean! We also need to look like the next generation thinks our organization should look like. Recognition and fundraisers will be successful if the above elements are present in our clubs.

A way to achieve our goals is to develop a strategic plan. This is a method of defining and accomplishing where we want to go. A handout is available for clubs to develop a Strategic Plan (Kathy Hudson).

“A dream written down with a date becomes a goal  
A goal broken down into steps becomes a plan,  
A plan backed by action makes your dream come true.”

The Diamond Campaign is focused on maintaining our membership with a less than 1% loss rate, adding 13% new members and losing less than 14% of our members starting with the actual membership in May, 2018. We hope to have 100 new clubs by 2021.

Governor Lane shared pictures and anecdotes about her trip to the SIA convention in Japan. Issues discussed were electronic voting by 2/20 and changing areas so that Taiwan and Korea are separate. These items will be voted upon by clubs in the federation. Three Live Your Dream winners from Afghanistan, Mexico and Canada were awarded \$10,000 each. We are in Area 10 with Founder’s region and Sierra Pacific Region. At the Governor’s Roundtable which trains governors, SIA President Elizabeth Di Geronimo highlighted #spotlightSoroptimist.

The Federation Chairs and SNR Coordinators each presented information:

Membership Chair Trudy Mills focused on the importance of mentorship (mentee driven/mentor guided). CEO = corporate engagement opportunity, presents both fundraising and membership prospects. She is currently working on chartering three new clubs (Las Vegas, California and Northern Nevada) We currently have 35,000 members in our region. Do not forget “friendraisers” which may raise community awareness.

Public Awareness Chair Danielle Kennedy reminded us that the website has been reworked and the only password you need is “1921” for the FOR MEMBERS ONLY area. The rebranding of Soroptimist with the new logo should be completed by 2019 so all clubs should remember their banners. The five star award is also important to share ideas.

Fundraising Chair Julie Curl presented our new Laurel Society pin drawing. She also reminded us of the Planned Monthly Giving program. Founder’s Pennies benefits the dream programs and Club Giving recognition begins at \$500 up to 10% of a fundraiser. There is also a new Soroptimist 101 on the SIA website.

Program Chair Didi Chaney oversees the four areas of program and her team of chairs each presented information on their programs:

Live Your Dream Coordinator Kay Dunham highlighted the new portal and the importance of designating a LYD contact person identified to SIA unless your president prefers to be the contact by default. Comin in 2019, Form 200 in the roster section of the SIA website will also require you to name the SYD contact person. The club toolkit on the SIA website is invaluable and reporting of the club awardee must be accomplished both on the website and by mailing. Maria at SIA in Philadelphia X104 is also an invaluable resource for information.

Dream It, Be It Coordinator Elaine Cassell said the DIBI program focuses on the 4 C's:

- Community (examples include schools, girl scouts, foster care, probation)
- Collaboration (club, other S clubs, high schools, YMCA, Boys & Girls clubs, etc.)
- Curriculum (modules as presented on the SIA website)
- Creativity (target your audience, use movement such as dance, yoga, zumba, etc. and employ diversity in speakers and role models)

Do not forget to obtain background checks and get permission slips to use photographs.

Ruby Award Coordinator Louise Brown notes that this program is an SNR program that promotes public awareness to Soroptimist, enhances membership opportunities and honors the achievements of like-minded women advancing the status of women and girls. Advertising should begin in January and awardees submitted to region by March 1.

Stop Trafficking now has three coordinators: Leslie Brisson for northern Nevada, Jeannie Ferguson for southern Nevada and Joanne Tremmel covers California. There are several programs out there locally supporting our projects: Reno cabs now have the Blue Campaign, the Circle of 6 helps with a telephone numeric password - pick me up, call me, need to talk, Traffickingcam.com has a log of pictures of hotel rooms used by law enforcement to find someone who calls in trouble, and the bartender night or dining campaign wherein a restaurant worker noticing trouble gets a specific signal to call in for help. Joanne's specific updates included backpacks dispersed through Dignity health, sweatshirts to those in protective custody and a clothes closet. The feds are active shutting down social media sites and performing stings. There are now Collaboratives in Davis, Sacramento, Folsom and Yolo involved with CASH – Committee Against Sexual Harm which graduates kids from training to avoid and escape dangerous situations. Rotary and 3 Strands are helping with education with billboards.

Celebrating Success Coordinator Connie Pool stressed that sharing ideas and successes is important since we no longer have Programme Focus reports. The areas of recognition are Membership, Fundraising, Program and the five Star Publicity Award.

Nominating Committee Coordinator Barbara Smiley gave us the November 15<sup>th</sup> deadline to nominate a representative from each district for the 2019-21 bienium.

Our SNR Treasurer Sharon Box reminded all treasurers to go online and change their password for security. Important also is the %))\* to let everyone know about new members. November 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for the IRS 990 in order to maintain non-profit status. SIA dues may also be paid online and SNR will soon follow. She also reminded checking account holders to have two signers on the account. Insurance should also be checked for all events to make sure liability coverage is adequate.

Past Governor Vicki Watson is working on the committee to celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in San Francisco at the Fairmont Hotel (site of the first Soroptimist Convention) under the moniker "Bright past, Brilliant Future." Volunteers will be needed

The Youth Club Scholarship to S Club applicants is no longer supported by SNR and Youth Fund Task Force Member Lisa Fitzgerald reported two recommendations for the the \$10,000 remaining in the account. The funds could be used for creation or expansion of a DIBI program or awarded to a club with an active S club affiliate for a project in alignment with the SIA mission.

Governor-elect Sarah Currasco presented Looking to the Future-Planning Ahead.

SI President Mariet Verhoef-Cohen's Dec 10<sup>th</sup> President's Appeal is Women, Water & Leadership which will include five projects. Currently she has Kenya (500 women in agriculture), Bulgaria (We WASH) and Malaysia (clean water prevented by logging) industry).

We need to engage new members through committees and through attendance at meetings, conferences, the training retreat and conventions. No longer are we restricted to use of our budgets solely for service projects but also to education of our members. The dates of upcoming events are as follows:

SNR Conference 4/26-28/19 Atlantis, Reno Sponsorship opportunities still available!  
*Exciting news:* We will be holding a joint conference with Sierra Pacific Region this coming year!!!  
 Special speakers: Mariet Verhoef-Cohen, SI Pres  
 Cid Panedo, CEO, Children's Fund)

SDR Training	7/27-28/19	Atlantis, Reno
SI Convention	7/18-21/19	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
SIA Convention	7/22-25/20	Bellevue, WA
100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	10/1-3/21	Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco

Danielle Kennedy, Federation Public Awareness Chair, attended all of the fall district meetings and Didi Chaney, Federation Program Chair, attended all except District 1.



District 2 Meeting in Woodland,



District 3 Meeting in Sacramento, CA



District 4 Meeting in Roseville, CA



District 5 Meeting in South Lake Tahoe, CA



Our club often attends District 5 meetings because they are in Northern Nevada; and, this year the meeting was hosted by South Lake Tahoe, so Jean Bondiatt attended from our club.



Both Jean Bondiatt and Danielle Kennedy won raffle gifts at District 5 Meeting!



The District 6 Meeting was held in Las Vegas this year, and President Mary represented SI Carson City at left receiving our Live Your Dream 2017-18 Certificate from District 6 Director Stacey Yurmanovic-Sawyer. Our Sierra Nevada Region had 100% participation this year!

**Stayed tuned!**  
**More pix to come next month!**





# SIA Club Roadmap

## For Success in 2018-2019

SIA's clubs are committed to providing an engaging and meaningful, mission-based experience. But, of course, our members are busy women. And serving women and girls who face obstacles such as poverty, violence and teen pregnancy—locally and throughout the world—can be a tall order.

To make it easier to accomplish our organization's goals we have developed this simple club road map for your use. In order to provide a positive club experience while helping to build our collective impact and recognition, clubs are asked to do these five things:

- 1 Programs**  
Increase the number of women and girls your club serves by providing additional *Live Your Dream Awards* and holding *Dream It, Be It* programs.
- 2 Membership**  
Grow and retain members by creating an enjoyable and civil member experience.
- 3 Public Awareness**  
Gain greater recognition by promoting your club's impact through our Dream Programs.
- 4 Fundraising**  
Increase funds raised to support our brand unifying Dream Programs.
- 5 Future**  
Mobilize support of our 2021-2031 Big Goal: *Invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education.*

**That's it! If your club does these five simple things, we guarantee you will be providing a superior member experience, fulfilling our mission, and strengthening Soroptimist's global brand.**

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**For more ideas on how to accomplish the five strategies on this roadmap, please consult the following resources:**

- [Soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/program-resources/index.html](http://Soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/program-resources/index.html)
- [Soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/for-clubs/index.html](http://Soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/for-clubs/index.html)
- [Soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/federation-information/recognition-and-branding-tools/index.html](http://Soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/federation-information/recognition-and-branding-tools/index.html)
- [Soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/donate/index.html](http://Soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/donate/index.html)
- [Soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/federation-information/sias-big-goal/index.html](http://Soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/federation-information/sias-big-goal/index.html)



**Welcome back to the Board!**  
**Cynthia Bunt replaces Pat Hinkley as Director for the 2018-19 year.**

**Gossip Column:** (We don't repeat gossip, so listen well the first time!)

**(October 10, 2018):**

**Dianne** Hilliard was carrying her handicapped dog to a picnic area and slipped and fell in wet grass while going down a slight hill. She didn't realize the grass was wet. It happened in one second, literally. The dog fortunately is ok but alas, she is not. Amazing how such a severe break can happen so quickly from one simple fall.

**Joan** Andreas' husband, Gary, is getting a hip replacement today, so Joan's got an excuse for missing the meeting!

**Mert (Marilyn)** Lewis has been busy with her daughter, Juliana, with doctors' appointments and she will be moving here in December.

**Jean** Bondiatt returned from a road trip to Death Valley where she and her husband, Bob, camped for 5 days, but failed to find a campsite in the Valley of Fire, so they rented a motel in mesquite while it rained. On the return trip they saw a colorful, cone-shaped light in the sky that happened to be the rocket launch of SpaceX in Southern California.

**Jennifer** Rust traveled to Amsterdam, then onto Bordeaux, France where they drove around and drank wine. They climbed the largest sand dune in Europe and then ended up in Paris.

**Mary** Luster can't seem to go anywhere without her kids tagging along but has a lot of fun on road trips, so her next adventure will be to District 6 Meeting in Las Vegas with the family in tow.

**(October 24, 2018):**

**Loretta** Roche's Joker Pot ticket number got called and she didn't realize it and then . . .

**Judy** Smith's number got called and she won our Joker Pot of \$578!!!

Her son is in Thailand for 3 weeks taking massage classes.

**Jean** Bondiatt attended the District 5 Meeting in South Lake Tahoe and won a raffle gift basket.

**Mary** Luster has the wedding dress shopping blues – her granddaughter has picked out three dresses she loves!

**Mert (Marilyn)** Lewis' younger brother, Dick with Alzheimer's, passed away on Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Kristin** Luis is on a field trip with her daughter, so she's excused.

**Ava** Atkins won a Christmas bow raffle gift.

**Loretta** Roche won a Christmas pin raffle gift.

It's never too late to be happy.  
But it's all up to you and no one else.



**Our Adopt-A-Senior Program through the Carson City Senior Center.**

For approximately the past 4 years, we have received a list of homebound seniors and their wish list of two gifts (typically around \$20). As soon as the list is received, Dixie Bush will forward it to all club members. If you wish to help make Christmas a little more cheerful for these seniors, just choose a name, a first and/or second gift and forward the information to Dixie. It is completely voluntary. A drop off location will be designated, and around the time of our Christmas Party, the gifts will be picked up and delivered to the Senior Center for distribution to them. Last year over 450 gifts were provided as well as food to these homebound seniors.

### **Birthdays:**

Marilyn Lewis

Nov 26

### **Soroptimist Anniversaries**

Lila Brown  
Paula Guzman

Nov 1973  
Nov 2012

### **Anniversaries:**

#### **Club Meeting Calendar:**

November 12<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Meeting  
5:30pm Ciynthia Bunt's office  
All Members Welcome!  
November 14<sup>th</sup> 12:00 noon - Business Meeting  
Members Only – No Guests

## **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

#### **Mark Your Calendars: Region, Federation & International**

April 27-29, 2019	Sierra Nevada Region Conference
Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>	District 6 Meeting in Las Vegas
July 27-28 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Soroptimist Development Retreat
July 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	SIA Convention, Bellevue, WA
July 18-19 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	SI Convention Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Oct 2-3, 2021	Our SIA 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday "Bright Past, Brilliant Future"

#### **SI/Carson City**

#### **Statistics (10/24/18):**

# of Regular Members	31
# of Active Life Members	4
Total Membership	35

#### **Our Life Members:**

Joan Andreas  
Ava Atkins  
Lila Brown  
Arlene Schreiber

#### **Our Legacy Members:**

Joan Andreas  
Marilyn Lewis

#### **November**

National American Indian Heritage Month  
National Novel Writing Month  
Aviation Month  
Good Nutrition Month  
National Epilepsy Month  
Latin American Month  
Hunger Awareness Month  
National Peanut Butter Lover's Month  
National Diabetes Awareness Month  
National Red Ribbon Month (anti-drunkdriving)  
National Stamp Collecting Month  
National Georgia Pecan Month  
National Pepper Month  
National Raisin Bread Month  
Vegan Awareness Month

#### **Our Laurel Society Members:**

Joan Andreas	Danielle Kennedy
Ava Atkins	Marilyn Lewis
Jean Bondiott	Maudie Long
Lila Brown	Mary Luster
Dixie Busch	Nita Montgomery
Didi Chaney	Karen Peterson
Dianne Hilliard	Pat Riggs
Arlene Schreiber	

#### **Who's Who in 2018-19:**

SI President	Mariel Verhof-Cohen
SIA President	Elizabeth DiGeronimo
SNR Governor	Lane Parks
SNR Gov-Elect	Sarah Currasco
District VI Director	Stacy Yurmanovic-Sawyer

#### **Websites:**

[www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org)

[www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)

<http://www.soroptimistsummary.org/> (SIA Monthly Newsletter)

[www.soroptimistsnr.org](http://www.soroptimistsnr.org)

[www.sicarsoncity.org](http://www.sicarsoncity.org)

#### **Username:**

Member

SIA member number

(SIA Monthly Newsletter)

(none needed)

(none needed)

#### **Password:**

Cambridge

click "forgot password" to get an email to create/change password

Roster Password =1921

\* **NEW** =

**Visit us on Facebook!**

**JUST A REMINDER: Please RSVP for Wednesdays' lunches by noon on Monday to [spinsbabe@aol.com](mailto:spinsbabe@aol.com) or [scarsoncity@gmail.com](mailto:scarsoncity@gmail.com) or (775) 267-4901 !**