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# Happenings



**PRESIDENT SUE**

**CELEBRATING MAY**

May is a time for celebrating our mothers and other important women in our lives. I was recently privileged to share in honoring several such deserving women at the SNR Conference in Reno. It was amazing to hear these powerful stories and see the real impact of the hard work of Soroptimists throughout our region. I was so proud to enjoy this day with SIGLV region Live Your Dream Award recipient Shantel McCoy and over 294 Soroptimist members from Southern Nevada through Northern California.

SIGLV was also honored to receive the following regional awards: (1) website (first place), (2) social media (third place), (3) SOLT (honorable mention), and (4) programming (Break these Chains with other So. NV clubs – third place). Way to go SIGLV!! So proud of us!!

These next coming months, as SIGLV is readying for new officers to talk the lead, we are already planning our next club retreat and have new officer installation scheduled. We are also still completing some of our service projects. Check out [soroptimistgreaterlasvegas.org](http://soroptimistgreaterlasvegas.org) for more information as well as other SIGLV volunteer opportunities.

Let's keep on "Making It Happen!"

**SIGLV Installation of Officers -**  
**"Reaching Out, Bringing In"**

**Saturday, June 27, 5:30 pm**  
**Desert Pines Golf Club**  
**\$25**



**SIGLV Provides Financial Support to SI TRUCKEE MEADOWS NEPAL Earthquake Relief. Fund**

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows has been established a special fund for their longstanding project with Thulipokhari, Nepal to provide additional assistance to the village due to the recent earthquake damage. They have been supporting the developing country for the last 14 years, sending money and supplies.

Almost 3000 homes were destroyed in the district where they helped build and now maintains a school dormitory for girls. Fortunately, the dorm sustained hardly any damage and will be able to be used.

SITM has been in contact with the village elders and the directors of the school and a disaster relief committee has been formed. The committee will be responsible for making sure that the funds sent are used equitably and help those most in need.

SITM has sent an initial \$3,000. The money will be used to purchase blankets, food, food for animals and plastic for make-shift shelters. Our club has sent \$500 to SITM's Nepal Disaster Relief Project.

To read more about SITM's involvement with the village of Thulipakori go to <http://sitmnv.org/>.

*NOTE from SI HQ: SIGBI Federation President Jenny Vince has confirmed that contact has been made with members of Kathmandu Club, who are safe, but devastated.*

*SIGBI has now sent £4,000 from the Emergency Relief Fund to Save the Children. The SIGBI Emergency Relief Fund is a UK registered charity, and SIGBI will be able to track all donations for Nepal and channel them through charities working on the ground, as advised by members in SI Kathmandu and with charities the Federation has partnered with previously, such as the International Red Cross and the Save the Children Fund.*

# SIGLV RESOURCE PAGE



## Club Board 2014-2015

President: Sue Trazig Cavaco  
 Pres-Elect: Diana Walla  
 Vice-President: Jer Roberson-Strange  
 Treasurer: Trude McMahan  
 Secretary: Maffy Forrester  
 Director: Amber Schrock  
 Delegate 1 yr: Melissa McDonald  
 Delegate 2 yr: Esther Gregurek  
 Past President: Kim Harney-Moore  
 Parliamentarian: Catherine Bellver

Committees are on [website](#),  
 Member Only Tab

## SI Greater Las Vegas

*New club address:*

PO Box 93744  
 Las Vegas, NV 89193-3744

**E-mail:**

[sigreaterlasvegas@soroptimist.net](mailto:sigreaterlasvegas@soroptimist.net)

**Facebook:**

[Soroptimist International of Greater Las Vegas](#)

**Website:**

[soroptimistgreaterlasvegas.org](http://soroptimistgreaterlasvegas.org)

**Answer phone:**

702-876-0454

### MEETINGS:

1st and 3rd Thursdays; 11:45 am,  
 Desert Pines Golf Club,  
 3415 Bonanza Road  
 Las Vegas, NV 89101  
 (across from Clark County Family Court)

**E-Newsletter published on the 10th of each month and sent via your preferred email.**

Committee Contact Lois Sagel  
[soroptimist.glv@cox.net](mailto:soroptimist.glv@cox.net)



Sierra Nevada Region  
[www.soroptimistsnr.org](http://www.soroptimistsnr.org)



Soroptimist Int. of the Americas (SIA)  
[www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)



Soroptimist International (SI)  
[www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org)

## Club Board 2015-2016

President: Diana Walla  
 Pres-Elect: Trude McMahan  
 Vice-President: Alicia Davisson  
 Treasurer: Melissa McDonald  
 Secretary: Catherine Bellver  
 Director: Susie Magit  
 Delegate 1 yr: Esther Gregurek  
 Delegate 2 yr: Sue Cavaco  
 Past President: Sue Trazig Cavaco  
 Parliamentarian: Barbara Agonia

Committees will be posted on [website](#)  
 Members Only Tab



Lois has been elected to the Soroptimist - Sierra Nevada Region Nominating Committee! Congratulations Lois! Here she is pictured with Governor Jackie.

# Bears & Binkies Picnic

What better way to celebrate National Volunteer Week than celebrating our commitment to service by volunteering at East Valley Family Services' annual Bears & Binkies Reunion Picnic in May.

For the past several years, our members have donated to one of the most popular events at the picnic, the cakewalk, and have volunteered our services at the registration table.

This year, we made the event an official service project of SIGLV and expanded our commitment to include hosting a make and take craft table where children made a caterpillar or butterfly work of art with their fingerprints.

The picnic honors those parents and children who have worked hard during the year in programs at East Valley Family Services to develop skills to strengthen rather than abuse each other. This event coincides with National Child Abuse Prevention month.



# What's Happening:

## BOARD NOTES:

Our board meetings are open to all members.

- May 21: Program: Getting to know EVFS programs
- May 30: SIGLV Board Meeting, 10 am @ Sue's home
- June 4: SIGLV Business Meeting, Committee reports– Technical Committees
- June 18: SIGLV Continuation of Business Meeting– Program Committees
- June 27: SIGLV Installation of Officers, Desert Pines Golf Club
- June 28: Joint Board Meeting 2 pm location tba
- July 2: First Business Meeting of 2015-2016 club year, welcome President Diana

## BUSINESS MEETING ACTIONS:

(First Thursday of each month) next mtg June

### Actions:

- \* *Presidents Appeal: Go Solar generated \$140 in donations*
- \* *Club voted to send \$500 to support SITM Nepal Earthquake fund.*
- \* *SIGLV was approved for the Soroptimist Endowment \$500 Fund Grant from SNR for the Southern Nevada clubs to print 10,000 brochures for Break These Chains*
- \* *Thanks to Misty for helping us obtain a grant from Allstate Insurance!*
- \* *SIGLV Board for 2015-2016 were elected by acclamation.*

# COMMITTEE ACTION:

**Program Speaker: May 21** We've worked in partnership with East Valley Family Services for many years. Now is your chance to see the bigger picture and the way our community benefits. Bring a Friend!-



**Break These Chains: Save the date– January 9, 2016** for Human Trafficking Awareness Day event at the Fremont Street Experience. Also BTC would like to thank SIGLV and the three other Southern Nevada Soroptimist clubs for the funding from the SNR Endowment fund to print our revised brochure and big thanks to Kathy for writing the grant.

**Service:** With the cancelation of Senior Stars for this year, the club voted that the items collected be donated to the 52 women in the Senior Share Nutrition Program at East Valley Family Services and to the 32 women students participating in The Women's Research Institute of Nevada's NEWLeadership this year. A goodie bag stuffing party will be scheduled soon. It was also recommended by the committee and voted on by the club that the bingo equipment purchased at the amount of \$287.48 be donated to East Valley Family Services and remain available to SIGLV for use at any time.

**Fundraising: Save The Date!** The venue has been secured for next year's Sweet Fantasy! We will once again be hosting our annual fundraiser at Silverstone Golf Club. They have generously offered us their great facility at the same special rate as this year's event. Put Sweet Fantasy in your calendar now for Sunday, February 28, 2016.



**Finance: DUES are DUE!** Dues for the coming year are \$200 and must be received prior to June 30. Half can be paid now, with balance due by 12/15.

**E-Newsletter: June 5 is our next newsletter deadline.** We encourage each committee to share their activities and updates.

**Public Relations:** Members are encouraged to peruse the Soroptimist International of the Americas and Soroptimist International Greater Las Vegas Facebook pages and "like" them. This is important for grant funding. Remember you don't have to be a Facebook member to view the page!

**Website: Visit our new website** "[soroptimistgreaterlasvegas.org](http://soroptimistgreaterlasvegas.org)" Remember to sign in so you can access the "member" section. Melissa will provide your password.

**Teens Helping Teens,** our Regional Violet Richardson awardee, will be the recipient of 17 fleece blankets donated by volunteers in the club. We're so happy to support these amazing young women who live to provide service to homeless teens.



MARK IT NOW!

# Club Meetings, Special Events

## MEETING CALENDAR

Club:  
1st & 3rd Thursdays @  
11:45 am

**Soroptimist International Convention:** July 9-12, 2015, Istanbul, Turkey. Amazing opportunity to visit with our entire global membership! Follow the Convention via their [website](#): 2019 will be in Malaysia

**SIA 44th Biennial Convention:** July 20-23, 2016. Walt Disney World Dolphin Hotel Orlando, FL

**SNR Conference:** Next year, April 2016 Atlantis, Reno

**SNR: Soroptimist Development Retreat (SDR):** July 25-26, 2015, Atlantis, Reno

**UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS:** May 21, Kim; May 25, Karen; May 31 Dr Mary;

**SHOUT OUT:** Kim and hubby off to spend four days at the beach watching their granddaughter. Trude off to Mexico and Sue off to Hawaii in June. Claire back in town again! Melissa, Barbara, Maffy, Diane, Lois and Shirley made 17 quilts! What fun supporting Teens Helping Teens! Lt Karen retiring from LVMPD after 30 years of service. Proud of her dedication.

SPECIAL EVENTS



### Sierra Nevada Region Conference

April 24-26 2015

Atlantis, Reno

President Sue, P-Elect Diana, Delegate Melissa, Member Susie, Chantel (our LYD Awardee) Gov Jackie, SI LVV Sarah, and SIA Pres-elect RoseMarie Reid

MEMBER NEWS





# potential club program/ workshops:

## Programme Topics for SI Convention. Reports available at or during the Convention.

### Education

#### Educate to Lead: Far we've come, far we need to go

Since the first Sorooptimist International Convention in 1930, Sorooptimists have gone through many national and international upheavals and yet their determination remained unshaken and their projects continued. What has all the chaos of the 20th century taught us about resilience? How should we further develop the Educate to Lead concept to inspire momentum and engage new generations?

### Education

#### The power of a second chance

Women who have not been able to complete their education due to economic constraints, violence in the family, forced migration, and many other reasons, can reclaim their independence through different types of continuing education programs. Is it ever too late to go to school?

### Cross-cutting theme

#### Women and Islam

This session aims to correct the misconceptions and misperceptions often held of women in Muslim societies. It will discuss their values, their cultural diversity, their identities. It will recognise the many different roles and types of influence women have in their communities.

### Women's Economic Empowerment

#### Responsible leadership in times of crisis

Women are often under-represented in decision-making processes or completely excluded from them. But what kind of a world would we be living in if they weren't? Do men and women make the same types of decisions in crises and under pressure?

### Advocacy – Workshop

#### Making your voice heard at the local, national and international levels!

This workshop aims to provide participants with concrete tools and tips for becoming effective advocates for women's rights at the local, national and international levels. Is there any connection between lobbying a local/national government and an international institution?

### Programme – Workshop

#### Projects: From design to delivery

Designing and implementing a project is never easy. Projects vary vastly, as do circumstances. With so much accumulated experience and knowledge among our members, the best we can do is simply share with each other. How do we execute every stage of the

project successfully – from identifying the need to monitoring results?

### Cross-cutting theme

#### The United Nations and us: From vision to action

What place do women's issues have at the United Nations today compared to 20 years ago? What are the main current and emerging issues related to women at the UN? Is NGO participation in UN processes really meaningful? How can Sorooptimists influence the global agenda?

### Violence Against Women

#### Defeating Violence!

Violence against women is shaped by social, political, economic, and legal factors in complex ways but it is always rooted in the unequal power relations between men and women. The phenomenon remains widespread but it still poorly understood. Sorooptimist International of Europe, together with SIGBI and with the support of the United Nations, is launching a project entitled Defeating Violence! What's the project all about and how can you contribute?

### Violence Against Women

#### Slavery in the 21st century: The realities of human trafficking

Trafficking in human beings is a critical problem and a form of modern-day slavery. What are the realities victims face? What can Sorooptimists from source, transit and destination countries do to help prevent trafficking?

### Education

#### Education: A right not a privilege (Lifelong education)

Education is not a privilege – it's a fundamental human right. Without education, all other human rights are at risk. How can we ensure that women, at all stages of their life, enjoy their right to education?

### Women's Economic Empowerment

#### The endless labyrinth to capital

To this day, women are struggling to gain access to capital. While this discriminatory situation continues, new opportunities are arising. What kind of financial support is available for women today? Is this a problem confined to developing countries?

### Health

#### Staying in good health in the 21st century

Is modern life good for our health? As we live longer, do we necessarily live better? What kind of an environment should we nurture to improve our quality of life?

### Poverty and prosperity: Do women have the right rights?

Changes in national and international laws and policies can have a huge impact on the lives of women and girls. What can Sorooptimists do locally, nationally and internationally to help close the gaps in women's rights?

### Women's Economic Empowerment

#### Innovative strategies for empowering women

In recent years, sets of binding human rights, labour, and anti-corruption standards for businesses have been developed by international institutions and governments. Many companies are also involved in voluntary corporate social responsibility initiatives. Does businesses really believe in CSR and women's empowerment?

### Cross-cutting theme – Interactive session

#### Social entrepreneurs: When business meets social needs

Social entrepreneurs can be seen as drivers of social innovation and transformation. They have a pragmatic vision of business that focuses on the creation of social value. What can we, as grassroots actors, learn from this innovative way of doing business?

### Programme – Workshop

#### Media & Communications

How can we use media and social media to promote the work of our members and to make Sorooptimist a strong and recognizable brand? Can there be a thriving Sorooptimist International without an effective, modern, and far-reaching media and communications strategy?

### Cross-cutting theme

#### Listening to the voices of the future!

With the world changing as fast as it is today, we can no longer continue this journey on our own. We must listen to younger generations to understand what they see as priorities for the future. In this closing session, we listen to the voices of the future.

Advocacy