

# SOROPTIMIST SPOTLIGHT

ISSUE 45, VOLUME 11

MAY 2016



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CALENDAR

NOTE: EVENING AND MORNING TIMES ARE SHADED IN ORANGE

**MAY 2016**

- 5/5 Noon Board Meeting @ TDPUD  
Conference Room, Brown Bag
- 5/12 Noon Business Meeting @ Zano’s,  
\$15 lunch/\$2 no lunch

**JUNE 2016**

- 6/2 Noon Board Meeting @ TDPUD  
Conference Room, Brown Bag
- 6/4 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wine Tasting &  
Restaurant Faire @ Coyote Moon**
- 6/9 Noon Business Meeting @ Zano’s,  
\$15 lunch/\$2 no lunch
- 6/16 **6-8 PM 2016-17 Board Installation**  
*@ the home of Lynette Powell, \$20*



Each year, members of Soroptimist International of Truckee-Donner honor outstanding students from both Tahoe Truckee and Sierra high schools. The students are chosen by their teachers in recognition of their diligence and responsive positive attitude in a particular area of study. Characteristics of the selected student demonstrate dependability, regular class attendance, a willingness to always go beyond what is expected and just being a joy to be around.

Foreign exchange students are also recognized for having achieved many goals by applying and being accepted as exchange students in this country and in our town.

The Youth Appreciation Luncheon began with Soroptimist members interviewing the honorees followed by briefly introducing each student to the entire club. Congratulations to a very fine group of young adults! Special thanks go to event coordinator, Erika Murphy and to President Francine for facilitating. This year’s luncheon was held April 21 at noon in Zano’s restaurant. Zano’s signature pizzas and salads were served.

**2015-2016 Officers & Board**

**President:** Francine Tone  
**President Elect:** Leslie Dugger  
**Recording Secretary:** Sue Sage  
**Correspondence Secretary:** Pam English  
**Treasurer:** Nancy Davis  
**Treasurer-Elect:** Constance Ledna  
**Directors:** Linnis Jellinek, Lauren Schaaque-Hudson  
**Delegates:** Susan Horst, Cathy Leibow  
**Parliamentarian:** Pati Johnson

**SI Truckee Donner Contact Details**

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[info@sitruckeedonner.org](mailto:info@sitruckeedonner.org)  
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**feedback, or to subscribe or unsubscribe,**  
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**Soroptimist International**

SI is a worldwide organization for women in management and professions, working through service projects to advance human rights and the status of women.

**Soroptimist International (SI)**  
[www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org)  
**Soroptimist Internat'l of the Americas (SIA)** [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)  
**Soroptimist Sierra Nevada Region (SNR)**  
[www.soroptimistsnr.org](http://www.soroptimistsnr.org)

*May Birthdays*

- 5/5 Leslie Williams
- 5/15 Linnis Jellinek
- 5/18 Lenni Charter
- 5/23 Joan Kreamer
- 5/25 Constance Ledna
- 5/28 Anita Spencer

**President Francine's Message of the Month**

Seldom does our Region revise the entirety of the Bylaws such that the entire document has to be read, section by section, considered, and voted on by the delegates. But this was a highlight at this year's Region Conference, putting to test the diligence and alertness of all delegates and members present. We had some lively debate over several motions to amend the proposed Bylaws. Some amendments passed while others did not. Perhaps the most important part of the entire process was developing awareness about how the Region works in relation to the Federation above and the District and Clubs within. We also saw Roberts Rules of Order working effectively to manage a lot of information in a short period of time, and permit delegates to speak in an orderly fashion.

The most important and lasting impact of what occurred at Conference was confirmation that leadership skills must be developed and honed continuously at all levels. I observed different styles and levels of leadership skills from a variety of individuals. This confirmed our individual need to continuously develop and hone leadership skills at all times. Just when you think you understand leadership or have leadership skills, it's time to launch into more education and development. Conference is a great opportunity to observe a variety of leadership development and learn.

*"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."*  
 –John F. Kennedy

If Conference is a great place to observe and learn leadership in action, imagine the resources for development at CONVENTION (SIA Convention July 20-23, 2016 in Orlando, Florida-see SIA website for details).

Leadership skills are valuable in our personal and business lives. The Soroptimist organization, from club to the international level, is a safe environment where you can develop and hone your skills. I hope each of you will find many opportunities to develop and hone your leadership skills within our Club structure and perhaps beyond.

*If you would like to submit an article, photo or information for the "Spotlight", please email [85ski@suddenlink.net](mailto:85ski@suddenlink.net). Our submission deadline is the 20th of the month for the following month's issue. We reserve the right to edit material for length and content. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this publication. However, SITD cannot guarantee the accuracy of this information and hereby expressly disclaims any responsibility for errors.*



Soroptimist International of Truckee Donner 2015-2016

Artwork by Linda Carmel © [www.lindacarmel.com](http://www.lindacarmel.com)

*To handle yourself, use your head;*

*To handle others, use your heart.*

*--Eleanor Roosevelt*

**Sierra Nevada Region Conference Highlights**

**SITD** members President Francine Tone, Delegates Susan Horst and Kathy Neus, Recording Secretary Sue Sage, Correspondence Secretary Pam English, Past President Leslie Williams, club members Janet Mills and Mary Meier participated in an informative and fun-filled weekend at the 40th Sierra Nevada Region Annual Conference held April 29-May 1 at the Atlantis Casino and Resort in Reno. SNR Governor Jackie DeMartini artfully facilitated a weekend of activities ranging from revising SNR’s Bylaws, electing a new slate of SNR Board of Directors, celebrating our award winners and listening to inspiring keynote speakers. Our own SIA Past President Poco was a delightful addition as she shared her story as SIA President and also assisted with the Installation of the 2017-2018 Board of Directors. Saturday evening featured a Grand March of dignitaries and superb entertainment by the Ghost of Mark Twain, McAvoy Layne.

**The** Soroptimist Story of changing the world for women and girls continues to demand our collective impact and is at the forefront of all we do as Soroptimist. As SIA Delegate, Dona Gaddis Wolf reminded us, ‘Single actions might not look like much, but when you get a lot of them together, they add up to an impressive amount.... Soroptimist has all the elements of a great story. We have the history, focus, passion and experience to make dreams come true. In the spirit of ... every member, woman and girl our organization has ever touched --let’s change the story for the world’s women and girls.’

**Kindness is Contagious: Catch It!**



### Poverty: Perception Versus Reality

In the early 1990's, the World Bank tried a new approach in their attempts to alleviate world poverty: they started consulting with the real experts on poverty—the poor themselves. Over 60,000 people from sixty low-income countries were asked the basic question: 'What is poverty?' The results were published in a three-volume series of books entitled 'Voices of the Poor.' Here are some samples of how the poor describe poverty:

**From Guinea-Bissau:** *'When I don't have any [food to bring my family], I borrow, mainly from neighbors and friends. I feel ashamed standing before my children when I have nothing to help feed the family. I'm not well when I'm unemployed. It's terrible.'*

**From Cameroon:** *'[The poor have] a feeling of powerlessness and an inability to make themselves heard.'*

**From Uganda:** *'When one is poor, she has no say in public. She feels inferior. She has no food, so there is famine in her house; no clothing, and no progress in her family.'*

**From Moldova:** *'For a poor person everything is terrible—illness, humiliation, shame. We are cripples; we are afraid of everything; we depend on everyone. No one needs us. We are like garbage that everyone wants to get rid of.'*

North American audiences tend to describe poverty quite differently, emphasizing a lack of material things, such as food, money, clean water, medicine, housing and so on. While poor people mention having a lack of material things, they typically focus on their sense of shame, inferiority, powerlessness, humiliation, fear, hopelessness, social isolation, and voicelessness. People whose lives are steeped in poverty don't just need a hand-out or material things from well-meaning others, but rather the tools to elevate their feelings of helplessness and self-worth.

As Soroptimist, our **Dream Programs** look beyond the urgent to permanently raise women and girls out of the endless cycle of poverty through social and economic empowerment. The **Dream Programs of Soroptimist** ensure women and girls have access to the education and training they need to reach their full potential and live their dreams. Soroptimist is committed to investing in programs that have a *sustainable, measurable change for women and girls*.

#### Live Your Dream: Education and Training Awards for Women

Our organization's major project, this program (formerly the Women's Opportunity Awards program) assists women by giving them the resources they need to improve their education, skills and job prospects.

#### Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls

This new global program provides girls in secondary school with access to professional role models, career education and the resources to live their dreams.

live  
**YOUR**  
dream  
education & training awards for women

DREAM IT \* BE IT  
CAREER SUPPORT  
{for girls}



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