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President's Column

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed individuals can change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead

December 10 is Human Rights Day, which Soroptimists celebrate by donating to the International President's Appeal. International President Yvonne Simpson

has designated "Educate to Lead: Nepal" as the 2015-2017 focus. Three projects will receive grants to increase access to education, enabling women and girls to rebuild their lives following the earthquakes in early 2015.

SI Oita-Midori, Japan Minami Region, has been helping Tharu women for over twenty years. The club built a training center and began literacy classes and other skills training. The grant will be used to begin a computer literacy program, with a goal of training 200 women in five years.

The second grant will be used in the Lower Solu Khumbu (Everest) region to provide training for 100 teachers. Gender sensitivity training will create awareness of gender issues across the region. Fourteen vocational training scholarships will be available for high school age girls.

SI Truckee Meadows has been helping girls in Thulipokhari by building a dormitory and funding scholarships for girls to attend school. They have continued to fund improvements and over 900 girls have graduated from the program. Their grant from the President's appeal will fund tuition, room & board, books, supplies and uniforms for twenty girls for two years.

All three of these projects were started by a "small group of thoughtful, committed individuals" who are changing the world, one person at a time. I urge all of you to help provide opportunities for the women and girls in Nepal to become agents of change in their communities. **President Trude**

Highlights

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United Nations Messengers of Peace are distinguished individuals, carefully selected from the fields of art, literature, science, entertainment, sports or other fields of public life, who have agreed to help focus worldwide attention on the work of the United Nations. Backed by the highest honour bestowed by the Secretary-General on a global citizen, these prominent personalities volunteer their time, talent and passion to raise awareness of United Nations efforts to improve the lives of billions of people everywhere.



**Coming January 2017
Distinguished Speaker Program
Thursday, January 19**

Awaiting confirmation

**Coming February 2017
Distinguished Speaker Program
Thursday, February 16**

Emily Paulsen, Exec. Director of the Nevada Homeless Alliance, has confirmed that she will speak at our February Program meeting. She will talk about the organization in general, but their May event dedicated to women and families in particular. The club has decided to partner with them on this May event.

**Do Not miss these dynamic speakers
11:45 AM
Desert Pines Golf Club**



Club Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursdays @ 11:45 am, Desert Pines Golf Club lunch \$19.

**Dec 1 Business Meeting:
Dec 15 Ornament Exchange/
Presidents Appeal**

Board Meeting: Dec 31, 10 AM at Soroptimhouse. members are invited to attend and take part in the discussions.

SNR Conference: April 28-30, 2017 Atlantis Hotel, Reno.

SIA Convention: July 30-Aug 2, 2018 Yokohama Japan
S International Convention, July 2019, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

Announcing Sweet Fantasy, Sunday, Feb 12, 2017,

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Club Resource Page

Club Board 2016-2017

President: Trude McMahan
 Vice President: Esther Gregurek
 Secretary: Catherine Bellver
 Treasurer: Barbara Agonia
 Director: Nancy Hippert
 IPP: Diana Walla
 2 year Delegate: Susie Magit
 1 year Delegate: Sue Cavaco

Committees LIST will be on [Website](#)
 Member Only Tab



SIGLV Social: Signature Christmas Musical Dec 2. Members plus two guests! We've got Spirit, yes we do!

SI Greater Las Vegas
 3411 Frontier St
 Las Vegas, NV 89102

E-mail:
sigreaterlasvegas@soroptimist.net

Facebook:
[Soroptimist International of Greater Las Vegas](#)

Website:
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

Linda Arlt, past SIGLV member and a McD franchise family, helped us obtain 100 \$5 gift cards for THT, all in a day! Retired now, her life includes much travel. We're grateful for her friendship!



Birthday:
 Jan 8 Kathy



Sierra Nevada Region (SNR)
www.soroptimistsnr.org

"People are homeless, hungry and sick. Somebody should do something about this. Be somebody"

Bonnie Brady



Soroptimist Int. of the Americas (SIA)
www.soroptimist.org



Soroptimist International (SI)
www.soroptimistinternational.org

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Committees plus This and That....

BREAKFAST BUDDIES: Dec 16, EVFS 8:30 am – noon

December 15 SIGLV Annual Ornament Exchange and President Appeal. Bring a wrapped item to exchange and your donation to assist girls in Nepal (year 2 of 2).

Break These Chains: Melissa informed members the trafficking awareness planned for **January 21** WILL be held at the Las Vegas Fremont Experience.

Dream It, Be It! The 2017 Dream It, Be It: Career Support event will occur on April 17 at Mater Academy, a charter school in Las Vegas. Thirty-one eighth grade girls will participate in this all day conference, co-sponsored by SIGLV, SIMLV, and SILVV. A planning meeting for all people interested in participating will be scheduled in January after the Break These Chains Live Free event. In the meantime, members are encouraged to cut out magazine pictures for the girls' dream boards. Pictures of careers, wishes, and role models are always needed. When in doubt, clip it out. It is better to have too much than too little. Mater Academy has promised to make these same girls available in their Sophomore year for a follow-up career day.

Teens Helping Teens: ANGEL TREE ADOPTIONS are now being filled. It's so heart warming to see the generosity of our members and friends as they purchase items for Teens from their personal wish lists. We also collect items for teens living in shelters to be able to pick out something nice, wrap it and give to their Mom!



Dr Mary's donation

We appreciate the generosity of our members and friends last year. We donated more than \$2500 worth of fantastic gifts to those who had nothing.

WOW Moments....

UPDATE: Lots of Health issues this month: Sorry to have missed **Sue's** bout in the hospital last month. Wishing her excellent return to full health! **Kim** has had a horrible virus infection. **Susie** had rotator cuff-shoulder surgery on 12/9, keep her in your thoughts and prayers, she would appreciate cards! **Diana** injured her good leg. **Now some Yays!** **Lois** welcomed Miss Lexi, a 5 year old mini schnauzer to her home. What an affectionate companion. Saluting **Dawn** for her over the top donation to THT, 12 Mary Kay makeup kits! Wonderful. Good to see **Dr Mary**, she adopted twins on THT list! She's building new office. Her office manager **Tricia** also adopted a teen, and two of her nurses are adopting plus helping THT. WOW. **Cynthia** adopted the same teen she had adopted last year! **Misty** adopted Elvis! Can you top that?!



Committee Report



Sweet Fantasy – Sunday, February 12, 2017, 1:30 pm to 4:30pm
Venue: IPEC (Intl Peace Education Center) Las Vegas 6590 Bermuda Road, Las Vegas NV 89119
Tickets: \$30 per person, tables of 10 will be \$250. Tickets are now available.
Silent Auction: Donation requests are ongoing.
Raffle: prizes will be awarded in stages, i.e. one time per hour.

Check out the e-option for tickets, listed on the flyer in this issue. Eventbrite and SIGLV website!



Dear Soroptimists,
A memo from RoseMary Reid, 2016-2017 SIA President to update us on the health status of President-elect Yoko.



It is with sadness we report that President-elect Yoko has tendered her resignation, effective immediately, as SIA President-elect. Her health is stable, but she has a long road and many surgeries ahead of her. Please keep Yoko and her family in your thoughts. In accordance with SIA procedures, the new President-elect will be chosen from amongst the members of the current board of directors.

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SERVICE UPDATE

WINTER SURVIVAL KITS: The great give!



THT distributes at least 100 winter survival kits each month for the homeless, displaced and sheltered teens in our community.

SIGLV donated 50 blankets made with hugs by members; Fifty \$5 McD gift cards; 48 refillable screw closed top water bottles; 48 3 in one knit gloves; 44 lined knit beanie hats, 27 additional beanies; 48 soft knit scarves, plus dozen handmade fleece ones; And member donations of cosmetics, purses, blouses, sweaters, pants, two nice warm jackets.



Members spent a Saturday in November fringe cutting and tying fleece blankets for homeless, displaced and sheltered teens. We had so much fun with east and west side sites. Members and friends worked hard all month to complete 50 blankets. It was a lot of work but THT reports the teens feel so special receiving a homemade blanket made by someone who cares about them.

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OTHER HAPPENINGS

Grants of Friendship

The following Sorooptimist regions are offering Grants of Friendship: Criteria available sorooptimistgreaterlasvegas.org

- South East England Region (application deadline: November 30, 2016)
- Camino Real Region (application deadline: December 15, 2016)
- NEW! Yorkshire Region, United Kingdom (application deadline: January 16, 2017)

This is an exciting opportunity to meet Sorooptimists from other parts of the world!

Sorooptimist International of Greater Las Vegas presents



6th Annual

Sweet Fantasy

Chocolate and More Fundraiser

An Afternoon of Sweet Indulgence!

Featuring Jinlu Chocolates

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2017

1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

IPEC Las Vegas

6500 Bermuda Road, Las Vegas, NV 89119

Ticket Price: \$30.00* per person or \$250 for table of 10

Order tickets on-line: Eventbrite or www.SorooptimistGreaterLasVegas.org or call 702.269.8092

RAFFLE & SILENT AUCTION

Proceeds will benefit Sorooptimist International of Greater Las Vegas service projects including Teens Helping Teens and Anti-Human Trafficking programs as well as leadership education.

*Your contribution may be tax deductible under federal law.