



AUGUST NEWSLETTER

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2022-2024 Region Board

Governor, Vicki Ham
Governor-elect, Elise Balgley
Secretary, Kristal Koga
Treasurer, Tess Albin-Smith
Directors:
District I, Lenore Colarusso
District II, Jackie DeVries
District III, Colleen Ganaye
District IV, Elaine Reed
District V, Teri Lynn Sato

Founder Region Website:
www.si-founderregion.org
SIA Website:
www.soroptimist.org
SI Website:
www.soroptimistinternational.org

Bee the Dream!

The Soroptimist International Convention was held in Dublin, Ireland in July, with over 1700 Soroptimist members from around the world. I was able to meet many members from so many countries – Iceland, Australia, Germany and more. I had a nice conversation with two members from SI/Kisumu who expressed their gratitude to Founder Region, and SI/EI Cerrito in particular, for the period packets that have been sent to them for the girls in their community. We had over 30 members from Founder Region in attendance at the convention, however, in two attempts, we were not able to get all of us into one photo. You should be able to see most of us on the various Facebook posts that have been made.

There were so many speakers at convention with various topics important to us as Soroptimists. Of the highlights were keynote speaker Mary Robinson, the first woman President of Ireland, elected in 1990, and Renata Dwan, policy expert on peace and conflict issues with the United Nations. I was also very interested in the presentations by the presidents of the five federations. So much is going on to improve the lives of women and girls. I hope that summaries of the speakers and workshops will be posted on the SI website.

There was the unveiling of the new Soroptimist International logo (please do not confuse this with the "S" logo for SIA). You have probably already seen this logo if you have been on social media. Also was the introduction of the incoming 2024-2025 SI President, Siew Yong Gnanalingam from Malaysia. She was unable to attend in person, but presented a video highlighting how we can help with climate change. Then there was much celebration over the announce-

ment that the 2027 convention will be an Alaska cruise. Save your pennies for this great adventure.

This summer has gone by so quickly. If your club was "dark" during the summer months, your meetings will be starting up again soon. I highly encourage clubs to go back to meeting in person again as the fellowship of being together is so important for the nourishment and growth of a club. If you still have members who are not comfortable with the "in-person" contact, consider having hybrid meetings to accommodate all members. However your club meets, continue to stay engaged, find new ways to fund-raise, and most important, continue to expand and increase our life changing Dream Programs.

In the next couple of weeks, your District Directors will be holding the quarterly Presidents' Round Tables; remember that these meetings are not just for your presidents, but other board members and regular members wanting to know what is going on in Founder Region. The October District Meetings are also in the planning stages and I hope to see many of you there again this year.

In your clubs and in your daily lives, continue to "Bee the Dream!" for the women and girls that need our help now more than ever.

Warmest Regards,
Governor Vicki



Fellowship Sales

Many items will be available for sale at the fall District Meetings. We also have the SI Pin Brooches along with the items below.



Fellowship tote bags available now! Buy one for yourself, for new members or for member appreciation gifts.



More handmade bee earrings and bee zippered bags will be available as well.

ORDER YOUR PIN LANYARDS TODAY!

Plus - handmade pin lanyards in blue/white and blue/yellow combinations. Order for the whole club. Pre-orders accepted. Contact President Kris at kchorbi5@yahoo.com.

Cost: \$15 each



[Donate](#) \$75 (or more) to the 75 Year Diamond Jubilee Campaign anytime during the biennium.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Fellowship Board

President - Kris Chorbi
Treasurer - Danelle Tegarden

Fellowship Directors:

District I - Billie Knight
District II - Dana Holve
District III - Laurie Gallian
District IV - Laura Middlemiss
District V - Angie Bugarin

Website:

www.founderregionfellowship.org

Email:

2022.2024Fellowship@gmail.com

Treasurer Email:

FRFellowshipTreasurer2022.2024@gmail.com

Address:

3505 Pine Street, Eureka, CA 95503

District Meeting Fundraiser

We look forward to the District Meetings in October. Start now in preparing to support the Fellowship Fundraiser by creating a basket for our drawing valued at \$75. This years theme is "What's Your Dream".

Numbers for the drawing will be emailed to club presidents, so just print them out and sell at your club meetings. Request more numbers from the Fellowship President if needed. This is our major fundraiser so we hope you will encourage your members to buy numbers and attend the 2023 District Meetings. Your Fellowship Directors are ready and willing to answer any questions you may have. We hope to see soon!

2023 District Meeting Fellowship Fundraiser



THEME:

"What's Your Dream?"

(Travel, adventure, romance - be creative!)

**We're Selling Numbers for a Chance
To Win a Fellow or Club Basket**

(Each club is to bring a basket valued at \$75.00)

Join us in supporting the Region's Identifying Project to help fund grants awarded to women in the final phase of their doctoral programs.

COST: 3 Numbers for \$10

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- ◆ Pre-sell the numbers assigned to your club. Request more number (of needed) from the Fellowship President at kchorbi5@yahoo.com.
- ◆ Return the completed number sales logs and your club check (payable to Fellowship to your Fellowship Director by the due date listed below.
- ◆ Clubs that sell all their numbers and return their completed sales log/club check by the due date will receive 3 extra numbers for the drawing.
- ◆ Winners are drawn at District Meeting for baskets and Fellows (or to level up). One Fellow (or level up) will be drawn for every \$1,000 raised per district.



Fundraising - Chair Gina Moore

Happy Summer! I know a lot of clubs take a break in the summer, but it is a good time to think about upcoming fundraising ideas. Our Dream Big Campaign is one. These funds make it necessary to invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education by 2031. This helps us thrive in our next century and meet audacious goals. Funds raised will be in-

vested in projects in three key programs areas: expansion, delivery, and sustainability. These projects help our organization reach four times the number of women and girls we are serving by 2031. We are dreaming big for today and our future. Gifts to SIA ensure we have resources we need to provide Live your Dream Awards, implement Dream It, Be It, and support clubs in their local efforts, and carry out our mission. One

time and monthly gifts can be made on the Dream Big Campaign website at <https://www.dreambig.soroptimist.org/giving>, or by mailing a check to SIA, 1709 Spruce St, Philadelphia, PA 19103.



Membership - Chair Lyn Lurbe

INTRODUCTION FORMS

When a prospective member is curious about Soroptimist, they will submit an **Introduction Form** from the SIA website.

The introduction form will ask for the potential member's personal contact information and is sent to the nearest club according to the individual's zip code. It will also ask how they heard of our organization and what would be their reason for joining.

This is another resource that SIA has developed for our clubs to reach out to potential

individuals interested/curious about our organization.

Surveys were done on the introduction forms and have found four areas that potential members are looking for in volunteer organizations.

1. Relationships – nearly 75% indicated that they sought “friendship and fellowship” and being with “like-minded people”.

2. Mission – 68% indicated they are interested in joining because of the personal connection to our mission.

3. Personal Growth – 63% hoped to gain leadership and personal development opportunities.

4. Volunteer Opportunities – 62% are interested in hands-on opportunities in volunteer work.

If your club supports and provides these opportunities, then the prospective member is a perfect match for your club! While recruiting, consider these four areas while connecting with the potential members because this is what is important to them and will entice them to join Soroptimist!

Public Awareness - Chair Kris Chorbi

As we begin a new club year, have you identified your club Public Awareness chair? The club publicity chair is an important leadership role! This role is responsible for increasing awareness of Soroptimist and your club in your local community and beyond. While having an interest in and excitement about promoting Soroptimist is a must, anyone who is well-informed about their club and the Soroptimist mission could fulfill this position.

As your club's publicity chair, knowing when important dates are coming up is key. Here is a list of important dates to keep in mind when developing your club's publicity calendar. Your

club may be able to tie in certain activities with various holiday and observances. While this list is geared for SIA's global audience, it also includes some U.S. based observances because SIA may still recognize these days in some way. Feel free to adapt and add specific dates for your country to the following list.

SEPTEMBER OBSERVANCES

- Back to school season
- National Hispanic Heritage Month
- International Day of Charity 9/5
- International Literacy Day 9/8

- International Equal Pay Day 9/18
- World Dream Day 9/25
- New club year; new club officers

Be sure and get access to your club's social media pages for posting events and award's information.

Check out these club publicity chair [guidelines](#) for more information and resources

Submit your club event details to kchorbi5@yahoo.com by the 10th of each month for sharing in this newsletter.



Program Report - Chair Elise Balgley

Time to get to it. Let's make this the best Soroptimist year ever.

The Live Your Dream Portal opened on August 1, 2023. Make sure your club's Live Your Dream Chair has signed in, agreed to the confidentiality requirements, etc. On September 6, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. PDT, SIA will have a webinar on the Live Your Dream program. There should be some worthwhile information there. If you are not available at that time, it will be taped and available on the SIA website. The Founder Region Board will

also be looking at what Live Your Dream resources are available.

Tell everyone you know about the Live Your Dream awards, post information on social media, talk to people. You never know where the next recipient may be found and there may be new members out there as well. Bottom line, let's increase our number of awards. If your club gave one award last year, can that stretch to two; if you gave three awards, maybe you can do four. Remember SIA looks at the number of awards given to determine what funding will be received for additional awards to our recipients.

An updated Violet Richardson Award application will be on the website soon. We are looking to see if that application could be modified to allow for the possibility that a Violet Richardson Award would qualify as a Big Goal Accelerator Project. More information to come on that.

It is also time to finalize your club's plans for a Dream It, Be It project. Dream It, Be It Chair Bev and her team will be more than happy to help you with that.

As always, let me know if there are questions. I will do my best to give you the right answer.

LYD Reminders

Live Your Dream Awards Application Portal Reminder

The [online application portal](#) for women to apply for the award opened August 1. Your club's participation in this program makes a HUGE difference in the lives of women and their families.

Make Sure to Sign the Confidentiality Agreement!

North American Live Your Dream Awards Club Chairs should check their

email for portal login information to sign the confidentiality agreement. Need help? Check out our playlist of [videos for club chairs](#) and [one for applicants](#). Did you receive that email but you are NOT the club chair? Let your club president know to update the online roster!

Save the date for our [Live Your Dream Awards application portal training](#) webinar on September 6 at 7 p.m. (EDT)! Learn how to use the portal and some updates made to make things even easier.



"The Live Your Dream Award has been a tremendous blessing for me in helping me to conquer my dreams and it gave me this boost of confidence to keep pressing forward."

Nominations

At our annual conference in May 2024, we will be electing members to the Founder Region and Fellowship Boards. The new 2023-2025 Nominating Committee took office on July 1st.

Dyann O'Brien, Chair, SI/Eureka

District I: Bonnie Mertz, SI/The East Bay

District II: Clara Oakes, SI/Vacaville

District III: Madalienne Peters, SI/Novato

District IV: Vicki Dillard, SI/Arcata

District V: Angie Haramoto, SI/Maui

To be eligible for office:

- Only regular members in good standing are eligible.
- Must be a past president.
- Must not hold any other elected Soroptimist office during the specified term.
- Candidates for Governor-elect must have served on the Region Board within the past 6 years.
- Candidates for Fellowship President must be either a past gover-

nor or served on the Fellowship Board within the past 6 years.

Please remember that the consent of the nominee is not necessary. Obtaining consent is the responsibility of the nominating committee.

NOMINATIONS ARE DUE BY DECEMBER 1st.

[DOWNLOAD FORM](#)



"S" Club - Chair Joy Swank

GREETINGS "S" Club Fans

I hope your summer was fabulous and you are looking forward to a new school year. Please check out our Founder Region [website](#) for "S" Club Program help.

I am in the process of gathering all the names of the new "S" Club Advisors. School will get underway within the next few weeks. I expect it will take at

least five weeks for "S" Clubs to form.

More information coming next month.

Enjoy the hot weather because Christmas will be here in the blink of an eye.

REGARDS,
Joy



Club Roadmap

To help your club focus on essential areas and prioritize its time, we've updated our [Club Roadmap for Success](#) and the [Club Roadmap Metrics](#). The roadmap will guide your activities and the metrics are used for our annual recognition of accomplishments. Thank you again for your participation in our programs, growing engagement and supporting our culture of philanthropy. We value your hard work and dedication.



Check out back issues of the Best for Women [newsletter](#) for more great information.

Dream It, Be It - Bev Gomer

Clubs have already hit the ground running (or are about to) and are planning activities for the year. I hope you include hosting a Dream It, Be It project. SIA has ALL the resources you need [here](#)!

Start out by reviewing the [Planning Toolkit Overview](#). It provides the necessary steps to host a DI, BI project and can be used to help guide your planning.

To keep on top of the planning process, set a target date to complete each step. Then note important details related to each task. Varying aspects in your planning process will change the order of these steps—and some steps can even happen simultaneously. So simply make adjustments as you go!

Begin with small steps. Completing just one of the seven sessions from the Dream It, Be It curriculum makes your club eligible to receive participation credit. Please let me know how I can help or if you have any

questions. (FYI: The Founder Region Board will be reviewing grants at their August 11-13 meeting.)

Thank you for all you do to support women and girls through our Dream Programs!



SIA Resources

Be on the lookout for these upcoming deadlines, initiatives and [events](#).

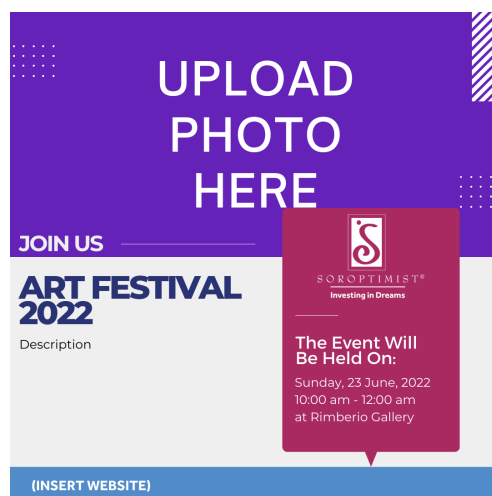
DEADLINE: [Help Close the Gap](#)
(August 31)

REGISTER: [101: How to Navigate the Live Your Dream Awards Application Portal](#) (September 6)

Customizable Canva Template

Each month SIA provides a customizable social graphic that clubs can share on social media. Customize this graphic to promote your club's upcoming event.

[ACCESS TEMPLATE](#)



Region Leadership Spotlight

Dyann O'Brien

Nominations Chair

Member of SI / Eureka

Joining Soroptimist 15 years ago was the best gift I gave myself. Our four kids were grown, out of the house and raising their own families. I was working full time, but the "empty house syndrome" was still setting in and I needed to take action to fill my days with purpose.

A friend invited me to attend a Soroptimist meeting and I met some incredibly awesome women. I immediately joined the club. After several months, learning about the Soropti-

member

SPOTLIGHT

mist mission, I gained confidence and started raising my hand to volunteer and voiced my opinions about our club's projects. My club members nominated me to be President-elect in my second year. The good news was I had several nurturing Soroptimist friends inspiring me, sharing their knowledge and directing me to the Founder Region Leadership Manual and the Soroptimist website. Throughout the years I've appreciated all the mentoring provided with these new various leadership roles. I've served as President-elect for 2 years, President for 2 years, Secretary, Director and



Chaired many committees and projects. All these experiences and new skills led me to be the Founder Region District Director for 4 years. I absolutely love working with the other Board members and all the other club members. Now, I am proud to say I'm the mentor and willing to help lift others up as I was lifted up.

SI Convention

Visit the convention Facebook [page](#) to see highlights from Dublin. Below is the new SI logo which was unveiled.



The 2027 SI Convention was announced as a cruise to Alaska and the theme will be "Waves of Change". More details to come.





SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Buy Now

It's Time to Buy your Raffle Tickets for the 2023 Soroptimist International Rio Vista Fundraiser!

Proceeds fund projects and scholarships improving the lives of women and girls in our community.



First Ticket Drawn

Wins a 7 Cu. Ft. Freezer filled with Beef, Lamb, Chicken, Pork, and Lockford Sausage

Plus a BLACKSTONE Griddle



Second Ticket Drawn

Wins an Ooni Koda 16 in. Pizza Oven and Accessories

Tickets are \$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00

Tickets can be purchased at Donnelly Floral and Event Design and the Bank of Stockton
Your Soroptimist members will also have tickets.

Look for our booth at Hog August Bites, and the Bass Derby Festival, to purchase tickets.
For more information contact Kay Kelley at 909 234-6913

Drawing will be held on October 15th at Approx. 4 PM at the Bass Derby Festival bandstand.

Sponsors



Emigh Livestock
BANK OF STOCKTON
ESTABLISHED 1867
WITHSTANDING THE TEST OF TIME



Soroptimist International of Eel River Valley's

SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Spaghetti Dinner for Books with Sit Down Dining or Take-Out for \$15

**All proceeds will go toward our
Schools Library Book Program**



**When: Tuesday
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023**
**Where: Christ Lutheran Church
2132 Smith Lane**
**Time: Sit down 5:00 to 6:00 PM
Take Out 5:00 to 6:30 PM**



Soroptimist International of the Delta



October 26, 2023



HALLOWEEN BINGO

Doors open at 5 p.m.

De Luna Ranch

7540 Balfour Road, Brentwood, CA

Tickets include: BINGO games & Dinner

Costumes Encouraged

Raffle Tix \$25

Cash Prizes

Raffle Prizes

Ghouls Night Out

Tickets \$50

**Tickets at GURSKY RANCH
or any Soroptimist Member**

Fall Fest Boutique

Great Holiday Shopping

FREE to the Public

Saturday, September 23, 2023

VFW Hall

815 Fulton Shipyard Road, Antioch

Time: 10:30 am - 3:00 pm

Soroptimist International of Antioch is a non-profit organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.
All proceeds go toward local programs and scholarships.

**Vendors and Crafters — your one stop shop for your
Holiday shopping. Raffles!**

- Scentsy
- KGE Kreations
- Call Girl Wreaths
- Tupperware
- Avon
- Cole Creations
- Stitches from the Heart
- Jeans Jams and Jellies
- What a Girl Wants
- Gabriel's Project
- Hand Crafted Items & so much more

For more information email Laura Dickerson at SIAntiochfallfest@gmail.com



FOUNDER REGION LINKS

[Website](#)
[Facebook](#)
[Instagram](#)
[Twitter](#)
[Violet Richardson Award](#)
["S" Clubs](#)
[Soroptimists Celebrating Success](#)
[Treasurer Forms](#)

SIA LINKS

[Website](#)
[Facebook](#)
[Live Your Dream](#)
[Dream it. Be it](#)
[Dream Big Campaign](#)
[Best for Women Newsletter](#)

SI LINKS

[Website](#)
[President's Appeal](#)
[SI at the United Nations](#)
[2023 Convention-Dublin, Ireland](#)



CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following clubs celebrating their anniversary!

8/1/2019

SI/ West Sonoma County

8/20/1960

SI/ Vacaville

OUR HEARTS GO OUT TO RESIDENTS OF MAUI!

If anyone wants to donate to the Maui disaster, the Maui Lions Club has a Foundation and they can contribute to: HLF earmark Maui disaster. For actual donations, such as hygiene products, wash cloths, and snacks, SI/Maui will deliver items to the shelter nearby. The link for monetary donations is www.lebh.org/contribute/

Region Conference

2024 Conference

May 3 - 5, 2024

San Ramon Marriott

San Ramon, CA

Host Clubs:

SI/Novato, SI/Santa Rosa, &

SI/Oakmont Wine Country

[2023 CONFERENCE PAGE](#)

Check out the 2023 conference page to view photos, presentations, recordings and the proceedings of the recent Founder Region Conference.

SIA Convention

2024 Convention

July 24-27, 2024

Bellevue, Washington

Stay tuned for more info!

[Video](#)



SI Convention

2027 Convention

July 2027

Cruise to Alaska

[WEBSITE](#)

