



JULY 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!

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings Founder Region!

The new 2023-2024 club year has begun I would like to extend my congratulations to all the incoming club officers. Many clubs struggle with finding members who want to step up to leadership at the club level and I thank you for taking on a leadership role in your club. Members often think they are under-qualified, under-prepared, or do not have enough time to devote to the leadership role, but I assure you, learning your new office is a work in progress and you can do it! The [Leadership Handbook](#) is an awesome resource and your club should have received a hard copy that was mailed out this past week. The Resources page on the Founder Region website is a one-stop shop and provides access to almost all things Soroptimist that you may be looking to find. Your district directors, region officers and past club leaders are also available to you to help in your new role.

The SIA website has even more resources to assist you like the [Clubs and Members](#) pages, as well as many of the [program](#) and club resources for your reference. There are so many tools to help you to be successful. Leadership development is one of the many benefits of membership in Soroptimist and a great way to learn public speaking, meeting protocol, committee efficiency and parliamentary procedure. The Founder Region Board is here to help when you have questions, concerns or need a little encouragement.

At this beginning of a new club year, I would like express my sincerest thanks to Sheila Bearden for her service as the Region Laws & Resolutions Chair. Sheila has been amazing as chair of this committee for many years, including guiding us through some heated debate on the Bylaws amendments at our Hawaii Conference in 2022. When I asked her last year to continue as chair, she was ready for a break from the position, but agreed to continue until a replacement could

be found. So as we are at the midpoint of the biennium, I would like to announce that Pat Eileen Fisher will be taking on the role of chair of the Laws and Resolutions Committee. So as I thank Sheila for her years of service, I wish the best of luck to Pat Eileen and I thank her for accepting this position. I feel so very fortunate to know and have worked with both of these amazing women and I am proud to have them both as friends.



Many of us are preparing for the trip to Dublin, Ireland for the SI Convention. I had said in my blog this month that any members attending from Founder Region would meet for a group social and photo at the Spencer Hotel restaurant bar on Wednesday night (July 26th). I had given a time of 5:30pm for the "meet & greet, but have since been informed that a group side tour will not be returning until 6:00 or 6:30pm on that evening. We will change that meeting time to 7:00pm and hope that we can all get together.

Enjoy your summer, do your best to promote our mission, and always continue to "Bee the Dream!"

Vicki Ham, Governor



Budget for Fellowship

As you begin the new club year, you will be working on your 2023-2024 club budget. Please consider making Fellowship contributions a line item in your Club Budget so you can plan your support of our Region's identifying project.

- Donate \$1,000/year and name a Fellow every year
- Donate \$500/year and name a Fellow every 2 years
- Budget for more than one Fellow/year to honor more members.
- Donate any amount in honor of your board members for their service.
- Update your bylaws to make Fellowship your "**charity of choice**" for memorial contributions for members and their immediate

Fellows List & Pin

Want to know who is a Fellow in your club?

You can find the list of Fellows for every club on the Fellowship website. Go to the "[Fellows](#)" page and click on the district link (see picture). You can then find your club and see all your members who are Fellows. If you need to know their level, please contact your Fellowship Director. We are constantly updating these lists so please let us know if you see an error.

Click on your district to see the Fellows in your club.

DISTRICT I FELLOWS

DISTRICT II FELLOWS

DISTRICT III FELLOWS

DISTRICT IV FELLOWS

DISTRICT V FELLOWS

Please notify your Fellowship Director if you have transferred to another club so we can update the District Fellows Directory.

families.

- Honor your members with donations to Fellowship for club milestone anniversaries and special recognitions.

Founder Region Fellowship is almost completely supported financially by our members so I want to share with you all the ways you can ensure Fellowship is around for the next 75 years.

The more you talk about and support Fellowship, the more your members will find value in our mission.

Thank you for your continued support of Founder Region Fellowship and we look forward to a great 2023-2024 club year!

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

[LEARN MORE](#)

What does the Fellow pin symbolize?

The Fellowship logo was designed by Jan Sadler of SI/EI Cerrito in 1987. The circle is an ancient and universal symbol of unity, wholeness, infinity, the goddess, and female power.

The lighted torch is almost always associated with giving light or guidance, as in passing the torch to the next generation. The torch and/or lamp of knowledge generally symbolizes learning or knowledge and in science it is the 'guiding light of scientific inquiry in an atmosphere of intellectual freedom truth and intelligence'. The Olympic torch is a symbol of the harmony and goodwill toward humanity. Sometimes the torch is replaced by a sun on the Fellowship pin.

Rays of light symbolize enlightenment and the sharing of knowledge and wisdom in the world.



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

Book in hand: Fellowship targets women who are working in fields of great social importance. The design shows a woman's hand holding a book, symbolizing learning and education. The idea may have its roots in the statue of St. Catherine of Alexandria (who stands holding a book). She has been dubbed the patron saint of libraries and anyone associated with wisdom or teaching.



Check out all 15 levels of pins also on the "[Fellows](#)" page.



Fundraising - Chair Gina Moore

Club Giving Supports the Big Goal! Your contributions for Club Giving are an invaluable source of funding for the tools and support that SIA provides for our members and the women and girls we serve. Your Contributions are put to work right away to meet the needs of women and girls thru our global Dream Programs.

Among other things, Club gifts ensure that SIA can...

Help newly Chartered clubs provide their first Live Your Dream Award, provide grants, develop resources that help clubs raise funds, update training materials, translate materials so they are available in the six languages used by our members, track and analyze program data across all regions, fund Live Your Dream Awards and so much more.

It is because of clubs' generosity that all these benefits, and many others, are made possible! While we know clubs face many

competing priorities, we ask your club to think carefully about where they are investing their resources and put Soroptimist and our Dream Programs at the top of your list. We hope your club can make the recommended contribution of 10% of your locally raised funds this year, it is especially needed.



Membership - Chair Lyn Lurbe

FOLLOW THE ROADMAP FOR SUCCESS

It's JULY! The fiscal year 2023-2024 has started!

Instead of following the yellow brick road let's follow *the SIA Club Roadmap for Success!* We all want our clubs to remain healthy and strong and so SIA has provided this Roadmap for us to follow to provide a positive member experience and to meet our goals within the four areas: Impact, Engagement, Brand Recognition, and Philanthropy.

Under the Engagement category, it speaks of

growing and retaining our membership by creating an enjoyable and civil member experience. This can be easy, yet hard to do. If you are one of the clubs that is having a hard time recruiting or retaining members don't fret, many of us have been through those difficult times but somehow, we manage to revive ourselves.

The SIA website has loads of resources for us to use as a guide to find out what you're new and seasoned members are interested in and how they think your club should move forward this year.

A few resources:

- Sample New Member Survey
- Recruitment Tip: What Potential Members Want
- Soroptimist Member Capacity Inventory
- Engaging Prospects in SIA's Dream Programs

It takes a lot to build and maintain a successful club, but it's achievable with passionate/energetic members, fun and exciting projects and events, visibility within your community, and a realistic budget to maintain your fundraising efforts.

Bee The Dream Club!

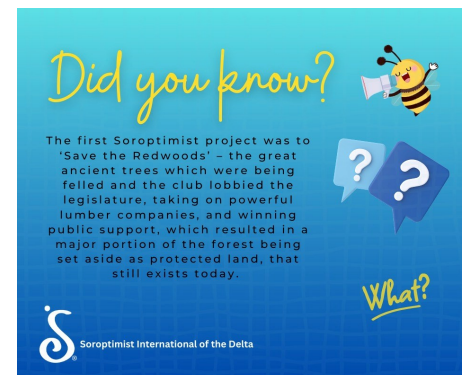
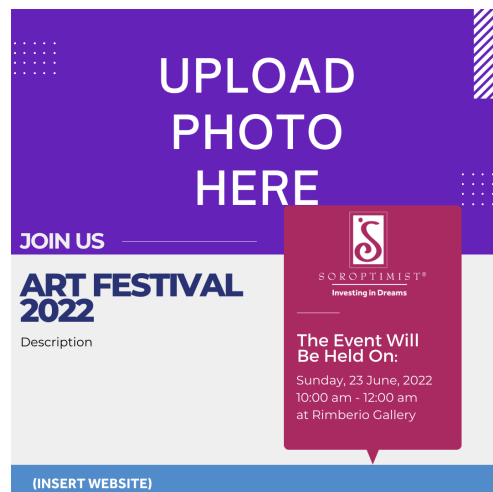
Public Awareness - Chair Kris Chorbi

NEW! Customizable Canva Template

Customize this graphic to promote your club's upcoming event.

SHARE IT

Make sure to [update your club roster](#) whenever a change occurs. This ensures that records are accurate and important emails go to the right members!



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

Happy Soroptimist New Year! We have much to look forward to and much to do in this new year.

I especially hope each club has someone who has stepped up to chair their Live Your Dream, and Dream It, Be It efforts. Now is the time to organize how you will move forward and make a plan to achieve your club's goals as well as meet all of the deadlines.

The Live Your Dream Portal will open on August 1. Make sure you have completed the confidentiality agreements which SIA will be

sending out. Consider where you might reach out to find applicants for a Live Your Dream Award. Be creative; you never know when you might encounter a woman who is a great candidate or a good source for candidates. This might also be an opportunity to have your Live Your Dream judges lined up. No need to wait for the last minute. SIA will be presenting a webinar on the Live Your Dream program on September 6. That should be an excellent resource.

If your club hasn't done a Dream It, Be It program before, take the time to consider what you might be able to do. If your club

already has a program, consider any revisions which might make it even more wonderful.

Consider also what projects your club is already doing which could be Big Goal Accelerator Projects. Look at the requirements and see if there are changes which you could make to an exist which would qualify it as a Big Goal Accelerator project.

Here's to a fabulous 2023-2024 Soroptimist year.

LYD Application Update

The 2022-2023 club year was another incredible year of impact for the *Live Your Dream Awards*! Just like you, headquarters staff is always looking for ways to improve the program and better support your club. After surveying region leaders we made the following updates to the *Live Your Dream Awards* application:

- added questions to ensure the applicant is the financial head of household made the second [reference form](#) optional

- changed the budget section so that applicants must explain any zeros for expenses and must indicate if their expenses/income are monthly, annual or other.

These changes will ensure applicants provide the right information so that clubs can evaluate their applications and reduce barriers for applicants.

[Review New Application](#)

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.



Laws & Resolutions

What changes are going on in the hive this year.

Ah, it's summertime and some members of the "hive" are spreading their wings and off to pursue other interests. This month we are wishing Sheila Bearden from District IV, SI/Humboldt Bay, good luck as she steps away from her position as chair of the Laws and Resolutions Committee. Sheila did a remarkable job serving from 2018 until this past Conference. That's through 3 governors and the pandemic. During that time period she and her committee handled several important

caucuses, prepared material to present at Conference and assisted clubs with their bylaw reviews. Sheila now has some extra time to enjoy her personal interests and club activities. Best wishes and a big Thanks to Sheila.



Buzzing in to fill the gap will be a big job for Pat Eileen Fisher from SI/Martinez. However, Pat Eileen served on the Laws and Resolutions Committee from 2006 to 2010 and she also has District and Region Board experience which will certainly help as she assumes the chair of this committee. Good luck Pat Eileen.



"S" Club - Chair Joy Swank

Happy July Everyone, from your lovely
"S" Club Chair, Joy Swank

One more review from last school year came in from SI/Novato.

"The "S" club had a great year, doubling their membership participation by having lunch meetings with pizza. Many Soroptimist members stepped up to give presentations to the "S" club members. The students volunteered at the club fundraiser."

Yay everyone!

Best wishes launching your new "S" Clubs in the fall. See the [website](#) for tips. Watch for the new logo coming soon.

Thanks for all your efforts. Stay cool. It is 107 degrees in Vacaville today. I am off to the beach!

Hugs, Joy



SIA News

SIA recently transitioned the [Dream It, Be It, Live Your Dream Awards](#) and [Big Goal Accelerator Projects](#) club reporting forms to a new platform. Be sure to delete any old bookmarks or saved links to the old reporting form and update to the new one!

For those clubs that have not yet [paid dues](#) for 2023-2024, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. The first late fee of USD\$100 will be charged effective August 1, to clubs whose dues payments have not yet been received by SIA.



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

Dream It, Be It - Bev Gomer

Happy New Club Year!

Thank you to the Founder Region clubs who hosted a Dream It, Be It Project in the 2023 club year! More on that coming in the August Newsletter.

After lengthy and mindful planning, SIA made the transition to a new Dream It, Be It project reporting platform, **effective July 1, 2023**. Please remember to delete any saved links to the old reporting form and update to the [new one](#).

On this platform, you will be

[Able to save your Dream It, Be It report,](#)

- **Able to return to it later,**
- **Able to edit it even after you submit, and**
- **Email a copy of your report.**

The questions are mostly unchanged, although SIA streamlined some of the evaluation questions about demographic information. Please visit the links below.

Here's to reaching even more girls in the new club year, together.

Hope you're having a good summer!

[NEW! Dream It, Be It Club Reporting Form](#)

[Tips for Completing the Reporting & Evaluation Form Online](#)



The Buzz from Bobbi

Happy Summer!

Many of you have probably taken a break from Soroptimist this summer, although many of you might be enjoying meetings, events and socializing with your fellow members. As you can imagine, I've had a busy summer as I prepare for my term as SIA President! It still sounds odd to put that in writing, but I am up for the challenge! As you read this, we just finished two days of "New Board Director Orientation" which was on Zoom, and it was wonderful to meet new board members. We



are ready for an inspiring, productive year as we fulfill our roles serving the organization.

It is not too late to make a personal or club donation to the Dream Big Campaign and participate in my Founder Region Challenge! Click on this link to do so:

<https://www.dreambig.soroptimist.org/founderregion>

Are you working on your club budgets? Be sure and put 10% of your fundraising in-

come as a donation to the SIA Club Giving Campaign. Consider increasing the number of Live Your Dream Awards that you will give out this year, and put money in the budget to continue or to start a Dream It Be It project. These are the Dream Programs that will let the community know who we are, and what we do. Thank you to all the outgoing club board members and good luck to the incoming club board members. We appreciate your stepping up to leadership! If you haven't done so, maybe it is time for you to step up and serve on your club or region board!



Region Leadership Spotlight

Teri Lynn Sato - District V Director

Private business and real estate were booming in the 70's and 80's; and it afforded many opportunities to grow up, improve skills, learn, and travel. I learned that helping people, having quality relationships, perseverance and living our passions would bring a full and happy life, as my parents were divorced and doing their own thing since I was in the 7th grade.

I worked for a woman owned Escrow and Title Company here in Hawaii, which inspired me to keep persevering. I became familiar with serving on boards with my experiences on the Hawaii Land Title Association, Mortgage Lenders of

member

SPOTLIGHT

Hawaii which became Mortgage Bankers of Hawaii, School Community Council, Families & Friends of Castle, Project Graduation, Castle High School Band Board and Boy Scouts. Then in 2009, Soroptimist sounded interesting – helping women, was different!

I served as secretary for 2 years with SI/Honolulu. Years later, in 2018 a couple members from our club asked if I would be President-elect. It touched my heart, and I decided to give it a shot, knowing President was next. Then in 2021, I got a couple calls and was asked if I wanted to run for District V Director. It touched my heart that there



were Soroptimists not from my club, who thought I would be qualified! The Sincerity of Friendship is alive and well amongst Soroptimists. My journey has lead me to meet so many wonderful people. I am very thankful and blessed to be part of this global organization and serving as District V Director.

SIA COVID Declaration Ends

As of July 1, the SIA board of directors have ended the modified temporary pause that was enacted during the COVID-19 pandemic. Clubs and regions do not need to file declaration forms with SIA headquarters to hold

events with non-members present. Clubs and regions are still required to file all appropriate insurance documentation for Soroptimist events with the Soroptimist insurance brokers in the country where those clubs/regions are located.



 Soroptimist International of Vacaville
Twilight Club

Boots & Bling

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 5-10PM

JOIN SOROPTIMIST OF VACAVILLE TWILIGHT FOR OUR 5TH ANNUAL BOOTS & BLING FUNDRAISING DINNER!

SPEND AN EVENING UNDER THE STARS WITH US AT THE BEAUTIFUL ULATIS CREEK RANCH. ENJOY DINNER BY ANDERSON FAMILY CATERING, DRINKS, AUCTION, DANCING AND LIVE MUSIC BY 27 OUTLAWS!

PROCEEDS SUPPORT OUR CLUB'S EFFORTS TO PROVIDE WOMEN AND GIRLS WITH ACCESS TO THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING THEY NEED TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT.

GET YOUR EARLY BIRD TICKETS NOW FOR ONLY \$85! PRICE INCREASES TO \$100 ON JULY 15.



BUNCO TOURNAMENT

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF ANTIOCH



SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH
NOON - 3:00PM
\$20.00

FOR TICKETS
CONTACT
MARY ANN
REDDEN:
925-586-3161



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 Soroptimist International of Vacaville
Twilight Club



With Trivia Host DJ Barnett Entertainment!
THURSDAY, JULY 27 | 6PM-8PM

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"BEST COPACABANA"
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Veterans Memorial Building
JULY 20TH
\$25.00/PP
COCKTAIL HOUR 5:30-6:00
DINNER 6:00 PM
LIVE & SILENT AUCTION
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SPONSORED BY THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

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!

7/1/1996 SI/ The East Bay



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!



SI Convention

2023 Convention

July 27-29, 2023

Dublin, Ireland

Convention Centre Dublin

[Registration](#)

[Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)



Dublin, Ireland • 27-29 July 2023

