



MARCH 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

Dear Founder Region Members,
The 48th Annual Founder Region Conference is just around the corner and I invite you to attend at the newly remodeled San Ramon Marriott. Mark your calendars for May 3rd through 5th as we gather for fun, fellowship, and some region business during this exciting weekend. The Founder Region Board and the Founder Region Fellowship Board hope you will join us as we "Bee the Dream!" for this wonderful weekend. The Call to Conference has been released and emailed to all members. Bee sure to read it in its entirety to learn about all the exciting events we have planned.

This year we will be holding elections for the 2024-2026 Founder Region and Fellowship boards. Please refer to the [Nomination Report](#) sent out with the [Call to Conference](#) or you can find the report on the Conference page of the Founder Region website. There will also be two Founder Region [Bylaw Amendment](#) proposals. Attend our [Caucus](#) on Tuesday, March 26th via Zoom to learn about these amendments. Remember, in order for your delegates to vote, your club must be in good standing. That basically means that the \$800 Mandatory Convention Fee to SIA must be paid; pay by March 15th to avoid a late fee.

Be sure to support our Dream Programs Fund-raiser. Bring your basket filled with items of \$150

value for our drawing at the end of Conference on Sunday. Clubs selling all their fundraising tickets will be entered into a drawing for a \$250 Club Giving donation. Will you be a lucky winner who takes home a basket?

Friday night will be our Fellowship gala and awards banquet. This is your opportunity to hear about the amazing research and projects these women are exploring. Saturday night we will bid farewell to our current boards and install the 2024-2026 Founder Region and Fellowship boards. Don your best black and white attire as we will end the evening by dancing the night away to many of your favorite tunes.

So, send in your club registration to Conference Treasurer Cara before the April 10th deadline. You will not want to miss anything happening during our 2024 Conference weekend. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

In Soroptimist Friendship,
Governor Vicki



Please note: There is a correction to the Call to Conference. The correct email for Credentials Chair Shaun is coopshaun88@gmail.com.

Fun for Fellowship

By now you should have received the 2024 Call to Conference. Here are a few Fellowship events we want to point out.

Fellowship Town Hall

We invite you to join us on April 7th at 6:00pm for an online "Town Hall" event to meet the 2024 Fellowship Recipients.

Hear what inspired them to achieve their doctoral degree, who mentored them along the way, and how they mentor the next generation of girls.

All members are invited to attend!

[Register Now!](#)



SCAN ME

Call for Sponsors

Founder Region Fellowship, Inc. invites you - Soroptimist Clubs, Soroptimist members and businesses in our communities - to become a **SPONSOR** of Founder Region Fellowship. Our vision is to improve the lives of women and girls locally and globally by awarding fellowships to women who will truly make a difference in the world. We offer grants to women attending educational institutions within our Region such as: UC Berkeley, CSU East Bay, St. Mary's College and University of Hawaii at Manoa to name a few.

We invite you to partner with us by contributing **\$1,000, \$2,500, \$5,000 or \$10,000** to help support this program, so we can help more women in the final phase of their doctoral programs. There are several opportunities to advertise your business at our Friday night events. Anticipated attendance of 350 will include members from throughout Founder Region, our Official Visitor from our Federation, as well as local speakers and dignitaries, and will take place at the San Ramon Marriott Hotel.

SI Pin Brooch Auction

Founder Region Fellowship is offering our members an opportunity to purchase the last of the SI Pin Brooches and other sales items through Rally-up online auction. For those members who did not attend District Meetings in the fall and can not attend conference, we wanted to give you the opportunity to support Fellowship.

Auction open from April 1 - 15.

There are multiple quantities of most items & "Buy Now" options are available at \$60 for pins.



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

[LEARN MORE](#)

NEW SPONSOR LEVEL

Elite Biennium Sponsor: \$25,000

(Become An Elite Sponsor For Two Years)

- Logo prominently displayed on Fellowship website for 2 years
- Official Sponsor at all Fellowship events
- Opportunity to be a Silent Observer during Fellowship Interviews

Marquise Level: \$1,000 (Includes signage at Friday Reception and logo on social media)

Jubilee Level: \$2,500 (Includes 1/2 page black/white ad in Fellowship Program, signage at Reception & Award's Gala, logo on website and social media)

Diamond Level: \$5,000

- ◆ Premium Full Page Color Ad in Fellowship commemorative program booklet
- ◆ Premium banner placement around convention area (sponsor to provide banner)
- ◆ Premium logo placement on all media mentions
- ◆ Option to provide promotional item on tables during Fellowship Dinner & Gala (sponsor provide 350 items)

Black Diamond Level: \$10,000 (Fellowship Grant Sponsor)

- ◆ Name on Fellowship Grant Certificate and on screen during presentation
- ◆ Premium Full Page Color Ad in Fellowship commemorative program booklet
- ◆ Premium banner placement around convention area (sponsor to provide banner)
- ◆ Premium logo placement on all media mentions
- ◆ Option to provide promotional item on tables during Fellowship Dinner & Gala (sponsor provide 350 items)
- ◆ Logo listed on website in perpetuity



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

See more information about becoming an Elite Biennium Sponsor on our [website](#).

Please contact President Kris Chorbi if you are interested in this next level support opportunity.



Fundraising - Chair Gina Moore

Its Conference time!! Yes, Conference is just around the corner, and we are in full swing. Conference will be at the Marriott in San Ramon, CA.

Conference is an exciting and a great experience, come and join the fun! Speaking of fun; just a reminder we have raffle tickets to sell! Presidents by now should have received your raffle tickets. Anyone can participate, even members who cannot make the conference can

still purchase raffle tickets and be in the running for great prizes. By purchasing raffle tickets, you are contributing to our Region Dream programs. It's a fun way of contributing to the cause.

Conference is also a time to see old friends and greet new members to our organization. Conference also gives you the opportunity to meet some of our prestigious past governors, guest speakers, and honored guests.

It's also a good opportunity to discuss, exchange opinions, and gather new Infor-

mation. Some clubs have collaborated during conference with other clubs and have had ideas with great success conjoining fundraising events.

The opportunities are endless. Come join in the fun! **See you at conference!**



Membership - Chair Lyn Lurbe

Inner Power

"We do not need magic to change the world, we carry all the power we need inside ourselves already; we have the power to imagine better."

By J.K. Rowling

I'm sure we all remember when we first joined Soroptimist, we were unsure of ourselves and how/what we can contribute to our clubs. We thought we needed magic to get things going but we found out we just needed to compose our inner power to create our desired outcome.

So far, according to the SIA membership reports from November 2023, our Federation has been able to increase membership over the August 2024 goal by 928 members! Here in Founder Region, we've been able to increase our membership over last year's numbers by 29 members. Great job everyone for the desire to combine your inner powers and move our membership numbers upward instead of downward.

Let's continue to share our passion for our vision and mission to anyone and everyone and watch our powers soar!



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

Public Awareness - Chair Kris Chorbi

Tips for Consistent Content Creation and Audience Connection on Social Media

Educational Posts: Share educational content related to our mission and values. This could include informative articles, infographics or short videos explaining relevant topics.

Member Spotlights: Highlight club members and their contributions to your club or community. Share their stories, accomplishments and involvement in club activities.

Throwback Thursday (or Flashback Friday): Share photos or stories from past Live Your Dream Awards, Dream It, Be It or fundraising events. This not only keeps your audience engaged but also serves as a reminder of the impact your club has had.

Volunteer Opportunities: Share information about upcoming volunteer opportunities with your club. Encourage your audience to get involved and make a difference.

Behind-the-Scenes Content: Give your audience a behind-the-scenes look at your club's activities, meetings or event planning process. This helps humanize your organization and makes your audience feel more connected.

Relevant News and Updates: Share news articles, statistics or updates related to the issues your club is addressing. This helps position your club as a thought leader.

User-Generated Content: Encourage your members, volunteers or supporters to create and share their own content related to your club. This could include testimonials, photos or videos sharing their experiences with your organization.

Interactive Content: Post polls, quizzes or interactive stories to encourage engagement and participation from your audience. This could be related to our mission or current events.

Partner Collaborations: Collaborate and share content from other organizations or influencers who share similar values or goals. This can help broaden your reach and introduce your club to new audiences.

Consistent Branding and Messaging: Ensure that all your content aligns with the Soroptimist brand and messaging. This helps reinforce your message and build brand recognition among your audience.

By putting these tips into action, you can create a steady stream of content that keeps your audience engaged and reinforces your club's message.



Program Report - Chair Elise Balgley

Hot off the press (or the email): Founder Region is giving 107 Live Your Dream Awards this Club year for a total of \$214,300.00. That is fantastic! Congratulations to all the recipients and congratulations to the members and clubs who got this done. Let's keep this going and increasing as we move toward a new biennium.

There is also great response on the Violet Richardson awards. We, as Soroptimists,

have much of which to be proud.

The future looks a little brighter knowing that we have these outstanding recipients in it.

I am very much looking forward to meeting our Live Your Dream Award and Violet Richardson District awardees and hearing their stories. Join me at Founder Region Conference and we can celebrate them together.

Continue to "BEE the Dream!" and I will see you soon.

Early registration for SIA's 48th Biennial Convention is open through March 15th!

[View](#) info about airline and hotel discounts.

[Learn](#) how you or your club can be featured in the convention program.

Consider being a convention sponsor. **#SIACnv2024**

[Convention Website](#)



"S" Club - Chair Joy Swank

Greetings "S" Clubs: Happy Spring!

This month we highlight our San Marin High School "S" Club.

Thanks for the great information.

San Marin "S" Club OWLS, (Opportunity for Women in Leadership and Service.)

Soroptimist International of Novato started a club open to all San Marin high school students, focused on offering community service and leadership development. The OWLS Club

is for all high school students who wish to serve their community while developing their skills as leaders. While members may have varied interests and talents, they come together to improve the quality of life - for themselves and the community.

What have OWLS done:

- They made holiday cards for hospice patients and shut-ins for Christmas and Valentine's Day.
- They participated in a schoolwide Anti-bullying Campaign.

Yay OWLS, keep up the good work.



Dream It, Be It - Bev Gomer

PREPARING GIRLS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE [OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN FY22/23](#)

In 2022-2023, a total of 408 SIA clubs were involved with Dream It, Be It (34% of clubs). This was a 13 percent increase from clubs engaged in 2021-2022.

Founder Region Participation

The following **16 Founder Region clubs** reported hosting a Dream It, Be It project during the 2022-2023 club year, through participating (P) or supporting (S) another club's project.

SI/24-680 (Walnut Creek) (P)
SI/Antioch (P)
SI/Central Oahu (P)
SI/Diablo Vista (P)
SI/East Bay (The), (P)
SI/Eel River Valley (P)
SI/Fort Bragg (P)
SI/Guam (P)
SI/Marianas (The), (P)
SI/Martinez (P)
SI/Napa (P)
SI/Redwoods (The), (P)
SI/Rio Vista (P)
SI/Sonoma Valley (P)
SI/The Delta (P)
SI/Vallejo (P)



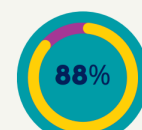
Keep up the good work Founder Region! Please remember the **June 1st deadline** for submitting your club's [evaluation report](#) to SIA. Let me know if you need any help. And I look forward to seeing you at Conference.

OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN FY22/23

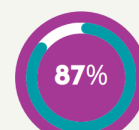
19,114 girls participated
across **15** countries and territories



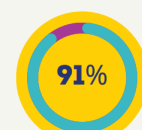
GIRLS ARE EMPOWERED TO LIVE THEIR DREAMS



feel more confident about their future success



met professional role models



created achievable goals for their future



understand how their values can connect to possible careers



SIA President Bobbi Enderlin

Is your club embracing the values of Soroptimist? Many clubs have what I call an identity crisis – they are trying to do everything for everybody. Soroptimist is an organization that is focused on economic empowerment through access to education. Our big goal is to invest in the dreams of half a million women and girls between 2021 and 2031. We can do this with our Live Your Dream Awards, Dream It Be It programs, and local projects that qualify as “Big Goal Accelerator Projects.” (BGAP) If you are trying to be more than this, you are diluting our impact and also not being who we say we are. If we all work together on this more focused approach, our name will become a household word

– and everyone will know our mission.

When SIA Headquarters staff does surveys of members that have left Soroptimist, the majority say that either they did not have a good club experience – other members were unkind, or not friendly – OR, the club was doing projects that weren’t mission based. People visit our federation website and they see all the amazing work going on in our many countries, yet sometimes their club experience doesn’t feel connected. So, I challenge all of you to educate yourselves on the true mission and values of Soroptimist, and work hard to provide a fabulous club experience. The theme of International Women’s Day this year was “Inspire Inclusion” – and we can do this by opening our clubs to people in the community and welcoming their new ideas, and experiences. We need to challenge “the way we have

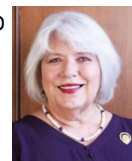
always done things” and be true to our Soroptimist values.

Make sure you are taking advantage of the educational and inspiring virtual workshops and training offered by our federation. Check out the website and educate yourself! www.soroptimist.org

Don’t forget to sign up for your region conference and for our 48th Biennial Convention in Bellevue Washington – you won’t regret it!

Sharing the joy of Soroptimist,

Bobbi Enderlin
2023-2024 SIA President



Region Leadership Spotlight

Dana Holve - FRF Director, District II SI/Vacaville Twilight

I am fortunate to divide my time between Vacaville and Lake Tahoe, with my husband, who is a Child Psychiatrist at Kaiser, and our two daughters, aged 10 and 12. As a volunteer spay/neuter surgeon at the SPCA of Solano County, I am committed to helping animals find permanent homes, while decreasing the number of unwanted animals. In addition to my professional duties, I homeschool my children, guiding their education and nurturing their personal development. I also teach a weekly class for fifth and sixth-grade girls in Classical Conversations, where I aim to cultivate empathy, compassion, and empowerment.

Motivated to extend my service beyond pro-

member

SPOTLIGHT

essional associations, I became a member of Soroptimist seven years ago, assuming the role of charter club president for SI/Vacaville Twilight. Driven by my passion for higher education, I am currently serving my second term as the Founder Region Fellowship District II Director, as well as Live Your Dream District II Chair. Through these roles, I have formed significant connections, while impacting society.

In order to involve my daughters in meaningful projects, I serve alongside them as a Project Leader for Operation Christmas Child. Together, we organize shoebox packing parties that will be distributed to children around the world. Last year, we surpassed our family’s goal and completed 535 personal shoeboxes. By engaging in these activities, I aim

to cultivate my daughters’ love for service and instill in them the values of compassion and generosity.

In my free time, I find joy in hiking with my two dogs, while connecting with nature.

Travel is an essential component of our homeschool curriculum, providing experiential learning and cultural immersion. Recently, my daughters and I hiked the Camino de Santiago, honoring my parents’ memory. We are excited for our next adventure, including Iceland and Scandinavia. Gratitude is my guiding principle, as I am grateful for the opportunity my parents have given me to make a positive impact on our society.



International Women’s Day

Happy International Women’s Day! Celebrate with us by sharing a post on social media with hashtags

#LYDWalkforWomen and #WhyIWalk! Share our mission with your community, or invest in the dreams of women and girls today!

The Celebration Continues All Month

The month of March is Women’s History Month! Celebrate all month long with us through the Walk for Women and [other ways you can get involved!](#)





SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Committee Sign-Ups

FOUNDER REGION IS LOOKING FOR MEMBERS TO SERVE ON REGION COMMITTEES IN 2024-2026.

Please complete this form indicating the committee you are willing to serve on and return to Governor-elect Elise Balgley, or send by email to ebalglesq@aol.com.

Committee descriptions are found on the back. More information about committees and responsibilities can be found on the Founder Region website: www.si-founderregion.org under the Resources tab or in the Founder Region roster. **Be a part of this exciting biennium!**

Pillar of Success Committees:

Program:

- ☐ Live Your Dream
☐ Dream It, Be It
☐ Violet Richardson

☐ Public Awareness

☐ Fundraising

*Join a
committee*



Region Specific Committees:

- ☐ "S" Club
☐ Legislative Advocacy

- ☐ Redwood Memorial Grove
☐ Financial Review

- ☐ Laws & Resolutions
☐ Committee Chair

NAME: _____

CLUB: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

STATE/TERRITORY: _____ ZIP: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Return to Governor-elect Elise Balgley: 40255 Bonica Rose Terrace; Fremont, CA 94538 or email to ebalglesq@aol.com



Founder Region Committee Descriptions

Live Your Dream Awards - This committee requires a chair and representatives from each district who are responsible for planning, coordinating and administering the award at district and region levels. Committee members also serve as a resource for club members.

Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls will help girls grow up to be strong, successful, happy adults. The committee requires a chair and representatives from each district who are responsible to encourage clubs to participate in the program.

Violet Richardson - This committee requires representatives from each district who are responsible for coordinating and administering the judging for the award at district level for presentation at Region Conference.

Membership - A committee of at least one member from each district which serves as a resource for clubs needing assistance with recruitment and retention; acting under the direction of the Region Board in cooperation with Federation for extension, formation, orientation and nurturing of new clubs in the Region.

Fundraising - A committee consisting of a chair and representatives from each district who are responsible for overseeing the SIA/Region Program Fundraiser conducted at our annual conference.

Public Awareness - A committee of at least three members who assist clubs to increase the visibility of the organization and help to promote the awareness of Soroptimist within the Region. The chair works closely with Federation to develop and implement the necessary resources and strategies to meet public awareness goals.

"S" Club - a committee consisting of a chair and interested members. The chair coordinates the region activities of "S" Clubs at the direction of the governor.

Law and Resolutions - reviews current club bylaws to ensure compliance with region and federation bylaws and procedures. Chair confers with the governor as to proposed amendments and resolutions, and, working in conjunction with the Parliamentarian, previews and presents amendments to the region bylaws at the annual business meeting of the region.

Legislative Advocacy - coordinates the accumulation and dissemination of information of topics of interest related to our mission and established programs. Works with the governor on a program for Region Conference.

Financial Review Committee - A committee consisting of three Founder Region Soroptimist members who have at least two years of experience as an accountant or bookkeeper, and have served at least two years as a club or region treasurer. The committee shall be responsible for conducting the financial review of the Treasurer's Books at the end of each biennium.



Soroptimist International of Richmond

Invites You To Our Spring Culinary Event

Food, Wine, Beer and Special Tastings

**April 28, 2024
1 PM - 4 PM**

\$85 Per Ticket*

Call/Text Betty Bowser (510) 918-2545
or Sharon McKethen (510) 932-6631 to
purchase tickets or make a donation

**Rockefeller Lodge
2650 Market Avenue
San Pablo, CA 94806**

PROCEEDS BENEFIT SOROPTIMIST SERVICE PROJECTS,
LOCAL NON-PROFITS & SCHOLARSHIPS
This is an ADULTS ONLY event.
SI RICHMOND is a 501(C)(3) Charitable Organization

*A \$3.00 Service Charge applied if
paying by credit card



Space is Limited
soroptimistofrichmond.org



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF HUMBOLDT BAY

Presents

14th annual HIGH HEELS for HEALING

Men Supporting Women

Wednesday, April 3, 2024 • 5:30 pm

Eureka Adorni Center



Soroptimist International of Dixon

31st Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, May 31, 2024

Entry Fee \$150.00
Registration & Putting Contest 7:30 A.M.
Shotgun Start at 9:00 A.M.

**Paradise Valley Golf Course
3990 Paradise Valley Road
Fairfield, CA 94533**

Lunch, Raffle and Awards Following Golf
Format: 4 Person Scramble * Men, Women & Mixed Flights
(No Rain Refunds – Proper Golf Attire Required)

Entry forms and fees due May 15, 2024

Please make check payable to:
Soroptimist of Dixon
P.O. Box 472, Dixon, CA 95620

For more information, please contact:
Kathy King (916) 838-8073 kathyking1955@gmail.com



Please return the bottom portion of this form with your fee

Soroptimist of Dixon is a non-profit Organization 501(3)C FEIN# 94-6174150

Golfers: 1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

Golfers @ \$150.00 = _____

Contact name, address and phone: _____



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Soroptimist International of
Eel River Valley
Invites You to

Sips for Soroptimist

Annual Tea and Fashion Show

Sunday, April 21, 2024

\$40 per person



**1:00 pm Registration & Socializing
2:00 pm Tea & Fashion Show**

**Fortuna River Lodge -
1800 Riverwalk Drive**

RSVP by April 7

Email us at seelrivervalley@outlook.com for
reservations OR contact a Soroptimist friend!

Checks can be mailed to:

S.I.E.R.V.

P.O. Box 869

Fortuna, CA 95540

For further Information contact:

Laurie at 707-443-6916

Visit our website at:
soroptimistseelrivervalley.org

Fashion Show Presented by
belle starr
clothes that fit your life

**This is Soroptimist International of
Eel River Valley's Largest Fundraiser**

Funds raised from the Tea will support our
Live Your Dream Award, Violet Richardson Award,
Kathleen McVey Youth Citizenship Award,
Sarah Turner Award for Resilience (STAR),
Ruby Award, Women's Opportunity Award,
Library Project, Dream-It-Be-It Program, Shoe Box
Program, and other community service projects.

**SIERV is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
\$40 event ticket includes \$8 for refreshments**

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](#)



CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following clubs
celebrating their anniversary!

3/8/1978	SI/ Guam
3/20/1960	SI/ Sonoma Valley
3/23/1980	SI/ The Redwoods
3/25/1939	SI/ Richmond



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

SIA Convention

2024 Convention

July 24-27, 2024

Bellevue, Washington

Stay tuned for more info!

[Video](#) [Hotel/Airline Info](#)

[Convention Website](#)

SI Convention

2027 Convention

SIA Hosting

July 2027

More details to be announced.

[WEBSITE](#)

