



OCTOBER 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,
It's nominations time!

At our annual region conference in May 2024 we will elect the following officers for the 2024-2026 biennium: Governor-elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and District Directors from each of the five districts AND Fellowship President, Treasurer, and Directors from each of the five districts. They will serve from July 1, 2024 thru June 30, 2026. The [letter and nominations form](#) have been sent to your club president. Be sure to let your club board know of any qualified members who should be nominated for these important positions so that your president can submit the form to the Nominating Committee representative for your district.

The deadline for submission is December 1, 2023, so don't delay. You can nominate more than one member for any position and you can fill out additional forms if you are submitting more names than the form allows. Remember that you do not need someone's permission to submit their name. The Nominating Committee will handle that request.



District Meeting Survey!

It's been a pleasure seeing so many of you at our District Meetings (the District V Meeting is happening soon!) If you were able to attend, please fill out our brief survey and let us know how much enjoyed our program. Your comments will help us in planning for future District Meeting events.

Thank you!
Warmest Regards,
Governor Vicki



[Click here](#) or scan the QR code
to complete the
District Meeting Survey!



Fellowship Speakers

Jennifer Edens, a 2023 Fellowship Recipient, was a keynote speaker during the District III/IV meeting.. She is a Cal State East Bay Doctoral Student in the field Social Justice in Education. She will begin her interviews shortly and will be able to provide stipends to the volunteers. She spoke about how proud she was to receive a grant and support from our organization. Just as our LYD winners report, the encouragement and recognition she received at conference was just as impactful as the award. The members enjoyed hearing from her about the experience and she will be defending her thesis next April.

She is interested in joining so look out SI/Vallejo, she will be a great member!

Another 2023 Fellowship Recipient, Jasmine Jan, a UC Berkeley doctoral student will be the keynote speaker at the District I/II Meeting. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Richmond and Guam!

2023 Fellowship Recipient

Jennifer Edens

Social Justice in Education
University of California, East Bay

Dissertation: Working While Black: Visualizing the Impact of Whiteness and White Supremacy for Black Staff Working in Predominantly White Colleges & Universities



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 Burgarin

Website:

www.founderregionfellowship.org

Email:

2022.2024Fellowship@gmail.com

Treasurer Email:

FRFellowshipTreasurer2022.2024@gmail.com

Address:

3505 Pine Street, Eureka, CA 95503

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

[LEARN MORE](#)

District Meeting Fundraiser

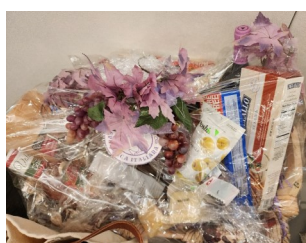
BEAUTIFUL BASKETS AT THE DISTRICT III & IV MEETING!

Thank you to all club members who supported the Fellowship Raffle at the District Meetings. We are headed to the District I/II Meeting as this goes to print.

The District III/IV meeting was held last weekend and we were able to draw for 4 Fellows. **Congratulations to Sharon Redd, (SI/Humboldt Bay), SI/Ukiah (bonus ticket drawn), SI/Novato (bonus ticket drawn), and Laurie Gallian (SI/Sonoma Valley).** The clubs that were drawn will be able to designate one of their members to receive the Fellow. District III & IV raised a total of \$4,673 for Fellowship through the basket raffle.

A big thank you to members Shirley Lipa (SI/Eel River Valley) and Catherine Haron (SI/Windsor) for signing up for Monthly Giving.

We will report on the other meetings next month. Stay tuned for more announcements!



Fundraising - Chair Gina Moore

Fall is here, and that means... District Meeting!! What a great way for clubs to get together and talk, give information, express ideas, and collaborate with each other to promote a better organization. The ideas are endless!

District Meetings are also where we get informed; our Founder Region board members are reay, well informed about many topics; with one of course being fundraising. An idea being discussed is Corporate Sponsorship.

Corporate Sponsorship and Philanthropy goals

is a way to increase our fundraising while also making a difference. While corporate philanthropy and sponsorship has undergone many iterations over the years, one thing has remained constant-corporations support programs, events and organizations that help them achieve their goals. Corporate philanthropy goals are aligned with their desire to be socially responsible companies, which makes a difference in the community and world through their product or service. Soroptimist selling point offers unique partnership with corporations who are looking to connect to our members, mission, and pro-

grams.

We encourage business or corporate partnership; Soroptimist offers the appeal to what they are most interested in, whether you approach a smaller business or national corporation, it is important to emphasize the reach that our organization has on the international, national, and local levels. By supporting Soroptimist, they can demonstrate to their market they share the same values which deepens the engagement and loyalty with their customers. Share these ideas with your club, how to get started, connections, then... pick up the phone.

Membership - Chair Lyn Lurbe

OUR SONG

When I read this poem, I immediately thought of Soroptimist and all of its members. The thought of us all coming together in projects, events, meetings, conferences, conventions, and anything else that your club participates in. How we all come together in harmony with each other, understanding and singing the same tune, feeling satisfied and bonded for an experience well lived.

As you read this poem, what do you envision? Do you see the same thing as I do, or do you see something even more wonderful? Whatever it is, share that vision/thought with those who do not know about us yet. One of the benefits of being a Soroptimist, OUR SONG.

The Poem:

"We believe life is a song we sing together, and each connection is a verse in life's beautiful melody, – a lyric waiting to be sung."



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams



Public Awareness - Chair Kris Chorbi

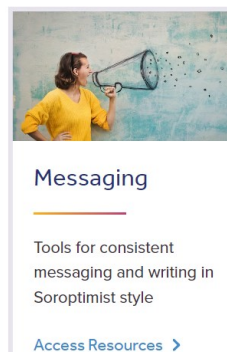
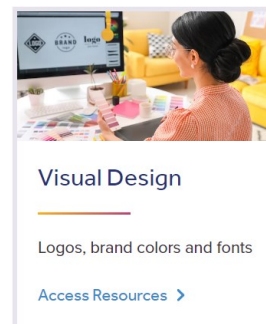
Our Brand Story

Soroptimist can stand out. Our story can be known. Our brand can shine through! Visit the brand new "Our Brand Story" section, which includes visual design tools, messaging, customizable publicity materials and how-to guides.

Act Now To Amplify Our Life-Changing Work!

While Soroptimist has helped countless women and girls around the world live their dreams, we are still the world's best kept secret.

- Share unified messaging
- Present a consistent visual identity and Conduct meaningful actions that support our mission



Check it out!

Soroptimist can stand out. Our story can be known. Our brand can shine through!

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

I have a few things to bring up this month.

On January 9, 2024, SIA will be presenting a Club Grant webinar. Does your club have a great idea, but not quite the funding to complete it? This may be a solution. Club Grant applications are due by March 1, 2024.

There is just about a month until the November 15 deadline for Live Your Dream applications. Make sure that your club is letting potential applicants know about this opportunity. Make sure applicants know that the location of

their educational opportunity is not a key issue in looking at applications. Also, be prepared to share applications. Our mission is to help women and girls; think big when you define your "community". Make sure your club's recipient or recipients are reported through the on-line portal by February 1, 2024.

How are your Dream It Be projects going? This does not have to be a big scary thing to do. Maybe start small and look forward to growing in the future.

Keep those Big Goal Accelerator projects coming. Can we do a 10% increase in those projects in 2023-2024 over 2022-2023? I think we can. An interesting factoid-92% of Big Goal Accelerator projects which are submitted are eligible. Your club can do this.

As always, know that there are people available to help with any of these programs. Contact your District chairs, your Region chairs or me. The only "dumb question" is the one you didn't ask.

Hope to see you all soon.

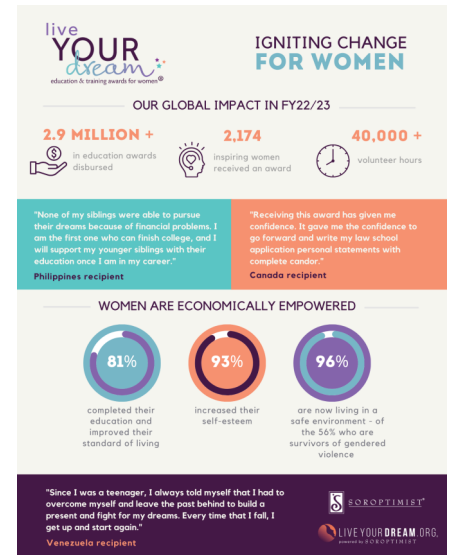
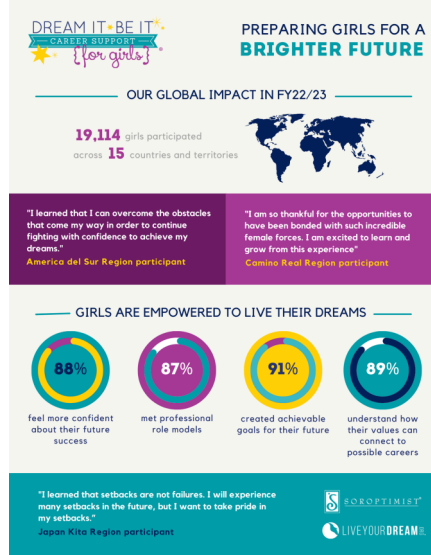
Elise Balgley

New Program Details

New Club Year, New Program Details!

Congratulations! Our global impact in FY22/23 was remarkable. We are incredibly proud to announce that over \$2.9 million in *Live Your Dream Awards* were disbursed—with 2,174 women receiving an award. With the new fiscal year upon us, please take the time to read these important updates for our programs.

Program Updates



Domestic Violence Awareness

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Take the [pledge to end violence against women](#) and discover five ways you can support survivors of domestic violence this October through [LiveYourDream.org](#).

LIFTING UP SURVIVORS

"Thank you all so much for supporting and believing in me. You lifted me up during the scariest time of my life. You

helped to make me who I am today. Words truly cannot express all that your support meant to me."

— Jessica F., 2013 *Live Your Dream*

Awards recipient

Our programs help survivors of violence, like Jessica, rebuild their lives. [Read her story.](#)



Customize this graphic to show your support for domestic violence survivors. [Click here!](#)



"S" Club - Chair Joy Swank

Check out our new logo!

Thank you to Tara Baumann former SI/Vacaville member now residing in Oregon, for our new design.

Hugs to our second-place winner, Gabrielle Kaleialii, an eleventh grader from Freedom High School, "S" Club advisor Lynn Gursky, SI/ The Delta. Gabrielle is receiving a \$50 gift certificate.

Attention Club Presidents: please make sure your schools and "S" Clubs are listed, and your "S" Club advisor's email information is correct.

Please refer to our Region roster, "S" Clubs page. If the information needs to be updated or changed, please let me know. I only heard from a few clubs about this.

Our lovely Region Secretary Kristal will add the new names for us. Just send correct information to me :

Soroptimistjoy@gmail.com

Everything you need to know about "S" Clubs is on the [website](#), Programs - "S" Clubs. Check it out !

Warmest regards, Your lovely "S" Club Chair, Joy Swank

NEW "S" CLUB LOGO



2024-2026 Nominations

This year at our annual conference we will be electing members to the Founder Region and Fellowship Boards. The new 2023-2025 Nominating Committee took office on July 1st.

Dyann Obrien, 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/Mauai

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 6 years.
- Candidates for Fellowship President must have served on the

Region or Fellowship Board within 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](#)

Dream It, Be It - Bev Gomer

Swag Bags for Dream It, Be It Participants

Barbara Young from SI/Santa Rosa asked me about suggestions for swag bag "stuff" for Dream It, Be It participants. Good question, thank you Barbara! So I will share my outcome with everyone else.

Barbara's question came at the perfect time, as the DI, BI Region chairs were meeting (on Zoom) for our regular monthly meeting led by the SIA Program Director. I took the opportunity and asked them for swag bag suggestions, and here are their responses:

- Affirmation boxes (clear plastic) or a list that girls can choose from or create their own. Use different colored paper so it's fun and pretty.
- Stress balls
- Small notebook and pen to journal
- Candy (seasonal)
- Bag/backpack/cinch bag (local businesses can donate)
- Hand sanitizer
- Small mirror
- Period products
- Colored pencils & coloring pages to relax
- Snacks
- T-shirts

Take a plain white gift bag and put the DI, BI logo on it, to hold swag items. Give swag goodies at the end of the completed sessions so it's not distracting! Distribute them once the student evaluation is turned in.

Recommended sites to order: Oriental Trading Company or Dollar Tree.

I hope this will give you some new ideas. It was noted that while the SIA store has Dream It, Be It items, they are expensive. My club (SI/Martinez) bought the DI, BI bracelet and the pocket folder using Founder Region grant monies. Have fun!



SIA President Bobbi Enderlin

A big THANK YOU to all the members and clubs that invested in our Soroptimist organization by contributing to the Dream Big Campaign! I issued a matching challenge of up to \$10,500, and you exceeded my expectations with over \$12,000 donated! This money will help to invest in the dreams of women and girls by providing them with access to education. We have already provided more Live Your Dream Awards, and provided club grants to help our clubs with their local programs.

In addition, we have a new database being

installed at SIA/HQ which will help not only our amazing HQ staff, but provide more information to clubs and regions to make membership recruitment, retention and fund-raising more effective!

Fall is my favorite time of year...here in California, we do have beautiful autumn colors and the weather is a little cooler. But it is Fall District Meeting time – and I hope you will be attending to learn more about our organization, and be prepared to be inspired by each other and the work that we do to help women and girls. I'll be attending the District I/II meeting in Richmond, so I hope to see you there?

October is also a time to consider the survivors of Domestic Violence – my club has a Domestic Violence Vigil each year, to provide awareness about this horrific issue that affects many women and girls in our communities. Please consider what you can do to help end this gender violence.

Share the Joy of Soroptimist!

Bobbi Enderlin

2023-2024
SIA President
Member SI/Benicia



Region Leadership Spotlight

Danelle Tegarden Fellowship Treasurer SI/Eureka

In 2013 a friend of mine, Crystal Hull, asked me to attend a Soroptimist meeting. Since the meeting was during lunch it was simple enough for me to attend. Once I went to the meeting – Crystal asked me if I might like to join. A few other fellow employees were part of SI Eureka, and the meeting was very informative and I really liked the "vibe". I joined! Before joining, I actually thought that Soroptimist was some kind of sorority. I didn't realize that the Soroptimist mission was to help women and girls. The next function that SI Eureka was part of, along with SI Humboldt Bay was the annual awards event. I literally had no idea what I was in for. The awards event was so moving and wonderful. I loved the idea of awarding women funds to help them continue their education. All of the award winners were so deserving. From the Violet Richard-

member

SPOTLIGHT

son Award to the Ruby Award – I was so proud to be part of this organization.

I have three grown daughters and the idea of helping

women and girls achieve economic empowerment through education is close to my heart.

When I first started attending meetings as a member, I was pretty quiet and just listened – I was kind of intimidated by some of the members. Everyone seemed to know what was going on. Several months later I was nominated to be on the Finance Committee. Little did I know that meant that I would become treasurer in the future. Since then, I've been on several committees, and served as President for 3 years. I've also served as the treasurer and assistant treasurer for more than a few terms. I have had a lot of help and support with each of the roles. That is what I love about Soroptimist – we are all here to support one another.

Five years ago, I was asked to be on the Region Financial Review Committee. I enjoyed that very much and it led to me running for Founder Region Fellowship Treas-



urer. It has been truly fun and rewarding being part of our signature Region project.

Another great part of being part of Soroptimist is the friends that I've made locally and within the Region. I cannot imagine what my life would be like without this group of amazing women. Soroptimist has enriched my life. And all it took was for one member to ask me to join!

Founder's Month

Happy Violet Richardson Month!

On October 3, 1921, the very first Soroptimist club was founded by Violet Richardson. 102 years later, we are celebrating her incredible legacy—that Soroptimists like you continue to build upon—with the second annual Violet Richardson Month of Giving!

[READ MORE](#)

 SOROPTIMIST®

Violet Richardson Month of Giving

Help carry on the legacy of
Soroptimist's first president!





Soroptimist Int'l of the East Bay

Homemade Sorop-Tamale Fundraiser

\$30 per Dozen

To place your order for fresh homemade Tamales contact

Billie Knight at billie.knight@att.net or call 510-825-7389

Pick up your delicious handmade tamales on

Saturday, October 21, 1:00pm to 5:00pm at

23646 Glenbrook Lane (off D Street), Hayward, 94541

Payment with cash, check or credit card at the time of delivery.



HALLOWEEN BUNCO BASH

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 5PM
EARLY BIRD TICKETS \$35 BEFORE 10/22

[HTTPS://SQUARE.LINK/U/A9NF9UNY](https://square.link/u/A9NF9UNY)

DINNER + 1 DRINK TICKET
TICKETS AT THE DOOR \$45



DINNER 5PM - PLAY 6PM - 8PM
NO HOST BAR - BUY RAFFLE TIX - WIN PRIZES
COSTUMES ENCOURAGED AND REWARDED
ODD FELLOWS HALL UPSTAIRS
337 WINDSOR RIVER RD

FUNDRAISER FOR SOROPTOMISTS WINDSOR
WOMEN HELPING WOMEN AND GIRLS

18th annual

Bewitching Tea

Sunday, Oct. 29

1 to 3 pm - Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall
1150 First Street, Benicia

Traditional tea
prepared by Manny's

Fashion Show by Sparkly Ragz
Spooky Table Décor Contest
Haunted Hat Contest
Photo Booth ■ Raffle



BYO table settings: cups, pots, plates. Cutlery provided.

\$75 per person or \$420 to sponsor a table of 6
Advanced purchase is required



To buy tickets, scan QR code
or go to <https://sclubbenicia.square.site/>

Soroptimist International of Benicia thanks our sponsors:
DaliaWebDesign.com ■ Ebbiesink.com ■ Sparkly Ragz

Benefiting SafeQuest Solano

Questions? Call Heather at 925-570-8900



It's yum-raising time for [@si_dixon](#) ! Shop your favorite See's Candies and have them delivered to your door! Click the link below and shop now 🍂 thru December 1st 🌲

<https://www.yumraising.com/.../soroptimi.../BreBre9636/candy>



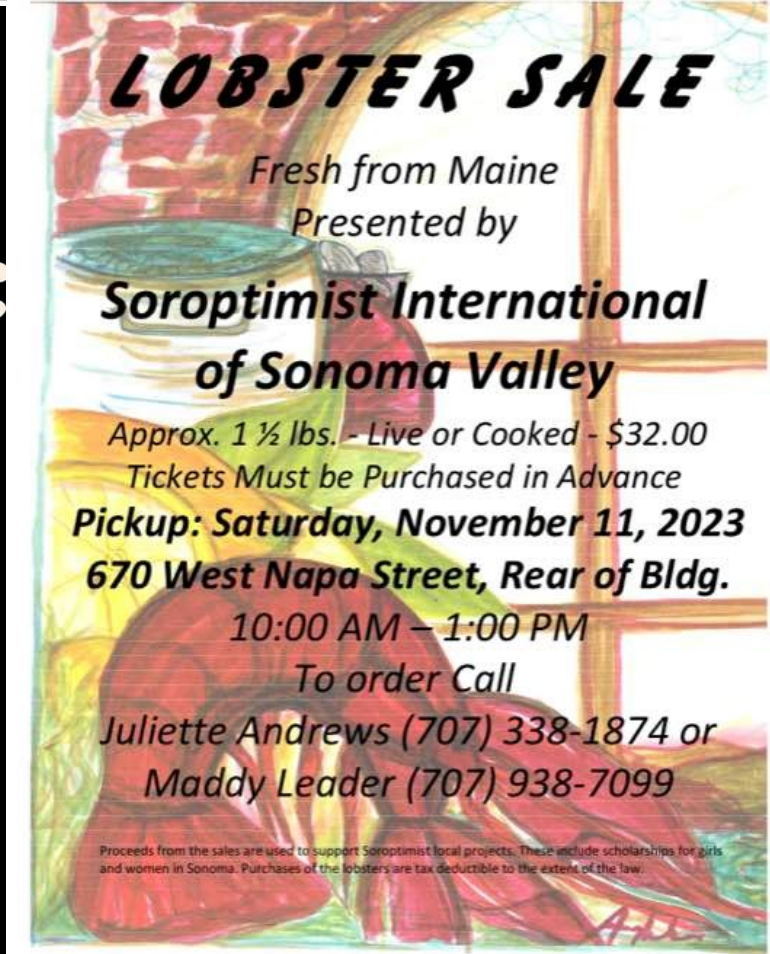
QUARTER GRAZE
COSTUME CONTEST
Prizes!!!
Soroptimist of Eureka
October 18th

Eureka Woman's Club
1531 J St. Eureka
Doors Open 5:45 Bidding 6:30

DINNER \$10
PIZZA, SALAD & DRINK
Bar Available

Registration Strongly Encouraged
Quarter Craze Charity Events Humboldt

More info: Carole Crossley (707) 845-7243



LOBSTER SALE
Fresh from Maine
Presented by
Soroptimist International of Sonoma Valley

Approx. 1 ½ lbs. - Live or Cooked - \$32.00
Tickets Must be Purchased in Advance
Pickup: Saturday, November 11, 2023
670 West Napa Street, Rear of Bldg.
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
To order Call
Juliette Andrews (707) 338-1874 or
Maddy Leader (707) 938-7099

Proceeds from the sales are used to support Soroptimist local projects. These include scholarships for girls and women in Sonoma. Purchases of the lobsters are tax deductible to the extent of the law.



HALLOWEEN BINGO FOOD DRIVE

DONATE NON-PERISHABLE BREAKFAST ITEMS AND RECEIVE A SPECIAL RAFFLE TICKET*.

EVERY CONTRIBUTION WILL AID FAMILIES IN NEED WITHIN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY.

*ONE TICKET PER PERSON

Soroptimist International of the Delta



\$15 PER PERSON
Includes dessert and a drink.

Dine-in or pick up
SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 4TH
5:00PM-7:00PM

INDIAN TACO FUNDRAISER
DUTCH RAFFLE

SIE is hosting an Indian Taco event to raise funds for the Local Community benefiting girls and women.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EUREKA
819 15TH ST

To place your order please call Theatta **707-498-9912**

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!

10/3/1921	SI/ Oakland-The Founder Club
10/20/1939	SI/ Vallejo
10/27/2013	SI/ Northern Mariana Islands
10/17/2017	SI/ Palau



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](#)

