



# SEPTEMBER 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](http://www.si-founderregion.org)

SIA Website:

[www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)

SI Website:

[www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org)

## Bee the Dream!

### GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Founder Region Members,

Where did the summer go? It seems like we were just at Conference and now we are headed into autumn and getting ready for District Meetings coming in October. I am always so excited about our District Meetings and your District Directors have been working hard on the planning and they have great meetings outlined along with information from SIA to be presented on the four pillars. It seems that many of you enjoyed the member participation that we did at Conference, so we are prepared to carry that sharing portion on in our upcoming meetings.

You can find information on the dates and locations on the region website under the Meetings tab. We have included the links below for your convenience.

### [DISTRICT III & IV MEETING](#)

Saturday, October 7, 2023

Ukiah Valley Conference Center, Ukiah

[DOWNLOAD CALL](#)

### **DISTRICT I & II MEETING**

Saturday, October 14, 2023

Galileo Club, Richmond

[DOWNLOAD CALL](#)



### DISTRICT V MEETING

Saturday, October 21, 2023

Guam Community College, Mangilao

[DOWNLOAD CALL](#)

Sunday, October 22, 2023, District V Leadership Training, Guam Community College

(Registration included in above Call)

Don't forget to assemble your club's basket (or envelope for District V) with at least a \$75 value and bring it to your District Meeting.

**"What's Your Dream?"** is the Fellowship theme so Bee creative in selecting items for your basket. The Fellowship Board has distributed number logs to each club and this is your opportunity to win one of the club baskets or perhaps become a fellow.

We look forward to seeing many of you there in October.

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](http://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

Last month was National Will Planning month. You may have received information from SIA regarding **Laurel Legacy** and updating your will to include Soroptimist. If you haven't yet created a will or living trust, you can learn more by visiting our website at

[go.soroptimist.org/laurellegacy](http://go.soroptimist.org/laurellegacy).

You can download all the details and documents you will need to make your gift. Supporters of all ages have made Soroptimist part of their charitable plans.

Your generosity and forethought will help build our financial sustainability and ensure that we continue working to help every woman and girl be their best. It is never too early to make a plan for your financial life and gain con-

trol over the determination of your assets. Make a gift that's easy to arrange, simple to modify, and adaptable to your needs. Check it out on the website above. Enjoy the rest of your Summer!



## Membership - Chair Lyn Lurbe

### THE ELEVATOR SPEECH

I know some of you cringe when you hear of having your own elevator speech. Don't worry, the more involved you are with your club, the faster you will develop your speech. Just be patient and give it time to mature into something wonderful and inviting!

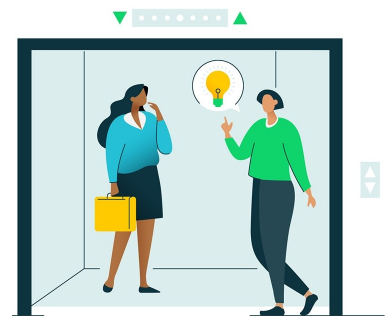
You will hear a little more about this at the District Meetings but the key point to remember is that everyone's speech should be their own. Continue to practice the key points of your speech because as time goes on, it will

evolve and continue to get better and seamless. In fact, you may be able to create several elevator speeches depending on the situations, the various environments/activities you are involved in, and the different people you will encounter. One speech may be about the organization, another may be about the Live Your Dream Program, or the Dream It, Be It Program, or a club project that you are excited about. Create and Excite!

Keep in mind that an elevator speech should be brief about 30-60 seconds, make it personal, be positive and persuasive in your message, and above all ... practice makes it perfect!

Once you've mastered your speech(es), it'll become a natural way of starting a conversation about Soroptimist!

Have fun with your speeches!

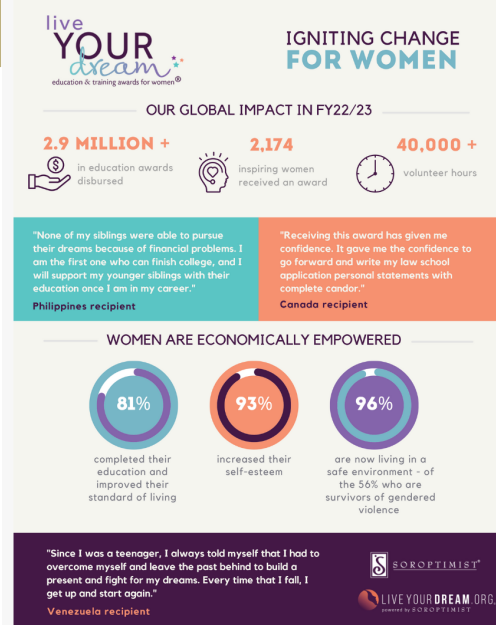


## Public Awareness - Chair Kris Chorbi

Now is a good time to start advertising the Live Your Dream Awards, and any other scholarships you give at the local level. Canva is a great website to create eye catching graphics.

Check out this template updated by a club and posted to their Facebook page. Members can share the post and increase awareness about their awards.

This [infographic](#) provides impactful statistics about how the LYD program ignites change for women and their families. Share it on social media, on your club website, and with local organizations and media.



**Soroptimist International of Eureka**

**CASH GRANTS TO HELP YOU LIVE YOUR DREAM**

Are you a woman who has been enrolled or accepted into a vocational/skills training program or an undergraduate degree program? Are you the primary financial support for yourself and dependents?

**APPLY NOW**

[Soroptimist.org/lyda-apply](http://Soroptimist.org/lyda-apply)

**live YOUR dream**  
education & training awards for women®

SCAN ME

Submit your club event details to [kchorbi5@yahoo.com](mailto:kchorbi5@yahoo.com) by the 10th of each month for sharing in this newsletter.



## Program Report - Chair Elise Balgley

The various programs which are part of Soroptimist are some of the “whys” for being a Soroptimist. Yes, it is a lot of work and there are challenges but enjoy the process and congratulate yourself and your club on a job well done. You are BEEING SOMEONE'S DREAM.

What to be doing this month? Check your Live Your Dream Portal; you may already have applicants there. Let's be ready to share those applications among our clubs so that all these applicants who need our help can have an opportunity. Have your club judges lined up and ready to go by the November dead-

line. If you didn't get a chance to watch it, see SIA's Live Your Dream 101 video.

If your club is ready to do a Dream It, Be It project, let's move forward. If you need help, shout out to a neighboring club, your District committee representative, or your Region chair. If your club already has a project underway, please share your “recipe”.

Look for a 14–18-year-old who you would like to honor with a Violet Richardson Award. That type of recognition might be exactly what that young woman needs to keep doing what she's doing.

Then, of course, there are Big Goal Accelerator Projects. It makes me smile every time I

get a notification that a Founder Region club has submitted a project. It matters.

I hope to see many of you soon at District Meetings. Let's catch up on all your amazing activities.

### [WATCH RECORDING](#)



## LYD Advertising

### **Promote your Live Your Dream Award.**

Customize and send this [news release](#) to local media. It promotes the award and links women to the application.

Contact local organizations to help you spread the word and share flyers: Local universities and community colleges. Vocational and training schools

Places of worship

Domestic violence shelters

Women's health centers

Daycare centers

Job and career fairs

Customize this [promotional flyer](#) and ask your local organizations to hang it, post it and share it with their audiences.

### **Customize Canva Template**

Customize this [graphic](#) to promote the Live Your Dream Awards application on social media. You can insert this link to the main apply page for easy access:

[Soroptimist.org/lyda-apply](https://soroptimist.org/lyda-apply).

Promote the Live Your Dream Awards application on social media with an eye-catching and informative graphic.

**READY TO BEGIN** a new life?

The Soroptimist Live Your Dream: Education & Training Awards for Women program has been helping women around the world since 1972. This program provides cash grants to women who are working to better their lives through additional schooling and skills training.

**You are eligible to apply if:**

- ☐ are a woman with primary financial responsibility for yourself and your dependents
- ☐ are attending an undergraduate degree program or a vocational skills training program
- ☐ have financial need

Scan the QR code to apply or contact:

Soroptimist International of

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Online: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Application Deadline: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of Club Award: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## SIA 48th Biennial Convention

This July 24-27, 2024, SIA will host a celebration unlike any other as we Reach New Heights together in the vibrant city of Bellevue for our 48th Biennial Convention.

This convention promises to be a monumental experience for every Soroptimist. So mark your calendars, make your plans and join this transformative event!

### **MANDATORY CONVENTION FEE**

The mandatory convention fee is **\$800**

payable to SIA no later than March 15, 2024. Clubs that have not remitted the convention fee on or before March 15, 2024, will also be required to remit a late fee equal to 10% of the convention fee (this amount is \$80.00 for the 48th Biennial Convention). [LEARN MORE](#) ABOUT THIS MANDATORY FEE.

Registration will launch during the first quarter of 2024, and the best rate is:

**Early Registration Rate** (applicable from the launch of registration through March 14, 2024): \$750

SIA is excited to gather in person for the first time since Yokohama, Japan, in 2018. Stay tuned for more registration details. See you in Bellevue!



## "S" Club - Chair Joy Swank

Happy September "S" Club fans from your "S" Club Region Chair Joy Swank,

### Welcome all new "S" Club Advisors.

I have heard from two club presidents so far with the names of the new advisors. Please send the names to me, or your District Director. I hope I hear from you soon so we can update the roster.

Everything you need to know to get started is on the Founder Region [website](#). Go to Programs, "S" Clubs and read away. Some of you are not seeing the links. Click on them too for sample bylaws and steps to get started. Tons of information is available there. Remember there is money available for

grants to help get your clubs going. Yay "S" Clubs, and thank you new advisors.

### "S" Club Start-Up Grants

Founder Region Procedures state that up to \$500.00 can be granted for start-up costs, which could include promotional materials, refreshments for recruiting events, charter parties, t-shirts, pins and other costs associated with starting up an "S" Club. [Applications](#) will be reviewed by the Founder Region Board and "S" Club Committee. Please allow 60 days for approval process.

### "S" Club Project Grants

Founder Region has a special fund designated for "S" Clubs. The money is collected each year from clubs in the region. This money is

designated to help start "S" Clubs, and to help "S" Clubs with girl-focused projects. Up to \$500.00 can be granted for girl-focused projects. [Applications](#) will be reviewed by the Founder Region Board and "S" Club Committee. Please allow 60 days for approval process.

Have a great club year everyone.

Warmest 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

### Dream It, Be It Grants

Founder Region has a special fund designated for club Dream It, Be It projects. The money is collected each year from clubs in the region. Founder Region Procedures state that up to \$500 can be granted to a club for their Dream It, Be It project.

I'm happy to report that the Founder Region Board will continue to honor DI, BI grants this year! It was noted that once the money in reserve for these grants is gone, the grants

will probably be discontinued. Only one grant can be received per project. Funds are limited. Additionally, the grant process will likely be re-evaluated during the 2024-2026 biennium. [Open grant application](#):

Please note: The Founder Region Board stated that while it's a good thing to participate in *Get Real Academy* (a DI, BI project/collaboration among multiple clubs), the Board would really like clubs to start new projects within the schools in their communities.

To that end, here is an updated "Frequently Asked Questions," or [FAQ](#), that will aid your

club in getting a new project off the ground and running. Please let me know how I can help.

Check out the [step-by-step](#) guide/worksheet to complete the new DI, BI reporting evaluation form and the new form.

Download [Evaluation Form](#)



## SIA President Bobbi Enderlin

Congratulations to the 2023-2024 SIA President Bobbi Enderlin, past Governor of Founder Region. President Bobbi took office on September 1, 2023 and will serve a one year term until August 31, 2024. Members of Founder Region are so proud to her ascent to the highest leadership position in the federation. We wish her all the best of luck in her new office!



Meet SIA President Bobbi Enderlin

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

## Region Leadership Spotlight

**Lenore Colarusso**  
**District I Director**  
**SI/24-680 (Walnut Creek)**

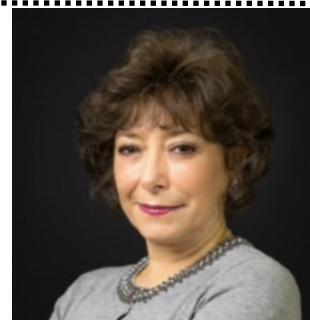
My name is Lenore Colarusso and I was born in New York in 1951, so yes, I'm 72 years old as of yesterday, September 2nd. I was the third sister and then my little brother was born 14 months later. The four of us are very close and my two older sisters basically raised my brother and me. We were referred to as "the kids."

Growing up for us was not so easy, especially my brother and me. Our Dad died when we were young and we basically somehow realized that the only way to get ahead in this world was through education; not sure how that occurred to us. We both excelled in high school and then



went on to Junior Colleges in Long Island, New York.

After college and an AAS degree, I started working full-time in 1972, as a paralegal/legal administrator. In 1975 I had my daughter, Lauri, and as a single parent, life was very hard. In 1982 I started working for AT&T. While working there I was promoted several times and obtained my undergraduate degree from St. Mary's College in 1991 and my graduate degree from Golden Gate University. I worked for AT&T for 22 years. As most of us, after retiring, I became a real estate investor, mortgage consultant, learned quickbooks and owned and operated a French bakery in downtown Livermore, CA. I guess I can never stop working, although I finally did in 2021.



I live in Pleasanton, CA with my husband, Richard, we have four children and one grandchild. As most of you know, our middle son, Alex, passed away in January, 2021.

My Soroptimist life began in 2005 when I was invited to join a new Club, SI/24-680 (Walnut Creek). Our Club is still going strong and it is part of my life. I love Soroptimist and everything it stands for.

## SIA Survey

**SIA Survey Series: Share Your Opinion for Chance to Win a Prize!**

SIA has launched an online survey series to gather member feedback on various topics. By participating in our survey series, you'll not only play a crucial role in shaping future

decisions, but two members will also have the chance to win a \$50 gift card! Take our first survey about the [Best for Women e-newsletter](#). Also, get more details about the survey series [here](#).







FLOWERPOWERFUNDRAISING.COM

[GO TO PAGE](#)

## Soroptimist of Eel River Valley

Flower Power Fundraising helps support groups, causes and communities using an earth-frien...



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE MARIANAS  
PRESENTS

# PINS FOR A Purpose

A Back to the 80s Bowling Event

GRANDPRIZE  
**\$500**

Donated to a local  
charity of the winning  
team's choice



## CENTRAL LANES BOWLING CENTER

Saturday, September

**23**

Registration: **2PM**

Start Time: **2:30PM**

5-Man Team Registration: **\$400**

Entry fee includes (2) games and a light lunch

Other prizes for:

-Overall Highest Individual Scorers

-Best Dressed 80s Theme

\*80s Themed Dressed Teams- 20 points added to  
team score for full participation

RSVP TO TASI CASTRO AT 671-689-0945 OR EMAIL  
TASICASTRO@YAHOO.COM



SOROPTIMIST  International of Vacaville  
Investing in Dreams

presents

# ROCKTOBERFEST

Join us at the  
Biergarten for  
Rocktoberfest!

SATURDAY | 5PM | \$65 EACH  
10-21-23 | 9PM | \$75 AFTER 10-1-14

Ulati Community Center  
1000 Ulati Dr., Vacaville

Tickets Online



Enjoy authentic  
German Cuisine  
including pork loin,  
brats, German potatoes and  
more, from Anderson Family  
Catering. Munch on giant Pretzels  
and enjoy delicious Apple strudel from  
Pure Grain Bakery. Of course there will be  
wine and beer at our no-host bar. Rock to the  
music of the School of Rock and enjoy a roving  
accordion musician. Bid on awesome silent and live  
auction items.

It all helps Soroptimist International of  
Vacaville raise money for scholarships and  
programs that empower women and girls to reach  
their full potential and live their dreams!

Dinner tickets are \$65 each until September 30th.

Cost of tickets from October 1 - 14 \$75 each.

Purchase at [givebutter.com/rock](http://givebutter.com/rock)

Our no-host bar opens at 5:00 p.m.



Want to support our goals and promote your business? We have sponsorships starting  
at \$150. You can also reserve a table for eight with a sponsorship of \$1,000 or more.  
Contact Dawn Shepherd at [soroptimistdawn@gmail.com](mailto:soroptimistdawn@gmail.com) for details.





## 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!

9/6/1962	SI/Waikiki Foundation, Inc.
9/21/1986	SI/Central Oahu
9/25/2005	SI/24-680 (Walnut Creek)



## 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](#)

