



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

**Founder Region**  
*Thirty-first Annual Conference*

*Official Program*

*Sue Finch — Governor*  
*“Creating Magic*  
*Through Soroptimist”*

**May 4, 5, & 6, 2007**

**Marriott Hotel**  
**San Ramon, California**

**Conference Coordinator, Hostess Club  
And Committee**

**Cathy Mitchell, Conference Coordinator**

**Hostess Club: Soroptimist International of Healdsburg  
*Committee***

Hostess Club Chair	Chris O'Neel, President SI Healdsburg
Registration Chair	Kaylene Hirtzer SI Healdsburg
Credentials Chair	Joyce Strand SI Tri Cities
Floor Committee Chair	Karen Tappin SI Healdsburg
Treasurer	Peggy DeZurik SI Healdsburg

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*Sue Finch*  
**Governor**  
*2006–2008*



Dear Members of Founder Region:

On behalf of the hostess club, the Region Board, the Fellowship Board, the region committees, and the conference coordinator I welcome you to Founder Region's 31st Annual Conference. We are excited to share this weekend with you and hope you will feel your time and money are well spent. During the next few days you will learn about our organization, make new friends, laugh, cry, and the lucky ones will go home with goodies in the form of Fellowship pins, baskets, and money.

Many VIP's are attending conference including our official visitor, Federation Director Sylvia Winterling, SIA Fund Development Council Chair Linda McDoniels, Peggy McNamara, Rebecca Kimbel, the award recipients, guests, and our first time attendees. Please introduce yourselves to these people and make them feel welcome.

You will not want to miss any of the events scheduled. From the trafficking workshop on Friday morning to the awards brunch on Sunday this conference is filled with activities including shopping in the second annual trade fair and razzle dazzle entertainment during Soropti Idol.

Thanks to you we are giving \$81,500 in grants and awards during conference. That represents a tremendous number of opportunity drawings and fundraising events. You are definitely "Creating Magic Through Soroptimist" this weekend!

The memories you create during this conference will last a lifetime so make the most of it and remember "what happens in Founder Region stays in Founder Region".

Warm regards,

*Governor Sue*

## Founder Region Board 2006 - 2008



Sue Finch

Amelia Benko

Linda Sue Hansen

Debbie Thompson

Barbara L. Lanier

Dona Gaddis-Wolf

Bobbi Enderlin

Helen A. Sager

Bonnie Vukonich

Judy Lee

Jacque Brown

Governor

Governor-elect

Secretary

Treasurer

Director District I

Director District II

Director District III *(not pictured)*

Director District IV

Director District V

Director District VI

Parliamentarian *(not pictured)*

## **Founder Region Fellowship Board of Directors**

Dion Weaver — President  
Karen Ortega — Director District I, Secretary  
Gloria Soderbery — Director District II  
Linda Glantz — Director District III, Treasurer  
Linda Bradbrook — Director District IV  
Sarah Olson Turner — Director District V  
Lorraine Teniya — Director District VI



# PROGRAM

## Thursday May 3

9:00 am — 12:00 pm

Founder Region Board Meeting

3:00 pm — 5:00 pm

Founder Region Fellowship Board Meeting

6:30 pm — 9:30 pm

No host dinner

## Friday, May 4

8:00 am to 6:00 pm Registration

8:45 am — 11:30 am

Workshop

"Taking Action on Trafficking of Minors in Local Communities"  
Presented by Legislative Advocacy Committee  
Gloria Scoggin, Chair

9:00 am — 5:30 pm

Trade Fair

11:30 am — 12:15 pm

Break

12:15 pm — 2:15 pm

Luncheon

"Making a Difference Creates Magic"  
Hosted by Region Board

Inspiration

Secretary Linda Sue Hansen

Welcome

Treasurer Debbie Thompson

Award Presentation

Governor-elect/Program Council Amelia Benko  
*Making A Difference For Women For Women Award*

Guest Speaker

"Born In Polygamy"  
Rebecca Kimbel

2:30 pm — 4:00 pm

Workshop

"No Holds Barred"  
Presenter Peggy McNamara

6:00 pm — 7:00 pm

Social Hour

7:00 pm

Fellowship Dinner

"Mardi gras for Fellowship"  
Hostess Club  
Soroptimist International of Pittsburg

Opening	Governor Sue Finch
Procession of Presidents	District Directors
Presentation of Colors	California High School "S" Club
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America	
National Anthem	Barbara Lanier & Wendy Anderson
Inspiration	Mary Morris, Vice President Soroptimist International of Pittsburg
Welcome	Jeannie Rollans, President Soroptimist International of Pittsburg
Presentation of Platform Party	Governor Sue
Awardees and Grant Presentations	Dion Weaver, President Founder Region Fellowship
Announcements	Cathy Mitchell, Conference Coordinator

*Recess*

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## Fellowship Recipients

**Bethany Faye Lyles** Nick-named by one her professors, the "Quantum Queen", Bethany followed her fervor in mathematics and physical chemistry into the doctoral program in nuclear engineering. Born and raised in the southern town of DeQuincy, Louisiana, her childhood was greatly influenced by her grandfather, an "electrical engineer by training and an entrepreneur by trade". She took her master's degree from Fort Lewis College in Colorado and is completing her doctoral degree at University of California Berkeley. Her dissertation is titled, Exploring the Limitations of the Surrogate Ratio Method: Evaluating the Sensitivity of Relative Surrogate Probability Measurements to J-pi Population Mismatch.. This research has implications in the reduction of long-term radiotoxicity of radioactive waste and has potential use as a non-intrusive means for examining maritime cargo containers. It represents "a course by which nuclear science and technology can be responsibly applied to reliable homeland security".



**Sikina Jinnah** Sikina's female role model is her grandmother, the first female attorney in East Africa. Sikina was born in Canada and moved to California as a toddler. Education has always come first in her family. Her mother passed the California Bar Exam and so following the example of her "foremothers", Sikina attended the University of California, Berkeley where she pursued a major in environmental sciences. The extreme poverty and environmental degradation she observed while backpacking around the world led her to ask, "How can we balance social and economic development needs for the world's poor with global environmental protection for future generations?" She earned her Master's studying trade/environment policies at the University of Montana and is now attending UC Berkeley completing her doctoral studies. Her dissertation topic is Managing Regime Overlap: Balancing

**Naraporn Somboonna** Naraporn was born in Thailand. The death of her father from sepsis led her to decide that her fields of interest would be microbial pathogenesis and vaccine/drug design. Her father greatly influenced her life. His wishes were to forgive others and to use the money that he had left to take care of his employees and their families. Her mother assumed the responsibilities of raising a family of three sons and one daughter. Each of them has a distinguished career in the sciences and in medicine. Naraporn is very proud of the accomplishments of her parents and her brothers. Active in the US promoting Thailand at cultural events, she is deeply involved in the Berkeley Thai community. Her dissertation is titled, Multidisciplinary Study of Chlamydia trachomatis Persistent Infections. Chlamydia is a major cause of blindness in Thailand and in other parts of the world. Her plan is to remain the field of bioengineering and public health.





**Nina Lyn Rudnick** Nina's parents divorced when she was young and so she traveled back and forth between her parents on opposite sides of the San Francisco Bay. As a result, she developed an awareness of each area and the diversity that is Berkeley and San Francisco. She has a strong commitment to give back to these communities which is evidenced by her volunteering in crisis counseling at 16. As a result of this experience, she decided to major in psychology. While pursuing her doctoral degree, Nina works in a day treatment center for children ages 6 to 13 with severe emotional problems. A grandchild of holocaust survivors, her grandfather's stories of survival helped to shape her values and beliefs. Nina states, "in their names, remembered and forgotten, I have devoted myself to making my mark." Her dissertation is titled, Tourette's Syndrome in the Classroom: A Manual for Elementary School Teachers.



**Jeanne Casstevens Stachowiak** Jeanne is a Texan and an offspring of a family with strong ties and a "straightforward, honest approach to life". Jeanne's mother is a software engineer and her father a mechanical engineer. Her father challenged Jeanne and her two sisters to dream big and not give up on their ideas. Graduating from University of Texas at Austin, she continued with her studies in mechanical engineering. Her Master's degree involved the development of a new miniaturized sensor for application in the early detection of cancer. Jeanne then worked on a project capable of warning against bioterrorism through the detection and identification of bacterial species present in the air. Her doctoral research is focused on the design and characterization of new methods for drug delivery. Married to Tim Stachowiak who is finishing a PhD in chemical engineering, Jeanne gives him credit in developing confidence and balance in her life. Her dissertation is titled, Development and Application of a Piezoelectric-Driven Microjet Injector for Transdermal Drug Delivery.

**RaeDeen Momilani Keahiolalo-Karasuda** In her autobiography, RaeDeen writes, "My father taught me three important lessons: encourage the best in others and respect people for who they are; keep a grateful attitude and you will always have something to give; and, cultivate success by investing in others." She was raised by parents and grandparents who gave unconditional love and imparted wisdom to RaeDeen and her brothers. Her strength, convictions and love of family helped her to survive two major events in her life: thyroid cancer and institutional racism while employed in the anti-domestic violence field. Rather than being shattered by this, she pursued her education and her service to the community. RaeDeen is researching and writing a core curriculum which will be implemented in state and private out-of-state prison facilities. She is the only Native Hawaiian in the nation engaged in the study of incarcerated Hawaiians. Her dissertation is titled: The Imprisonment Binge in Hawai'i: Collateral Consequences for Native Hawaiians.



**Saturday, May 5**

**7:30 am to Noon Registration  
(Closed during business sessions)**

7:30 am — 8:30 am

Club "Sharing Our Success" Breakfast

8:30 am — 9:30 am

Founder Region Fellowship Annual Meeting

Call to Order

President Dion

Presentation of Platform Party

President Dion

Adoption of Credentials Report

Chair Joyce Strand

Minutes

Secretary Karen Ortega

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Linda Glantz

Directors Reports

Fellowship Directors

President's Report

President Dion

*Adjourn Founder Region Fellowship Annual Meeting*

9:30 am — 11:15 am

Founder Region Business Meeting

Call to Order

Governor Sue

Presentation of Platform Party

Governor Sue

Adoption of Credentials Report

Credentials Chair Joyce

Adoption of Standing Rules

Secretary Linda Sue

Adoption of Official Conference Program

Secretary Linda Sue

Introduction of Pages

Governor Sue

Greetings and Correspondence

Secretary Linda Sue

Findings Report for Conference 2010

Secretary Linda Sue

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Debbie Thompson

Financial Report

Jan Phelps, Member  
Finance Committee

Federation Update

Sylvia Winterling, Director  
Soroptimist International of the Americas

Credentials Report

Credentials Chair Joyce

Proposed Amendments to Bylaws (as time permits)

Linda Simon, Chair  
Laws & Resolutions Committee

*Recess*

12:00 Noon – 2:00 pm

**Luncheon**

“Honoring the Magicians”  
Hostess: District Directors

Inspiration

Judy Lee,  
Director District VI

Welcome

Dona Gaddis-Wolf,  
Director District II

First Time Attendees Recognition

Governor Sue

Presentation of Past Governors

Governor Sue

Keynote

Peggy McNamara

Presentation of Region Awards

Violet Richardson Ward “Service To Youth Award”  
Julia “Bess” Combs Membership Increase Award

Governor-elect Amelia  
Treasurer Debbie

Presentation of Club Awards

District Directors

2:15 pm

**Reconvene Business Session**

Credentials Report

Credentials Chair Joyce

Vote on Hostess Club for 2010

Governor Sue

SIA Fund Development Council Report

Chair Linda McDoniels

Proposed Amendments to Bylaws

Chair Linda  
Laws & Resolutions Committee

Region Committee Reports

Margarite I. Kittyle Friendship Link Committee  
Sheila Bearden, Chair, Membership Committee  
April Rovero, Chair, Public Awareness Committee

Appointment of 2007-2009  
Founder Region Nominating Committee Chair

Governor Sue

Announcements

Conference Coordinator Cathy

**Saturday Evening, May 5**

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Social Hour

7:00 pm

Banquet

"Let Us Entertain You"

Hostess Club: Soroptimist International of Healdsburg

Inspiration

Yvonne Mathieu  
Soroptimist International of Healdsburg

Welcome

Chris O'Neel, President  
Soroptimist International of Healdsburg

Soropti Idol

Beverly Jones, Chair  
Conference Coordinator Cathy

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Board Director **Sylvia Winterling** has been a member of SI/Alexandria, Virginia, since 1987. She has held several leadership positions, including region governor, secretary, board member, club president and secretary. She is the owner and vice president of IMPACT, Inc., a company that produces medical education programs via distance learning.



**Linda McDoniels** has been a member of Soroptimist since 1985, during that time she has served as Founder Region District Director, Founder Region Secretary, Founder Region Governor-elect and Founder Region Governor from 1998-2000. She also served as Founder Region Fellowship President from 2000-2002. Linda is the 2007 Chair of the Fund Development Council with SIA and will continue in that position for 2008. Linda is a Certified Senior Escrow Officer and Branch Manager for North American Title Company in St. Helena, California. She has been in the escrow and title insurance field for 26 years. Linda and her husband, Lee, live in Rancho Cordova, California. They have 4 children and 7 grandchildren.

JAFRA



**Debbie Thompson**  
Independent Skin Care Consultant

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debbiet@treesofmystery.net

## Official Visitors and Guest Speakers



### Rebecca Kimbel

Rebecca and her late husband and six daughters moved to Humboldt County from Las Vegas Nevada. Rebecca was a former stunt girl with the Bonnie Springs Entertainers, who put on the only staged whip acts, hangings, gun fights, and fights in town. They played at the Desert Inn, the Hacienda, the Union Plaza and Old Nevada in Las Vegas. She was the staff artist for Lloyds of Las Vegas Interior Design, before her marriage to Garlin Kimbel. Her interests in local organizations have been those that include equestrian activities, dancing, music, and, of course, business. Rebecca is a Toastmaster whose next accolade will be her Advanced Toastmaster Gold Award. She is currently acting Area Governor G11 of Toastmasters International. Rebecca will share a very personal part of her life with us.

Every once in a while you run across a speaker that makes an impact with both her story and message;

**Peggy L. McNamara** is one of those speakers. She is known for creating a bond with her audiences and therefore, able to inspire change which helps to increase overall productivity and individual effectiveness. Peggy recently opened a pre-license real estate school in Minnesota, co-owns a Huntington Learning Center in Minnesota, is the past-President of the Minnesota Chapter of the National Speakers Association, is an author of thousands of published articles as well as her book, "My Tender Soul – A Story of Survival" that was first published in 2000. Not only is Peggy a mom, an entrepreneur, consultant and professional speaker, she is also a former recipient of the Women's Opportunity Award, formerly called TAP, in 1990 from Soroptimist International of Eugene, Oregon.



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Sunday, May 6

7:00 am - 9:00 am Registration

8:00 am - 8:45 am

Memorial Service

Hostess Club  
Soroptimist International of The East Bay

9:00 am

Awards Breakfast

Call to  
Inspir  
Welcc  
Preser  
Barba

Women's Opportunity Awards District Winners

Claudia Quiles,  
Committee Member

District I  
District II  
District III  
District IV  
District V  
District VI  
At Large

Terra N. Doby  
Susan Weaver  
Me'Lea Mackbee  
Martha Sanchez  
Molly Rachel Severdia  
Jeanna D. Hurt  
Veramarie Castillo

Soroptimist International of the East Bay  
Soroptimist International of Martinez  
Soroptimist International of Napa  
Soroptimist International of Santa Rosa  
Soroptimist International of Eureka  
Soroptimist International of Central Oahu  
Soroptimist International of Dixon

Drawings/Raffles

Governor Sue

"Painting Magic" Fundraiser

Marge Dimmick, Chair  
SIA Program Fundraising Committee

Audience Report

Credential Chair Joyce

Acknowledgments

Conference Coordinator Cathy

Special Remarks  
Illey

Club:  
Oahu  
Sue  
ikami  
Oahu  
Soto  
Oahu  
r Sue  
Chair  
mittee

8:00 am — 8:30 am

Memorial Service

Hostess Club:  
Soroptimist International of The East Bay

8:45 am

Awards Breakfast

Hostess Club:  
Soroptimist International of Central Oahu

Call to Order  
Sue  
kami

Governor

Jane Mura-

Soroptimist International of Central Oahu

Welcome  
Soto

Leona

Soroptimist International of Central Oahu

Presentation of Platform Party  
Sue

Governor

*Breakfast*

Barbara S. Stevenson S-Club Awards  
Chair

Norene Lowry,

"S" Club Committee



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*Manager*

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## Founder Region Fellowship Credentials Reports

### Credentials Report #1

Clubs in Founder Region \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Eligible to Vote \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Not in Good Standing \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Registered \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Voting Clubs \_\_\_\_\_

Delegates Registered:  
 Fellowship President \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fellowship Directors \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club Delegates \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Delegates \_\_\_\_\_

Quorum for Opening Session \_\_\_\_\_

### Credentials Report #2

Clubs in Founder Region \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Eligible to Vote \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Not in Good Standing \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Registered \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Voting Clubs \_\_\_\_\_

Delegates Registered:  
 Fellowship President \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fellowship Directors \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club Delegates \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Delegates \_\_\_\_\_

Quorum for Opening Session \_\_\_\_\_

## Founder Region Credentials Reports

### Credentials Report #1

Clubs in Founder Region \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Eligible to Vote \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Not in Good Standing \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Registered \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Voting Clubs \_\_\_\_\_

Delegates Registered:  
 Region Officers \_\_\_\_\_  
 District Directors \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club Delegates \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Delegates \_\_\_\_\_

Quorum for Opening Session \_\_\_\_\_

### Credentials Report #2

Clubs in Founder Region \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Eligible to Vote \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Not in Good Standing \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Registered \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Voting Clubs \_\_\_\_\_

Delegates Registered:  
 Region Officers \_\_\_\_\_  
 District Directors \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club Delegates \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Delegates \_\_\_\_\_

Quorum for Opening Session \_\_\_\_\_

### Credentials Report #3

Clubs in Founder Region \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Eligible to Vote \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Not in Good Standing \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Registered \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Voting Clubs \_\_\_\_\_

Delegates Registered:  
 Region Officers \_\_\_\_\_  
 District Directors \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club Delegates \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Delegates \_\_\_\_\_

Quorum for Opening Session \_\_\_\_\_

### Credentials Report #4

Clubs in Founder Region \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Eligible to Vote \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Not in Good Standing \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clubs Registered \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Voting Clubs \_\_\_\_\_

Delegates Registered:  
 Region Officers \_\_\_\_\_  
 District Directors \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club Delegates \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Delegates \_\_\_\_\_

Quorum for Opening Session \_\_\_\_\_

# Attendance Report

Clubs in Founder Region	_____	Fellowship President	_____
Clubs Registered	_____	Fellowship Directors	_____
Clubs Absent	_____	Club Delegates	_____
International Officers	_____	Other Soroptimists	_____
Federation Officers	_____	Guests	_____
Region Officers	_____		
District Directors	_____	<b>Total in Attendance</b>	_____

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## Soroptimist Mission

*To Improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world*



# Conference Standing Rules

1. **Registration** — All members must be registered before being admitted to Conference meetings.
2. **Credentials**
  - a. The Credentials Committee shall provide identification badges for voting delegates, Sroptimist members, and guests at the time of registration
  - b. Identification badges shall be worn at all times and are not transferable.
  - c. Should a delegate be absent or unable to serve, the alternate shall assume the duties of the delegate AFTER qualifying at the registration and credentials desks. These duties shall be retained throughout the Conference.
3. **Seating**
  - a. There shall be a designated seating area for delegates.
  - b. Attendees shall be seated five minutes before each session convenes.
  - c. The doors shall be closed when each session convenes; those awaiting admittance during session shall be admitted at the discretion of the pages.
4. **Communications** — All communications for those seated at the platform and members of the assembly shall be delivered by an official page.
5. **Motions** — Main motions and amendments shall be written on the official form provided, signed and sent to the chair by an official page.
6. **Debate** — Debate shall be limited to two minutes for each speaker, and ten minutes for each question, except when permitted otherwise by the voting assembly by a two-thirds vote. No member may speak more than twice to the same question, except by consent of the voting assembly.
7. **Decorum**
  - a. All meetings will be called to order on time.
  - b. The Chair at all times shall be addressed as Governor Sue
  - c. A delegate or other member shall rise, address the Chair and having been recognized, shall state her/his name and the name of her/his club distinctly, making use of the microphone provided.
  - d. No delegate or officer shall leave the meeting room unless excused by the Chair.
  - e. The Chair shall recognize each member desiring the floor in proper order.
  - f. Both delegates and non-delegates shall be allowed the privilege of the floor. Precedence shall be accorded delegates.
  - g. Region committee chairmen shall be accorded precedence of the floor at the discretion of the Chair, with the consent of the delegates, if they are speaking to an issue affecting their committee, or to an issue proposed by their committee and which was sent with the Call to Conference.
  - h. Cell phones, pagers, beepers, lap tops, or any other electronic equipment shall be turned off during Conference sessions.
8. **Publicity** — No discussion or action shall be released for publicity without the approval of the Region Governor.
9. **Recording Devices** — Recording devices (i.e. tape recorders, video cameras) shall not be used during the Conference without the written consent of the Region Governor.

## Corrections to Standing Rules

## **Founder Region Annual Awards**

### **VIOLET RICHARDSON WARD "SERVICE TO YOUTH" AWARD**

This award is presented to the club with the most outstanding service project for youth. The award shall be presented by the governor-elect at the Founder Region Conference. This award is given in honor of the first president of Soroptimist.

### **JULIA "BESS" COMBS EXTENSION AWARD**

This award is given to the club having the largest increase in regular membership during the year April 1 through March 31 and shall include the membership of a newly chartered Soroptimist club sponsored by the club. The award may be presented by a member of the Member Services Committee at the Founder Region Conference. The winner is determined by the record of the Founder Region Treasurer. The original award was donated by Soroptimist International of Santa Rosa.

### **JULIA "BESS" COMBS MEMBERSHIP INCREASE AWARD**

This award is given to the club having the largest net growth in regular membership during the year from April 1 through March 31st. This net growth is not to include that of a newly chartered Soroptimist club sponsored by the club. Net growth is understood to mean increase above and beyond current regular membership minus those who resign or regular membership terminated for other reasons. This award may be presented by a member of the Member Services Committee at the Founder Region Conference. The winner is determined by the records of the Founder Region Treasurer. The original award was donated by Past Governor, Southwestern Region, Julia "Bess" Combs.

### **BARBARA STEVENSON "S" CLUB ENDOWMENT AWARD**

This award is used for the sole purpose of honoring outstanding high school senior members of "S" clubs of Founder Region. Applications for this award are submitted by "S" club members with the selection of the winners to be made by the "S" club committee. The region board determines the dollar amount and number of awards given. All contributions to this fund received by the region treasurer shall be added to the principal. The chairman of the region "S" Club committee announces the winners at region conference, where they receive their monetary award from the governor.

### **FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP FELLOWSHIP/GRANTS IN AID**

Founder Region Fellowship is a non-profit, incorporated entity within Founder Region Soroptimist International of the Americas. There are elected directors seated as the board, one from each district in the region. The Founder Region Governor-elect appoints the president in the second year of the biennium. Fellowships and grants in aid, (totaling not less than \$20,000) are awarded each year to graduate women in the last phase of their studies at a university offering a doctoral degree, within the boundaries of Founder Region. This program is a Founder Region Identifying Project and is administered through Founder Region Fellowship.

# **Soroptimist International of the Americas Annual Awards**

## **VIOLET RICHARDSON AWARD**

The Violet Richardson Award, which is funded by Soroptimist International of the Americas, recognizes young women who make the community and world a better place through volunteer efforts. The award is named for the first president of the first Soroptimist club in 1921, whose motto was, "It's what you do that counts." The program begins on the club level, with club recipients becoming eligible for the \$1,000 region-level awards. An additional \$1,000 will be contributed to the region-level winners' volunteer organization. One winner is chosen from among the region-level recipients to receive a finalist award, which includes a contribution of \$2,500 to the winner's volunteer organization.

## **WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY AWARDS**

The Women's Opportunity Award is funded by Soroptimist International of the Americas, and is designed to assist mature women in upward mobility and in their efforts toward training for re-entry into the labor market. Application begins at the club level, with local awards optional. Applications of the club awardees are forwarded to the district level for judging. One applicant from each district will be awarded not less than \$500 annually at the region conference. The districts awardees applications are forwarded to the region chairman for judging.

The region awards are presented each year and funded by Soroptimist International of the Americas. The region award is based on the number of participating clubs from the previous year. Funding for the following club year is announced by Federation June 1<sup>st</sup>. Each region receives a base award of \$5,000.00. At each additional level, regions receive an additional \$3,000.00 award. Each region forwards its winner to the federation. The Federation awards three \$10,000.00 awards. On all levels, judges are to be non-Soroptimists.

## **MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR WOMEN AWARDS**

This award honors women who are making extraordinary differences in the lives of other women. The award begins at the local level where clubs recognize a woman in their community. Clubs submit their entry to the region level, where the region selects a woman to honor at the region conference. The regions submit their entries to the federation level, where one woman is selected to receive a \$5,000.00 donation to her favorite charitable organization. The recipient is invited to accept her award at SIA's biennial convention or other federation meeting.

## Founder Region Past Governors

**Cathy Mitchell, 2004—2006**  
 "Together We Can"

**Mary Ann Redden, 2002—2004**  
 "Achieve Growth By Sharing"

**Carol Rose, 2000—2002**  
 "Soroptimists Soar Into The New Century"

**Linda McDoniels, 1998—2000**  
 "Making a Difference Together"

**Nancy Walker, 1996—1998**  
 "Inward Journey-Outward Paths"

**Patti Cross\*, 1994—1996**  
 "Reach for Soroptimist Rainbows"

**Dorothy L. Avilla\*, 1992—1994**  
 "Leading the Way"

**Lorraine Komor, 1990—1992**  
 "Celebration of Soroptimist"

**Susan Joyce, 1988—1990**  
 "We are One in Service Spirit"

**Carol Steele, 1986—1988**  
 "Dreams of Soroptimism"

**Del Nickerson, 1984—1986**  
 "Images of Soroptimism"

**Patricia D. Daniels, 1982—1984**  
 "Gifts of Soroptimism"

**Marjorie T. Conley, 1980—1982**  
 "Windows"

**Catherine M. Burns, 1978—1980**  
 "Let Us Grow"

**Violet B. Unland\*, 1976—1978**  
 "Beat of the Drum Calls Us to Service"

**Margaret "Maggie" Knott\*, 1974—1976**  
 Southwestern Region SIA  
 "Onward and Upward"

**Julia "Bess" Combs\*, 1972—1974**  
 Southwestern Region SIA  
 "Let It Begin With Me"

**Mary Gianotti\*, 1966—1968**  
 Southwestern Region, SIA  
 "Moving in the Direction of Change"

**Mary Lorentzen-Moser\*, 1960—1962**  
 Southwestern Region, SIA  
 "Song of Soroptimist-Beat  
 the Drums Loud and Clear"

**\*Deceased**

*Thank you Past Governors for your leadership, for your support, and for your dedication to Soroptimist and especially to Founder Region.*

*We appreciate the sacrifices you made to take on the challenges of leadership and the example you set in upholding Soroptimist ideals.*

*Founder Region Board 2006-2008*

## **The Soroptimist Pledge**

**I pledge allegiance to Soroptimism  
And to the ideals for which it stands:**

**The sincerity of friendship  
The joy of achievement  
The dignity of service  
The integrity of profession  
The love of country.**

**I will put forth my greatest effort  
To promote, uphold and defend these ideals,  
For a larger fellowship  
In home  
In Society  
In Business  
For Country  
And for God.**



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