



APRIL NEWSLETTER

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2022-2022 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 47th Annual Founder Region Conference is just a couple of weeks away and the Founder Region Board and the Founder Region Fellowship Board have been busy making plans for you to have an exciting weekend at the beautiful Oakland Marriott City Center. If you haven't watched the boards' welcome videos yet, you can still find them on our Founder Region Facebook page.

I am particularly excited about our Friday Legislative Advocacy program on "The Sandwich Generation." The committee has put together a wonderful line-up of speakers with a plethora of information and advice to guide you or your loved ones through difficult situations that may arise from caring for others while still maintaining balance in your life. You may have questions about how to deal with your own situations and we will have professionals to help give you answers.

Our Fellowship Awards program will highlight the amazing women in the final stages of their doctoral degrees who have been chosen for the 2023 grant. You will not want to miss hearing about the projects and research that each of them is so passionate about. The Fellowship Board selected such a diverse group of women and you will be in awe of what these women are accomplishing.

Don't forget to dress up in fashion through the decades for Saturday night; maybe show off the 1920's dress you bought for the 2021 year, but did not get to wear. We will also be entertained by fellow members in "Founder Region's Got Talent!" There is still time to brush up on your club's act and sign up for this talent show.

Remember to support our Dream Program Fundraiser. Bring your basket filled with items of \$150 value for our drawing at the end of Conference on Sunday.

There is so much more happening and you will not want to miss any of it. Join us as we "Bee the Dream!" for this wonderful weekend. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

In Soroptimist Friendship,
Governor Vicki



CONFERENCE DEADLINE IS APRIL 14th. HOTEL BOOKING DEADLINE IS EXTENDED TO APRIL 18.

Where is she now?

Lori Wiley - UH Manoa, 2018 Recipient

At the Founder Region Conference in 2018, doctoral candidate, Lori Wiley was awarded a Fellowship to support her work in audiology. When the SI/CO attendees learned that she was originally from Mililani, they flocked around her to learn more. Dr. Lori detailed her journey since that time at SI/Central Oahu Business Meeting on February 2nd. She is now with John Burns School of Medicine involved with several projects. Several members remembered that her father, Dr. Tesoro, had a long time practice in Wahiawa where Marilyn Lee worked with him. Her attendance at their meeting was akin to a homecoming.



We hope you will attend the Conference in May to meet our 2023 recipients.

Don't forget to [donate](#) your \$75 (or more) to be included in the 75 Year Diamond Jubilee Campaign.

[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

Email:

2022.2024Fellowship@gmail.com

Treasurer Email:

FRFellowshipTreasurer2022.2024@gmail.com

Address:

3505 Pine Street, Eureka, CA 95503

Become a Sponsor?

Founder Region Fellowship, Inc. invites you - Soroptimist Clubs, Soroptimist members and businesses in our communities - to become a **SPONSOR** during the 2023 Conference.

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 Reception and our Awards Gala. 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 Oakland Marriott City Center Hotel.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Fellowship Fun Run/Walk

April 1 - May 15, 2023

Cost: \$45

(Price includes custom gaiter)

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

Go to www.raceroster.com to register. Search for "Fun Run for Fellowship 2023" and look for our logo.

- You choose the distance, whether you run or walk.
- You choose the location and the day/time.
- You can even use your treadmill.
- All participants entered into a drawing for a Fellow.
- Gather pledges to increase chances to win (every \$45 donated is 1 chance).
- For every \$1,000 raised, we will draw for a Fellow (or level up).
- **Event sponsorships available for \$250 (includes logo on event home page, website & social media)**



CLUB TEAMS

Teams will also be eligible to name a Fellow when their total reaches \$1,000, so be sure to choose your club team when registering. Invite your family and friends to join the fun!

Visit the [Fun/Run page](#) for more information.



Fundraising - Chair Gina Moore

Ready, Set, GO!

Yes conference is here. Pack your bags and set out for a fun filled weekend of Soroptimist joy!! Whether you are joining us for the whole weekend or just stopping by; come join in the fun.

As we are gearing up for Conference, make plans to come and see us at the fundraising table. We will be there to answer any questions regarding any of the prominent levels of our Laurel society. I will have pins if you wish to start, and also have pins for those who level up.

The Laurel Society is SIA's prestigious recognition program for donors who contribute gifts totaling \$1,000 or more. Since 1994, nearly 9,200 Laurel Society members have given over \$19 million to help economically empower women and girls through our Dream Programs.

Levels of Recognition	Contribution	Stone Color
Attaché	\$ 1,000	Sapphire
Envoy	\$ 2,500	Ruby
Diplomat	\$ 5,000	Diamond
Ambassador	\$ 10,000	Pearl
Inner Circle	\$ 25,000	Sapphire
Inner Circle	\$ 50,000	Ruby
Inner Circle	\$ 75,000	Diamond
Inner Circle	\$100,000	Pearl

Please come see us at Conference; sign up and be part of this significant program.

Membership - Chair Lyn Lurbe

WORKING AS A TEAM

What does it mean to be a part of a team?
How do you know that you are part of a team?
What is a team?

A team means that you are part of something bigger than YOU. Therefore, a team is a group of people working towards a common goal, all members knowing and understanding the team's goals, mission, and objectives.

As Soroptimists, we work together on our mission of providing women and girls access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. As a team,

we empower our members, we engage our members, and we increase our collective impact to reach as many women and girls as we can!

Here are some tips on working as a team.

- *Get to know each other.* Make sure your members are talking to each other, socializing, and networking.
- *Make sure everyone is on the same page.* Does every member of your club know and understand our Soroptimist vision and mission? Review who we are, what we do, when we do certain things, why we do it, and how we do it with both

your new and seasoned members.

- *Utilize their talents.* Get to know each other's strengths, skills, talents, interests, and hobbies. Sometimes, they would prefer to explore their options in other areas.
- *Have a team building activity.* Plan events that would showcase the talents in your club.
- *Recognize and Reward.* Praise as many members as possible, if not, all of your members!



Public Awareness - Chair Kris Chorbi

If you are attending our Founder Region Conference at the Oakland Marriott City Center in May, we hope you will take lots of pictures and post to your club's Facebook page. Please use the hashtag below so all can view everyone's photos. See you at conference.

#FR2023Conference

Photographer wanted!

Are you coming to conference? Do you love to take photos? We are looking for a member to take photos Friday night, Saturday night, and Sunday Morning at our events during conference. Meals will be reimbursed for those events upon delivery of digital photos. Contact Governor Vicki if you are interested at vickiham01@gmail.com.



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 want to begin with congratulations to SI/Honolulu and SI/Vacaville. Both of those clubs recently submitted Big Goal Accelerator Projects to SIA. Your club can do it too. Watch the webinar on the SIA website, review the criteria, get whatever input/help you need and go for it.

On the Live Your Dream front, Founder Region clubs gave 109 Live Your Dream awards this year totaling \$190,250.00. That is an increase from 2021-2022 on both fronts. Good job and keep up the

good work. Remember SIA set us a goal of 114 awards and it would really be fantastic if we could meet or exceed that in the 2023-2024 year. I know that we can do this.

Our region also supported roughly 30 Violet Richardson awards. That is again great work. Think of the difference all your efforts have made in the lives of these women and girls. Be proud and persistent!

District VRA Winners

District I

Andrea Martinez, SI/The East Bay

District II

Caitlin Peck, SI/Vacaville

District III

Kalyani Ryar, SI/Novato

District IV

Laelia Maynor, SI/Humboldt Bay

District V

Esther Chan, SI/Honolulu

These girls will receive \$500 each from Founder Region. There is no region winner. Congratulations to all the recipients.

Live Your Dream Reporting

Live Your Dream Awards 101 Webinar

There is still time to register for SIA's *Live Your Dream Awards 101* webinar on May 17 at 7 p.m. (ET). Receive an overview of the program, learn the basics and ask questions during the live Q&A. You must register in advance to attend, so don't delay!

[REGISTER](#)

District LYD Winners

I - Sarrah Jessa, SI/Martinez

II - Cari Loftin, SI/Dixon

III - Rashel Waite,

SI/Oakmont Wine Country

IV - Emily Newton, SI/Noyo Sunrise

V - Sscents Bobbie Erler,

SI/Central Oahu

When you change one woman's life, it sets off a ripple effect that transforms the lives of countless others.

The region winner will be revealed at the Founder Region Conference in May.

Region Sales

Founder Region will have "Bee the Dream" shirts, license plate frames and bee pins available for purchase at the conference in May.

"BEE the DREAM" T-SHIRTS \$35

Available any size in Black or Yellow with sparkly lettering and a fun bee! Shirts are true to size.

LICENSE PLATE FRAMES - \$15

Buy 10 get 1 FREE

FOUNDER REGION BEE PINS \$10 or

3/\$20 or 10/\$60

SHOW YOUR "BEE" PRIDE! These

bee-u-ti-ful pins come in various styles. Buy 1, 3, or all 10.



"S" Club - Chair Joy Swank

Greetings "S" Club fans from your Region
"S" Club Chair Joy Swank

I hope your Easter was filled with joy! I hid eggs for all six of my peeps, fun was had by all. No fighting, each assigned a different color and the same amount.



Life is fair at Grandma's house.

Now it is on to Conference! Yay! I look forward to seeing you all there.

I also look forward to presenting the Barbara Stevenson award at SI/The Delta's awards ceremony. Our winner is not able to attend Conference, but do not worry, she is sending a video of herself.

The year is wrapping up for schools, best wishes as you continue to support your "S" Clubs and encourage the newly elected officers.

See you at Conference everyone. A million thanks for all you do to support our Region "S" Clubs!

Hugs, Joy



SIA News

Watch President Stephanie's [message](#) about our upcoming conference season.



Welcome to SIA's 2023 Region Conference Season!

Celebrate Volunteer Week

Volunteer Week is coming! The week is an opportunity to recognize our members who go above and beyond every day for the women and girls we serve. Look for a special email the week of April 16-22.

Day in the Life of a Soroptimist

As we get ready to celebrate volunteer week, we want to know what it's like in the day of the life of a Soroptimist. Please share stories, photos, videos using the hashtag #SIASVolunteerWeek.

SHARE YOUR STORY



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

Dream It, Be It - Bev Gomer

If She Can Dream It

Spring into the SIA website! I recently came across this featured report, *If She Can Dream It*, which is an important read. It looks at how adolescent girls interpret their future and approach opportunities that are both desired and confusing. It concludes that for this generation of girls, the guidance of experience, training, and supply of resources is

invaluable.

This is why we do what we do...Dream It, Be It projects!

Girls have dreams that are easier to express than to realize. They need real-life role models to offer personal examples of success and of linking their education to their futures; ways to tackle the challenges and failures that are part of that success story.

YOU are making that difference in girls—by providing the tools to explore future oppor-

tunities. Through networking, training, resources and financial support, mentors like you can help girls navigate the path from dream to reality. Thank you for all you do to support girls in our communities through this Dream Program!

Check it out here: ***If She Can Dream It***

https://soroptimist.imgix.net/05-for-members/Program_Resources/dream-it-be-it-club-resources/research-and-impact/research-paper.pdf



The "Buzz" from Bobbi



I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the upcoming Region Conference in Oakland! Conference is such a great time to renew friendships, make new friends, celebrate our clubs and our award recipients, and enjoy fun and fellowship together! I will be your "Official Visitor" from the SIA Board of Directors, and I look forward to being a part of this amazing event.

I have launched a challenge to all Founder Region members and clubs to make a donation to the Dream Big Campaign, and I will match up to \$10,500! This campaign

is an investment in our future - with the funds we will be able to impact more women and girls through our dream programs as well as improve support and infrastructure to clubs to make it easier to fundraise and recruit and engage club members! Check out the website to learn more about the campaign: <https://www.dreambig.soroptimist.org/>.

Please consider a personal donation, becoming a stargazer with your donation going to the campaign, and encourage your club to make a donation too! Talk to your financial planner and find out how to make a

"tax-free" donation from your retirement account - it is really easy! Here is the link to make sure your donation counts towards the match: <https://dreambig.soroptimist.org/founder-region>.

Another exciting event coming up is the Soroptimist International Convention in Dublin in July! It has been a dream of mine to go to Ireland, and I am excited about attending and meeting up with Soroptimists from around the world. Hope to see you there! For more info: <https://sidublin2023.com/>.

Bobbi Enderlin
2022-2023 SIA President-Elect

Region Leadership Spotlight

I will be celebrating 21 years of Soroptimist service with SI/Martinez in March. I never saw this coming! I was invited to attend a holiday social/meeting, and the rest is history. During this time, I have served three bienniums as District Director, one biennium as Fellowship Director and am currently completing my second biennium as Founder Region Dream It, Be It Chair.

I have repeatedly served (like many of you) in all positions in my club...except treasurer. I will be president this coming year, having come full circle since 2005. I became a member of Soroptimist because of our mission, supporting the livelihood of women and

member

SPOTLIGHT

girls, and being among women who shared a common goal. My participation at every level of "Soroptimist" has been inspiring and a growing experience for me.

I was lucky to retire early, six years ago, from the Athenian School in Danville after 14 years as the Associate Director of Admission. Prior to that I spent approximately 30 years working in public education, some of those in administration...some teaching adults. During the last five years I was the College and Career Advisor at Alhambra High School. Like Soroptimist, it was fulfilling to help students explore their post-secondary plans and dreams.



I am fortunate to have lived at one address in Martinez for 44 years. I am married and have two successful grown daughters. Retirement has its benefits; i.e., taking morning jazzercise classes, lots of reading, wine tasting excursions, RV vacations, and spending more time with family and friends. I have recently started volunteering in my local public library bookstore, which brings me closer to being a librarian...in my next life.

SIA Upcoming Events

Registration is Open!

Get ready to experience leadership development in a whole new way!

Early bird registration is open for both the [Leadership Round Table](#) and the [Soroptimist Leadership Fellows Program](#). [Register now](#) and get more details on the events page.



100 Stargazers, 100 Days

Beginning at region conferences, until July 9, join over 100 donors who have supported the Dream Big Campaign through a monthly Stargazer gift! The [100 Stargazers in 100 Days](#) campaign is an opportunity for us to come together to support our Big Goal of investing in the dreams of a half million women and girls through access to education.



Soroptimist International
of Vallejo

A NIGHT UNDER THE STARS IN VALLEJO
WHERE DREAMS COME TRUE

Winemakers Dinner & Auction

Saturday, May 20, 2023
Doors open at 6 pm

\$120 per person or \$920 for tables of 8
333 Amador Street, Vallejo, CA 94590

Soroptimist International Calistoga

Awards Night & Scholarship Presentation

Please join us on

Wednesday, May 10, 2023. 6:00PM
at Calistoga Junior Senior High School
Multipurpose Room 1608 Lake Street,
Calistoga

Light snack will be served

Please RSVP to: mccrarilyeick@sbcglobal.net



**Soroptimist
Uncorked!**

Wine Dine & Dance the Night Away!

Soroptimist of the Delta with wines from: Ruby Hills Winery, Steven Kent Winery, Mitchell Katz, Field Family Wines, Michael David, Tanner, Serendipity and more to come!

Tickets include:
6 oz. Wine Tasting
Wine Pairing appetizer bar
Sweeney's Dinner/Bufferet
Dessert auction
Live Music w/Joey Torres
Raffle Prizes/Silent & Live Auction

6-24-23
@ DeLuna Ranch
7540 Balfour Rd., Brentwood
5:00- 9:00pm

Tickets
\$75

Your love of wines allows us to share our love for the community through local scholarships and awards.

TICKETS at GURSKY RANCH or SI Member



Let's Play in May
Thursday, May 18, 2023
7:00 to 9:00 pm

VIRTUAL BINGO

\$25 First Card - \$5 Each Additional Card
Play for \$15 & \$25 Gift Cards
\$50 Blackout Gift Card
5 to 8 Bingo Games, Double Standard & Fun Designs



**Soroptimist International of Martinez is hosting a virtual Bingo
to raise funds for our scholarship Dream programs.**

- * This Bingo program can be played on any device: phone, tablet or computer.
- * Program includes a "tie breaking" feature assuring one winner per game.
- * Purchase Bingo cards from our website: www.soroptimistmartinez.org
- * Use Paypal or Donations button - include your email address.
- * Sending a check? Must get to our P.O. Box 2202, Martinez, CA 94553 by Friday, May 12th. Note your email in the "For" section on your check.

On May 16th, two days before the event, you will receive an email link where you can retrieve your Bingo card(s) and a link to the Zoom program.

For further information please [visit our website](http://www.soroptimistmartinez.org) for explanation and disclaimer.
If all else fails, contact Pat Eileen at: admin@soroptimistmartinez.org



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

4/19/1961 SI/ Dixon
 4/3/1971 SI/ Willits
 4/14/1973 SI/ Novato
 4/28/2022 SI/ North Oahu
 4/29/1979 SI/ Mendocino-Sonoma Coast, Inc.



Region Conference

2023 Conference

May 5 - May 7, 2023

Oakland Marriott City Center
 1001 Broadway, Oakland, CA
 (510) 451-4000

Host Clubs: (District I)

SI/East Bay

SI/El Cerrito

SI/Oakland-The Founder Club

SI/Tri-Valley

[Conference Page](#)

SIA Convention

2024 Convention

July 24-27, 2024

Bellevue, Washington

Stay tuned for more info!



SI Convention

2023 Convention

July 27-29, 2023

Dublin, Ireland

Convention Centre Dublin

[Registration](#) Open Now!

[Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)



Dublin, Ireland • 27-29 July 2023

