



SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

2020

FOUNDER REGION

Soroptimist International of the Americas

**44th Founder Region Conference-
The Virtual Conference**



Conference Proceedings

March 22, 2020 – May 2, 2020

“Empowering Change”

Sylvia Crafton, Governor

The Forty-fourth Founder Region Conference – The Virtual Conference Proceedings

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent shelter in place orders, the 44th Founder Region Conference – The Virtual Conference evolved over a period of time spanning March 22, 2020 until May 2, 2020.

Sunday, March 22, 2020 – Caucus Conference Call

The Founder Region Caucus Conference Call was held March 22, 2020, at 7:00 PM PDT Via Conference call/Online Meeting.

Introduction – Governor Sylvia welcomed participants and explained that the call is being recorded and will be posted on the Founder Region website. “These are unprecedented times, and we are in unfathomable circumstances with being told to shelter in place with an invisible virus threatening our health. We are extremely saddened to have canceled our Founder Region Conference in-person event, and we hope you will stay tuned with our 44th Founder Region Conference as a virtual event. This will include voting for both our elections and Proposed Bylaws Amendments, our 2023 Conference Host Clubs, and our Founder Region Fellowship Previous Business Meeting Minutes. I am very glad you are on the call today. We have Laws & Resolutions Chair Sheila Bearden, Nominating Chair Amelia Benko, Fellowship President Pam, and I will be facilitating the call. Parliamentarian Barbara Lanier is also with us to provide guidance on any parliamentary questions that may come up.”

Roll Call – Laws & Resolution Chair Sheila Bearden conducted the roll call by district with 95 members representing 31 clubs.

Nomination Committee Report for the Founder Region Board – Nominating Committee Chair Amelia Benko announced, “the Nominating Committee submits the following nominations for the 2020-2022 Founder Region Board as presented in the Call to Conference:

For Founder Region Governor-elect:

Elise Balgley – SI/Fremont
Vicki Ham – SI/Willits

For Founder Region Secretary:
Joy Swank – SI/Vacaville

For Founder Region Treasurer:
Tess Albin Smith – SI/Noyo Sunrise
For Founder Region District I Director:
Jennifer Jost – SI/San Ramon Valley

For Founder Region District II Director:
Jackie Arnold – SI/Vallejo

For Founder Region District III Director:
Colleen Ganaye – SI/Sonoma Valley

For Founder Region District IV Director:
Vicki Baldwin – SI/Crescent City

For Founder Region District V Director:
Kristal Koga – SI/The Marianas”

Invitation for Nominations from the Caucus floor – Governor Sylvia repeated the nominations and asked if there are any further nominations for each position. Lenore Colarusso from SI/24-680 has been nominated for Founder Region District I Director. The consent of the nominee has been obtained and the resume has subsequently been sent to all District I club Presidents by Secretary Pat Eileen Fisher. It is available on the Meetings/Conferences tab of the Founder Region website. Hearing no further nominations, the Chair declared the nominations for the 2020-2022 Founder Region Officers and District Directors closed.

Nomination Committee Report for the Founder Region Fellowship Board - Nominating Chair Amelia Benko announced, “the Nominating Committee submits the following nominations for the 2020-2022 Founder Region Fellowship Board as presented in the Call to Conference:

For Founder Region Fellowship Director, District I
Billie Z. Knight – SI/The East Bay

For Founder Region Fellowship Director, District II
Dana Holve – SI/Vacaville Twilight

For Founder Region Fellowship Director, District III
Nushi Safinya – SI/Calistoga

For Founder Region Fellowship Director, District IV
Crystal Arbuthnot – SI/The Redwoods

For Founder Region Fellowship Director, District V
Denise Ridge – SI/Waikiki Foundation, Inc.”

Invitation for Nominations from the Caucus floor – Fellowship President Pam repeated the nominations and asked if there are any further nominations for each position. Hearing no further nominations, the Fellowship Chair declared the nominations closed.

President Pam took the opportunity to explain:

“An additional item that delegates will see on the ballot is for the approval of the Founder Region Fellowship Annual Business Meeting Minutes from the 2019 Conference. Secretary Jan Schults will be sending those via the District Directors and they will be posted on the Founder Region website for your review.”

Instructions for Electronic Balloting Process – Governor Sylvia explained: The Founder Region Board met via conference call on March 15, 2020, and approved for Founder Region to do electronic balloting for the 2020 elections as suggested by SIA in light of

the cancellation of the May 2020 Conference due to the coronavirus. The following provisions apply:

- a. Registration form for Delegates – due by April 8, 2020
 - i. 3 Delegates per club (President & 2 delegates)
 - ii. Delegates must have a personal email address
- b. Ballot invitations to be sent to email addresses of delegates
- c. Voting open April 15 – May 2, 2020 closes at 12:30 PM PDT. (normal time of polls close during a conference)
- d. Applicable ballots are assigned to delegates based on the new district alignment

Governor Sylvia continued with explanations:

“The purpose of the Caucus is to allow time for clubs to learn about the proposed amendments and ask questions prior to voting, in this case electronically, on the proposed amendments. Because we will not have the in-person conference event, if there are any proposed amendments to the amendments for either the Founder Region proposed Bylaws Amendments or the Founder Region Fellowship proposed Bylaws Amendments, those may be presented on this call today and submitted in writing via email by March 29, 2020, to the appropriate leader – Governor Sylvia for Founder Region proposals and Fellowship President Pam for Fellowship proposals with a copy to Parliamentarian Barbara Lanier in either case. Confirming that any amendment to the proposed amendment is within the scope of the proposed amendment, we will then send out a special mailing to all registered delegates, and a special electronic ballot would be open from April 8 – April 14, 2020, to handle any amendment to the proposed amendment. A notification will be sent to all club Presidents explaining the opportunity to submit any amendment to the amendment proposals in writing by March 29, 2020, even if they are not brought forward on this call today.”

She then turned it over to Chair Sheila to facilitate the Laws & Resolutions portion of the call.

Founder Region Bylaws Proposed Amendments - Laws & Resolution Chair Sheila Bearden read the Current and Proposed Language for each Bylaw Amendment. Discussion for each item was called by district.

**Founder Region Proposed Bylaws Amendments
2019-2020**

ARTICLE VI, Meetings Section 6.1 b

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

b. Every sixth year, conference shall be held at a site located within the boundaries of District VI.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

b. Every sixth year, conference shall be held at a site located within the offshore district.

Proposed by: The Founder Region Board of Directors.

Advantages: By changing the designation to “the offshore district”, the reference will apply to both our current and future district alignment.

Disadvantages: None

Financial Impact: None

Rationale: The District Realignment which is effective on July 1, 2020, will change the District numbers.

Maintaining the six-year cycle allows the election to continue to occur in the offshore district on a regular basis.

Discussion of the term “offshore district” led to an amendment to the proposed amendment. After the Caucus Call and prior to the deadline of March 29, 2020, the following Amendment to the Proposed Bylaws Amendment on Article VI, Meetings; Section 6.1b was received in writing by Governor Sylvia:

Request to Amend the Proposed Amendment to Bylaws

SI Waikiki Foundation, Inc. requests to Amend the Proposed Amendment to Founder Region Bylaw, Article VI, Meetings, Section 6.1.b) by using the Proposed Language which follows:

“Every sixth year, conference shall be held at a site located within the boundaries of District V.”

Proposed by: SI Waikiki Foundation, Inc.

Advantages: The election will continue to occur in the new District V every six years.

Disadvantages: None

Financial Impact: None

Rationale: The original Proposed Amendment used the language “offshore district” which is ambiguous and does not precisely describe the boundaries of the District. This change will ensure that the SI clubs in the U.S. Territory of Guam, the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the State of Hawaii are clearly within the definition.

The District Realignment which is effective on July 1, 2020, will change the District numbers. Maintaining the six year cycle allows the election to continue to occur in the new District V on a regular basis.

**Founder Region Proposed Bylaws Amendments
2019-2020**

ARTICLE IX, Finance, Section 9.2 Dues and Fees g

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

g. Each club shall pay Founder Region a fee of \$10.00 annually to support “S” Club or Sigma Society programs within the Region.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

g. Each club shall pay Founder Region a fee of \$10.00 annually to support “S” Club, Sigma Society or Dream It, Be It programs within the Region.

Proposed by: The Founder Region Board of Directors.

Advantages: Adding the Dream It, Be It program gives more opportunity to be able to award grants to Founder Region Soroptimist clubs to promote high school programs for girls.

Disadvantages: None

Financial Impact: Once accumulated funds from this account are reduced, stipulations on the number and amount of grants that can be awarded annually will need to be established.

Rationale: The annual dues assessment to all Founder Region clubs has accumulated over \$19,000.00. Currently, we receive approximately 1 to 2 grant applications per year for Start-up funds for “S” Clubs, and less than 1 per year for “S” Club or Sigma Society projects. The Region board determined that the fund is underutilized and desires to expand the criteria for awarding grants for high school girls’ programs. Many clubs do not sponsor “S” Clubs or Sigma Societies and could apply for a grant from this fund to start a Dream It, Be it program. The Dream It, Be It grant criteria will be added to the Founder Region Procedures.

After the Caucus Call and prior to the deadline of March 29, 2020, the following Amendment to the Proposed Bylaws Amendment on Article IX, Finance; Section 9.2. Dues and Fees was received in writing by Governor Sylvia:

Request to Amend the Proposed Amendment to Bylaws

Pam Parker, Founder Region Fellowship President and member of SI/St. Helena requests to Amend the Proposed Amendment to Founder Region Bylaws, Article IX, Finance, Section 9.2. Dues and Fees. g. which follows:

“Each club shall pay Founder Region a fee of \$10.00 annually to support “S” Club, Sigma Society or Dream It, Be It: **Career Support for Girls** programs within the Region.

Proposed by: Pam Parker, Founder Region Fellowship President and member of SI/St. Helena.

Advantages: Housekeeping matter to include full name of the Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls program.

Disadvantages: None

Financial Impact: None

Rationale: The original Proposed Amendment used the language “Dream It, Be It” which is not the complete name of the program. The proposal is merely a change to show the entire name of the program throughout the original proposed amendment’s Advantages and Rationale.

Fellowship Bylaws:

Fellowship Bylaws proposals reviewed by Laws and Resolutions Chair Sheila Bearden and Fellowship President Pam Parker are documented in the Fellowship Business Meeting Minutes at the conclusion of the Virtual Conference Proceedings.

Conclusion of Caucus Call: – Governor Sylvia thanked participants for their time and cooperation in reviewing the proposed Bylaws Amendments. We look forward to seeing all delegates participating in our electronic ballot in order to conduct our business in an efficient manner.

Full text of Amendments to the Proposed Amendments is on the Meetings/Conferences page of the Founder Region website at the link: [Amendments to Proposed Bylaws Amendments](#)

As of April 8, 2020, at 11:59 pm Pacific Time, Delegate registration was closed for the April 8-14, 2020, electronic ballot addressing the amendments to the Founder Region Proposed Bylaws Amendments which were brought forward on the Caucus Conference Call of March 22, 2020.

**44th Annual Founder Region Conference –The Virtual Conference
Founder Region Credentials Report1 Date 04/09/2020**

Clubs in Founder Region	<u>54</u>
Clubs Eligible to Vote	<u>52</u>
Clubs Not in Good Standing	<u>2</u>
Clubs Registered	<u>49</u>
Total Voting Clubs	<u>49</u>

Delegates Registered:

Region Officers	<u>4</u>
District Directors	<u>6</u>
Club Delegates	<u>144</u>
Total Delegates	<u>154</u>
Quorum for Opening Session	<u>78</u>

On April 9, 2020 it was moved by Credentials Chair Loretta Tognoli and seconded by Nominating Chair Amelia Benko to adopt the Founder Region Credentials Report #1. The question will be included to the electronic ballot:

Adopt the Founder Region Credentials Report #1.
Choices: For, Against, Abstain

Results of the special electronic ballot opened from April 8 – April 14, 2020 to handle the Amendment to the Proposed Bylaws Amendment on Article VI, Meetings; Section 6.1b which reads:

“Every sixth year, conference shall be held at a site located within the boundaries of District V.”

For: 110 Against: 1 Abstain: 0

The amendment passed and the amended Amendment will move forward to vote as follows:

“Every sixth year, conference shall be held at a site located within the boundaries of District V.”

Results of the special electronic ballot opened from April 8 – April 14, 2020 to handle the Amendment to the Proposed Amendment to Founder Region Bylaws, Article IX, Finance, Section 9.2. Dues and Fees. g. which reads:

“Each club shall pay Founder Region a fee of \$10.00 annually to support “S” Club, Sigma Society or Dream It, Be It: **Career Support for Girls** programs within the Region.

For: 107 Against: 2 Abstain: 1

The amendment passed, and the amended Amendment will move forward to vote as follows:

“Each club shall pay Founder Region a fee of \$10.00 annually to support “S” Club, Sigma Society or Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls programs within the Region.

**44th Annual Founder Region Conference –The Virtual Conference
Founder Region Credentials Report2 Date 04/14/2020**

Clubs in Founder Region	<u>54</u>
Clubs Eligible to Vote	<u>52</u>
Clubs Not in Good Standing	<u>2</u>
Clubs Registered	<u>50</u>
Total Voting Clubs	<u>50</u>

Delegates Registered:

Region Officers	<u>4</u>
District Directors	<u>6</u>
Club Delegates	<u>147</u>
Total Delegates	<u>157</u>
Quorum for Opening Session	<u>79</u>

On April 14, 2020 it was moved by Credentials Chair Loretta Tognoli and seconded by Nominating Chair Amelia Benko to adopt the Founder Region Credentials Report #2. The question will be included to the electronic ballot:

Adopt the Founder Region Credentials Report #2.

Choices: For, Against, Abstain

Governor Sylvia explained that in addition to our Bylaws and Elections, there is some other Conference Business that we will be including on our electronic ballots. There are

separate business meetings for Founder Region and Founder Region Fellowship, and delegates will see a separate ballot for each organization.

Founder Region Business presented by Governor Sylvia Crafton and to be included on the electronic ballot:

Adoption of the Standing Rules

The Standing rules have been modified to facilitate a Virtual Conference.

It has been moved by Region Secretary Pat Eileen Fisher and seconded by Governor-elect Kris Chorbi to adopt the Virtual Conference Standing Rules.

The question will be included to the electronic ballot:

Adopt the Founder Region Virtual Conference Standing Rules.

Choices: For, Against, Abstain

Old Business:

We have some Old business from our 2019 Conference concerning Conference Hosting. SI/Maui, SI/Waikiki Foundation, Inc., and SI/Central Oahu were confirmed to host the 2022 Conference. Subsequently, we received a request from SI/Honolulu to be added as a host club for the 2022 Founder Region Conference.

It has been moved by SI/Honolulu President Teri Sato and seconded by Region Secretary Pat Eileen Fisher to accept SI/Honolulu as a host club for the 2022 Founder Region Conference.

The question will be added to the electronic ballot as such:

Accept the addition of SI/Honolulu as a host club for the 2022 Founder Region Conference.

Choices: For, Against, Abstain

New Business:

SI/Marin County and SI/Novato have offered to serve as host clubs for the 2023 Founder Region Conference.

It has been moved by Secretary Pat Eileen Fisher and seconded by District IV Director Barbara Young to accept SI/Marin County and SI/Novato as host clubs for the 2023 Founder Region Conference.

The question will be added to the electronic ballot as such:

Accept SI/Marin County and SI/Novato as a host clubs for the 2023 Founder Region Conference.

Choices: For, Against, Abstain

Electronic Balloting for Founder Region Bylaws, Elections and Business opened on April 15, 2020 at 8:00 am PDT and closed on May 2, 2020 at 12:30 pm PDT.

Monday, April 27, 2020

The 44th Annual Founder Region Conference – The Virtual Conference began during the week of April 27, 2020 through May 3, 2020. Special Virtual Conference and 2020 Conference Awards pages were created on the Founder Region website under the Meetings/Conferences tab. The Virtual Conference Program booklet was posted as a guide to following and accessing the events and presentations through updated links to recorded material from the three planned Live Zoom Events.

Wednesday, April 29, 2020

The Founder Region Legislative Advocacy presentation took place on Wednesday, April 29, 2020 during a 90 minute Live Zoom presentation beginning at 6:00 pm PDT.








The theme: ***“Empowering Change to Eliminate Violence, Neglect, and Abuse Against Girls—Perspective on Effects of Violence and Trauma”*** was addressed by Deb Gee, a licensed Family & Marriage therapist. This presentation was recorded and a link posted on the Virtual Conference website page.

The Legislative Advocacy committee suggested clubs do a hands-on project focused on foster girls creating “Journey Bags” because oftentimes foster girls do not have toiletries and items of their own or anything to carry their items in when they are moved from home to home. A flyer was posted on the 2020 Virtual Conference page of our website with suggestions of items to include in the Journey Bags, as well as, a list of the types of social service organizations that might be contacted to be able to get them to the foster girls in your community.

Governor Sylvia reminded everyone participating on the Live Event that during this pandemic these journey bags could be just what is needed to show foster girls that we care. We would love for clubs to participate and Post a picture on Facebook and use the hashtag #Soroptimistsatwork.

Thursday, April 30, 2020

On April 30, 2020 On Demand Viewing of the following was announced and posted on the Founder Region website: Meetings/Conferences page with links to the:

-  Welcome Presentation.
-  Official Visitors video PowerPoint Presentation.
-  District Directors Report via newsletter and Photo Slide Show.
-  Pillar Chair Presentations.
-  Club Awards posted on website.
-  Memorial Celebration of Service PowerPoint.
-  Program Award PowerPoint Presentation.

Friday, May 1, 2020

The Founder Region Fellowship live Zoom Presentation took place on May 1, 2020 at 6:00 pm PDT. A recording link was updated in the Virtual Conference booklet and posted on the website for later viewing.

At 6:00 pm, Governor Sylvia welcomed everyone and encouraged the participants to empower change in order to empower, educate and enable girls to be interested in and included in STEM programs as a way for our world to build the world's workforce. We need women who are willing to pave the way for the next generation of girls. She then introduced immediate past governor and 2018-2020 Fellowship President, Pam Parker and thanked her for her dedication to the Founder Region Fellowship program.

President Pam welcomed everyone and introduced the 2018-2020 Fellowship Board:

District I Director	Cheryl Poncini, SI/Oakland-The Founder Club
District II Director	Jan Schults, SI/The Delta
District III Director	Teri Malkin, SI/Rio Vista
District IV Director	Nancy Weber, SI/Novato
District V Director	Crystal Arbuthnot, SI/The Redwoods
District VI Director	Rena Borja, SI/Guam

District II Director Jan Schults gave the inspiration.

District IV Director Nancy Weber gave the welcome on behalf of the Fellowship Board.

President Pam then acknowledged and recognized the past Fellowship Presidents attending on the Live Event:

Bobbi Enderlin, 2016- 2018. Her theme was “Education Creates Shining Stars.”

Barbara Lanier, 2008-2010. Her theme was “Reach for the Stars.”

Mary Ann Redden, 2004-2006. Her theme was “Getting It Done Together.”

President Pam then acknowledged and recognized some special friends of Founder Region Fellowship:

Marlene Leverete of SI/El Cerrito, who established the Dorothy Sarnes Memorial Fund with her \$10,000 gift to Fellowship in 2010. Ten Soroptimist members were honored over the years (from 2010-2017) by being named a Fellow in recognition of this \$10,000 donation. Marlene will receive her 10th level pin and certificate this year.

Also recognized was the SI/St. Helena Club for their \$7,000; sponsoring 7 Fellows in a club year.

President Pam then introduced videos from two past awardees, 2019 recipient Erika Brown and 2018 recipient Patricia Leal who each shared what impact receiving a Fellowship award made during their last year of doctoral studies and how each is currently engaged in her respective career. Both past recipients were present during the Live Zoom presentation.

Each of the 2020 awardees received a \$10,000 award and shared information about their studies and future plans via videos:

Jessica Adams-Grigorieff	Education	UC Berkeley
Sharon Estioca	Linguistics	University of Hawaii-Manoa
Derrika Hunt	Education/Women’s Studies	UC Berkeley
Joanna Kettlewell	Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology and Pharmacology	University of Hawaii-Manoa
Katerina Malollari	Engineering/Materials Science	UC Berkeley
Solange Saxby	Nutritional Science	University of Hawaii-Manoa

President Pam thanked her Fellowship Board for their service and also expressed thanks to the membership for the honor and privilege of serving as Fellowship President.

Saturday, May 2, 2020 On Demand Video Presentation

The Saturday Virtual Conference Presentation video uploaded to the Founder Region website included the following content typical of a Saturday Founder Region Conference presided over by Governor Sylvia.

The Credentials Report 1 and 2, presented by Loretta Tognoli, are shown on page 22 of the Program Booklet.

Governor Sylvia explained that the Standing Rules have been modified to facilitate a Virtual Conference and are shown on page 29 of the Program Booklet. These were given to the delegates in advance to be adopted on the electronic ballot.

Governor Sylvia recognized everyone in the Founder Region membership as being a first time attendee of a Virtual Conference.

Governor Sylvia called upon Secretary Pat Eileen to read the greetings and correspondence. Secretary Pat Eileen partially read the letters of official greetings from SIA President, Tina Wei-Kang Pan, and SIA Executive Director & CEO Liz Lucas. The full text of these letters can be found in the Program Booklet.

Governor Sylvia explained that the Treasurer's Report is available by contacting Treasurer Vicki Ham at Vickiham01@gmail.com.

Governor Sylvia then moved into the recognition part of the program:

The District Directors drew club awards during their Board Meeting of April 26, 2020. The winning clubs drawn will receive a donation of \$250 to Club Giving in their name. The winning clubs were:

District I	SI/The Tri-Valley
District II	SI/24-680 (Walnut Creek)
District III	SI/Central Solano County
District IV	SI/Sonoma Valley
District V	SI/Humboldt Bay
District VI	SI/Guam

Governor Sylvia continued with acknowledging members of the Laurel Society. A prestigious recognition program for Soroptimists. who have either been honored by a \$1,000 contribution in their name to become a member of the Laurel Society, or members who have made a contribution themselves, either at one time or through Laurel Society Monthly Giving.

We want to recognize 10 members who joined the Laurel Society this year and we congratulate them on reaching their Attaché level with a \$1000.00 contribution to the Laurel Society.

Lydia Justice	SI/The Tri-Valley
Sharon Wilkerson	SI/24-680
Laura Glass	SI/Antioch
Wendy Anderson	SI/Pittsburg
Lenora Fuller	SI/Vacaville
Sharon Sligh	SI/Arcata
Paulette Cooper	SI/Crescent City
Ann Jadro-Bettiga	SI/Eureka
Dyann O'Brien	SI/Eureka
Mary Huber Wallaker	SI/Humboldt Bay

Each Attaché level member receives a Laurel Society pin with a sapphire.

Governor Sylvia continued to recognize 4 members who “leveled-up” to the Envoy Level which is a \$2500.00 contribution to the Laurel Society. The Laurel Society Envoy pin includes a Ruby.

Linda Glantz	SI/Dixon
Sue Galliani	SI/Humboldt Bay
Kelly Sanders	SI/Humboldt Bay

Kim Jones

SI/Honolulu

Continuing, Governor Sylvia recognized Past Governor Amelia Benko of SI/The Tri-Valley who recently leveled up to the Diplomat level with an accumulated contribution of \$5000.00 to the Laurel Society and she received her Diamond level pin.

Governor Sylvia recognized Tess Albin-Smith of SI/Noyo Sunrise for leveling-up to the Ambassador level with an accumulated contribution of \$10,000.00 to the Laurel Society which includes a pearl in her pin.

Finally, Governor Sylvia congratulated and thanked Suzanne Sullivan of SI/Waikiki Foundation, Inc., for recently leveling-up to the Inner Circle Sapphire level with an accumulated contribution of \$25,000.00 to the Laurel Society.

Governor Sylvia explained that to encourage members to sponsor a new member, Founder Region holds a drawing at Conference, and one of our new member sponsors will win a donation of \$1,000 to the Laurel Society as a prize.

We held a special drawing at our board meeting on April 26th via video conference call using the random number generating formula in Excel. The winner of the New Member Sponsor is Karen Tappin of SI/Healdsburg.

Governor Sylvia announced that Founder Region's increase in membership has resulted in a total of 1,465 members as of March 31, 2020. She announced the Julia "Bess" Combs Membership Award is being given to a club that had a net growth in membership of 11 members which was a 69% increase over the period.

Congratulations to Soroptimist International of The Delta for this achievement. Soroptimist International of The Delta will receive a certificate of recognition, as well as, a \$500 donation made in their club name to the Soroptimist International of the Americas Club Giving Campaign.

Governor Sylvia thanked Debbie Scaife of SI/Eel River Valley for chairing the Soroptimist Celebrating Success Awards for this biennium and coordinating the judging of the applications.

For 2019-2020, clubs in our region submitted a total of 32 entries representing 20 clubs in the following categories: 9 entries for fundraising, 6 for membership, 9 for program and 8 for public awareness.

The following clubs were announced as the region winners in each pillar category who would receive a \$250 donation to Club Giving and submission to SIA for federation judging:

Fundraising:	SI/Humboldt Bay
Membership:	SI/Humboldt Bay
Program:	SI/Vacaville Twilight
Public Awareness:	SI/Rio Vista

Clubs who participated in Soroptimist Celebrating Success were:

SI/Benicia, SI/Calistoga, SI/Central Oahu, SI/Crescent City, SI/Eel River Valley, SI/Eureka, SI/The Delta, SI/Fremont, SI/Honolulu, SI/Napa, SI/Pittsburg, SI/The Redwoods, SI/St. Helena, SI/Santa Rosa, SI/Sonoma Valley, SI/Vacaville, and SI Vallejo.

Governor Sylvia announced that to increase participation in our brand unifying Dream Program, Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls, Founder Region offers clubs a special incentive for submitting their online evaluation form to SIA and 2 clubs will receive \$250.00 each.

Clubs who submitted their evaluations and are included in the drawing are:

SI/24-680, SI/Antioch, SI/The Delta, SI/Diablo Vista, SI/Martinez, SI/Pittsburg; SI/Ukiah, SI/Eureka, and SI/Honolulu

She announced the winners of the \$250.00 drawing are: SI/Martinez and SI/Ukiah.

Governor Sylvia concluded the Saturday, May 2nd On Demand Video Presentation with an invitation to join the Founder Region Live Zoom Presentation at 6:00 pm PDT that same evening.

Saturday, May 2, 2020 Live Zoom Presentation at 6:00 pm PDT.

Governor Sylvia thanked everyone for joining the “live” Zoom video Conference Call to hear the results of our Founder Region & Fellowship elections; business from our electronic ballots; welcome and install our new boards, and bid farewell to our outgoing board.

Governor Sylvia introduced the Founder Region Board:

District I Director Elise Balgley

District II Director Bev Gomer

District III Director Joy Swank

District IV Director Barbara Young

District V Director Dyann O’Brien

District VI Director Kristal Koga

Region Treasurer Vicki Ham

Region Secretary Pat Eileen Fisher

Governor-elect Kris Chorbi

Our Official Visitor - SIA President-elect, Penny Babb

Governor Sylvia turned the meeting over to Fellowship President Pam Parker who announced the results of the election balloting. These results for Fellowship election and Bylaws amendments are documented in the Fellowship Business Meeting Minutes at the conclusion of the Virtual Conference Proceedings.

Governor Sylvia thanked Fellowship President Pam for serving as the Fellowship President for the 2018 to 2020 biennium and congratulated the Fellowship Board for their excellent work throughout the biennium.

At this point, Governor-elect Kris announced her appointment of Cheryl Poncini of Soroptimist International Oakland – The Founder Club to be the next Fellowship President for the 2020-2022 biennium. Cheryl’s term will begin on July 1, 2020.

Governor Sylvia continued with the results of the April 15 to May 2 ballot:

For Founder Region business, the following actions on the ballot have been adopted:

- Founder Region Credentials Report #1 has been adopted.

- Founder Region Credentials Report #2 has been adopted.
- The Founder Region Virtual Conference Standing Rules have been adopted.
- The invitation of SI Honolulu to be added as a host club for the 2022 Founder Region Conference has been accepted.
- The invitation of SI Marin County and SI Novato to serve as host clubs for the 2023 Founder Region Conference has been accepted.

Regarding Founder Region proposed bylaws amendment Article VI Meeting Section 6.1, letter b as amended: 124 votes for; 0 against. The ayes have it and you have adopted the proposed amendment to Article VI Meeting Section 6.1, letter b which reads:

“Every sixth year, conference shall be held at a site located within the boundaries of District V.”

Regarding Founder Region proposed bylaws amendment Article IX, Finance, Section 9.2 Dues and Fees, letter g, as amended: 121 for; 2 against; 1 abstained. The ayes have it and you have adopted the proposed amendment to Article IX, Finance, Section 9.2 Dues and Fees, letter g which reads:

“Each club shall pay Founder Region a fee of \$10.00 annually to support “S” Club, Sigma Society or Dream It, Be It: **Career Support for Girls** programs within the Region.

Governor Sylvia then announced that she had received the elections report from the ballot system and corroborated the results with Credentials Chair Loretta Tagnoli and Nominating Chair, Amelia Benko who fulfilled the tellers role.

For Founder Region governor elect:

Eligible to vote 157; number of votes cast 124; illegal votes 0. Necessary for election 63. Candidate Elise Balgley received 51 votes; Candidate Vicki Ham received 73 votes. The chair declares Vicki Ham, the Founder Region Governor-elect.

For Founder Region, Secretary:

Eligible to vote 157; number of votes cast 124; illegal votes 0. Necessary for election 63. Candidate Joy Swank received 124 votes. The chair declares Joy Swank, the Founder Region, Secretary.

For Founder Region Treasurer:

Eligible to vote 157; number of votes cast 124; illegal votes 1. Necessary for election 63. Candidate Tess Albin Smith received 123 votes. The chair declares Tess Albin Smith, the Founder Region Treasurer.

For Director District I:

Eligible to vote 36; number of votes cast 31; illegal votes 0. Necessary for election 16. Candidate Lenore Colarusso received 22 votes; Candidate Jennifer Joss received 9. The chair declares Lenore Colarusso the Founder Region Director District I.

For Director District II:

Eligible to vote 28; number of votes cast 23; illegal votes 0. Necessary for election 12. Candidate Jackie Arnold received 23 votes. The chair declares Jackie Arnold the Founder Region Director District II.

For Director District III:

Eligible to vote 40; number of votes cast 23; illegal votes 0. Necessary for election 12. Candidate Colleen Ganaye received 23 votes. The chair declares Colleen Ganaye the Founder Region Director District III.

For Director District IV:

Eligible to vote 33; number of votes cast 31; illegal votes 0. Necessary for election 16. Candidate Vicki Baldwin received 31 votes. The chair declares Vicki Baldwin Founder Region Director District IV.

For Director District V:

Eligible to vote 20; number of votes cast 16; illegal votes 0. Necessary for election 9. Candidate Kristal Koga received 16 votes. The chair declares Kristal Koga the Founder Region Director District V.

Governor Sylvia congratulated the 2020 - 2022 elected Founder Region Board.

This concluded the 2020 Founder Region business and Governor Sylvia declared the meeting adjourned.

Governor Sylvia then invited past Governor and SIA Fundraising Council member, Dona Gaddis Wolf to conduct the installation of the new 2020 – 2022 Founder Region Officers and Board.

After the installation, newly elected Governor Kris spoke to the virtual gathering:

“Congratulations to the new Founder Region board and fellowship boards. Thank you for stepping up to a leadership position in our region and continuing the good work that Governor Sylvia and her board provided during the past biennium. Like they say Teamwork makes the dream work and I want to dream big. For the next two years we will work hard to foster leadership, foster teamwork, build lifelong friendships and, above all, have fun. As we lead Founder Region into the next century, we will endeavor to share our love of Soroptimist with our clubs and members as they strive to fulfill our mission. My theme for the 2020 2022 biennium is *Dream Big for the Future*. Dream Big is an empowering phrase by definition, a dream is a fantasy about something greatly desired and usually something that you think is unattainable something big. It is a cherished aspiration and ambition or an idea of something that fully satisfies a wish as Soroptimist. This is at the core of our beliefs. We encourage women and girls to explore their aspirations and to believe that their dreams are achievable.

My emblem is the peacock which symbolizes vision awakening guidance protection and watchfulness in Roman mythology, the peacocks tail has the eyes of the stars. Soroptimist members are always looking for women and girls who need encouragement and guidance so they can be the stars of their own destiny. We help to awaken in them the self confidence and determination to achieve their vision for the future. With every award we give we feel a sense of protection and watchfulness over the lives we've touched and the dreams we have awakened. As we near our 100th year of improving the lives of women and girls, we must, dream big, for the future of our organization. So, we can have a sustainable impact on those who have yet to need our help and support. They count on us to be here for the next 100 years as we continue to work toward our increased collective impact of empowerment through education.”

(A full video presentation of incoming Governor Kris’ remarks has been posted on the Founder Region website.)

Governor Sylvia proceeded to thank everyone who served with her during the 2018-2020 biennium and summarized the various accomplishments that epitomized her theme of “Empowering Change.”

(A full video presentation of outgoing Governor Sylvia's remarks has been posted on the Founder Region website.)

"We realigned our districts and thank you again to our past Governor's task force that worked early in the biennium to empower change. Our Fellowship Board looked at new ways of raising funds and educated us on the importance of financial strategies to ensure the longevity of this life changing program. Thank you again Fellowship President Pam and your Board for empowering change. We empowered change with our 2019 conference by ending all sessions early and now here we are with our 2020 conference going virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and we thank Conference Coordinator Mary Ann Redden for empowering change. We empowered change with our Legislative Advocacy committee by bringing the International president to our conference last year and moving forward with the Zoom presentation this year. Thank you, Chair Linda Witong and the committee for empowering change.

We empowered change in a time of crisis with our Caucus Conference Call by facilitating the business of the conference and allowing amendments to the proposed amendments and additional nomination to occur during the call. Thank you. Laws and Resolutions Chair Sheila Bearden, Nominating Committee Chair, Amelia Benko and Parliamentarian Barbara Lanier for empowering change.

We thank Financial Review Chair Patti Clinton who helped formulate the Travel and Expense policy and provided financial review guidelines for Founder Region. We brought back the Founder Region newsletter and provided monthly issues to keep our membership informed. Thank you, Public Awareness Chair Jackie DeVries for empowering change.

We chartered two new clubs. Welcome to SI/West Sonoma County and SI/Oakmont Wine Country. Thank you. Membership Chair Bobbi Enderlin and District IV Director Barbara Young for empowering change.

Our Club Giving and Laurel Society, giving continues to increase. Thank you, Fundraising Chair Lyn Lurbe and your committee for empowering change.

Governor Sylvia thanked Governor-elect Kris for working closely with the Region Program chairs and coordinating all of the Founder Region awards as well as refreshing the website throughout the Virtual Conference.

Thank you to Lou Sablan, Chair of the Live Your Dream committee; to Karen Jameson, Chair of the Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls committee; to Jessica Castro, Chair of the Barbara Stevenson "S" Club award; to Debbie Scaife, Chair of the Soroptimist Celebrating Success awards.

Governor Sylvia thanked Secretary Pat Eileen Fisher and Treasurer Vicki Ham for their work throughout the biennium.

Governor Sylvia thanked the District Directors: Elise Bev, Joy, Barbara, Dyann, and Kristal for their willingness to be the voice for the members of each respective district. Thank you for your service to your district and being the liaison for your district with the region board.

Governor Sylvia expressed admiration for the clubs in the Region who figured out how to cope with the breakdown of the economy, the canceling of meetings, fundraisers and award events. Through hard work and perseverance, not to mention friendship love and teamwork, we have succeeded, we must measure our success, not only in dollars given but in lives changed and conditions improved. Our success is in our unity and we must continue to unite our efforts and empower change for women in our clubs, in our community, in our region and in our world.

Governor Sylvia closed by encouraging everyone to pursue higher office with the Soroptimist organization.

Governor Sylvia thanked each and every member for allowing her the honor to serve as the Founder Region, Governor.

(A recording of this call, as well as our full Program Awards presentation is posted on the Founder Region website.)

Governor Sylvia closed the virtual assembly with the Soroptimist pledge.

Sunday, May 3, 2020:

Generally, at a regular Founder Region Conference, Sunday's program consists of the Memorial Celebration of Service and the Program Awards.

Due to the extraordinary circumstances brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, this information was posted on the Founder Region website on Thursday April 30, 2020 in the On Demand Viewing section of the 2020 Virtual Conference and updated in the 2020 Virtual Conference Program.

"Celebration of Service" Memorial

Lori Barum	SI/Antioch
Helen Ark	SI/Calistoga
Shellie Sakai	SI/Calistoga
Herb Salinger	SI/Calistoga
Diane Graham	SI/Diablo Vista
Norene Lowry	SI/Diablo Vista
Diana Mogul	SI/Eel River Valley
Virginia Isbell	SI/Kona
Linda Velarde	SI/Pittsburg
Harriet Matoko Aoki	SI/Waikiki Foundation, Inc.
Carolyn Yap Ballou	SI/Waikiki Foundation, Inc.

Live Your Dream Awards

The Live Your Dream program was established in 1972 by Soroptimist International of the Americas to assist women who provide the primary source of financial support for their families by giving them the resources they need to improve their education, skills and employment prospects.

Five of the district winners below receive a check for \$1,500 from Founder Region, a check for \$3,000 from Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA), and special certificates of recognition from State Assemblyman Jim Wood and State Senator Mike McGuire.

The district winner who is also chosen as the region winner receives a check for \$1,500 from Founder Region and a check for \$5,000 from SIA, a \$500 gift certificate from Best Buy, along with the above-mentioned certificates.

District I	SI/El Cerrito	Winner
District II	SI/Martinez	Antoinette Cardoso
District III	SI/Calistoga	Carla
District IV	SI/Santa Rosa	Lisa Diaz-McQuaid* Region Winner
District V	SI/Fort Bragg	Christina Delgado
District VI	SI/Kona	Shawndel Cortez

Violet Richardson Awards

The Violet Richardson Award honors young women between the ages of 14 and 18 for volunteer action such as fighting drugs, crime and violence, cleaning up the environment and working to end discrimination and poverty.

The district winners below receive a check for \$500 from Founder Region and special certificates of recognition from State Assemblyman Jim Wood and State Senator Mike McGuire.

District I	SI/El Cerrito	Madeeha Khan
District II	SI /24-680 (Walnut Creek)	Emma Casey
District III	SI/Napa	Isabel Martin
District IV	SI/Novato	Evelyn Zavala-Torres
District V	SI/Eureka	Mandy Martin
District VI	SI/Central Oahu	Krysta Reese

Barbara Stevenson "S" Club Award

District III

SI/Vacaville

Tatum Wurzbach

Tatum has been an active member of the S-club and in the leadership role as president for the last two years. In her time as president, she has not only lead a successful club, she has kept members inspired and engaged in community projects both locally and abroad in Africa. Tatum has also partnered with other HS s-clubs on projects to educate our community on human trafficking.

Dream Programs Fundraising Basket Raffle:

We rely on the basket raffle funds at our conferences to support the Dreams Programs and to show appreciation in the form of Founder Region designations to Club Giving for club awards and Laurel Society designations for individuals who have served Founder Region over the past year.

We proceeded with the basket drawing but determined that each club could draw from their own stubs and award their club's \$150 value "Empowering Dreams" themed basket to the person drawn from their club. Funds were submitted by the relaxed deadline **April 30, 2020**. Each club that sold all of their tickets was also entered in a drawing for \$250 towards Club Giving.

\$12,223.00 was raised towards the Dreams Programs and SI/Mendocino-Sonoma Coast won the incentive drawing.

Attendance Incentive Drawing:

The attendance incentive drawing could not be held this year; however, the Region Board determined to carry over last year's attendance incentive winner – Yvonne White of SI/Arcata. She will be provided registration and meals for the 2021 Founder Region Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Eileen Fisher, FR Secretary 2018-2020



FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP
2020 Virtual Business Meeting
May 2, 2020
Via Zoom Conference

Governor Sylvia opened the session at 6:10 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the first and hopefully last Virtual Founder Region Conference due to our shelter in place from the Covid19 pandemic. She introduced President Pam who continued our Founder Region Fellowship Annual Business Meeting at 6:15 p.m.

- I.** President Pam welcomed everyone to one of the longest Fellowship Business Meetings stating that it had started with the Caucus Conference Call on March 22, 2020 and is concluding tonight. She thanked everyone and hoped that everyone joined in to the Fellowship Awards Celebration and Presentation last night (May 1, 2020.)
- II.** President Pam stated that our FR Fellowship Treasurer's Report for July 1, 2018-March 31, 2020 will be submitted for financial review and is available to membership upon request.

III. Adoption of Credentials Report

The following Credentials Report #1 was presented by Credentials Chair, Loretta Tognoli (SI/Ukiah):

Clubs in Founder Region	54
Clubs Eligible to Vote	52
Clubs Not in Good Standing	2
Clubs Registered	49
Total Voting Clubs	49
Delegates Registered:	
Fellowship President	1
Fellowship Directors	6
Region Officers	4
District Directors	6
Club Delegates	144
Total Delegates	161
Quorum for Opening Session	81

Credential Report #1 was adopted by the delegates.

**FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP
2020 Virtual Business Meeting
Page 2**

IV. Adoption of Credentials Report

The following Credentials Report #2 was presented by Credentials Chair, Loretta Tognoli (SI/Ukiah):

Clubs in Founder Region	54
Clubs Eligible to Vote	52
Clubs Not in Good Standing	2
Clubs Registered	50
Total Voting Clubs	50
Delegates Registered:	
Fellowship President	1
Fellowship Directors	6
Region Officers	4
District Directors	6
Club Delegates	147
Total Delegates	164
Quorum for Opening Session	83

Credential Report #2 was adopted by the delegates.

V. Minutes of the Previous Business Meeting

The minutes of the FRF Business Meeting held at the Founder Region Conference on May 4, 2019 were approved via the on-line voting.

VI. Founder Region Fellowship Proposed Bylaw Amendments – 2020

The following 6 (six) FRF 2020 proposed bylaw amendments were presented and each were voted unanimously to adopt.

**ARTICLE V, Directors and Officers
Section 3**

CURRENT LANGUAGE	PROPOSED LANGUAGE
Section 3. A secretary and treasurer shall be elected from the incoming FRF Board of Directors at their first meeting held after the election.	Section 3. A secretary shall be elected from the incoming FRF Board of Directors at their first meeting held after the election.

Proposed by: The Founder Region Fellowship (FRF) Board of Directors
Advantages:
Disadvantages:

Financial Impact: None.

Rationale:

NOTE: Please see Proposed Bylaw Amendment ARTICLE V. Section 4 for Advantages, Disadvantages and Rationale.

FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP

2020 Virtual Business Meeting

Page 3

VI. Founder Region Fellowship Proposed Bylaw Amendments – 2020 cont.:

ARTICLE V, Directors and Officers

Section 4 (new) – as amended

CURRENT LANGUAGE	PROPOSED LANGUAGE
	Section 4. A treasurer shall be elected from the membership at the annual conference beginning in 2022. For the 2020-2022 biennium, the treasurer shall be appointed by the incoming Founder Region Fellowship (FRF) President from applications submitted by members of Founder Region. The Treasurer shall be a voting member of the board of directors.

Proposed by: The Founder Region Fellowship (FRF) Board of Directors

Advantages: The FRF Board of Directors cannot always be guaranteed that a board member will have an accounting background and thorough knowledge of bookkeeping and accounting skills. Having someone serving in the position of treasurer will also free up the time previously spent by a FRF District Director who held the position and allow her/him to serve in the District Director position to which they were elected without adding additional responsibilities.

Disadvantages: The first biennium that this would be effective would require an appointment to the position, which would require that the Incoming FRF President be prepared to appoint a member with adequate accounting skills.

Financial Impact: None. Because of the region re-districting, the number of district directors will be reduced to five rather than previously having had six directors. Adding an (appointed) elected treasurer would mean that the number of members of the FRF board would remain at six plus the President.

Rationale: Elected district directors for FRF may or may not have qualifying accounting skills which would allow for one director to serve as the FRF treasurer. By having an elected treasurer from the membership, the board will be assured that there will be someone with accounting skills to ensure that bookkeeping is done properly.

NOTE: Addition of this Section will require a renumbering of Sections in ARTICLE V.

**FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP
2020 Virtual Business Meeting
Page 4**

VI. Founder Region Fellowship Proposed Bylaw Amendments – 2020 cont.:

**ARTICLE V, Directors and Officers
Section 5**

CURRENT LANGUAGE	PROPOSED LANGUAGE
<p>Section 5. Nominations. Each club may submit the names of regular members to the Founder Region Nominating Committee. Each District in Founder Region shall thereafter elect one (1) member from that district to be a director. Nominations and elections shall be in accordance with Founder Region Bylaws.</p>	<p>Section 6. Nominations. Each club may submit the names of regular members to the Founder Region Nominating Committee for treasurer and director. Each District in Founder Region shall thereafter elect one (1) member from that district to be a director. The Founder Region membership, beginning in biennium 2022-2024, shall thereafter elect one (1) member of Founder Region to be treasurer. Nominations and elections shall be in accordance with Founder Region Bylaws.</p>

Proposed by: The Founder Region Fellowship (FRF) Board of Directors

Advantages: The FRF Board of Directors cannot always be guaranteed that a board member will have an accounting background and thorough knowledge of bookkeeping and accounting skills. Having someone serving in the position of treasurer will also free up the time previously spent by a FRF District Director who held the position and allow her/him to serve in the District Director position to which they were elected without adding additional responsibilities.

Disadvantages: The first biennium that this would be effective would require an appointment to the position, which would require that the Incoming FRF President be prepared to appoint a member with adequate accounting skills.

Financial Impact: None. Because of the region re-districting, the number of district directors will be reduced to five rather than previously having had six directors. Adding an (appointed) elected treasurer would mean that the number of members of the FRF board would remain at six plus the President.

Rationale: Elected district directors for FRF may or may not have qualifying accounting skills which would allow for one director to serve as the FRF treasurer. By having an elected treasurer from the membership, the board will be assured that there will be someone with accounting skills to ensure that bookkeeping is done properly.

**FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP
2020 Virtual Business Meeting
Page 5**

VI. Founder Region Fellowship Proposed Bylaw Amendments – 2020 cont.:

**Article V, Directors and Officers
Section 2**

CURRENT LANGUAGE	PROPOSED LANGUAGE
Section 2. There shall be six (6) directors who are representatives of the six (6) districts of Founder Region. They shall serve for a biennium or until their successors take office.	Section 2. There shall be five (5) directors who are representatives of the five (5) districts of Founder Region. They shall serve for a biennium or until their successors take office.

Proposed by: The Founder Region Fellowship (FRF) Board of Directors

Advantages: Updates to reflect new redistricting for Founder Region

Financial Impact: None

Rationale: To bring Directors and Officers current in regards to redistricting, voted on at 2019 Conference, effective July 1, 2020.

**Article V, Directors and Officers
Section 9. Vacancies. b.**

CURRENT LANGUAGE	PROPOSED LANGUAGE
Section 9. Vacancies. b. If a vacancy occurs in the office of director, the FRF Board of Directors shall appoint a director from the membership of the designated district vacated to serve until the annual meeting where an election to fill such a vacancy is held, providing the nominee meets the requirements as set forth in these bylaws. A vacancy or vacancies on the board shall be deemed to exist in the event of a death, resignation, or removal of any director, or if the authorized number of directors is increased.	Section 10. Vacancies. b. Director If a vacancy occurs in the office of director, the FRF Board of Directors shall appoint a director from the membership of the designated district vacated to serve until the annual meeting where an election to fill such a vacancy is held, providing the nominee meets the requirements as set forth in these bylaws. A vacancy or vacancies on the board shall be deemed to exist in the event of a death, resignation, or absence/ removal of any director, or if the authorized number of directors is increased.

Proposed by: The Founder Region Fellowship (FRF) Board of Directors

Advantages: To allow “absence” as opposed to only “removal”

Financial Impact: None

Rationale: To allow “absence” as opposed to only “removal”

FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP

2020 Virtual Business Meeting

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VI. Founder Region Fellowship Proposed Bylaw Amendments – 2020 cont.:

ARTICLE V, Directors and Officers

Section 9. Vacancies. c. (new)

CURRENT LANGUAGE	PROPOSED LANGUAGE
	<p>Section 10. Vacancies. c. Treasurer If a vacancy occurs in the office of treasurer, the FRF Board of Directors shall appoint a treasurer from the membership of FR to serve until the annual meeting where an election to fill such a vacancy is held, providing the nominee meets the requirements as set forth in these bylaws. A vacancy or vacancies in the office of treasurer shall be deemed to exist in the event of a death, resignation, or absence/ removal of treasurer.</p>

Proposed by: The Founder Region Fellowship (FRF) Board of Directors

Advantages: To allow “absence” as opposed to only “removal” as it applies to the newly proposed method for selection of treasurer and to ensure a successor is appointed/elected.

Financial Impact: None

Rationale: To allow “absence” as opposed to only “removal” as it applies to the newly proposed method for selection of treasurer and to ensure a successor is appointed/elected.

NOTE: Addition of this Section will require a renumbering of Sub-sections in ARTICLE V. Section 10.

VII. Announcement of the of the 2020-2022 of FR Fellowship Directors

District I – Billie Knight, Soroptimist International of The East Bay

District II – Dana Holve, Soroptimist International of Vacaville Twilight

District III – Nushi Safinya, Soroptimist International of Calistoga

District IV – Crystal Arbuthnot, Soroptimist International of The Redwoods

District V – Denise Ridge, Soroptimist International of Waikiki Foundation

VIII. Year End Director and President Reports - see attachments

President Pam called for any other business and seeing none, she called the 2019-2020 72nd Annual Founder Region Fellowship Business Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jan Schults
Secretary - Founder Region Fellowship
District II Fellowship Director
Soroptimist International of the Americas
Founder Region Fellowship President's Report, May 2020
Pam Parker

I would truly like to thank Governor Sylvia for appointing me President of Founder Region Fellowship for 2018-2020. It has been such a rewarding experience these past two years. The biennium was filled with many things: opportunities, learning experiences, growth, expanding our program to more doctoral students at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and two of the things I am most proud of - working together to bring changes for our membership to our Fellowship fundraising and introducing our new, beautiful Fellow pins....all the way to the tenth level!

I had the pleasure of working with amazing women on our board of directors, meeting members from all over the region and having a role in selecting our amazing Fellowship recipients both years. These memories will never fade.

With our world turned upside down and sideways due to our shelter-in-place enacted because of the Covid19 pandemic, your Founder Region and Founder Region Fellowship leadership teams went above and beyond to bring us an unforgettable and outstanding virtual conference program. Every member of Founder Region should be very proud of the accomplishments made in the last few weeks before conference, bringing us all together when we had to be apart.

If you joined our virtual Friday night Fellowship Awards Celebration, you were part of a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" – being able to see so many smiling faces of members and our recipients, coming together in a way we would never have dreamed possible in 1948 when Fellowship began.

While we could not make presentations "in person", what a gift we were able to give our seven recipients – they met Soroptimists virtually, they met each other virtually and they shared in our joy of supporting them not only financially but also our gift of empowering them with seeing all of us come together in a platform new to many of us. Our Fellowship board members plan to stay in touch with Jessica, Sharon, Derrika, Joanna, Katerina, Solange and Priscilla. Wouldn't it be nice if we could include them in next years' conference along with our 2021 recipients, celebrating Fellowship as well as our Soroptimist 100th Anniversary?

Please read each of the Fellowship District Directors' reports – not just the one from your district. Reading these will open your eyes as to what happens in each district and you can see how all six districts rallied together to make our 2018-2020 biennium a huge success.

Each director has a list of Fellows (as we know it) and will continue to update the list and make any changes necessary. There will also be a PowerPoint presentation available to show our Fellows list.

As I said last year, and many of you know this but I am going to repeat it;

Founder Region Fellowship is the identifying project of Founder Region, Soroptimist International of the Americas. Our mission is to advance the status of women through financial support in the final phases of their doctoral program. We can only continue to do this through fundraising, generous donations and sponsorships.

Our membership embraced our ideas, our goals and presentations in 2019-2020 and we are delighted that so many members have taken advantage of opportunities to contribute to Founder Region Fellowship using tax-smart strategies. We realize this is a long road ahead for our Fellowship program and we are proud to be the ones who started the path for future Fellowship boards to continue to pave the way.

We know that future Fellowship boards will continue with previous Fellowship board members' goals in giving substantial awards to our recipients as well as making sure our program thrives financially and becomes sustainable.

We always thank you from the bottom of our hearts – just as every previous Founder Region Fellowship board has done – for your generosity and your belief in our mission. We want to continue to empower women – just as we did in our virtual awards celebration and as we did at our 2019 Founder Region Conference. We want to succeed and make a difference in the lives of women this year, and every year, who in turn will make a difference in many lives of women in the future. Our recipients are our future.

Your current Fellowship board, as have others, gave the dedication, passion and enthusiasm tirelessly to move in an upward position to make Founder Region Fellowship the best it can be. Thank you to Directors Cheryl, Jan, Teri, Nancy, Crystal and Rena. You never stopped shining.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart and beyond for what you all do to make Founder Region Fellowship successful. I thank you for the opportunity to be able to join the ranks of amazing Past Presidents of Founder Region Fellowship.

Pam Parker
President, 2018-2020

FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP DISTRICT I FELLOWSHIP DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DISTRICT: 1

FELLOWSHIP DIRECTOR: Cheryl Poncini

DATE OF REPORT: April 15, 2020

COVERS THE PERIOD: July 1, 2018 – April 15, 2020

Number of Clubs in District I: Seven

Number of Fellows in District I: 126 Fellows

Number of Monthly Giving Participants: One

Funds Raised by District I at the 2018 & 2019 District Meetings:

2018: \$ 2,250.00

2019: \$ 2,830.00

Funds Raised since July 1, 2018, naming New Fellows or Leveling Up: \$5,500.00

New or Leveling Up Fellows for 2019-2020:

Carol Dippel – S/I Oakland-The Founder Club – 2nd Level Fellow
(Won at the District I Meeting in October 2019)

Sandra Garrett – S/I East Bay – 1st Level Club Fellow

Marlene Leverett – S/I El Cerrito – 10th Level Fellow

Julie Perales – S/I San Ramon Valley – 1st Level Club Fellow

Cheryl Poncini – S/I Oakland –The Founder Club – 7th Level Fellow

What I Love About Being the District I Fellowship Director: I enjoy working with members of the District I clubs as well as meeting Fellowship applicants who are obtaining a higher education which will help to improve the lives of others – particularly women and girls -- through example, work, and leadership.

Thank You to my District I clubs for your support of the Fellowship program and for making my four years as your Fellowship Director interesting and fun!



FELLOWSHIP DIRECTOR REPORT
Jan Schults, District II Director
2018-2020

- District II is made up of six clubs and has approximately 139 members.
- We have a total of 134 Fellows past and present from Level 1's to Level 3's.
- There is only one member taking advantage of the Monthly Giving program working towards becoming a Fellow or moving to the next level.
- This biennium District II raised \$8,030.22 between District Meeting raffle ticket sales, February Fun for Fellowship, merchandise presales at our Funtastik Fellowship Finds store and the Warrior Bobblehead fundraiser.
- \$10,000.00 has been raised in naming Fellows and those leveling up since July 2018. I anticipate pinning 7 more (an additional \$7,000.00) once the shelter in place is over.
- District II has awarded four new Fellows since July 1, 2019 through raffle ticket drawings:
 - Mary Ann Redden – SI Antioch, received her 3rd Level pin.
 - Bev Gomer – SI Martinez, received her 2nd Level pin.
 - Linda Velarde – SI Pittsburg, received her 1st Level pin.
 - Nora Brown – SI Pittsburg, received her 1st Level pin.

I have loved serving as District II's Director for this biennium as it has given me the opportunity to not only be part of a great team of women who I admire, but the opportunity to help 17 women receive Fellowship awards to achieve their Doctoral degrees in their field of study.

Thank you District II for always welcoming me into your club meetings and events. I'm thankful to have been given this opportunity to garner new skills and ideas to support women who will make a difference by attaining their educational goals.

Thank you so much.

**FOUNDER REGION FELLOWSHIP
DISTRICT III DIRECTOR REPORT**

DIRECTOR Teri Malkin
DATE: 4/15/2020



13 CLUBS with 287 Fellows in District III

MONTHLY GIVING SIGNUP: Two

DISTRICT III FUNDS RAISED

Fellows New or Level Up	
2018-2019	\$16,000
2019-2020	\$19,300
Fellowship District Meeting Raffle Tickets and other sales	
2018	\$5,630
2019	\$7,912

**NEW FELLOWS or Level Up as of
7/1/2019**

1st Level Susan Korcz – SI American Canyon
1st Level Kristen Einberger - SI American Canyon
1st Level Helen Kennedy-Lazar, SI Benicia
1st Level Patricia Butler, SI Benicia
1st Level Penny Stell, SI Benicia
2nd Level Sandra Franchini, SI Benicia
3rd Level Francis Harkins, Benicia
1st Level Sissy Coffen, Benicia
1st Level Mary Beutner, SI Central Solano
2nd Level Fawn Williams, SI Clearlake
1st Level Barbara Bulkley, SI Dixon
1st Level Andrea Knowlton, SI Napa
1st Level Wanda Apel, SI Rio Vista
1st Level Meri Wheeler, SI Rio Vista

2nd Level Hope Cohn, SI Rio Vista
1st Level Jennifer Klingbeil, SI St. Helena
1st Level Noreen Fetzer, SI St. Helena
1st Level Cindi Milani – SI St. Helena
1st Level Yvonne Vosti – SI St. Helena
5th Level Pam Parker -SI St. Helena
6th Level Pam Parker -SI St. Helena
1st Level Ulrike Wilmoth, SI St. Helena
Sunrise
1st Level Mary Dickey, SI Vacaville
1st Level Nancy Bennett, SI Vacaville
2nd Level Brandi Palomo, SI Vacaville
Twilight
2nd Level Dana Holve, SI Vacaville Twilight
2nd Level Jackie Arnold, SI Vallejo
3rd Level Jackie Arnold, SI Vallejo
1st Level Shelee Loughmiller, SI Vallejo
1st Level Simone Lane, SI Vallejo
1st Level Lisa Gutierrez-Wilson, SI Vallejo

It has been an honor for me to serve the last two years as District III Fellowship Director. Thank you to the Clubs in District III and their members for their generosity and ongoing support of Founder Region Fellowship.

Nancy Weber
Fellowship Director District IV
Director's Report
April 2020

District IV currently has 10 clubs. Two clubs, Oakmont Wine Country and West Sonoma, were chartered this year. The two new clubs are not yet Fellows and the remaining 8 clubs are Fellows.

Number of Fellows: 117 with two more being named in May for a total of 119

We have 2 monthly giving participants

Funds raised at District Meeting

- 2018 District Meeting - \$2223: Named 2 Fellows
- 2019 District Meeting - \$2165: Named 2 Fellows

Total of funds raised from July 2018 to March 2020

- \$18712, with 13 Fellows being named. Does not include the \$2K from Novato for 2 Fellows TBA in May.

New and leveling up Fellows for 2019-2020

- Madalienne Peters - SI Novato, 4th level, (Conference 2019 drawing)
- Lucy Barnett – SI Santa Rosa, 2nd level, District Mtg drawing
- Jeanne Kerns – SI Santa Rosa, 2nd level, District Mtg drawing
- Maida Herbst – SI Sonoma Valley, 1st Level, Donation (paid in June, 2019)
- Maida Herbst – SI Sonoma Valley, 2nd Level, Donation (paid in June, 2019)
- Maida Herbst – SI Sonoma Valley, 3rd Level, Donation (paid in June, 2019)
- Jean Hopeman – SI Sonoma Valley, 1st Level, Club Donation
- Rose Foster – SI Ukiah, 1st Level, Club Donation
- Joan Mora – SI Windsor, 2nd Level, Donation
- Two Fellows TBA in May for SI Novato, 1st Level, Club Donation (paid in April, 2020)

As District IV's Fellowship Director, it has been my pleasure to work with strong, smart women, who team together with purpose and gratitude, to improve lives of vulnerable women and girls. Thank you, District IV Soroptimists, for allowing me the honor and privilege of serving as your Fellowship Director and thank you for your very generous support of the Fellowship program!

**Crystal Arbuthnot
Fellowship Director District V
Director's Report
April 2020**



District 5 started with a total of 10 clubs and currently has 9 clubs. All clubs in my district are Fellows.

Number of Fellows: 163 with one more being named later this year for a total of 164

We have 2 monthly giving participants

Funds raised at District Meeting

- 2018 District Meeting - \$3100: Named 3 Fellows
- 2019 District Meeting - \$3100: Named 3 Fellows

Total of funds raised from July 2018 to March 2020

- \$10350.00: named 8 Fellows as 3 clubs paid half a fellow, so they will finish donating next year.
- total of \$16,550 raised with 14 Fellows being named.

New and leveling up Fellows for 2019-2020

- Lorraine Murphy-SI Fort Bragg, 1st level, District Mtg drawing
- Cori Reed-SI Eureka, 1st level (gifted by Elaine Reed), District Mtg drawing
- Pam Parker-SI St Helena, 6th level, District Mtg drawing
- SI Eureka-TBD, Donation
- Amie McClellan-1st level, SI Redwoods, monthly giving

Being Fellowship director has allowed me to meet a lot of new people and allowed me to get out of my comfort zone to learn new things, especially public speaking.

Thank you for investing in me and giving me the opportunity to serve as your Fellowship director. It's been a pleasure.

Rena Borja
Fellowship District Director, District VI
Director's Report
April 2020



District 6 started with a total of 9 clubs with 5 in Hawaii, 2 in Guam, 1 in Commonwealth of Northern Marianas, and 1 in the Republic of Palau. Six clubs are Fellows.

Number of Fellows: 115 members with one being nominated by their club before biennium ends.

We have 5 monthly giving participants

Total funds raised at District Meeting

- 2018 District Meeting -\$3150 Named 3 Fellows and club fellows \$4000
- 2019 District Meeting -\$3035 Named 3 Fellows

Total of funds raised from July 2018 to March 2020

- \$14185: named 8 new Fellows and level up Fellows

New and leveling up Fellows for 2019-2020

- Teri Sato-SI Honolulu 1st level, District Mtg drawing
- Lyn Lurbe-SI Central Oahu 2nd level, District Mtg drawing
- Rena Borja-SI Guam 3rd level, District Mtg drawing
- Anita Haban-Nakamaejo-SI Waikiki 4th level, Club
- Arlene Bordallo-SI Guam 2nd level, Conference drawing
- Geri Cordova-SI Guam 1st level, Conference drawing
- Thelma Ai'Wohi-SI Central Oahu 1st level Club
- Wendy Mcdonald-SI Maui 1st level, Club
- Elaine Randall-SI Maui 2nd level, Club
- Esther Roberts-SI Honolulu monthly giving
- Elise Carmody-SI Central Oahu monthly giving
- Lisa Johnson-SI Honolulu monthly giving
- Rena Borja-SI Guam monthly giving

The people I have met and interviews with candidates and the generosity of all Soroptimists in founder region and of course the many friends made are among the reasons why I did Fellowship Director second time around. I have enjoyed the four years as District 6 Director.

Thank you to all the members in my district who have invited me to their meetings and events in the various islands. Thank you for the fellowship with other directors and have learned and loved time with them.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase
Aloha
Masulang!