# The Founder Region Light

"Be the Fireworks"



#### **DISTRICT I**

#### Soroptimist International of East Bay: 17 Years

SI East Bay is a dynamic and cohesive group of dedicated women. We come from all walks of life but are unified under one goal -- improving the lives of women and girls locally and throughout the world. We meet the second Thursday evening in San Leandro at the Englander Restaurant ... and our general focus is on finding and then helping our local community leaders in their efforts to improve conditions in our area. Apart from that, we have fun! Our fundraisers are aimed at bringing friends and family together to assist us in our mission. We are creating the changes to improve our communities while building long lasting friendships ... what's not to love about that?

#### Soroptimist International of El Cerrito: 55 Years

SI El Cerrito support women & girls via our club high school scholarship, the Violet Richardson Award, sponsorship of a girl for Girls State, sponsorship of a girl on the El Cerrito High School Mountain Bike Team, the Women's Opportunity Award, and on occasion, the Ruby Award. We are also an active partner in a program call West County Babies which provides baby clothes to infants of needy families and basic education to their parents in areas such as personal finance and child care. We also put together baby blankets and collect suit cases for foster children. In addition, we support groups such as Missey, SAGE, and PINCC through our personal service and through donations. We are working on setting up a reading program in a local school. Our main fundraising activity is a golf tournament held at the Mira Vista Golf Course in El Cerrito

Soroptimist International of Tri-Cities: 11 Years SI Tri-Cities/Fremont assembled 200 Pretty Bags filled with personal care items for women in domestic violence and homeless shelters as well as human trafficking support groups. Welcomed several new members, celebrated out 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary, recognized our WOA and VR award winners, adopted a family for Christmas and participated in several community events this summer to help spread the word about Soroptimist.

#### Soroptimist International of Livermore: 65 Years

SI Livermore may be low in membership, but we held two "Fun" luncheons, "Home for the Holidays" in December (learning to decorate with live seasonal plants and flowers). And "Let's Make Tea" in April (learning to make our own tea from spring flowers and herbs). We also collaborated with the Livermore Area Youth Advisory Commission to screen "Miss Representation" in February. SI Livermore will proudly celebrate our 65th birthday at our Awards luncheon June 5th. Soroptimist International of Oakland: 92 Years

Soroptimist International of Oakland: 92 Years SI Oakland's president chose the color green to represent renewal and growth. Add to that a touch of recycling. As part of our speaker series in the fall, a representative from St. Vincent de Paul of Alameda County came and spoke about the opportunities to recycle used items to help the poor in our community. In October for our service activity, we donated toiletries to Courageous Women, an organization dedicated to helping homeless women and women who are survivors of domestic violence. Also, we had three very successful fund raisers in the fall: Day at the Races, Lobster Sale, and our annual Christmas Auction. The proceeds from these events go to fund Soroptimists' signature projects Violet Richardson and WOA. This spring we chose two excellent candidates who we honored at our Awards Banquet on March 28. In addition, our club continued its service activities by volunteering at St. Paul's Episcopal Church's food pantry and providing shoes for 5th graders from Brookfield Elementary School.

Soroptimist International of Pleasanton/Dublin: 57 Years SI Pleasanton Dublin increased it's membership this year welcoming Patricia Bithell, Michele Garcia and Margie Furnary. We're coming off the resounding success of our Rhinestones, Chaps & Cowboy Hats Gala raising money for our Club programs. This year we've already recognized our Woman of Distinction, Violet Richardson, Women's Opportunity and Best for Community Awardees and donated schools supplies, delivered 300+ hand-signed holiday cards/notes to our Military troops, hosted a holiday tea for little girls and a breakfast for Pleasanton's sistercity delegation; AND before the year is out, we will host a college planning night and deliver baskets full of home essentials to Tri-Valley Haven

**Soroptimist International of Richmond:** 74 Years SI Richmond has had a very busy year, starting out with co-hosting the District Meeting in October and then jumping right into holding our annual Teddy Bear Tea in November. Currently we are busy planning for our 20th annual Culinary Caper which will be held on April 28, 2013. We are also very excited to be celebrating our member Alta Kelsey's fiftieth year with SI Richmond- Quite a milestone!

#### Soroptimist International of San Ramon Valley: 29 Years

SI San Ramon Valley is a very busy club with twenty nine members and 10 supporting members of varying ages. We are excited to report that we will be initiating 3 new members in April.. Our signature project, "She's All That" is a one-day conference for middle school girls and their parents. This conference is held at a local high school every year and receives much support from the local community. 2013 conference sold out with over 300 girls and 150 parents. This year we added 5th graders and this was received with great enthusiasm. We also participated in the East Bay Women's Conference where we meet many prospective new members. We will participate in San Ramon's Wine and Wind Festival the end of May.

#### **DISTRICT II**

## Soroptimist International of 24/680: 8 Years

With theme of "Step Up and Be Visible", SI24/690's table at Lafayette Art and Wine Festival attracted potential members and got "Soroptimist" out there and visible. On October 3, 2012, we celebrated 91 years of Soroptimist with cupcakes, cake hats, and a history presentation by Toni Pera. We launched our first fundraiser, Black Friday Raffle. With gardening skills and elbow grease, our members planted a beautiful garden and tree for Youth Homes' Anderson House. Toys for children of Santa Rita inmates were collected at our fun Holiday Social, and we teamed with SI Martinez to hold our very successful Crab Feed, Silent Auction, Dessert Auction, and Trip raffle. After Hurricane Sandy, contact was made with Soroptimist of Staten Island and New Jersey to see if we can assist after Hurricane Sandy.

#### Soroptimist International of Antioch: 60 Years

SI Antioch is celebrating its 60th year of service this May. We are having a Birthday Party on May 10th at Lone Tree Golf Course Event Center. Our club has worked hard this year raising money for our programs and scholarships. We held two successful Bunco's, a Fall Fest, Rummage Sale, and much more. We continue to work at membership and at also having fun.

Soroptimist International of East Contra Costa County: 43 Years SI East Contra Costa Country has held a Halloween luncheon to benefit our school fund. In December, we participated in the Brentwood Festival of Trees. This is a fundraiser benefiting area non-profits. In July our club helped with the Brentwood Corrnfest. We held our first ever Bunco party in mid-February. It went very well, and we added two new members as a result. We held a Valentine luncheon on February 14 and will also have a Yard Sale in May. Our club also participates in Get Real Academy (GRA) in March.

## Soroptimist International of The Delta: 29 Years

SI The Delta has started the club year with a festive "new member" margarita recruitment party, and yielded 4 new members. Something is on fire in the Delta water, evidenced by our new members bringing guest and continuing to actively recruit new members. Our "300 Club" fundraiser will benefit the O.D.A.T (one day at a time) a local program dedicated to promoting positive lifestyles enhancing education and developing decision making skills that empower today's youth and young adults. Additional fund raising activities include Lobster sale, and our 3rd Texas Hold 'Em event. These proceeds afford our club the opportunity to fund three Student awards and one WOA award. Lastly, or club was proud to participate and assist in funding the District II Get Real Academy for high school senior girls.

## Soroptimist International of Diablo Vista: 8 Years

SI Diablo Vista has held three fund-raisers so far: a Poker Night, a Lobster Tail Sale and a Two-Bit Auction, which brought in \$8,249. Our club members gave food boxes and \$10 gift cards to the Monument Crisis Center along with a \$300 check to be used for Adopt-a-Family Christmas meals. We also gave a \$200 check and helped with the wrapping of gifts for the Monumental Toy Drive. We participated in Get Real Day and gave generously to the program. This year our Women of Distinction, Making a Difference for Women Award lunch will honor 21 outstanding women, including 3 WOA awards and a Ruby Award. \$4,600 will be given to WOA, VR, and Marie Broman winners. Our Youth Recognition Event will again be held in April at the new Pleasant Hill Senior Center.

## Soroptimist International of Martinez: 71 Years

SI Martinez has accomplished our goal by adding six new members this year. Another goal we accomplished with the help of the entire region is the New Hope High School that opened in Kenya, Africa. One of our members, Marilyn Johnston, traveled to Kenya this summer to help and that opened the door to a Friendship Link with the Soroptimist Club of Kakamega, Africa. We joined Soroptimist 24/680 and helped put on a successful crab feed fundraiser. Approximately 400 were in attendance and we enjoyed great food, fine music and wine and a silent auction



#### **DISTRICT II (cont'd)**

One Saturday in February our members and friends gathered & socialized while making blankets for foster children and will have 25 blankets to give to the Children's Services Department at our Awards Tea in April. One of the events we are most proud of is the Get Real Academy. All seven clubs in Founder Region, District II work together to put on a one day workshop for senior high girls in Contra Costa County. Over 200 girls and their school counselors came and they raved about the event and how it will help them as they transition from high school into the adult world

## Soroptimist of Pittsburg: 60 Years

SI Pittsburg continues to be one of the premier service organizations within our community. We are made up of dynamic, resourceful, intelligent, and caring women. Over the last year, we have increased our membership with eight new members. Our club motto is "We make money to give it away." Annually, between our service projects and donations, locally and through the Soroptimist organization, our contributions amount to approximately \$32,000. SI Pittsburg signature projects include Kidz on Target and the Reading Project and some of our signature fundraisers include That's Amore, Festaltaliana; Famous Bake Sale Auction; Coffee for a Cause; Cocktails for a Cause; Golfing Fore a Cause; and soon to be introduced The Great Rubber Duck Race. It is a well known belief in our community that if you want to get anything done, ask Soroptimist!

#### **DISTRICT III**

## Soroptimist International of Benicia: 37 Years

SI Benicia is a cohesive group of women who support our own community with our own programs, but also collaborate with other groups with projects in order to benefit women and girls in the community and throughout the world

## Soroptimist International of Calistoga: 57 Years

SI Calistoga's major identifying projects are: The Calistoga Family Center \$15,000 discretionary funds as well as \$5,000 for a Domestic Violence Counselor through Napa Emergency Women's Shelter (NEWS). Also, sponsor the Solar suitcase, hold annual "No Drugs Down the Drain" medical & sharps collection. We are committed to WOA, Ruby Award, Community Advocacy Award, Emma Spain Arts & Music Award, and Vermeil Culinary Arts Award. Hold a Domestic Violence Awareness table and host a Thanksgiving Luncheon for a 100+ Seniors. Each year we have our Annual Crab Feed Fundraiser.

## Soroptimist International of Central Solano County: 11 Years

SI Central Solano County has engaged in several, significant programs/ projects this year. Resulting from a successful fund-raiser in September, we have been able to provide program grants in the amount of over \$12,000 to local agencies serving the needs of women and girls. We have made more than 40 fleece blankets; provided weekly dinners to teen-age girls participating in our Girls Circle support group; selected very deserving winners for our WOA, Violet Richardson and Ruby Awards; filled a rolling bookcase with more than 300 books for Heather House; promoted a successful "Dine and Donate" event for Meals on Wheels; scheduled our Saturday of Service with Habitat for Humanity. One highlight of the year has been serving as the "ribbon cutter" for North Bay Cancer Center's "Glamour Room," a room that supports women cancer patients with wigs and scarves and other personal appearance support activities; our club has underwritten the provision of wigs and scarves for several years through our "Virtual Tea."

## Soroptimist International of Clearlake: 49 Years

SI Clear Lake has spent this term working on building membership, participating in Soroptimist programs, presenting educational programing, and promoting Soroptimist with an aggressive Media campaign. We laid out plans for the year at a summer retreat and have met the goals we set for ourselves. We continue to provide free mammograms, blankets made by members for the Totes for Teens project and toys for girls ages 1 to 4 for Toys for Tots. Our signature fundraising Spring Fling event will happen soon and our fun events Winter Social and Margarita Party were well attended and raised funds for our projects. In April we will be looking into the possibility of participating in a Mentoring program for teen girls.

### Soroptimist International of Dixon: 52 Years

This year SI of Dixon has focused on bringing positive morale and comrade back to our group. Along with retention efforts we came together to raise funds for our community! We kicked off the year with a Welcome Back Wine Social; we hosted buncos, a BBQ tri-tip sale, a Christmas Luncheon Fashion Show, our Annual Golf Tournament, as well as serving other local community events such as the annual Antique Show at the Dixon May Fair. We have become more cohesive as a group all while having lots of FUN!

## Soroptimist International of Napa: 74 Years

SI Napa held a successful Lobster Dinner fundraiser in November that included a fabulous dinner, martini bar, live music, silent auction, dessert auction and Fund-A-Need Auction benefitting Girls On The Run. Projects included cheering participants in the Napa River Rock and Stroll, wrapping Christmas gifts for the Shop with a Cop event, and co-sponsoring an Equal Pay Day event on April 9. Plans are also in the works for an anti-trafficking event. We held our first evening meeting in February and hope to include social and celebratory activities in the monthly evening agendas. It has been a busy and exciting year as SI Napa members "Dare to Be Extraordinary"

#### Soroptimist of Rio Vista: 57 Years

SI Rio Vista kicked off the year with Members baking wonderful sweet treats to sell at the Rio Vista Train Museum Annual Pumpkin Patch, followed up by a Christmas Home Tour fundraiser of 8 local homes decked out in the Christmas theme. In the spring we honor our Elderly ladies and Award winners with a Women's Day Lunch. In our 4th year, the Fairy Godmother's Boutique brings new & gently used Prom & special dresses to our local High School girls that might not have the means to buy a dress. Our club donated camping items for summer kids camp put on by Solano County's Women's shelter "Lift 3". We sponsor Scholarship Awards Night at our local high School where we present club scholarships.

#### Soroptimist International of St. Helena: 59 Years

We held a recruitment mixer in Sept and inducted 3 new members. In conjunction with the Boys & Girls Club of St Helena we sold lottery calendars and made a profit of \$14,000 total, dividing it with Boys and Girls Club of St Helena. We just finished our largest fundraiser a 2 night Crab Feed/Auction and made over \$50,000, this was our 37th year. We will be dispersing our committed funds throughout the community in the form of scholarships, WOA, Violet Richardson, Summer Camp Enrichment, Girls on the Run, Disaster Relief, 5th Grade Camp and we just donated \$10,000 to Bothe State Park to renovate a cottage in memory of our Charter Member Jean Bothe. This is some of what we donate to throughout the year.

#### Soroptimist International of St. Helena Sunrise: 18 Years

Following the heart of our club mission statement 'Supporting our local and global community by improving the health and well-being of women and girls' SI St. Helena Sunrise hit the ground running this year with a donation of \$4000 to fund a domestic violence councilor position at the St. Helena Family Center and we continue to empower girls by supporting & collaborating with Girls On The Run Napa Valley.

## Soroptimist International of Vacaville: 53 Years

SI Vacaville orchestrated another successful Lobster Dinner fundraiser in October, netting \$25,000! We have also "beefed" up our Public Awareness in the community with various publications and articles about our club members and what we are doing. We have a new identifying project, STEPS, aimed at helping "at risk" young girls learn life skills to assist them in seeking jobs or careers, money management, establishing healthy relationships, and healthy eating habits. We instituted 5th Tuesday recruitment events to help grow membership and we have worked to increase our collective impact by stepping our donation to Club Giving.

## Soroptimist International of Vallejo: 74 Years

SI Vallejo started the year off with a bang with the annual dinner with wine pairings "A Twilight Tour of Italy." By working hard in getting quality sponsorships (which we are learning is a real secret to successful fundraising) and silent auction items, we were able to raise over \$28,000. For the first time, we really pushed the Live Your Dream Art contest with our local schools. Our service in action program concentrated on working with foster girls and we made some real headway in meeting girls in need. Add all of that to our usual grants program, scholarships (we anticipate giving out upwards of \$10,000 in scholarships to girls graduating from local high schools this year), and our awards programs including the Women's Opportunity Award, Ruby Award, and Violet Richardson Award; we have had a very busy and fruitful year by Making a Difference...One at a Time!"

## Soroptimist International of Vallejo Gateway: 26 Years

This year SI Vallejo Gateway participated in National Day of Service with two other community groups. They volunteered at the 11th Annual Adventure for 3rd graders in Solano County (Youth Ag Day) at Solano County, and have plans to work the Solano County Fair. In addition they have plans to make clothing for some of the students at the school we helped to build in Kenya.

#### **DISTRICT IV**

#### Soroptimist International of Cloverdale: 32 Years

We provide service to the community. Our Boys and Girls Club was founded by Soroptimist of Cloverdale. Our Soroptimist ladies are leaders in our community and establish projects to best address their needs. Our club supports at the Regional level...Fellowship programs for women graduate students, and nationally recognizes young women who make the community and world a better place. We adopt families, support Rotary Tour de vine, contribute to pony tail, support Citrus Fair and Citrus Fair Queen scholarships, Homeless Wallace house project, Food/ Clothing Pantry.



## The Founder Region Light

"Re the Fireworks"



#### **DISTRICT IV (cont'd)**

#### Soroptimist International of Healdsburg: 57 Years

We have had another busy year raising funds and helping women, girls and their community. September 2012 saw another successful Beer in the Plaza event with 1100+attendees and 30 brewers pouring beer. With funds raised at this event, we supported DAAC with a \$7000 check: \$2000 to our local food pantry; \$3000 for the children in the YWCA Safe House Adobe Project and \$3800 to The Living Room in Santa Rosa. We served refreshments at the annual Tree Lighting in Healdsburg Plaza and raised \$400 for Hospice. A White Elephant event raised money to send members to Conference and Bunko raised funds for Fellowship. We sent \$500 to Peru to help village women transport their wares to market. We are happy to present a WOA of \$1000 and a Ruby Award of \$500 this year. In May we will host a Most Improved Students Luncheon for 6th – 8th graders who are being recognized for improving their grades and performance in school

## Soroptimist International of Marin County: 61 Years

We celebrated over 60 years of service, this club has raised and donated over \$200,000 to the Jeanette Prandi Children's Center for sexually abused kids, \$50,000 to support SOS a post-traumatic stress debriefing program for life partners of first responders, \$30,000 to a community homework center, and numerous other dollars to other projects supporting women and girls over the years. This year we are on mark to raise over \$40,000 at our annual fundraiser, which is a gala conferring the Ruby Award to Jennifer Siebel Newsom on May 30th at the Corinthian Yacht Club. We gave first, second and third place cash grants for the Women's Opportunity Award and a Violet Richardson Award to a young woman who is fighting bullying in schools. We have donated to our local Gun Buy Back program, and are planning an educational event on Human Trafficking for the fall. One of our members was selected to be a delegate to the United Nations conference on the status of women in March. We are a busy and growing group.

#### Soroptimist International of Mendocino-Sonoma Coast: 34 Years

In November we do a Lobster sale, a free Thanksgiving dinner for our coastal community, Project Santa which we shop and wrap for 730 people. In January we do a fundraiser Spaghetti dinner for the South Coast Senior Center. In March we fix lunch for Equinox, a Board and Care facility and on May 11 we hold our largest fundraiser, the Architectural Tour, Wine Tasting and Auction. We financially sponsored thirty different programs in our community over the past year.

#### Soroptimist of Novato: 40 Years

During the past year, we have inducted seven new members, for a current total of thirty members. We've continued to produce our weekly television program, Sounding Board and now have our own You Tube channel where our programs can be seen by anyone at any time. We have raised money with our annual Fashion Show and luncheon, and a Lobster Sale. We have supported several local organizations in addition to national Soroptimist causes, awarded Violet Richardson and Women's Opportunity awards, and given scholarships and personal growth awards to several graduating high school students. We celebrated our 40th anniversary on April 16th, 2013.

#### Soroptimist International of Santa Rosa: 68 Years

We worked with Laguna de Santa Rosa (and Nina Arrabit & George Conley of our club) to build an observation deck (handicapped accessible) for use by the visitors of the Laguna. Purchased and dedicated a bench in the name of our deceased member, Nina Arrabit. Donated over 300 pair of socks to SAY (Social Advocates for Youth) for kids that live on the streets, and also gave SAY 50 sleeping bags and tarps to make available for the kids.

## Soroptimist International of Sonoma Valley: 53 Years

SI Sonoma Valley highlights of the past year were: Two successful Lobster Sales fundraisers, the Road to Reality life skill seminar for the graduating high school seniors at Sonoma Valley High school, "Moving On" an informational day for middle school students to help them in the transition to high school. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Sonoma Plaza, and the traditional Hot Chocolate event when Santa comes to town. Also, in December we assist F.I.S.H. with distributing toys to the community.

## Soroptimist International of Ukiah: 64 Years

SI Ukiah has launched the new Corporate Engagement Opportunity (CEO) sponsorship program & has five CEO sponsors with hope that other businesses will get involved. We continue to have success with our fundraisers which include, holiday See's Candy sales, Soup Bar and Salad Bar luncheons and Lobster sale. At our Awards luncheon, we will honor recipients of the Women's Opportunity Award, Ruby Award, Carrie Minkler Academic Scholarship, Vivian Martin Vocational Scholarship, Shirley Grover Law Enforcement Scholarship and Ukiah Adult School LVN Scholarship. In addition, members enjoy the many handson projects such as the Bike Safety Course and Bike Helmet giveaway at

the Free Children's Health Fair, Hot Socks collection drive, collecting diapers for the Children's Action Committee Diaper Depot, Foster Family Christmas Party, providing holiday gifts and food for families in need, wrapping and sorting gifts for the Ukiah Valley Christmas Effort, Saturday of Service house and yard maintenance and awards presentations at the Soroptimist Invitational Dolphins Swim Meet.

## Soroptimist International of Windsor: 8 Years

In a major push for our club, SI Windsor has worked with other area Soroptimist groups to support work in the community to raise awareness of trafficking problem. This culminated in among other things the development of four billboards in Sonoma County that highlight this insidious problem. We also continue to work to increase our own presence in the community by participating in Chamber of Commerce activities like the recent "business expo." Our fundraising efforts continue as well, with our semi-annual Bunco and lobster sales being the most prominent efforts. We recently held a planning workshop for all members during which we outlined issues that we want to address in the coming year. As a result of that meeting, we have new goals and two new committee chairs, one who will lead our fundraising efforts and another who will develop a speaker program for our monthly meetings.

#### **DISTRICT V**

#### Soroptimist International of Arcata: 59 Years

A new project for SI Arcata is to sponsor a weekly program on public television titled "Sci Girls". This program is aimed to middle school age girls to encourage their interest in the fields of math, science and engineering. The program features young girls participating in experiments and projects applying these fields to real life situations.

#### Soroptimist International of Crescent City: 59 Years

SI Crescent City just completed their big fundraiser, the "Mad Hatter Tea". Half of their ticket sales were donated to the local Job's Daughters Bethel that lost all their paraphernalia in a fire. In November, we had a Christmas Bazaar for vendors. We had a tea table with coffee, tea, punch and cookies with two kinds of soup. In December we sold See's Candy which netted over \$4000 this year. In February we have an evening meeting playing bunko for fellowship which was a potluck. Our most famous fundraiser is our "Cow Chip Bingo" which takes place in July.

## Soroptimist International of Eel River Valley: 31 Years

SI Eel River Valley has been doing "Library Breakfast" for over 22 years. We contact the Librarians and get a list of books that are written by women or about women. We give 3-5 books to each school in the Eel River Valley. The Eel River Valley members make breakfast for the librarians and the administrators. We held our annual "Sips for Soroptimist" tea on February 10, 2013. The event was held in the elegant River Lodge in Fortuna and featured a wearable art fashion show created by local fabric artists and featuring models from the community.

## Soroptimist International of Eureka: 75 Years

SI Eureka is planning our 5th "Fabulous, Paris in the Palace" at the Blue Lake Casino on May 17th. In addition to live entertainment, food, beverages and both live and silent auctions, this evening will feature local boutiques showcasing their fashion by local women. Live and silent auctions will include jewelry, fashions, spa packages, travel packages, artwork and much more. With it's elegant setting, fine wine and delicious food, this "Fun-raiser" has become a favorite of Humboldt County supporters for promoting women and girls in our community. In the past 4 years, "Fabulous" has raised over \$26,000.

## Soroptimist International of Fort Bragg: 38 Years

SI Fort Bragg qualified for a \$10,000 SIA Grant to work with another local non-profit organization in Fort Bragg to support and mentor our local women who want to begin their own business. We have been working throughout the year with this group "The Bizzy Women" in various workshops. They have also been attending our meetings once a month. They are now in the process of writing their business plans which they will begin to present to us in March.

#### Soroptimist International of Humboldt Bay: 27 Years

SI Humboldt Bay is currently preparing for our awards dinner with SI Eureka. In addition, we are tying up the loose ends to hold our signature event "High Heels for Healing" fundraiser which is held the first Wednesday in April. To raise awareness of women's issues, we ask prominent men in our community to strut in high heels and costumes down a runway to reinforce the old adage, you can't understand another person's plight until you've walked in their shoes. We donate a percentage of our proceeds to 4 local women's organizations: Breast Health Project, Emma Center, Rape Crises Hotline, and Humboldt Domestic Violence Shelter.

#### **Soroptimist of Mendocino: 28 Years**

This year was SI Mendocino's 10th annual BINGO BASH. All the proceeds from this fun and exciting event go to scholarships for Mendocino High School seniors, reentry women and local organizations that help our community. We receive tremendous community support for our event and many of our volunteers are not Soroptimist members -

#### **DISTRICT V (cont'd)**

They gather wine donations, create our programs and table cards and help at the event itself. Since 2007 we havegiven \$43,000 in scholarships, \$26,000 for head of household women going back to school (WOA), \$1,000 for Birthday Bagsfor children through the Food Bank, and \$13,000 to the Mendocino Coast Clinics for services for women and girls. Additionally, in 2012 we began an ongoing scholarship for a student already attending college and will be awarding another one this year. In 2013 we are adding another scholarship for the Anderson Valley High School, home to many of the wineries that support us each year.

#### Soroptimist International of McKinleyville: 16 Years

Each year around Mother's Day, SI McKinleyville holds its annual "Biggest Pajama Party in Humboldt County" for women and girls. Club members deem this their most popular event of the year. Many pampering services are provided such as massages, manicures and foot baths. In addition, there are many activities to keep everyone busy and having fun. This years theme is "Under the Big Top." We implemented a service club at Blue Lake Elementary School that highlights the importance of service in their local community and beyond.

## Soroptimist International of Noyo Sunrise: 22 Years

SI Noyo Sunrise has three major fundraising events completed in June (quilt show, rummage sale, and mystery dinner). We are working on a Spring fundraiser with personalized chocolate Easter eggs. We have been working hard on finding our various award winners. They are having an awards banquet with SI Mendocino and SI Fort Bragg in April

## Soroptimist International of The Redwoods: 33 Years

SI Redwoods are very busy throughout the year with fundraising events such as Annual Crab Fee, Summer Arts Fair, BBQ Oyster & Seafood Booth, Rodeo Hamburger Booth & selling Sees Candy at Christmas, Valentine's Day & Easter. We host Bingo at the Healy Senior Center every 2nd Friday of the month (except summer). We assist the Wish Program with their grant. We are moving forward with an Anti-Bullying Program for our local schools.

## Soroptimist International of Willits: 42 Years

SI Willits have completed our 41st edition of the Willits Community Telephone Directory. This is the club's identifying project & a must have for local businesses & residents & is our major fundraiser. This year we have also sold tickets to two plays at the Willits community theatre to fund raise for conference. We have co-sponsored a Bunko event with Literacy Volunteers of Willits, We are beginning a project of furnishing books to local school libraries to promote healthy relationship resources for teen girls. We are once again sponsoring the sweetheart contest for the Annual Willits Frontier Days Rodeo.

#### DISTRICT VI

### Soroptimist International of Central Oahu: 27 Years

SI Central Oahu had a very busy year and it hasn't stopped. . . . Joint fundraiser with SI Waikiki and SI Honolulu another successful event and our joint service project providing life skills workshops to women residing at the Leeward Shelter for Domestic Violence. Lokahi Family in December we participated in making a family's wish for a better Christmas with gifts and a Holiday meal. Ehime Maru Monument – a great get -to-together for a great cause, a clean-up and a little prayer remembering this unfortunate event. Our newest project providing a scholarship for Seniors on the leeward side recognizing their efforts in doing community service. Lei Ilima Girls Club in the Ewa Kapolei area -a speaker from the Domestic Violence Action Center's Teen Alert Program will be speaking to the girls on teen dating/awareness. Pubic Awareness - Olelo Community Media invited us to come and talk about Soroptimist – this was aired on Channel 54, speakers were past presidents of our club doing an outstanding job giving info on all that we do including our projects with WOA, YCA and VRA

## Soroptimist International of Guam: 35 Years

SI Guam proudly celebrated its 35th anniversary at our Charter Night on March 8th where we honored 2 of our original (and still active) Charter Members – Doris Flores Brooks and Ann Roth. We welcomed 16 new enthusiastic members this FY and attribute our recruiting success to the 2 membership events held in January and February. With an \$8,000 Club Grant, and in collaboration with the .

Guam Coalition Against Sexual Abuse and Family Violence Office, we launched the "Women Nurturing Women in the Neighborhood" project to mentor disadvantaged women and at-risk girls with life skills and career planning workshops at three low-income neighborhoods on Guam. For the 2nd year, we eagerly participated in SIA's Live Your Dream Art Contest – a joint project with our sister charter SI Marianas. Our 4th Annual Earrings for Erica Valentine Brunch raised \$3,000 for programs and flagship charity Erica's House of Hope and we look forward to further increasing our collective impact with our upcoming Live Your Dream 2k/5k in April and our main event - Silibrasion Famalao'an II "Women in Business Fair and Gender Reversal Concert" in June.

#### Soroptimist International of Honolulu: 75 Years

SI Honolulu had a great year! We surpassed our fundraising goals with our annual joint club fundraiser 'Taste of the Arts.' This allowed us to increase our award amounts on all levels. We welcomed 7 vibrant new members, successfully increased our public awareness through radio and outside conference opportunities and celebrated our 75th Anniversary. We look to our past with respect and pride and to our future with excitement and energy!

### Soroptimist International of Kona: 42 Years

SI Kona created comfort blankets for children taken from an abusive environment into the Children's Justice Center and Women's Shelter. Through a Halloween membership drive and service project we donated decorated shoe boxes of necessities to the local shelter and new families of Habitat for Humanity. At Christmas, an immigrant single-mother, a victim of domestic violence, was the recipient of SI Kona's Adopt-a-Family annual gift giving service project

#### Soroptimist International of Marianas: 27 Years

SI Marianas inducted 15 new members this year with 75% of members inviting at least 1-2 friends to a meeting or event. Through eight fundraisers, SIM raised over \$10,000 for scholarships and Soroptimist VRA and WOA. SI Marianas and SI Guam held the 5th Annual Live Your Dream Art Contest and brought in 80+ entries in four categories. SIM and SIG participated in the Federation of Asia-Pacific Women's Convention and hosted a luncheon for 250+ guests. In an effort to reach out to potential new members who can't attend a lunchtime meeting, SIM held a hugely successful 6 PM program meeting that provided very positive feedback. SIM is planning a new fundraiser Golf Tournament, applied for a Soroptimist grant, produced Care Kits, raised public awareness, fed the homeless, celebrated "Grandparent's Day" at St. Dominic's, sent "SIM-created cards" to deployed female soldiers, donated funds to the neighboring island of Palau following a natural disaster, adopted 30 children at Erica's House of Hope at Christmas, cleaned up a bus-stop and celebrated Mother's Day at Alee's Shelter.

## Soroptimist International of Maui: 43 Years

From launching an updated website with a new look, to maintaining a Face book page, SI Maui is improving their online presence, in order to reach a wider audience by embracing technology and leveraging social networking platforms. Understanding the importance of balancing volunteerism and fun: the club hosted its annual See's candy and whale watch fundraisers, gave out thousands of dollars in cash awards to women and girls, while still networking and hosting social events like mystery day outings, holiday parties, and chocolate and wine tastings. A couple of our signature service projects this year benefited the local domestic violence shelter: a Christmas party and Easter egg hunt for all the women and children at the shelter, and a beautification and repair day at the shelter that included replacing old flooring, tidying kitchen and laundry room areas, and fixing roof leaks in storage areas.

#### Soroptimist International of Waikiki Foundation, Inc.: 51 Years

Soroptimist International of Waikiki Foundation Inc. collaborated on two joint projects with the other two Oahu, Hawaii clubs with the annual Taste of the Arts Fundraiser, and a pilot service project to provide life skills workshops to women residing in domestic violence shelters on Oahu. SI Waikiki participated in the Salvation Army's Adopt-A Family program, adopting two families at Christmas time. In February another pilot service project was undertaken to work with 7 and 8th grade girls and their mothers in a teen dating violence awareness project. Participants were treated to a Saturday morning breakfast and workshop presented by the counselor of the Domestic Violence Action Center's Teen Alert Program.

## Soroptimist International of West Maui: 38 Years

Although our numbers are small, we accomplish a lot. We inducted two new members in December. Our most notable event, the Lahaina Keiki Halloween parade, celebrated its 34th year! We held a series of socials to raise awareness and recruit new members and raised over \$1,500 for the American Cancer Society in honor of our own Tish Perri, who has struggled with cancer for several years. We are planning a new annual identifying project/fundraiser 5K and health expo for women and children of Maui. We continue to participate in Founder Region and SIA identifying projects, the Women's Opportunity Award and our Scholarships to seniors to attend the University of Hawaii, Maui College. We were recently invited to honor Alan Arakawa, Maui County Mayor, for his participation in our events.

