

# June 16th, 2012

6/16/2012



Greeting, Founder Region! As I write this, Tricia and Anthony Asayi are over in Kenya laying the foundation for the classrooms for the Secondary School. Can you believe it? We are building a school!

You raised over(-drum roll, please-) \$18,400 toward the building of the school. I thank you and the children thank you for allowing them to have a future. Just imagine what their life would have been like without you and your clubs involvement!

And thanks to P. Eileen Fisher, SI Martinez and Past Gov Susan Joyce posting to the chat-line, we now have 4 club contacts in Kenya and- imagine this-Cathy Coyte, a member from SI East Bay who has retired to Kenya. All willing to work on the school. Your efforts just keep spreading the joy of making the school real.

I thank you for all your support these past two years. We have done so much by working together, sharing our strengths and our dreams. Just Imagine- I love you all-  
*Gov Linda Sue*

## Summer

5/25/2012

You are the best Region ever!!!

Conference was way beyond my wildest dreams (or the nightmares of no one showing up!) could ever have been. Over 455 of you came, interacted, voted in new Bylaws, flash mob danced, partied, gave any lots of money and gave lots of money to Fellowship!

I can't thank you all enough for these last two years. I said at conference that I asked and you gave....I asked for blankets and you gave over 2500 in your communities and to our VRA winner, Sarah. I asked for books for our schools and I came home with 1500 books that I put labels into with our Region name and distributed around our region to low income schools. And the biggest to me was I asked for support for our Founder Region International Project- Build the School in Kenya. I was hoping for \$5,000.....you raised over \$15,000! Again, Founder Region goes way beyond in what we think we can do. I can't thank you all enough. Thanks to you, girls will not be carrying water jugs on their heads in the village.....they will be going to High School. Every time I think about it, my eyes tear up. I will keep everyone in loop about how things are going.

All my love and respect go out to each and every one of you for all that you do- thank you for being you!  
Love, Governor Linda Sue

# Spring

2/14/2012

Happy Valentine's Day and where did January go?? There is so much happening around us that it boggles my mind to see how fast this year is going.

Go to our Legislative page and email to Governor Brown about the Commission on the Status of Woman. Our own Past Governor Linda McDoniels served on this commission and put forth many important issues that concern all of us. It will take you only a few minutes and there is so much at stake.

Get ready for a fantastic conference! The committee is planning and working- lots of new ideas and fun times are going to be had by all. Come join us!

And get ready to build that school in Kenya. Have you had your fund raiser for the girls to continue on in school past 12 years old? Have you invited Tricia and Anthony to visit your club and present? SI Arcata did and invited the clubs in the area to join them. Great times with great results. Let's see how big we can get that check at conference!

Now- go and indulge in that box of chocolates! Bet you can't eat only one!

## Season's Greetings!

12/23/2011

Happy Holidays! How many times have you heard this during the last few days? I wish for that nickel for every time I heard it. We could send 2 girls to school in Kenya for all those good wishes. But in all this hessle and bustle of this season, for all those gifts that you and I have been wrapping, are we thinking about how lucky we all are?

As I wrapped a baby gift for a friend who just had a baby yesterday at Kaiser, I've been thinking about women in the South Pacific, within our Soroptimist International President's Appeal, giving birth in candle light without a midwife in attendance. So I gave up my Starbucks (my personal treat for being good or doing something on time!) and wrote a check for what I would have spent treating myself this last month and next. Lauren had 5 or 6 in attendance in a beautiful birthing room, top equipment at their finger tips. A women squatting on a mud floor on one of the islands in the South Pacific isn't as lucky. So, Lauren's little boy will get one of our blanket projects (I'm getting good at cutting and tieing) and some woman in the South Pacific will get a trained attendent from my check that I just posted to Federation, earmarked for the International President's Appeal.

As I wrapped books for my grandson who is just beginning to read (proud grandma!) and Skypes me to read at night, I thought about our very own International Project: Build a School in Kenya. Some child over there isn't as lucky as my Aidan. She doesn't have the books she needs to go beyond primary school. She doesn't have a school to go to.....so out came the check book again. This time I made it out to Founder Region, earmarked International Project, and sent it to Pam Parker, our Founder Region Treasurer.

So please, as you wrap those gifts. Bring out your check books and brighten someone elses holiday. Give from your hearts.....

Happy Holidays!

Gov Linda Sue

## Flash Mob!

11/11/2011

Oh my goodness! This is one for the books! Go to Youtube and look up 'Soroptimist Flash Mob'. Western Canada Region members organized a flash mob and went out into their local mall. They did their dance (we could do this! Someone organize it and I'm there!) and held up signs with the Soroptimist web site. Great way to get publicity! And a few good laughs!

## Guam and Publicity!

11/11/2011

Your Region Board just returned from District Meeting/Leadership in Guam. Fantastic trip, fantastic meetings and great fellowship with all the members from District VI. And we got great publicity!

Governor Eddie Baza Calvo and First Lady Christine M.S. Calvo met with Soroptimist International members to present a proclamation recognizing October 28, 2011 as Soroptimist International Day.

"Guam has so many strong women who do so much for this community. They have families, they have careers and they still find the time to give back to the island and make a difference," Governor Calvo said. "Women are such a driving force on Guam and I'm proud to work with them – in my administration, in the court system, the legislature and in the business community. Guam is the island it is today because of the strength and ingenuity of the women who have guided us throughout history and continue to move us forward every day."

The Soroptimist International of Guam and the Soroptimist International of the Marianas join Soroptimist International organizations throughout the world in celebrating the organization's 90th anniversary of serving women and young girls worldwide.

Did you ever think about inviting your local officials to your activities and piggy-back on them for publicity? Invite your mayor to hand out your Women's Opportunity plaque. Let the mayor's office go for the publicity. They usually have more pull than us. The newspapers will respond to them. Hand the local Supervisor a paint brush while you're redoing the shelter and take photos. Always worth a try!

The Governor was gracious and generous with his time. The First Lady was with us the next day and gave a welcoming speech for the District meeting that I will always remember. I gave her a Whoo Award and she told me that they don't have owls on the island. (Now they at least one sitting on her shelf!) The Senator from Guam gave a keynote during lunch.

Wow! Guam went all out and we have a great time! Thank you, Soroptimist of Guam. Governor Linda Sue



# District meetings 2011

10/23/2011

What a fantastic month so far! 5 Districts had their District Meetings with many in attendance. And now this Wednesday, the officers are on their way to Guam to meet with District VI. We are looking forward to meeting with Guam's Governor and First Lady at the People's Palace. We have plans to do both a district meeting and a leadership while we are there. Two days of workshops, team building and Soroptimist fun!

My question is this: if you were at one of these meetings, did you go home with lots of new information and a spark to continue the great projects that our region and clubs are working on?

I'm so jazzed about our new project that I've been carrying a blue container to different work meetings that I've been to this last week. I sit down at the conference tables, pull out my iPad, pull out my notes and pull out my collection container! I wait for someone to ask me about it- they always do- and at the end of the meeting, I tell all about our secondary school project. As they leave the meeting, they pass by the container and deposit in it. So far, from 2 meetings- \$156.00 Not bad for just sharing at 2 meetings! Ask your friends....you'll be surprised at how many want to help.

## District Meeting III/IV, I/II

10/2/2011

What a fantastic day was had by all present at the District meeting for III and IV. Director Linda and Director Jeannie did a fantastic job of starting off our district meeting tours with finesse and hospitality! We are sitting right now in the middle of Director Charlene and Director Gloria's meeting as the members are laughing together and working on creating community projects that they can take back to their clubs.

We inducted 4 new members! What a great day to see the newbies take in all the information about our organization. I know that they are probably on that 'overwhelm' stage of information. I promise you new members, the more that you come to the meetings, the more you attend conferences, the more you will learn about Soroptimist and the more that you will receive from your membership. Membership is a gift that you give yourself! Enjoy it.  
Governor Linda Sue

## District Meetings!

9/26/2011

Here we go to all the District meetings! We can't wait to see everyone and share all the new information we have about Founder Region and this site being one of the most exciting things that we have done!

It's been a team effort to get it done. We divided up the different sections, worked many a hour at Lori Anzini's kitchen table and came up with a product that all of us can use! As soon as you send Secretary Bobbi your club web sites, we will link them up to this site. Don't have a club web site? No problem. Send us a simple page of your information that you want on a web page and we'll cut and paste you a linked page! We have moved into the 21st Century and hope that you enjoy it.

# Montreal Convention

8/3/2011

Just got back from an experience that I want everyone to have- plan on attending an International Convention some time during your Soroptimist life! Make friends with women that have the same values as you, but live to do service in their homeland of Africa or New Zealand. Sit next to someone in the native costume from Switzerland. Listen to all the projects that we are doing around the world. Attend workshops where you will get new ideas to do in your own club.

## First Blog

7/16/2011

A Message from Governor Linda, Just imagine.....how excited your new Region Officers, Committee Chairs and I are for the upcoming biennium! We are on the verge of starting new things, seeking new members, finding women to help fulfill their goals and further this organization that we all believe in.

Our mission statement says we improve the lives of women and girls. Just imagine expanding that statement to "we transform the lives of these women and girls". We must give them a voice and help them raise their standards of living-around our community and around the world. What a powerful statement for any organization to say that the reason we exist is to prepare every women to succeed. No other organization does this. No other organization has accomplished this. And yet our organization has the audacity to say that's why we exist. I'm proud of that and hope you do, too. I feel honored that you chose me to be your Governor. Honored, nervous, and excited that I get to help lead us into our mission of raising the bar for women and girls.

Just imagine... walking down the street in your town and someone asks you- "Aren't you a Soroptimist?" How will they know this? Because everywhere you go, you wear your membership pin. You talk about the projects that you are working on- locally and worldwide. You talk the talk -walk the walk. The mission and vision of this organization defines who you are- you are the "movers and shakers" in your community. It's time to get out there and tell the city council during their open mike session about what you are doing to improve your community. It's time to make sure your employees are invited to your functions. Sell everyone you meet on who you are and what you do!

Your clubs will succeed in what you work together to do. It's time to set your clubs goals, plan and work towards them. My board is here to help you. Call us. Then we can celebrate together our accomplishments.

Just imagine....a party to celebrate women's advancement and how you helped!

Just imagine...

**Governor Linda**