

Soroptimist International of the Americas Founder Region Newsletter

November 2018

Volume 1, Number 3

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Governor's Message November 2018

Wow! It was so exciting to see so many of our members at our District Meetings! Thank you to our host clubs and to the District Directors for putting together our inspiring district meetings. And, thank you for your participation, perseverance, and positivity to propel us to empower change.

We launched our new membership campaign, "The Diamond Campaign: Shining our Way to the 2nd Century", and we look forward to meeting new members as we invite friends, business acquaintances, and everyone we know to join this wonderful organization of Soroptimist.

To honor members who sponsor a new member, we are giving a Thank You card with a butterfly pin. The sponsor's name will also be entered in the new member sponsor drawing to be held at our annual region conference the first weekend in May. The more new members you sponsor, the more your name will be entered in the drawing. Please provide new member sponsor names to Treasurer Vicki Ham by the deadline of March 31, 2019. **One lucky sponsor's name will be drawn and \$1000 will be donated in their name to the Laurel Society.**

We are already planning our May 3-5, 2019 Founder Region Conference and have exciting news to share! Our **SIA Federation President, Elizabeth Di Geronimo** will be our official visitor and our **Soroptimist International President, Mariet Verhoef-Cohen** will be one of our guest speakers at our Legislative Advocacy session, "Water and Climate Change Crisis Challenges", as well as **Soroptimist International Director of Advocacy, Bev Bucur**. See the enclosed "Save the Date" flyer so you can make plans to attend this exciting conference.

December 10th is Human Rights Day, and Soroptimists are invited to support our Soroptimist International President's Appeal on that day. Are you organizing a fundraising event or activity to support the SI President's Appeal "Women, Water and Leadership" on or before December 10th? If so, please take part in the social media campaign #WWLSoroptimist and include photographs of your event. Let your District Director know the amount your club is donating this year, so we can let SI President Mariet know of our total contributions to her appeal when she visits us in May.

Region Board

Governor-
Sylvia Crafton

Gov. Elect- Kris Chorbi

Sec.- Pat Eileen Fisher

Treasurer- Vicki Ham

Directors

Elise Balgley, Dist. I

Beverly Gomer, Dist. II

Joy Swank, Dist. III

Barbara Young, Dist. IV

Dyann O'Brien, Dist. V

Kristal Koga, Dist. VI

Mailing Address
Founder Region,
Soroptimist
International
of the Americas, Inc.
P.O. Box 1787
Willits, CA 95490

Do you have a member who is “Empowering Change” in your club? We will be asking Club Presidents to recognize someone from your club that we can honor at our conference with a certificate of recognition. There is a flyer enclosed to let you know about it, and our District Directors will seek those nominations closer to our conference.

Does your club have a Dream It, Be It program this year? See the flyer for our incentive award for clubs participating in Dream It, Be It this year to be included in a drawing to win \$250 for your club. Two awards will be given. This incentive is how we are utilizing the funds received from SIA for winning the Membership Award for 2017-2018 which were designated to be used towards our Dream Programs.

The nomination forms for the 2019-2021 Nominating Committee are due by December 1, 2018, to your respective district representative on the current Nominating Committee. The link to the form is included in this newsletter as a friendly reminder and is also posted on the Founder Region website.

Our November newsletter is once again replacing our “November Mailing” – which is a traditional communication of deadlines and important updates to clubs and members that occurs in November of each year. With a monthly newsletter, our intention is to keep you informed and up to date throughout the year, and this month’s newsletter is expanded with timely information.

As many of us reflect on our blessings at this time of year, we know many have suffered great loss in our neighboring Sierra Nevada Region where SI/Chico and SI/Bidwell Rancho members and communities were impacted by the Camp Fire in California. Donations for them can be made via PayPal from a link on their Facebook pages.

Additionally, our own SI/ Northern Mariana Islands club members suffered great loss from the devastating typhoon Yutu. SI/The Marianas is collecting donations to be able to purchase tarps and mosquito nets, as well as battery powered and solar powered lights to ship to the Northern Mariana Islands club to be able to distribute to those in need. To give you an idea for donation purposes, a tarp costs \$75.00. Let’s help one of our newer clubs make a difference in the community they serve. Financial donations in any amount can be sent to Soroptimist International of the Marianas PMB 88 275-G Farenholt Ave., Tamuning, GU 96913. Please designate the check for Typhoon Yutu relief.

Your Founder Region Board is only an email, snail mail, text or phone call away; we are here to serve you and support your efforts in any way we can. Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Governor Sylvia

“Empowering Change”

Membership Chair-
Bobbie Enderlin

Membership



For more information on the Diamond Campaign, contact Region Membership Chair Bobbi Enderlin at bjenderlin@gmail.com or your district director. Resources are available on the Soroptimist website at: <https://www.soroptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/for-clubs/chartering-new-clubs.html>



Fellowship
President- Pam Parker

Fellowship Board

Cheryl Poncini, Dist. I

Jan Schults, Dist. II

Teri Malkin, Dist. III

Nancy Weber, Dist. IV

Crystal Arbuthnot, Dist. V

Rena Borja, Dist. VI

Fellowship

Greetings from your Founder Region Fellowship Board! Your Fellowship Directors, Cheryl Poncini (District I), Jan Schults (District II), Teri Malkin (District III), Nancy Weber (District IV), Crystal Arbuthnot (District V) and Rena Borja (District VI) and I are excited and enthusiastic as we begin serving on our Fellowship Board.



We want to thank all of you for your continued support in giving to Fellowship and to making sure that not only our dreams of helping women around the world come true, but the dreams of our Fellowship recipients come true. Your generosity helps support women in the last year of their doctoral studies and as we have seen in the past, these women have great futures ahead of them and they will truly make a difference in our world.

Founder Region Fellowship kicked off our 2018 year in an amazing start with our basket raffle tickets sales for our District Meetings. Due to the overwhelming number of raffle tickets purchased, we were able to “draw” EIGHTEEN Fellows from the following districts at our district meetings:

District I	two fellows
District II	three fellows
District III	five fellows
District IV	two fellows
District V	three fellows
District VI	three fellows

Challenges to increase ticket sales were made by members at each meeting and were accepted and exceeded! We are so thankful for your generous support of Founder Region Fellowship.

With the new biennium, we made a change in how we conduct the drawings for Fellows from ticket sales for district meetings with more than one district and chose to keep

tickets separate for clubs by district. This allowed clubs in those respective districts to be assured that their generous contributions would guarantee their district received the number of Fellows raised by ticket sales (based on \$1,000 raised for each Fellow) from their district.

We also provided some additional fun to our meetings by conducting a raffle for an 8-quart InstantPot for Districts I-V and a raffle for Fellowship jewelry (2 freshwater pearl necklace strands, a bracelet and a pair of (2018 pre-release) earrings. Congratulations to Jan Schults from District II on winning the InstantPot Raffle and to Elise Carmody from District VI on winning the Jewelry Raffle.

Our website has been under construction and is soon to be finished. We have our applications ready to go for our Fellowship applicants. We will be conducting our November board meeting and will be finalizing our fundraising sales items, some of which will be presented to clubs beginning with the November/December President's Roundtables. We have more in store for you, so get ready to get excited about Fellowship fundraising.

We have some unique ideas and plans in the works to assist your clubs with February Fun-For-Fellowship. We know this theme has been around for a long time, but we want to rejuvenate it and make it fun and exciting for clubs to participate during February. Our planning includes presenting ideas for club "in-house" fundraising for Fellowship during February. Make sure to invite your Fellowship District Director to your meetings in February so she can assist with your Fun-For-Fellowship.

Our final contribution to this month's newsletter is a bit of education. We would like to explain the difference between a **FELLOWSHIP** and a **FELLOW**.

FELLOWSHIP: The financial support (grant) given to recipients chosen from our applicants for the annual Founder Region Fellowship Awards. These women are either in or entering into the last year of their doctoral studies and are enrolled in a program at a graduate school within the boundaries of Founder Region and have met all the criteria for application.

FELLOW: The recipient (most often a Soroptimist or Soroptimist club) who is recognized because (a) \$1,000 was donated by the club in the recipient's honor; (b) an individual donated \$1,000 to become a FELLOW; (c) an individual or club name was drawn in the raffle drawing; (d) an individual met the \$1,000 requirement to become a FELLOW by contributing through the Monthly Giving Program.

Being a FELLOW supports the FELLOWSHIP program. We need your financial support in order to continue to make significant financial grants to deserving women.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. If you have questions, reach out to your Fellowship District Directors. We are here to help you and to answer your questions.

Pam Parker
Founder Region Fellowship President, 2018-2020

Women, Water & Leadership



Soroptimists are invited to support Women, Water & Leadership, once again joining with the SI membership around the world for a common goal. Clubs or members can make a donation through our own SIA Federation and you might hold a fundraiser and use social media and websites to create awareness. Include photos and use the hashtag **#WWLSoroptimist** on your social media posts.

At least five projects will be supported on five continents that educate, empower and enable women and girls to lead in water, embracing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the targets set out in SDG 6: Water and sanitation, SDG 4: Education, and SDG 5: Gender Equality. The President's Appeal is committed to promoting the inclusion of women in water resource governance as experts and leaders during all phases of the projects. Women will be equally involved in decision-making throughout the entire project cycle – from education and capacity building, through to design, implementation and monitoring.

The President's Appeal seeks to reach the goal of raising £350,000 over two years, and to have improved, sustainable, accessible and affordable water products and services on five continents.

Learn more about the SI President's Appeal at the link:

<https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/si-presidents-message-be-a-wwlsoroptimist/>

Let your District Director know what your club is donating this year, so we can share our total contributions to SI President Mariet when she visits Founder Region at our conference in May.



Nominating Committee

At our annual region conference in May, 2019 we will be electing our Nominating Committee members from each of the six districts. They will serve from July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2021. Please click on the links below for full information.

[Nominating Committee Description](#)

[Nomination Form](#) Deadline Dec. 1, 2018

[President's Letter](#)



Public Awareness

Twitter

TweetDeck is a social media dashboard application to manage your Twitter account. One of the great things you can do with this is schedule your tweets- to help you maintain your social media presence. Follow this link to learn more:

[How to use TweetDeck.](#)

Want to use **Instagram** on your Mac? This app allows you to post from your computer, rather than using your phone. Follow this link to [Uplet.](#)

If you want to post from your PC, you can learn how [HERE.](#)

Remember photos have shown to be the most popular type of social media content for engagement. They get the most shares on **Facebook**.

On **Facebook**, change up your cover photo at least once per month, and remember to write a great caption. On **Twitter**, use your profile picture and banner photo to highlight your great work. Don't just stretch out and pixelate a horizontal version of your logo—no one wants to connect with just a logo on social media. Personalize, humanize, and customize every channel you can with a visual image that speaks volumes. Make sure you use the right social media image sizes for each platform. Remember you can find all these sizes on Canva.

[Click on links below](#)

[Founder Region Website](#)

[Founder Region Facebook page](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Founder Region Fellowship Website](#)

[Founder Region Fellowship Facebook SIA](#)

[Live Your Dream](#)

[Dream It, Be It](#)

[Barbara Stevenson Award](#)

[Violet Richardson Award](#)

[Ruby Award](#)

[Monthly Giving](#)

[Key Message Flyer](#)

Save The Dates



SIA Convention 2020



JULY 22-25, 2020

Empowering Change



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women®

Governor Sylvia Crafton

Invites you to Save the Date!

May 3, 4, and 5, 2019

Founder Region Conference



Legislative Advocacy Sessions on "Water & Climate Change Crisis Challenges"

With Guest Speakers:

Soroptimist International President Mariet Verhoef-Cohen

Soroptimist International Director of Advocacy Bev Bucur

Water Crisis Expert Theo Tsoukalas, PH.D.

Meet our Official Visitor: Soroptimist International of the Americas

President Elizabeth Di Geronimo

Host Clubs: SI Antioch and SI the Delta

Location: San Ramon Marriott, 2600 Bishop Dr., San Ramon, CA



**Nominate someone in
your club who is**
"Empowering Change"

**Nominees will be honored at our
Founder Region Conference in May.**



Look for details in the Call to Conference.

Fundraising Chair-
Lyn Lurbe

Fundraising: 1921 Visionary Program



This is a new recognition program for members who give annual gifts of any amount for five consecutive years or more. They will receive number pins when they reach 5,10,15, 20 and 25 years of giving. The pins and letters are mailed to the member in March each year thanking them. Start date was September 1, 2018.

For 2018 #GivingTuesday, SIA will be promoting #GivingYouABreak instead of #GivingTuesday. Visit our Create a Fundraiser page - <https://fb.com/fund/Soroptimist-International-of-the-Americas-69575569890/>

Soroptimist Program Deadlines—Founder Region 2018-2019

Live Your Dream: Education & Training Awards for Women

Region Chair: Lou Sablan

February 1, 2019: Application Due to District Representative

siguam2013@gmail.com



Live Your Dream Awards recipients may use the cash award to offset any costs associated with their efforts to attain higher education, such as books, childcare, tuition and transportation. This unique program is helping women find their voice and purpose while offering the resources they need to succeed. The Live Your Dream Awards offers three levels of cash awards. Ultimately, a Live Your Dream Awards finalist has the potential receive up to \$16,000 to help offset tuition costs, pay student loans, or find reliable childcare so she can worry less about how to pay her bills and focus on reaching her dreams.

For more information: <https://www.si-founderregion.org/live-your-dream-award.html>

Violet Richardson Award:

Region Chair: Kris Chorbi

February 1, 2019: Application Due to District Representative

kchorbi5@yahoo.com



The award is named after Violet Richardson, the president of the first Soroptimist club in Alameda County in 1921. Richardson believed in personal responsibility and the motto, "It's what you do that counts." She lived her life accordingly, as an active member in her community who was committed to creating opportunities for girls and



For more information: <https://www.si-founderregion.org/violet-richardson-award.html>

Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women

Region Chair: Kris Chorbi

December 1, 2018: Application Due to Clubs

kchorbi5@yahoo.com

February 1, 2019: Application Due to Program Chair



This award honors non-Soroptimist women who are making extraordinary efforts on behalf of other women. This award gives the club and the entire organization the opportunity to say "thank you" and encourage others to explore ways to assist women. This award is named in honor of Ruby Lee Minar, the first Federation President. A ruby is a gemstone, also associated with wisdom, importance, vitality, strength, power and love - all words embodying our award recipients. We encourage Founder Region clubs to consider who, in their community, is working to improve the lives of women and girls and honor them with recognition from your club that they so richly

For more Information: <https://www.si-founderregion.org/ruby-award.html>

Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls

Region Chair: Karen Jameson

Online reporting form available all year or by **June 1, 2019**

karenjameson0699@sbcglobal.net



Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls will help girls grow up to be strong, successful, happy adults. Dream It, Be It targets girls in secondary school who face obstacles to their future success. It provides girls with access to professional role models, career education and the resources to live their dreams. Soroptimist clubs will work in partnership with girls in small groups or a conference setting to provide them with the information and resources they want and need to be successful. The topics covered include career opportunities, setting and achieving goals, overcoming obstacles to success and how to move forward after setbacks or failures.

For more information: <https://www.si-founderregion.org/dream-it-be-it.html>

Soroptimists Celebrating Success Awards:

Region Chair: Debbie Scaife

July 1, 2019: Applications due to Region Chair

timberent@suddenlink.net



These awards recognize the best practices of Soroptimist clubs in each of the four pillar areas supporting the SIA strategic plan: fundraising, membership, program and public awareness. Awards honor outstanding programs undertaken in that club year. Clubs don't have to wait until then to submit your applications - consider sending in the application right after completing your project.

For more information: <https://www.si-founderregion.org/soroptimists-celebrating-success.html>

Dream it Be it Chair-
Karen Jameson

Dream Program Incentive Award

Founder Region WON the Membership Award for North America regions by having the largest number of new clubs chartered between June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018 and received \$500 to use toward our Dream Programs. We are using the funds to encourage clubs to participate in the Dream It, Be It program.



Submit your Dream It, Be It program report online to SLA by April 1, 2019 and be automatically entered into a drawing to win \$250 for your club. Two awards will be given.

Use the award to cover this year's Dream It, Be It program expenses or to expand your Dream It, Be It program next year.

Let's increase participation in this brand unifying Dream Program to help girls prepare for a brighter future!



Happy Thanksgiving

Our deceased members will be remembered and honored at the Memorial Service at our Founder Region Conference and at the Memorial Grove Ceremony on June 9, 2019. Be sure your club submits their name on the form which will be included in the Founder Region Call to Conference, so that we can honor their service. We regret that we can't include them in the newsletter, but they will receive the dignity and recognition they deserve at the lovely Memorial Service and at the Memorial Grove Ceremony.