

June 30, 2018 Governor Pam's Farewell THANK YOU

6/30/2018

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Dear Founder Region Soroptimists,

What can I say? I have spent some time thinking about this final farewell as Governor on our website Governor's Blog. I have to admit, I was not too active with the blogging – I always felt like we shared so much information with each of you, whether through our District Directors, our Facebook presence, our District Meetings and our Conferences, that for me to write “another something” might be redundant. But that is just my style, and I hope my style didn't let you down.

Although I ask “What can I say?”, most of you who know me know I have lots to say. I'll start with this: I don't think I have enjoyed myself more in my service in life than I have in serving as your Founder Region Governor. I loved every minute. We had a fabulous team on our board and our friendships will last forever. Personally, I am so honored to have met so many Founder Region members throughout my tenure on the region board, and I am proud to be a member of Founder Region and Soroptimist. I have been so rewarded and blessed with many wonderful friendships and experiences. Thank you.

I don't need to list all of our accomplishments in these past two years because we already know them. However, I do want to mention three...remember, these are just the tip of the iceberg. **First**, we chartered three NEW clubs in this biennium. What a great accomplishment! Opening the door to new members in Vacaville, The Republic of Palau and American Canyon only broadens our geography and gives us more opportunity to increase our collective impact, both locally and globally (glocally). **Second**, we had 100% participation in clubs contributing to SIA Club Giving in our 2017-2018 club year! This is a first for Founder Region and a challenge I am so proud we met. I attribute this to our clubs' generosity but also to your region board members providing you with more information and education about how these funds are used and how valuable they are. The **third** accomplishment I want to mention is the success we have seen with our clubs having Human Trafficking Awareness Proclamations read at their community City Council meetings, and then taking those Proclamations and awareness information out INTO their community. This became a personal passion for me as we gathered our information for our Legislative Advocacy presentation at our 2017 and 2018 conferences. We aren't done yet. Our work will continue for longer than we want but we will persist and we will make our communities aware of Human Trafficking...Founder Region Soroptimists will continue our effort to STOP trafficking.

I can't help but mention that another **FIRST** is also happening. We have an amazing Governor coming in to serve Founder Region and the “*first*” is that Sylvia is from SI/The Marianas in District VI. And just another “*first*”...because of the International Dateline time difference, Founder Region can also say we have two Governors on the same day...July 1 in Guam is June 30 in California. I think this is just one of many perfect transition remembrances for us.

I give my very best wishes for a very successful biennium to the 2018-2020 Founder Region Board and know that they will continue to move Founder Region onward and upward.

Serving as your Governor has been such a tremendous highlight in my life. I hope you have enjoyed being on this journey with me. I am looking forward to my reserved seating as a Past Governor and to continuing my service in Founder Region as President of the Founder Region Fellowship Board! Thank you from the bottom of my heart for such a great ride!

There's no stopping me now!

Pam Parker
Founder Region Governor
2016-2018

November Governor's Message

12/11/2016

November 2016

Greetings to Founder Region members,

It seems like only yesterday we were beginning our new club year, and already we've seen five months fly by.

To those of you that attended your District Meeting in October, thank you for taking the time out of your day to spend it with your region leadership and other Soroptimist members. We hope you found the meeting to be of value and that the information presented was educational, informative, and gave you a great "take-away" feeling from the day, one that inspires you even more to be a Soroptimist shining star. We appreciate your attendance and participation, and also your comments on what we can do to make our district meetings better next time around. We truly thank all members of the host clubs for the district meetings – you pulled out all the stops and did an extraordinary job. Thank you to SI/Vallejo, SI/Marin County, SI/Mendocino, SI/Noyo Sunrise, SI/Fort Bragg, SI/Fremont, SI/Pittsburg, SI/Waikiki, SI/Central Oahu and SI/Honolulu. We've received so many comments that these district meetings were the best and we thank you for being such a big part of our success.

I hope that the District Director's presentation of the "Five R's" - Reach, Recruit, Retain, Respect and Regard - was meaningful, informative, fun-filled and that it left you with thoughts on how you can help make your club membership stronger, more empowered and healthier.

Those of you who donated purses and purchased purses – a huge thank you! It was fun and well received AND we raised \$1,430 for Founder Region. Start putting purses away for Conference – we'll be doing this again! It is a win-win-win-win!

Your Region Board members are at the beginning stages of planning an amazing Spring Conference in May 2017. Your Legislative Advocacy Region Committee is already working on a full day of advocacy and education for you on Friday during Conference weekend. Your host clubs, SI/Calistoga, SI/St. Helena and SI/St. Helena Sunrise held their first planning meeting with Conference Chair Linda Glantz and to see and feel the excitement in the early planning session was awesome. Make sure to save this special weekend – May 5, 6 and 7, 2017 – at the San Ramon Marriott. We promise to throw in some island spirit.

By the time of this reading, most of your District Directors will have held their second Presidents' Roundtable meetings with club presidents and other members. The roundtable meetings are valuable, not only for the club presidents but for members as well. This is when your District Director has an opportunity to share information from the Region Board and from SIA Headquarters and also offers the opportunity for club presidents to share with each other.

Please be sure to take a look at all of the information in this November 2016 mailing. As always, if there is anything your region board members can do for you or your club, please let us know. We look forward to the rest of our biennium together and we always enjoy coming to visit your club, whether it is a club meeting, awards ceremony, fundraiser, installation of officers or other events. We are here to serve you and to help your clubs be successful "shining star" Soroptimist clubs as well as to help you improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

Fondly,
Governor Pam

Welcome to our 2016-2018 biennium!

7/1/2016

WELCOME TO OUR 2016-2018 BIENNIUM!!!

Soroptimists Are Shining Stars

“You do not have to be perfect to be remarkable”

One theme, one tagline...

Many of you have received emails from me in the past few years and have seen my personal quote at the end of the email, which I truly believe in and hope that all Soroptimist members believe. “You do not have to be perfect to be remarkable”.

My theme, “Soroptimists Are Shining Stars”, incorporates my tagline into who I believe each one of us is – a shining star!

I am so excited to be starting my term as Governor of Founder Region. I have climbed my personal “life ladder” to reach this important place and am looking forward to serving you, the members of Founder Region. Thank you for this opportunity.

For those of you who attended Conference in Hawaii, you heard me say that my dream is for every woman and girl to like who she sees in the mirror. Striving to reach that accomplishment will speak volumes for us as Soroptimists. Just as many of the women and girls we serve, some of us may have obstacles that prevent us from liking who we see in the mirror. We can work on that. We can reach our goals. It may not be easy but we can do this.

Together we can tackle so many topics of concern. I hope to see us continue to address our fight against human trafficking. I hope to see us all become better educated about what we are fighting against. We hear about the issue; we know it is happening – what can we do to be more aware and help prevent trafficking from happening in our own backyard?

I hope we can work towards seeing the end of domestic violence, and mental and verbal abuse against women and girls. I hope to see us address other concerns: teen dating violence, elderly abuse, eating disorders, lack of self-esteem and self-confidence...the list goes on.

I hope to make each and every one of us keenly aware of who we are, what we do, why we do what we do and how we can help ourselves and others achieve the positive connection of looking in the mirror and liking who we see. By doing this, we will be able to share our empowerment and enthusiasm with another woman who might need a “hand-up”.

I truly hope to see us learn ways to empower the women we aim to help be able to achieve a status they never dreamed possible.

“Soroptimists Are Shining Stars”. I hope to see every Soroptimist in Founder Region shine. We have so many directions we can turn our shining star light and make things happen. We are remarkable Soroptimists. Let’s combine our efforts and make Founder Region’s star shine in the brightest way possible.

I am excited to have such remarkable members on the region board – Governor-elect Sylvia, Secretary Kris, Treasurer Vicki, District I Director Elise, District II Director Pat Eileen, District III Director Joy, District IV Director Barbara, District V Director Dyann, District VI Director Angie – a big thank you for your dedication and commitment. You are no longer “incoming”!

I look forward to working with each and every member of Founder Region. Thank you.

Governor Pam