

Minutes of the Soroptimist International of the Americas
South Atlantic Region
107th Spring Conference
Holiday Inn & Suites, Virginia Beach, VA
April 15-17, 2016

Friday, April 15, 2016

- Governor Robin Davis welcomed attendees to the SAR 107th Spring Conference.
- Governor Robin explained the agenda for the evening.
- Governor Robin thanked the clubs that participated in the donation of wine for the Wine Pull. Melissa Kelly, President of SI-Talbot, explained the Wine Pull.
- Governor Robin thanked the clubs that donated new or gently used bras for SI Mid-Atlantic Online. SAR Board Member Laura Jones explained the Bras for a Cause Program.
- Louise Skinner, Vice-President of SI-Kent & Queen Anne's Counties, explained the SAR Bead Raffle Fundraiser.
- Virginia Dempsey, SI-Woodbridge, SAR Fundraising Chair, explained the Laurel Society Lottery and Laurel Legacy.
- Governor-Elect Amy Harman welcomed everyone to Virginia Beach, and announced the clubs who were celebrating significant milestones. These Clubs represented 265 years of service to their community on behalf of Soroptimist. Congratulations!
 - Hagerstown – 60 years
 - Manassas – 60 years
 - Hampton Roads – 65 years
 - Alexandria – 80 years
- Governor Robin Davis recessed the evening.

Saturday, April 16, 2016 – Morning Session

- Governor Robin declared the 107th conference of the South Atlantic Region of Soroptimist International of the Americas in Session at 8:30am.
- Laura Jones, SI-Mid-Atlantic Online and SAR Board Member, presented the Flags of the South Atlantic Region:
 - DC – Deborah Mackes – SI- Woodbridge
 - MD – Helen Van Pelt – SI-Prince George's & Anne Arundel

- NC – Pat Lynch – SI-Raleigh
 - SC – Mackenzie Shannon – SI-Hampton Roads
 - VA – Dottie Haskett – SI-Manassas
 - WVA- Mary Dunivan – SI- Woodbridge
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Governor Robin Davis introduced the head table and gave recognition to leadership.
 - Pamela Sinclair, Region Board Treasurer, SI Raleigh
 - Betty Ann O’Brien, Board Member, SI Raleigh
 - Amy Harman, Governor-Elect, SI Hampton Roads
 - Donna Ronca, Federation Representative, SIA
- PODIUM/LECTURN
- Robin Davis, Region Governor, SI Alexandria
 - LouAnne Hunnicutt, Parliamentarian, SI Mid-Atlantic Online
 - Connie Skinner-Morris, Region Secretary, SI Kent & Queen Anne’s Counties
 - Laura Jones, Region Board Member, SI Mid-Atlantic Online
- Governor Robin introduced Special Guests
 - Nicole Simmons, Membership & Leadership Development Manager at Federation Headquarters
 - Betty Roberts, Former Governor, SI – Mid-Atlantic Online
 - Betty Nester, Former Governor, SI-Williamsburg
 - LouAnne Hunnicutt, Former SIA Board Member and Former Governor, SI Mid-Atlantic Online
 - Louise Skinner, Former SIA Board Member and Former Governor, SI-Kent & Queen Anne’s Counties
 - Willie Mae McCracken, Immediate Past Governor, SI-Williamsburg
- Margaret Dyer, SI Manassas, gave the inspirational reading.
- Connie Skinner-Morris, SAR Secretary, SI-Kent & Queen Anne’s Counties, presented the Reading of Official Greetings from Elizabeth “Liz” Lucas, Executive Director and CEO of Soroptimist International of the Americas and Susan “Sam” Collier Buchanan, 2015-2016 SIA President.
- Governor Robin asked all voting delegates to be seated in the front rows and to HOLD UP their delegate card.
- Laura Jones and Betty Ann O’Brien, SAR Board Members, welcomed the members attending conference for their first time and also the members attending who had 30 + years with Soroptimist.

- Pamela Sinclair, SAR Treasurer, announced that the attendees with 30+ years of service represented a total of 572 years of Soroptimist service.
- Linda Blake, SI-Hampton Roads, presented the Preliminary Credentials Report. **See page 9 for Preliminary Credentials Report.**
 - It was moved, seconded, and accepted that the Preliminary Credentials Report be approved. Motion carried.
- The Standing Rules for the 2016 Spring Conference were presented by, Parliamentarian LouAnne Hunnicutt.
 - It was moved, seconded, and accepted that the Standing Rules be approved. Motion carried.
- Connie Skinner-Morris, SAR Secretary, presented the Official Call to Conference. Secretary, Connie Skinner-Morris, moved that the reading of the Official Call to Conference be dispensed, as the Call was sent to all clubs in the region more than forty-five days prior to conference. Motion was seconded and accepted by the voting delegates.
- Pamela Sinclair, SAR Treasurer, moved that the adoption of the Conference Agenda be accepted, plus any modifications as may be necessary to carry out the business of the region. Motion was seconded and accepted by the voting delegates.
- Linda Blake, SI-Hampton Roads, presented the First report of the Credentials Committee. **See page 9 for Preliminary Credentials Report.** It was moved, seconded, and accepted that the Preliminary Credentials Report be approved. Motion carried.
- Pamela Sinclair, SAR Treasurer, presented the SAR Financial Report. After discussion, the Financial Report was approved and will be filed for audit.
- Governor Robin explained the Consent Agenda. The consent agenda has the Minutes of the 106th Spring Conference, the proposed budget for the 2016-2018 Biennium and the Region's Bylaws and Procedures.
- Connie Morris, SAR Secretary, stated that the Minutes of the SAR 106th Conference were approved by a committee comprised of:
 - Deborah Mackes, SI Woodbridge
 - Glenda Johnson, SI Howard County
 - Sandy Burtman, SI Salisbury
- Three members agreed to serve as the committee to approve the minutes of the 107th Conference
 - Beverly Moore, SI Frostburg
 - Cari Corey, SI Talbot

- Betty Nester, SI Williamsburg
- Pam Sinclair, SAR Treasurer, Presented the proposed Budget for the 2016-2018 Biennium. The budget is balanced and will be running tight.
- Louise Skinner, Bylaws and Procedures Committee, SI Kent & Queen Anne's Counties, explained the new Region Bylaws and Procedures. She explained they were approved by SIA and the region is in compliance.
- Mollie Flood, SI Alexandria, made a motion to remove the Proposed Budget from the consent agenda, it was seconded. The 2016-2018 Proposed Budget was removed.
- Mollie Flood, SI Alexandria, asked a question about Income excluding \$8,000.00, Governor Robin explained the keeping the cost down the \$8,000.00 is running with a cushion and the extra income was from past years.
- Pat Lynch, SI Raleigh, asked to go through the Budget line by line. Pam Sinclair explained that the budget is for the 2 year period. August Retreat is for 1 year only. Governor's expenses are down. There is no SI Convention this coming biennium so no money was budgeted for it. There was money for the Istanbul convention in the current budget but Robin did not attend. Board expenses and insurance went up. Fall meeting expenses were reduced. Linda Waal, SI Kent and Queen Anne's Counties, asked if there would be a Violet Richardson award in this Biennium. Governor-Elect Amy Harman explained that with the presentation of the proposed budget, the Board was recommending the continuation of the Violet Richardson Award for the next biennium, but with a change that the winners would no longer be attending the conference, so there was no budget line item for travel and meals for such winners. The Region will cut a check and let the winning club present that check to the winner locally. Governor-Elect Amy mentioned that if club participation in the program continued to decline, it would be possible to propose an amendment at the 2017 Conference whereby the award would not be given in 2018, and the money set aside designated for another use, such as the Dream It, Be It program, or the Live Your Dream program.
- Judi Loscomb, SI Talbot, Region Raffle Chair, asked: what if you don't make the money budgeted? Governor Robin explained big items like the Wine Pull goes to each club that participated as Club Giving and Region Bead Sale goes to things like Disaster Relief. Please place new ideas on the evaluation form of places you would like to see the fundraising money to go.
- Cari Corey, SI Talbot, noted that Dream It Be It only has \$500.00 - should we raise it? Governor-Elect Amy responded that this startup money is waiting for guidance from SIA on any awards given next year.

- A motion to approve the 2016-2018 Proposed Budget was made and a second was given. Motion carried.
- Governor Robin announced that SI Upper Montgomery County was the winner for South Atlantic Region in the Membership Campaign. The Membership campaign will go on for another year. Good Luck!
- Judi Loscomb, SI Talbot, read the Nominating Committee report. The following names and positions are as follows:
 - Deborah Mackes, SI Woodbridge, Governor-Elect
 - Pamela Sinclair, SI Raleigh, Governor-Elect
 - Kelly Pierce, SI Prince George's and Ann Arundel County, Secretary
 - Connie Skinner-Morris, SI Kent & Queen Anne's Counties, Treasurer
 - Betty Ann O'Brien, SI Raleigh, Board Member
 - Sparkle Raymond, SI Woodbridge, Board Member
- No other nominations were made. The nominees came forward and gave a 2-3 minute statement why they would like to join the South Atlantic Region Board.
- Linda Waal, SI Kent & Queen Anne's Counties, is the Elections Chair. Linda stated that she was advised that the following non-delegates have agreed to serve as tellers for this conference:
 - Joyce Fairfax, SI Manassas
 - Sue Strain, SI Woodbridge
 - Liz Ferrell, SI Manassas
- Governor Robin announced that the polls would open at 10:45am (Break) and congratulated these women who have volunteered their time to serve on the South Atlantic Region Board.

10:45 – 11:00 a.m., break in session.

- Governor-Elect Amy reconvened the meeting. Next on the agenda is the proposed site for 2018 Spring Conference:
 - 2017 is Staunton, VA
 - 2018 proposed is Fredericksburg/Richmond area
 - 2019 proposed is Eastern Shore of MD

Motion carried.

- Governor Robin announced the election process was complete and the following is the 2016-2018 SAR Board of Officers:
 - Amy Harman, SI Hampton Roads, Governor
 - Deborah Mackes, SI Woodbridge, Governor-Elect
 - Kelly Pierce, SI Prince George's and Ann Arundel County, Secretary

- Connie Skinner-Morris, SI Kent & Queen Anne's Counties, Treasurer
- Betty Ann O'Brien, SI Raleigh, Board Member
- Sparkle Raymond, SI Woodbridge, Board Member
- Governor Robin: Congratulations!
- Governor Robin gave the State of the Region report. State of the Region will be placed on the SAR website.
- Governor Robin: now that you know how we are doing as a region Donna Ronca our Federation Board member will give the Federation Report.
- Governor Robin – Linda Blake, SI-Hampton Roads, Present the Final Credentials Report. **See page 9 for Preliminary Credentials Report.**
- It was moved, seconded, and accepted that the Preliminary Credentials Report be approved. Motion carried

Federation Awards Luncheon

- Welcome by SAR Governor Robin Davis.
- Willie Mae McCracken, President, Immediate Past SAR Governor, SI Williamsburg, gave the afternoon inspirational reading.
- **Violet Richardson Award** was presented by SAR Chair, Cindy Swicegood, SI-Kent & Queen Anne's Counties. Cindy announced that 12 clubs participated.
 - The winner was Kavya Kopparapu, nominated by SI-Fairfax
- **Live Your Dream Awards Presentation** was presented by SAR Chair, Christina Krieling, SI-Frostburg. Christina announced that 18 clubs participated. Award winners were:
 - Traci D. Roomsburg, Nominated by SI Cumberland - \$1,000.00
 - Nofa H. Elias, nominated by SI-Woodbridge - \$3,000.00
 - Marian Duelle, nominated by SI-Fairfax - \$5,000.00
- Governor Robin: we are now set to go on a Membership Cruise. We have 2 training sessions that will be 60 minutes each then at the end of the first 60 minutes we will switch rooms:
 - Cape Henry Room will depart on the Cruise entitled Hook, Line & Sinker: How to get and Keep Members. Your captain is Nicole Simmons, Membership & Leadership Development Manager at Federation Headquarters.
 - False Cape Room will depart on the Cruise entitled the U.S.S. SOLT with Captain Donna Ronca, Federation Board Member.

Saturday Evening Banquet

- **7:00 PM** - Introduction of Club Presidents, Former SAR Governors, SAR Board of Directors, and SIA Federation Director – Mollie Flood, SI-Alexandria.
- Nicole Simmons Federation Headquarters gave the evening inspirational reading.
- JuJu Drums provided dinner entertainment.
- Governor Robin Davis asked the women who served in this Biennium to stand and presented them with a gift.
- Governor Robin Davis recognized all the clubs that participated in the Fundraising, Recruitment and Public Awareness Activities.
- Governor Robin: It is my pleasure to present the 2016 BJ Cook Governor's Trophy to SI-Manassas.
- Louise Skinner, SI Kent & Queen Anne's Counties, Installed the 2016-2018 South Atlantic Region Board.
- Governor Amy Harmon gave her acceptance remarks.
- Connie Skinner-Morris, SAR Secretary, announced the winners of the Bead Raffle and Other Club Raffles. The bead raffle was \$500.00 to the winner. The Wine Pull had 37 bottles of wine donated and 35 bottles of wine were sold, the fundraiser made \$700.00. The Region members donated 186 bras for Bras for a Cause.

Sunday, April 17, 2016

- **8:30 – 9:00 am** – Celebration of Life Memorial Service was presented by the members of SI-Kent & Queen Anne's Counties.
The service honored deceased SAR member:
 - Patty Dawn Folks, SI Woodbridge

9:00 am – Governor, Robin Davis, reconvened the general session.

- Laura Jones, SAR Board Member, gave the inspirational reading to begin the day.
- LouAnne Hunnicutt, Celebrating Success Awards Chair, presented the Celebrating Success Awards Presentation:
 - Membership** – Winner was SI Talbot
 - Program** – Clubs submitting entries were: SI-Kent and Queen Anne's counties, SI Raleigh and SI Talbot. Winner was SI-Manassas

Public Awareness – Clubs submitting entries were: SI-Frostburg, and SI-Kent and Queen Anne’s Counties, SI Manassas and SI Raleigh. Winner was SI-Talbot.

Fundraising – Clubs submitting entries were: SI-Frostburg, SI-Kent and Queen Anne’s Counties and SI Manassas. Winner was SI-Talbot.

- **Recruitment Bowl Award** was presented by, Pamela Sinclair, SAR Treasurer.
Winner – SI-Havre de Grace
- **Bennie Mendelson Award** was presented by, Governor, Robin Davis.
Winner - SI-Hampton Roads
- Governor –Elect Amy Harman announced the 2016 SAR Biennium Leadership Meeting location will be Glen Allen, VA. Meeting will be held on August 6, 2016 at the Hyatt Place Richmond/Innsbrook, 4100 Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060, \$45.00 registration fee, includes lunch. Contact: Governor-Elect Amy Harman with questions. More information will be sent to club presidents.
- Governor Robin Davis gave information about the 2016 Fall Area meetings:
 - SI Kent & Queen Anne’s Counties, September 24, 2016
 - SI Williamsburg, October 1, 2016
 - SI Upper Montgomery County, October 22, 2016
- An invitation to the 2016 SIA Federation Convention, Orlando, Florida, was announced by, Donna Ronca, SIA Federation Director.
- Governor Robin Davis, reminded attendees to complete the Conference Evaluation.
- SAR Governor Robin Davis led the Soroptimist Pledge.
- 10:00 a.m. – Governor, Robin Davis adjourned the 2016 SAR Spring Conference.
- 10:30 a.m. – South Atlantic Region Board Meeting

**South Atlantic Region
107th Conference Credentials Report
April 15-17, 2016**

Preliminary Rpt. First Rpt. Final Rpt.

Clubs in Region	23	23	23
Clubs w/Registered Delegates	14	14	15
Region Officers	4	4	4
Board Members	2	2	2
Club Presidents	10	12	13
Club Delegates	17	25	24
Total Voting	33	43	43
Federation Officer	1	1	1
Parliamentarian	1	1	1
Non-voting Members	14	18	18
Registered Guests	3	3	3
Executive Director	0	0	0
Federation Headquarters Staff	1	1	1
Grand Total	53	66	66

Connie Morris
SAR Secretary 2015-2016