



**SOROPTIMIST**  
Best for Women

May, 2018

# Soroptimist International of **DIABLO VISTA**



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S.I. Diablo Vista meets the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesdays - 12:00 noon at the Concord Senior Center, 2727 Parkside Circle, Concord, CA 94519

## From The President . . . . .

Well, our last event, the Youth Recognition Night, is over for this year. We honored 61 students for their volunteer service to the community and Carole Macaluso with the June Harmon Frisbie Award. The



youth recognition award went to three young girls from Northgate High School who established GOALS who mentor middle school girls from Oakgrove Middle School. To learn more about this group go to their website: [www.goaleastbay.com](http://www.goaleastbay.com). The Olympic JROTC group presented the colors and pledge of allegiance. Pat Eileen Fisher, District II Director gave the inspiration. The students from Poison Apple Theatre performed songs from their play, The Sound of Music. These students were terrific. Jay-Marie Garcia was our mistress of ceremonies.

Of course, this event couldn't go on without help from Jo Harlow, Mary Ann Hazlick, Cathie Wright, Norene Lowry and Ginger Marsh. These ladies are my rock for this event as is Jay-Marie Garcia. This is definitely a group effort. Thank you ladies. I have sent out thank you letters to our elected officials along with a copy of the program.

Founder Region Conference was a wonderful event this year. I was very impressed with the ten ladies who were given \$10,000 each to help pay for their final year of their doctoral degree. I was excited to hear the stories of the Violet Richardson Award winners – especially since Cassidy Tshimbalanga, our Violet Richardson Award winner was chosen as the winner for District II. Our Club gave Cassidy a check for \$500.00. The award

### Schedule of Events

May 2	Board Meeting
May 9	Business Meeting
May 4-6	Founder Region Conference
May 16	Dr. Jackie Steel - Chiropractor
May 18	DVC Awards Ceremony
May 23	Early Alert Canines - Beth Snow
June 6	Board Meeting
June 13	Business Meeting - vote on budgets
June 20	Installation of Officers
June 27	Secret Pal Revealing Day

winner for Live Your Dream told of hardships overcome to continue their path for higher education. The winner from each District received \$1,500. The overall Founder Region winner receives an additional \$5,000 and the remaining District winners receive \$3,000. The Region winner this year also received \$500 worth of gift cards. Also she moves up to Federation level where she has a chance for a \$10,000 scholarship.

I want to thank all club members for their wonderful support this year. I had a lot of fun and you all are true Soroptimists – The Best of Women.



## Youth Recognition Night



*Jay-Marie Garcia presented certificates to Poison Apple Productions who supplied the entertainment for Youth Night with songs from their play, The Sound of Music.*



*Pleasant Hill  
Teen Council  
L to R:  
Katelyn Downing  
Ethan Tuey  
Anthony Rodriguez  
Abhinav Singh  
Paige Salvato*

**Soroptimist**  
**Community**  
**Education**  
**Friendship**

**Leadership**  
**Achievement**  
**Opportunity**

# S. I. Diablo Vista

## Youth Event (continued)



*Above: Violet Richardson Award runners-up, Hannah Lee, Alexandra Arient with Mary Ann Van Buren  
At left: Violet Richardson Winner, Cassidy Tshimbalanga receives her certificates and \$500.00 check.*

*Below: S-Club president, Erin Moore with Advisor, Mary Ann Hazlick.*

*Below left: Aava Farhadi, GOALS East Bay, receives her certificate and \$500.00 check.*



## Youth Event (continued)



*At left: Jay-Marie presents the June Harman Frisbie Award to Carole Macaluso  
Above: Monument Crisis Center - After School Café Tutors, Emily, Sara Hamilton presented with certificates for all the tutors by Sabrina Eugster*



*Cindy Lawrence from Carondelet High School honored and recognized Cassidy Tshimbalanga and Alyssa Javier for their over 4,000 hours of community service*

# S. I. Diablo Vista

## Shelter, Inc. Presents Program

Stephanie Harrison, Donor Database Coordinator and Aydee Sandoval Ferguson, Director of Development came and spoke to club members on April 25, 2018. Shelter, Inc. is the leading homeless services provider in Contra Costa county and has served almost 200,000 men, women and children in their 31 year history. Club member Ginger Marsh was on the first homeless task force and has been a member of the Board of Directors for Shelter, Inc. Our Club has had Shelter, Inc. in our service budget for the last 13 years. We presented Stephanie and Aydee with a check for \$1,000.00.



We also presented Sandra Scherer, Director of Monument Crisis Center with a check for \$1,500.00 at our May Board Meeting which is held in their building. MCC was first opened with Soroptimist 501c3 until they could obtain their own. MCC has been in our budget for the past 13 years as well. We are proud to partner with them and thank them for helping us find projects that specifically help women and girls as a place for our donation.



Dr. Jackie Steel of Steel Chiropractic spoke to club members on May 16, 2018. Her talk - "Five Factors to Personal Energy," was a good reminder about beneficial habits we need to incorporate for more vibrant health.



### April - No Birthdays

### May Birthdays!

**Flower: Hawthorne**

**Birthstone: Emerald**

May 2 Karen Jameson

May 31 Sue Hickman

### June Birthdays!

**Flower: Rose**

**Birthstone: Pearl**

June 28 Doris Webster

## Founder Region Conference



Founder Region Conference in San Ramon was a busy weekend. Friday morning was a workshop on STOP Trafficking and Friday Lunch continued with Kathy Wilson and Elle Snow who reported on the remarkable education for the public and law enforcement in the battle against commercial sexual exploitation. Elle has been recognized by Congress and Senate members for her work in the anti-trafficking movement. She has trained hundreds of social workers, medical staff, youth groups, community members, foster parents, victim advocates and law enforcement agencies throughout the nation.

Friday evening began with the Fellowship reception and the Fellowship dinner, followed by speeches from the Fellowship recipients and the awarding of \$100,000.00 in scholarships.

Saturday morning began with the Fellowship Business Meeting followed by the F.R. Business meeting and election of officers for the 2018-2020 Biennium.

The following were elected:

Sylvia Crafton, Governor  
 Kris Chorbi, Governor-elect  
 Pat Eileen Fisher, Secretary  
 Vicki Ham, Treasurer;  
 Director D-I Elise Begley  
 Director D-II Bev Gomer was nominated from the floor  
 Director D-III Joy Swank  
 Director D-IV Barbara Young  
 Director D-V Diane O'Brien  
 Director D-VI Kristal Koga

The new Fellowship President was appointed by Sylvia Crafton and is Pam Parker.

The following Directors for Fellowship are:

Fellowship Director D-I Cheryl Poncini  
 Fellowship Director D-II Jan Schults  
 Fellowship Director D-III Terri Malkin  
 Fellowship Director D-IV Nancy Webber  
 Fellowship Director D-V Crystal Arbatnot  
 Fellowship Director D-VI Rena Borja.

Our club won two awards — Club Giving and Soroptimist Celebrating Success, an award for The Garment Project.

The bylaw change that we were to vote on was tabled until next year's conference to give time to reword the proposed amendment.



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Soroptimist Interna



Our Shining Star, Ginger Marsh, was recognized at the lunch on Saturday. One of the highlights of Conference was the recognition of our Violet Richardson Award winner, Cassidy Tshimbalanga. Federation no longer gives a Violet Richardson Award, but our Region wanted to continue to recognize high school girls for their service and has kept the award named for our Soroptimist founding president.

2021 is the 100th birthday of Soroptimist and S.I. Oakland (the founding club) is one of the clubs that will be hosting the 2021 conference. They promise a big celebration for the event.



Past Governor's of Founder Region were remembered and those present were introduced.

There were 360 in attendance at conference including officers, delegates, club members, award recipients and guests.

Governor Pam Parker and VRA Chair Amelia Benko, presented Cassidy with her certificate and check.

All the District winners, were given checks for \$500.00 from Founder Region.



***Our Mission** is to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.*

***Vision** — Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.*

***Core Values** — Soroptimist International of the Americas is committed to:*

- *Gender Equality: Women and girls live free from discrimination.*
- *Empowerment: Women and girls are free to act in their own best interest.*
- *Education: Women and girls deserve to lead full and productive lives through access to education.*
- *Diversity & Fellowship: Women from varied backgrounds and perspectives work together to improve the lives of women and girls.*



[www.sidiablovista.org](http://www.sidiablovista.org)

