



# SOROPTIMIST<sup>®</sup>

Investing in Dreams



*SIA Northeastern Region*

## ***Virtual Spring Conference*** ***Saturday, April 18, 2020***



### ***Meeting Expectations***

Motions & discussion will be held live on virtual meeting  
Voting will be conducted via email

All votes must be submitted by delegates to tellers by Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>

Tellers will count and report results to board on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

Voting results will be share with clubs & delegates

- Incoming board positions
- Approval of 1-year budget
- Approval of transitional by-laws

### ***Delegate Expectations***

Virtually attend Spring Conference Meeting

Relay comments and questions from their respective club at meeting

Send votes to tellers by the **end of Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**

### ***Club Expectations***

**Registration:** Send the names & emails of delegates & attendees to Joan Merritt at [joanmerritt@charter.net](mailto:joanmerritt@charter.net) (credentials will be recorded - attendance taken)

**Send names by Friday, April 3, 2020**

Receive the Zoom.com hyperlink to share with delegates & club members

Read transitional by-laws & review with members– be prepared with comments

Review 1-year budget – be prepared with comments

Zoom.com hyperlink will be emailed to all clubs after April 3, 2020 to be shared with those who have registered via email to Joan Merritt [joanmerritt@charter.net](mailto:joanmerritt@charter.net)

**Attention:** Attendees must click the link they receive to enter on day of meeting

***Conference Sponsors will be reimbursed***

***Clubs who sent their raffle ticket money will be reimbursed***

***Those who have paid for registration will be reimbursed***



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### ***Tentative Agenda***

9:30 – 10:00 AM	Sign-in/ attendance & credentials
10:00 – 12:00 PM	Introductions to candidates Open to virtual “floor” for any further nominations Voting via email
	Financials YTD & Proposed 2020-2021 Budget – Floor will be open for comments & questions Voting via email
	Transitional bylaws membership approval Floor will be open for comments & questions Voting via email
12:00-12:30 PM	Closing remarks

### ***Items to be Adapted***

#### Soroptimist Celebrating Success

clubs will receive \$50 if a SCS form is submitted before or on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> via email

Send to Kathie Lang email at [Note4KathieL@aol.com](mailto>Note4KathieL@aol.com)

CC: Barbara Simmons at [Barb19@gmail.com](mailto:Barb19@gmail.com) (a check will be sent in the mail to club treasurer)

#### Recognitions Spotlited online

Spirit of Soroptimist – Submit by Friday, April 3, 2020 to Governor Ruby

Memorial Tribute – Submit by Friday, April 3, 2020 to Governor Ruby

Region LYD award winner (if approval granted)

Club recognitions

#### SIA Presentation

Virtually presented and shared

#### Chair Presentations

Program, Fundraising, Membership, Public Relations

Virtually presented and shared

#### Installation of Incoming Board

Voting will be conducted at virtual meeting

Ceremony to be conducted at a later date

#### Club Share

Each club may submit a document (DOC, PDF, or 1 slide on PowerPoint) with a highlight of your programs for the past year

Submit by Friday, April 3, 2020

These will be shared online

#### A Toast to Women

Will be rescheduled on **Saturday, November 14, 2020**

Theme will be the same: “Party like it’s 1921”



A celebration of women: Suffragists and 100 years for Soroptimist (est. 1921)

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## ***Transitional Board Nominations 2020-2022***

***Accepting nominations for the following board positions:***

- ***Co-Secretary***
- ***Co-Treasurer***
- ***District Director (for District 5 = Northeastern Region)***
- ***District Secretary***

***Elections will take place on Saturday morning, April 18, 2020. The membership will elect the officers for the transitional board for 2020-2022.***

***Candidates who submitted their paperwork prior to deadline and have been deemed eligible to run for the office of their choice are featured in this Call to Conference. Per Roberts Rules of Order, there will be a call for “nominations from the floor” for all offices listed above.***

***The candidates accepted “from the floor” must be prepared with a copy of their resume to share orally so the delegates may review before voting.***





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**2020-2022 BOARD CANDIDATE - NOMINEE**  
 Investing in Dreams



**Co-Treasurer: Tracy Scala**

Club	SI of Farmington Valley, CT (member since Jan. 2005)
Soroptimist Experience/ Positions Held	<p><b><u>Soroptimist</u></b>          SIA Donor Relations Task Force Member: 9/1/2019 - present          SIA Fundraising Council: 9/1/2015 - 8/31/2019          SIA Fundraising Council Chair: 9/1/2016 – 8/31/2018          SIA Northeastern Region Fundraising Chair: 7/1/2016 - present          SIA Northeastern Region Governor: 7/1/2012 – 6/30/2014          SIA Northeastern Region Governor-elect: 12/2011 – 6/30/2012          SIA Northeastern Region Membership Chair: 2006 – 2008          SI Farmington Valley Club President: 7/1/2010 – 6/30/2012          SI Farmington Valley Club Vice-president: 7/1/2008 – 6/30/2010</p>
Non-Soroptimist Volunteer Experience/ Positions Held	<p>Several positions on Soroptimist task forces/committees; attendee/presenter at several SIA Conventions, SI NER Conferences &amp; Workshops</p> <p><b><u>Non-Soroptimist</u></b>          St. Mary Star of the Sea Haiti Ministry Secretary, St. Mary Star of the Sea Eucharistic Minister, Avon High School PTO Member (all present positions); in the past have taught non-credit Microsoft Office and other workshops</p>
Current Occupation	<b>Consultant, Scala &amp; Associates LLC, Avon CT</b> – provide Funder Research, Proposal Development, Creative Design, Compliance & Review, Client Support
Education	<p><b>Sacred Heart University, Fairfield CT</b> – Master of Arts Teaching, Summa Cum Laude honors, May 1992  <b>Marist College, Poughkeepsie NY</b> – Bachelor of Science Computer Science/Mathematics, Cum Laude honors, May 1987  <b>Various professional courses and workshops</b> - software development, Microsoft products, Sybase databases, SQL/QUIZ</p>

Personal Statement	<p>Quite simply, I love being a Soroptimist – our mission, our Dream Programs, what we as members accomplish individually and collectively.</p> <p>The Northeastern Region is embarking on a new adventure by joining with the North Atlantic Region as its District 5. This will be an exciting 2 year period to grow together and increase our impact as part of a larger region!</p> <p>I’m honored to offer my service in the role as Co-Treasurer during the transition. I’m quite familiar with NER’s budgets and financials, and have been part of the committee to develop its budgets since 2011. Although not an accountant, I’m well versed in Excel, minored in Math in college, and quite capable of balancing bank statements and creating financial reports.</p> <p>If elected, I look forward to serving on the merged Region Board.</p>
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**2020-2022 BOARD CANDIDATE - NOMINEE**

**Co-Secretary: Joanne Moore**



Club	SI of Connecticut Shoreline
<p>Soroptimist Experience/ Positions Held</p> <p>Non-Soroptimist Volunteer Experience/ Positions Held</p>	<p><b><u>Soroptimist</u></b> –  A founding member of our club, 2018  Club secretary, 2018-19  Northeast Region Secretary, 2019-2020  Delegate to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, 2018</p> <p><b><u>Non-Soroptimist</u></b> -  League of Women Voters, State Board of Directors, current  Delegate to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, 2019 &amp; 2020</p> <p>Niantic Community Church, since 1985, multiple positions  Toastmasters International, Distinguished Toastmaster  American Physical Therapy Association, CT Delegate, 2015</p>
Current Occupation	Physical Therapist
Education	Doctor of Health Science, 2002 MS Exercise Physiology BS Physical Therapy State certified Birth to Three Provider



<p>Personal Statement</p>	<p>I strongly support the vision and mission of Soroptimist International. The issues facing girls and women locally and around the world are too large for me to make an impact alone. I was thrilled to find SI, a place where I can add my energy to that of so many other wonderful members. Together, we can make a real difference. I would be privileged to support the efforts of our members by serving as our secretary.</p>
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***2020-2022 BOARD CANDIDATE - NOMINEE***

**District Director (District 5): Heidi McNamar**



<p>Club</p>	<p>SI of Greater Hartford</p>
<p>Soroptimist Experience/ Positions Held</p>	<p><b><u>Soroptimist</u></b>          President of the Greater Hartford Club - 5 years          Treasurer of the Greater Hartford Club - 2 years          North Eastern Region Board Member - 3 years          Governor Elect          Governor          Federation Board Member - 2016-2018</p>
<p>Non-Soroptimist Volunteer Experience/ Positions Held</p>	<p><b><u>Non-Soroptimist</u></b>          Committee Member of the Race for the Cure - New Britain          Member of YWCA</p>
<p>Current Occupation</p>	<p>Retired in 2018. Before retirement I was the co owner of Krause Caterers, Inc. Our firm catered weddings, corporate events and numerous charitable organizations.</p>
<p>Education</p>	<p>Bachelor’s of Business from the University of Denver</p>

<b>Personal Statement</b>	<p>A second generation Soroptimist I believe the mission of our organization. It is our responsibility as successful women to improve the lives of women in girls.</p> <p>I am especially fond of the Dream It Be It program. This program gives us as Soroptimists the opportunity to reach out to the girls providing them with access to program topics for career opportunities, how to set and achieve goals, how to overcome obstacles and how to move forward after setbacks or failures. I am sure this program will cut down on the number of women in crisis in the future.</p>
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## 2020-2022 BOARD CANDIDATE - NOMINEE

### District Secretary (District 5): *Deirdre Green*



Club	SI of Greater Bridgeport
Soroptimist Experience/ Positions Held	<p><b><u>Soroptimist</u></b>          Since I joined S.I. of Greater Bridgeport in 2001, I have had many roles. Shortly after joining I became the coordinator for the Women’s Opportunity Award now known as the Live Your Dream Award. I was elected club president in 2003 and served in that capacity from 2003-2006 and again from 2015-2019. I was a region director from 2006-2008 after which I served as region secretary from 2008-2010. I am currently our club treasurer</p>
Non-Soroptimist Volunteer Experience/ Positions Held	<p><b><u>Non-Soroptimist</u></b>          From 1989-1995 I served as member and vice chair of the Milford Inland Wetlands Agency.          While teaching I was a volunteer facilitator for the Girl’s Club that worked with the local Girl Scout council teaching the girls leadership skills. I lead a group of students that volunteered at local animal shelters. I set the schedules and worked with the shelters to train the volunteers.          I am a Lay Eucharistic Minister at my church and work with other ministry leaders to set the worship schedule. I am most passionate about my leadership in organizing, planning and leading our yearly mission trip to Juarez, Mexico to build a home for a family. This year we built our 13<sup>th</sup> home!</p>
Current Occupation	I am currently retired after teaching seventh grade science at Hamden Middle School for 21 years.
Education	I received BS in Animal Science from UCONN in 1983. My intentions were to become a veterinarian, but it seems that God had other plans for me. After working as a lab technician for several years I decided I needed a change and returned to school pursue a degree in teaching. In 1997 in I received a MAT in education from Quinnipiac University. I also have a Certificate of Advanced Studies (completed in 2011) with a concentration in science leadership from Sacred Heart University.

Personal Statement	<p>Soroptimist is in my blood. I come from a family of Soroptimist that includes my mother Jean Shelton, Aunt Jeanne Williams and second Cousin Rose Bishop as well as many family friends, which I grew up calling aunts. My daughter Natalie was also a Soroptimist for two years before joining the Peace Corp.</p> <p>I have been married to Conrad since 1985 and have two adult children, Natalie and Curtis. Since retiring I enjoy spending time on our boat, quilting and catching up on all the reading I didn't have time for while I was working.</p>
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**SOROPTIMIST<sup>®</sup>**  
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**2019-2020**  
***SPIRIT OF SOROPTIMIST AWARD***

Name of Club Awardee: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Our winner will be attending the Region Conference: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

This award honors a Soroptimist who exemplifies the “spirit” of Soroptimist. It’s not a popularity contest. This member may not be the one who is most visible, but may have served quietly over the years; she may be the one who is always there willing to help, educate, support, and listen. She may be the one who always volunteers.

We will acknowledge each club’s recipient at the conference. It is our hope to have **10** terrific women to recognize. One of these finalists will be selected as NER’s Spirit of Soroptimist Award recipient.

Please write a paragraph about this woman. Include information such as why your club chose her, what about her makes you think of the spirit of Soroptimist, her accomplishments, how long she has been a Soroptimist, her passion, and anything else you feel is relevant.


**Form due by *Deadline for club entries is 4/3/2020***



Governor Ruby Mercado @ [RubyMercado.SIA@gmail.com](mailto:RubyMercado.SIA@gmail.com)

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**SOROPTIMISTS CELEBRATING SUCCESS AWARD  
CLUB ENTRY FORM**

Email to Kathie Lang ([Note4KathieL@aol.com](mailto:Note4KathieL@aol.com)) and CC: Barbara Simmons ([Barb19@gmail.com](mailto:Barb19@gmail.com)) by 4/3/2020

Send a summary of events/activities that your club has completed to date this club year, and Kathie will select a club for each pillar area (fundraising, membership, program, public awareness) that fully embraced the Soroptimist mission at the local, region, and federation levels. **\$50 given to each club that submits this form before or at Spring Conference to be put towards their Club Giving donations to SIA.**

Club \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_  
Number \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_  
Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Club presidents must authorize submission of a project. A typed signature will be accepted.**

Club  
President \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-  
mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Information**

Project  
Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Established \_\_\_\_\_



Number of members involved in project \_\_\_\_\_ Number of members in club \_\_\_\_\_  
Total club funds spent on this project in \_\_\_\_\_  
2018-2019 \_\_\_\_\_ Total member hours spent on this  
project in 2018-2019 \_\_\_\_\_

Check the category being entered. Select only one category.

Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_ Program \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Public Awareness \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Description**

Describe the project, how it benefits women/girls or promotes Soroptimist as an organization that improves the lives of women and girls, and the impact/outcome of the project. Please refer to the submission requirements and include all the information requested for the category. Response may not exceed two (2) typewritten pages.

***In Remembrance of Service***  
**SOROPTIMIST MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FORM**

A memorial tribute will be posted online in memory of members who have passed away 2018-2020. Please include a brief description of the deceased member's club, her personal accomplishments, some photos and e-mail these items to Governor Ruby at [RubyMercado.SIA@gmail.com](mailto:RubyMercado.SIA@gmail.com) **by April 3, 2020.**

Name of Deceased Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Years as a Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
Charter Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Description of Accomplishments/Comments:

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Submitted by: Soroptimist International of \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Wherever a beautiful  
soul has been  
there is a trail  
of beautiful memories.*







***CONFERENCE STANDING RULES***  
***(PLEASE REVIEW AT YOUR MEETINGS)***

1. The voting body of the Conference shall be the Northeastern Region Board, the club Presidents, the duly accredited Delegates or their alternates.
2. The Official Program and the Agenda shall be the order of the day.
3. All Delegates are expected to be present at the beginning of each session and remain in the room for all business sessions of the conference.
4. On a discussion a member shall rise, be recognized, address the Chair, and state her name and club clearly.
5. A voting Delegate shall take precedence over an attending member in being recognized.
6. The first Delegate to rise shall be recognized, providing she has not already spoken on the question.
7. A voting Delegate may speak twice only on the same question for two minutes at a time.
8. A Soro Optimist who is not a voting Delegate may speak once only on a question, for not more than two minutes.
9. All substantive motions shall be submitted in writing to the Chair.
10. A voting Delegate may not leave the Conference session when there is a motion on the floor unless given permission by the Chair.



## ***DELEGATES – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS***

### **What is a Delegate?**

At Soroptimist conferences and conventions, a Delegate is a voting representative on behalf of her club. All clubs in good standing may nominate and/or elect any regular member of their club to serve as a Delegate. A Delegate must be a regular member who is in good standing (i.e., has paid her full annual dues in the current club year, July – June).



A Delegate's responsibility is to report valuable Soroptimist region and Federation information to the local club members. A Delegate should be prepared to attend the entire conference. Questions and requests for additional information are always welcome.

### **What does the Delegate do?**

The voting body shall be the members of the region board and the accredited Delegates of each attending club in good standing. Delegates must check in and be seated prior to opening of the business session. The Delegates present will be reported at the opening of conference session during a Credentials Report. See Standing Rules for more instruction of voting and discussion during conference session.

### **Is the club required to have a Delegate?**

It is in the best interest for the club to have a voice at conferences and conventions. At the Region Conference, the clubs are asked to send THREE (3) club Delegates. The club is required to pay for the registration fee of all three Delegates out of their club finances even if all do not attend.

### **General Attendees**

Soroptimist members and guests are encouraged to attend the conference for the rich learning and networking opportunities. All attendees pay the regular fees as indicated on the registration form, however they are not allowed to vote during session – only Delegates are allowed to cast a vote.

*“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars --- to change the world.”*

*~ Harriet Tubman ~*