

Delegates and Presidents Meeting

April 29, 2024

via ZOOM

The Annual Spring Conference Delegates and Presidents Caucus was conducted by Zoom and recorded.

Governor Roxanne Aaron welcomed the conference delegates and declared Central East Coast Region's 6th Spring Conference to be in session on April 29, 2024, at 7 PM.

Governor Roxanne presented the CECR Board Members, the CECR Parliamentarian, and the CECR's SIA Federation Visitor.

Sue Riney, SIA Secretary/Treasurer, Federation Director, and CECR Spring Conference's 2-2024 Federation visitor from SI/Oak Harbor, Washington

Robin Davis, CECR Governor-Elect, SI/Woodbridge, VA

Carolyn Skowron, CECR Treasurer, SI/Raleigh, NC

Heather Jankovich, CECR Secretary, SI/Williamsburg, VA

Ginny Dempsey, CECR Board Member, SI/ Woodbridge, VA

Deb Mackes, CECR Bylaws and Resolutions Chair, CECR Parliamentarian, SI/Manassas, VA , and a member of the Americas Board of Directors

Governor Roxanne Aaron, CECR Governor, SI/Wake Forest, NC

Governor Roxanne stated that Region Procedures allow for the appointment of a parliamentarian to oversee the conference and to keep the meetings flowing in an orderly manner.

Governor Roxanne announced that Deb Mackes, SI/Manassas has been appointed as Parliamentarian for the 2024-2026 biennium to assist with keeping the Conference in order.

Deb stated that Standing Rules were distributed in the Call to Conference. A link to the document was also posted in the Zoom chat. Deb further stated waiving the traditional reading of the standing rules and accepting them as printed in the Call to Conference.

Governor Roxanne requested Governor-Elect Robin provide a Preliminary Credentials Report. Robin stated that 10 out of 13 Clubs in the Region were represented are on the call. For the purpose of quorum 10 out of 13 Clubs constituted a quorum.

Governor Roxanne asked Secretary Heather Jankovich to present the Official Call to Conference.

Secretary Heather announced that in accordance with the Region Bylaws, the Official Call to Conference was emailed to all members of the Region who have a valid email address on record with SIA and also to CECR guests on March 19. This was 30 days in advance of the Conference. Heather announced that we would dispense with the reading of the Official Call to Conference, and that a link to the Call to Conference was available in the Zoom Chat.

Governor Roxanne asked that Heather present the Minutes of CECR's 5th Spring Conference.

Heather announced that the Minutes of CECR 5th Spring Conference were prepared and included in the Call to Conference and asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, Heather stated that the Minutes of CECR's 5th Spring Conference would be put on the consent agenda for approval of the minutes from CECR's 5th Spring Conference. The Consent Agenda will be voted on during the Business Meeting in Ocean City, MD on Saturday morning.

Heather stated the names of the three Club members who agreed to serve as the committee to approve the minutes of the 6th CECR Conference would be: Deb Machas, SI/Manassas, Margaret Dyer, SI/Manassas, and Molly Wetzel, SI/Williamsburg.

Governor Roxanne asked Treasurer Carolyn Skowron to present CECR's Financial Report.

Treasurer Carolyn reported that the Region is financially solvent. The Financial Report was included in the Call to Conference and a link to the documentation was available in the Zoom chat. Carolyn asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, Carolyn stated the Financial Report be included in the Consent Agenda for approval during the business meeting at Spring Conference on Saturday morning, so it can be filed for audit.

Governor Roxanne asked Treasurer Carolyn to present CECR's Budget for the 2024-2026 Biennium. Carolyn reviewed the 2024-2026 Biennium Budget that was projected on the Zoom screen and answered questions.

Carolyn asked that the 2024-2026 Biennium Budget be included in the Consent Agenda for approval during the Business Meeting in Ocean City on Saturday morning,

In addition to presenting the financials, Treasurer Carolyn also reminded attendees of Club financial obligations.

Region dues (\$25.00 per club member) are due to be paid 7/1/24 to the CECR Region Treasurer, and can be paid by check or credit card. The information will be on the invoice that will be sent to all Club treasurers. This will be given to SIA when received.

SIA Federation dues are also due to be paid by 7/1/24 to SIA.

Form 200 should be submitted to the Region Treasurer along with Club dues even if there are no changes in the listed officers. In addition to the names of club presidents and treasurers, Form 200 should also include the names and contact information for LYD chairs and club DIBI chairs.

Treasurer Carolyn stated she would repeat the information on Saturday during the Region's continued Business Meeting and follow up with an email to make sure all Clubs are aware of this information.

Governor Roxanne reported that at the 2023 Spring Conference, a 2024-2026 Biennium Nominations Committee was voted to develop a slate of officers for the CECR Region for the 2024-2026 Biennium. As required by the Bylaws, the Nominating Committee was composed of three members. Cathy Brinsfield SI/Salisbury, MD, and Patricia Green, SI/Mid-Atlantic Online and Kerry Ardner SI/Fairfax, Kerri served as the Chair of the Nominations Committee.

Governor Roxanne asked Nominating Committee Chair, Kerri to share the slate of CECR 2024-2026 Officers. Kerri reported the five candidates for the open positions are:

Governor-elect - Kerri Ardner, SI/Fairfax

Secretary – Heather Jankovich, SI/Williamsburg

Treasurer – Linda McCann, SI/Salisbury, MD

Board Member-at-large (2 positions) - Cathy Brinsfield, SI/Salisbury, MD

Marcia Attmore, SI/Raleigh, NC

Kerri further stated that the Slate of officers, along with their bios is included in the Call to Conference.

Governor Roxanne asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, Governor Roxanne noted that nominations were closed and if anyone was interested, they could run for the 2026-2028 Biennium.

Governor Roxanne specified the Slate of Officers will be voted on in person Saturday morning and thanked Kerri, Cathy, and Pat for their hard work.

Governor Roxanne asked if there were any further items to be discussed. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 7:31pm.

Governor Roxanne thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and said she looked forward to seeing everyone Friday, May 3, at 6pm for the Beach Luau Dinner for the official kick off of Spring Conference in Ocean City.

Minutes of Central East Coast Region 6th Spring Conference

Ocean City, Maryland

Friday, May 3, 2024

The Region began Spring Conference with Registration from 5pm-7pm hosted by SI/Salisbury, MD.

Governor Roxanne welcomed everyone and shared a few highlights of the Spring Conference, which included a Treasure Chest and Club Raffles announcements.

Governor Roxanne asked Ginny Dempsy, CECR Board Member and Fundraising Chair, SI/ Woodbridge, to speak about the Laurel Society. Ginny explained the work of the Laurel Society and the different levels for membership, and how to become a member of the Laurel Society. Ginny presented the Laurel Society Board which was only seven squares away from the selection of a winner. Members of the Laurel Society have a special ticket in their Conference packet to an invitation only Laurel Society Reception tomorrow evening.

Governor Roxanne asked everyone to enjoy the Luau.

Following dinner, Carol Padgett, President, SI/Woodbridge, in authentic Hawaiian attire, explained the history of the Hula and entertained with a lovely Hula dance. Carol then taught a group of Soroptimists a simple Hula, much to the entertainment of those that remained seated.

The evening culminated with teams of two members from each Club participating in a lively Hawaiian themed dressing activity.

Governor Roxanne closed the Luau with an invitation to meet in the Hospitality Suite.

Central East Coast Region 6th Spring Conference

Saturday, May 4, 2023

Business Session

Following the parade of current CECR Club Presidents and CECR Past Governors, Governor Roxanne Aaron called the Business Session of the Central East Coast Region 6th Spring Conference to order at 8:37am and welcomed members and guests to the Conference.

Governor Roxanne presented the head table:

Sue Riney, SIA Secretary/Treasurer, Federation Director, and CECR Spring Conference's 2024 Federation visitor from SI/Oak Harbor, Washington

Michelle Burnett, SIA Federation Executive Director/CEO

Robin Davis, CECR Governor-Elect, SI/Woodbridge, VA

Carolyn Skowron, CECR Treasurer, SI/Raleigh, NC

Heather Jankovich, CECR Secretary, SI/Williamsburg, VA

Ginny Dempsey, CECR Board Member, SI/ Woodbridge, VA

Deb Mackes, CECR Bylaws and Resolutions Chair, CECR Parliamentarian, SI/Manassas, VA , and a member of the Americas Board of Directors

Governor Roxanne Aaron, CECR Governor, SI/Wake Forest, NC

A video message from Bobbi Enderlin was viewed on the big screen.

Michelle Burnett, SIA Federation Executive Director/CEO provided opening remarks to Reach Higher Together. Michelle encouraged Soroptimists to increase our collective impact, increase our global brand, and celebrate our own successes, to ultimately hit our Big Goal.

Governor-Elect Robin Davis provided inspiration by reciting the poem One.

Jamilah Dalton, SI/Manassas asked that all those attending this year's spring conference as a first-time spring conference attendee come forward and be recognized. Eight first-timers were presented with a gift and learned the privileges associated therewith.

Jamilah then asked Soroptimists with 30 or more years of membership to come forward. Each woman shared her name, club affiliation, and years of membership. After eleven members received a token of appreciation, Treasurer Carolyn came to the podium and shared the total years of service of these seasoned attendees which was 455 years!

Governor-Elect Robin presented the preliminary and secondary credentials reports. There were 10 clubs in attendance represented by 33 voting delegates. This constituted a quorum. It was moved by Jamilah Dalton, SI/Manassas and seconded by Penny Bradford/SI Salisbury that the credentials reports be adopted. The motion was approved.

Governor Roxanne announced her appointment of Deb Mackes, SI/Manassas to serve as the parliamentarian for Spring Conference.

Ginny Dempsey, SI/ Woodbridge moved that the agenda for Spring Conference be approved, with any modifications as may be needed to carry out the business of the region. The motion, seconded by Cathy Brinsfield, SI/Salisbury, MD and approved.

Secretary Heather, SI Williamsburg, presented the items on the Consent Agenda for voting by delegates. Heather explained the Consent Agenda process discussed in the Delegates Meeting on April 29th via ZOOM. The Consent Agenda streamlines meeting procedures by collecting routine, non-controversial items into a group whereby all are passed as a single motion and vote. Included in the Consent Agenda were the Minutes of the 2023 Spring Conference and the Region financial reports. The intention of the Consent Agenda allows additional time for workshops and presentations. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Kerri Ardner, Kerri Ardner, SI/Fairfax, seconded by Molly Wetzel, SI/Williamsburg, and approved by the Delegates for the Consent Agenda to be accepted. Governor Roxanne noted that the Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit.

Governor Roxanne further announced and introduced the members who agreed to serve as the committee to approve the minutes of the 6th Regional Conference: Deb Mackes, SI/Manassas, Margaret Dyer, SI/Manassas, and Molly Wetzel, SI/Williamsburg.

Governor Roxanne called on Treasurer Carolyn to present the Budget for the 2024-2026 Biennium. Following going over the Budget, Terri Craig, SI/Raleigh, moved to adopt the 2024-2026 Biennium Budget. Carol Padgett, SI/Woodbridge seconded the motion. The Budget was accepted.

Treasurer Carolyn also reminded attendees of Club financial obligations.

Region dues (\$25.00 per club member) are due to be paid 7/1/24 to the CECR Region Treasurer, and can be paid by check or credit card. The information will be on the invoice that will be sent to all club treasurers. Treasurer Carolyn or the incoming treasurer will provide Clubs the breakdown for SIA when they receive them. SIA Federation dues are also due to be paid by 7/1/24 to SIA. Following some last-minute updates, Federation Visitor Sue was able to advise there will be a \$3 per member increase in SIA dues.

Form 200 should be submitted to the Region Treasurer along with Club dues even if there are no changes in the listed officers. In addition to the names of club presidents and treasurers, Form 200 should also include the names and contact information for LYD chairs and club DIBI chairs.

Governor Roxanne introduced a Celebration of Success Memorial Video honoring CECR members who passed away in the past year.

Governor-elect Robin introduced Federation Guest, Sue Riney. Guest Sue gave an enlightening presentation on SIA's organizational structure and leadership. The presentation helped conference attendees understand how key decisions are made within Soroptimist. The difference between Strategic versus Working boards was explained, and what type of board SIA has. Sue reviewed the history and structure of our Federation and how the Board makes informed decisions based on what is in the best interest of the organization as a whole. Sue's presentation clarified the concept of representation "OF." The presentation offered insight into how Soroptimists as stakeholders can engage and play a key role in SIA's decision-making process. Following questions and comments from conference participants, Sue concluded with suggesting Clubs share the information, using her PowerPoint with notes, to help more members become aware of the process.

Governor Roxanne called on Nominations Committee Chair Kerri Ardner to give the Nominations Committee Report and call for a vote on the slate of officers. Chair Kerri reported the five candidates for the open positions:

Governor-elect - Kerri Ardner, SI/Fairfax
Secretary – Heather Jankovich, SI/Williamsburg
Treasurer – Linda McCann, SI/Salisbury, MD
Board Member-at-large (2 positions) - Cathy Brinsfield, SI/Salisbury,
M Marcia Attmore, SI/Raleigh, NC

Governor Roxanne called for a vote. Carol Padgett/SI Woodbridge made a motion for the approval of the Slate of Officers recommended by the Nominating Committee. , Bev Moore, SI/XXX seconded the motion. The Delegates voted unanimously for the election of the Slate of Officers.

Governor-elect Robin introduced Federation Guest, Sue Riney. Guest Sue gave an enlightening presentation on SIA's organizational structure and leadership. The presentation helped conference attendees understand how key decisions are made within Soroptimist. The difference between Strategic versus Working boards was explained, and what type of board SIA has. Sue reviewed the history and structure of our Federation and how the Board makes informed decisions based on what is in the best interest of the organization as a whole. Sue's presentation clarified the concept of representation "OF." The presentation offered insight into how Soroptimists as stakeholders can engage and play a key role in SIA's decision-making process. Following questions and comments from conference participants, Sue concluded with suggesting Clubs share the information, using her PowerPoint with notes, to help more members become aware of the process.

Ginny Dempsy, CECR Board Member and Fundraising Chair, SI/ Woodbridge spoke about the Laurel Society. Ginny explained the work of the Laurel Society and the levels for membership, including Star Gazer. Because the Laurel Society Board was full, a winner was selected by pulling a name out of a bowl. Sonali Ghosh, SI Woodbridge, VA square was chosen as the latest Laurel Society member from those who had purchased a square. Members of the Laurel Society had a special ticket in their Conference packet to an invitation-only Laurel Society Reception the next evening. Any new Stargazers will also be eligible to attend.

Following an explanation of the Pillar Presentations Workshops and the Beach Side Chat with the Federation Visitors after lunch, Governor Roxanne adjourned the meeting for attendees to transition to workshops.

Pillar Presentations and Small Group Discussions

Marketing Tips to Elevate Your Club Events to New Heights

Governor-elect, Robin Davis SI/Woodbridge, led a workshop providing marketing tips to help Clubs elevate their Club events to new heights. Attendees gained insight into making Facebook event pages, using hashtags, and using Canva to create captivating graphics and vibrant visual content. Soroptimists shared with each other in small groups how they engaged with local media, co-hosted with other organizations,

Big Goal Accelerator Projects Deep Dive

Tara Ayers, SI/Wake Forest, NC, provided an overview of the Big Goal Accelerator Project. Eligibility and obstacles were discussed and clarified, utilizing the additional resources of our Federation Visitors, Sue Riney, SIA Secretary/Treasurer, Federation Director, SI/Oak Harbor, Washington and Michelle Burnett, SIA Federation Executive Director/CEO.

Transitioning from a Transactional to Engaging Membership Model

CECR Membership Chair Jamilah Dalto, SI Woodbridge helped participants brainstorm ways to engage with the mission to support women and girls to deepen their connectivity with Soroptimist as an organization.

Tools and Tech for Fundraising in Your Community

Virginia Dempsey, Board Member, Central East Coast Region, SI/Manassas shared ways to fundraise using tools such as social media in peer-to-peer fundraising campaigns, how to create/draft such a campaign and best practices when conducting a fundraiser (particularly virtually).

Live Your Dream Program Luncheon

Governor Roxanne welcomed everyone to the Live Your Dream Program luncheon held to honor the Regions top three Live Your Dream honorees. Governor Roxanne noted all 13 Clubs participated in the Live Your Dream Program, offering a total of \$52,050 in scholarships to 43 deserving women.

Following lunch, Governor Roxanne invited Live Your Dream Chair, Terri Craig, SI/Raleigh NC. to share information about the program and announce the winners of the CECR Live Your Dreams Awards.

Terri explained that all 13 Clubs in the Region participated in the Live Your Dream Awards Program this year. In 2024, Central East Coast Region Clubs awarded a total of \$52,050 to 43 deserving women. This was an increase of 7 awards as compared to 2023. (Clubs increased the number of awards they funded by 4 and the region funded an additional 3 awards). Seven clubs submitted 13 applications for consideration in the new region program for funding 3 club-level awards. Additionally, 12 Clubs

submitted their top recipient to the Region for consideration of a region award. The Region granted a total of \$9,000 to 3 LYD Award recipients.

Three women were recognized at the luncheon. Debkayna was awarded \$1,000, Maria B was awarded \$3,000, and Maria M was awarded \$5,000. They each shared a little more of their stories and how much the award meant to them and thanked Soroptimists for the opportunity to continue their education and achieve their dreams.

Governor Roxanne noted that by participating in the Live Your Dream Program our Clubs create ripples of change for these women, and society as a whole. Governor Roxanne reminded everyone of the special program to follow, the Beach Side Chat with the Federation Visitor and the Installation Banquet later in the evening.

FEDERATION BEACHSIDE CHAT

Sue Riney, SIA Secretary/Treasurer, Federation Director, and CECR Spring Conference's 2024 Federation visitor from SI/Oak Harbor, Washington

Sue Riney and Michelle Burnette led an informal chat with Conference attendees.

There is a need for Diversity Training including Generational Training.

Civility

Some new members do not feel that their ideas/input is welcome.

Focus holistically: What are the problems? The solution is not to put a band-aid on the problem.

Before focusing on recruitment, focus on your current mentorship and retention.

Live Your Dream

Now that all Clubs are giving LYD awards, we need to think about how we can give multiple LYD awards.

This year we gave Regional awards for LYD. Clubs can apply for the Regional award.

Challenge Clubs to rethink their LYD award ceremony. We don't want to re-traumatize the awardee to stand up and tell her story again. They may feel a level of obligation to retell their story in front of a group of strangers. How can we become more of a support system than a check dispenser.

Give one year membership to your LYD winner. There's no better member than a LYD recipient.

Big Goal Accelerator Program

The assumption is that everyone knows or is supposed to know about the focus on women's education. Assumption is everyone knows what a Soroptimist is.

How to tweak programs Clubs are already doing into programs that fit into the mission and contribute to women's education?

Dream It Be It

DIBI Training has to take into account the culture of that school. DIBI has the potential to provide the program to many girls at one time.

This has been a challenge. In CECR SI/Montgomery County has been highly successful with their DIBI program. They have presented the program in 10 schools in the DC area. Maryland regions go and help them out. SI/Upper Montgomery gave \$500 or \$1000 to each girl who completed the DIBI program.

Michelle reported that she is going to launch an overhaul of DIBI.

Create a task force because a lot of Clubs struggle with DIBI, struggle with the demographic target.

It shouldn't be difficult to get into schools and work with their programs. This is a major initiative for next year.

Get corporations to fund DIBI.

We are missing out on foster care groups. How can get funding from State? There is money out there that they have to spend to help these girls when they age out of the foster care system. They already have the staff and therapists who are being paid that can help. We need to make the program enticing and compact enough. How can we make it an easier package to present?

Michelle stressed the importance of counting each woman or girl only once (since some may attend multiple DIBI programs or receive multiple awards) to accurately reflect the reporting of how many individuals benefit from Soroptimist.

How can we update LYD training?

When Clubs properly report what they are doing to impact the lives of women and girls to SIA this information gets to the United Nations and impacts the lives of women and girls globally. But Clubs need to turn in the data.

The general rule is 80% of what the Club is doing should be focused on the Dream Programs. This still allows for 20% to go into Clubs and community projects of which Clubs have been involved.

Michelle encouraged Clubs to brag about the great things they are doing. Review the Roadmap. Reach out to let her and Sue know what they can do to help us. Keep the lines of communication open. Take the surveys SIA sends out. Read the materials that are sent. Synchronize and synthesize them!

Putting on the Ritz Installation Banquet

Governor Roxanne welcomed everyone to the Installation Banquet.

Governor Roxanne presented the *"We Dream Big" "B.J." Cook CECR Governor's Trophy*. This award recognizes those clubs who have been creative in recruiting new members and in keeping their club members engaged and excited about being members of Soroptimist: SI/Manassas, SI/Raleigh and SI/Woodbridge. Each Club was presented with \$300 to be used toward their future membership programs. Governor Roxanne announced that a webinar with these clubs will be forthcoming so all Clubs can learn from their successes.

Club Anniversaries

Governor Roxanne invited Ginny Dempsy to recognize clubs celebrating milestone anniversaries this year.

Clubs recognized and celebrated for club milestones were:

SI/Havre de Grace, MD – 1949- 75 years

SI/Accomack County, VA- 1954- 70 years

SI/Frostburg, MD – 1964 – 60 years

SI/Wake Forest, NC – 5 years

Governor Roxanne invited everyone to enjoy their dinner and fellowship. Attendees had a final opportunity to purchase raffle tickets, Laurel Society lottery tickets, and keys to the Region Treasure Chest fundraiser.

Installation of Officers

Following dinner, Sue Riney, Federation visitor, SI/Oak Harbor, Washington, Inducted the Central East Coast Region Officers for the 2024-2026 Biennium in an entertaining and interactive installation ceremony. Officers installed were:

Governor-elect - Kerri Ardner, SI/Fairfax

Secretary – Heather Jankovich, SI/Williamsburg

Treasurer – Linda McCann, SI/Salisbury, MD

Board Member-at-large - Cathy Brinsfield, SI/Salisbury and Marcia Attmore, SI/Raleigh, NC

Standing in for Marcia Attmore, SI/Raleigh, NC, who was unable to attend was Betsy Miller, SI/Raleigh

After the Installation Ceremony, Governor Roxanne asked that those that were drawing for raffle prizes during Spring Conference do so. Governor Roxanne then closed the banquet with an invitation to continue fellowship in the Hospitality Suite.

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Sunday, May 5, 2023

Let's Live It, Let's Dream It, Let's Achieve It Recognition Brunch

Governor Roxanne welcomed everyone to the Live Let's Live It, Let's Dream It, Let's Achieve It Recognition Brunch and called the final session of the 6th Spring Conference to order. Governor Roxanne thanked the Conference Planning Committee, subcommittees, and volunteers, with a special thank you to SI/Salisbury for making Spring Conference so successful. She then invited everyone to enjoy their brunch.

Following a delicious brunch Governor Roxanne recognized the two Clubs that had the most members attending Spring Conference, SI/Woodbridge, VA and SI/Williamsburg with 8 members respectively in attendance.

She Dreams Big Award

Governor Roxanne reported five clubs submitted names of she-roes for the She Dreams Big Award. Governor Roxanne presented the 'She Dreams Big' Award. The Award recognizes a Soroptimist member whose actions contribute significantly to the greater good or mission of Soroptimist, at her club, region and federation and international levels. The following Soroptimists were recognized for their contributions:

Roxanne recognized six Soroptimist who go above and beyond to support Soroptimist.

1. Upper Montgomery - Donna Jones and Claudia Chitty -
2. Raleigh - Mary Woodard, Suzanne Blank and Marianne Breneman
3. Woodbridge - Carol Strain
4. Manassa - Jan Sokalski
5. Fairfax - Konnie Cassidy

Laurel Society Board

Governor Roxanne asked, Ginny Dempsey, CECR Board Member and Fundraising Chair, SI/ Woodbridge, to bring up the latest Laurel Society board. Ginny reported on the success of the previous night's Laurel Reception with three members receiving pins for moving up to the next level and the addition of three Stargazers to the Laurel Society.

Bennie G. Mendelson Recruitment Award

Governor Roxanne invited Treasurer Carolyn to present the award to the club having the largest net increase in members from April 1, 2023 to March 28, 2024. The three Clubs that tied for runner up, each with an increase of three members, were SI/Fairfax, SI/Frostburg, and SI/Havre de Grace. They received a certificate. Two Clubs tied for first place with an increase of 4 members- SI/Hagerstown, and SI/Mid-Atlantic On-line. These two Clubs will receive \$100 from the Region towards their clubs' Dream Program. Secretary Carolyn noted that this is the second year that Hagerstown has won but also has not attended Spring Conference. She suggested that in the future a stipulation for receiving the monetary award would be to attend Spring Conference for the Club to receive the \$100.

Closing Remarks

Michelle Burnette, SIA Federation Executive Director/CEO provided some closing remarks. She reported it was a pleasure for her and Sue Riney, Secretary/Treasurer, Federation Director, and CECR Spring Conference's 2024 Federation visitor, SI/Oak Harbor, Washington to serve as SIA Representatives at Spring Conference. Michelle shared that many attendees had spoken with them about how much insight they gained from their contributions to Conference. However, Michelle noted that they have also learned a lot from the attendees. She challenged everyone to do one, two, or three things to improve their individual engagement with Soroptimist. She encouraged Conference participants to share the information we learned with those members of their Clubs who did not attend. She urged Soroptimists to reach out to Headquarters as needed.

Announcements:

Treasurer Carolyn announced that in coming weeks, all Club presidents and treasurers will receive information and the dues amounts and deadlines for the next Club year. Treasurer Carolyn reminded everyone that Club dues need to be sent to the Region and SIA by 07/02/24.

Additionally, Form 200 listing new officers is also due by July 1. Officers need to be submitted regardless of if there are no changes.

Treasurer Carolyn/SI Raleigh invited everyone to Puzzle Mania August 10, 2024.

Bev Moore, SI/Frostburg invited attendees to Vendor Bingo Thursday at 5:30 pm.

SI/Frostburg announced a VFW benefit concert they are doing with the Lions Club with music by the Fabulous Hubcaps. Tickets are \$35 per person.

Governor Roxanne thanked everyone for attending CECR's 2024 Spring Conference!

Governor Roxanne invited all attendees to stand and join her in saying the Soroptimist Pledge

The 6th CECR Spring Conference was adjourned on Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 9:40am.

