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# Dare to Dream

36<sup>th</sup> Conference

April 11, April 12, and April 13, 2008

The Sheraton Harborside Hotel  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Joan Merritt, Governor  
Pattie Shea, Incoming Governor

Pat Brown, Conference Chair

**Soroptimist International  
Northeastern Region**

**1976 - 2008**

Improving the Lives of Women and Girls

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# Club Responsibilities

<u>Hostess Club</u>	<u>Providence</u>	<u>Goodie bags, city welcome</u>
<u>Assist Conference Chair</u>	<u>Willimantic</u>	<u>Assistance with daily room set up</u>
<u>Protocol</u>	<u>Joann Blake</u>	<u>Advise Governor Joan on Soroptimist Protocol</u>
<u>Registration</u>	<u>Boston</u>	<u>Print badges and open registration table</u>
<u>Credentials</u>	<u>Southeastern</u>	<u>Verify credentials and file report with Secretary</u>
<u>Fundraiser</u>	<u>Farmington</u>	<u>Goal to raise \$1,000 for Laurel Society</u>
<u>Program</u>	<u>Governor-Elect Pattie Shea</u>	<u>Secures Speakers</u>
<u>Luncheon</u>	<u>Meriden</u>	<u>Print program and provide decorations</u>
<u>Saturday Banquet</u>	<u>Haverhill</u>	<u>Print program, decorations and banquet entertainment</u>
<u>First Time Attendee / Memorial Service</u>		<u>Director Deirdre Green</u>

All clubs should bring a basket for raffle to benefit Laurel Society

Inspire us with great ideas.

All Presidents will give up to a 6 minute presentation highlighting club membership, programs, fundraising and public awareness.

Clubs are encouraged to bring display items that highlight club activities. If you have a scrapbook, please bring it. Share your fund raising and membership ideas, and your program and public awareness successes. Please continue our tradition of sharing ideas and memories. A prize will be given to the club with the best visual display that portrays how your members are helping women to Live their Dreams.

Business attire for all business meetings.

Dressy for Saturday Banquet.

## President's Checklist:

- *February 21 - Share Call to Conference via email or mail and encourage members to come*
- *March 12- Make your room reservation directly with Hotel*
- *March 15- Return following forms to conference chair Pat Brown*
  - *Delegate credentials form and check*
  - *Personal Registration and Meal Reservation Form and check*
  - *Club Fundraiser Registration Form with check*
- *March 15- Return First Time Attendee Recognition Form to Director Deirdre Green*
- *March 15 -Return Memorial Tribute Form to Director Deirdre Green*
- *March 15 -Return Soroptimist of the Year Nomination Form to Governor Joan Merritt*  
*The last three forms can be emailed to Deirdre and Joan*
- *April 1 - Prepare a written outline of 6 minute presentation for Region records*



# SOROPTIMIST

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**Best for Women**

Dear Soroptimist Members & Friends,

Our Spring Conference is fast approaching. It is with pride and excitement that I ask every member to join us in beautiful Portsmouth, New Hampshire for this opportunity to celebrate our achievements. Conference Chair Pat Brown has worked hard to make this a very special weekend for you. We have so much to celebrate. This is an exciting time for the Northeastern Region. Come and share the enthusiasm!!

Come early on Friday and spend the day discovering historic Portsmouth and join us for lunch. On Friday evening Denise Reibman will teach us techniques to renew ourselves and achieve balance in our lives. You do not want to miss this interactive program. Come early for an evening filled with friendship and fun.

On Saturday we will have two very special Federation guests. Federation Director, Pina Pileggi is from the America del Sur Region in Caracas, Venezuela. She will update us on what is happening on the Federation level. Fund Development Council member Rosemarie Burton will tell us about exciting plans for fundraising at the Federation level. They will share their knowledge and enthusiasm for Soroptimist and give us a preview of the exciting Convention in fabulous Taipei, Taiwan. Linda Spevacek will share her secrets to becoming courageous enough to set and actually fulfill your life's goals.

The Meriden Club has an inspiring luncheon program that will leave our guests with the feeling that joining Soroptimist may be right for them!! We will recognize our Women's Opportunity Award Winner, Violet Richardson Award Winner and our Making a Difference for Women Honoree.

I hope that you will attend the entire Conference. If this is not possible, it would be wonderful to see you all there on Saturday for the business meeting, Awards Luncheon and the Saturday night Banquet. The Haverhill-Merrimack Valley Club has planned a night to remember with entertainment and fellowship as we install Governor, Pattie Shea and the 2008-2010 Region Board. We are all looking forward to this special night.

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Soroptimist International while enjoying the company of members from other clubs. I hope to see you all there. Don't miss this opportunity to renew your energy and make new friends. We promise to inspire you to be the best for women.

Thank you for all you do,

Governor Joan

# Northeastern Region Official Call to Spring Conference 2008

## Dare to Dream

When: Friday April 11, Saturday April 12, and Sunday April 13, 2008  
Where: Sheraton Harborside Hotel  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Registration: Friday April 11 4:00-6:00 PM  
Saturday April 12 7:30-8:25 AM

Delegates: Three elected delegates or alternates must be regular members. Any alternate elected by the club Board of Directors to fill a vacancy in the club's representation shall present a statement signed by the club secretary showing that she was duly elected and giving the date of such election and certifying that she is a regular member.

*Delegates must be seated prior to opening of the business session.*

Credentials: Presidents must fill out credential form and mail to Pat Brown.

Voting Body: Northeastern Region Bylaws Section 10: The voting body shall be the members of the region board and the accredited delegates of each attending club in good standing.

Non- Delegates: All Soroptimists and guests are encouraged to attend.

**Registration Fee: \$45.00**

**First Time Attendee \$35.00 registration fee**

**Late Fee: A \$15.00 late fee will be imposed on registrations postmarked later than March 15.**

**Club will pay delegate's registration. Each club will pay \$135 for 3 delegates even if they do not attend.**

**Room Reservations: Must be made directly with the Sheraton Harborside no later than March 12 Call 888.627.7138 or 603.431.2300**

**This hotel is very popular so book early to make sure that you have a room.  
\$141.00 single or double room**

**Download all forms and get updated information: [www.soroptimistner.org](http://www.soroptimistner.org)**



# S O R O P T I M I S T

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**Best for Women**

## **Northeastern Region Spring Conference Tentative Agenda**

April 11 - April 13, 2008

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Friday April 11, 2008

4:00-5:15 PM Pre-Conference Board Meeting

4:00-6:00 Registration

Mini Mall Open

6:00 Social and Dinner

8:00 Opening Ceremonies: Presentation of Colors

Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance *Conference Chair Pat Brown*

8:30 Welcome and Introductions *Governor Joan Merritt*

Welcome by City Official

Announcements and Appointment of Readers and Tellers

9:00-10:15 Where Did I Go? *Guest Speaker Denise Reibman*

Explore how to renew yourself and stay connected with your core,  
while balancing your life in this interactive workshop

Saturday April 12, 2008

7:00-8:00 AM Buffet Breakfast and Mini Mall Open

7:30-8:25 Registration

8:30 Opening of Business Meeting

Credentials Report

Official Correspondence *Secretary Barbara Straub*

Adoption of the Official Program

Reading of Standing Rule

*Parliamentarian Shirleyann Dunbar-Rose*

Saturday April 12, 2008

8:40 AM	Recognition of First Time Attendees Appointment of Readers and Tellers	<i>Director Deirdre Green Governor Joan Merritt</i>
9:00-9:15	Financial Report 2008-2010 Budget	<i>Treasurer Michele Jenks</i>
9:15-9:30	Election of Officers	<i>Nominating Committee Chair Pam Blass</i>
9:30-10:30	Federation Report	<i>Federation Director Pina Pileggi</i>
10:30-11:00	Club Reports ( <i>Providence, Boston, Hartford, Haverhill</i> )	
11:00	Business Meeting Recessed	
11:00-11:15	Break	
11:15-12:25	Dare to Dream Learn how to aim high and become courageous enough to fulfill your life's goals	<i>Guest Speaker Linda Spevacek</i>
12:30-2:30	Awards Luncheon  Member Recognition  Honoring our Soroptimist of the Year Women's Opportunity Award Violet Richardson Award Making a Difference for Women Award	<i>Hosted by Meriden Club  Governor Joan Merritt and Governor-Elect Pattie Shea  Governor Joan Merritt Award Chair Vera Rosa Award Chair Lydia Tedone Program Council Member Heidi McNamar</i>
2:45-4:00	A New Attitude An interactive discussion focusing on creating a positive environment for a successful club. Learn how to recharge members and get them involved in achieving club goals while having fun. T	<i>Governor Joan Merritt</i>
6:00 PM	Cocktails and Conversation	
7:00	Celebration Dinner	
8:30	Installation Entertainment <i>Evening Hosted by Haverhill/Merrimack Valley Club</i>	

Sunday April 13, 2008

8:00-9:00 AM	Breakfast Buffet and Mini Mall Open <i>First Time Attendees have reserved seating with Governor Joan and Governor-Elect Pattie</i>	
8:45	Memorial Service	<i>Director Deirdre Green</i>
9:00	Business Meeting Resumes Credentials Report	
9:10-9:20	Program Highlights	<i>Program Council Member Heidi McNamar</i>
9:20-9:35	Retaining and engaging our Members	<i>Membership Chair Tracy Scala</i>
9:35-9:45	Fundraising	<i>Fundraiser Chair Kathy Lang</i>
9:45-10:00	Fund Development Council Report	<i>Rosemarie Burton</i>
10:00-10:20	Break	
10:20-10:45	Club reports ( <i>Waterbury, Bridgeport, Farmington Valley</i> )	
10:45-11:00	Laurel Society Basket Raffle	<i>Farmington Valley Club</i>
11:00-11:30	Club Reports ( <i>Willimantic, New Haven, Connecticut River Valley, Meriden, Southeastern</i> )	
11:30-11:40	Goals for the New Biennium	<i>Governor-Elect Pattie Shea</i>
11:40-12:00	Conference Wrap Up Closing Remarks	<i>Conference Chair Pat Brown</i> <i>Governor Joan Merritt</i>
12:00-12:15	Soroptimist Pledge Adjournment and Retiring of the Flags	<i>Governor-Elect Pattie Shea</i>
12:30-1:00	Post-Conference Board Meeting	

I pledge allegiance to Soroptimism and to the ideals for which it stands:

The Sincerity of Friendship  
The Joy of Achievement  
The Dignity of Service  
The Integrity of Profession  
The Love of Country

I will put forth my greatest effort to promote,  
uphold and defend these ideals,  
for a larger fellowship in home, in society,  
in business-for Country and for God.

## About our Guest Speakers

### ***PINA CASTALDO De PILEGGI***

Pina Castaldo de Pileggi has been a member of Soroptimist International since 1991 and is currently a board member of Soroptimist International of the Americas 2007-2009. She served as Governor of the America del Sur Region from 2004-2006. She served as President of SI Miranda in Venezuela. She actively served on the Soroptimist International Extension Committee from 1999-2001, founding SI El Hatillo Caracas-Venezuela. She also founded SI Quito, in Quito, Ecuador, SI Bucaramanga in Bucaramanga, Bolivia, (the first Soroptimist Club in that country), and SI Alto Paraná in Ciudad del Este, Paraguay. The America del Sur Region is comprised of 8 countries- Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Paraguay, Colombia, Chile and Venezuela.

In her professional life she is an accountant and has served for 35 years as Vice-President of Grupo Rootes that own Venezuela Budget Car Rental and is also a Ford and Mazda automobile dealer. She speaks three languages: Spanish, Italian, and English.

She was honored with an Award from the Venezuelan Government "Instituto Nacional de la Mujer" for her social work on behalf of women. Pina is married with 5 children and 5 granddaughters. Her husband, Franco will be joining us in Portsmouth.

### ***DENISE RIEBMAN***

In addition to her work as a trainer, facilitator and life coach, Denise Riebman has over 15 years in the non-profit sector, with experience in youth engagement, community development, poverty alleviation and national service. She is currently working as the Career Services Coordinator at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University.

Denise is active with the Anti-Defamation League as a community trainer and Young Leadership Board Member, and volunteers with Strong Women, Strong Girls, Patriots' Trail Girl Scouts and Sierra Club Inner City Outings. She also founded Wishing Well, a women's giving circle.

Denise received her bachelors from Rutgers University and masters from the Muskie School of Public Service, University of Southern Maine. She is a graduate of the ADL Steinberg Leadership Institute, Interactive Associates' Facilitative Leadership Course and National Service Executive Leadership Program. In addition, she is certified in mediation from the University of Southern Maine and training from the American Society for Training and Development.

### **Program**

#### ***Where did I go? Staying Centered in the Middle of Your Life***

How can we give to others, unless we are also giving to ourselves? Using interactive, engaging and fun activities, we will explore how to renew ourselves and stay connected with our core, while balancing the rest of our life.

## **LINDA SPEVACEK**

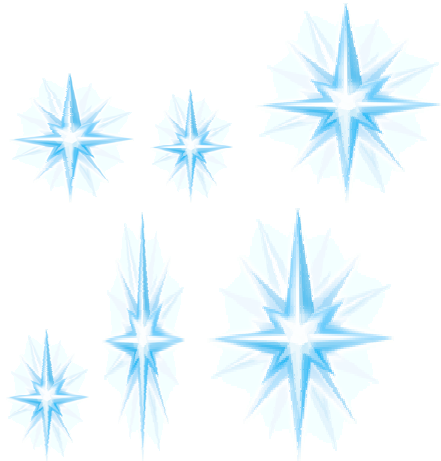
Linda Spevacek is a professional, certified coach who recently founded The Launch Companies, Ltd. after a group of clients named her America's "Launch Coach". Linda works on success strategies and leadership development with professionals who want to get fired up and go further, faster, while still feeling fulfilled in their lives.

Linda's interest in leadership has been evident all of her life. Professionally, she has founded organizations, started companies, managed billion dollar portfolios, negotiated \$100 million transactions, motivated employees, participated on strategy teams and served on boards. She also holds an MBA in Finance. Outside of her work, Linda is passionate about kids, the arts, and the environment. She was recently re-elected to her town's Planning and Zoning Commission and serves on the board of Holcomb Farm – an historic, organic farm and learning center that provides arts and environmental education as well as organic produce to thousands of kids and families throughout the Connecticut river valley. Linda has been married to the same man for 24 years (who she dreamed-up via a four-page list of characteristics before she met him). They have two wonderful teenage sons and recently built their dream house overlooking a sparkling river.

### **Program Information**

#### ***Dare to Dream: Discover the Courage to Find and Reach for Your Star***

Remember when the challenge of a dare sent a shiver of excitement down your spine? Using wisdom, wit and stories, Linda will dare you to aim high and share her secrets to becoming courageous enough to actually fulfill your life's goals. Whether you want to build the most powerful, dynamic, effective service organization that the world has ever seen, or find rewarding work that you love and also supports your desire to serve your community, or find greater fulfillment in your personal relationships so that you have more of yourself to give to others, this inspiring program will show you how.



**To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream;  
not only plan, but also believe.....**

**Anatole France**

***Soroptimist International Northeastern Region  
Spring Conference 2008  
Registration and Meal Reservation Form***

**Mail this form ASAP to Pat Brown  
99 Birchwood Heights, Storrs 06268  
nanabrown\_1@sbcglobal.net  
860.655.1645**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Check here if you are a first time attendee (    ) and deduct \$10.00**

**Check here if you are a delegate (    ) (Registration fee will be paid by club)**

	<b><u>Registration fee:</u></b>	<b><u>\$45.00</u></b>
<b>Meal Reservations:</b>		
	<b><u>Friday Dinner</u></b>	<b><u>\$40.00</u></b>
	<b><u>Saturday-Sunday Package</u></b>	<b><u>\$105.00</u></b>
<b>Includes: Saturday Breakfast, Luncheon, Banquet and Sunday Breakfast</b>		
	<b><u>Total registration and full weekend meal plan</u></b>	<b><u>\$190.00</u></b>

*Late registration fee if postmarked after March 15*                      \$15.00

<i>Additional Guest Meal Ticket</i>	<i>Saturday Luncheon</i>	<i>\$30.00</i>
	<i>Saturday Dinner</i>	<i>\$45.00</i>

**Total Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to SI NE Region Conference  
Meal reservations cannot be cancelled after April 1**

<b><i>FRIDAY DINNER CHOICE</i></b>	<b><i>HADDOCK</i></b> _____	<b><i>PORK</i></b> _____
<b><i>SATURDAY DINNER CHOICE</i></b>	<b><i>SALMON</i></b> _____	<b><i>CHICKEN</i></b> _____

Dietary Restrictions

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## ***Meal Offerings for Soroptimist Northeastern Region Conference***

### **Friday Dinner**

*Caesar Salad      Choice of:*

#### ***Atlantic Haddock Filet***

*Vidalia Onion and Bacon Crust with Wine and Dijon Mustard or  
Pecan Garlic Crusted Canadian Pork Loin with Carmelized apple and calvados sauce  
served over red cabbage*

*Warm Rolls and Butter, Chef's Selection of Starch and Vegetable  
Chef's Selection of Dessert, Coffee and Tea Service*

### **Saturday Breakfast**

*Assorted Fruit Juices, Fresh Sliced Fruit  
Variety of Mini pastries, Bagels, Bars  
Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and a Selection of Teas*

### **Saturday Luncheon**

*Oriental Express  
Oriental Noodle Salad, Mandarin Orange, Shitake and Book Choy Salad with Sesame  
Ginger Dressing, Cantonese Beef and Broccoli, Stir-fried Hoisen Chicken with  
Vegetables, Vegetarian Fried Rice, Pan-fried Chinese Peking Dumplings  
with Ginger Sauce, Fresh Rolls  
Fortune Cookies, Pineapple and Coconut Mouse  
Coffee and Tea Service*

### **Saturday Banquet**

*Choice of:*

#### ***Apple and Currant Stuffed Boneless Chicken Breast***

*With Granny Smith Apples, Dried Currants, and Celery Stuffing with a Hint of Caraway  
Laced with an Apple Cider Shallot Glaze or*

#### ***Char Grilled Atlantic Salmon Filet with Soy and Garlic***

*Served over Watercress With a Creamy Horseradish Sauce*

*Warm Rolls and Butter*

*Chef's Selection of Starch and Vegetable*

*Chef's Selection of Dessert, Coffee and Tea Service*

### **Sunday Breakfast**

*Assorted Fruit Juices/ Sliced Fresh Fruit Display,  
Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes, Bacon and Sausage,  
Muffins, Assorted Cereals  
Coffee and Tea Service*



## **Sheraton Portsmouth Harborside**

250 Market Street, Portsmouth NH 03801

Phone 603.431.2300 or (888) 627-7138 [www.sheratonportsmouth.com](http://www.sheratonportsmouth.com)

From its vantage point on the Piscataqua River, the Sheraton Portsmouth Harborside Hotel looks out over New Hampshire's bustling international port, where ships arrive regularly from around the world. Warm and friendly staff will welcome you into the grand lobby, where sweeping views of the river and harbor activity will capture your imagination.

The Hotel is situated in the heart of the downtown historic waterfront district with neighboring historic homes and sites, boutiques, galleries, fine dining, and live entertainment. Harbor cruises depart from the dock directly across from the hotel. The hotel is a scenic two-block walk to Market Square, the center of the historic downtown. Along the way, enjoy boutiques, galleries, historic houses, and a wide array of dining.

Sunny, spacious and 100% non-smoking, the guest rooms and suites are a welcome retreat. Get re-energized in the heated indoor pool, fitness facility, or redwood sauna.

### **Directions From North**

Route 95, Follow signs to Maine. Take Exit 7 off I-95 (Downtown Portsmouth). Turn left off the exit and 1/2 mile ahead bear right at the blinking light. The hotel entrance is on the left.

### **Directions From South**

Take Exit 7 off I-95 (Downtown Portsmouth). Turn right off the exit and proceed for approximately 1/2 mile. Bear right at the blinking light and the hotel entrance is on the left.

## **Northeastern Region Slate of Officers** **2008-2010**

### **Governor: Patricia Shea:**

Member of Soroptimist International of Haverhill/Merrimack Valley since 1993.  
Served as President from 1995-2000. Served as Governor Elect 2006-2008 and Treasurer Northeastern Region 2002-2006  
Assistant Vice President of E.A. Kelley Agency of Massachusetts.  
Member of Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce. Treasurer of Haverhill Downtown Association.  
Volunteer American Cancer Society's Reach for Recovery Program.

### **Governor Elect: Sara Nichols:**

Member of Soroptimist International of Greater Bridgeport since 2005. President SI Bridgeport 2006-2008. SI Northeastern Region Emerging Leader, 2007.  
Director of Programs for the Greater Bridgeport Adolescent Pregnancy Program  
Fairfield County Emerging Nonprofit Leaders, Class of 2008. Co-chairperson for the Greater Bridgeport HIV/AIDS Care Consortium; Mayor Appointed Member of the New Haven/Fairfield Counties Ryan White Planning Council; Member of SaveStratford citizen environmental group; Personal connection to women and girls in Africa. B.S. from the University of Wisconsin – Madison; Masters in Public Health from Boston University. Live in Stratford, CT with my husband Ed and son Andrew.

### **Treasurer Michele Jenks:**

Charter Member of Soroptimist International of Farmington Valley, formed in 2004.  
Member of Soroptimist International of Meriden from 1984-2004.  
Treasurer Northeastern Region 2006-2008. Growth and Development Chair for Northeastern Region 2004-2006. Past Soroptimist club positions have included: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Ways and Means Chair and Recording Secretary.  
Project Manager in the IT department of NewAlliance Bank. Chairman of the Simsbury Beautification Committee. Passionate about gardening. Care about the environment and all issues that affect women's lives. Live in Simsbury with my partner Greg and our cats.

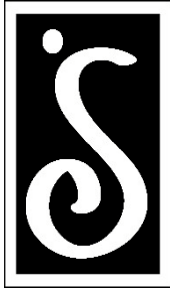
### **Secretary: Deirdre Green:**

Member of Soroptimist International of Greater Bridgeport club since June 2001.  
Club President 2004-2006. Chaired Women's Opportunity Award 2003-2006. Director, Northeastern Region 2006-2008. Served as parliamentarian and vice chair of the Milford Inland Wetlands Agency. Seventh grade science teacher at Hamden Middle School in Hamden, Connecticut. B.S. from the University of Connecticut and a Masters degree from Quinnipiac University. Married to Conrad for 20 years. Two children Natalie and Curtis.

**Director: Cheryl Kelly:** Member of Soroptimist International of Haverhill/Merrimack Valley since 1989. Served as President from 1990-1995. Also recording secretary, membership chair, and board member. Served as Conference Chair 2004-2006  
Bachelors Degree, Lowell State College; Masters Degree Fitchburg State College Elementary teacher for 34 years in Haverhill MA; Adjunct Professor Northern Essex Community College for 6 years.

### **Director Pam Blass**

Member of Soroptimist International of Greater Hartford club since 1994. Past President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Director. Serves/served on Women's Opportunity Award, Budget, Finance, Growth & Development, Service, Ways & Means and Soroptimist Orientation and Leadership committees. Actively involved with club Live Your Dreams Girls Forum at Washington School and programs at the Hartford YWCA. Past delegate to Spring Conference. Formerly Northeastern Region Women's Opportunity Chairperson.



# SOROPTIMIST

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**Best for Women**

## Standing Rules

1. The voting body of the Conference shall be the Northeastern Region Board, the Presidents, the duly accredited Delegates or their alternates.
2. The Official Program and the Agenda shall be the order of the day,
3. All voting delegates must be seated in a designated section of the Conference Hall promptly at the opening of each session.
4. Those Delegates not answering the Roll Call at the beginning of each session, if tardy, shall be detained by the Credential Committee until duly recognized and recorded as voting Delegates for that particular session.
5. On a discussion a member shall rise, be recognized, address the Chair, and state her name and Club clearly.
6. A voting Delegate shall take precedence over an attending member in being recognized.
7. The first Delegate to rise shall be recognized, providing she has not already spoken on the question.
8. A voting Delegate may speak twice only on the same question for two minutes at a time.
9. A Soroptimist who is not a voting Delegate may speak once only on a question, for not more than two minutes.
10. All substantive motions shall be submitted in writing to the Chair on the prescribed form.
11. A voting Delegate may not leave the Conference session when there is a motion on the floor unless given permission by the Chair.