

HISTORY OF SOUTHERN REGION

1956 - 1966



SOROPTIMIST FEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS, INC.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

1956 – 1958	Governor Flossie Keaton	Nashville, Tennessee
1958 – 1960	Governor Madrid Williams	Macon, Georgia
1960 – 1962	Governor Nellie M. Campbell	Miami, Florida
1962 – 1964	Governor Antoinette Moye	Homestead, Florida
1964 – 1966	Governor Evelyn Ayers	Nashville, Tennessee

1956 – 1958

Flossie Keaton

When a Region achieves a Tenth Anniversary it is natural to consider what those ten years accomplished. Governor Flossie Keaton gave the cue in the theme, adapted from SIA "Facing Our Challenge in Southern Region". It heralded the Twenty-first Conference beginning October 12, 1956 and continuing until the 14th in the Dinkler-Tutwiler Hotel, Birmingham, Alabama, a first conference in that state.

There were nine organized Workshops, all comprehensive, all well attended. The delegates met together on Friday evening, doing justice to a Buffet Dinner featuring spaghetti. Later a Reception was tendered to honored guests, Lily Quarnberg, First Vice-President, and also President-elect (a first title, established by Convention action) of the Soroptimist Federation of the Americas, Inc., and Easter Martin Russell, now Secretary for the Federation, "Major Holidays" was the theme of the program, everyone heartily celebrated.

A Fashion Show was the feature at Breakfast. For Luncheon, the group was taken by car to "The Club - Top of the Mountain". President-Elect Lily gave the address, "The Challenging R's, or The Three R's". The Challenging R's are Recognition of individual worth, Realization of needs, and Responsibility to meet those needs.

At the Business session Madrid Williams gave an interesting, and in itself a challenging report of the Workshop on Venture. Before returning to the hotel, the Conference had the privilege and the honor of a reception at the home of a celebrity, an outstanding sculptor.

At the Banquet Past Governors starred the Tenth Birthday with reminiscences. The speaker, a charming lawyer, used for her title "Challenge of Tomorrow".

The work of the Conference proceeded a pace: They ordered the Treasurer to be bonded; approved securing a Safety Deposit Box; also that the Books of the Treasurer should be audited by an Accountant.

After due consideration they abolished the Transportation Pool; approved that the Region should purchase the official pendant for the Governors; raised the Conference fee to \$4.00; approved forms for certifying delegates and alternates; established a 50% reimbursement for expenses of Board members coming to Conference; and recommended that "Model for Conferences" be worked out and become a part of Policy Procedures.

With regret, Cuba was released from Southern Region, to be surrendered to the Federation.

Additional action resulted from Committee Reports. They stabilized procedures for clubs extending invitations for Conferences; Public Affairs presented plans for compiling a Bibliography; Public Relations offered some simple yet effective ideas for promoting Soroptimism; they approved use of Road Signs, and the purchase of rings and pins. The Service Objectives Committee planned "A Directory of Projects".

The announcement that June Hadley had married, and was now June Hadley Goldfarb, resulted in the ruling that loans from the fund would need the signatures of husband and wife.

Letters of appreciation and approval of Southern Region's Luncheon at the New York Convention were read. A letter of greetings had come in from the new club in Panama. Governor Flossie's report was a revelation of the extent of the duties of that position.

The Conference had taken an extensive and thorough going look at itself. The delegates left with a firm conviction that what they saw was good, each one ready to accept "The Challenge".

Springtime came and with it, the Twenty-second Conference, to meet at the Key Club Sunrise Inn, Stuart, on April 12-13-14, 1957. Governor Flossie continued the self-study, specifically, "Facing Our Challenge In Education". A series of workshops on Friday afternoon provided orientation.

The evening Reception, Buffet Dinner, and light music gave an opportunity for renewing acquaintances and enjoying friends. Luncheon time provided something new with box lunches and a boat ride to Hutchinson Island to the House of Refuge Museum. At the Banquet in the Rocket Room the delegates had a merry time with a "shock" technique. A Stuart City Commissioner, introduced as an unexpected speaker, derided and ridiculed women, who gave their time to such an organization. He succeeded in arousing the members, who in time, learned that it was, really, all in fun. A minister gave the true address, entitled simply, "Women". Sunday, being Easter, there were suitable chorus selections.

Reports of Committees were distributed rather than read, so steadily does a Region search for time. Certain features need mention: Nashville received an attendance citation; Venture had three new clubs, Orlando, Nashville, Northeast Miami, making nine in the Region; Laura Willis had visited Soroptimists in Australia and New Zealand, being wonderfully welcomed. In general, the committees had conducted serious surveys, for which there had been considerable cooperation by the clubs, giving a revealing inventory of the status quo.

Business covered necessary action; provisions were set up for a Regional Gift Pool to take care of the gifts to new clubs, reimbursement for Board Members' expense attending Conference was set at 100%. Edna Jones, St. Petersburg, presented a flag unit with a

small Soroptimist flag, and United States flag. The Conference authorized the Governor to proceed with such matters as copyright, and the proper approval for their use.

By request of the Soroptimist Club of Louisville, the Conference voted to release Kentucky from its territory.

Each detail of the proceedings had lived up to the challenge Education. As the Conference closed, and the time came to return to Soroptimism within the Club, each appreciated the outstanding leadership, and the tireless efforts of the Governor in providing a most instructive and helpful conference.

Governor Flossie continued her theme, "Facing Our Challenge", but for the Twenty-third Conference the special emphasis would be "from Soroptimist International of the Americas to the Individual". They met at the San Juan Hotel, Orlando on October 11-12-13, 1957.

Workshops again opened the sessions. The evening reception in Hawaiian style began with a luau dinner in "Soroptimist Isle". Every Soroptimist received a sarong; there were dances and songs, and a "Parade of Soroptimisters", among whom the prize was won by a member of the Miami Springs-Hialeah Club. Luncheon with a Fashion Show was held in the Grand Ballroom. The program consisted of four outstanding talks by club members on the individual and the club in Soroptimism.

At the Banquet, Easter Martin Russell, a past Governor, but speaking as Secretary of the Federation, gave the address, "Goals Near and Far". The evening closed with great gaiety in a Roaring Twenties Revue.

Gertrude Huitt, First President of Soroptimist International of the Americas attended as guest of honor. She and Secretary Easter Martin gave talks, and conducted Question and Answer periods during the business sessions. Past Governors presented histories of their administration in the Region.

Miami presented a plan to name the new wing at Bay Oaks as a Mary Moore Memorial; the Conference approved that delegates carry the information to their clubs so that they could contribute, as they might desire.

Special note was taken of the Federation Project of a \$25,000 gift to the University of Toronto for research on gerontology; at this date about half of the clubs in Southern Region had sent a contribution.

For the minutes, the Conference ordered permanent copies, bound and loose leaf, to be made following each Conference, - one for the Governor, and one for the Regional Secretary. Further regulations on the \$1.00 assessment were approved. Much discussion took place on the scope and the administration of the Fellowship Fund. The

Service Objectives Committee came up with three guideposts; Spearhead, Sponsor, Support.

Real yeoman service was given both for the use in the Region, and available to the Federation, in the careful and definitive check on the "Territorial Limits" of each club, corrected to August 29, 1957.

Again, each section of the program had placed a clear image, had stretched viewpoints. There had been much hard work, careful planning. To each one it had been a delightful, memorable occasion.

"Challenged - Now an Accounting" set the goal and the mood for the Twenty-fourth Conference, and the closing of the biennium. The Soroptimist Club of Hollywood was hostess at the Sea Crest Manor Hotel, on April 25-26-27, 1958.

An exciting atmosphere was set at the Friday evening party, a Florida Derby. Hostesses were in jockey silks. Visiting Soroptimists received Yellow Derby hats and "Horses' Necks". At the Buffet Dinner, dishes carried racetrack labels. Table decorations were orchids tied in golden horseshoes. Soroptimists served as mutual sellers. Money flowed freely, play money, that is. Prizes were lovely; there was gay orchestra music and comedy entertainment by girls from a local Savings Loan Association it was an unforgettable and unique fun time together.

Breakfast brought with itself a "Cracker Breakfast" and all its trimmings. Luncheon took on a more serious note, with delightful music, and a talk on "Communications". At the Banquet, outstanding women came to sing and speak. "Famous Women" was a suitable title for the address of the evening. Decorations were charming bird cages, complete with parakeets, made by committee members. The Hollywood Club for use by Southern Region presented a special Redwood gavel.

At Sunday Breakfast, the birdcages carried Good Morning Banners; there was a gardenia corsage at each place. Sunday luncheon featured prizes; a free trip to Houston where the 1958 Federation Convention would be held, was won by a member of the Hostess Club; the Governor won an Hawaiian guitar. Incoming and outgoing Board Members were decorated with leis; a profusion of hibiscus covered the centers of the tables.

As the session's business moved rapidly. The Regional Nominating Committee reported the details for securing nominations from the clubs. Twenty-two names had been presented of which fourteen had indicated willingness to serve. One other nomination from the floor was made.

New regulations for the Regional Directories and the Regional Gift Pool were approved. Certain territorial changes had been made. The Pompano Beach Club had received its charter, March 15, 1958, which changed the territory of the Club at Fort Lauderdale. A "first" that brought no joy to the Region came with the loss of Sarasota, which had

surrendered its charter to the Federation. Louisville was lost, also, by the earlier action of releasing the state of Kentucky. Southern Region now numbered 30 clubs.

Seven proposed amendments to the Regional By-Laws were considered; six approved. A new procedure, recording parts of the program, voluntarily given by a member was commended as being helpful for preparing the minutes.

Governor Flossie announced that Maralee Springer, Regional Secretary, had been nominated on a mailed ballot to be the Region's member on the Federation Nominating Committee. The Conference voted to invite the Federation to hold its 1962 Convention in Miami Beach.

They awarded the attendance plaque to Memphis; the Press Book award went to Fort Lauderdale; certain changes for future awards were approved. Two workshops covered new ground, Program Planning, and a Self-analysis Inventory. The territorial limits of Clubs were again brought up to date, July 1, 1958.

The Fellowship, "Project", Committee reported two new awardees, Mary Lenoir Michael, and Glenda Kay Johnson, both graduate students in the School of Medicine, at Vanderbilt University. Venture reported 3 new clubs, Jacksonville, Coral Gables, and Northwest Miami, bringing the number to 12 in the Region.

Club Reports revealed new areas of service. Atlanta had chaired a 13-week TV project on career information. Two other Atlanta members served on the panel. Coral Gables had received "Club of the Year Award" for its work in the South Florida Cleft Palate Clinic. Fort Myers had sponsored a class for foreign born; Homestead had succeeded beyond its dreams for a stationary Dental Clinic, having received from a town agency \$1,000 to assist in the work. Jacksonville had initiated the formation of a Presidents' Council; Stuart had another first, a member had been appointed to organize a Social Service Exchange.

By due process the Board for 1958 – 1960 was elected:

Governor	Madrid Williams, Macon
Lt. Governor	Nellie Campbell, Miami
Secretary	Antoinette Moye, Homestead
Treasurer	Evelyn Ayers, Nashville
Member at Large	Gladys Givens, Jacksonville Sibyl Griffin, Tampa

The Conference was the largest to date, 150 attended. All would agree that the time given to clarifying, implementing, amending, supplementing has been well spent. It has been a time for working together. Governor Flossie had said that her aim had been to have a representative from each club active in each conference, which the four programs indicated had been achieved. Like any one at a time of accounting she said. "Why not more?" But that is to overlook the wealth of new ideas, better understandings and

renewed enthusiasms that the Conference had given to delegates.

1958 – 1960

Governor Madrid Williams

With quiet dispatch Governor Madrid Williams began the work of the Biennium, and opened the Twenty-fifth Conference at the Roosevelt Hotel, Jacksonville for October 10-11-12, 1958. Workshops were popular so she had organized four for Friday afternoon.

Fun was not forgotten. At a "buffet dinner in the Ball Room they had "sack night", smart or sad. There was a parade, prizes, humorous monologues and a Barber Shop Quartette. Breakfast was a time for presidents' workshops. At Luncheon, Governor Madrid gave glimpses of the Federation Convention at Houston. There was also a surprise "first". Via telephone and telegraph President Lily Quarnberg addressed the Conference from her own District meeting in The Dalles, Oregon. This address concerned itself with Soroptimist International of the Americas and its activities.

>

The theme of the Federation was implemented "Together We Build -Through Extension and Education". For this there were additional workshops. Each leader presented reports summarized and read to the delegates.

The Banquet featured the United Nations, in decor and in program, with a Congressman as speaker.

Business meetings proceeded smoothly. Past Governor Flossie Keaton was introduced in her new capacity, Secretary of the Federation. Action dealt with details on matters already initiated. One new feature was adjourning the general meetings so that committees could meet. Key West received the attendance award.

Committee Reports exemplified the theme and provided a wealth of usable ideas for more effective club participation in the whole field of Soroptimism. One unusual report came from Jackson, Mississippi. With the cooperation of the Mayor, TV, all civic club presidents and city officials, they had had a week long Founders' Day program, culminating in a gala banquet. Service Objectives presented a simple, precise analysis of what a club project is. "Wonderful Workshops" could have been the theme song as the Conference closed.

"April in Alabama" could have been the new song for the Twenty-sixth Conference in Montgomery, April 10-11-12, 1959 at the Jefferson David Hotel. The Old South gave a "cotton pickin" welcome to Dora Lewis, First Vice-President and President-elect of the Federation, and guest of honor. The speaker of the evening told the history of Alabama in great humor. Dothan, as the "peanut center" of the world hostesses the luncheon -

even to peanut corsages. Everyone enjoyed a tour of the city on Saturday afternoon, complete with tea at the Country Club. At the Banquet, with a Southern Garden setting, Vice-President Dora gave the address in keeping with the theme, "Together We Build, Through International Goodwill and Understanding".

Workshops again featured the Conference. Montgomery received the Press Book award. A detailed resolution of five items for the improvement of The American Soroptimist was presented by an ad hoc committee and passed with an order to present it to the Editorial Committee. The Regional Fellowship Committee presented an extremely detailed policy code for future handling of the Fund, which, with two amendments, was passed unanimously.

Program planning had full treatment, as did "Selection, Care and Treatment of New Members". Club reports indicated interesting developments. Montgomery had formed a teen-age club in a low-income housing project. They had also organized a Venture Club, making twelve in the Region. Fort Pierce announced the dedication of their Mental Health Clinic, now a community service, - but on land, in a building, and with equipment financed by the Soroptimist Club. Stuart had completed the formation of the Martin County Swimming Pools, Inc. One new club, Boynton Beach, attended, it was a break-off from the Lake Worth-Lantana-Boynton Beach Club. It had received its charter February 28, 1959 - a "first" for this kind of extension.

Happiness is a song, and the Courtesy Resolutions Committee wrote lyrics. Words from the closing lines fit:

"For interest, enthusiasm, and that audience participation
Fulfillment in heart and mind and spirit"

Governor Madrid's theme for the Twenty-seventh Conference was. "Together We Build - Through Venture". Tampa was hostess at the Tampa Terrace Hotel on October 16-17-18, 1959. In the Pirates' Cove a buffet supper was accompanied by a skirt contest, "loudest", "craziest", resulting in much laughter. Luncheon on Saturday featured, "Fashions with a Career Tempo", but there were hats of yore, flowers and cotton ball corsages to provide a Southern setting. For the Banquet, the Conference gathered in the Goya Room of Los Novadades Restaurant in Ybor City. The program included a Spanish Dance and a reading. The address centered on Public Affairs.

Workshops, still popular, made up a large part of the Conference. Items of business considered and approved were: The Region would invite the Federation to hold its 1964 Convention in Miami Beach; that all officers and Directors shall have served as a club officer at least one year prior to nomination for Regional office; and a recommendation to the Federation that a nominee for Federation office shall have served in a Regional office; that the clubs should promote October 23 as United Nations Day throughout the United States of America.

Two new clubs attended, Leesburg, chartered October 14, 1959, and Hernando County chartered October 9, 1959. The Conference closed with memories of all who gave

mental stimulation and inspiration so that Southern Region could "Build Together", and of Governor Madrid's Gaelic Blessing,

"May the road rise with you,
May the wind be always at your back"

A new decade had come when the Region met for its Twenty-eighth Conference in the Dempsey Hotel in Macon, April 22-23-24, 1960, the theme, "Together We Build Through Public Affairs". Governor Madrid sent a directive for preparing club reports so that a summary could be made for the Conference. Workshops were even more glamorous because of alluring titles, as "This is the Way We Pay Our Fare".

A POWWOW, with full decor, was held Friday evening. There were Indian War Dances, and a Washboard Band to add to the fun. Macon has a very special attraction, the Ocmulgee National Monument. Luncheon continued this interest. The archaeologist at the Monument spoke on the history of the Indians and the Monument. There were decorations, souvenirs, and during luncheon, Creek Indian music was played.

The Banquet had a change of mood. Past Governors reviewed high lights of their years in office. Governor Madrid installed the new Board.

At the business sessions, many details, implementing and clarifying former action were passed. Board members summarized their work during the biennium. A new club was introduced, Boca Raton, chartered March 26, 1960. Key West received the Press Book award, Tampa, the attendance award. Committees had made extensive surveys; Public Affairs had used a Federation Survey Report and figures were revealing. Sibyl Griffin was named outstanding Soroptimist. the Soroptimist Club of Stuart named outstanding in this field. A calendar for Club Treasurers was a welcome aid.

Club reports concerned themselves with completion of a biennium's work. In due time nominations for a new Board were in order, and by election were named:

Governor	Nellie M. Campbell, Miami
Lt. Governor	Antoinette Moye, Homestead
Secretary	Lillian Armstrong, Stuart
Treasurer	Evelyn Ayers, Nashville
Members at Large	Evelyn Watkins, Montgomery Lois Olson, St. Petersburg

Governor Madrid closed her biennium tidily with appreciation for help and inspiration given. The delegates praised the Governor's leadership and expressed thanks to any and all who worked in any way to see that Southern Region could "Build Together". In the words of the Public Relations Survey all went away with the challenge "Talk and Do Things in the Soroptimist Way". Governor-Elect Nellie Campbell took heed asking clubs to send her names of members for Regional Committees for the biennium ahead.

1960 – 1962

Governor Nellie Campbell

Governor Nellie Campbell might have begun the biennium with a challenging banner carrying the words, "Into the Sixties". She chose, however, the old landmarks, making the Pledge serve for the four Conferences to be called. The Twenty-ninth, with "The Sincerity of Friendship" as the theme, met in Memphis at Peabody Hotel, October 21-22-23, 1960.

Workshops were routine by this time, but five opened the proceedings in the Georgian Room. For the evening an "Ice Breaker Buffet" with organ music provided opportunities for renewing and creating friendships. The Honoree was the Soroptimist Club of Memphis itself; a tenth Birthday cake marked the anniversary of their chartering.

Saturday's breakfast saw concurrent meetings; Presidents and the Board with Regional Committee Chairmen met in the Louis XVI Room, the Delegates in the Flag Room.

Governor Nellie made one innovation, the proceedings kept to a chronological order in the preparation of the minutes, so in that order there followed the Opening Session. Governor Nellie herself gave the keynote speech in which she discussed her own question, "Why Are We Here?" The answer was, "To make our ideals come alive", which even though we do not reach them, chart the course.

At the sessions, details for more effective work were set up, in particular, a time schedule for approving the minutes. Reports were streamlined, in outline form for quick reference. Letters of greeting were listed by name of sender.

Exhibits appeared as a new feature, set up by nine of the clubs. Luncheon honored the Past Governors, each of whom gave some "Good Advice".

For the evening, Gertrude Huitt, First President of SIA inspired the delegates in her talk, "Soroptimist Service". Two of Southern Region had been named to serve in the Federation: Chairman of Venture, Madrid Williams, and Juanita Clay, Chairman of Federation Convention Locations. The delegates took real satisfaction in hearing that the Federation Convention for 1964 would come to Southern Region, Miami Beach to be the hostess club.

Business continued; Necrology services would be held hereafter at the Spring Conferences only; new adjustments were approved for the administration of the Ruby

Lee Minar Memorial Fellowship Loan Fund; all "honors" would now be included in the Regional Awards. Committee reports were brimful of suggestions, especially for the betterment of Club Bulletins. A most enjoyable feature came in the International Goodwill and Understanding workshop, narratives by those who, in the summer, had gone to "Far Away Places".

As the Conference closed the delegates agreed it had been most enjoyable, inspiring. Governor Nellie's plan to make the pledge come alive had taken a big step in highlighting "The Sincerity of Friendship".

For the Thirtieth Conference the delegates met in Miami Beach at Barcelona Hotel, April 21-22-23, 1961 to reinterpret "The Joy of Achievement". Workshops featured accomplishments. For Friday evening a reception in the Coronation Room honored Dora Lewis, President of the Soroptimist Federation of the Americas, Inc. (now the official name of the Federation) who presented the keynote address. Venture members attended.

At Breakfast, Presidents and Vice-Presidents met with the Governor to discuss the Federation Study Committee Report. Other officers met together to discuss their duties. At the business meetings recommendations of the Finance Committee were approved; Committee reports were dispatched. Chairman Madrid Williams reminded the delegates of the loss of three Venture clubs, but the remaining nine were meeting concurrently, and with the President of the American Council, Mary Jo Hartwell, who was a member from the Southern Region.

The Joint luncheon was held in the Granada Room. It featured a panel on "The Joy of Venture". The recreation period came, now called "Playtime". Several choices were available, even to a plunge in the pool. For the evening there was a cocktail hour and a buffet dinner, no program, for many chose to do the Nite Club tour.

After the devotional, Sunday morning, telling of the Women in the Bible, reports, and discussions filled the time. The Policy Code had a thorough going over for improved terminology and for updating to meet the demands of an accelerating world. The Ruby Lee Minar Memorial Fellowship Loan Fund had a new awarded, Nancy Rae Sitz, in the Medical School at Vanderbilt University.

Doing yeoman service a chairman presented the club reports in summary. Southern Region now had 34 clubs. Fifteen members of the Region had attended the Soroptimist International Convention in London. A Soroptimist Cake with a candle lighting ceremony honored clubs that had sponsored the organization of a new club, with an invaluable dating of each club's chartering. One club's achievement is worthy of note, Boca Raton, the newest of the clubs, had conceived, promoted and chartered "Southeast Palm Beach County Home Nursing Service", the local group, the "Boca Raton Nursing Service", all within their first year as a club.

North East Miami also had entered a new field of service. They had repaired, decorated, "The Open House Foundation", a temporary home for women who had been jailed for

alcoholism, providing an interim period as they tried for rehabilitation and return to the community.

Governor Nellie's closing remarks summed up the Conference, "The accomplishments in the Region are a composite of all the reports heard here". For the delegates this was their "Joy of Achievement".

"Integrity of Profession" was an interesting theme to attract attendance at the Thirty-first Conference. It met at the Galt Ocean Mile Hotel, Fort Lauderdale, October 20-21-22, 1961. The opening event was a dinner on Thursday evening at the Deauville Hotel, Miami Beach, with M. Virginia Sink, President-Elect of the Federation as guest of honor. The Regional Board attended. This hotel would be headquarters for the Federation Convention in 1964.

The Conference began work on Friday morning with the Board meeting; a 3:00 P.M. workshop was a general session to consider "Public Affairs and your Business" with questionnaires. A new plan for other workshops scheduled for late afternoon arranged for delegates to assemble in three divisions according to club age.

The evening was a gala one, a Luau Buffet Dinner, honoring President-Elect Virginia and Past Governor Flossie Keaton, now Second Vice-President of the Federation.

Special items of interest had become so plentiful that three concurrent Breakfasts were held. Governor Nellie called the official Conference to order on Saturday morning with efficient coverage of the usual business of appointments, officers' reports and correspondence. They marked the passing of former President of the Federation Anna E. Spratt. President-Elect Virginia's keynote speech had a compelling title, "You", all phases depend on the Integrity of each Soroptimist, "You".

The Luncheon and the Banquet highlighted the theme. A Luncheon speakers from five of the clubs discussed "Integrity of Profession in Public Affairs". Following Luncheon full attention was given to the program for Civil Defense, the speaker urged organization of Defense Councils in the communities. After "Play Time" came the reception and the Banquet In the Continental Room, where a Congressman presented his views on the theme.

Following the devotional on Sunday morning, business continued: the procedures and objectives of the grant of the Federation to the University of Toronto for research in gerontology, as a part of the Second Horizons program were explained; a letter from Napa, California gave an invitation for Play Day at the Federation Convention in San Francisco, 1962; Boynton Beach received the attendance percentage award. Second Vice-President Flossie made the address, "Our Heritage", - telling the story of the broad field of Soroptimism, from its beginning to its world wide status, and asking, "In What Direction Are We Going"? The Chairman outlined the purposes of "S" clubs and the Youth Citizenship award. Fort Pierce received the Press Book Award.

The Conference closed its deliberations all in order. At an early hour, after coffee and cake, they departed, as they said, from educational, Inspirational and well planned meetings.

Spring came again, and with it the Thirty-second Conference in Savannah, at the De Soto Hotel, April 27-28-29, 1962. Governor Nellie selected "The Dignity of Service" for the theme. The pattern for proceedings had become clearly established, Registration, Workshops, Social Affairs, Business. But new ways do appear, for one there came "Savannah River Frolic" at Boars Head where bibs and bandanas set the style. In Calypso songs they heard of the history of Savannah. The workshops had a new slant, meeting in three groups according to size of membership.

A breakfast, all meeting together, honored five presidents whose clubs had shown the highest increase of members. They became VIP for the occasion sitting at the head table. Other Presidents sat together and each was given two minute to highlight their club year.

Spring Conferences are the time for a Region to do its share of what being a part of a Federation means, this share meant considering 13 amendments to Regional By-Laws, of which Southern Region agreed to all but two. A happy tune closed the session, "You've made the sun shine, Nellie".

The Luncheon had a variation on the theme, "Service Our Best Investment", and was a time for Committee reports. Service Objectives Chairman chose to educate; the Chairmen of "the four areas" - "Civic Cooperation", "The Regional Fellowship", "Second Horizons" and "Soroptimist Only", told of work done and ways to greater accomplishment. It was a satisfaction to hear that the Fellowship awardees now nearing the completion of their studies were succeeding, and that the financial records were in good order. The Chairman of "Soroptimist Only" defined this leadership type of service.

Fourteen clubs had participated in the first attempt to name a "Youth Achievement" winner in the Soroptimist Foundation Citizenship Award project, the winner Mary Burns, Hialeah High School.

The Chairman presented a recommendation that in Southern Region these awards be restricted to Senior Girls. This was approved by the Conference. Business continued; to highlight growth in the Region, Savannah presented a "Family Tree"; each club called in order of chartering received some gift "from an archipelago". The tree had been made in the Occupational School for Teen Age and Adult Retardees. Civic Cooperation was the predominate factor in club reports, one interesting "switch" Boca Raton was now cooperating with "The Home Boca Raton Nursing Service", a community agency which they had previously created.

Venture Governor, Polly Robinson, spoke at the inspirational breakfast on Sunday morning, her title "Something Ventured, Something Gained". Two other addresses held much for good thinking. An Attorney General spoke at the Banquet on "What Is Service?" His answer was to, "Live and Help To Live". The second was by former Governor Madrid Williams, who, on installing the new Board, summed up the biennium and Soroptimism in a deeply spiritual interpretation of the Pledge. Those installed were:

Governor	Antoinette Moye, Homestead
Lt. Governor	Evelyn Ayers, Nashville
Secretary	Madeline McEldowney, Coral Gables
Treasurer	Maude McKnight, Macon
Members at Large	Ethel Peterson, Jacksonville Barbara Thrall, Fort Lauderdale

Governor Nellie's report had one new first, regretfully noting a biennium had passed without a new club. However, she had come to note, she said, that the Pledge, separated as it had been for Conference themes, is truly so closely interwoven, that not one was possible without the other, and all flourished when a club had a good community project. She called on the clubs to become leaders in Public Affairs. On a serious, but confident, note, the biennium closed.

1962 – 1964

Governor Antoinette Moye

The theme for the new biennium struck a note of solemnity, "Growth in Wisdom and Stature, and in favor with God and Man". Governor Antoinette Moye called the Thirty-third Conference to convene at Holiday Inn, Leesburg, on October 12-13-14, 1962, with a key word, "Togetherness". Past President of the Federation, Pluma Batten, was the guest of honor. She was a working member of the Conference, gave a talk at a Workshop on Extension and addressed the Banquet.

Leesburg itself helped to create a mood of friendly relaxation in an informal atmosphere. The opening workshop gave Extension high precedence; it was good to hear that the Soroptimist Club of Ocala had been chartered, September 8, 1962. Discussion centered on ways of organizing new clubs. Each one recognized the necessity of facing current trends and of keeping Soroptimism up with the times.

A box supper party, with the delegates disguised as hoboes, and presided over by a Hobo Queen provided a fun-frolic under a full moon at Venetian Gardens. Saturday breakfast honored Charter Members in attendance. Luncheon at the Trade Winds Cafeteria, smorgasbord style, had the Sing-a-Lines to entertain. Poolside at 5:00 P.M. had become almost derigueur. A delightful "Violin Quartette charmed the delegates at the Banquet in the Community House, where Past President Pluma spoke on "New Dimensions for Leadership".

Business preceded smoothly, much of it concerned with the details of setting up the work of the biennium. Mildred Brown, Chairman for the Convention of the Federation at Miami Beach in 1964 gave a full report of plans to date, naming her Chairmen. To save costs of printing the Conference Minutes they agreed to omit accounts of the social affairs. Boca Raton won the Mileage Award.

At the close of sessions on Sunday all joined in a celebration of the Third birthday of the Leesburg club, enjoying coffee and cake. There had been much to give pleasure and enlightenment, yet each knew that the winds of change were blowing. "Those who look backward die young, no matter what their age", said Past President Pluma in her address. Soroptimists left, looking ahead.

In keeping, Governor Antoinette chose "Leadership" as her keynote for the Thirty-fourth Conference. It assembled in Palm Beach at the Palm Beach Towers Hotel, May 17-18-19, 1963. Borghild Helgesen, Second Vice-President of the Federation was guest of honor. Workshops featured Citizenship, Housing, and Vocational Education, all pointing up a changing world.

Social accounts were limited, but, at the Buffet supper on Friday evening, there was a "shift contest". Lunch was in the Poinciana Room, honored Past Governors. Coffee break and poolside recreation was enjoyed. Venture members joined at the Banquet, at which Second Vice-President Borghild gave the address. Special note was taken of the very handsome accommodations at the Palm Beach Towers.

Still in search of Time, the Conference set reports of officers to a five minute limit; Committees at three minutes, all full reports to be typed and handed to the Secretary before giving the oral reports. They agreed on Regional Awards, placing a first prize of \$100.00 for the Regional Winner in Youth Achievement, again preferring to restrict the contest to young women and recommending to the Federation that it do likewise.

One matter of Public Affairs was the proposal to support legislation on registering firearms. They passed a resolution to oppose it. There had been three new applicants for the Ruby Lee Minar Memorial Fellowship Loan Fund. Extension had an encouraging report, much work had been done and the Soroptimist Club of Gainesville, Florida would be chartered June 13, 1963. Club reports summarized the year's work, concerned chiefly with projects already in operation, and indicating the usual high cooperation with community activities.

The plans for the coming Federation Convention were discussed, club assignments made, the tentative calendar of events presented and additional Chairmen appointed. Governor Antoinette's report, called "An Open Door", recalled all that had given her inspiration, and through that open door she saw exciting programs, and challenging problems. She said, "We are ready". With the inspiration, delightful gatherings, leadership and challenging talks, the delegates could say, "It was good to have been there".

Boca Raton was the locale of the Thirty-fifth Conference at the Boca Raton Hotel and Club on October 18-19-20, 1963 to work on the theme, "Readin' 'n' Ritin', 'n' Rithmetic". It was taught to the tune of a Soroptimist stick, sounding like business.

Virginia Sink, President of the Federation was guest of honor. Club reports on their service activities gave opportunity for note taking on helpful ideas. President Virginia presented the Soroptimist Foundations. Macon and Homestead responded with a check representing \$20.00 for each of the 26 and 19 members.

In the mood of the theme, Friday evening saw a Beck-to-School night, even to cheering led by Fort Pierce. Saturday breakfast measured up to a "pop test". Charter Presidents were honored at Luncheon. A reception in the Cloister Loggia gave President Virginia an opportunity to speak to each delegate. At the Banquet she spoke on the theme, saying, "New ideas, new issues, a new call, all these are coming daily to you".

At the business sessions, Governor Antoinette announced that the "American Soroptimist" would feature Southern Region on its cover on the issue just preceding the Convention at Miami Beach.

They sent a letter to Martha Servis, retiring Executive Secretary of the Federation, expressing appreciation of her past services and extending good wishes for the future, assuring her always of welcome in Southern Region.

A letter from Allen Albert, winner in the 1962-1963 contest, Miami Beach, was part of the Youth Achievement report. The chairman outlined plans for fuller participation in the project for 1963-1964. There were two awardees in the Ruby Lee Minar Memorial Loan Fund: Carole Hyde, for a Master of Music at Florida State University and Selda Smith, for graduate work in Education at the same University.

Southern Region Chairmen often enjoy rhyming; Extension made an appeal for full participation with a verse for each club and "The South Will Rise Again". It had been a stimulating conference.

Boca Raton and the Hotel had offered superb management in a fabulous atmosphere. Each hostess had been identifiable at once, in a white dress and on her head a blue and gold Soroptimist "beanie". Everything had worked, the "Soroptimist stick" had pointed the way to success for the Conference.

April came, and it was again conference time, the Thirty-sixth, in Nashville at the Hermitage Hotel on the April 17-18-19, 1964. Ethel Lord, Third Vice-President of the Federation was guest of honor. The theme was something to sing about, "There's Music in Soroptimism",

Workshops were still effective devices for education. One clarified regulations on classification; a second provided opportunities for Presidents to compare Ways and Means. The delegates traveled by bus to Colemere Club to enjoy chicken 'n' dumplin's", Tennessee black-eyed peas for dinner. Later there was a square dance Ho-down. The Venture members were hostesses for the Luncheon. A reception and Banquet completed Saturday, at which Past Governor Nellie Campbell conducted the Installation of the incoming Board. A Sunday morning occasion was a visit to The Upper Room Chapel, there to see a polychrome carving of De Vinci's "Last Supper".

At the opening business session Third Vice-President Ethel gave the keynote address "Seeds to Grow On". ALL necessary business received due attention. It was a satisfaction to hear that Dr, Mary Michael had paid back her Fellowship loan in full. In the Youth Achievement project of the Federation for 1963-1964, fifteen clubs had participated, - Karen Ann Schwindt of North Miami High was the Regional Winner. Further details resulted in rounding out plans for the Convention at Miami Beach in July.

Governor Antoinette closed her biennium in a thoughtful address, "Truly Square", calling to mind her major theme points, Wisdom, Stature, Spirit and Man; summarizing the forward steps, noting the new look in the Call to Conference and the varied presentation of program, and challenging the delegates to find the music in Soroptimism.

In the Installation address Past Governor Nellie found the lyrics in the Pledge; "Seeds", according to Third Vice-President Ethel, were new methods to meet new demands, imagination, perseverance.

To the New Board they handed the score, to be the guide, and on which to create the future. Those to receive were:

Governor	Evelyn Ayers, Nashville
Lt. Governor	Ethel Peterson, Jacksonville
Secretary	Georgia Moore, Atlanta
Treasurer	Ruth Edwards, The Palm Beaches
Members at Large	John Bostick, Birmingham
	Jackie Dick, Fort Pierce

As each one departed, she heard many echoes. One was very reassuring, "There is nothing worthy of doing that Soroptimists of today cannot accomplish".

1964-1966

Governor Evelyn Ayers

Southern Region had reached the middle of the Sixties, which have been called "one of the most fateful periods in the history of mankind". Governor Evelyn Ayers recognized this to a considerable degree when she chose as the theme of the biennium, "New Patterns of Action that We May Better Serve", opening the Thirty-seventh Conference at the Americana Motor Hotel, Atlanta on October 15, 1964, in itself new, for it was Thursday. The business sessions were held October 16-17-18 to begin "To serve better our club".

On Friday morning the Board and Committees held sessions concurrently, convening together during mid-morning. The Conference body assembled in the afternoon, singing. Nora Belle Emerson, Atlanta, had composed a song, "SOROPTIMIST", which was sung by John Bostick, member, Birmingham.

Mildred Brown gave the story of "The Convention of Soroptimist Federation Americas, Inc. at Miami Beach in July", truly a job well done. Regional Board members outlined their duties; Committee Reports emerged as educational talks with stimulating titles, "New Patterns of Education in Soroptimism", "Service, Soroptimist Style", "Correct Patterns in Classification".

A Buffet Dinner with a fashion show concluded the day. Saturday began at Breakfast with special attention to Finances, "Watch Your Figures". At the morning meeting Governor Evelyn spoke, "Heart to Heart" with serious concern. Dothan and Clearwater had surrendered their charters, June 30, 1964. There were others considering such a move. The Governor's challenge was "Where Did We Fail?" "What New Patterns Do We Need?"

The keynote speech was presented by Helen Durkee, Second, and oldest in seniority, Governor. She chose to use the Pledge, seeking to find deeper meanings, as the source of ideas for new patterns of action to reach the summit of real Soroptimism.

The Luncheon on Saturday featured "Switzerland in summer" with three delegates in charge. The Fellowship Committee announced a new awardee, Sylvia Ruth Seamands for study at Vanderbilt. "Peace Through Understanding" and "Your Relations with the Public" continued the educational talks. At the dinner Saturday evening, everyone enjoyed a lighter touch, music by the Venture Washboard Band. Reports of "Area Meetings" with gratifying attendance indicated a new pattern was in the making.

Breakfast on Sunday had a spiritual note, "Seasons of Thanksgiving". The affairs of the conference closed with a post-session Board meeting. It had been an important conference. The delegates had been awakened; there was a stirring. Something new was a need, but some things new were already on their way.

It was May 1965 when the Region met for the Thirty-eighth Conference at the Colonial Inn, St. Petersburg Beach on the 14th –16th. Holiday Isles was the hostess club. Governor Evelyn continued the theme, but specifically "That We May Better Serve Our Region".

Preliminary sessions and the opening of the Conference followed established patterns. There were talks, "How To Secure Members and Keep Them"; "Status of Women"; "Sister Clubs". Friday came to a close with a luau on the Poolside Terrace.

At breakfast Saturday morning the delegates heard Presidents' Reports, in summary, and then proceeded to the Auditorium for official business. Governor Evelyn highlighted the introductions by issuing special membership cards to Charter Members in the Region, and to all past and present Board members. Dinner was informal featuring Youth Programs, with friendly exchange and visiting together following. Sunday saw the conclusion of the conference.

Presidents' Reports had a new pattern, summarized under headings: Face New Patterns of Work, Supporting Continuing Education, Assuming Citizenship Possibilities, Know Your Community, Increase International Understanding, America's Own Youth Program, Soroptimist Foundations, Extending Soroptimism. This was a tour de force for John Bostick, but it created a comprehensible image of service region wide.

Area meetings had been successful; their chairmen had attended preliminary meetings with the Regional Chairmen. In her report Governor Evelyn announced that the "forty remaining founder members" had each received invitations to attend the Conference. Extension had some encouraging news even though Clearwater had surrendered its charter. Territorial adjustments made it possible for some of the members to come into the club at Holiday Isles; so also with Miami Beach into Miami. Jackson, Mississippi, surrendered its charter, but a new club at Daytona Beach with thirty-two members would be chartered on June 12, 1965.

Only six clubs had participated in the Youth Achievement project, a marked decrease in activity. Jeffrey Martin Brookstone, Miami-Palmetto High was Regional winner.

This conference was a landmark. For several conferences there had been considerable effort to establish the pattern of only two conferences each biennium. Area meetings, having proven successful for meetings in the fall, and due attention having been made to constitutional procedure, and an amendment was passed, "The Region shall hold one Regional conference annually in the Spring, unless otherwise ordered by the Conference"; amended to read "provided this shall become effective July 1, 1966". A new pattern, indeed, had been made.

Sunday morning was a short session, courtesies and a devotion period. "Onward Christian Soldiers" and the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi, read by Governor Evelyn created a

spiritual mood for closing. The delegates left with memories of relaxing days, humorous entertainment, successful and inspiring meetings, all these end the scent of the lovely, colorful roses from the Flower Farm in Stuart.

The Thirty-ninth Conference opened October 15, 1965 at the St. Lucie Country Club and Villas, Fort Pierce, continuing through the 16th and 17th this time, "That We May Better Serve Our Federation" as the theme. There is sometimes glamour in a name, the Board met in the Governor's Villa. Singing had become a pleasurable feature; as the delegates assembled Friday afternoon there was a Soroptimist Sing-along. Extension received priority in attention, "Why Southern Region Loses Clubs". Answers were discussed in small groups. An informal dinner in the Great Hall provided opportunity for Soroptimists and Soroptimisters to become better acquainted.

At the official opening session Governor Evelyn honored Soroptimisters by creating SOS, the Social Order of Soroptimisters, - acknowledging that behind many a good Soroptimist is a good Soroptimister, with help and good humor - even though they "had no choice". Betty Beck Prosser, President of the Soroptimist Federation of the Americas, Inc. was guest of honor, and gave the keynote address "A Sentimental Journey into Soroptimism"; Soroptimism is not a club, it is an education, a complete reorganization of viewpoint; that ideals, like stars are never really reached, but they chart the course. President Betty Beck was also honored at a reception Saturday evening.

New patterns continued to emerge. The delegates authorized a budget item to permit an interim Board meeting and adopted further constitutional changes necessary for the new regulation of one conference annually.

The Fellowship Committee announced that to date \$6,384.30 had been awarded to five students, and that \$5,337.95 was the amount of cash on hand. They were preparing to present recommendations for liberalizing the Fund.

Governor Evelyn had checked the territorial limits for the clubs, brought it up to date. At Luncheon consideration was given to the Public Affairs program of the Federation. Past Governor Madrid Williams had been named to the Editorial Board of the American Soroptimist. This session closed with the delegates trying to "Stump the Experts". Dinner featured talks, and a skit on Service Objectives.

In her report, Governor Evelyn discussed ways for better service, stressing Education, through many avenues, increased knowledge of Soroptimism and its ideals through the use of bulletins, through area meetings. She closed with a tribute to the Federation President Betty Beck.

On Sunday morning there was again a spiritual closing. The Conference had been most successful. The delegates said they had found friendship, fun, beauty and inspiration.

With prophetic insight (for this history) Governor Evelyn called the Fortieth Conference, "The Tenth Chapter of the History of southern Region" for so the biennium, 1964-1966,

is. It met in Jacksonville, Florida at the Roosevelt Hotel on April 15-16-17, 1966. Its' theme was, "that We May Better Serve Soroptimist International Association",

The opening of activities was a meeting of the official body, which included the Board, the Regional Chairmen, and the Area Chairmen. Much routine business was considered including the Federation Work Survey Program. At an Open House, that evening, many delegates wore costumes to highlight the international theme. This was followed by dinner; the history of SIA was outlined; there was a talk on "Status of Women Around the World", and a Fiesta in the Four Seasons Room.

At breakfast, Soroptimists attending their first conference, and those in the South ten years or less were recognized with a presentation of small Confederate flags. Past Governor Antoinette Moye read a short history of the Region, noting the need for changes in procedures to meet the future in a fast-changing world. The luncheon was colorful; the address on Women and International Affairs accented the theme. Discussions featured terms of office, particularly that club officers and chairmen should serve two years. Election of the new Board revealed that there was need of some method to prevent balloting for an officer three times.

On Saturday evening there was a reception; on Sunday morning courtesies and devotionals. Governor Evelyn presented the Region with a Memory Book.

Business meetings involved much detail for closing out the biennium. Youth Achievement had been much enhanced, seventeen clubs had participated, and Harry Edward Cooper, Jr., South Dade High was the Regional winner. The passing of time brought a sobering note; nine Soroptimists were memorialized in the necrology service.

The Work Survey Report again gave a comprehensive account of Service, from a Regional viewpoint. Some new interests appeared; support of legislation to provide equal opportunity for Jury duty for women; working to place a woman on City Council in support of her plan for needed legislation; emerging interest in studies of Court procedures; a study of water and air pollution. Seven Venture clubs were still active. Miami noted that Bay Oaks, the retirement home, which the club had instituted as a project, now represented an investment value of \$300,000.

Governor Evelyn presented two addresses during the Conference, one to outline the work of the biennium, pointing up the program of new patterns; the second to conclude the Conference. She noted that Soroptimism is not constricted to a club, "the whole world is scarcely wide enough now". She emphasized that Soroptimism is Service, and it is leadership. We must initiate new methods, new techniques while holding on to those established by predecessors, and to move forward, to continue to progress.

This was the challenge she transmitted to the now Board:

Governor
Lt. Governor

Ethel Peterson, Jacksonville
Georgia Moore, Atlanta

Secretary	Eunice Sisson, Montgomery
Treasurer	Ruth Edwards, The Palm Beaches
Members at Large	Barbara Thrall, Jacksonville
	Doris Thompson, Holiday Isles

Many words of appreciation were exchanged; the Conference had charmed the delegates. There had been efficiency, cheerfulness, colorful events, able leadership, Joy and inspiration. It had been heartwarming, an enriching experience

Could it be that these words defined "The Joy of Achievement", revealed in a fortieth conference? There had been twenty years of meeting together creating joy. Now, with confidence and resolution, Southern Region looked ahead. An era had-passed, but the future offered great opportunities for a larger service in the world to be, whose day was at the dawning.