



Southern Region GOVERNOR'S UPDATE

Volume 1, Issue 5

August, 2013

From Pat's Pen

What a busy summer this has been for me! I attended **Governor's Round Table** in Philadelphia, June 22-24; to **Hamburg, Germany** to visit my daughter and grandchildren for 10 days, July 8-18; and I just returned from visiting with my sister in **North Carolina** for the week of August 3-9! I have enjoyed every minute of my travels and look forward to a few days at home before packing my bags again and attending our District meetings in October.

I hope you are making plans now to attend your **District meeting**. Your District Directors are planning a full and informative agenda for you along with **Leadership training on Friday afternoon**. We are having joint District meetings again this year to promote

more sharing of information, higher attendance, and making more new friends.

District III/IV meeting will be hosted by SI Montgomery, AL, October 11-12, at the Fairfield Inn on East Chase Parkway.

District I/II meeting will be hosted by SI Boca Raton-Deerfield Beach, FL, October 18-19, at the Hilton (at the corner of Glades Road and the Florida Turnpike).

Please put these dates on your calendar now so you can be sure to be there! You won't want to miss all the fun we have in store for you.

And speaking of fun, **Southern Region Conference** will be held in **Nashville, TN, May 1-4, 2014!** Nashville is a great place to explore, so plan to **come ear-**

or stay late to enjoy all this amazing city has to offer.

If you are planning to attend Region Conference 2014, we need your vote for the hotel we will use for the Conference. Please do so **NO LATER THAN Friday, August 23**. You helped us narrow the options down from 3 to 2. Now tell us which of these two options is best for you.

See you in October at the District meetings!

Governor Pat



"BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD."



Is someone in your club becoming a **"change agent"**? Our Region theme, **"Be the change you wish to see in the world"** is seeing something that needs changing and then doing something about it to make a positive change happen to fill that need. Being a **"change agent"** is what Sorooptimists do every day. Let's spotlight some of the wonderful **"changes"** your club members are implementing to make this world a better place to live. I am certain if you look around, you will see that you are surrounded by **"change agents"**. I am waiting to hear from you!

DATES TO REMEMBER**District III/IV:**

October 11 & 12, 2013
SI Montgomery, AL

District I/II:

October 18 & 19, 2013
SI Boca Raton-Deerfield
Beach, FL

Southern Region Conference

May 1-4, 2014
Nashville, TN

SIA Convention 2014

July 23-26, 2014
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

SI Convention

July 9-12, 2015
Istanbul, Turkey

SIA Convention 2016

Orlando, FL

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The **Leadership Workshops** at the **District meetings in October will be held on Friday afternoon** prior to the District meetings on Saturday. Although this type of training was offered in years past, it was not always well-attended. Because of low attendance, we discontinued this training. However, the expectation for members to step into leadership roles continued in Southern Region. Why should we expect our members to adequately perform in leadership roles without the proper exposure to leadership education?

Past Governor and Leadership Development Chair Priscilla Tatarsky led two well-received leadership seminars at Region Conference in Orlando and got our training momentum off to a great start.

Why are we re-implementing this type of training? Simply put, my passion for personal development and leadership training and the need to offer our members more opportunities to learn and grow as individuals, wives, mothers, employees, and Soroptimists.

More information will be sent to you soon. In the meantime, **please mark your calendars now** and plan to attend the **Friday afternoon Leadership workshops** at District meetings in October.

Human Trafficking In Southern Region**DID YOU KNOW?**

The FBI recently announced that 105 children involved in sex trafficking in 76 U. S. cities were rescued on August 8, 2013, in a cross-country FBI sex trafficking sting operation. In a news conference, FBI officials said the 72-hour operation netted the arrest of 150 pimps and recovered 105 children who were victims of sex trafficking. The results of the FBI's efforts hits close to home for Southern Region:

- In Birmingham, **Alabama**, three juveniles ranging in age from 13 to 17 were rescued. The 13-year-old is the youngest juvenile involved, according to an FBI spokesman. Two pimps were arrested.
- Three children from several **Florida** cities (Tampa, Miami and Jacksonville) were also rescued in the sting operation. A total of 5 pimps were also arrested.
- Two **Georgia** children were rescued in the Atlanta area; and 8 pimps were arrested.
- Although only one child in Jackson, **Mississippi** was rescued, 10 pimps were arrested.
- In Tennessee, 4 children were rescued and 10 pimps were arrested.

The sting operation effort was done as part of the **Innocence Lost Initiative** which has resulted in more than 2,700 children being recovered from trafficking and 1,300-plus pimps and madams arrested since its inception in 1984. An FBI spokesman stressed the importance of communities in addressing the problem of human trafficking and urged individuals to keep their eyes open and alert to the signs of these crimes in their neighborhoods.