



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

May 2018 Issue

SOROPTIGRAM

Soroptimist International of Harrisburg PA - P O Box 61971 Harrisburg PA 17106

Soroptimist International of Harrisburg, PA Inc
Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.
North Atlantic Region
District IV

Chartered June 1, 1938
Making a difference for Women since 1921
The vision of SI is:
To be a Global Voice for women through
awareness, advocacy and action.

SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL
Of
HARRISBURG, PA, INC.

2017-18 OFFICERS & BOARD

President: MaryBeth Lehtimaki
Vice President:

Please Consider

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Susan Wolfe 2017-18

Carol A. Colyer 2017-19

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Karen Rabena 2017-18

Renee Jones 2017-19

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MARYBETH



March winds are beginning to abate. April's showers and warmer weather have encouraged the blooming of flowers. Let's hope the awards we present in April affords the recipients the opportunity to bloom in their communities. Our work in encouraging and rewarding women in our community continues as the

Scholarship Committee is reviewing the 30 some applications to determine the awardees for this year's Weaver Scholarship. We can look forward to those being announced in June.

Spring may have arrived at last. As I drive about, I notice the lilacs in bloom announcing Mother's Day. For those of us who can be with our Mother's on this special day blessings to you. For those of us who remember our Mothers love to you.

May Invocation
Susan Wolfe

PROGRAMS

MAY: Caitlin
Smiles Collection
and Budget/Dues
Review

Members who plan to attend the
May dinner meeting **MUST**
notify Carol Ann Colyer, 717-
540-1278 or ccacolyer@aol.com
the Wednesday before meeting
Meal Cost \$19

DATES May 22, 2018
TIME: 6:30 P.M.
PLACE: Best Western Premier
Hotel, Harrisburg, PA

CAITLIN SMILES COLLECTION

This month we will be doing a collection of items for Caitlin Smiles. For those who do not remember: this organization makes craft/activity bags for children in the hospital throughout the state. You can choose what you want to bring from coloring books, crayons, beads, cord for make bracelets, playdough, etc.

DREAM IT BE IT

Making the mission of Soroptimist come alive. On Tuesday, May 8 the Soroptimist International of Harrisburg, PA Club partnered with The Salvation Army of Central PA for a career development conference. The event took place at the Steelton-Highspire Junior/Senior High School. Over one hundred girls in grades seven and eight gathered for three hours with professional women from various career paths. Girls rotated through six different workshops hearing about essential qualities and the education necessary for each career choice.

State Representative, Patty Kim enthusiastically kicked off the event. The girls participated in workshops about goal planning, coping with stress, financial literacy, positive self-image and self-esteem, and healthy practices for living a balanced lifestyle/Zumba.

Volunteers from LA Fitness, Members 1st Federal Credit Union, independent business women, and Valerie Pritchett from WHTM 27 joined together for this ambitious program.



Our Soroptimist Club provided each girl with a brightly colored bag filled with useful goodies and a snack bag at the end of the day. Working together with women from the Salvation Army we achieved our mission to improve the lives of girls by promoting awareness, and advocating for self-improvement through education

80TH ANNIVERSARY AND COMMUNITY COOKBOOK

+++ *A Taste of Soroptimist* +++

We will **celebrate** our Club and our new Community Cookbook on Sunday, June 24, 2 PM – 4 PM



At St. Andrew's In the Valley Episcopal Church, 4620 Linglestown Road, Harrisburg.

This event will be a combination New Membership and Community Cookbook release. The mixer will include Wine and Cheese, Ice Tea and Lemonade. Talking with friends and sharing information about our service organization. Review and buy our new cookbook and/or buy a mystery bag.



It's a great way to "Toot Our Horn," reach out to potential new members, and say thank you to past as well as future supporters. **How many cookbooks will you want? Start making your list now!**

GIANT, KARNS & WEIS



CARDS

Treat a senior citizen, a family member and or give a gift to a family or individual in need of assistance. Grocery cards can be purchased in the amount of \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 and \$100.

While Gretta is healing, please contact Jacalyn Speaks for gift cards at jcspeaks@patreasury.gov or jcspeaks@aol.com to submit your orders.

Happy Birthday
Happy Birthday

MAY
28 Eleanor Clark
31 Doris Stringer



DINE OUT AT ISAAC'S

We raised \$166 with this fundraising event. \$96 from Isaac's and \$70 in donations from members who could not attend.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:



- May 22 SI Dinner Meeting
- June 12 Board meeting
- June 24 "A Taste of Soroptimist"
- June 26 SI Dinner Meeting
- July 30-Aug 2, 2018 SIA 45th Biennial Convention, Japan
- August 17-18, 2018 NAR SOAR, Hilton Garden Inn, Valley Forge
- November 3, 2018 District IV Meeting SI Phoenixville
- November 15, 2018 Live Your Dream Application Deadline
- January 31, 2019 Ethel F. Lord Application Deadline
- May 3-5, 2019 NAR Spring Conference, Mars, PA (Cranberry Twp.)
- July 18-20, 2019 SI 21st International Convention Kuala Lumpur
- July 20-22, 2020 SIA 46th Biennial Convention, Bellevue, WA

THE RUBY AWARD

This year's award goes to Lori Serratelli. **Lori** has accomplished much over her career as a family and employment law attorney for 40 years. In June 2016, she was honored with an appointment by the Governor and confirmed unanimously by the Pennsylvania Senate to the Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas where she served in the

Family Law Division and presided over Orphan's Court and civil litigation matters. Her appointment ended January 1, 2018 when she returned as "of counsel" to the firm she originally founded to handle complex family, Orphan's Court and employment matters. She offers services in mediation and arbitration in the areas of family matters, Orphan's Court and employment matters. Additionally, Lori is a trained Mediator in family law and is a strong advocate of mediation as an alternative to litigation when appropriate.

SI – NORTH ATLANTIC REGION CONFERENCE



This Photo by Unknown Author

The conference was held April 27-29 at Cape May, New Jersey; attending from our club were Alice Lubrecht, Renee

Jones, Karen Rabena and Carol Ann Colyer. There were 94 voting officers at the meeting and 95 non-voting attendees.

At our April club meeting we took up a collection for CARA, the Coalition Against Rape and Abuse in Cape May County; many of our members contributed items or cash for this. Many clubs collected items for this and everything was appreciated.

The following officers were elected for the 2018-20 NAR Board and our District:

NAR Governor – Peggy Gentile-Van Meter

Diane M. Savidge – NAR Governor Elect

Alice Lubrecht - NAR Secretary

Karen Gehers – NAR Treasurer

Dist. IV Director – Debra Reichenbach

Dist. IV Secretary – Marianne L. Hill

There were 33 Strawberries given to first time attendees.

Rosemary Reid, SIA Federation Board Member, gave a presentation on Dream It Be It and the key roles women play in change. Education is key as well as role monitors so young girls leave the importance of setting goals and establishing steps needed to accompany them. It is critical for them to know people **BELIEVE IN YOU!**

The keynote speak was given by Diane Weller who does coaching and is a member of SI of SUN counties. She based her talk about personal power, relationships and time. Best of women is important to feel fulfilled; achieve more on a daily basis; making a difference for someone else; and becoming a better person than you were yesterday.

In the afternoon your delegates attended different workshops while Alice and the District 2 Director Phyllis presented a workshop on Social Media/On-line Etiquette.



Carol Ann attended the Best Practices roundtable on fundraising. Some ideas shared include a Craft Show with 60 vendors (\$25 a table and an admission

fee of \$2) where the club raffled baskets and had a bake sale. Another club coordinated a garden tour with 8 homes in the area; the public with given a map and toured independently. Others had a fashion show, bingo, a stand at a street fair with tickets for a money hat (not lottery tickets) while another sold paintings. One had a Celebrity Chef Dinner for taste tasting.

Renee attended the two-session training program called *Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children*. Workshop participants engaged in discussions, viewed documentary videos, and utilized a comprehensive workbook to deepen their understanding and awareness of people who sexually offend children. The program offers helpful and sometimes disturbing facts to give people simple steps that can protect children from sexual abuse.



In the workshop we viewed a mix of survivor stories, heard expert advice and shared practical ideas about preventing child sexual abuse. We also discussed

strategies to support each other, to make better choices, and to prevent and respond to sexual abuse through *Darkness to Light's 5 Steps to Protecting Our Children*.

Participants received a certificate after completing the workshop. *Darkness to Light's* program teaches adults to prevent abuse and raise awareness. It intends to make every adult responsible

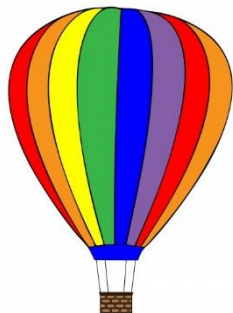
to teach children as well as other adults how to prevent child sexual abuse.

While this was not a pleasant workshop topic, it supports the reason Soroptimists make a difference. Strengthening our mission to do the **Best for Women**, this workshop supported the Dream It Be It goals to empower girls, as well as women, through education.



Karen attended the workshop on domestic violence. Men can be violent and batter women for a bad day. Domestic partnerships can involve sexual assaults by family members, workplace abuse, disability abuse, coercion and humiliation. 1 in 4 women are abused in marriage. 1 in 15 children abused in Domestic Violence each year. 90% of children are eyewitnesses to this violence in Chester County, PA

Domestic Violence is an effort to oppress and suppress women. Under Patriarchy, women could be beat with a stick no thicker than a thumb. Hence the term "Rule of Thumb". Misogamy is down-played. Domestic abuse is **NOT** just physical. The mental impact of verbal abuse destroys lives. Men are socialized to be violent, specifically in the military and porn. 20,000 Domestic Violence calls are made daily nationwide. 45.4 women were raped by a partner. Awareness is see something, say something and finding your voice. Awareness plus Action equals Social Change'



NAR SOAR

The Summer Session to Empower will be held Friday evening, August 17 and August 18 (9 AM-4 PM) at

the Hilton Garden Inn Valley Forge, Phoenixville, PA. Agenda items include Biennium Puzzle, Health & Wellness Journaling, Embracing Diversity, What Makes a Good Leader. If interested in attending contact Alice Lubrecht, our Treasurer.



April Award Winners

We are on the web at:
www.harrisburgsoroptimist.org

SOROPTIMIST PLEDGE

I pledge allegiance to Soroptimist 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 the larger fellowship in home, in society, in business, for Country and God.

Editor: Alice Lubrecht
Associate Editor: Carol Ann Colyer

WHO ARE SOROPTIMISTS

Soroptimists are women of all ages, cultures, and ethnic groups. They are working moms and single women, small business owners and corporate executives, attorneys, teachers and physicians. Soroptimists are leaders across all professional disciplines that also serve as role models for younger women at the beginning of their careers. The common thread that connects all Soroptimists is the desire to make a difference for others through volunteer service.

Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) is part of Soroptimist International, the world's largest classified service organization for executive and professional women.

The Harrisburg Club's mission is to use our time, talents and resources to advance the status of women and children. To accomplish this mission, we establish and support specific projects to address the needs locally, regionally and internationally.