



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

April 2019 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.

2018-19 OFFICERS & BOARD

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Please Consider

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MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MARYBETH

March has been a windy month and April is starting out the same. We have had a few tastes of Spring and we are springing forward with our Awards. The committees have worked hard and have several energetic women to present to us at the banquet on April 23rd. I hope you are gathering friends or relative to join you that evening, as we showcase all our efforts to improve the lives of women and girls in our community. Thank You one and all for your hard work and effort in assembling these deserved women and organizations.

Moving forward we look to May and our Dream It Be It project. Again, I would like to thank you for your generosity of giving. \$60.00 was collected at the dinner meeting for our combined program with the Salvation Army at Steelton/Highspire High School on May 9th. Watch the email for a blast as to how you can further help in this endeavor.

Enjoy the spring days as they arrive. I look forward to seeing many of you April 23rd. Prayers to those who are shut in or caring for loved ones. Blessings to those on the repair.

**Invocation:
April 2019
Shirley Cleaver**

Marybeth

**April is our Award
Program + A
Collection for**

**DATE: April 23, 2019
TIME: 6:30 P.M.
PLACE: Best Western
Premier Hotel,
Harrisburg, PA**

**Members who plan to attend the
dinner meeting MUST notify Carol
Ann Colyer at CCAColyer@aol.com
or call 717-540-1278 by 6 PM
the Wednesday before meeting**

April Meeting

Just a reminder we will not be conducting a business meeting unless there is something urgent. The program will be our Awards. We are also collecting baby hats for the Pinnacle NiCU as well as items to give to members attending NAR.



APRIL AWARDS

Violet Richardson Award

This award will be presented to Elyse Erdman. This high school

senior does volunteer work at the Hope Springs Farm. She will receive \$500 and Hope Springs will receive \$500.

Ruby Award

Denise Britton, Executive Director, of Shalom House was selected as the winner and will receive \$500.



Live Your Dream

Our first-place winner will receive \$1,000

and her name will be submitted to NAR for consideration there. Rebecca Blackletter is going to Southern New Hampshire University pursuing a bachelor's degree in Public Health/Sociology. She has a

husband with a bipolar disorder and one child.

The second-place winner is Sandra Dougherty who will receive \$800. She is working toward a bachelor's degree in Business Administrator.

Central Pennsylvania Literacy Council We are again presenting \$750 to them to aid in adult literacy education.

Women's Shelters

In the past we gave funds to Pinnacle Health for mammograms but they no longer have a women's health center. At the March meeting the club voted to provide two awards and to select different shelters annually. This year we will be giving \$1,000 each to Bethesda Woman's Shelter and Interfaith Shelter.

Collections for NAR Projects:



Cleaning out those closets for Spring?

Don't forget we need shoes

for the Shoebox fundraiser at Conference!

NAR Region project is for VOICE VOICE provides confidential services at no cost to individuals and families who have survived sexual assault, domestic violence and other crimes. VOICE works to bring about social change and to help enable survivors

with the ability to take control of their lives. Things to consider are cleaning products (toilet cleaner, Lysol, and laundry detergent), hygiene (shampoo, body wash, lotion and razors), household items like bedding and paper products.

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. You can get Karns, Weis and Giant Gift Cards by contacting Jacalyn Speaks at jcspeaks@patreasury.gov to submit your orders.

- August 16-17 NAR Leadership
- Nov. 8-9, 2019 Fall District Meeting
Connellsville
- July 23-25, 2020 46th SIA Convention
Bellevue, WA
- 2021 San Francisco Celebration
Of SI 100th Birthday

Every month on the 25th – Wear orange to say NO to violence against women!



April
2 – Helen Drothler



**CALENDAR OF
UPCOMING
EVENTS:**

- April 23, 2019 SI/Harrisburg Awards
- May 3-5, 2019 NAR Conference, SI
Butler, Mars, PA
- May 9, 2019 Dream It Be It at
Steelton Highspire
Jr/Sr High School
- May 15, 2019 Chili’s Fundraiser
- July 18-20, 2019 SIA International
Convention, Kuala Lumpur
- August 10 SI/Harrisburg Summer Social

DREAM IT BE IT – UPDATE



May 9 DIBI event being held in conjunction with The Salvation Army is titled Career Pathways for Students in Grades 7 and 8. It will be held at Steelton Highspire High School from 11:00 to 2:00. The day will begin with a panel discussion in the auditorium. The girls will travel through 5 rotations learning about different careers, some mainstream, some

allowing for the changes in today's work place. They will let off steam and get a boost with a Zumba session and be dismissed with a snack after a final session from the keynote speaker. This was a very rewarding experience last year and looks to be no less so this year. The committee wants to send out a **BIG Thank you!** to all of you for your generosity in supporting the event. We collected \$60 at the dinner meeting to offset the costs. Please let the committee members know if you want to participate in preparing the goody bags or the day of the event. Also, if you like to bake some cookies, we can pick them up around the 6th of May. Your continued support is appreciated.

Dining for Dollars --CHILI's

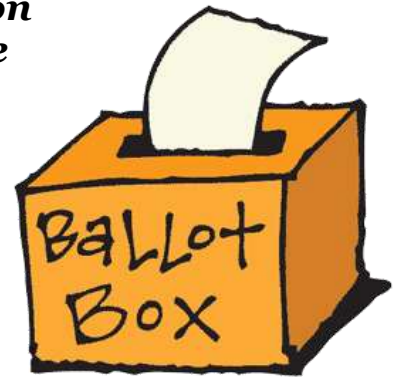


On May 5 we will be holding a fundraiser from 11 AM to 10 PM at Chili's at 4611 High Point Blvd. (The Target/J C

Penny Mall) - Please share the flyer with your friends and family.



Nomination Committee Report



The following members agreed to accept the 2019-2021 leadership

positions which are open. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor before a vote at the May meeting. If you would like to fill a position, please let the committee know:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>President</i> | Mary Beth Lehtimaki |
| <i>Corresponding Secretary</i> | Jacalyn Speaks |
| <i>Director</i> | Carol Colyer |
| <i>Delegate</i> | Sally Straining |

On behalf of the nomination committee I would like to express my appreciation of your time, dedication and commitment in carrying out Soroptimist's mission "I pledge allegiance to Soroptimist and to the ideals for which it stands."

Jackie Speaks, Chair

CLUB LIABILITY INSURANCE

To protect U.S. and Canadian clubs from general liability claims, clubs in those countries



are required to purchase club general liability insurance. SIA headquarters manages the procurement of this group insurance coverage for the clubs under a master policy, where risks and costs are shared among all clubs in the pool. Effective April 1,

there will be a change in your club liability insurance policy.

SIA has decided to go with Charity First to provide club liability insurance coverage. Charity First is a provider of specialty non-profit insurance solutions and insures many large charitable organizations such as Boys & Girls Clubs and YMCA/YWCA's. Our new insurance broker will be Pacific Ag insurance in Hanford, CA. Pacific Ag is an independent insurance agency with several offices in California. Our dedicated staff member at Pacific Ag is Joanna Acosta.

SI of CANNOCK and DISTRICT



President June Bould welcomed 50 members an event to mark

March 8th as International Women's Day 2019. President June explained that after women gained the right to vote in Soviet Russia in 1917, March 8th became a national holiday there. In 1975 the UN began celebrating the day as a way of recognizing women's achievements and since then celebrations of IWD on March 8th each year have spread globally, becoming a rallying call for support for women's participation in politics and economics. This year's theme for International Women's Day is *#Balance for Better* and we can all work to build a gender-balanced world.

Gender balance is essential for economies and communities to thrive; it is needed everywhere.

Everyone enjoyed striking the pose of *#BalanceforBetter* – an excellent way of reminding us of the need for balance. Soroptimist Dr Janis Lomas, historian and author spoke about some of the women who, a hundred years ago, did so much to change OUR lives and to begin to move our society towards being gender balanced. Her talk was entitled: *"Rabble rousers and genteel ladies: the petticoat pioneers who won the vote"*. She showed pictures and talked about the incredible things done by women such as Millicent Fawcett, Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters Christabel, Sylvia and Adela; Vera Holme, Kitty Marion – and so many more. Over 1,000 members of the Suffragette movement were arrested for their actions and put in prison when they refused to pay their fines. This was for something we might now regard as fairly minor –continuously shouting out a slogan demanding Votes for Women. In the early 1900s this was a serious problem! Being arrested brought a lot of publicity and being sent to Holloway brought even more. The Suffragettes began to stage hunger strikes which initially had good results as many were released early but also resulted in force feeding some of the diehard women. We need to be very grateful for these dedicated women who earned the rights we enjoy today.



**SOROPTIGRAM DEADLINE:
Deadline for the May issue is May 8.**



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.

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

