



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

February 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**

President: MaryBeth Lehtimaki  
Vice President:

*Please Consider*

Recording Secretary:  
Billie Hawk  
Corresponding Secretary:  
Patti Krow  
Treasurer: Alice Lubrecht

Directors:  
Jackie Speaks 2018-20  
Susan Wolfe 2018-20  
Carol A. Colyer 2017-19  
Delegates:  
Karen Rabena 2018-20  
Renee Jones 2017-19

## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MARYBETH

Each month there is a symbol to bring interest and a bit of fun. January is snowflakes, February is hearts and has even been dubbed as “American Heart Month” as of 1963. This small tradition provides focus and interest to share with our loved ones and to pass down to future generation. It especially offers interest beyond the daily routine for our shut-ins. The weather has made shut-ins of many of us who venture out most days, so we look forward to Phil’s prediction and only a few more weeks of winter. So, grab a cup of hot chocolate and warm your heart, as we step into a very busy part of the club year. Committees are tying up nominations for our awards to be presented in April. The Scholarship committee is gearing up for their presentations by sending and receiving applications. The nomination committee will be knocking on your doors for your assistance in running the club’s business. I hope when you receive the call you will respond “Yes” just show me the way. I’m sure there are ways you can serve and support the club’s growth and mission. Heartfelt thanks are sent to all of you who serve and say yes and to all of you who support the club with your donations and smiling faces each month.

*Marybeth*

**Invocations:  
February 2019  
MaryBeth Lehtimaki**

**February Program:  
Speaker &  
Collection for  
Brethren Housing**

**DATE: February 26, 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 (540-1278 or  
[ccacolyer@aol.com](mailto:ccacolyer@aol.com) by 6 PM  
the Wednesday before meeting**

## February Meeting

We will be collecting Women's deodorant, Soap/Body Wash, Lotion, Shampoo/conditioner, All-purpose cleaner, Dish liquid, Laundry detergent, Bathroom cleaners and Mops/brooms. The speaker will be Crystal Brown, Executive Director of the Brethren Housing Association.

## 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](mailto:jcspeaks@patreasury.gov) to submit your orders.



## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

- February 15      SI Board Meeting  
                         at Colonial Park Library
- February 26      S I Dinner Meeting
- March 2      Programs/Community  
Service meeting, Giant (Linglestown  
Rd) 10:30 a.m.

- March 12,      S I Board Meeting  
                         at Colonial Park Library
- May 3-5,              NAR Conference  
                                 SI Butler, Mars, PA
- July 18-20      SIA International  
                         Convention, Kuala Lumpur
- July 23-25, 2020 46<sup>th</sup> SIA Convention  
                         Bellevue, WA

*Every month on the 25<sup>th</sup> – Wear orange to say NO to violence against women!*



**DREAM IT BE IT**  
At the January meeting Renee gave an update on the status of this year's event. We will again work with the Salvation Army for a one-day workshop. This year's session will be entitled "Where Do I go After High School." It will be held the first week of May at the Steelton Highspire Jr./Sr. High School. It will be organized differently this year starting with a panel discussion, then 2 rotating break out groups; followed by Zumba in the middle of the day and followed by 2 more rotating break out groups. It will close with a keynote speaker – Representative Patti Kim.

Additional details are available from either Renee or MaryBeth.

Remember that background checks are required if you are helping with this event. Renee or Alice can provide directions for obtaining these at no cost in Pennsylvania.



At the 2019 first speaker meeting, members were entertained by Jackie Smith. Twelve years ago, Jackie turned her back on education to start her own business:  
[www.novachocolates.co.uk](http://www.novachocolates.co.uk) giving her the best job in the world, a real-life Willy Wonka.

While researching the history of chocolate she found that it has health benefits! It is rich in nitric oxide and has anti-inflammatory properties with the good news being that eating a small amount each day will not pile on the pounds!

The Cacao bean was discovered in the Amazon in the time of the Mayan people. The beans were used as currency and they had a



higher value than gold. Once the pods are harvested, the beans which at this stage are pink, are left to dry for 2-8 days which turns them brown, then

they are sent for processing; 4,000 beans are needed to make a 1 pound bar of chocolate. The first Chocolate shop was opened in London in 1657 where it was served as a drink, not in the form that we know it today.

During the evening Jackie handed round samples of the different chocolates; she and Soroptimist Jill Gooch enjoyed making and decorating chocolate lollipops. As well as being able to sample the chocolate during the evening members had the opportunity to buy goods at the end of the evening – as gifts or as treats for themselves!

### ***DISHCLOTHS FOR SALE***

Susan Wolfe continues to make handmade *crocheted dishcloths for sale at our dinner meeting*. All funds will be donated to our clubs.



Prices: 1 dishcloth \$4.00  
2 dishcloths \$7.00

*Note: She has given us \$75 this year.*



## CALL TO SPRING CONFERENCE



*Cruising to the oldies.*

*SO of Butler County invites you to get out your pinelle shirt, your "Pink Ladies" jackets and lace up your saddle shoes to join us for our Soeb Hop. Dancing to the oldies with our DJ. There will be games and contests of that era too!*

*Friday, May 3, 2019*

*8:30 to 10:00 pm*

*(SO's attire is optional)*

We have received the call to spring conference which will take place from May 3 – 5 at the Doubletree in Mars, PA.

There are a number of important issues which will be covered at this meeting, including voting on some changes to the Bylaws for the Region.

### Region Service Project:

ProjectVOICE Victims Outreach Intervention Center Victim Outreach Intervention Center (VOICE) is the sole provider of comprehensive domestic violence, sexual assault and other crime victim services for the more than 180,000 people who call Butler County, Pennsylvania, home.

The agency's mission is: "VOICE is a system-change organization that provides free and confidential services to individuals and families who are victims of violent crime. VOICE will work within our community to provide survivors with the resources, tools and options that allow them to assert their personal power and self-determination."

**Basket Raffles and Beach House Raffle** – tickets will be available at our club meeting for the Beach House before conference time.

**Several new recognitions will be given this year** – Newsletters and Social Media efforts will be highlighted.

### Federation

#### Board Visitor:

Bonnie Domonchuk has been a proud member of Soroptimist International of Cambridge in Eastern Canada Region since 1991.



Bonnie is currently serving a two-year term on the board of directors for SIA. As a board member, Bonnie will participate in strategic planning and program development to increase the organization's collective impact on women and girls around the world.



## Save the Date

Join SIA for the convention July 2020.

Be there to kick off our  
100th anniversary celebration

### ***Items from the SIA January 2019 Board Meeting***

#### ***Central East Coast Region***

On February 1, South Atlantic Region was reorganized and renamed Central East Coast Region. This action culminates in work the region's leadership team has undertaken to ensure the region is part of SIA's group exemption. The 2018-2020 Central East Coast Region Board of Directors looks forward to changing times and the opportunity to work with all members in its newly reorganized region. In May, the region will hold the Annual Central East Coast Region Conference. As

Governor Deborah Mackes noted in her message to the region's members, "Our journey to help women and girls will continue to allow all of us to enjoy exciting times ahead that this new and fresh start will give us."

Effective July 1, 2019, Soroptimist International is increasing their dues from the current amount of \$5 to \$9 USD per capita. This is the first raise for SI in a number of years. Due to this, SIA has agreed that federation dues would not be increased effective July 1, 2019.

The Board acknowledged club liability insurance coverage is required for all US and Canadian clubs under a master policy covering general liability, liquor liability and sexual molestation. The board acknowledged the cost of coverage is likely to rise again due to the type of events clubs are holding. The board voted to pass along any increase on a per capita basis.

**NEVER UNDERESTIMATE**

**WHAT A  
GROUP OF  
WOMEN CAN  
ACCOMPLISH!**



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

**SOROPTIGRAM DEADLINE:  
Deadline for the March Issue is March 8.**

**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.