



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

January 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

Recording Secretary:

Billie Hawk

Corresponding Secretary:

Patti Krow

Treasurer: Alice Lubrecht

Directors:

Jackie Speaks 2017-18

Susan Wolfe 2017-18

Carol A. Colyer 2017-19

Delegates:

Karen Rabena 2017-18

Renee Jones 2017-19

MESSAGE FROM Our Editor

As I sit here writing this message on Martin Luther King Day I am thinking a lot about his words and actions. One saying keeps coming to mind: *Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.* As a club we have taken those first steps many times in the past as we reflect on all the projects completed over our 80 years of serving the Harrisburg area. We can be proud of what we have accomplished with our small number of members. I hope we can continue to be successful for many years to come.

In the coming months, we have many projects planned (paper collection for the Cupboard at Calvary; a soup can collection for Downtown Daily Bread; Easter Bunny bags for the women and children's shelter; and our large awards night at the end of April). We are a small but mighty group indeed.

As we work to plan our 80th anniversary in June, we need to reflect but also continue to dream of our future endeavors. As Martin Luther King Jr said, *"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"*

Alice

January Invocation
Peggy Schmidt

PROGRAMS

JANUARY: PAPER PRODUCTS FOR the Cupboard at Calvary

DATES January 23 2018
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) by 6 PM the Wednesday before meeting
Meal Cost \$19

JANUARY MEETING DONATION



We will be collecting toilet paper, paper towels, tissues and other paper

products for the Cupboard at the Calvary pantry.

DECEMBER CASH COLLECTION

We collected \$100 to give to the SI President's Appeal. The 2017-2019 President Mariet Verhoef-Cohen and her appeal is "Women, Water & Leadership" supporting projects that educate, empower and enable women and girls, ensuring they have the capacity, experience and education needed to manage water resources and gain careers in water-related professions.



**MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
VOLUNTEER!**

ETHEL F. LORD FELLOWSHIPS

For the last several weeks we have advertised this Fellowship in the Paxton Herald. It is granted by the NAR to Women Veterans who are in financial need in. See the last Soroptigram if you have questions.

DINING FOR DOLARS

We received a \$119 check from Longhorn Steak House for our Dine Out day.

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

January

- 5 – Miriam Rothermel**
- 6 – Jacalyn Speaks**
- 25 – Peggy Schmidt**

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:



January 23	SI Dinner Meeting
February 13	SI HBG Board, Alice Lubrecht's home
April 27-29	NAR at Cape May, New Jersey
July 30-Aug 2	SIA 45 th Biennial Convention, Japan
November 2-3	Fall District Meeting
July 18-20, 2019	SI 21 st International Convention Kuala Lumpur

DISHCLOTHS FOR SALE



Handmade crocheted dishcloths will be for sale at our September meeting. All funds will be donated to our club.

Prices: 1 dishcloth \$4.00
2 dishcloths \$7.

Our Friendship Link --

SI of CANNOCK and DISTRICT

Cannock has restarted their newsletter. Carol will have copies at our meeting for all to read.

Cannock Soroptimists again this year supported the Pathway Project by providing Christmas gifts such as clothing, beauty packs, toys & games for women and children who will be spending Christmas in the refuge run by the Pathway Project for women victims of domestic violence. The donated gifts filled two cars and the gifts, together with wrapping paper and all the trimmings, were gratefully accepted by staff from Pathway. On Christmas morning the women and children will be able to open gifts specially chosen for them, knowing that they are being thought of.

Some members of SI Cannock recently attended the Pathway AGM and were moved to hear stories from the women who are domestic violence victims and who have benefitted from the services provided by Pathway. The stories heard reiterate the need to continue to support these women & their children in any way possible.

Cannock Soroptimists had their stall at Norton Canes on December 3 when the Community Centre held their annual Winter Fair.

SOROPTIMIST PROGRESS IN FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

We have made extraordinary progress in our work to help disadvantaged women and girls throughout our 21 countries and territories. On behalf of the women and girls we serve, thank you! SIA's accomplishments for FY16/17 include:

Empowering Women & Girls Through Our Access to Education Dream Programs --

Live Your Dream:

- 1,476 deserving women received an award (+8%)
- \$2,095,093 was given through the program (+11%)
- 96% of recipients reported increased self-esteem
- 80% of recipients who completed their education reported having increased standard of living.

Dream It, Be It

- 12,265 girls participated (+42%)
- 83% said they have the tools to overcome obstacles to their success
- 87% feel more prepared to pursue their career goals
- 34,979 volunteer hours by clubs (+41%)

Gaining New Members & Supporters

- 4,056 new and charter members (+13%)
- 91,948 LiveYourDream.org supporters (+18%)
- 20,290 program activities conducted through LiveYourDream.org (+53%)

Attracting More Financial Support

\$1,871,245 raised (+11%)

- \$792,720 in total individual contributions (+6%)
 - \$728,813 contributed through Club Giving (+9%)
- Corporate Philanthropy relationship established with North American retailer Torrid
\$13,659,277 in Net Assets

Growing Recognition

- 758,277 visits to Soroptimist.org and LiveYourDream.org (+3%)
- 38,366 social media followers (+10%)
- 2.43 million people reached through SIA and LYD.org social media networks (+13%)

80TH ANNIVERSARY AND COMMUNITY COOKBOOK



At the September meeting a motion was approved to have a multi-functional event. It starts with collecting recipes from **all** members and their friends.

January, we will be collecting **Main Dish recipes**. In

December we collected Dessert recipes but still could use more. If you have them on the computer, you can email recipes to Carol Ann.



NEWS from Our District

SI of Somerset County held their first Festival of the Trees. They invited non-profit groups to decorate trees. The public will vote on trees with proceeds benefitting the library. Deb Cook, Deb Menser & Wendy Stemple decorated the tree. Various club members loaned their scarves for “tinsel”. Tracy Shultz made clay ornaments with essential oils enhancing them. We used our bookmarks for Healthy/Unhealthy Relationships as additional ornaments.



LAUREL SOCIETY CHALLENGE--

IN LESS THAN 3 MONTHS

“The best thing to do with the best things in life is to give them away.” –

Dorothy Day

And when you do,



Diane Thompson

amazing things happen. Diane Thompson pledged a \$50,000 matching gift in August 2017. By November, what we thought would be a two-year \$50,000 North Atlantic Region “Up, Up, and Away Laurel Society Gift Challenge!” was matched by NAR members!

“My challenge started out as a small dream—use a distribution of stock and turn it into something meaningful. I pushed that little dream into the universe and it became a bigger dream—and never in my wildest dreams did I think we would accomplish this in less than three months.

I know that we will never truly understand the full impact of our gifts. So many of our recipients will remain anonymous to us. But, I want you to know that Soroptimists have left a profound impression on my life ... words cannot express how much all of you have touched my heart.”

We thank *you*, Diane. “For it is in giving that we receive.” – St. Francis of Assisi



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

SOROPTIGRAM DEADLINE:
Deadline for the February issue is February 15.

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.