



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

March 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 PRESIDENT MARYBETH

March has come in like a lion blowing things all around giving us warm days, to encourage new growth, and blustery cold days, to offer time to contemplate. I hope while you are thinking, you have given some thought about how you can serve our club. The Nominating Committee is looking for people to fill 2018-19 positions. Most current year officers have agreed to continue in their positions. Please consider saying yes if Cathy and the committee members call you.

May 8th, we will have our Dream It Be It event with the Salvation Army. This will provide you with other opportunities to serve. Keep your eyes and ears open for more about this partnership.

March is not only blowing things around but also turning things green making us think of growing things. Growing is what our club needs to do. We have committed this club year to membership growth. Our April Awards dinner is coming up next month. Do you know of someone who would be an asset to our club? Invite them to join you and your fellow members for a rewarding and informative evening. Perhaps they will want to join. Our awards dinner is a great way to showcase what we are all about. We have a lot to offer; *let's not keep it a secret.*

In closing, this is 'Women's Month' take time to remember those women and friends who serve and have influenced you and your life. Remember, "Good friends are like stars, you don't always see them, but you always know they are there.

*MaryBeth*

## PROGRAMS

### MARCH:

Collect Items and make  
Easter Bunny Bags

**DATES** March 27, 2018

**TIME:** 6:30 P.M.

**PLACE:** Best Western  
Premier Hotel  
Harrisburg, PA

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

## EASTER TREAT BAGS



At the March meeting we will be making Bunny Bags for children. Billie Hawk will be bringing white paper bags which we will

craft to look like bunnies.

**Donations** are needed to fill the bags, i.e., **individually wrapped candies, small packets of gold fish or pretzels, and other items which children would like for the Easter holiday. The artificial grass has already been donated.** We are hoping to make about 30 bags. The bags will be delivered to the YWCA Shelter!



**DREAM IT  
BE IT -  
SALVATION  
ARMY**

On Tuesday, May 8, our Club, SI of Harrisburg, will partner with The Salvation Army Capital City Region for the SIA Dream It Be It Career Support for Girls project.

The program for girls in grades 7 & 8 will take place at the Steelton Highspire High School from 11 AM to 2:30 PM.

Participants will rotate through workshops on Goal Planning, Coping with Stress, Financial Literacy, Positive Self Image/Self Esteem, and Healthy Practices

for Living a Balanced Lifestyle/ ZUMBA! The Salvation Army coordinators, Jenny Gallagher-Blom and Yolanda Haywood presented an overview of the program to our Club members at the February Dinner/ Business meeting. The association of our organizations combines resources as well as enthusiasm for this important initiative. Our goal is to strengthen academic objectives around career exploration making curriculum relevant to the lives of young women in our community. Our partnership with the Salvation Army will enhance and extend the impact of Soroptimist in the community.

## 80TH ANNIVERSARY AND COMMUNITY COOKBOOK



Get ready to celebrate our club, **SI of Harrisburg, Pa, Inc.** Working together club

members, family, and friends contributed favorite recipes for our Anniversary cookbook collection. The cookbook includes snacks, appetizers, main dishes, salads, soups and desserts. Some old favorites as well as many new and interesting offerings fill the pages. Let's get ready to gift and sell our cookbook. 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](mailto:jcspeaks@patreasury.gov) or [jcspeaks@aol.com](mailto:jcspeaks@aol.com) to submit your orders.

**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:**



- March 27, 2018 SI Dinner Meeting
- April 10, 2018 SI Board Meeting, Susan's home
- April 25, 2018 SI Dinner Meeting & Awards Night
- April 27-29, 2018 NAR at Cape May, New Jersey
- July 30-Aug 2, 2018 SIA 45<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention, Japan
- August 17-18, 2018 NAR SOAR, Hilton Garden Inn, Valley Forge
- November 2-3, 2018 SI NAR District III/IV Fall Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, Valley Forge

- May 3-5, 2019 NAR Spring Conference, Mars, PA
- July 18-20, 2019 SI 21<sup>st</sup> International Convention Kuala Lumpur
- July 20-22, 2020 SIA 46<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention, Bellevue, WA

**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 \$7.00

**LIVE YOUR DREAM WINNER**



Holly Witmer was selected as our club winner. She is currently attending Central Pennsylvania

College studying Criminal Justice Administration working for her Bachelor's Degree. She plans on becoming a crime scene investigator and is currently enrolled in Evidence, Crimination Investigation and Police Operations courses. Holly, a single mother, is raising her daughter alone with no child support. In addition to

her schooling, she works as a receptionist/legal assistant at a law firm. She indicated in her application that faith is the only thing in the world that can make a moment seem bearable.

She will receive \$1,000 from our club and has been selected as the District IV award winner. She will receive \$3,000 at the SI North Atlantic Region conference for that honor.

### ***SI of CANNOCK and DISTRICT***

President Val Jones welcomed members to the final speaker meeting of her year in office. The speaker for the occasion was Graham White talking about the amazing transformation of his large garden plot into a stunning horticultural vision, which won him and his wife Judy a highly recommended place in the National Garden Scheme. With no previous experience he overcame the formidable obstacles of a steep embankment leading down into a swamp and small stream. He achieved this with wife Judy – along with the muscle power of three teenage sons! They moved into their home in Uttoxeter 26 years ago and spent the first 17 years creating the garden which is now open to the public each year through the NGS. It was a fascinating and entertaining story which everyone thoroughly enjoyed – and the end result shown with some super photos, is simply magnificent! Seeing the garden now

it's hard to believe the plot of ground they started all those years ago. Graham used many ploys to enlist the help of their sons, including convincing them that laying the turf was for a putting green [they were keen golfers] not a lawn! In reference to this, Graham and Judy put a small golf flag on the lawn when their sons and their families visit. During his talk Graham explained that all proceeds from entry to the garden go to NGS – and all of their money is donated each year to 'caring' charities – Hospice UK; MS Society; Macmillan Cancer Support being just three of them. In the 9 years they have opened the gardens, Graham and Judy have had 6,425 visitors to Woodleighton Grove. Soroptimist Sue Cartlidge gave the vote of thanks, saying that she would love similar results in her own newly acquired garden!! She presented Graham with a cheque for the National Garden Scheme charities. President Val has ended each meeting with a quote. At this meeting she quoted Confucius, the Chinese philosopher. *"When it is obvious the Goals cannot be reached, do not adjust the goals, change the action steps."*





## ***SI attending the Commission on the Status of Women***

From 12 – 23 March 2018, the 62nd Commission on the Status of Women (CSW62) will take place in the United Nations headquarters in New York. CSW is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. The event occurs annually, providing a space where UN member states, civil society organisations such as Soroptimist International, and UN entities can discuss thematic issues relevant to gender equality.

The priority theme this year will be *‘Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls’*. The Review theme is *‘Participation in and access of women to the media, and information and communications technologies and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women’*.

This year Soroptimist International’s President Mariet Verhoef-Cohen will lead a delegation of more than ninety Soroptimists from around the world. Mariet says: *“I am delighted to be leading the delegation this year and happy we are represented by so many nationalities and members. This is a very important CSW for SI, not only because the primary theme is rural women, but because the subjects of Agriculture and Water Scarcity are so fundamental to feeding the growing*

*world population. We need to support rural women, to play a vital role in this process and to achieve gender equality for all”*.

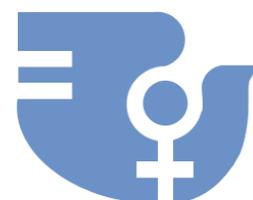
At CSW there are various events that happen inside the UN buildings. These events must be sponsored by governments or UN entities. They will:

- Conduct high-level roundtables to exchange experiences, lessons learned and good practice;
- Evaluate progress from previously agreed conclusions under the review theme;
- Convene interactive discussions on initiatives to accelerate implementation and build capacity for mainstreaming gender equality across policies and programmes;
- Identify and address emerging issues that affect gender equality.

Additionally, there is a parallel NGO Forum, where civil society organisations host events outside of the UN buildings and are open to the public who register for the CSW NGO Forum.

*Check out more of what’s happening at the Commission gathering at:*

<https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/advocacy/commission-on-the-status-of-women/>



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

**SOROPTIGRAM DEADLINE:  
Deadline the first Wednesday of month.**

**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.