

Nov/Dec
2009
ISSUE

SOROPTIGRAM

Soroptimist International of Harrisburg, PA Inc
Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.
North Atlantic Region
NAR Theme: One Voice
District IV Theme: May All Our Dreams Come True



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

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. Officers & Board of Directors 2009-2010

President: Kay Straw
President-elect: Renee Jones
Recording Secretary:
Susan Wolfe
Corresponding Secretary:
Joyce Burger
Treasurer:
Alice Lubrecht
Assistant Treasurer:
Jackie Speaks

DIRECTORS

One Year: Lynn Diehl
One Year: Margaretta Morrow
Two Years: Cathy Orwan

DELEGATES

Two Years: Carol Ann Colyer
One Year: Eileen Hileman

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT KAY

Our Club calendar shows that November 25th is the International Day of the month to participate in the Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence against Women. At our November meeting we will discuss our "You deserve to feel **SAFE**" card.

On December 10th we will observe Human Rights, also Soroptimist International Day by donating to the SI President's Appeal.

The members of our Club who attended the District IV, SI Somerset meeting had a wonderful time. Our Club received three certificates, one for participating in the 2009 Women's Opportunity Award, one for distance traveled and one for number of members attending.

It's not too late to attend the Inter-Service Club Thanksgiving luncheon on November 23th. Call me with your reservation.

On Monday, November 16th, at 2:00 p.m. our Community Service committee will visit the Jewish Home of Greater Harrisburg, at 4000 Linglestown Rd. All Soroptimists are members of this committee. "Will we see you there"?

We received an acknowledgment from Jacquelyn Morrison, Executive Director, Shalom House, for our Biennial Award of \$10, 00.00. Again I say, "You should be proud".

Must remember our commitment to Soroptimist by doing community service and supporting our projects. Think Fashion Show!

We need to be thankful for our daily life, friends and family. Think of others and be thankful for our country and the troops that are defending our lives.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

May your stuffing be tasty. May your turkey plump. May your potatoes and gravy have never a lump. May your yams be delicious and your pies take the prize. May your Thanksgiving dinner stay off your thighs!

Good health to you, Good cheer to you, Good friends and family near to you!

" Wishing you all the peace and joy of a wonderful holiday season "

MERRY CHRISTMAS"

Kay

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NOVEMBER MEETING

DATE: November 24, 2009
TIME: 6:30 P.M.

Invocation: Betty Barnes
Program: Penn Gardens Food
Pantry
Speaker: Kay Yniguez, Coordinator

PLACE: Holiday Inn East
4751 Lindle Road
Harrisburg, PA

DECEMBER MEETING

DATE: December 8, 2009
TIME: 6:30 P.M.

Invocation: Carol Ann Colyer
Program: Annual Holiday dinner and
entertainment from the Infinity Charter
School Choral Group

PLACE: Holiday Inn East
4751 Lindle Road
Harrisburg, PA

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

THIS MONTH, MEMBERS who plan to attend the dinner meeting **MUST** notify **Carol Ann Colyer (540-1278)** the **Wednesday** before the meeting. **Deadline** for dinner reservations for the November meeting is **November 18th**. **Deadline** for dinner reservations for the December meeting is **December 2nd**.

MENU SELECTION

November
Grilled Pork

December
Buffet

November Birthdays

- 2 Billie Hawk
- 7 Margaretta Morrow
- 9 Jean Short
- 11 Jean Johns
- 16 Tess Bockes
- 18 Dorothy Sutton
- 24 Renee Jones

December Birthdays

- 1 Eileen Hileman
- 14 Cathy Orwan
- 21 Marybeth Lehtimaki
- 27 Gloria Boyer
- 27 Kay Straw



What does Penn Gardens Food Pantry At Calvary United Methodist Church?

Need the Most?

- Pasta items – spaghetti, macaroni, etc.
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned vegetables, especially peas, carrots, sweet potatoes
- Canned fruits of all kinds
- Peanut butter
- Cereals, especially non-sugared varieties
- Canned meats, such as tuna, salmon, Spam, etc.
- Canned soups and stews, especially low-sodium and reduced fat varieties
- Paper products, including tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, etc.
- Personal care products, such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, etc.
- Laundry detergent and dishwashing liquids
- Fresh fruits, such as bananas, apples, or oranges
- Eggs

Our November speaker is Kay Yniguez . She is the Coordinator of the Penn Gardens Food Pantry at Calvary United Methodist Church. If you want to provide any of these items you can bring them to the November meeting or, leave them in the foyer of the church, marked “Penn Gardens Food Pantry at Calvary United Methodist Church”. PGFP would like to thank everyone for their past support. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Peggy and Gretta want to remind our members that **Smart Money Gift Cards** make a wonderful gift for **Christmas**. However, since we meet on December 8th this year, you will need to order your cards early. Think birthdays, a thank you to mail carrier, snow shoveler, etc. We have cards for Giant, Weis and Karns stores. Call Peggy for Giant 657-2449 and Gretta for Weis and Karns 564-0179. We thank you for your support.

CALENDAR OF FUTURE EVENTS

2009

November 14	BonTon Community Day
November 17	Venture meeting at Calabrese Management
November 24	Dinner/Business meeting at Holiday Inn
December 8	Dinner/Business meeting at Holiday Inn
December 15	Venture Holiday dinner and gift exchange location TBD
January 12,2010	Board meeting

2010

January 26	Dinner/Business meeting at Holiday Inn
March 20	Fashion show at Radisson Hotel and Convention Center , Camp Hill
April 30 – May 2	NAR Spring Conference, Harrisburg Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center, New Cumberland, PA
July 7-10	SIA 41 st Biennial Convention, San Francisco Hilton, San Francisco, CA
July 10-14, 2011	SI 19 th Convention, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

All Membership Committee

Members: The next committee meeting will take place at 5:45p.m. on Tuesday, November 24th, 2009. We'll meet at the tables above the lobby in the Holiday Inn East. The Agenda is Membership Mixer. All members are invited to the committee meeting.



The beginning balance of the Weaver Fund for October was \$106,233.19;

\$-267.52 change in account value; \$270.28 in income; and ending balance of \$106,074.69.



Have you been hoping that homemade knitted dishcloths would be available to purchase at our meetings? Bring your money to the November meeting. They will be for sell for \$2.50.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From November 10th meeting:

Kay Yniguez from Penn Gardens Food Pantry at the Calvary United Methodist Church will be the speaker at the November meeting. Members are asked to bring donations for the Food Bank.

Carol Ann Colyer and Renee Jones will give a report about the NAR District IV meeting at our November Dinner/Business meeting.

Jayne Brinkley will substitute as corresponding secretary for Joyce Burger while Joyce is way for the winter.

Jan Smith is collecting the front of greeting cards until November. So please bring in your greeting card fronts.



Community Service

1. On Monday, November 16th, '09, from 2:00 to 3:30 P.M., we will have a 'Sing-A-Long" at the Jewish Home of Greater Harrisburg, 4000 Linglestown Road, Harrisburg, PA. Donna Winch will play the piano and we will sing along with the residents. Please enter the Home by the front entrance and inform the receptionist that we are there for the purpose of entertaining the residents.

The volunteers for this event are:

Donna Winch	Mary Ann Podraza
Joyce Burger	Doris Stringer
Lynn Diehl	Kathy Stynchula
Billie Hawk	Susan Wolfe

2. On Saturday, November 28, '09, we will man the Kettle for the Salvation Army inside the Colonial Park mall, at the Sear's entrance.

3. We are still in need of some volunteers to shop for Christmas food baskets for senior citizens. We spend approximately \$50.00 for food and purchase a gift of a value of about \$25.00, for a total of about \$75.00 for each senior.

Any questions concerning these community service projects should be directed to Mary Ann Podraza. Thank you.



President Kay giving \$10,000 check to Jackie Morrison from Shalom House.



Betty Barnes speaking about the United Nations at the October meeting.

Support CEDAW

You can support the U.S. ratification of CEDAW (United Nations Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women) by writing to members of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. They need to hear from you—the ratification of CEDAW is long overdue! Visit [Act Now!](#) on the SIA website for more information

Commission on the Status of Women

The 54th session of the [Commission on the Status of Women](#) will take place at the United Nations in New York City, March 1-12, 2010. The commission will undertake the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly (2000). In addition, the NGO Committee on the Status of Women will hold the [NGO Global Forum for Women: Beijing +15](#) on February 27-28. Soroptimists are invited to participate in both meetings (at their own expense). Email lori@soroptimist.org for more information.

Sales Item



Squeeze it, twist it, and squish it! Banish your anxiety with a [Soroptimist planet earth stress ball](#). This new sales item makes a great and affordable promotional giveaway at conferences and club events.

Hands Across Borders in Cambodia

A Federation of Soroptimist International of South West Pacific project initiated by Soroptimist International Dusit in Thailand, this multi-faceted project aims at improving the health and education services for this impoverished community. Some homes are little more than cardboard shacks, which do not provide adequate protection. Malaria is rife, HIV/Aids are rampant, and malnutrition is extremely common. Land mines and unexploded ordinances are located throughout the surrounding agricultural fields, making the production of crops extremely dangerous. Education of both women and men will help rebuild the damaged society.

Did you know?

We have a program called Open Heart - Open Door. Henny Knap-Go is the new Liaison Officer for Open Heart - Open Door hkhknapgo@chello.nl. The Open Heart - Open Door program has five options, from home hospitality to an exchange program for young relatives. It can also be used to find women that have a similar professional interest as you. The Open Heart - Open Door network is another great opportunity to extend our Soroptimist International Friendship whether you are the one fortunate to be able to travel or lucky enough to have SI members come to visit you.

Here are a few of the options that you have when you join:

1. Offer home hospitality to one or two Soroptimists or a couple
2. Be only contact person and guide in my own town
3. Take part in an exchange program
4. Take part in a holiday exchange program e.g. home-exchange (city home/chalet/apartment/holiday-house).
5. Participate in the youth exchange program for young relatives,

The form is located on the SIE website:

<http://www.soroptimisteurope.org/data/file/OHOD.DOC>

Friendship Link

Friendship Links offer the possibility to Soroptimists to connect with other Clubs worldwide to **share projects** and **offer support and friendship**. Members of a Soroptimist club enjoy learning about the country and culture of their Friendship Link. This amicable relationship between two clubs from within our European Federation or any other Federation gives members the opportunity of exchanging hospitality, visiting other Soroptimists and attending their special events. In order that a Friendship Link can be made, a Club makes a formal request to a Club of their choice. If the invitation is accepted a form is completed and returned to SIEHQ. Once the link has been formalized, SIEHQ shall send back a letter confirming the official registration of the new Friendship Link.

New Corporate Sponsorship

After seeing the SIA ad in the August 23rd *New York Times* Sunday Magazine, Jackson Hewitt's chief technology officer, Danamichele Brennan, contacted Debra Beach, SIA's director of corporate relations, to discuss ways in which Jackson Hewitt and SIA could work together. The program that most interested Ms. Brennan is our Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Awards, and she was **very** excited about the possibility of donating laptops to help inspire greater participation in the program. After discussion and approvals from both partners were finalized, the agreement was made for Jackson Hewitt to donate 25 brand-new IBM ThinkPad laptop computers, fully equipped with operating systems and basic software. This donation is valued at approximately \$27,000.



Meada giving out strawberries to first time attendees.



Meada presiding over the meeting



Alice coordinating the Treasurers breakout session.

NAR District IV Fall Meeting

On Saturday, October 31, the 2009 Fall District IV meeting was hosted by the SI Somerset Club. District IV Director, Meada McAllister, from our Club, presided. The general session's workshop topics included "We Are The World" and the "Lazy Leader." Clubs were encouraged to know the current themes of Soroptimist International, Federation, and Region as well as Club mission statements. Ways to get involved with Club projects that reflect an international focus were highlighted. Equally stressed was the importance of each Club member giving and doing her part to build a productive and enjoyable Club lessening the burden for a few, increasing the pleasure for all. Our Club, SI Harrisburg, PA, received three recognitions: a certificate for our participation in the 2009 Women's Opportunity Award, a Club Attendance Award for traveling the most distance, and a Club Attendance Award for having the most members from a Club in attendance.

As the president's alternate, it was a joy to represent our Club.

As reported by Renee **Jones**

FRIENDSHIP LINKS NEWS

Bras in the Bay

At our conference in Cardiff this year, SIGBI will be working in partnership with Oxfam by donating hundreds of bras. This is what the official [press release says](#):

Cardiff Bay will be filled with bras of all shapes, sizes and colours on the afternoon of Saturday 31st October. Oxfam and SI GBI will be working in partnership to collect the greatest number of bras ever. Over 1600 women, members of SI from around the world, will be gathering in Cardiff Bay to donate their bras to Oxfam. The bras will be sent to Oxfam's Wastesaver textile sorting centre in Huddersfield, from where clothes, including bras, are sorted for resale around the world. Wastesaver currently sells bras to wholesalers in developing countries, such as those in Senegal who sell the bras on to local traders and small companies who sell them to local women, thus providing employment opportunities and meeting the needs of local people, particularly women.

SIAM – 9 years on

Many members will remember the Quadrennial Appeal 1995-99 – SIAM: Soroptimist International Aids Mediation. The project was in Thailand, in one of the villages and towns. Ann Dawson & Trish Mellor gave a presentation demonstrating the continued success of the project. It is now running in 9 villages, AIDS has decreased, as has the population. Local people have learned how to run their own communities and are able to preserve their traditions. Soroptimists are continually thanked for making this possible.

International Friendship Day- October 3rd

The club sent greetings to all Friendship Link Clubs and, along with other clubs throughout the world, made a donation to Project Sierra in the name of friendship.

Name: Janet Smith

Born, raised and lived in Central Pennsylvania all my life. Divorced, one son and a daughter-in-law living in King of Prussia. Two grandchildren, Chelsea, 2 years old and Gavin, 1 year old. Growing up, I always wanted to be a wife and mother and had no desire for an outside career. Life changes and I became a working, single mother. I went to the Harrisburg Area Community College and went to work for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Throughout the majority of my career, I worked in Personnel/Human Resources I worked for the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Office of Affirmative Action in the Governor's Office and at the State Correctional Institution at Camp Hill. I retired in 2002 as the Director of Human Resources at Camp Hill. It was a great career but I do like retirement better.

My mother always told me... look for good in people and treat everyone, as you want to be treated.

The exercise I most enjoy is...walking my dog Lilly.

When I read for pleasure, I like a book that... is a mystery.

The best trip I've ever taken was to... England with my son to visit relatives.

I find my greatest joy in life by... helping others.

I find peace and serenity by... sitting on my patio watching the birds, squirrels, and rabbits in my garden.

What really makes me laugh is... being with my grandchildren.

What is the most important Soroptimist program to you personally? Awarding scholarships to deserving women

VENTURE NEWS

No report given.

Ongoing donations: Pull-tabs, Magazines for recycling, Eye glasses, DVS donations from needs list, Cell phones



Thanksgiving





**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
OF HARRISBURG, PA INC.**

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Jayne Brinkley	Gretta Morrow
Kay Straw	Dorothy Sutton

WE ARE ON THE WEB
www.harrisburgsoroptimist.org

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.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thanks to everyone who helped in the preparation of this issue of the Soroptigram. Many hands make light work.