



SOROPTIMIST®  
Investing in Dreams

February 2024  
Issue

# SOROPTIGRAM

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.

## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MARYBETH

### **February Program**

Dental Health  
Services

Emily Nardella  
United Way of the  
Capital Region

### **INVOCATION**

February  
Maria Lagasca

**DATE: February 27**

**TIME: 1 P.M.**

**PLACE:** Romano's  
Macaroni Grill  
2531 Brindle Drive  
(Shoppes of  
Susquehanna)

**Cost:** Each is  
responsible for her  
order.

*It's February. Love is in the air. Bright red, happy, and healthy hearts symbolize the month of February. **Wear red for Heart Prevention Month.** The American Heart Association designated this month as heart prevention in 1963. We can keep our hearts healthy by maintaining our social connections. Let's remember our members and loved ones with cards and phone calls. As well as by spending time with loved ones. I hope to see lots of red at our February meeting.*

*We Soroptimist can strengthen our hearts with community outreach, and active Club participation. Our nominating committee, led by Sally Straining, will be making calls for election to open Board positions. Thank you, Sally! Hopefully you will be able to support the growth and mission of the Club by serving. Warm the hearts of the committee by saying yes, when called. We are few but we still need to carry on the work of Soroptimist.*

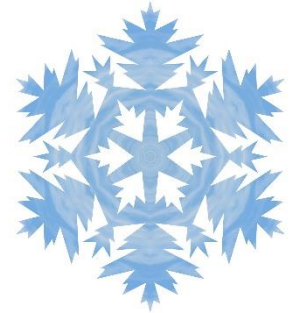
*The month is short but there is plenty of time left to spread love.*

*Blessings,  
Marybeth*



## ***FEBRUARY 27<sup>th</sup> MEETING***

Our Luncheon meeting on Tuesday, **February 27<sup>th</sup> will be held at 1:00 PM** at Romano's Macaroni Grill, 2531 Brindle Road (at the Shoppes of Susquehanna), Harrisburg. Each person will order off the menu and pay their own bill. You need to contact Billie Hawk by Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> to inform her if you will be attending.



We will hear from Emily Nardella, Program Manager for the United Way of the Capital Region's Contact to Care program which works to improve access to healthcare, including oral health care, in our community.

We will also conduct our memorial service for Peggy Schmidt who passed away in January.



## ***FEBRUARY COLLECTION***

We will be collecting dental care products to be given to the United Way.

## ***PEGGY SCHMIDT MEMORIAL***

Miss Peggy Lynn Schmidt, 73, of Old Colonial Road, Harrisburg, PA, passed away in her home January 10, 2024.

Peggy was born January 25, 1950 in Buffalo, NY and lived briefly in Shelby, OH, and Stanford, CT, but spent most of her elementary school years, and all of her High School years, in Wyckoff, NJ. Peggy attended Ramapo Regional High School '68 and Lycoming College '72 where she was selected in her senior year to be 1 of 10



Homecoming Candidates. She earned her Undergraduate degree in Psychology and went on to earn her master's degree in special education at William Paterson College.

After college, Peggy returned to Wyckoff and worked for several years as a Special Education teacher at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School. Peggy had a deep and caring love of children however the stress and emotional demands of this profession unfortunately took their toll. As a result, she decided to change careers and moved back to her college town of Williamsport, PA where she became a licensed insurance agent. This profession eventually took her to Harrisburg, PA, where she developed a strong bond with the community. She joined St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Soroptimist International of Harrisburg of PA Club, where she was a director, and the Wool and Flax Knitting group.

### **LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARDS**

Our first-place winner is Jennina Moore. She is presently living at Bethesda Women's Shelter. She is enrolled in the Pre-Health/Nursing program at HACC. She hopes to graduate in 2027. She has been a caretaker since her teens as she cared for her grandmother who needed 24 hr. assistance. She has also had to care for her father who was an amputee. Caring comes naturally for Jennina, she attributes her passion for caring as a gift from God. We wish her all the best as she works to reach her goals.



Our second-place winner is Jasmine Williams. She is pursuing a career in Criminal Justice. She will graduate in June of 2025. She is most interested in youth. She hopes to open a center for problematic youth. She feels her taking up criminal justice as a field of study will help her achieve this goal, as it is providing her with the knowledge, support and understanding of today's family's needs. She feels this knowledge will support her in helping today's youth. Congratulations Jasmine and best wishes in moving towards reaching your goals.

### **BIRTHDAYS**



February 4 – Joan Gibson and Maria Lagasca

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:



February 27<sup>th</sup> SI Harrisburg Lunch meeting 1 p.m. Macaroni Grill

March 7<sup>th</sup> SIA 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tea Party, 8 p.m. via ZOOM

March 12<sup>th</sup> SI Harrisburg Board, 6 p.m. at Susan Wolfe's residence

March 26<sup>th</sup> SI Harrisburg Dinner Meeting, 6 p.m. Faith Immanuel Presbyterian Church

April 9<sup>th</sup> SI Harrisburg Board, 6 p.m. at Susan Wolfe's residence

April 24<sup>th</sup> SI Harrisburg Lunch meeting 1 p.m. Macaroni Grill

April 26-28, 2024 – NAR Spring Conference, Gettysburg, PA

July 24-27, 2024 – SIA Convention, Bellevue, Washington

## CALL TO SPRING CONFERENCE

We have received the call to NAR Spring Conference which will be held from April 26 to the 28<sup>th</sup> at the Wyndham Gettysburg in Gettysburg PA. The theme of the 96<sup>th</sup> annual conference is the “Ghosts of Gettysburg”, starting with a Women of Gettysburg Tour on Friday afternoon, through a costume party on Friday evening and the Saturday banquet entertainment called “Aunt Hattie’s House”.



The club will need to send in registrations before the end of March so let the treasurer know if you would like to attend the conference by our March meeting.

## NAR Region Service Project ...

will be the YWCA Hanover Domestic Violence Pantry Needs. They are asking clubs to bring any of the following items to Conference with the club members:



- Rice • Pasta • Pasta Sauce • Fruit (Canned or Dried) • Hormel Compleats - or microwaveable shelf stable meals • Ramen • Tuna • Canned Chicken • Multicultural Hair Products • Baking Soda • Spice - especially Salt • Reusable Shopping Bags • Individually wrapped snacks - granola bars, crackers, cookies, Chips etc. • Cleaning Supplies • Diapers especially large size • Pullups • Baby Wipes • Gift Cards - Walmart, Target, Amazon

## GIANT GROCERY CARDS

Treat a senior citizen, a family member and or give a gift to a family or individual in need of assistance. Giant grocery cards can be purchased in the amount of \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, and \$100 by contacting Jacalyn Speaks at [jcspeaks@aol.com](mailto:jcspeaks@aol.com). The club receives 5% of the value of cards sold.



## SIA's 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL TEA PARTY FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

SIA is once again hosting a virtual tea party to celebrate International Women's Day on March 7<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m. EST. Join the ZOOM via the email forwarded to everyone on February 12<sup>th</sup> for a global celebration. Misplace your email? Let the Soroptigram editor know, and she will send it again. This virtual event will be presented with simultaneous interpretation in all our languages.



Whether you're enjoying your favorite tea, coffee or another beverage of your choice, we'll be united in spirit to honor the strength and resilience of women. Come to the event with your own tea party dress attire! This can be country-specific traditional attire for teas or your best hat/fascinator, pearls and gloves.

## DISHCLOTHS FOR SALE



Handmade crocheted dishcloths will be for sale at dinner meetings. Funds are donated to our club. Prices:  
 1 dishcloth \$4.00  
 2 dishcloths \$7.00

## FRIENDSHIP LINK

You can now connect with our English friendship link on Facebook:  
<http://sigbi.org/cannock-and-district/>  
 Or via the web at: <http://sigbi.org/cannock-and-district/>



## 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.

*We are on the web at:  
WWW: [si-harrisburg.org](http://si-harrisburg.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

SOROPTIMIST  
INTERNATIONAL  
Of  
HARRISBURG, PA, INC.

2023-2024 OFFICERS &  
BOARD

President: MaryBeth Lehtimaki

Vice President:

***PLEASE CONSIDER***

Recording Secretary:

M. Susan Wolfe

Corresponding Secretary:

Patti Krow

Treasurer: Alice Lubrecht

Directors:

Billie Hawk 2023-24

Jackie Speakes 2023-24

Vacant 2023-25

Delegates:

Joan Gibson 2022-24

Sally Straining 2023-25