## Soroptigram

## President's Message:

March is here, and spring will arrive this week and OH how glorious it has been. Those 70 degree days were amazing. The mild weather has allowed us to get a jump on our outdoor chores. We are handling the chores of our Club as well. Joan Gibson has agreed to chair our nomination committee this year. Thank you, Joan! Please make her chore easier and say yes when she calls.

WE not only have chores to do, as this is the busy season of the Club, but we can experience some levity as we celebrate ST. Patrick's Day and wear green or orange as you choose, as both represent the diversity of Ireland and can symbolize for us our own rich diversity. We all can enjoy the blooming of the earth and be reminded that in all things there is an opportunity for joy. The flowers are starting to Bloom. My snow drops are everywhere. Soon there will be cherry blossoms and forsythia budding on branches, tulips and daffodils gently poking through the soil, with all their glory.

I hope all of you stay safe and warm as the winds blow and the snow flies between the warm and balmy days that will come to tease us. While you are staying warm, you will have time for all the many tasks which come before us as we prepare for the awards nights, our annual meeting and plans for our coming year.

I hope your remember to wear Green to our dinner meeting and Orange if you choose. Let's celebrate St. Paddy and our diversity.

Blessings,

Marybeth



## SOROPTIMIST

## **Investing in Dreams**

MARCH'S MEETING PROGRAM
Live Your Deam

INSPIRATION
Billie Hawk

MONTHLY COLLECTION
Diapers for the
Diaper Bank

DATE: March 25

TIME: 6 PM

PLACE: Faith Immanuel Presbyterian Church,

**Colonial Road** 

**DINNER COST: \$20** 



## **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

March 25—SI Dinner meeting, Faith Immanuel Presbyterian Church. LYD Awardees

April 8—SI Harrisburg
Board meeting

April 22—SI Dinner meeting, Faith Immanual

Presbyterian Church. Ruby Award winner

April 24 — Red Robin Fundraiser, 4 to 8 p.m.

May 2-4, 2025 — NAR Spring Conference, Glen Falls NY

## **March Meeting**

In March we will recognize our LYD winners:



Hannah Foltz of York is our first place winner. She is the mother of two one 6 the other 12. She is also responsible for a parent. Hannah will attend Pa College of Technology, with the goal of becoming a Pediatric Radiologist. After her two year course of study she plans to further her studies by certifying in MRI,CT, and PET radiograms.

Jesenia Matias is our second place winner. She is the mother of three children 1,4, and 15. She has completed two years a York College for her Associates in Criminal Justice and is now enrolled in Southern New Hampshire University to complete a Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Cyber Security. Her goal is to work with human trafficking.

Diaper Collection for Central PA Diaper Bank! Any size is accepted but in most need are Sizes 3, 4 and 6.

Our Hands On Activity will be Notes for Moms to be used with the Diaper packs

#### **SOROPTIMIST UPLIFT HER!**

For March, we will focus on projects that increase access to education for **single mothers**. Across the diverse countries and territories of Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.®—spanning North America, Latin America and the Pacific Rim—there is an unfortunate commonality: single mothers face obstacles to achieving their dreams and providing for their families.

Balancing work or school with childcare, navigating lower wages and combating social stigma—single mothers across our federation endure these struggles every day. Yet, they continue to persevere, fighting valiantly for a brighter future.

### Single mothers need our help.

In the United States, single mothers pursuing education face enormous barriers to academic success, with financial challenges being the greatest obstacle. Securing necessities like food, housing, transportation, and childcare makes it hard for single moms to complete their degree (source: IWPR). As a result, more than half of first-time student parents leave college within six years of enrollment—without their degree, but often

SINGLE MOTHERS

2.7 million

single mothers
currently
attend college
in the U.S.

(source: IWPR)

Soroptimist.org

Soroptimist.org

with student loans to repay.

### SIA President Elect Election is taking place now.

SI Harrisburg's Board will have a Board Recommendation for the club at our March meeting. Soroptigram for your reading before the meeting.

A PDF of the Candidate Bios is included with this



#### **DREAM IT BE IT**



We will be responsible for filling 50 daypacks with items for the girls to use as part of the DIBI event in May. The bags have been purchased and we would like to collect items for the bags in April. Suggested items are: water bottles, snacks and granola bars, pens, and

small notepads.

Interested in helping at the event? You will need your child clearances. Check out the PA Department of Human Services website for the way to obtain your clearance. <a href="https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dhs/">https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dhs/</a>

#### **FUNDRAISING**



SI HARRISBURG IS HOSTING A FUNDRAISER EVENT AT THE RED ROBIN ON JONESTOWN ROAD (NEAR THE KOHLS STORE) ON THURSDAY, APRIL 24 FROM 4 TO 8 P.M. PLEASE SHARE THE FLYER

WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY. THIS SHOULD BE AN EASY WAY TO RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR CLUB'S PROJECTS TO SUPPORT HARRISBURG'S WOMEN AND GIRLS!



## 20% OF FOOD SALES\*

# SOROPTIMIST OF HARRISBURG

Show this flyer or simply mention the fundraiser to your server to have your sales counted.

#### **FUNDRAISER DETAILS**

5125 Jonestown Rd Suite 125, Harrisburg, PA 17112 April 24, 2025 4PM – 8PM

#### If ordering online, please follow these instructions:

- 1 Start your order at redrobin.com/order and select the restaurant above.
- 2 In the menu, go to the category labeled "Fundraisers (To-Go Only)" and click on that item.
- Click the "add" button, and then "add to bag."
- Add your meal items and check out.
- Arrive at Red Robin, come in, say hi, grab your food and be on your way! If your location has curbside pick-up, we can bring it to your car too!

\*Donation based on all eligible net dine-in and to-go food sales only. Excludes sales from catering (at select locations), 3rd party ordering and delivery sites, alcohol, gift cards, retail, tax and gratuity. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant during fundraiser day & hours.





## Soroptimist International of Harrisburg's Mission

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.

## Soroptimist International of Harrisburg

We are on the web at: Www.si-Harrisburg.org

SOROPTIGRAM DEADLINE: The first Wednesday of each month.

Editor: Alice Lubrecht

## Soroptimist International of Harrisburg PA Inc

#### 2024-2025 Officers and Board

President: Marybeth Lehtimaki Recording Secretary: M Susan Wolfe Corresponding Secretary: Patti Krow

Treasurer: Alice Lubrecht

Directors:

Billie Hawk 2024-2026 Jackie Speaks 2024-2026 Joan Gibson 2024-2025

Delegates:

Joan Gibson 2024-2026 Sally Straining 2024-2025