



SOROPTINEWS



Soroptimist International of Middletown

April 2013



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

President Barb's Update

April showers bring May flowers.

Let's hope so!

April will be a busy month for us with our Awards Night, the ACS Survivors' luncheon, and Spring Conference.

As this club year winds down, I'd like to thank our members who agreed to be our speakers

this year. The programs were well-received. We have enough members in different occupations that we can ask to enlighten us again next year. Let the board know if you are willing to share. Thank you to Ann, Judy, Judi, Patt & Sherry, and Beth. Barb and Pam will share Spring Conference information in May.

Barb

Soroptimist Awards Quick Facts:

- Each year, more than \$1.5 million is disbursed through cash awards at various levels of the organization.
- Many recipients have overcome enormous obstacles including poverty, domestic violence, and drug and alcohol abuse.
- The awards may be used to offset any costs associated with efforts to attain higher education, such as books, childcare and transportation

Committee Reports

April's meeting will be our Awards Night. Carole needs an accurate headcount of members, guests, winners, family, and judges ASAP. Member cost will be \$10. Try to meet as many of our guests as you can and offer your congratulations.

Scholarship chairs—Please introduce any judges in attendance and have your winners introduce their family members. E-mail Jo those names so she can make nametags ahead of time. **Have you gone online to print out certificates for your winners?** Please bring a copy of their application and any interesting tidbits to be included in the newspaper article. Ask them to sign a media release. (Sometimes winners are from a domestic violence situation, and we need to make sure it's OK to print their information and picture).

Just a reminder----the American Cancer Society's RELAY For LIFE Survivors' Luncheon is Saturday, April 20th at Monroe Methodist Church. Those Club members who have already signed up to help serve are Carole Schul, Karen Dillon, Ginger Bruggeman, Pam Linzie, Stephanie Shouse, Beth Miller (?), Sue Willis, Mary Maurer, Jo Ashworth and Denise Brown (prospective new member). We can always use more help ---just let Dee know if you'd like to join the "crew". Also---please remember to bring a gallon of tea---Judy S will supply a large jug filled with ice so we can make iced tea to serve guests. Please arrive by 11 a.m. to make make sandwiches, serve salad and plate dessert. Wear your Soroptimist golf shirt, dark slacks and a big smile --- it will be a fun day.

This Month's Meeting to be held at :

April 11th
6pm @
Middletown Arts Center
Program:
Awards
Presentation
Raffle: Jo
Inspiration: Anita

April Birthdays:

7th - Karen Dillon



Next Month's Meeting to be held at :

Middletown Arts Center
Program:
Spring Conference Report
Raffle: Elaine
Inspiration: Pat



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Best for Women



We're on the Web!

www.middletownsoroptimist.org

Local club

www.soroptimist.org

International

www.simwr.org

Region



Inspiration

April ~ Anita
May ~ Pat
June ~ Beth

Raffle

April ~ Jo
May ~ Elaine
June ~ Anita

Dates to Remember

April 4 - 6:30 Board Meeting at Barb's House

April 11 - 6 Awards Night, Middletown Arts Center, please plan to gather at 6 or soon after to greet our winners and guests

April 20 - 11:00 ACS Survivor luncheon, Monroe Methodist Church

April 26-28 Spring Conference at Dearborn Inn in Michigan.

May 23 7:30 GED Graduation Ceremony

July 23-26, 2014 Convention in Vancouver, Canada

Women At Their Best,
Helping Women Be Their Best.

Member Spotlight –Betty Huck

This month's spotlight is on Betty Huck. Betty has been a member of the Middletown club since 2001. She is a transplant from the Cincinnati club where she joined in 1988. Betty was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and has lived in northern Kentucky, New Jersey, and southern Ohio. She was a clerk at Western & Southern for three years, had lots of positions at P&G for 33 years, and is now Chapter Relations Manager for Women in Aviation. She really enjoys this job! Betty learned about Soroptimist when a friend from another women's organization invited her to the Cincinnati club's luncheon/fundraiser. Then she was invited to a new member recruitment event, and the rest is history. Betty has held every office and has been on every committee. She was even a District Director, and

that is how she became involved with the Middletown club. She has attended District Meetings, Spring Conferences, and Conventions, so she has been a very active member. Betty is also a member of the Laurel Society. When asked about things we might not know about her, Betty replied that she loves to travel anywhere. She listens to books in the car while traveling. She also enjoys going to the theater. She says she has too many embarrassing moments or happy moments to list, but recently retiring from P&G was a happy moment. Her schooling was at Xavier University where she obtained a BSBA in Accounting and an MBA in Finance and Management. We are happy to have Betty as an active member of our club! (Does anyone think Betty reminds them of Betty Boop? J)

SUNSHINE Be sure to let Pat, Jo, or Dee know if you have Sunshine or Cloud information to announce.



SOROPTIMIST

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Our Awards

The **Violet Richardson Award** is a recognition program for young women ages 14-17 engaged in volunteer action within their communities or schools. The award is given to young women whose activities make the community and world a better place.

The **Virginia Wagner Award** is specific to those states in Midwestern Region: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Women residing in these states who are attending college/university in pursuit of a bachelors, masters or doctoral degree are eligible to apply. Judging is based on effort toward education, scholarship, extracurricular activities and financial need.

The **Women's Opportunity Awards** program was established in 1972 to assist women with primary financial responsibility for their families to obtain the skills-training and education necessary to improve their employment status and standard of living for themselves and their family.

The **SI Middletown Miami University Scholarship** is a unique award created and offered by the SI Middletown club only. It is offered annually to one or more female students who have graduated within the past eight years from a high school or GED program, is age 25 or under, and is enrolled as a full-time freshman, sophomore, or junior student at Miami University Middletown. This award is made on the basis of academic performance, the potential for advancement, and financial need.

Club Email Address: simiddletown@soroptimist.net



SOROPTINEWS



Soroptimist International of Middletown

March 2013



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

President Barb's Update

Irish Blessing

May the road rise to greet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
May the rains fall soft upon your fields,
And, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Didn't we have a great time at the February meeting? I didn't know we had so many creative ladies in our midst! Come to the March meeting to pick up your creation. We'll take a group photo and submit it to the Journal for a little PR. I'm being optimistic that we can get a group to attend Spring Conference. If you have never been before, there is no time like the present to attend. We always have a good time and good conversation in the car when we travel. The workshops and speakers sound interesting. I don't know how many of the e-mails I receive as president that you also

receive since they have most everyone's e-mail addresses. I hesitate to send you lots of information in case they are duplications, but I will attach a copy of The Call so you can read the agenda and perhaps be motivated to attend. The awards luncheon alone makes the trip worthwhile!

I'd like to give a BIG thank-you to my brother, Mick Leffler, who has been our webmaster for as long as we've had our website. He has done a great job! Because of declining health, he has chosen to give up the websites he manages. Since he designed and managed it at no charge for all these years, the board voted to send a gift card as a thank-you. We'll have a card at the March meeting for all members to sign and write notes of appreciation. Thanks, big brother.

Barb

Committee Reports

PROGRAM

OUTREACH - Continue to bring your toiletries, old cell phones, and new or gently used sweat suits to the meeting for distribution. Toiletries will go to Center of Hope for Women and Children since Dove House has closed in Middletown. Cell phones will go to the senior center where they will be recycled. Sweat suits will be taken to Atrium where they will be used in the mental health area.

OUTREACH—Our club agreed again to serve the American Cancer Society Survivors' Luncheon. It's a "feel good" event—survivors and their caregivers are so appreciative. Guests are invited to arrive at noon, with lunch scheduled to be served at 12:30 p.m., so we need to gather in the kitchen at Monroe Methodist Church (same place as last year)

at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 20. Please wear your Soroptimist (golf) shirt and dark slacks/skirt, so folks will know WHO we are. The details of the menu have not yet been officially confirmed, but hopefully we'll again do the chicken salad croissants, garden salad, dessert, and drinks—lemonade, water, coffee, etc. How awesome it would be if all our club members could be there! It's a great way to work together—be of service to some deserving folks—and have FUN at the same time. See you there! Dee

(If you joined after we ordered shirts, Barb will check to see if we can order more. Or maybe you can borrow a shirt from a member who can't work that day. Otherwise, a white top will do.

Governor's Club Report Form & Assessment

This is a yearly form to fill out and return before the end of March. That way Soroptimist can keep up to date on all the clubs and their activities. One of the things clubs are asked to do is fill out some forms. You received a club assessment form with last month's newsletter. Only two were

returned. Therefore, another one is being attached to this newsletter. Please return it by e-mail or print it off and bring it to the March meeting (or mail it if you are not able to attend). These forms are helpful. The board goes over them and compiles your thoughts and suggestions. Thank you for your help.

This Month's Meeting to be held at :

March 14th
6pm @
Middletown Arts Center
Program:
Beth Miller
School Psychologist
Raffle: Pam
Inspiration: Pam

February Birthdays:

2nd - Beth Miller
7th - Karen Mehl
11th - Pam Linzie
13th - Mary Maurer
13th - Ingrid Standafer

Next Month's Meeting to be held at :

Middletown Arts Center
Program:
Awards Presentation
Raffle: Jo
Inspiration: Anita



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Inspiration

March ~ Pam
April ~ Anita
May ~ Pat
June ~ Beth

Raffle

March ~ Pam
April ~ Jo
May ~ Elaine
June ~ Anita

Dates to Remember

March 7 - 6:30 board meeting at Barb's
March 8 - International Women's Day
March 10 - Daylight Savings Time begins.
Spring forward
March 14 - business meeting at MAC
6:00 socialize
6:30 dinner
March 22 - Spring Conference room
reservation deadline

March 30 - Spring Conference registration
deadline
April 20 - ACS Survivor luncheon - 11:00
Monroe Methodist Church
April 26-28 Spring Conference at
Dearborn Inn in Michigan.
May 23 7:30 GED Graduation Ceremony
July 23-26, 2014 Convention in
Vancouver, Canada

*Women At Their Best,
Helping Women Be Their Best.*

Committee Reports (Continued)

FUNDRAISING—Budget needs to be presented at the April meeting and voted on at the May meeting. If you have suggestions or information needed to prepare the budget, please give to Treasurer Sue or Barb ASAP.

PROGRAM—All scholarship and award applications are now in. MUM is currently being judged. We look forward to April's meeting when we will meet these women and present them with their checks and certificates.

MEMBERSHIP—Make a list of women you know who might be potential members of our club. Think of your daughters and their friends, your business contacts, your friends and neighbors, etc. Just brainstorm. Plant some "seeds." If we get enough names, we will hold a membership event to let them know what a great group Soroptimist is! Think of how much more we could do with more members. Stephanie has volunteered her house as a location to hold a membership event.

BY-LAWS—These were distributed and discussed at the February meeting. They will be voted on at the March meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE—The president's representative is Ingrid Standafer. The board's representative is Stephanie Shouse. Ann Munafo is willing to be the membership's representative. If there are other nominations for a representative from the membership, we will vote on those names at the March meeting. If not, the membership will vote to approve Ann as its representative. The nominating committee will prepare a slate of officers to present at the April meeting. The slate will be voted on in May, and officers will be installed in June. Please give serious consideration to being an officer. If you would like to be considered, please talk with one of the members of the nominating committee. You are welcome to "shadow" the current officers to learn first-hand what is required. Officers are President, Vice-president, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and one and two-year Board Members.

Member Spotlight – Judi Kuntz

This month's spotlight is on one of our newer members, Judi Kuntz. Judi joined in February 2011 after she was invited by Ingrid. Judi was born in Cincinnati and has lived in 13 states: CA, IN, AL, TX, ME, SC, NC, GA, IL, WV, NM, CO, OH. She has held several jobs in her career: Pharmacy Tech, Health Inspector, Industrial Hygienist, EHS Manager, and Corporate IH Manager. Busy lady. She stepped up this year to be the WOA chair. Little did she know how busy that would keep her, but she said she really enjoyed it! Although she hasn't had a chance to attend a District Meeting or Spring Conference yet, we'll try to change that in the future. When asked if there was anything we might not know about her, she replied that she likes scuba diving, fishing, and reading. She received Hazardous Duty ribbon while on active duty in the US Public Health Service for work on "Project Firesmoke." We're glad to have Judi as an active member of our club.

SUNSHINE Be sure to let Pat, Jo, or Dee know if you have Sunshine or Cloud information to announce.



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

Club Email Address: simiddletown@soroptimist.net



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
OF MIDDLETOWN, OHIO

Best for Women

2013 MAY SOROPTINEWS

Wasn't the April Awards Night a nice evening? It's always rewarding to meet our winners and see first-hand how we are helping deserving women with their education. Our club was also of help when we served the American Cancer Society's Survivors' Luncheon. It's such a warm feeling when we can help people. We'll get another chance for a warm feeling when we help with the GED graduation. I'm proud of the ways we get involved with the community. Remember—"Life is like a game of tennis; the player who serves well seldom loses." Anonymous

We will vote on our slate of officers and our budget at the May meeting. It is important that you be there to make your vote count. Barb and Pam will also report on Spring Conference.

It would be fun to have a summer get-together. It could be a picnic, a game night, a social evening, or a pound-party that we haven't had for a while. It could be just members, or we could include spouses and significant others. We could even invite potential members and make it a membership event. If you have suggestions or would like to volunteer your home as a location, please let one of the officers know.

Looking forward to seeing you May 9th!

Barb

COMMITTEE REPORTS BUDGET

The budget was presented at the April meeting and will be voted on at the May meeting.

SLATE OF OFFICERS

The slate of officers was presented at the April meeting and will be voted on at the May meeting. The nominating committee is hoping a volunteer will come forward to serve as Recording Secretary.

President—Pam Linzie

Vice-President—Frances Neu

Recording Secretary--?

Corresponding Secretary—Judi Kuntz

Treasurer—Sue Willis

2-year Board Member—Barb Flory

1-year Board Member—Dee Markle

SPRING CONFERENCE

Spring Conference was April 26-28 in Dearborn, Michigan. Pam and Barb attended and will report at the May meeting. There were 179 in attendance representing 28 clubs and 6 states in the Midwestern Region. There were also visitors from California and Australia. We viewed the movie *Miss Representation* which first premiered in the documentary competition at the Sundance Film Festival where it caught the eye of the Oprah Winfrey Network. It exposes how mainstream media contribute to the under-representation of women in positions of power and influence in America. A panel discussion followed. There was a keynote motivational speaker and a keynote speaker on transformational leadership. Workshops on SOLT, 12 Ways Women Throw Away Their Power, Commission on the Status of Women, How to Solicit Donations and

Potential Donors, and Your Professional Image were offered. Entertainment on Saturday night looked like a female rock concert with guests dressed as rockers. (Yes, Pam and Barb rocked the place!) It was fun to reconnect with old friends and make new friends and learn more about all the wonderful things this organization does.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

In the spotlight this month are the board members who have served this year. A couple will remain, but most will be replaced by new faces.

Barb Flory has served as President for the past two years this time around. Barb was born in Middletown and has made Middletown her home except for 1966-1981 when she lived in Knoxville, Germany, Oxford, and Kettering. She has always been a teacher, starting out as a first-grade teacher, then as a reading specialist, and ending up as a literacy advisor and ABLE/GED teacher. Barb joined the Middletown club in 1988. Her mother was a member, and they became the first mother/daughter duo in the club. That is probably her favorite Soroptimist story to share. There was a picnic that summer at Ingrid's house, and approximately 12 new members joined. Barb has held all the offices except treasurer over the years and was Ways & Means co-chair for many years until the last two years. She has attended District Meetings, Spring Conferences, and even one Convention. She loves to travel, and her "temporary" retirement job is being her church's pianist. She wonders how temporary this will be since it's already been two years.

This year's Vice-President has been **Judy Spaulding**. Judy was born in Cincinnati and has always lived in Cincinnati and Middletown. After college at Miami U. in

Oxford, she was a third-grade teacher. She also worked at P&G before becoming a Funeral Director and co-owner of Wilson-Schramm-Spaulding Funeral Home. She joined the same year in 1988 as part of the big group. Judy has been on all the committees and has held the office of Vice-President. For many years she was responsible for distributing the newsletter and is always involved in the printing of fundraiser tickets and programs. Judy has attended the Spring Conference and the District Meeting our club hosted. We all know Judy likes to bake and make candy since we have sampled her creations or purchased chances or bid on them at our fundraiser and December auction. When relaxing, her favorite TV show is "Castle."

Carole Schul has been Recording Secretary for the past two years. Carole was born in Canton, Ohio, and has lived in Ohio; Denver, Colorado; Bellevue, Nebraska; and on the island of Guam. Her various jobs have been in education as a pre-school, kindergarten, and first-grade teacher. During high school, she was a cashier at a woman's shop. She joined the club in 1992 when Barb got her involved. She has been Recording Secretary and "has been head of the Hospitality committee forever" she says. Carole has attended District Meetings and Spring Conferences. When asked if there was something we might not know about her, she said when she was in high school she hated to speak in front of a group and never wanted to hold any office where she had to talk. Other than that, "Everyone knows everything about me!" We all know she is involved in just about every group in town—guess we could call her Ms. Middletown. ☺

Jo Ashworth has been Corresponding Secretary for three years. Jo was born in Lakewood, Ohio, a suburb on the west side

of Cleveland. She has lived in Lakewood; Woodbridge, Virginia; and Middletown. Jo was also an educator, spending most of her time as a third-grade teacher. She also was a past-owner of the Whistle Stop Shop and is presently a Stampin'Up demonstrator. Jo also joined the club in 1988 as part of the big group. She has served as Vice-President and Corresponding Secretary and has been on the Ways & Means, Hospitality, and Sunshine committees. She has co-chaired the Ways & Means committee the past two years. She has attended the District Meetings and Spring Conferences that our club has hosted. When asked what we might not know about her, she replied that "there are too many embarrassing incidents to recall." She loves to do crafts (the club has benefitted from these as favors at our fundraisers). She loves music and sings in her church choir and plays handbells. She is most proud of receiving the Monroe School District's Donna Petrocy Award in recognition of what she achieved during her teaching career.

Sue Willis has been Treasurer for the past two years "this time around." Sue was born in Cincinnati and has lived in Cincinnati; Parlin, NJ; Cedar Grove, NJ; Ft. Wayne, IN; and Liberty Township, Ohio. She worked in retail for Elder-Beerman, buying and store management; Bradlees in New Jersey; Target, store management; Bank One, collections manager; GE, Credit Card Relationship Manager; Countrywide, Loan Officer; and Cincinnati Concours Foundation, Executive Director. Sue joined our club in 1989 when the Dillman's store manager invited her. (Dillman's was located next to Target). Sue dropped out for a couple years and re-joined in 1995. She has been Vice-President, Treasurer, Fundraising Chair, and on the Service Committee. She has attended District Meetings and Spring Conferences. "Some of my favorite times

are meeting the winners of our awards and hearing how we are helping them." When asked about some things we might not know about her, Sue gave quite an interesting list: She has a BA degree in Fine Arts; her husband thinks she is a potential animal hoarder with 3 dogs and 4 cats; the farthest place she has visited is Bali, Indonesia; she is an avid art collector; great experiences include landing in Grand Canyon in a helicopter and climbing up a waterfall in Jamaica; and she and Rick went to a car show fundraiser at the Playboy Mansion. She said a couple life-changing experiences were visiting Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland and traveling to Berlin at the time the wall came down.

Dee Markle was our two-year board member this past year. Dee was born in Canton, Ohio, and has lived in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Dee has always been an educator, too. She has been an elementary classroom teacher, a reading lab specialist, an ABLE/GED teacher, and a kindergarten readiness pre-school teacher. She joined Soroptimist in 1998 after being invited by friends. She has been on lots of committees, has been a board member, and "I have co-chaired Ways & Means for a "VERY LONG TIME." She has attended District Meetings and Spring Conferences. When asked about a favorite Soroptimist story to share, she replied, that would have to be "the year of the lighthouses—They were to be our centerpieces for Spring Conference—Lighthouses were individually poured in Nevin's workshop (Barb and Dan helped)—then hand-painted by several Soroptimists—all in the Markle workshop. We carted them off to Spring Conference—carefully kept them in Barb and Dee's room for the weekend. That year the lighthouses were used again for centerpieces at our fundraiser, called 'Lighting the Way'. Dessert for the day kept with the theme—ladies had 'blue

lips'—do you remember why?" (If you are a newer member and don't know the answer, ask at the next meeting. It's a good story). Her answer to the question about some things we might not know about her was that she received her BS at Heidelberg College and her M.Ed in Reading Specialization at Kent State. Happy moments were planning her daughter's New Year's Eve wedding, spending time with her kids and grandkids, and feeling blessed as a 25-year cancer survivor!

Stephanie Shouse was our one-year board member this past year. She transferred to the Middletown club in 2004. Stephanie is Admissions and Marketing Director for Hawthorn Glen Senior Living Center and enjoys designing jewelry. She used her talents to make our raffle item for Spring Conference. Thank you, talented lady! She is past-president and has attended District Meetings and Spring Conferences. Stephanie is responsible for taking our newsletter information and converting it to the yellow and blue format. (But she is having computer trouble for this newsletter). She spends her free time taking classes at the Middletown Arts Center, decorating her house, and also finds time to volunteer.

CALENDAR

May 2—6:45—board meeting at Barb's. Slated officers welcome to attend
May 9—monthly meeting—**change of location**—at First Christian Church, 4520 Rosedale Rd. at 6:30. Come at 6:00 to socialize.
May 12—Mother's Day
May 23—7:30 GED graduation at MHS theater
May 27—Memorial Day
Oct. 18-19—District Meeting in Springfield
Oct. 26—Fall Fundraiser at MUM
May 2-4, 2014—Spring Conference in Columbus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next month's meeting will be installation of officers and induction of new member(s). We will meet at Beauverre Riordan Stained Glass Studios on the corner of Central and Broad.

Middletown Area Senior Center will have a garage sale on May 17 from 1:00-6:00 and May 18 from 8:00-4:00. They welcome donations. If you want to rent a space on the front lawn for \$25, call Kitty at 423-1734. All proceeds go to support the activities of the senior center.

Middletown Symphony Women's Association will have *Springtime Serenade* featuring Jim McBride and his "One Man Band" on May 11 at Brown's Run Country Club. The cost is \$30. Reservations are due by May 6. For more information, call 425-0799.

MAY BIRTHDAY

May 27—Barb Flory

INSPIRATION

May—Pat

June--Beth

RAFFLE

May—Elaine

June—Anita

SUNSHINE & CLOUDS

Pat Lewis fell in her basement. She hit her head and has a painful hip and leg and says she "looks like a raccoon." They took a CAT scan and said nothing is broken. We wish her a speedy recovery.



SOROPTINEWS



Soroptimist International of Middletown

June 2013



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

President Barb's Update

It's hard to believe another year of Soroptimist activities is coming to a close. Our June meeting will be installation of officers and induction of a new member. Ingrid will do the installation of officers, and Sue will induct our new member. The June meeting is always a special one. This year we will be at the new Stained 1054 Bistro on the corner of Central Ave. and Broad St.

The GED program is always appreciative of the time and effort our club gives to make graduation night special for the graduates. The interim director of the ABLE/GED program, Jan Kesselring, plans to attend our June meeting to thank us personally. Thank you, ladies, for another job well-done!

Dues for the next year will be due at or before our June meeting. If you won't be at the June meeting, please mail them to Treasurer Sue Willis before June 13. An invoice for \$100 will be arriving in your e-mail soon.

Also remember to give some thought to which committees you would like to be actively involved on and bring your request sheet for committee assignments to give to Pam. Carole plans to "retire" as hospitality hostess

after many years, so if you'd like to arrange for the monthly dinners, take reservations, and check members in, please write that on your committee request sheet when you sign up for hospitality committee. A big THANK YOU to

Carole for heading up this committee for many years!

Karen Mehl, Karen Dillon, and Mary Maurer will audit the books after the books are closed this year. Everything doesn't stop just because it's June.

It would be great to have a summer social of some kind. If you have a suggestion or want to volunteer your home or yard, please mention it at the meeting under New Business or tell a board member before the meeting. It could be a picnic, a pound party, a game night such as Bunco, an outing....

Think of ladies you can approach about membership. We could include them in our summer activity. We no longer have an attorney, doctor, hairdresser, banker, or realtor in our group. It would be nice to become a more diverse group.

Maybe you can think of a program we could present to the community similar to the Internet Predator workshop we presented several years ago. Let's make 2013-2014 the year ladies will want to join our club because we are so involved in improving the lives of women and girls and having so much fun doing it!

Have a safe and happy summer!

Barb

Committee Reports

PROGRAM—If you would like to be a speaker at one of our meetings next year, let our vice-president know.

FUNDRAISING—Our fundraiser will be at a new location next year on Miami University Middletown's campus. If you have suggestions for a theme or centerpieces, please let a board member know since committee assignments haven't been made yet.

PUBLIC AWARENESS—If you have ideas of ways to "get our name out" in the community, please pass your ideas along to a board member. We are willing to try new ideas. Maybe you have connections so we could work a food booth at Middfest or Broad Street Bash, or maybe you know whom to contact to wrap presents at Christmas time at the mall. Put on your thinking caps. We could take our banner and wear our polo shirts.

This Month's Meeting to be held at :

June 13th
6pm @

Stained

Program:
Officer Installation

Raffle: Anita
Inspiration: Beth

June Birthdays:

23th - Jo Ashworth

24th - Sue Willis

27th - Judy Spaulding

July Birthdays:

4th - Anita Carroll

19th - Ginger Bruggeman

27th - Elaine Garver

29th - Ann Munafo

Stay Tuned for the Next Meeting Place :

**Have a Safe
and Happy
Summer!**



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International

www.simwr.org

Region



Dates to Remember



June 6, 6:00 p.m. - Board Meeting at Barb's, New officers please plan to attend.



June 13, 6:00 p.m. - Monthly Meeting, Installation of officers, Induction of new member. Come at 6:00 to socialize; dinner is at 6:30.

Oct. 18-19 - District Meeting in Springfield.

Oct. 26 - Fall Fundraiser

May 2-4, 2014 - Spring Conference in Columbus

July 23-26, 2014 Convention in Vancouver, Canada



Inspiration

June ~ Beth

Raffle

June ~ Anita

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Helping Women Be Their Best.*

Membership

Be thinking of some ladies you know who are interested in improving the lives of women and girls to invite to our meetings or activities. It would be great to involve some energetic, younger women!

At Spring Conference, Alex Coon, District IV Secretary, gave a membership moment that I thought was quite good. I asked her if I could quote her. Here is part of what she said. It illustrates how Soroptimist is all about collective impact.

"Membership in Soroptimist shapes our identity—much like the choices we make with regard to hairstyle or what clothes we wear. Why do we belong? Because we are passionate about making the world a better place. Because we know how fortunate we are to be equipped with the time, talent, and energy to do the things others cannot. We appreciate and value those people close

est to us, and rights to which we are entitled like freedom and love....For me, Soroptimist is my vehicle to making a difference, to gaining access to the organizations and communities working directly with women who need our help, who need me. Soroptimist helps me help women less fortunate than I, to gain the resources and confidence they need to work toward better lives. What are some organizations you support with an annual subscription or dues? Why do you support these organizations? You believe in what they do....It is important to remember that there are varying degrees of investment in membership....Soroptimist membership is a community like any other. We need to celebrate our diverse makeup and strike a balance between engaging some members at a level where they are comfortable, and challenging those who aspire to assume greater responsibilities."

SUNSHINE Be sure to let Pat, Jo, or Dee know if you have Sunshine or Cloud information to announce.



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

2013-2014

Slate of Officers

President

Pam Linzie

Vice-president

Beth Miller

Recording Secretary

Stephanie Shouse

Corresponding Secretary

Judi Kuntz

Treasurer

Sue Willis

2-Year Board Member

Barb Flory

1-Year Board Member

Dee Markle

Club Email Address: simiddletown@soroptimist.net



SOROPTINEWS



Soroptimist International of Middletown

November 2013



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

President Pam's Update

Greetings, we did it! We had an elegant Flair For Fashion event. It was enjoyable to see familiar and some new faces. It flowed so well. The food was delicious and the fashions were outstanding. A special thanks to Dee, Jo, Barb and Carole for their endless hours of work. Look at the treasurer's report to see what a success financially we had.

Don't forget to bring to our meetings little bottles of shampoo, conditioner, gel, etc. from your travels. Ginger will see that they get to the Center for Women and Children.

The District Meeting was the weekend of October 18-19 in Springfield Ohio. It was fun and learning experience. I attended my first quarter auction and had my number called three times! One of those times I didn't bid. I won a jewelry set and a Scentsy Plug-In. Our Friday night meeting, after the auction, lasted until later in the evening.

We began breakfast at seven thirty Saturday

morning. Meeting began at eight thirty. There were about eighty people present. It was reported that membership in the Midwestern region is down. Kenton has a new club.

If you are interested there is an International Soroptimist Chatline. Those who are on it find it interesting and informative. Log into kate@kate-george.co.uk.

We were awarded a participation award in the 2013 Women's Opportunity Award, the Dreamers level of the President's Challenge for Club Giving 2012-2013 and Club Award for outstanding work in the four pillars leading to increased collective impact. We had a productive year!

In the news letter is important information about the Virginia Wagner Award. Please look over the survey and be ready to give input and direction to this award.

Pam

Midwestern Region Request

Angie DuBois, the Soroptimist Midwestern Region Secretary sends the following message:

Your assistance is needed in determining the future of the Midwestern Region Virginia Wagner Educational Award as mentioned at the recent District Meetings. If you would please click on the link below to answer a quick survey and give us your input it would be greatly appreciated. The deadline for completing the survey is December 1, 2013.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7CLWKNJ>

The Midwestern Region board greatly appreciates you taking time you give us your feedback.

Scholarship News

In an effort to publicize our scholarship opportunities more, club members, Karen Mehl and Ingrid Standafer met with Brandi Lee, the coordinator of Financial Aid at Miami University Middletown. Brandi had some great suggestions to increase the number of applicants. One idea was to have the financial aid office forward our scholarship application to all the department heads, who will in turn give it to all their professors and instructors, and then have them talk to each of their classes about the various scholarships that are available at the university, including ours. The second idea is that our scholarship will be listed under the financial aid section of the soon-to-be redesigned web site. This will give us more internet exposure about our award through Miami directly, not just our Soroptimist website. Club members will keep in touch with the office of financial aid through the year to assure that our scholarship gets maximum exposure.

This Month's Meeting to be held at :

November 14th
6pm @
Forest Hills
Program:
Jo Ashworth

Raffle: Elaine
Inspiration: ?

Birthdays:

•Carole Schul ~ Nov 6



Next Month's Meeting to be held at :

Sue & Rick Willis' Home
Program: Talent Auction

Raffle: ?
Inspiration: ?

We're on the Web

www.middletownsoroptimist.org ~ Local Club

www.soroptimist.org ~ International

www.simwr.org International ~ Region

Facebook ~ Soroptimist International of Middletown Ohio & the Cin-Day Corridor



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