



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

JANUARY 2018

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year!

It is hard to believe that half my term as President is in the past. There is still much to do. Two LYD Award winners have been chosen, we are working on the Virginia Wagner award, and DIBI is underway. We have committed to the anti-human trafficking program, and we are considering how we want to support the Hope House under the new leadership. The Fall Event was successful. BUT we still don't have any new members.

So in 2019, we probably need to think about what changes or additions, if any, we need to make to become more relevant in the community and beyond. That is not something that can be left only to the Board. I'm asking all of you to consider this and to let me know your thoughts.

2019 is underway, and I'm looking forward to the challenges before us. I hope that you are as well.

Marti

JANUARY



JANUARY MEETING

Our next SI Middletown meeting will be held at the new Kettering Health Network facility, at 6147 West, OH-122, Middletown, OH 45005. Access the location from Union Road (take a right turn off of Ohio 122 onto Union Road as you are heading out of Middletown, then pass CVS and turn right at the Kettering sign). Go around the building (to the I-75 side) to park and to enter the building. We will meet in the Community Room with our usual schedule of 6:00 pm networking and 6:30 dinner. A Kettering representative will tell us more about the

facility and provide a tour. Dinner menu is not yet available.

COLLECTIONS

Reminder for next meeting: Hope House for Women and Children asking for donations of flip flops, gloves and hats, and toiletries. More about our "Going Home Packs" after our January Board meeting. A sign up list will be circulated at the January meeting for items needed in our "Going Home Packs".

SPECIAL CLUB PROJECT

Searching for 5 volunteers to prepare and serve dinner to women, children and staff at the Hope House Center for Women and Children on Thursday, January 31st at 5:30 pm. Call Ann at 513-422-5411 if you can help out on the January team. Once I get the team, we will need to decide the menu and who will bring what items.
Thanks. Ann

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Do any of you have any updates for our membership directory? If so, give them to Judy.

JANUARY INSPIRATION

Mary

JANUARY RAFFLE

Elaine

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

January 6—Betty

JANUARY CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Dee—1998

Beth—1998

Marti—2017

SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS

Do you know a woman attending college who could use some extra money for her schooling? Interested women can find writeable applications for Virginia Wagner Award and our Miami Regional scholarship on our website www.middletownsoroptimist.org. This is an easy way for them to get an application. Every year we struggle to find deserving applicants, so please share this information freely.

Virginia Wagner applications are due January 15.

SPRING CONFERENCE

Put the date on your calendar now and plan to attend Spring Conference April 26-28. It's an easy drive to Columbus, and it will be a good experience for some of you who have never attended!

PINS

Remember to wear your pin and nametag to the meetings. Otherwise, feed the piggy bank. The money collected in the piggy bank goes toward operating expenses. Feed the piggy \$1 if you forget to wear your pin or if you have a birthday during the month.

CALENDAR

- January 3—6:30-- board meeting at
Clubhouse Grill off Rt. 63
- January 10—**Change of location.**
Monthly meeting will be held at
Kettering Health Network –meal,
tour, and speaker
- January 15—Virginia M. Wagner
applications due to club
- March 1—Miami University Regional
applications due to club
- March 31—Governor's Club Award form
due to Gov. Kris
- April 26-28—Spring Conference in
Columbus, OH



CONTACT US

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FEBRUARY 2019

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

Winter Greetings!

Is the weather crazy or what??? I hope you are all keeping warm.

We have some awesome projects going, and much for which we can be proud as an organization!

We still have much to do, and we are hard at work trying to think of ways to make SI Middletown a more visible organization so that we can get our story out and grow our organization. Growing Soroptimist is an international goal, and we need to jump on board and grow Middletown.

Thank you all for your commitment to Soroptimist.

Marti

FEBRUARY INSPIRATION

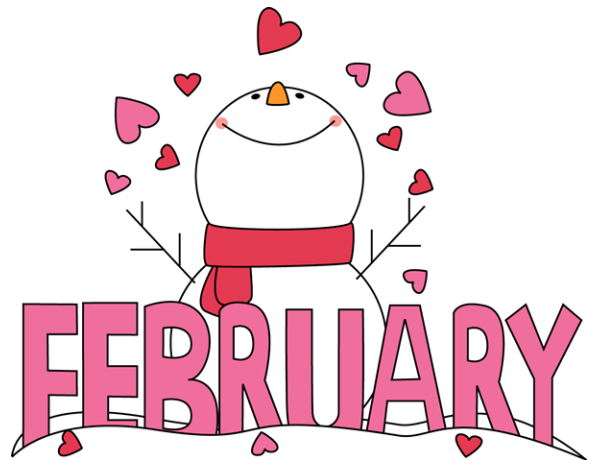
Elaine

FEBRUARY RAFFLE

Beth

FEBRUARY CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Betty 1988



GREAT NEWS !

Our club's Live Your Dream winner also won at the District level. That means she has moved on to be considered at the Region level. She will be invited to attend the Awards Luncheon at Spring Conference and will receive a check there for an additional \$3000. The winner at the Region level will be awarded a \$5000 check instead of a \$3000 check. Cross your fingers.



Hope House Center for Women and Children Update

January was a busy month. Four baskets filled with towels, toiletries, cleaning supplies, a shower curtain and rings, a small trash can, a bucket, a mop and a broom were delivered to the new Director, Tammi Ector, at the Women's Center. She was very pleased with our efforts and took pictures. She called me several days later and asked if it was OK to put a story about our program in their monthly newsletter. Of course, I said yes and ask her to send it to me so we could also try to get it in the Journal News. She said the ladies loved the baskets and that she felt they would be a real incentive for some of the ladies

to work harder toward their independence.

I appreciate everyone's willingness to make a \$20 donation toward this project. That along with the \$600 you approved at the last meeting will allow us to supply the Center with 20 baskets. Hopefully that will be enough to get them through the summer months. I hope we will have the budget for this project to continue into next year. Most of the supplies to complete the remaining baskets have been purchased. I added 12 hangers to the next 3 baskets which will be delivered this week. If you have some plastic or wooden hangers (not wire) that you could donate, bring them our February meeting please.

We are also providing our quarterly meal for the Center residents this week. With all this cold weather, what better time to have a hot soup and salad supper? Thanks to Gayle, Marti, Judy, Jo, and Beth for joining me in preparing and taking this dinner to the women and children there. Our soup

menu will include home-made chicken noodle, vegetable beef, and chili. The Center can house 40 residents and we are anticipating a full house with such cold weather. Last time we served in October, we had 40 residents and 4 working staff members. Our next dinner will be in April, maybe the 18th?? so if you can, please let me know if you are willing to be on the April team.

Ann

(President Marti had sent out an e-mail asking us to vote if we would be willing to chip in \$20 each to help with this project instead of going shopping. The majority voted yes, in case you are wondering what Ann was referring to in her article).

SCHOLARSHIP

The deadline for our Miami Regional Campus Scholarship is March 1. Please help spread the word. Interested women can find writeable applications on our website www.middletownsoroptimist.org

SPRING CONFERENCE

Put the date on your calendar now and plan to attend Spring Conference April 26-28. It's an easy drive to Columbus, and it will be a good experience for some of you who have never attended!

STOP TRAFFICKING

So far, getting our group of 10 members organized and involved with the local efforts of non-profits to stop human trafficking has been going well. As I reported earlier, the latest poster of 8 local missing children has helped locate 6 so far. How exciting is that?

The coordinator of these efforts, Susan Gruenberg, came to Java Johnny's last week to help explain some of the techniques and steps necessary to successfully deliver materials to local businesses. The goal of those involved is to find places with public restrooms, deliver the wanted posters for the employees' break room and put the stickers on the back of women's stall room doors. After our initial contact and organization, there will be new materials to deliver every 4 months.

In just our first brainstorming session, we have identified 100+ places in the Middletown area that we would eventually like to work with. We are meeting next week to decide which business we want to target first. We are hoping to do our first distribution with materials at the end of February.

Susan has arranged for one of her speakers to come and talk to our whole group for our May program. This person will be able to educate all of us in ways to identify possible victims of trafficking.

We are ready to count Soroptimist of Middletown as part of the solution to this terrible global problem. Jennie

DIBI



These are the eighth graders who are in our Dream It, Be It program this year. In an early session they were asked to create a Dream Collage of their aspirations. It should inspire them to work to achieve their dreams. The other activity was on Balancing Stress.



It's a good group of girls, and the classes are going well. Gayle, Ginger, Elaine, Barb, and Betty have been involved so far.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

We thought it would be interesting to spotlight members in our newsletters. Since our newsletters are also on our website, we don't want to include personal information, so these spotlights will be sent as attachments. We started with Mary, our 60 year member. This month you'll read about Ingrid, our 40 year member. Jennie and Barb will share the interviews. Enjoy!

CALENDAR

February 7—board meeting

February 14—Happy Valentine's Day

Club meeting—speaker on
Reflexology 6:00 socialize and
6:30 dinner

March 1—Miami University Regional
Campus scholarship applications
due to club

March 31—Governor's Club Award form
due to Gov. Kris

April 26-28—Spring Conference in
Columbus, OH

July 22-25, 2020—SIA Convention in
Bellevue, WA to kick off our 100th
anniversary.

PINS

Remember to wear your pin and nametag to the meetings. It helps visitors and newer members put names and faces together. Otherwise, feed the piggy bank. The money collected in the piggy bank goes toward operating expenses. Feed the piggy \$1 if you forget to wear your pin or if you have a birthday during the month.

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SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

MARCH 2019

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

Pre-Spring Greetings!

Are you impressed with what we are getting done this year? Have you shared this news with friends and prospective members?

At our February meeting I encouraged you to consider going to Spring Conference this year since it is just up the interstate in Columbus, OH. I really enjoyed the Fall Conference, and I am looking forward to Spring Conference! I *urge* you to let me know that you are going so that I can have our reservation form completed and sent.

Our Business Cards have been ordered, and Gayle did a great job of getting them ready for printing. I encourage you to use them and to invite women to a meeting to share what our Sorpotimist organization is all about.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at our March meeting! Bring a friend!

Marti



SOROPTIMIST T-SHIRTS & CHARMS

Friday evening at Spring Conference we'll have a tailgate party and are asked to dress in team shirts. You may certainly wear a high school, college, Reds, Bengals, or other team clothes, but if you don't have one, you might want to order a Soroptimist team shirt. There are both short sleeve and long sleeve ones to choose from. I'm attaching a separate attachment. The order form suggests you order a size up because they tend to run small. If you don't plan to attend Spring Conference but would like a shirt, fill out the form and send your check, and Barb will bring it home for you. There will also be charms available for sale for \$10 each. That information is in *The Vision* that you received a couple days ago. They will also be for sale at the conference. There will not be extra t-shirts at the conference—only the ones that were pre-ordered.

DREAM IT BE IT

We are wrapping up our year with a career session on March 14. Using information shared by our girls we were able line up women professionals to speak with the girls.

Gayle

HOPE HOUSECENTER FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Two more of our Welcome home baskets delivered this week along with the other donations from our last meeting (hotel toiletries, sweat shirts, drinking glasses and a bag of purses which they really liked). Going to use the purses as an incentive gift for ladies who are starting a new job. So, purses that are in good condition is another item they will accept from us. Also, they are asking for flip flops for the shower again.

Have added 12 hangers to each of our baskets. I need about 168 hangers to finish up the last 14 of our total of 20 baskets for this project. Several of you said you had lots of hangers so if you could bring them to the next meeting that would be great.

Appreciate if everyone would get their \$20 donation for the apartment baskets in to Sue Willis as soon as possible so I can finish up our baskets. Thanks to all for your generosity. An article about our project is planned for the Hope House March Newsletter which should be coming out soon.

Our next meal for Hope House Center for Women and Children will be in April. Need 5-6 volunteers to help please. Let me know if you can volunteer.

Ann

SPRING CONFERENCE

You all should have received *The Call to Conference* with all the information. It's in Columbus at the Marriott Columbus Airport. It would be great to have a large group from our club attend. Our club's Live Your Dream winner will be in attendance to win a \$3000 award.

CALENDAR

March 1—Miami University Regional applications due to club
March 7—Board Meeting
March 8—International Women's Day
March 11—Daylight Savings Time
March 14—Business Meeting at Mt. Pleasant. Place—Sleep in Heavenly Peace speaker
March 16—work with Rotary to build twin bed for Sleep in Heavenly Peace project
March 31—hotel reservation deadline for Spring Conference
March 31—registration deadline for Spring Conference
March 31—Governor's Club Award form due to Gov. Kris
April 26-28—Spring Conference in Columbus, Ohio, at the Marriott Columbus Airport

MARCH INSPIRATION & RAFFLE

Ann

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2 Beth Miller
7 Marti Kelley
11 Pam Linzie
13 Mary Maurer
13 Ingrid Standafer
16 Jennie Webb

MARCH CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

2015 Magda Rinder

OFFICERS

Proposed officers for next year:

President—Marti Kelley

Vice-President—Gayle Martz

Treasurer—Sue Willis

Recording Secretary—Pam Linzie

Corresponding Secretary—Beth Miller

Two-year board member—Elaine Garver

One-year board member—Judy Spaulding

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP

Our club's Live Your Dream Award winner was first runner-up at the Region level. She plans to attend Spring Conference to receive her \$3000. We are still waiting for judges' results to learn if our club Virginia Wagner Award winner will advance to the Region. We are waiting for applications for our local Miami Regional Scholarship. The deadline is March 1.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

Two of our 30-year members, Jo Ashworth and Judy Spaulding, are in the spotlight this month. Their articles are in a separate attachment.



Ann volunteered to be the subject of our reflexology speaker in February. Looks relaxing!

CONTACT US

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SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

APRIL 2019

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

At our March meeting, we had two surveys—one for my own information on the interests of the club members, and the other Club Assessment for the Governor. The results are very interesting. Very few of us are interested in Public Awareness. This is most likely because we have no local newspaper coverage that we can depend on to get our message out. So put your thinking caps on and try to think of ways that we can be more visible in the entire area we are supposed to be representing.

Very few are interested in Growth & Retention, which is surprising since we all agree that we need to grow as a club. How can we accomplish Growth if we aren't interested in this area of our club's health?

The Club Assessment also had a lot of helpful information for the Board to consider as we move forward. For the number of people we have, we are able to accomplish a lot, and all that we do and have done are activities for which we can be very proud. Hopefully we will be able to continue to provide activities to promote the best for women.



Our April meeting will be especially gratifying as we get to meet the women who have won our Scholarship and awards. Don't forget to wear your nametags and pins. Also greet the winners and let them know how pleased we are to be able to help them in their educational endeavors.

Marti

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee will present next year's slate of officers at the April meeting. If you wish to make a nomination from the floor, make sure you have that person's permission first. The slate will be voted on in May, and officers will be installed in June.

Hope House Center for Women and Children Update

Two Sweet Dreams of Home Bathroom Apartment baskets were delivered to Hope House along with a few other items: 25 pairs of women's and children's shoes; costume jewelry; 3 new lipsticks; misc. motel-toiletries; a set of silverware; and a box of coffee mugs. All were enthusiastically received by Hanna Hamblin, Director of Volunteers. Hanna said they use any new make-up, costume jewelry, and/or gently used purses as rewards. She also mentioned again how happy the women were to be getting the Sweet Dreams of Home Bathroom Baskets when they were moving out.

Thursday, April 18th at 5:30 pm has been confirmed as our next dinner for the residents and working staff (approximately 35-45) at the Center. Four more volunteers are needed to furnish and prepare food items on our Easter menu. Judy Spaulding volunteered to make a dessert (25 servings) and Ann volunteered to make the ham. The following volunteers and items are still needed to complete the dinner:

1. A large crockpot of seasoned green beans (about 25 cups)
2. Potatoes (2 pans: 30-35 cups scalloped/au-gratin, or mashed)
3. Second Dessert (25 servings)
4. Ham (2 boneless hams-Ann will furnish one and cook both if needed-50 servings)

Call Ann at 513-422-5411 or email ann.munafo@gmail.com to notify that you will be able to volunteer or donate a ham for this dinner.

MONTHLY RAFFLE

April Ginger

MONTHLY INSPIRATION

April Ginger

CALENDAR

April 1—April Fool's Day

April 4. Board Meeting

April 11—Awards Night

Mt. Pleasant Place

Come at 6:00 to socialize.

April 15—tax deadline

April 18—5:30 p.m. dinner for Hope

House Center for Women and
Children

April 26-28—Spring Conference in
Columbus, OH

October 25 & 26--District Meeting in
Newark

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APRIL BIRTHDAY

6 Magda Rinder

APRIL PROGRAM

Our April program will be our Awards Night. This will be a good night to Invite prospective members and the award judges so they can see first-hand the results of our efforts.

RESERVATIONS

Scholarship and Awards chairs, please check with your award winners and judges ASAP and let Gayle know how many winners, judges, and family members will be attending so we will have enough seats, food, and nametags available.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIP

Our local Live Your Dream Award winner, Brandi Benton, is from Florence, KY and attends Antonelli College. She is studying nursing and hopes to graduate in the fall of 2020. She is a single mother of three and also works 35 hours a week. Brandi was the District level winner and a runner-up at the Region level. She will receive \$1000 from our club and \$3000 from the Region. She plans to attend Spring Conference where she will be recognized at the Awards Luncheon.

Our club decided to award a second Live Your Dream Award because two ladies were very close in the judging. The second award goes to Keyara Pruden. Keyara is from Cincinnati and attends Northern Kentucky University where she is studying Human Services and Addictions with a focus in Social Work. She hopes to graduate in December. She is a single mother of one and works 40 hours a week. She will receive \$1000 from our club.

Our Virginia Wagner Award winner is Brittany Massey and will be awarded \$1000. Brittany is from Springboro and attends Bowling Green State University. She is a freshman majoring in politics, philosophy, economics, and law with a minor in nonprofit administration and she intends to go on to law school in order to receive her Juris Doctor degree. She wants to apply her education to the nonprofit sector and coordinate legal services for a social services agency, particularly one that deals with foster children. She works 20 hours per week at Discount Drug Mart.

Our club's Miami University Regional Campus winner is Kimberly Danielle Smith from Hamilton. She will receive \$1500. Kimberly is working on her Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science degree. Upon completing her degree, she plans to either continue her education at Miami U. with further studies in chemistry or attend medical school with a goal of becoming a coroner. She hopes to work in a crime lab and use her knowledge of the scientific procedures necessary to help serve justice in her area. Kimberly has maintained a 4.00 GPA for all semesters including challenging courses such as analytical chemistry, genetics, physics, and organic chemistry. She also works two jobs as a file clerk and as a level 2 certified peer chemistry tutor at Miami Regional Campuses

PINS

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MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

Jennie wrote the member spotlights this month. They are a separate attachment.

DREAM IT BE IT

The year concluded with speakers representing professions in which the girls had expressed interest. A couple other girls who were not a part of the original group were invited to attend to hear the speakers. The girls were pleased with all they learned this year and expressed interest in being mentors for next year's girls. Kudos to the members who gave their time to work with the girls this year!

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MAY 2019

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

Greetings and Salutations!

As I write this, I'm preparing to leave for Spring Conference in Columbus. I am looking forward to sharing with other clubs to learn of their approach to gaining members, and activities that they are doing to invite community participation, which will serve as a way to share our work and possibly attract new members. *(I'm back and updating my message!)*

We have our budget approval in May. *I learned some great information in the Budget and Finance workshop that I will be sharing at the meeting.* I'm also hoping to have our Committee Chair and Service sign up sheets for you to complete.

Our Fall Event team is actively working on the venue and the date for our event. Our goal is to have it on 10/19 this year as the Fall Conference has been scheduled for the last weekend in October. We will be checking venues that will be more favorable to budgeting. I did announce at our April meeting that we are going to again have the gift card tree(s) so that you can begin getting them from now through the summer and get all of those great extra gas points!

Judy Spaulding will be in charge of that, so start bringing your gift cards any time. Jo Ashworth will again be responsible for the raffle baskets; so start thinking about what you may like to offer or what you may be able to get sponsored. We are working on one other item to sell, but until that is finalized, we will just let that be a mystery.

Our Award Meeting was wonderful! It is so inspiring to hear the recipients share their stories. It really makes us appreciate what we offer to help women. *Sadly, Brandi Benton, our LYD winner was not able to attend the Conference to receive her Conference award. She was called to be with her father who had open-heart surgery on Saturday. Surgery was successful, but he has a long recovery ahead. I received her award and am mailing it to her.*

Conference was wonderful and inspiring. We will be reporting at our meeting!

Marti



RECOGNITION AT SPRING CONFERENCE

~Dreamers' level for our contribution to
2017-18 Club Giving
~In honor of our efforts to increase SIA's
collective impact

Participated in LYD

Engaged in DI/BI

Contributed 10% of funds raised

Donated Founders' pennies

Submitted projects for a Soroptimist
Celebrating Success Award

For 2018-2019 SI Midwestern Region
Sweet Dreams Pillows Participation
Certificate

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following slate of officers was
presented at the April meeting. It will be
voted on in May, and officers will be
installed in June.

President: Marti Kelley

Vice-President: Gayle Martz

Treasurer: Sue Willis

Recording Secretary: Pam Linzie

Corresponding Secretary: Beth Miller

2-year board member: Elaine Garver

1-year board member: Judy Spaulding

MEMBERSHIP EVENT

Think ahead so we can plan a
membership event. Think of ways to
promote it, who we can invite (think of
new neighbors or new business owners
who might want to network and get
involved in the community), if we want it
to be a meeting, a service project, or a
social event. All ideas are welcome.
New members are always welcome.

COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Kroger and Gordon Food Services both
offer a Community Rewards Program for
non-profits. .Maybe other stores do, too.
My church is enrolled, and if a member
signs up and names an organization,
that organization receives a donation
after each purchase. It's not a large
amount, but every little bit helps, and we
need to think of some ways to increase
our operating budget. Would someone
be willing to ask at the stores what
Soroptimist of Middletown would need to
do to sign up? After that is done, our
members will need to go online (or
maybe to the customer service counter)
to sign up. It does not affect your gas
points.

PINS

Remember to wear your pin and
nametag to the meetings. Otherwise,
feed the piggy bank. The money
collected in the piggy bank goes toward
operating expenses. Feed the piggy if
you forget to wear your pin, if you have
a birthday during the month, or if you
just feel like it.

**Hope House Center for Women
and Children Update
4-28-19**

Five Sweet Dreams of Home Bathroom Baskets were delivered to Hope House this month. We currently have only 4 baskets remaining from our 20 we put together as quite a few ladies left the Center this past month. The baskets were once again enthusiastically received by Hanna Hamblin, Director of Volunteers. Reminder to everyone, please bring any small hotel or full-size toiletries, new make-up, costume jewelry, and/or gently used purses as rewards.

A thanks to the Middletown Soroptimists was included in the March Journal of Hope House Mission, "Chronicles of HOPE" with a picture of Tammy Ector, Hope House Center for Women and Children Director and myself with one of our Apartment baskets. I will bring a couple copies to our May meeting to share.

On Thursday, April 18th at 5:30 pm, we provided our third dinner, an Easter meal for the residents and working staff (approximately 35) at the Center. Thanks to Jenni Webb who fixed a delicious big crockpot of green beans and helped me set up, serve and clean up.

A big thanks to the rest of the team as well, Diane Drennan who made three big pans of wonderful mashed potatoes and donated some cookies; Mary Mauer who donated one of the two spiral hams; and Judy Spaulding and Ginger

Bruggeman who both furnished dozens of decorated Easter cookies. Thanks for the extra efforts of those who had to make special arrangements and extra trips to get their donations there. We also provided lemon aide and rolls/butter for the meal.

The Center women expressed much appreciation for the meal and most came back for seconds. The tables were decorated with spring print table cloths and small Easter baskets and each of the children received a candy filled egg after the meal. We were able to package and leave enough ham, potatoes, and cookies for quite a few people to enjoy another meal the next day.



RAFFLE

May—Betty

June--Barb

INSPIRATION

May--Jennie

June-- Marti



CALENDAR

May 2—6:30 board meeting—Mt.

Pleasant card room

May 9—monthly meeting—speaker on
trafficking

June 13—installation of officers

October 25 & 26--District Meeting in
Newark. OH

April 24-26, 2020—Spring Conference
in Ann Arbor, MI

July 22-25, 2020—46th Biennial

Convention in Bellevue, WA

2021—100th Soroptimist Anniversary in
San Francisco, CA

MAY BIRTHDAY

27 Barb

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JUNE 2019

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

Happy pre-summer!

Hopefully you are all safe, dry and away from tornadoes. My heart goes out to all who have had to experience these storms!

Where has the year gone? We have done some really great things this year, and I hope that you are as proud of our projects as I am. With some of the changes we have made and the changes we have yet to make, I am looking forward to our next year 'doing Soroptimist' together.

We were happy to have Magda with us at our May meeting. We are sorry to see her membership transfer to a club near her home in Florida, but we also are excited to know that Magda will still be active in Soroptimist. She will definitely be an asset for her new club. Magda, go with our best wishes for new and exciting activities with your Florida club! And if you happen to be in Ohio when we are meeting, please join us! You are always welcome.

We will be voting on our budget in June, so please plan to be at the meeting. We also have to pay our dues in June, as we have to pay SIA. If you were not at the May meeting, we voted to raise our



annual dues to \$150 to cover the additional per member dues increase by SIA. We will also no longer be covering part of our per member dues from our treasury. This is only a \$30 increase which equals only a \$2.50 increase per month when we break it down.

We will be taking a two month break from regular meetings, but the Board will be working hard, LYD committee will get an early start on getting applicants information, and maybe we can figure out how to have a fun event for just us this summer.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone (except Betty who will be on the beach) at our June meeting!

Marti

SLATE OF OFFICERS

The following officers will be installed in June:

President: Marti Kelley

Vice-President: Gayle Martz

Treasurer: Sue Willis

Recording Secretary: Pam Linzie

Corresponding Secretary: Beth Miller

2-year board member: Elaine Garver

1-year board member: Judy Spaulding

DUES

Bring your dues of \$150 to the June meeting or mail them to Sue by June 14.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Do you need to update your directory information? Perhaps you have a new job title, are newly retired, have a new cell phone number, have a new e-mail address, etc. Please give that information to Judy so our records will be up-to-date. Sue will also update the information with SI.

MEMBERSHIP EVENT

Think ahead so we can plan a membership event. Think of ways to promote it, who we can invite (think of new neighbors or new business owners who might want to network and get involved in the community), if we want it to be a meeting, a service project, or a social event. All ideas are welcome. New members are always welcome.

FUNDRAISER UPDATE

Our October 19 luncheon and fashion show will be held at First Presbyterian Church on Central Ave. in Middletown. Please note the change of location.

COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Kroger and Gordon Food Services both offer a Community Rewards Program for non-profits. Maybe other stores do, too. My church is enrolled, and if a member signs up and names an organization, that organization receives a donation after each purchase. It's not a large amount, but every little bit helps, and we need to think of some ways to increase our operating budget. Would someone be willing to ask at the stores what Sorooptimist of Middletown would need to do to sign up? After that is done, our members will need to go online (or maybe to the customer service counter) to sign up. It does not affect your gas points.

Barb

PINS

Remember to wear your pin and nametag to the meetings. Look around. Many have become lax about this. Otherwise, feed the piggy bank. The money collected in the piggy bank goes toward operating expenses. Feed the piggy if you forget to wear your pin, if you have a birthday during the month, or if you just feel like it.

CALENDAR

June 6—Board Meeting
June 20—installation of officers (change of date)
October 19—Fall Fundraiser at First Presbyterian Church in Middletown
October 25 & 26—District Meeting in Newark, OH
April 26-28, 2020—Spring Conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan
July 22-25, 2020—46th Biennial Convention in Bellevue, WA
2021—100th Soroptimist Anniversary in San Francisco, CA

MONTHLY RAFFLE

Barb

MONTHLY INSPIRATION

Marti

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

23 Jo
24 Sue
27 Judy

JULY BIRTHDAYS

19 Ginger
27 Elaine
29 Ann

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

none

JUNE CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Gayle 2015
Mary 1958

JULY CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Ginger 1997
Elaine 2012
Pam 2010 (second time)
Ann 1993

CONTACT US

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SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

SEPTEMBER 2019

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

As the song goes, "Wasn't the summer short?"

Looking forward to this year, I would like to remind you of the installation service so beautifully done by Barb. Soroptimist Middletown is an orchestra. We each play different 'instruments' in our orchestra according to our gifts. The 'director' is not supposed to play in each section of the orchestra. Let's face it; the 'director' isn't gifted to play in each section. Therefore, if you have a 'melody' in mind, bring it to the 'music department' (Board) to suggest with a 'score' showing how the 'melody' should play. Don't wait for the 'director or the music department' to come up with ideas. It takes all of us to make music!

We have a new year to do Soroptimist! Are you excited about our Fall Event? I'm excited!! Our Fall Event will be our first opportunity to get others interested in being part of what we do. Instead of me describing in a speech what we do, we are going to have some demonstration tables with pictures of our activities. We are also going to be using our new Soroptimist logo that should



also make an impression that we are an organization looking toward the future.

Earlier, I wrote to you telling you of the grant we received and asked you to be thinking about what we can present as a membership event. Have you been thinking?

Hopefully you will all be able to attend our September 12th meeting. Details will follow. And be ready to receive your sales packet and details for the Fall Event.

Your 'director' (Tra la la),

President Marti

WAYS & MEANS

It's time to start getting our plans in place for our fall fundraiser. We have the date, location, and fashions in place. Ask your friends to save the date—Saturday, October 19, and be thinking of what kind of “basket” you will put together for the raffle.

ADS

These are the contacts I usually make:

Mack & Mack, Grecian Delight, American Savings, McCausland (attorney), Java Johnny's, Middletown Community Foundation, Mike Long (insurance), Bill Brock (Monroe City Manager), Berns, Stan Kappers (Mt. Pleasant), Woodside Cemetery, Jenny Kerr (realtor), Dr. Ridge, Diver's, Barn & Bunk, MidPointe Library

Please look at the list and see if you have comparable contacts: businesses, food eateries, attorneys, accountants, banks, real estate, florists, doctors.

If each person obtained three ads, we would more than double the income! Please try.

Mary

These locations will be covered by other members, so please don't contact them: Wilson-Schramm-Spaulding Funeral Home, Breitenbach-Anderson, Medicine Shoppe, Dr. Laurie Flagel, WEL, Blueball Veterinary Clinic

Mary is willing to keep a running total so we don't approach the same contacts. Please call her to give her the name of the business you sold an ad.

DISTRICT MEETINGS 2019

Our District Meeting, October 25-26, will be held in Newark, Ohio, at the Double Tree. Let's get a group to go. It's @ a 2 1/4 hour drive. It will be a tremendous chance for newer members and others who would be first-timers to get a broader idea of what Soroptimist is all about!

DIBI

Dream It Be It is a work in progress. There is a refreshed curriculum to make sessions more user friendly with more movement and hands on!! Tune in for information to come!

Gayle

SEPTEMBER CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Jo 1988
Barb 1988
Judy 1988
Sue 1995

CALENDAR

September 5—6:30 board meeting
September 12—monthly meeting
September 15—registration deadline for District Meeting
October 19—fall fundraiser at First Presbyterian Church
October 25-26—District Meeting in Newark, OH
April 24-26, 2020—Spring Conference in Ann Arbor, MI
July 22-25, 2020—46th Biennial Convention in Bellevue, WA
2021—100th Soroptimist Anniversary in San Francisco, CA

TWITTER

I am pleased to announce we now have a Twitter account. You can find it at Soroptimist SI Middletown and the Cin-Day Corridor.

Gayle

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Attached is information about a fundraiser for iSPACE - a non profit that I work with - STEM experiences for kids. I am on a Girls in STEM Committee and this is one of our first fundraising projects.

The event is at the Woodhouse Day Spa at Liberty Way and I thought some of you might enjoy going to it. Just click on the website link or copy the link to your browser. It is on Wednesday, September 25th, at 6:00 pm.

<https://ispacestem.org/?event=woodhouse-day-spa-fundraiser>

I hope to see some of you there.

Betty

SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

OCTOBER 2019

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

Happy October! I don't know about you, but I'm looking forward to it feeling like October! Mother Nature is out of control!

This is our big month. I hope all of you have been selling ads, tickets and inviting people to the luncheon. It will be a little different this year, and I think it will be even more interesting for our guests.

Membership is Priority #1 for us; so when you are at the Fashion Show this year, please spend time with all of the guests pointing out our tri-fold boards with our story. Don't forget to invite them to come to a meeting and to think about becoming a member.

Let's make this an enjoyable and great event. The committee has worked very hard to make this year special!

See you at the meeting!

Marti



. DISTRICT MEETING 2019

Our District Meeting October 25-26 will be in Newark, OH. Barb, Marti, and Sue will report on the meeting and any updates at our November meeting.

SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS

Do you know a woman attending college or technical school who could use some extra money for her schooling? Interested women can find writeable applications on our website www.middletownsoroptimist.org. This is an easy way for them to get an application. Every year we struggle to find deserving applicants, so please share this information freely.

WAYS & MEANS

Have you been able to fill a table of eight with your friends? How many ads have you sold? Were you able to get any donations from businesses for the raffle? Let Gayle know if you need more yellow special raffle tickets, and let Jo know if you need more raffle tickets.

Please bring all checks, reservations, and special raffle ticket money you have to the October meeting if you haven't already turned it in. Remember to turn in a new revenue form each time you turn in money. If you have your raffle basket/item ready, you may also bring it to the meeting. If it is a donated item from a business, please let Barb know. Those donations will be acknowledged on a page in the program. She will need that information October 1 to allow time for printing, etc. Otherwise, deliver your item/items to Barb or Dee before Oct. 17 because the committee will set up the day before. List the contents on an attached card. **Tell your guests to use Door A at the church when they arrive.** There is easy access to the elevator at that entrance. We'd really like to have everything finalized by our October meeting, but if you have someone with a last-minute change of plans, there are a couple extra days to give the caterer a final headcount. Please continue to sell raffle tickets and gift card raffle tickets after our meeting and up through the day of the event. Remind people they do not need to be present to win. Remind them to bring address labels to save writing.

CALENDAR

October 1—deadline for ads and names of business donors to be included in the program to Barb
October 3—board meeting—6:30
October 8—Happy 64th Birthday, Middletown club
October 10—monthly meeting
Our speaker will be Tammi Ector, director, from Hope House Center for Women and Children
October 17—deadline for raffle items to Dee or Barb
October 19—fall fundraiser at First Presbyterian Church
October 25-26—District Meeting in Newark, OH
November 15—Live Your Dream applications due to club
January 15—Virginia Wagner applications due to club
March 1—Miami Regional Campus scholarship applications due to club
April 24-26, 2019—Spring Conference in Ann Arbor, MI

NO OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS OR CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

OCTOBER RAFFLE & INSPIRATION

Gayle

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Let Judy know if any info has changed for your listing—different job title, newly retired, new address, new phone number, etc.

CLUB GRANT

Does anyone know how to write a grant? SIA has grants to be awarded, and the deadline is March 1. We could apply for our Dream It, Be It project or another project for the community. Information is online. Go to the www.soroptimist.org website; go to the Members Only area; go to Program Resources, go to Soroptimist Club Grants, and you'll find all the information you need.



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SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

NOVEMBER 2019

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

Now that the Fall Event is over, it is time to begin working on our Membership Drive. Barb, Sue and I met several members from other chapters and got some very interesting ideas.

During the Club Sharing session, I was able to give a talk about our Hope House Baskets. After hearing Tami speak and after hearing what other clubs are doing, I'm really proud of our project for Hope House. We all need to be very proud of the project. A huge thanks to Ann Munafo for taking care of all of the details!!

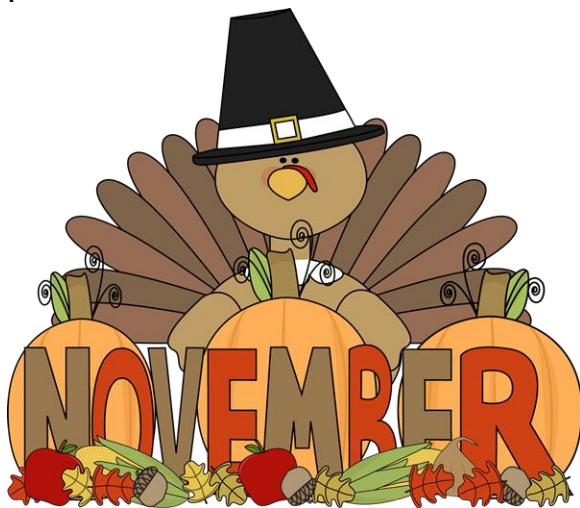
Again I want to congratulate our Middletown Outstanding Soroptimist, Gayle Martz. Every time I think about the DI/BI program I get excited. After

hearing about the reasons women and children become homeless or in abusive situations, I am thankful that Soroptimist has a program to teach young girls about how to overcome obstacles and how to break whatever situations they may be experiencing to overcome and rise above to have a better life.

Our speaker at District this year, Bonnie Zorc, told stories that made my head swim. Things that having been privileged to grow up an American are taken for granted when there are young girls in this world who have no idea about what is happening to them. Days for Girls is an organization that is doing amazing work in third world countries providing lessons and supplies to train young girls and adult women how to care for themselves during "that time of the month".

I'll be sharing more at our meeting. I'm really looking forward to the Tea Party and I hope you are too.

President, Marti



NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Susan Schechter, owner of The Tea Parlor in Liberty Twp. will be the November meeting speaker. She will present, "The Perfect Cup of Tea." With a background in catering and a love of tea, Schechter has studied the history, processes and brewing of tea for 15 years. She has attended classes at the World Tea Convention and online.

Her presentation will focus on the health benefits of tea, proper brewing, and a bit of tea history.

If you have one, bring a special cup and saucer set to share and display that evening. Ann

SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

Having Tammi Ector, the director of Hope House for Women, speak to our group in October helped us understand its day to day operations. I think that after listening to her, we all feel extra good about providing the bathroom baskets to their clients.

Tammi described her fall into the "D" stories, divorce, depression, drug abuse, dysfunction and despair. She then found, through what she feels is divine intervention, degrees and daycare and now Hope House for Women director. She definitely can relate to the women she helps.

Tammy explained that the shelter is the access point for four counties and has an intake procedure to determine whether to shelter or divert. Hope House for Women is funded to serve all counties, not solely Middletown. Women must come on their own volition no matter where the referral comes from. They are provided with counseling and classes. And Hope House is always there to help these woman, even after release.

For our part, the baskets we provide help the shelter provide accountability to women. There are certain regulations and goals that must be reached, and if they are, the baskets are a reward for their success.

It is great to help women get a new start, and we appreciate Tammi's role in managing our donations. Jennie



October speaker Tammi Ector

TRAFFICKING NEWS

Our trafficking group met on October 24, and we addressed two main areas. How can we improve accountability for better communication and how can we keep the whole membership and the group more involved.

We intend to keep close track of materials used and visits made by collecting data as soon as each group drops the poster and stop signs to their business.

We've already started to communicate to the group at large by the reports in the newsletter and at meetings. We will also help grow awareness by adding a

tip each month to help educate each one of us.

I am also happy to report that eight out of eight victims were found in the last cycle. How empowering!

Tip of the month:

Possible signs of trafficking are minors (teens) are around during school hours, and the man or men with them are paying with cash/ wad of money.

We recently received permission from the Ohio Department of Transportation to leave the STOP stickers inside the women's restroom stall doors at the highway rest stops. Elaine and Gayle are distributing them. Jennie

CALENDAR

November 3--Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 7—6:30 board meeting

November 14—meeting--Speaker will be Susan Schechter, owner of the Tea Parlor

November 15—Live Your Dream applications due to club

January 15, 2020—Virginia Wagner applications due to club

March 1, 2020—Miami Regional Campus scholarship applications due to club

April 24-26, 2020 —Spring Conference in Ann Arbor, MI

July 22-25, 2020—46th Biennial Convention in Bellevue, WA
Kick off Soroptimist's 100th anniversary celebration

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

14 Gayle Martz
20 Diane Drennan

CLUB ANNIVERSARY

1978 Ingrid

NOVEMBER RAFFLE

Judy

NOVEMBER INSPIRATION

Mary

INSPIRATION

At District Meeting, Sue read an inspiration and wanted to share it with you . She chose it because of the strong correlation with DIBI and the new organizational tagline "Investing in Dreams."

17 Motivational Quotes to Inspire You to Be Successful

By [Lydia Sweatt](#) | November 3, 2016

1. Your limitation—it's only your imagination.
2. Push yourself, because no one else is going to do it for you.
3. Sometimes later becomes never. Do it now.
4. Great things never come from comfort zones.
5. Dream it. Wish it. Do it.
6. Success doesn't just find you. You have to go out and get it.
7. The harder you work for something, the greater you'll feel when you achieve it.
8. Dream bigger. Do bigger.
9. Don't stop when you are tired. Stop when you are done.
10. Wake up with determination. Go to bed with satisfaction.
11. Do something today that your future self will thank you for.

12. Little things make big days.
13. It's going to be hard, but hard doesn't mean impossible.
14. Don't wait for opportunity. Create it.
15. Sometimes we are tested not to show our weaknesses, but to discover our strengths.
16. The key to success is to focus on goals, not obstacles.
17. Dream it. Believe it. Build it.

SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS

Do you know a woman attending college or technical school who could use some extra money for her schooling? Interested women can find writeable applications on our website www.middletownsoroptimist.org This is an easy way for them to get an application. Every year we struggle to find deserving applicants, so please share this information freely.

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SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

DECEMBER 2019

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

.Holiday Greetings to all!

2019 has been a successful year for us. Thank you for your support and dedication to this valuable organization!

2020 is just around the corner, so after Christmas and New Years, put on those thinking caps and get ready for an even better year.

I would like to wish each and every one of you a wonderful and peaceful holiday season and a new year of blessings.

President Marti



SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS

HOLIDAY PARTY

In December we will meet at 6:00 at Mt. Pleasant for dinner and a festive evening. Buy a pair of holiday socks and stuff them with candy, nail polish, coins, trinkets, etc. but **DON'T** wrap them. This should cause some holiday merriment! (not to exceed \$20 total value)

Gayle

Do you know a woman attending college or technical school who could use some extra money for her schooling? Virginia Wagner Award application deadline is January 15 and our Miami Regional scholarship deadline is March 1. Applications can be found on our club website

www.middletownsoroptimist.org.

LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARD

Nine applications were received. They are in the process of being judged.

Judy

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Our club can earn money when we shop at Kroger. If you have a Kroger account, log in at <http://www.kroger.com> and search for Soroptimist International of Middletown or enter LD932 and click enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid e-mail address, and a rewards card. If you do not have a rewards card, you may get one at a Kroger customer service desk. Participants must swipe their registered Kroger rewards card when shopping for each purchase to count.

If you have not already designated a non-profit to receive your points, please consider listing Soroptimist International of Middletown. You do not need to be a club member to donate your points, so ask your family members and friends if they will choose our club as their beneficiary. Your choice will print at the bottom of your receipt.

Thanks!
Sue

CALENDAR

December 5 —No board meeting

December 12 —6:00 dinner and

Christmas sock gift exchange at Mt. Pleasant.

January 1—Virginia Wagner applications due to club

January 9—dinner and auction at Sue and Rick's. Guests included.

March 1—Miami Regional Campus scholarship applications due to club

April 24-26, 2020—Spring Conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

28 Dee

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