



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

JUNE 2020

PRESIDENT'S FINAL MESSAGE

Two years ago when Pam Linzie installed the officers, she gave me a 'diamond studded' star wand. Boy did I need a magic wand as a relatively new member stepping into the presidency with very little background about Soroptimist, and a daunting task of leading a well-established organization! I must have been nuts! However, you were all so kind and supportive. It didn't seem to make a big deal to you to have to tell me what to do and when to do it.

Then at the end of that year, I was silly enough to allow myself to run for president again! And again, you were all so supportive and kind. Barb Flory, at my second installation, gave me a director's baton, and I tried to use it wisely.

As I look back over the two years, I am so proud of all of you and for what we have accomplished as an organization; especially recently in this 'new normal' for all of us. And now that it is time to pass along that baton to Gayle, I am really excited about how we are going to progress.

I look forward to being a Board Member for another couple of years, and I look

forward to what we will be able to accomplish.

Thank you for two years of friendship, patience and encouragement.

President Marti



SLATE OF OFFICERS

The following officers will be installed in June:

President: Gayle Martz
Vice-President: Sue Willis
Treasurer: Ann Munafa
Recording Secretary: Jo Ashworth
Corresponding Secretary: Beth Miller
2-year board member: Marti Kelley
1-year board member: Elaine Garver

DUES

Bring your dues of \$150 to the June meeting or mail them to Sue by June 11. Also, if you ordered a new pin, bring that money, too.

VIRGINIA WAGNER AWARD

We all know about the Virginia Wagner Award that our chapter awards every year to a young woman in our community. This award honors the effort and scholarship of a woman attending a college or university to earn a baccalaureate, masters, or doctoral degree. Judging at the club, district and region level is conducted by three non-Soroptimist judges who utilize a standardized scoring sheet for each applicant; judging is based on effort toward education (35%), general impression (20%), scholarship (15%), extra-curricular activities (15%), and need (15%). Winning applications at the club level advance to the district level for judging; winning applications at the district level advance as high as the region level for judging.

Our Club has been awarding \$1,500 to the Club's winner and those funds come out of our Service Funds. The four District winners are awarded \$1,000 each and the Region winner of the "Virginia M. Wagner Educational Grant" is awarded \$2,500 at Spring Conference. These funds all come out of the Midwestern Region's funds.

But does everyone know the history behind the award? Each of the Soroptimist Regions selects and supports a specific region project. In 1972, the Midwestern Region

established the "Region Award Project" to be given annually to a woman who was attending college/university to further her education to provide advancement. At the 2004 Spring Conference, the name of the award was changed from the "RAP" award to the "**Virginia M. Wagner Educational Grant**" in honor of Dr. Virginia M. Wagner, MWR Governor 1982-1984, to commemorate her interest in higher education for women.

Years ago, the Award was funded by collecting \$2 from every member in the Midwestern Region every year as part of their MWR Dues. I found a dues statement from 2001/2002 for the Cincinnati Club and it listed \$2 for the Region Award Program. History of the funding gets a bit hazy here with no one sure what changes were made in the following years. In 2017 Kris Armstrong (our immediate-past governor) came up with an idea of establishing the Acorn Guild (donation of \$100) to secure funding for the Wagner Award. She thought this capital campaign could create a large nest egg. It was designed as a three-year program to raise \$100,000. The hope was that 350 people would donate \$100/year for three years. By investing those funds, we could build a way to fund the award. Kris then came up with the Hildy & The Acorn Guild title/theme since Midwesterners are a hardy and prepared bunch who save up for winter. Hence the squirrel and acorns. The Hildy reference is from Wagner/Valkyries/Brunhilde which apparently has something to do with handmaidens in Norse mythology, about which I don't have a clue. Kris' intent was that the necessary funds would be raised by the end of this

biennial which ends July 1, 2020. Those funds have not been raised and the new Board will be discussing it at their future Board Meetings.

So here is something to think about, if you are looking for a very worthy program to donate to, The Virginia Wagner Award should be on your list. Where SIA has the Laurel Society to fund the various programs and awards they give out, "membership" starts at \$1,000. Membership in the Acorn Guild starts at only \$100. Stay tuned for updates on the Acorn Guild – or whatever replaces it for funding the VWA. Many of our Club winners have gone on to be District and Region winners. If we don't support/donate to the VWA we will be limiting our Club winners when they move on to the next level.

Betty

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 (not sure if she is still the one this year) so our records will be up to date. Ann will also update the information with SI.

TRAFFICKING & MISSING CHILDREN

Jennie submitted this message she received from Susan from the Dayton club who keeps us updated on the trafficking and missing children project.

Good Day!!! I hope it is for you!!!

I wanted to let you know that even in unsettled times... good things can happen!

Two more of the children (Latrell Shivers & Talayeh Clay) on our poster



were found!

We are now still looking for Madison Daugherty. Please feel free to pass on her picture and description in emails/Facebook/etc. as we continue to



help find her.

I thank each of you for caring about our

children and acting on that care .



I'm sending prayers for you and those you love to stay well and safe, and have contentment, peace and many reasons

to make your heart smile!



With A Grateful
Susan



COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Kroger and Gordon Food Services both offer a Community Rewards Program for non-profits. .Maybe other stores do, too. 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.

Visit <http://www.kroger.com> . Once logged in to your account, search for Soroptimist International of Middletown, OH by name or click LD932 and then click Enroll.

CALENDAR

June 4—Virtual Board Meeting
June 11—Installation of officers

MONTHLY RAFFLE

Ann

MONTHLY INSPIRATION

Ann

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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