



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

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

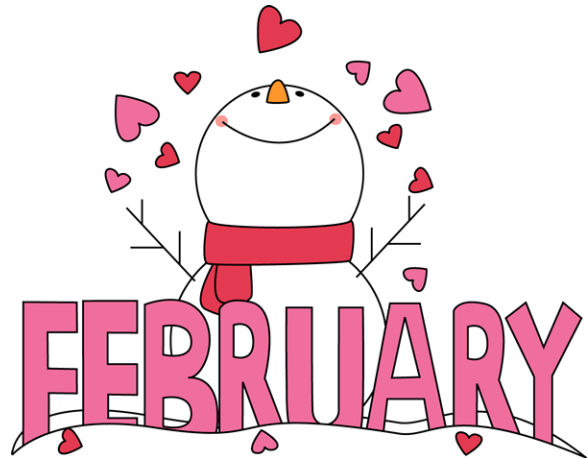
Elaine

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.

CONTACT US

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