



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

FEBRUARY 2020

PRESIDENT MARTI'S MESSAGE

Happy Heart Greetings!

As I am sitting here trying to think of something to write, I checked last February's message. Guess what! I was talking about increasing our membership. And now, in my final months of my presidency, I am thrilled that we have actually begun working vigorously on our membership project. There is a great deal of thinking going into how we approach getting our name and our mission out to the public. I'm excited about the direction the committee is heading.

This has been more challenging than I ever thought. With each generation, there are new life-style preferences that create the need for getting out of our comfort zones. What we enjoy we don't want to lose, and that is fine. We have to find ways to incorporate new approaches to continue the mission of our great organization.

We may be taking baby steps to begin, and that is OK. We will take what we learn and move forward with planning to find ways to get our message out.

See you on the 13th! Wear red and get a jump-start on Valentine's Day!
Love and hugs to all!
President Marti



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

SPRING CONFERENCE

Put the date on your calendar now and plan to attend Spring Conference April 24-26 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It will be a good experience for some of you who have never attended! A new governor and Region board will be installed.

OUTING POSSIBILITY

Here is a possibility for an outing. Those who are interested could carpool and eat lunch or dinner afterward. We could also take guests with us so they will have a better idea of some of our involvement and learn more about human trafficking. The cost is \$5. It's at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati. The exhibit is there through April 4 Check out <https://freedomcenter.org/motelx> for more information. The exhibition reveals the grim reality of human trafficking.

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

FEBRUARY INSPIRATION

Ginger

FEBRUARY RAFFLE

Beth

FEBRUARY CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Betty 1988

CALENDAR

February 2—Groundhog Day

February 6—board meeting

February 7—National Wear **Red** Day for heart disease

February 13—club meeting. Come at 6:00 to socialize. Dinner is at 6:30. Our speaker will be Suzanne Prescott from Butler County Educational Services. She will be speaking on Early Childhood Programs and impact.

February 14—Happy Valentine's Day

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

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

April 24-26—Spring Conference and installation of Governor Darcy Merritt in Ann Arbor, Michigan, at the Kensington Hotel
Friday night theme is Tropicana and Saturday night will be cocktail dress.

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

October 23-24—District Meeting in Canton, OH at the Holiday Inn.

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

October 1-3, 2021 in San Francisco, CA.

Join Soroptimists from all four Federations as we celebrate our *Bright Past* and look forward to our *Brilliant Future*. The Fairmont San Francisco Hotel is special because of its historic significance. It marks the site of the very first worldwide Soroptimist convention in 1922. Because of its significance in our history, it was chosen as the perfect location for this event. The dates in October are significant because they are close to the date of our founding.

A website page is available at <https://www.sotoptimist.org/for-clubs-and-members/whats-new/100-anniversary.html> There will also be a Facebook group formed soon.

PINS

Have you ordered your new pin yet? Maybe we can all combine our orders into one order. The cost of the S pins is \$15.

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.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING NEWS

There's something about numbers that help us see the reality of what's happened. Here are some hopeful stats:

93 locations in our city each day now have their employees looking at the faces of the 8 missing kids from our area because of posters our group has distributed.

10 restrooms have stop sign pull offs in case someone needs help.

5/8 missing children found in Butler/Warren Counties; Montgomery County, 8/8.

A new round of posters planned for March.

We have found out about a trafficking exhibit at the Underground Freedom Center in Cincinnati. We are hoping to get our club interested in taking a trip to see it. After our committee meeting next week, we will be ready with details at the meeting the 13th .

As you see, we have a number of good activities going on. What a difference our numbers are making.

Jennie

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