



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

SOROPTINEWS—SI MIDDLETOWN

JANUARY 2021

PRESIDENT GAYLE'S MESSAGE

Soro Optimist Warriors and Heroes,

Happy New Year and to a prosperous and new normal in 2021. As I am writing this, I'm hoping that your holidays were special. Mine was quite special as I celebrated my first Christmas as a grandparent, and it was magical!! Now we are back to reality!

Let me just say that COVID is real and we need to stay safe. We will continue to Zoom both board and general meetings until it is safe to be together. The disease is still very active, and it does not discriminate.

Our Holiday Party and meeting with our auction was a success. Our auction brought \$480.00, and we also received a \$50.00 donation! Thank you all for your generosity. The bingo winners were Betty, Diane, and Beth. Such fun!

We will have Ann Marie Babb as our speaker in January. Her Bio is included. She has spoken to the group before, November 2016. A lot has changed, and she will have new and different information to share.

We will also have a speaker in February, Alex Coon, from our Cleveland Club. She will help guide us through Slack and get our members using it. Slack is a useful tool for our club, and I hope that it can improve ease of communication for everyone. It can also help us to search historical data with ease. This will also be the info drop of choice in the coming future of our region.

Information regarding Spring Meeting will be coming soon. The board will decide in February what the model will be: in person, hybrid, or virtual. So stay tuned. Please remember as members you may always go to the various websites available to them. <https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/> is in charge of all the federations. <https://www.soroptimist.org/> is in charge of the Americas, www.simwr.org is our region's website.

So until we Zoom again Stay safe and well!

Gayle

JANUARY



BIO OF JANUARY SPEAKER

Ann Marie Babb is the VP of Business Operations for the WCWT Center, the founder and Executive Director of Springhaven Community of Homes in Middletown, Ohio, and was awarded the AK Steel Steel Magnolia Award in 2017. She is also the Director of Incarceration Support for Justice Consulting Group which concentrates on women who have been incarcerated for crimes revolving around their trafficking. Having experienced trafficking, Ann is a survivor, an advocate, and an activist. She has dedicated her life to sharing her story, developing her program, and demystifying mental health issues that are associated with trauma.

JANUARY INSPIRATION

Barb

JANUARY RAFFLE

Betty

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

January 6—Betty

JANUARY CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Dee—1998

Beth—1998

Marti—2017

CALENDAR

January 7—7:00 Zoom board meeting

January 14—7:00 Zoom club meeting

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. Darcy

RAFFLE

Gayle will make the first drawing for our raffle at the Zoom board meeting on January 7.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

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

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.

Judy reports that the Live Your Dream checks will be mailed to the winners in January. Hopefully, we can honor them in person in April. Winners are Tabitha Rinesmith from Lexington, KY—first place at \$1500 and Jessica Lena Ndanjong from Cincinnati—second place at \$1000.

CONTACT US

P.O. Box 525, Middletown, OH 45042

simiddletown@soroptimist.net

www.middletownsoroptimist.org

