

***SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF SCHENECTADY***

***MONTHLY GRAM***

***March, 2014***

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***Monthly Meeting:*** Meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 6:00PM at the Stockade Inn.

***February Meeting:*** Many thanks to Mary Burch-Macherone for asking Kathy McCarthy to arrange for Dr. Mandeep Sidhu and Dr. Adanna Akujuo to address us on our Heart Health.

The 31<sup>st</sup> annual Capital Region Heart Ball is being held on Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:00PM at the City Center, Saratoga Springs. For more information go to, [www.capitalregionnyheartball.heart.org](http://www.capitalregionnyheartball.heart.org).

The Capital Region Heart Walk will be Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at the Crossings of Colonie, [www.capitalregionheartwalk.org](http://www.capitalregionheartwalk.org).

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Capital Region Go Red for Women Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00AM to 1:00PM at the Albany Marriott. Go on line to [www.capitalregionnygoredluncheon.org](http://www.capitalregionnygoredluncheon.org).

***Boys & Girls Club*** The date is March 15 for St. Patrick's Day fun at the Boys & Girls Club on Curry Road in Rotterdam. Set up begins at 10:15 and the kids will start decorating the cookies from 11:00 to 1:00PM. We will need donations of frosting and cookies. The children will be making jewelry with beads, cards, etc. Donna and Susan are discussing plans to have shamrock milkshakes and leprechaun trail mix. Please let Susan know if you will be coming, 428-8830. Hope you can come and have fun with the kids!

***SIS's YSS:*** Barbara is not home yet but possible opportunity to sell at the Easter Show. If so will need help that day.

***A request from Nancy McKiernan who created & maintains our website:*** Baptist Health System foundation will be presenting the Ray Whitbeck Community Award at their Wine & Food Pairing event on Friday, March 21, 6 pm at the Riverstone Manor. The Award is \$2,000. to a charity of their choice. They are seeking nominees for the award AND would like to invite you to attend the Wine & Food Pairing Event. The tickets are \$50.00 and include wine tastings from 2 regional wineries as well as sumptuous food prepared by the chefs at Riverstone Manor. All proceeds to go to the Baptist Health System Foundation to improve the lives of the elderly and their families in the community. Baptist Health System is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. A portion of the ticket fee is tax deductible. Please contact Nancy for more information. Award info and nomination form can be found at [http://www.bapthealth.com/news\\_announcements.htm](http://www.bapthealth.com/news_announcements.htm). Nancy sends her thanks.

**Biennial Garage Sale:** This event is co-chaired by Frieda and Mary Mortka. Please mark your calendars for Friday, May 9<sup>nd</sup> & Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, the days of the sale and we will need members to sort, display and price before that day. Remember to set aside your extra “stuff” and we will pick it up in the spring when Barbara will again have access to her garage. We may accept some clothing, shoes and pocketbooks but only if in excellent shape. “Special” seasonal items will be accepted. No stuffed animals, but toys, if in good shape, with all pieces. We will accept books, jewelry, furniture, kitchen items, collectibles, knick-knacks, etc. A garage sale is a lot of work but the last one raised almost \$2,000.00 for Soroptimist. Please get in touch with us.

**Joint Installation:** Tuesday, June 3, 2014, 6:00 PM, at the Stockade Inn, 1 North Church Street, Schenectady, Buffet Dinner \$40.00, please mark your calendars. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Burch-Macherone at (518) 253-9882 or mburmach98@aol.com. There will be a special reading of “A Phenomenal Woman” by Carla Page.

**Garden Tour:** Gillian and Frieda have gotten 9 committed gardens for next year. The date in 2014 will be Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, mark your calendars now so we’ll have 100% participation. We will need every member sitting at a garden and will pass out a signup list at the March meeting. Deb DeGenova has agreed to hold the “Greet the Gardner” event at her house again this year. It will be held on Sunday, June 8, beginning at 5:30PM.

**BFW:** Barbara Andre-Maxwell has volunteered to be chairman of the event to take place in March 2015! She has great ideas and has asked for some volunteers to help her. More to follow when she gets back from San Francisco but put your “thinking caps” on.

**Peace Garden:** Ida is home now and we will be hearing about her plans for the Peace Garden somewhere in Central Park. She has several ideas for the location. It will be a garden that will basically take care of itself with minimum upkeep once established.

**Guardian House:** Mary has decided on a plan for May. Scotia has a Memorial Day Parade on May 21<sup>st</sup>. She has arranged for us to march and to have the women vets ride in a blue convertible, 1990 Chrysler LaBarron. This will be a good opportunity for us to do something for the vets at Guardian House and promote SI of Schenectady. She hopes for full participation by members who will be asked to wear black slacks and white shirts with the blue Soroptimist scarf, if possible.

**Position needed:** The Board is looking for someone to work along with Barbara as Treasurer to update our computer and get ready for an audit. This person will take over as Treasurer in the next year. Please let Lorraine know if you are interested.

**Tastefully Simple:** My daughter is holding a party tomorrow morning, Saturday, 3/8, for her friends. Time is 9:30AM. Everyone is invited, if you would like to replenish your stock, or call Linda Gallagher at 482-2591 and tell her it's for this party.

### Reminders:

- For members **unable** to attend the March meeting, you are responsible for notifying **Lorraine Sturges** no later than 5PM on the Sunday preceding the meeting. Lorraine can be reached either by email at [lmstur57@gmail.com](mailto:lmstur57@gmail.com) or by phone at 399-6268. Members who fail to notify Lorraine by the date and time specified will be billed for the cost of the dinner. Prospective members, please notify Lorraine that you **will** be attending the February meeting. The cost of the dinner is \$28.00. First time attendees will be our guests.
  - Please remember to notify Jo-Anne if your address, phone number or email address changes so that the Membership Booklet may be kept current. Jo-Anne can be reached at [joannevr@verizon.net](mailto:joannevr@verizon.net) or 377-9602.
  - Information needs to be submitted by the 3rd of the month for inclusion in that month's GRAM which will be out after the board meeting. Please notify Frieda at [ftanski@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ftanski@nycap.rr.com) or 885-9710, should you have any information you would like to have included. If you know of the death or illness of a member or ex-member or a special event in their lives, please notify Frieda [ftanski@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ftanski@nycap.rr.com) so she can send a card, also she needs to know your birth date.
  - Remember to wear your name badges to all events, not only to identify yourselves but to advertise Soroptimist International of Schenectady. Wear your pins to spark a conversation!
  - If you buy anything for the club, remember to use a tax-exempt certificate. If you need one, they are available from Barbara, our treasurer.
  - Board meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month at the Turf in Scotia (except for August) and all are welcome.
  - President: Lorraine Sturges                      Treasurer: Barbara Andre-Maxwell  
1st VP: Frieda Tanski                              1 Year Director: Sandy Johnson  
2<sup>nd</sup>VP: Ida Chisamore                              2 Year Director: Mary Burch-Macherone  
Secretary: Donna Gigone /Mary Mortka                      2 year Director: Deb DeGenova
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## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

March 15<sup>th</sup> – St. Patrick’s Day cookie decorating, jewelry making good time at the Y

March 18<sup>th</sup> – General meeting, speaker, possible slate of officers announced.

April 15 – Awards night & general meeting-Winner of WOA will be at meeting.

May 1 – 4<sup>th</sup> - NAR Conference, State College, PA.

May 9 & 10 – Biennial Garage Sale

May 20<sup>th</sup>, regular meeting, winner of the Violet Richardson Award will be in attendance.

June 3 - Joint installation at the Stockade Inn, all are invited, we are the hosts this year and would like to have good attendance to welcome the other three clubs. (Saratoga, Fulton and Adirondack), Mary Burch Macherone is planning a great evening to welcome our fellow Soroptimists, price will be \$40. Carla Page will offer a special reading of “Phenomenal Woman”

June 14<sup>th</sup> - Annual Garden Tour, mark your calendar, you are needed to sit at a garden.

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### Awards & Scholarships:

*Beatrice Hocking Award to SCCC: \$2,000. Community Service Awards: \$2500.*

*Violet Richardson Award: \$500. & \$200. Women’s Opportunity Award: \$2,000.*

## ***Thank you’s***

Nancy McKiernan who keeps our web-site “up to date”.

Cassie McCracken & Wendy Gibson for their talk on SAFE house, a 30 day emergency shelter in Schenectady.

Theresa Meers for becoming a member and taking photos.

Ida Chisamore for chairing the Peace Garden.

To anyone that I forgot.

To all the Soroptimist members without whose support we could not be able to continue.