

***SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF SCHENECTADY***

***MONTHLY GRAM***

***May, 2014***

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***Monthly Meeting:*** Meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 6:00PM at the Stockade Inn. We will meet and present the Violet Richardson Award to Felicia Dodge. Her name was sent to the NAR and she won there as well. We brought back the checks, one for her and one for the Girl Scouts for whom she volunteers. If you still haven't done it yet, please bring the garden tools or equipment that you signed up for. We already have the wheelbarrow, courtesy of Home Depot in Schenectady. Theresa Meers will be sworn in as our newest member. Women with 30, 15 and 10 years of service will be honored with their pins. The slate of officers for 2014 to 2015 will be voted on at this meeting. Because there is so much business, the speaker from Mayan Hands will be asked to come in September.

***Highway Cleanup:*** There were three of us and Bill to clean Freemans Bridge Road. Present were Gillian, Mary Mortka and Frieda. Thank you!

***Mooncatchers, the Pad Project:*** For those of you interested, this month's meeting will be on May 28<sup>th</sup> and is a Mini-Bee. Ellie von Wellsheim is requesting that if you are a good seamstress and have a sewing machine, please come to the Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady on Wendell Avenue to the Emerson Room at 7:00PM until 9:00PM. Bring your machine in order to complete the Mooncatchers they've started. RSVP to Ellie at [mermooncatchers@gmail.com](mailto:mermooncatchers@gmail.com). There will be no cutting, just sewing to finish up the project. In June they will go back to a full swing Sewing Bee.

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).

***SIS's YSS:*** Barbara was disappointed in our sales at Spring Conference. Ask her and she will tell you why.

***Peace Garden:*** Ida has found a place for the Peace Garden in Central Park and will tell us about it when she's back from Peru. It will be a garden that will basically take care of itself with minimum upkeep, once established.

***Spring Conference:*** May 2 – May 4 in State College, Pa. found just Barbara and Frieda in attendance. Our gift basket made by Sylvia was a hit!

**Biennial Garage Sale:** Thanks to all who contributed and participated, the sale was a success. Amount raised was \$2507.75. Raffle of the Tastefully Simple food items brought in \$83.00.

**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. Since we are the hosts, it would be great if we had a showing other than officers-elect. The information will be attached at the end of this GRAM.

**Garden Tour:** Gillian and Frieda will have 9 gardens participating for 2014. The date is Saturday, June 14th, rain or shine, 10AM to 4:00 PM mark your calendars now so we'll have 100% participation. We will need every member sitting at a garden and will pass out the sign-up list again at the May meeting. Deb DeGenova has graciously 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. Please plan on attending so you can meet the gardeners. Also, sitters and gardeners will have the opportunity to visit each garden from Noon to 4:00 the same day.

**BFW:** Barbara Andre-Maxwell would like to meet with volunteers for a short meeting after the monthly meeting in May to plan the event to take place in March 2015! Please show your interest by staying after. It's important to allow time to get a theme and plan ahead.

**Guardian House:** Mary has arranged for us to march in Scotia's Memorial Day Parade on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Several women vets will 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 while wearing a blue surprise. Assemble at 5:30PM on Eagle St. Park on surrounding streets and if possible, car pool. It will be a fun march.

**Nominating Committee:** The slate of officers will be voted on in May.

### **Reminders:**

- For members **unable** to attend the May 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 should notify Lorraine that you **will** be attending the May 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. Carol Merrill-Mazurek's new email is [merrill92@verizon.net](mailto:merrill92@verizon.net).

- 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**

May 17<sup>th</sup> – Niska Day, 11-4:00PM, Come and sit at the table where we will be selling Garden Tour and raffle tickets and extolling the virtue of becoming a Soroptimist.

May 20<sup>th</sup>, regular meeting, winner of the Violet Richardson Award will be in attendance, longevity awards for members with 30, 15 and 10 years of service & voting on slate of officers.

May 21<sup>st</sup> – Memorial Day Parade in Scotia - *We Support Women Vets*

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” by Maya Angelou.

June 8<sup>th</sup> – Greet the Gardeners event at Deb DeGenova’s & preview of gardens for sitters & other gardeners.

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

June 17<sup>th</sup>- Picnic at Susan's house on the Lake. Sign-up for food at the May meeting.

July 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> – 43<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Convention in Vancouver, BC.

September 16<sup>th</sup>, first meeting of the new year. A speaker from Mayan Hands will be there.

September 19<sup>th</sup> – Sweet Dreams

October 18<sup>th</sup> – Fall District Meeting 9 Staten Island

November 15<sup>th</sup>, deadline for “Live Your Dream” submissions. (WOA)

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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”.

Sylvia Anapolis for making the gift basket for Conference. She always does a beautiful job!

Ida & Sandy for working on updating the by-laws and info for new members.

Jane and Price Chopper for providing the centerpieces, African violets, for the tables at Installation.

To Kathy Wadsworth who donated water to sell at the garage sale. Left overs will be sold at the garden tour.

To Barbara Andre-Maxwell for hosting our garage sale, keeping the food coordinated and for everything she did to make it a success.

To anyone that I forgot.

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

Sorry this gram was so late.