



SOROPTIMIS
Best for Women®

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THE FLAT ROCK AREA

SOROPTI-NEWS

Midwestern Region

P.O. Box 14

Flat Rock, MI 48134 USA

APRIL 2020

*Improving the lives of
women and girls
through programs
leading to social and
economic empowerment*

2018-2019 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Kellie Klingel

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Wendy Smith

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Cindy Wylonis

TREASURER

Bev Fitchett

RECORDING SECRETARY

Evelyn Kosowski

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Holly Johnson

DIRECTORS

Valerie Radar

Lynn Uveges

Sharon Wilson

CHARTERED: March 21,
1952

CLUB # 105308

MEETINGS

BOARD MEETING

4TH TUESDAY OF MONTH

6:00pm

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

BUSINESS MEETING

1ST TUESDAY OF MONTH

6PM SOCIAL

7PM

BIG BEAR LODGE

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello Soroptimists,

It's hard for me to type this newsletter. Usually I have an upbeat start to get myself moving and the words flow... but I am just saddened by all of what is going on right now. I hope all of you are doing well and keeping your hands and minds busy during the "shelter-in-place" order. I have called many of you who I don't see checking in on Facebook. As you know from my email, Sally Carter is in the hospital. I will try to continue to keep the Club updated as Ann passes along information to me. In the meantime, keep her in our thoughts and prayers.

Soroptimist Business ----All refund checks were sent out for the Fashion Show. Crystal Gardens has given us a proposed date of October 22, 2020. I feel it is a good date. It is a week before Halloween; and if we don't snatch up a fall date now, everyone else will be.

I'm sure Diane will mention elections farther into the Newsletter, but please be sure to fill out your form when it comes in the mail and return it immediately. There is a short timeframe to do so; we do not want these sitting on the coffee table for 2 months. Because we are not meeting, and everything is being done electronically, we need all of the time that we can get! After we have counted the votes, we will let everyone know the results. Hopefully, we will be able to meet in the summer to have club meeting/ officer installations.

I wish I could sign off by saying, I will see you all at the meeting on Tuesday! Instead, please, stay safe, stay well.

In Service,

President Kellie

"Empowered Women, empower women."

Soroptomist International of the Flat Rock Area
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 3rd, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m by President Kellie. There were 23 members in attendance.

Motion was made by Holly, seconded by Joan to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Bev

Please ask attendees of the Fashion Show to have their ticket stubs filled out in advance. Anyone going to the Spring Conference need to let Bev know this evening. All t-shirt orders are on your own.

Report filed for audit.

Fashion Show – Evelyn

Crystal Gardens needs the count for the Fashion Show by March 12th. Payment is due on March 16th.

Please give in advance the Silent Auction Donation sheets to Sharon Wilson or Rozada. Information due by March 19th. Jim Jasik will be doing the photo booth again. T. J Monte will again be our D.J.

Raffle baskets are due the night of the show with the value of \$25 plus and the contents of the basket labeled. Mary Dale is in charge of this and has the raffle tickets ready.

Correspondence – Holly

Thank you note was received from Children's Hospital for our donation which brought smiles on the faces of many of those children receiving medical procedures and test.

Programs – Gilda

Our Virginia Wagner winner won our club and district which makes her eligible for a regional award.

Our speaker for our April meeting will be from the Downriver Foster Care Closet. They help children that are abused and abandon.

Expect Respect – Amanda has everything all set for the March 11th presentation. All helping must be at the Flat Rock High School by 7:00 a.m. There will be no small group discussion and less transition time. Adrianna will speak again this year.

Dream It Be It – Lynn has this set up for Saturday, May 9th. Flat Rock and Huron High Schools are both interested. On Wednesday, March 18th there will be a committee meeting at Lynn's house.

Governor's Surveys – please fill out and bring to April Meeting.

Social Media – Wendy

Please check in for all meetings. Share articles on Facebook page to Wendy that are relevant to our club. More and more people are following us on Facebook.

New Business -

SI Hines Drive will be a new charter which is the Garden City, Westland area.

Lynn told of her amazing story on her way back from Hawaii.

Need small items for goodie bags for baby shower such as small shampoos, hand creams, etc.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m

Minutes respectively submitted by,

Evelyn Sergent Kosowski

PROGRAMS*Gilda Kreucher, Chair*

Thanks to all who have had to do a lot of scrambling to change, cancel and do a lot of running around to get the deposits back, make numerous phone calls and so many things that most of us are not aware of...President Kellie coordinating it all. Thanks to Bev and Sharon getting Fashion Show \$ back and sending Award \$ to our winners via the Award Chairs. Many Many thanks!! My Virginia Wagner winner Nicole was very grateful! Please all of our Soroptimist sisters stay safe and well!

LIVE YOUR DREAM*Kellie Klingel, Chair*

Live Your Dream Awards were received. Because of the amount of the checks, and the fact that both of the winners are in the nursing field, and working in this crisis, I wanted to ensure that it was safe to mail these checks to the addresses provided. Both award winners stated that their mail boxes are secure and I will be sending the checks to each of them, along with their certificates. I am going to request that someone take a picture of each of them with their certificate and check and email to me.

This is my last year as the Live Your Dream Chair. It has been a very fulfilling part of my Soroptimist experience. This is what Soroptimist is about: Women helping women. The joy of these women's voices when you tell them that they have won is so gratifying. Thank you for letting me a part of this experience.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/AWARENESS

We **REALLY** need a PR person!!! This job includes contacting the local newspapers and getting articles printed about our club and the events we participate in. It also involves helping with advertising our events such as the Fashion Show. The chairperson would contact media outlets

FUNDRAISING*Shelly Reichlin, Chair*

Fashion Show- has been put on hold until possibly October 22nd. More updates to follow. Thanks, Evelyn

Social Media and Soroptimist*Wendy Smith, Chair*

We are really making headway with more interactions on Facebook. We have had 20 more followers since the beginning of the year. Please don't forget to like our page if you haven't already done so. Also make sure to respond to our invites. This really does help us get the word out to more people. If you have any questions or anything we can share, please let us know.

MEMBERSHIP*Diane Flynn, Chair*

In early April, you will be receiving a ballot to vote for the individuals that are interested in the upcoming term. You'll notice that some of the positions are unopposed and in others we have several people who are running for that position. Please place a checkmark by everyone you want to vote for even the person that's running unopposed. Also, there are two open positions so if you would like to be involved on that committee then write your name down on the ballot sheet. This could be a good way for you to transition into that position. I will need all the ballots back by April 15 and I have enclosed a stamped addressed envelope for you. Please take the time to vote, it is much appreciated!

Stay healthy,
Diane

(example) and try to get our name and event out to the public. The chairperson also maintains copies of articles printed for the club. Yearly clubs report on how many new articles or TV ads are obtained.

DREAM IT, BE IT

Lynn Uveges, Chair

Well this crisis sure has disrupted everything. I hope and pray that everyone is staying home and staying healthy. This is very scary! I had almost everything set to go for Dream It Be It but as you know it too has been cancelled. I was able to get a refund from the Brownstown Rec Center.

I am thinking of possibly trying to do the program in November, but we will have to wait and see. Stay safe!

Baby Shower


Mary Dale Dickerson, Chair

Our yearly Baby Shower is still scheduled for Sunday July 26, 2020 2pm-4pm at Flat Rock Historical Museum. Please save your little toiletries that you get from hotels to use for our gift bags. More info to come.

Expect Respect *Amanda Alverson, Chair*

I am pleased to report another year of success for our annual Expect Respect program. This year's audience contained 147 sophomores at Flat Rock Community High School. Once again, students were provided resource information folders courtesy of The Guidance Center and First Step. During the presentation, First Step volunteers, Adriana and Vanity, discussed the core message of healthy relationships, both dating and social, with the audience. Judge Jennifer and Adriana also shared their personal stories to further educate and explain the message to the teenage audience. Students were then invited to write and submit questions for a whole-group question and answer period. While the format this year was a little different than in previous years, there was tons of positive feedback from both volunteers and collaborators. A follow-up meeting is in the works of being scheduled to discuss the program and begin work for next year. A huge thank you to all members who continue to support this valuable program for our community because without you this wouldn't have been possible.

Yours in Service,
Amanda Alverson
Expect Respect Chair

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*****			
Date	Meeting Type	Location	Time
ALL MEETINGS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE			
July 22-25,2020	SIA Biennial Convention	Bellevue, Washington	
Deadline for the May Issue is Wednesday April 29, 2020 Please have all items to Lynn Uveges by that date. Info can be emailed to address: luveges619@charter.net			

IMPORTANT CONTACTS FOR MIDWEST REGION

Governor Kris Armstrong- (krisquin@msn.com)
Governor Elect Darcy Merritt(dmerritt81@hotmail.com)
Region Secretary Missie Austin (missieaustin@gmail.com)
Region Treasurer Audrey Jarvey (audreyjarv@gmail.com)
District III Director Mary Pilon (pilonm@sbsglobal.net)
Soroptimist International of the Americas- (siahq@soroptimist.org)

WEBSITES

Soroptimist International Midwest Region: **simwr.org**
Soroptimist International of the Americas: **soroptimist.org**
Soroptimist International: **soroptimistinternational.org**