



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF TRENTON AREA

“Soropti-link”

MIDWESTERN REGION MAILING ADDRESS: 1644 VERNON STREET • TRENTON, MI 48183

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: <http://sioftrentonarea.wix.com/si-of-trenton-area>

VOLUME XXVI ISSUE NO. 3

NOVEMBER 2020

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

2020 - 2022 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Abby Premoe

PRESIDENT ELECT

Lani Weslow

VICE PRESIDENT

Cathy Infantado

SECRETARY

Kimberly Bondy

TREASURER

Chris Speedie

DIRECTORS

Dianne McDowell

Nancy Nagle

Tessa Smith

IMMEDIATE

PAST PRESIDENT

Karen Collins

Chartered:

April 3, 1951

Club # 105319

Meetings:

BOARD MEETING

2nd Tuesday of Month

5:30 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING

2nd Tuesday of Month

6:30 p.m.

Provisions Wyandotte

110 Sycamore

Wyandotte, MI 48192

DINNER MEETING

4th Tuesday of Month

6:00 p.m. Social

6:30 p.m. Dinner

Truago

West Road & W. Jefferson

Trenton, MI 48183

Presidents Message:



Who is ready for the holidays?! Not me ever! LOL. But they are quickly approaching. Ready or not. We are headed into the busiest time of the year and we are just as busy!

We just had a very successful Pretty Princess Road Rally and an amazing new member mixer. I know each of my guests went home with an application and plan to join. Bravo to everyone that worked hard in putting it together. I am excited to see new faces at the upcoming meetings!

Did you know we are also doing an on-line Tupperware Party as well as a Wreath and Poinsettia Fundraiser?! I would say we are rolling very well so far with this year's challenges by adapting and trying out some new things. So great work ladies and let's keep the momentum!

Abby Premoe
President

• COMMITTEE UPDATES •

PROGRAMS

Lani Weslow, Chair

Hello Ladies! We have had a terribly busy and productive October! Great job to everyone who has helped out!

For November, we will be holding our business meeting on Tuesday, November 10th at Provisions in Wyandotte again. Located at 110 Sycamore St. Meeting begins at 6:30, immediately following the Board meeting at 5:30. Starting in December, we will return to Brownstown Community Center for these meetings.

Our dinner meeting on Tuesday, November 24th will be at Truago Restaurant in Trenton, where we will have our guest speaker, Ramana Robertson, Executive Director for "Child's Hope". She will speak to us about their charity who works for Child Abuse Prevention. Child's Hope will also provide club members with some training sessions later in the year.

As usual, dinner cost is \$20 and payable to Chris Speedie when you arrive at the restaurant. Come at 6:00pm to socialize before we begin at 6:30pm.

RSVP to me (Lani) directly or mark "going" on our FB page event.

Hope everyone is gearing up for the Holiday season approaching!

MEMBERSHIP

Linda Crisi, Chair

I would say that our Member Mixer was a smashing success. I want to give a big thank you to my committee – Janelle, Diane, Morgan and Ann. They did an amazing job organizing this event. I know several of our guests took the application and brochure with them. I did the Zoom meeting during the event and was able to run the video and save it. Hopefully I will have the final version before our business meeting. I will also set up a Zoom invitation to that meeting for those that wish to participate but cannot be at the meeting.

We would like to welcome Kristen Mans to our club. She came, she listened, she joined. We are looking forward to getting to know her better at our meeting(s).

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Nancy Nagle, Chair

We are waiting for applications for Live Your Dream and Soroptimist PRIME which are due Nov. 15th. If you know a high school girl residing in Brownstown, Woodhaven, Grosse Ile, Gibraltar, Trenton or Riverview participating in a community service activity have them contact Pat Bryan for an application ASAP.

LYD is for women who are heads of household going to trade school, apprenticeship or post-secondary educational institutes are eligible. Contact Nancy Nagle.

Fallon Donovan is the contact for Virginia Wagner due Jan. 15, 2021. Women enrolled in college seeking a bachelor, master or doctorate degree are eligible to apply.

Nancy and Sarah will be calling a meeting soon to finalize plans for Dream It Be It to be held at Alternative for Girls on Dec. 5th. We will need volunteer presenters, timekeeper, materials handler, etc. Sign up at business meeting on Nov. 10.

Sub-Committees:

Service and Human Trafficking
Sarah Hill & Donna Fickeisen, Service Co-Chairs
Karen Collins, Human Trafficking Chair

SERVICE

No Report

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

No Report

FUNDRAISING

Abby Premoe and Chris Speedie, Co-Chair

Thank you all who supported the Yeti Cooler Raffle. The ticket was drawn at Truago!



Dawing in the rain ... Look at Sharon's face.
And the winner is: Becky Kaplar!
Sharon sold her the winning ticket.

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

October 13, 2020 • 6:30pm

Attendance: Pat Gonyea, Chris Speedie, Catherine Infantado, Linda Crisi, Paetrah Collins, Abby Premoe, Janelle Rose, Morgan Hudec, Fallon Donovan, Dianne McDowell, Lani Weslow, Kim Stoddardt, Bobbie Navarre, Nancy Nagle, Tessa Smith, Karen Collins, Catherine Russell, Ann Peraino.

Correspondence: None.

Meeting Minutes: September 2020 approved.

Treasurer's Report: September 2020 - October 13th, 2020 printed and passed out.

Committee Reports:

Public Awareness:

Scholarships 2020/2021- It is time of year again to begin disseminating our scholarship information and applications. We now have enough judges for each scholarship.

- i. Soroptimist Prime: Applications due by November 15th.
- ii. Live Your Dream Award: Applications due by November 15th.
- iii. Virginia M. Wagner Award: Applications due by January 15th.

First Step- Due to need, a new First Step counselling office has opened up in Detroit.

Vista Maria- Is having another fundraiser to build a new facility in this area. Two grants we've previously been awarded have been given to them which paid for security in one of their buildings as well as staff program training.

Service:

Princess Scavenger Hunt 2020- The scavenger hunt fliers have been created, sponsors and prizes have been acquired, and maps, clues, and road signs are being created. There are presently 6 different small businesses participating as stops in the rally. 16 tickets have been sold thus far. We are proposing for the next rally to select superheroes as a theme so boys can also participate.

- i. Volunteers are needed to pass out/facilitate treats and activities at the various stops.
- ii. For volunteers that have signed up to pass out/facilitate treats and activities at various stops, the location you are reporting to will be emailed to you prior to the event.
- iii. Nancy Nagle volunteered to pick up needed items from our storage unit.
- iv. Abby Premoe and Paetrah Collins will follow up with additional needs for the event.

Dream It Be It 2020- Dream It Be It participant numbers are down due to Covid, but they would still be very excited if we could do an event this year. Nancy Nagle tried her best to get an extension on the grant we

received for this event, but the grant money must be used by the end of this year. We are considering December 5th to have the 2020 Dream It Be It event so we do not lose the grant money.

Membership

Member Mixer 2020- Since we had been forced to postpone the member mixer that was originally scheduled in May due to Covid, the membership committee has taken steps to reschedule the mixer for October 27th, 2020 at 6:30pm in Portofino Restaurant, Wyandotte.

- i. Members are encouraged to bring at least one guest to attend and learn more about our club. RSVP yourself and number of guests by sending an email to Morgan Topolewski. Morgantopo@gmail.com
- ii. Prior to the event, each member is asked to provide a single sentence on why they are a Soroptimist. This sentence will be printed on your nametag.
- iii. The membership committee is creating a flip chart for the event and need a few highlights from each committee chairperson regarding what their committee is responsible for, their recent accomplishments, upcoming projects, and maybe some photos.
- iv. One member of each committee will be asked to give a 3 minute "elevator pitch" at the event to introduce their committee.

Programs

Meeting Locations- Due to Covid, our meeting and event locations are subject to change and vary based upon space availability. Please see the Upcoming SI Trenton Activities portion of these notes below as well as our Facebook page and your email for up to date meeting and event locations.

Mandatory Reporter Training- Since we work around children, we are mandatory reporters (those obligated to report possible child abuse if witnessed) so we are trying to book a training session for us in November to understand our responsibilities as mandatory reporters.

Fundraising

Yeti Cooler Raffle 2020- The Yeti Cooler Raffle license has been obtained, tickets have been printed, and online ticket sales are now open. Any ticket stubs or unsold tickets need to be delivered to Chris Speedie the day before the drawing at the latest. Contact Chris Speedie if you would like physical raffle tickets to sell. If you would like to sell tickets online, please share and use this link: <https://formsnarts.com/form/1zjc?mode=h5&via=f8s.co>

- i. The raffle drawing will still take place at Truvago on October 27th (the same night as the Member Mixer) but it will not take long and only a couple of club members need to be present at the drawing. Fallon Donovan and Chris, Donna, and Sharon volunteered to conduct the drawing as she lives nearby and can do it on her way to the Mixer. We need a photo of the drawing to post online.

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Diversification of Fundraising and Beneficiaries- As our landscape of possible fundraising events change due to the pandemic, new ideas to raise funds amidst the limitations the pandemic poses are necessary.

Additionally, in recognizing there are 17 different initiatives with categories ranging from Zero Hunger to Climate Action, consideration of partnerships with beneficiaries that fall under these categories could improve our initiative range as well as donor and new member exposure. The following are upcoming event ideas for consideration:

- i. Paetrah Collins has a friend who makes candles and has offered to split half of the sales proceeds of a custom candle with the club. It was proposed a custom water type scented candle be created for our club in which we would promote. Our half of the sales proceeds could be donated to a local water conservation or cleanup charity of some sort allowing us to begin contributing to SI's 6th sustainable initiative, Clean Water and Sanitation. Candles can be sold through our various online platforms or in person and can be delivered by us or picked up curbside by the buyer at a location permitting it.
- ii. The Virtual Run was profitable during its inauguration. There are still enough event magnets to consider conducting the event again this year during September or October before the weather gets too cold.
- iii. Ann Perano called Schwartz Nursery for pricing on wreathes and poinsettia plants for us to sell during Christmastime. They can be sold through our various online platforms or in person and can be delivered by us or picked up curbside by the buyer at a location permitting it. December 15th is the last day for order pickup. Lani will create the flier.
- iv. Hosting a "12 Days of Restaurants" event during Christmastime in which we partner with 12 different local restaurants who will create a special dish. On each night during the 12 days, one of the restaurants will offer their special dish for sale. The dish would be available by the restaurant indoors, for delivery, and/or for pickup to accommodate anyone who prefers to socially distance. The special dish will be promoted by us and a percentage of its sales would be donated to the club.
- v. BJ's Wholesale has reached out offering our club the opportunity to earn extra funds by providing us with a three-week period wherein we are given a form to use and share. Whenever someone uses our club's form to sign up for a new BJ's membership, or review an existing BJ's membership, our club will receive a portion of the membership sale. See flier, we have 3 weeks to do this
- vi. Save our Children is a growing global initiative raising awareness on human trafficking. Our club could adjust our Save the Girls ride logo to read "Save our Children". This adjusted logo could be printed on t-shirts and sold.
- vii. Epicure Food is a direct sale, healthy meal solutions company where individuals can host events to sell their products and earn funds. It works similarly to Scentsy,

Young Living, LuLaRoe, Tupperware parties, etc. Abby Premoe has a family member that sells Epicure Food and can create a \$25 kit, host a selling party that we promote/attend, and give us a percentage of each kit sold.

viii. Tupperware party

Sunshine Person: None.

Old Business: Lani Winslow has finally donated the extra dresses she has been storing since the dress drive in last year.

New Business:

1. District Meeting has been virtualized. The sign-up link and session links are on the midwestern region Facebook page and website.
2. SI Midwestern Region 20\$20 Fund Drive- The SI Midwestern Region is asking each club member to donate \$20.00 to help fund the awards.
3. Opening a Venmo account for our club.
4. Since we work around children, we are mandatory reporters (those obligated reporting possible child abuse if witnessed) so we are trying to book a training session for us in November to understand our responsibilities as mandatory reporters.

Member Concerns: None.

Action Items:

1. Don't forget to link your Kroger card or amazon card to our club.
2. Nancy Nagle to provide this year's scholarship information, applications, and fliers to the club so they can be disseminated by club members to nearby schools, churches, libraries, restaurants, social media accounts, and anywhere else we might have luck getting them seen by potential applicants. Some information regarding our scholarships is already on patch.com
3. Keep an eye out for an email from Paetrah Collins and/or Abby Premoe containing a sign-up list for what is still needed for the Princess Scavenger Hunt.
4. Please submit a single sentence on why you are a Soroptimist to anyone in the membership committee sometime before the Member Mixer.
5. Please sell physical tickets or online tickets for our Yeti Cooler Raffle. Please ask Chris Speedie if you would like physical raffle tickets to sell and/or begin selling raffle tickets online using this link: [RLINK "https://formsmarts.com/form/1zjc?mode=h5&via=f8s.co"](https://formsmarts.com/form/1zjc?mode=h5&via=f8s.co) <https://formsmarts.com/form/1zjc?mode=h5&via=f8s.co>
6. Please submit a flip chart page with a few highlights on what your committee is responsible for, the committee's recent accomplishments, the committee's upcoming projects, and maybe even some photos. This can be created as a group or your committee can assign someone to create it for the group, but please have it submitted to someone in the membership committee sometime before the Member Mixer.

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7. Please appoint someone from your committee to prepare and perform a 3 minute "elevator pitch" at the event to introduce your committee.
8. The BJ's Wholesale membership sign up/renewal form is attached to the email that contained these notes. Chris Speedie will give us further instruction on when and how to use the forms for our fundraising.
9. If you have suggested one of the future event ideas under Diversification of Fundraising and Beneficiaries, please continue to develop a plan and list of needs necessary for it.

Upcoming SI Trenton Activities:

1. Holiday Poinsettia & Wreath Fundraiser- October 18th- October 31st, 2020. Please see our Soroptimist Trenton, MI Facebook page for pricing and purchasing link.
2. SI Virtual District Meeting- October 19th- October 24th, 2020. Monday through Thursday will be pre-district meeting sessions starting at 7:00pm EST. Friday's meeting will be 7pm-8:30pm EST and Saturday's meeting will be 10:00am-1:00pm EST. Please watch your email for session links.
3. Pretty Princess Road Rally- October 24th, 2020 at 11:00am. Address: 25500 Gibraltar Rd, Flat Rock, MI 48134
4. SI Trenton Area Member Mixer- October 27th, 2020 at 6:00pm. Address: 3455 Biddle Ave, Wyandotte, MI 48192
5. Yeti Cooler Raffle Drawing- October 27th, 2020 at 7:00pm. Address: 2775 W Jefferson Ave, Trenton MI, 48183
6. SI Trenton Area Business Meeting- November 10th, 2020 at 6:30pm. Address: 110 Sycamore St, Wyandotte, MI 48192
7. Tupperware Fundraiser: November 12th- December

8th, 2020. Please see our Soroptimist Trenton, MI Facebook page for pricing and purchasing link.

8. SI Trenton Area Dinner Meeting- November 24th, 2020 at 6:30pm. Address: 2775 W Jefferson Ave, Trenton, MI 48183

9. Christmas Party- Date and location TBD

10. SI Trenton Area Business Meeting- December 15th, 2020 at 6:30pm. Address: 21311 Telegraph Rd, Brownstown Township, MI 48183

Club News:

This space will be filled with general member and club news. If you have any personal or club news you would like to share, please contact "kimberlyallisonbondy@gmail.com"

- The First Step Bottle Drive Fundraiser made the newspaper in Wyandotte and Grosse Ile! Great work!
- Mia Moberly, our past Soroptimist Prime Award winner sent us a very nice thank you note.

Club Networking:

This space will be filled with job openings and other opportunities members are aware of to share. If you know of any job openings or other opportunities you would like to share with everyone, please contact kimberlyallisonbondy@gmail.com

- i. Job Opening: Company- GTB, Location- Dearborn MI, Position- Sr. Delivery Analyst. Contact Kimberly Bondy for more information.
- ii. Job Opening: Company- GTB, Location- Dearborn MI, Position- Measurement Development Manager. Contact Kimberly Bondy for more information.

PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY!

Kroger Rewards Signup

SIGN UP TODAY! Go to [Kroger.com](https://www.kroger.com) then under the Saving & Rewards tab click Kroger Community Rewards. If you do not have a Kroger Account you will have to create one. If you already have an account sign into your account.

Enter: **SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF TRENTON AREA** or enter the Organization Number: **AH538**

Kroger Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy..all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card!

AmazonSmile Signup

Here is our unique charity link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-6091135>

This link takes you directly to smile.amazon.com in support of your organization so you won't have to search for us among almost a million other organizations.

Use this link in all your AmazonSmile marketing promotions. It's the easiest way for members to find and support your charity.

PHOTOS FROM THE PRETTY PRINCESS ROAD RALLY



NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9 - Paetrah Collins
13 - Shelley Amrozi
14 - Terry Morreau
15 - Cecilia Beaty



NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

1992 - Linda Crisi
2019 - Cecilia Beaty
2019 - Chrelsea Dobija



Have a Happy and
Safe Thanksgiving

**** *Editor's Note* ****

Deadline for the DECEMBER Issue is Monday, November 30, 2020. Please have all items to Chris Speedie by that date. Info can be mailed to the address below or emailed.

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR
CHRIS SPEEDIE**

1644 Vernon Street • Trenton, MI 48183
H: (734) 675-8528
E-mail: sioftrentonarea@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER 2020

10 BOARD MEETING

PROVISIONS - WYANDOTTE

110 Sycamore Wyandotte
Meeting begins at 5:30 p.m.

10 BUSINESS MEETING

PROVISIONS - WYANDOTTE

110 Sycamore Wyandotte
Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

24 DINNER MEETING

TRUAGO

2775 West Jefferson & West Road
Trenton, MI

6:00 pm Cocktails • 6:30 pm Dinner

DECEMBER 2020

8 BOARD MEETING

BROWNSTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

21313 Telegraph at King Road
Meeting begins at 5:30 p.m.

8 BUSINESS MEETING

BROWNSTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

21313 Telegraph at King Road
Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY WILL BE
DETERMINED AT A LATER DATE**