

MAY 1, 2022

May 2022

Soroptimist International of Staten Island



CLUB UPDATES AND EXCITING NEWS

We were represented at the 2022 NAR Spring Conference in Scranton, PA with a record ELEVEN members: Martha Venditto, Dawn Reid-Green, Tina Bilcher-Murphy, Jennifer Bollinger, Christine Zall, Lauren Aquino, Janet McFarland, Angie De Pompo Seff, Carol Lundrigan, and Rosalie Raio. Along with hosting the conference's hospitality suite, we attended meetings, workshops, and award ceremonies. More details to come at the May General Member Meeting.

At our May General Member meeting we will be electing our 2022-2024 Board. The slate of nominees are listed to the right. Also at our May meeting we will be joined by Efrat LaMandre, FNP-C. She is a Family Nurse Practitioner that owns and operates her own Family Medical practice, EG Healthcare, the first family medicine practice to be owned by a nurse practitioner autonomously.

Our May service project is a cereal drive (no plain Cheerios, please) for Blue Star Families. Blue Star Families was founded by military spouses in 2009. They're committed to strengthening military families by connecting them with their neighbors – individuals and organizations – to create vibrant communities of mutual support.

May 7th is our 2nd Annual Dream It, Be It workshop in partnership with the Richmond County DA's office. The mentors are trained and eager to meet the girls!

June is our Community Service Awards AND Member Induction and pinning ceremony. To celebrate a long, productive year it will be held at The Old Bermuda Inn on June 15th.

We are now accepting payment online for our events. When you register online for one of our monthly meetings or special events you can either pay online (via credit/debit card only, ~3% surcharge) OR choose to pay via cash or check (in person or mail in, depending on the event).

Online payments will stay available until the monthly member meeting ends OR on the last RSVP date for other events.

VOLUME 25

20-22 Board of Directors

President: Martha Venditto
President Elect: Dawn Reid-Green
Treasurer: Carol Lundrigan
Recording Secretary: Tina Bilcher-Murphy
Corresponding Secretary: Lauren Aquino
Director: Jayne Cooper
Director: Janet McFarland
Delegate: Jennifer Bollinger
Delegate: Christine Zall
Alt. Delegate: Angie De Pompo Seff

Upcoming Events

General Member Meeting & Elections
May 4, 2022

Dream It, Be It Workshop
May 7, 2022

Community Service Awards & New Member Induction - Old Bermuda Inn
June 15, 2022

Summer Leadership Workshop - Wilkes Barre, PA
August 20, 2022

Visit our website
www.soroptimists.org/upcoming-events
for more info and to RSVP

22-24 Nominees

President: Dawn Reid-Green
President Elect: Tina Bilcher-Murphy
Treasurer: Jennifer Bollinger
Recording Secretary: Christine Zall
Corresponding Secretary: Lauren Aquino
Director: Martha Venditto
Director: Janet McFarland
Delegate: Stacie Koutras
Delegate: Jody Hageman
Alt. Delegate: Angie De Pompo Seff

Contact us

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Staten Island, NY 10314



APRIL MEETING RECAP

We were joined this month by Grace An and her colleague from Safe Horizon. They spoke about the Rape Crisis program run on Staten Island, which provides support to adults facing forensic exams. Along with emotional support, the program provides new clothing and Uber fare for the survivors to return home with dignity. Everyone in attendance was moved and inspired by the project and agreed to future drives and donations to keep this program running.

For more information on how you can help please go to www.safehorizon.com

We need your help!

Consider joining our board or volunteering for one of our committees:

Community Outreach, Programming, Fundraising, Member Appreciation, and Special Events.
Be on the look out for opportunities to recognize local organizations and inspirational women.

Submissions for 2022 Community Service Awards are now closed

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

After the last two years of pandemic living, many of us have realized that stress, isolation, and uncertainty have taken a toll on our well-being. We love all our members, and acknowledge the hard work you do to support your communities and families. We urge each every one of you to take a moment to assess how YOU'RE doing. Remember that your Soroptimist Sisters are here to support you when you need us.

You Are Not Alone

(data from The National Alliance on Mental Illness)

- 1 in 5 U.S. adults experience mental illness each year
- 1 in 20 U.S. adults experience serious mental illness each year
- 1 in 6 U.S. youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year
- 50% of all lifetime mental illness begins by age 14, and 75% by age 24
- Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among people aged 10-34



A Message from the President



Dear Soroptimist Sisters

Welcome to Spring and all the beautiful May flowers. Wishing each and everyone a Happy Mothers' Day.

Spring conference was exciting and enjoyable. The North Atlantic Region welcome the New England Region clubs into the fold. Where once we were 4, we are now 5 districts.

Be proud of who we are. Ask all to join us at our meetings.

Thank you for all you do for Soroptimist

Yours in Soroptimist
Martha C Venditto