Land Acknowledgement

Soroptimist International of Thunder Bay would like to acknowledge that our gatherings take place on the traditional lands of the Fort William First Nation, Signatory to the Robinson Superior Treaty of 1850.

We would also like to acknowledge the tumultuous history endured by the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, the contribution these communities have made to the fabric of our society and the beauty they have added to our multi-cultured nation. With this in mind we will do what we can to help Thunder Bay move forward with mutual trust, respect, reciprocity, and collaboration in the spirit of reconciliation.

Connecting with Cindy

April and May are busy months with the Home and Garden Show selling raffle tickets, the *Two-Bit Auction* preparations and the **ECR (Eastern Canada Region) Spring Conference**. There are 8 of us attending this year (**Cheryl, Karen Bortolin, Judy Perrier, Linda Adams, Lee Ann Nalezyty, Faith Crichton, Kim Koivukoski** and myself). That is why I picked this inspiration for the month. When signs of stress are showing, be thankful for what you have, laugh, empty that Brain of yours before you sleep, and make time to do things that make you happy.

The club meeting is In Person and Hybrid on **Wednesday April 10th at the Tower Room in Waverley Park Towers at 7 pm.**

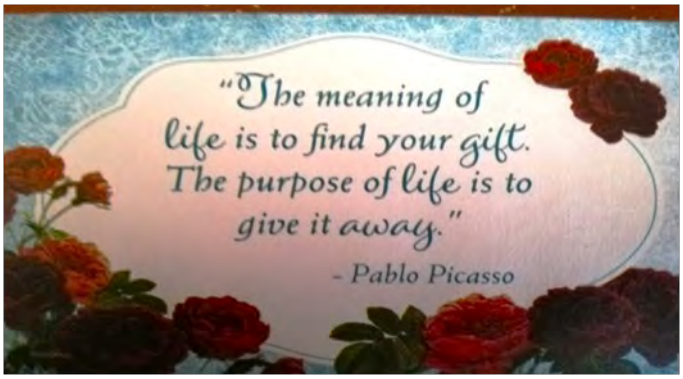
As I write this article, we just finished 4 days of a snow storm that dumped more snow than we had all winter! I am grateful in that the earth needs this snow and wakes us up to a more realistic spring. After all, we always get a dump of snow in March and April! Mother Nature is in charge!!!

I hope you all had time to gather with family and friends over the Easter weekend! It is the time to reflect on the past, enjoy the present and dream of the future.

We cannot forget about all the chocolate to be indulged before and after all the feasting!
The Nomination committee was busy touching base with all. I will stay on as President for 2 years and Sharon Godwin will be President-Elect. We do **not** have a Secretary yet so please give this task consideration as the duties are attending 2 meetings per month and taking notes. Not a large time commitment especially for those already attending the meetings. The chairs of the 4 pillars remain the same for the next year and Lorrie will remain Treasurer. Judy Perrier will chair the Live Your Dream program. We are also looking for someone to take over the newsletter from Lee Ann. This task is open for changes such as doing bi-monthly or being shorter. Please give this some consideration or we may just cancel the newsletter. Thanks to **Kathleen and Sharon** for calling members on behalf of the Nominating committee.

Judy Perrier asked about interest in attending the Cultural Kitchen by Roots to Harvest at the March meeting. It was decided to post pone this until the fall as they are winding down for the summer and getting ready to garden.

Our club will be celebrating their **75th Anniversary** on May 6 (1949)! Celebrations are in order and because our normal club meeting is the day before the Two Bit Auction, we will change the date to **Wednesday May 15th.** Venue to be determined. We are looking for ideas on how to celebrate this special occasion so any ideas are welcome. It does not have to be done in May so maybe a celebration or tea party in the Gardens would be nice?



We are all saddened by the passing of **Maxine Tenander**! Many members offered condolences along with Soroptimists outside the club. There will be a memorial in her honour held at the ECR Spring Conference with a slide show of photos while **Governor-Elect Cheryl** will read about her accomplishments which were many. In addition, there will be Memorial for her at the **April 10th** meeting with hopefully the slide show. **Melanie** and **Devona** are working hard on trying to figure out the projector. If anyone would like to say a few personal words about **Maxine**, there will time set aside for this. A tree will be planted in the **Memorial Grove at the Soroptimist International Friendship Gardens** as she has been a member for 37 years and has chaired the Garden Committee.

Anyone wishing to make a donation for this can E-Transfer to cfigus@tbaytel.net or make arrangements with **Treasurer Lorrie.** The **Celebration of Life for Maxine is Friday May 10th at 3 pm held at Sargent & Son Funeral Chapel.** For those attending, please wear your blue shirts.

Your proud President, Cindy

Fund Raising

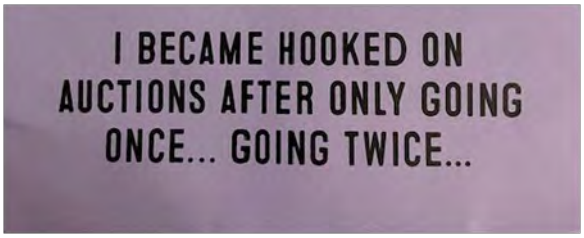
GIFT CARD RAFFLE

What a wonderful weekend it was at The Home and Garden Show. Our booth was a hub of activity with people buying tickets, inquiring about our organization and acknowledging the great work we do in making a difference in our community. Out of the 854 raffle tickets printed, we had 170 left to sell over the course of the weekend. At 2:00 pm Saturday afternoon our goal was accomplished. **SOLD OUT!** Some lucky winner is going to go home with a $500.00 package of gift cards. Drum roll please. In addition to ticket sales, a generous amount of money was also collected in the, "Donation Jar." Thanks to Melanie for this initiative. With food insecurity being so prevalent for so many, it will be very rewarding to forward the proceeds to our beneficiary, the RFDA.

As you are aware, our work did not end there. Once those tickets were all sold, we pivoted and focussed our attention on promoting our Two Bit Auction. Although our ticket sales were not through the roof, we did have numerous inquiries. People (mostly women) wrote down the date and some took pictures of the poster. Definitely some future bidders on the horizon

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who sold tickets in advance of the weekend, your efforts were outstanding. KUDOS to all the members who gave up a few hours out of their busy schedules to work a shift at our booth selling tickets and shedding a bright light on Soroptimist Thunder Bay. A HEARTFELT THANK YOU to **Judy A.** for once again securing us a full size booth and a perfect location to promote ourselves as one of Thunder Bay's best kept secret.

TWO BIT AUCTION



Soooo just when you thought your work was complete…. SURPRISE…..on to our next big fund-raiser…..the auction on May 9th in support of Roots to Harvest Cultural Kitchen and the student food banks at the University and College. We are aiming for 30 baskets and so far the needle is heading in a positive direction. However, we are definitely in need of more support in order to accomplish what we have set out to do. If you are eager to donate, but aren't quite sure what would be appropriate, not to worry, contact Shirley or myself as we have a running list of ideas that we feel would be ideal. MANY THANKS to our P.R. team who are all set to start spreading the word via various media outlets. As history dictates, perhaps the best publicity is word of mouth, so ladies start shouting from the roof tops.

The following is what we have secured thus far……

Homemade Quilt	Two Home Depot Gift Cards($500.00 value)	Picnic Backpack/ Wine/Cheese
Air Fryer	Casserole Dish/ Cookbook/Spices	Encounter Gift Card
Scratch Tickets	Local Food Products	Bird Bath/Bird Seed
Barbeque	Tupperware	Painting
31 Product	Game Package (curling/ shuffleboard)	Backpack/Book/ Wine/Munchies
Cutting Board/ Recipe Book/ Grocery Gift Card	$50.00 Caribou Gift Card	
Foot Bath	Bedding	

If you need us to pick up your item, give Shirley or myself a shout, we will be pleased to do so…. OR…. you can bring it to Wednesday's meeting. We are hoping to have all 30 items in our hands by **APRIL 25th so Chrissy** can start performing her magic. Since we have proven ourselves to be great ticket sellers, I'm confident we can get close to a sellout crowd once again this year. Contact Lorrie for tickets.

Shirley and I thank you in advance for your continuing support and generosity, it's very much appreciated.

Co-Chairs Fundraising Shirley and Kathleen

Membership

March has been a productive month for the Membership Committee. Fundraising wanted more of the postcards to enclose in the Auction Baskets, but there were only 10 left and were quite dated. This prompted us to create one so that we could go to Staples to have them copied. We had 100 made, plus 100 more copies of the information pamphlet done for the Home and Garden Show. We are on the road to revamping materials for New Member packages. Speaking of prospective new members, we are happy to report that Lucy Doucette, who attended the last meeting, has kindly offered to volunteer selling tickets at the Home and Garden Show. We appreciate her support as well as our new member, Linda Bachmaier's willingness to participate.

Submitted by

Kim and Faith,
Co-chairs Membership Committee

The DIBI committee is very happy with the latest news!

The Soroptimists of the Americas has allowed us to roll over the grant funds we have received in June 2023 ($1800), **and** the Soroptimist Fund of Canada has also allowed the same with their grant ($1000). To date we have spent $580.14 of the grant money.

Currently on our radar is the completion of he year end reports for both funding agencies as soon as possible and then setting in motion plans for the upcoming year.

DIBI Committee: Cheryl Ball, Faith Crichton, Devona Crowe, Kathleen Rismondo

Girls Transitioning to Adulthood

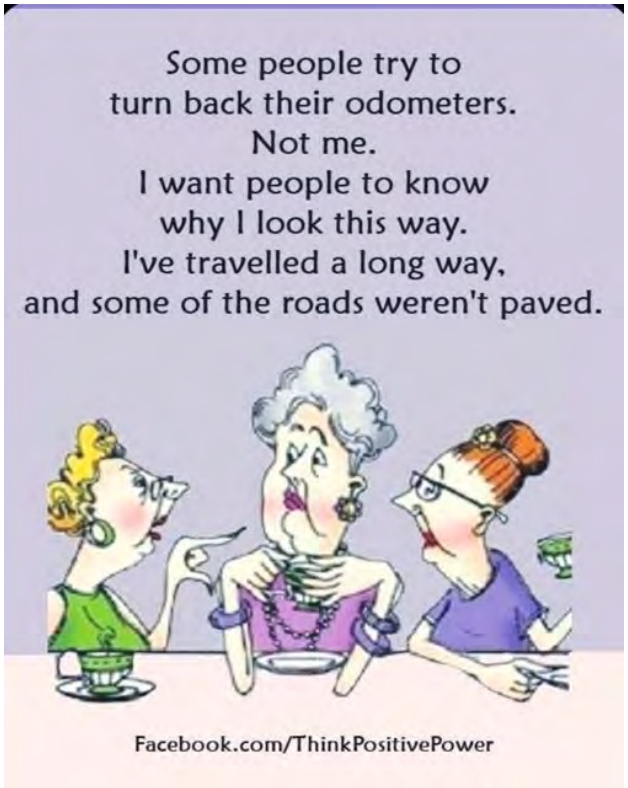
Lorrie and her husband Peter had their van filled to the roof with all of the donations that were given to the CAS.

Danny and staff thank Soroptimist members profusely for all the needed items that were given to them.

Melanie has started another list of items for the summer.

Thank you to everyone.

Melanie and Lorrie



Registration deadline
April 12/24

Fee: $300

Spring is On The Way

Soroptimist Thunder Bay is Meeting in Person

And Virtually

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

7:00 pm

The Tower Room

Waverly Park Towers

Light Refreshments will be served.

Please bring $5.00 to help cover costs.

Let Kim at 807-345-7477, kimjfk@gmail.com or Judy at 807-475-7131, ojander@shaw.ca know if you will or will not be attending in person or virtually. (Judy P. will send the link).

Soroptimist: Building Diversity, Saturday April 20

JOIN A MOVEMENT

How to bring in and keep women of different ages, cultures, faiths, orientations in our clubs? What are the secrets to Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging?

We'll hear about an international Live Your Dream celebration; an award for the Indigenous community; a very diverse club; an Israeli club of multiple faiths; reaching outside your comfort zone.

Saturday, April 20

1:00 pm Eastern (Canada & US)
Register by clicking the link below!

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqd-qgqzotGtdlnEqf47QHroKT1KY6jQff

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Maxine
We weren't ready for you to say goodbye, as we look into the heavens with tears in our eyes, we weren't ready for you to die. Our friend why did you leave and not say goodbye? With so many questions and no answers as to why. We would have gone with you, however God knows best and took you home to give you rest.

Maxine

The ECR Board is saddened to announce the passing of Soroptimist International of the Americas Eastern Canada Region's Past Governor Maxine Tenander, on the afternoon of Saturday, March 23, 2024 with her family by her side.

Maxine is survived by her husband Martti, her sister Laura, and brother Don, and their families. Maxine is a graduate of the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Toronto.

The members of SI Thunder Bay were pleased to welcome Maxine as a new member when she and Phyllis Bohonis joined on December 1, 1987. Maxine had been persuaded to become a member after having lunch with SI Thunder Bay Membership Chair, Enid McKenzie. She was an active board member who chaired many committees and fundraisers. She attended ECR Spring Conferences as well as SIA Conventions. Maxine was President of SI Thunder Bay in 1993-95. She was instrumental in establishing the addition of the Soroptimist Memorial Garden in recognition of past Soroptimist members. This garden was dedicated at the SI Thunder Bay's Garden Party celebrating SIA's 100th anniversary.

Over the years, Maxine was the recipient of awards in recognition for her service to her profession, her clients, and many organizations she took leadership roles in. In 1995, she was recognized with the Canadian Pharmacist of the Year award.

In 2020-2022 Maxine was the Chair of the local Alzheimer's Society. In 2022-23, she was the secretary for Lutheran Community Care board whose mission is to provide flexible and responsive social, developmental and spiritual services to people in the northern region of Ontario.

Written by Cheryl Ball

Soroptimist International
Thunder Bay
PRESENTS
Sweet
Dreams
Two Bit Auction
May 9, 2024
In Support of
Roots to Harvest Cultural Kitchen
Lakehead U./ Con. College Food Banks
Heritage Bldg. CLE
Doors open at 6:00/Bidding starts at 7:00
ENTRY $7.00
License # M868950