Soroptimist International of Thunder Bay

Mission: "Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.".

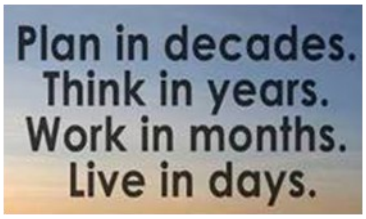
Vision: "Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams".

Soroptimist Thunder Bay Club Meeting **Wednesday, May 24 at 6;30 pm at CLE**

Judy will send information for Zoom attendance

Items of interest:

- **Membership**
- **Girls transitioning**
- **Fundraising**
- **Did You Know**



Inside this Issue:

- **Connecting with Cindy**
- **Minutes April 12th**

Connecting with Cindy

If April showers bring May flowers, what does April snow bring? Time to Go!!! Sorry I couldn't think of anything else rhyming with "snow".

The Gift card raffle wound up with a generous donation to the June-Steeve Lendrum Family Resource Centre of $1,450! A round of applause to all who helped make this happen.

Things are gearing up for the **Two Bit Auction (May 11th)** which is a little bit more work so "all hands of deck" and bring your relatives, friends, acquaintance or anyone willing to assist! Tickets are available from **Lorrie**.

Enid McKenzie is celebrating her 90th Birthday May 14th! What a milestone to reach and we all wish you a wonderful celebration!

The conference attendees had a meeting and things are moving along. **Devona** will be presenting a report at the **May 24th** meeting Club meeting which our **74th Birthday**! This has been delayed a couple of weeks due to the Two Bit Auction in the first week and a WebEx being held by SIA (Soroptimist of the Americas) on the Live Your Dream Award the second week. It is dinner meeting at the CLE Heritage Building (small side) at 6:30 pm. There will be a cheque presentation to the June-Steeve Lendrum Family Resource Centre and they will say a few words. For those that cannot attend, there will be a ZOOM invite (Hybrid meeting).

Budgets are needed to be sent to Lorrie Haslam and reports to **President Cindy** by the chairs of the 4 pillars (**Judy Perrier for Program, Kim Koivukoski and Faith Crichton for Membership, Kathleen Rismondo and Shirley Smith for Fund Raising and Melanie Cates for Public Awareness)**. The reports are needed before the end of May and **Lorrie** will need her information early May.

It was nice to have 3 guests at the April meeting and it looks like we may have a new member join as of July 1st! Congratulation Membership!!! Keep up the good work!

June will be the induction of your new board! Many thanks to the Nominating Committee **(Cheryl Ball** and **Lorrie Haslam**) for the many calls they made!

The **Yard Sale** has been scheduled for **September 23** so clean out those closets!

Your proud President, Cindy

April 12, 2023, Maxine's condo Common Room/Zoom 7:00 pm.

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Judy Perrier, Linda Adams, Lee Ann Nalezyty, Kathleen Rismondo, Shirley Smith, Faith Crichton, Kim Koivukoski, Judy Anderson, Cheryl Ball, Cindy Figus, Karen Bortolin, Rosa Martin, Marlene Crago, Devona Crowe
Zoom: Karen Lynn Evans, Lorrie Haslam
Guests: Linda Bachmaier, Charlene Hipfner, Brenda Sullivan
Regrets: Barb Fraser, Maxine Tenander
Secretary: Melanie Cates

Gift Card Draw- winner Nancy Rowlison ticket # 1130

Land Acknowledgement and Call to Order @ 7:07 PM by President Cindy Figus and introduction of guests.

Minutes of the March 8, 2023, Judy Perrier moved that minutes be accepted as circulated in the newsletter and seconded by Judy Anderson.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy provided the update as Lorrie was having difficulty connecting via Zoom.

Club funds had expenses for the March club meeting for room rental of $124.30, room rental revenue $85.00. Balance in this account is $2723.91.

Program funds had DIBI expenses and LYD awards. Income from two donations (one for the Two-Bit Auction and one for DIBI). The fund is currently in the negative 2610.10. Revenue from the non-licensed portion of the Two-Bit auction will be deposited to this account.

The conference fund had revenue of $40.50 from March 50/50 draw.

The Lottery account had $475 in revenue from pre-sales of gift card draw and the expense of $500 for reimbursing Karen Bortolin for the purchase of the gift cards, UPS ticket printing of $101.70 and the $94.50 licencing fee for the Two-Bit Auction.

No change to Olive Ede's donation fund or the Garden fund.

Correspondence- Soroptimist Foundation is looking for members who are interested in letting their name stand for nomination on their board. Members received an email about this.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ECR Spring Conference May 5-7th 2023 Brantford – 6 people attending in person and Lee Ann Nalezyty attending by Zoom. If anyone wants to join Lee Ann for the meeting let her know. A pre-meeting of conference attendees will be scheduled to plan for the activity for our country we are highlighting (Finland).

Dublin Convention (Kim and Lee Ann) – no further updates

Nominating Committee – Cheryl and Lorrie have completed their calls for nominations of board and committee chair positions.

Cindy Figus will stay on as President for an additional year. Kathleen Rismondo nominated but declined.

President Elect is Judy Perrier – she will determine if she is able to take on the President role as the year progresses. Devona Crowe was nominated but declined.

Membership – Faith Crichton and Kim Koivukoski will co-chair

Treasurer and Secretary positions have no changes as they are two-year terms and don't renew until next year.

Fundraising – Kathleen Rismondo and Shirley Smith will stay on as co-chairs for another year.

Public Awareness – Lee Ann Nalezyty will chair this committee.

Garden Committee – Judy Anderson will chair as Maxine Tenander is stepping down.

The installation of officers will be done at the June club meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

Three potential new members attended our meeting (Linda Bachmaier, Charlene Hipfner, and Brenda Sullivan). It was also reported by Devona Crowe that some of the CAS workers have indicated an interest in joining the club.

SI Policies & Procedures – Lee Ann Nalezyty reported that the formatting is delayed due to an unexpected death in our formatters family but once Keli returns to Thunder Bay, she will send her finalized document to Lee Ann.

Bylaws deferred (with Sharon Godwin) – no further progress. Sharon will continue to work on this but is not able to finalize it until she retires in June.

Archives adhoc mtg deferred – if anyone is interested in joining this committee, let Devona know.

PROGRAM

Live Your Dream – Judy Perrier thanked her committee for their work on selecting our winners. The portal for next year opens on August 15 and will be done all electronically. Linda Adams will be co-chair with Judy Perrier for this committee.

There is a webinar on May 17 for the LYD program. Judy Perrier and Lorrie Haslam are attending.

Dream It, Be It – Devona has submitted two reports on the event (one to ECR and one to SIA). A funding proposal for SIA is currently in the evaluation stage. The Soroptimist Foundation grant proposal will be submitted. Devona will be connecting with ECR to assist with completing this proposal.

There were 8 participants at the DIBI event. The girls ranged in age from 14-18. Preliminary survey responses were very positive. Both participants and facilitators felt that the day was too long. There will be a debrief meeting on April 14, 2023, to review the event and plan for future events. Danny Michaud from CAS has indicated that they have some girls who would be willing to be guest speakers at our club meeting about their experience if we would be interested. Devona and her committee will take this under consideration.

FUNDRAISING

Two Bit Auction – May 11, 2023. Currently there are 20 partial baskets and some additional items collected. If you have any items for the auction, let Kathleen and Shirley know.

Charlene Hipfner and Linda Bachmaier two of our guests have indicated that they can assist with this event. Brenda Sullivan is willing to contribute a basket.

Rosa Martin has students who are interested in helping at the event.

Building of the baskets is planned for the evening of Tuesday May 9 at the CLE.

A correction of the poster for the Two-bit auction is forthcoming. Need to add our beneficiaries – Soroptimist Foundation and CAS Girls Transitioning to Adulthood. Currently the poster has Live Your Dream as the beneficiary.

Advertising is well underway. What to do Column May 3 and 10 has been submitted to The Chronicle-Journal, TBnewswatch.com add has been submitted, The Source add will run on May 4, and we are scheduled to do an interview on Around Town with Fiona Gardiner. Kathleen will do the interview. Melanie will let Fiona's assistant know who is coming and the contact info.

Adds on Facebook will be boosted up to a maximum of $100 and will be posted closer to the event. There is an add on kiiji.

Melanie is waiting on a call back from the Radio station – the person who takes care of the My Thunder Bay free service adds was away.

$500.00 Gift Card Raffle (Spring 2023) tickets – we sold all 1250 tickets. Final tally of funds we can donate will be done once expenses are calculated. Our location at the CLE Home and Garden Show was great. Thank you to Judy Anderson for arranging this spot. Once we have a total for our donation, we will contact the June Steeve-Lendrom Centre for a cheque drop off and photo shoot.

The winner of the draw needs to be submitted to the newspaper within 30 days. Kim Koivukoski will ask the winner if we can submit her picture along with her name and if we can post to our social media site.

Yard Sale – booked for September 23, 2023, at CLE Cardinal Room.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Facebook Boost Two Bit Auction – post will be boosted to a maximum of $100 and Melanie will arrange setting this up closer to the event.

Replacement for Faith – Lee Ann Nalezyty will take over as Public Awareness Chair July 1, 2023.

OTHER BUSINESS

Our club meeting in May is currently scheduled the night before the Two-Bit Auction which will impact preparation for the event. Additionally, May is our club's birthday month and members are interested in doing a dinner meeting. Judy Anderson will check on room availability at the CLE and then a decision for a date can be made.

NEW BUSINESS

Pillar budgets need to be submitted to Lorrie Haslam in early May and committee reports to Cindy Figus by the end of May.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:17 PM

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee has been busy with inquiries, since the Spring Home and Garden Show. Three interested parties were invited to the April general meeting, one of which has decided to become a member. She will attend our June meeting. Her name is Charlene Hipfner. She mentioned our club to her-friend, who called to find out more about the Two Bit Auction, and offered to volunteer at it. Her name and contact information was forwarded to Kathleen and Shirley who will contact her once schedules are confirmed.

One inquiry was received by Cindy, through S.I.A. We emailed the interested person in response. This was sent in mid April. We also re-contacted two women who had inquired in December to follow up initial correspondence. One was pleased to have received a follow up email and showed continued interest in our club.

Messages by phone were left for two other interested women.

We are pleased to report that 9 prospective members have been contacted this month.

The committee, plus president Cindy have met to discuss this year's re-ports plus exciting ideas for future activities.

Submitted by:

Kim Koivukoski & Faith Crichton
*Membership Committee, co- cha***irs**

Girls Transitioning from Care

Our focus for the girls transitioning to adulthood is Food/ Snacks and other essentials (e.g. toilet paper, Kleenex, cleaning supplies). Danny Michaud from CAS has indicated that their food cupboard needs to be replenished. The girls have been using the cupboard more to supplement their needs as well as using the RFDA which is experiencing a high demand of its supplies.

Danny said "Thank you so much, the RFDA is struggling right now, so we really appreciate these donations".

1. Dry Cereal
2. Real KD
3. Pasta Sauce
4. Canned Meats
5. Granola Bars
6. Chef Boradi-canned meal
7. Snacks
8. Meals in CAN
9. Canned fruit/Veggies
10. Self opening cans i.e., no can openers
11. Soups-chicken noodle.

$500 Gift Card Winner

Nancy Rowlinson (ticket # 1130) is the winner of our $500 gift card draw which took place on April 12, 2023 @ 7PM at 315 Hilldale Road at our monthly club meeting.
Nancy won 5 x $100 gift cards to Shell, Metro, Canadian Tire, WalMart and the LCBO.
The gift card draw was in support of the June Steeve-Lendrum Family Resource Centre which offers housing units to young single women who are pregnant or who have a child less than 6 years of age. They offer a variety of services including, addiction support, advocacy and referrals, community kitchens, parenting and life skills programs, specialized programs for teen parents and so much more.
Thank you Nancy for empowering women and girls in Thunder Bay

FUNDRAISING RAISING UPDATE

GIFT CARD RAFFLE

The books are officially closed on our 2023 raffle. Definitely a number one best seller on the Soroptimist list of best reads. Oh, speaking of best sellers, that's exactly what our members are, "THE BEST SELLERS." 1,250 tickets were printed...1,250 tickets were sold...that translates to a SELL OUT. After expenses, we made a profit of $1,450.00. What a wonderful collaboration between our dedicated members and the Thunder Bay community. Support from both ends make for a strong middle which ultimately leads to success. THANK YOU to everyone involved. It will be very rewarding to present the cheque to the June-Steve Lendrum Family Resource Centre at our May 24th meeting. To realize the positive impact these funds can potentially have on the young mothers in their care, is critical in raising the next generation of movers and shakers. To quote the late Sandra Schmirler an Olympic gold medallist in curling, "Champions start small."

With Gratitude
Shirley and Kathleen
Co-Chairs Fundraising

TWO BIT AUCTION

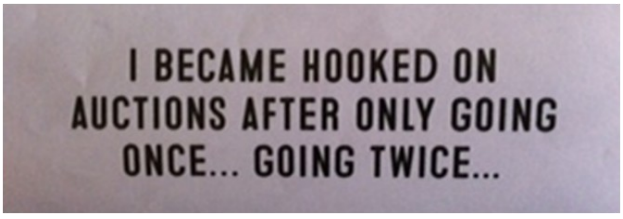
Not sure where April went, but one thing for sure, May is upon us and more importantly May 11th is fast approaching. A week ago, I informed everyone that we had reached our goal of 30 baskets. Since then, we have had a few additional items trickle in. We are now at 33 baskets and holding. How awesome that we have reached our capacity. There is a little something for everyone; home decor, electronics, gift cards, jewellery, kitchenware, camping gear, summer fun, women's accessories, local food items, gardening essentials, self pampering, even something for the newborn.

Traditionally, a few days before the auction we have gathered at the C.L.E. to assemble the baskets. In order to alleviate some of the stress involved in assembling the baskets so close to the date of the auction, this year we decided to pivot and get them done sooner than later. With the help of our **BASKETEER EXTRODINAAIRE, Chrissy,** the baskets are ready to roll out for full display and are sure to catch some serious bidding. Now let's be clear, no one is off the hook. There is still lots to be done. We need all hands on deck during the day of May11th to get the hall in top form, and of course all hands AND feet the evening of. More info to follow regarding timeframes and tasks.

Thanks to Melanie and her P.R. team, tickets are selling at a steady pace. Our messaging is certainly catching the community's attention. Keep your eyes out for additional ads this week and next in the newspaper. Keep spreading the word.

On May 3rd I'm going to be doing just that. I have a scheduled taping of Around Town with Fiona. I will keep you posted as to when it will be aired.

Can't wait till May 11th at 7:00. I think I can hear the room buzzing with excitement already. Post Covid here we come.
With Gratitude
Shirley and Kathleen



Lorrie has tickets for the **Two Bit Auction**

if you require more or want to turn in monies,

contact her.

Sometimes I just want someone to hug me and say, "I know it's hard. You're going to be okay. Here's a chocolate and 5 million dollars."

The May 24th meeting is hybrid

and a dinner meeting at the

Heritage Building at 6:30

DID YOU KNOW

We all recognize that mockery, insults and violence in children's daily lives can become extremely traumatic at school. Bullying affects both the victim and their family, with parents often left feeling powerless to control what happens in the classroom and playground. I recall being called "Cheryl the barrel" when in grade school. Compared to today's bullying it seems tame. I do recall that name calling was hurtful.

With the development of new technologies and social media, bullying can now go beyond the school gates. Cyberbullying seeps into the lives of young people wherever they are and at any time, with victims often facing it alone.

What is considered harassment?

- **When there is a relationship of power and domination** between one or more pupils and one or more victims.
- **If there is repetition**: different forms of aggression are regularly repeated over a long period of time.

When there is isolation/abandonment: the victim has become isolated and ostracised by the group; or in other cases, the victim becomes withdrawn and is unable to find appropriate responses to cope.

With this in mind, the Soroptimists of Netanya, Israel, initiated a project to provide support to young victims of bullying and their parents.

Thanks to the President of SI Netanya, the Soroptimists found a place to organise those moments of sharing to enable this anti-violence project to go ahead. They also raised money to finance a large part of this project and were promoted by the Union of Israel and featured in the Union's newsletter.

The project works to help alleviate the loneliness often felt by child victims of bullying, by bringing them together. Parents are also a crucial part of this education and awareness-raising project. They meet with the put their emotions into words. It is important to do this because it is through communication that parents can develop a positive relationship with their children.

The exchange between the different generations (parents and children) is very important.

The SI members of Netanya are proud to have implemented this project at a time when this issue is more than topical and needs to be addressed with action. They look forward to providing continued support to children suffering from bullying throughout this year.

When I read this article, I thought about the many kids all over the world who are victims of bullying. I wonder if they are able to talk to their parents or if there is an adult in their lives who could help them with this, or do they suffer in silence sometimes taking their own lives.

I find it interesting to learn about the different projects the various SI Clubs in the world undertake to meet a need in their own communities. It also shows that while we may think that folks living in other parts of the world are different from us, it is apparent that we have many of the same issues and concerns as they do.

Cheryl

SI Thunder Bay Club Meeting

May 24, 2023

CLE Heritage Building at 6:30 pm.

AGENDA

Cheque Presentation June-Steeve Lendrum Family RC — Kathleen?

Dinner — Judy Anderson

Call to order — Cindy

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.

Minutes of the April 12, 2023 — Melanie

Treasurer's Report — Lorrie

Correspondence — Cindy

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ECR Spring Conference May 5-7th 2023 Brantford — Cindy

MEMBERSHIP — Kim and Faith

SI Policies & Procedures — Melanie

Bylaws deferred (with Sharon Godwin) — Cindy

Archives adhoc mtg deferred — Devona

PROGRAM **Judy P**

Live Your Dream Judy P.

Dream It, Be It Devona

FUNDRAISING **Kathleen & Shirley**

Two Bit Auction – May 11, 2023 Kathleen

Yard Sale – September 23, 2023 Kathleen

PUBLIC RELATIONS **Melanie**

OTHER BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Declaration (Risk Management) Form for non-member gatherings
(45 days in advance) under SIA Club/Member Forms Melanie

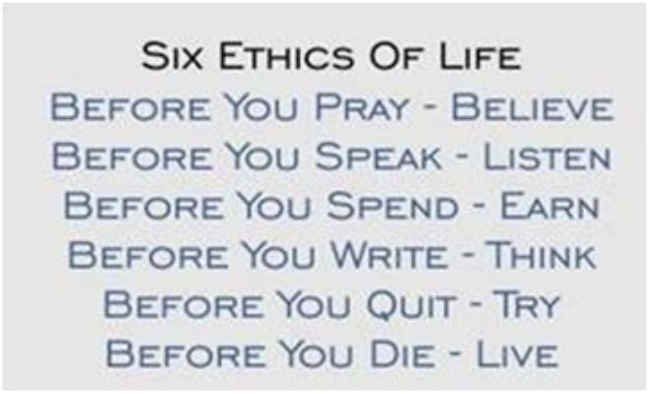
Birthdays:

Enid McKenzie – May 14th

Judy Anderson – May 31st

Pledge for Eastern Canada Region

We are Soroptimists committed to: the sincerity of friendship, the joy of achievement, the dignity of service, the integrity of profession, the love of country. We will put forth our best efforts to improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world.



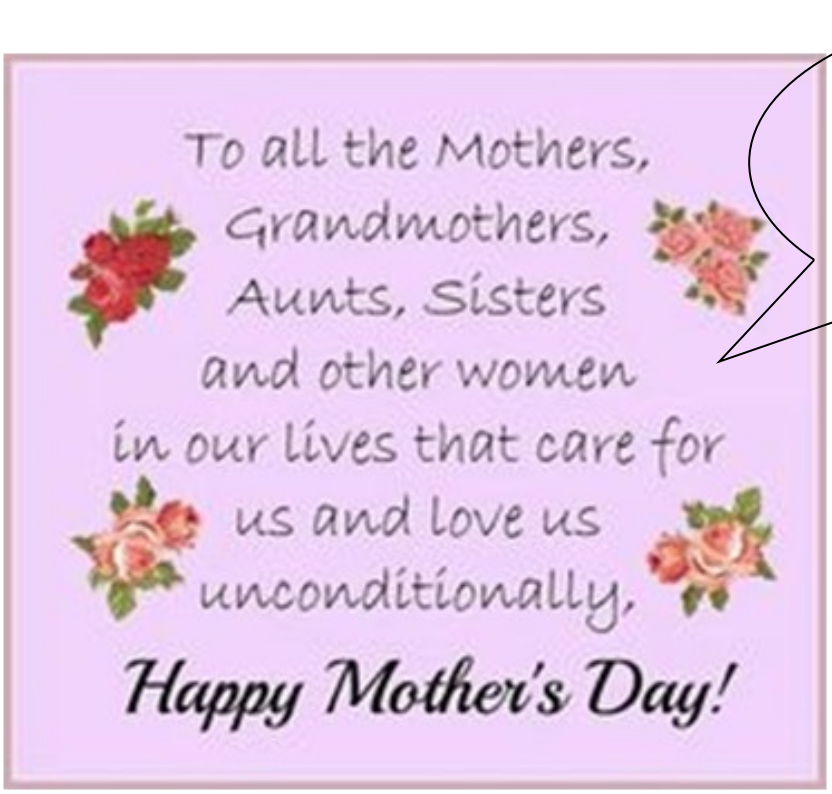
Soroptimist enjoying Tea Time at the Victoria inn

Message of thanks from Joan

My mom's 80th birthday was yesterday, and what a celebration! We enjoyed a delicious meal at The Keg with friends and family, enjoying music, presents, and no less than three birthday cakes, while she took it all in with a sparkling tiara perched on her head. I'm so proud to have such a smart, caring, and beautiful mother, both inside and out.

Thank you to all who joined in the celebrations, and contributed to the birthday cards. Once the last few are received in the mail, we will have well over 80 birthday cards to celebrate her 80th! Mayors of Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay, including the Premier of Ontario sent their greetings as well.

We went home after the dinner and she settled into her favourite chair to start opening the messages. "I will never forget this birthday," she said, as she read every last one. Thank you to all who were able to participate in celebrating this milestone occasion. She wanted me to express to everyone how much she appreciated all of the heartfelt cards that she received, and making this special birthday a memorable one.



And single moms and single dads