

# The Signpost

Making a Difference for Women and Girls for 97 Years

Soroptimist International of Kansas City  
South Central Region



SOROPTIMIST® August 2023

The Signpost

Investing in Dreams



President's Message  
Margaret Smith, MD



Welcome to August!

This summer has been an extremely hot summer, although not the hottest on record in Kansas or Missouri. I am hoping that each of you have been able to stay cool but also take some time away from work and focus on yourself and your family.

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Our Signpost reminds us that summer is not yet over with the list of fun days in August, but that our children, grandchildren, and maybe great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews will be going back to school soon through the back-to-school collection! Join me and our Community Service Committee in giving school supplies to students in our community who may be in need. This is what our organization does, care for the children and women in need in the greater Kansas City metropolitan area.

Kay Stewart, Editor

Thank you for who you are and what you do!

Looking forward to a cool and productive fall!

Margaret L. Smith, President

[www.kcsoroptimist.org](http://www.kcsoroptimist.org)

Soroptimist Kansas City Foundation  
Soroptimist International  
of Kansas City  
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Kansas City, MO 64114



## August Calendar



### **SCR August Spotlight Out** August 1, 2023

**Community Service Meeting**  
August 5, 2023  
10:00 a.m.  
Panera  
103rd & State Line  
Kansas City, MO 64114

**Board Meeting**  
August 9, 2023  
6:00 p.m.  
Shepherd's Center  
9200 Ward Parkway  
Kansas City, MO 64114

**Business Meeting**  
August 16, 2023  
6:00 p.m.  
Red Bridge Library  
453 E Red Bridge Road  
Kansas City, MO 64131

**Special & Cultural Events Mtg.**  
August 26, 2023  
11:30 a.m.  
Panera  
103rd & State Line  
Kansas City, MO 64114



**August Birthdays**  
Dianne Young August 13  
Elaine Fry August 28  
Caitlin Miller August 30

## August Business Meeting

### Wednesday August 16, 2023

### Red Bridge Library

### 453 East Red Bridge Road

(take Holmes Exit off of I-435,  
go south to Red Bridge Road. Turn right.  
It is on the south side of the road.)

5:45 p.m. Social Hour  
(We cannot access the room until 5:45)  
6:00 p.m. Dinner  
6:30 p.m. Business Meeting

### **Menu**

Keeping in the summer heat mode, four salad options:

- 1) Fuji Apple salad with chicken
  - 2) Asian Sesame salad with chicken
  - 3) Strawberry Poppysseed salad with chicken
  - 4) Southwest Caesar salad with chicken
- Desert/Crackers/Water to be provided

**Cost - \$16**  
(payable at the door)

**Speaker**  
To be announced

**Collection**  
**School Supplies for**  
**Community Services League**

**RSVP to Marie Parker**  
at [attendance@kcsoroptimist.org](mailto:attendance@kcsoroptimist.org)  
no later than Friday August 11.

## Community Service

Your Community Service Committee is made up of Kay Stewart, Chair, Caitlin Miller, Jerri Cofran, Nora Magee and Danielle Sidney. Our first project of the year is to collect school supplies for needy children heading back to school in August. Community Services League is a longstanding source for helping our communities and are ready to welcome any help we can provide.



**Missouri's Tax Free Weekend is August 5-7.** It is a perfect chance to shop and make a difference. Below is a list of their most needed items. Please bring them to our meeting on August 16. They will be delivered the next day.

Community Services League

# BACK TO SCHOOL & TENNIES FOR KIDS

**Host A Back to School Supply Collection Drive!**

*Collected supplies help serve more than 3,000 schoolchildren agency-wide at CSL.*

- #2 Pencils
- Pink Eraser
- Box of 24 Crayons
- Classic Washable Markers
- Pocket Folders
- Semi-Sharp Scissors
- Glue Sticks
- Wide-lined Paper
- Spiral Notebooks
- Blue, Black, Red pens
- Highlighter
- Colored Pencils
- Pencil box
- Pencil pouch
- Backpack
- Tennis Shoes

[cslcares.org/backtoschool](http://cslcares.org/backtoschool)

## 2023-2024 Committees

### Programs of Service Overseen by President Elect Lynn LeCount

#### Program Planning

Lynn LeCount Chair     All committee chairs

#### Community Service

Kay Stewart, Chair

Nora Magee, Jerri Cofran, Caitlin Miller, Danielle Sidney, Rosemary Moran

#### Awards Committee (Live Your Dream)

Grace Boswell, Chair

Rosemary Moran, Margaret Smith, Kay Stewart, Tanya Johannes

#### Dream It Be It

Melanie Simpson, Chair

Dianne Young, Heather Rollins, Margaret Smith

### Technical Committees Overseen by President Margaret Smith

#### Recruitment and Retention/SOLT

Jerri Cofran, Chair

Grace Boswell, Marie Parker

#### Laws & Procedures

Marcia Boutz, Chair

Norma McKelvy

#### Public Relations/Website

Candy Routledge, Chair

Mysti Meiers, Danielle Sidney, Kay Stewart



# 2023-2024 Committees

## Fiscal Committees Overseen by President Margaret Smith

### Finance/Budget/Audit

Tanya Johannes, Chair  
Danielle Sidney, Marcia Boutz, Grace Boswell

### Ways & Means

Danielle Sidney, Chair  
Mysti Meiers, Jane Zelazny-Belz

### Special & Cultural Events

Jerri Cofran, Chair  
Marie Parker, Tanya Johannes, Kay Stewart. Nora Magee, Candy Routledge

### Service Objectives

Norma McKelvy, Chair  
2024 Heather Rollins, Kay Stewart  
2025 Dianne Young, Bonnie Cutler  
2026 Grace Boswell, Nora Magee

### Appointed Positions

(no longer committees per club vote 7-21-2021)  
Attendance - Marie Parker  
IGU – Kay Stewart  
Signpost/History – Kay Stewart  
Audit –Tanya Johannes



*Soroptimists—Working Together*

## Meet Mysti Meiers

Soroptimist International of Kansas City is delighted that Mysti Myers joined us when she moved back to Kansas City after living in the Pacific Northwest for several years. She originally joined Soroptimist at the invitation of a friend who was a member of SI Three Rivers in Richland, Washington. She attended one of their fundraisers, had a really good time and then attended a couple more before she formally joined. After her husband Chris accepted a new job back in Kansas City, she found our club and we are glad she did.



Mysti and her husband grew up in the Midwest, meeting while both worked in higher education in Kansas City. She is originally from Bolivar, Missouri and Chris is from Hays, Kansas. Their families are still in the area, so they are happy to be back here.

Mysti has worked in higher education for 20 years, where she began in admissions and is now the Assistant Registrar with Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences. Able to work remotely, she enjoys working on her own as she has tremendous support from her team in Washington. She found that moving to the Northwest, she was able to live on her own without immediate family around. She made good friends and fell in love with the Oregon coast.

When she graduated from college, she was torn on whether to start work on her master's degree or to get out into the workforce. One of her friends said, "Well, you are already poor, you have great support, now is the perfect time to finish up your academic work". She said it was the best advice she ever had as it allowed her to advance early in her career. She loves the academic life and loves working with students.

In addition to serving as a Director on the SIKC Board, Mysti serves on the Aids Service Foundation of Kansas City Board. She is a busy woman and enjoys helping out in the community. To escape, she watches TV, especially murder documentaries. She laughed, saying, "there is a dark side in there somewhere".

One thing she wishes she could do is sew. She remembers her mother sewing for her as a child and she never learned. The other thing she really wants to do is travel, sometimes on her own. She is working up the courage to take off by herself one day. Here's hoping she does. It is truly liberating.

In the meantime, we are so glad she joined us. She particularly likes fundraising and is looking forward to working on our Ways & Means Committee.

**Welcome Mysti!**

## Positive Summer Progress

*Bridge Leadership Academy is one of our recent Service Objectives Grants recipients.*

The Bridge is excited to share a new collaboration with KC Freedom Schools. We had a wonderful time reading books of empowerment to the students at Mt. Pleasant's Freedom School in July.

A highly successful initiative of the Children's Defense Fund (CDF), the KC Freedom School is a summer and after-school literacy program developed to help children fall in love with reading and boost their motivation to achieve. During our visit, we were able to hand out a wonderful book for each young child: *Animal Movements* by Tony and Stori Temple. We are excited for the ways we can continue to work with the Freedom School!



## Fun Days in August

August 1 Homemade Pie Day



August 2 National Coloring Book Day

August 4 Hooray for Kids Day

August 6 National Friendship Day

August 9 Hold Hands Day



August 14 National Creamside Day

August 19 National Aviation Day

August 21 National Spumoni Day



August 26 National Dog Day

August 28 National Bow Tie Day

