

The Signpost

Making a Difference for Women and Girls for 98 Years

Soroptimist International of Kansas City
South Central Region



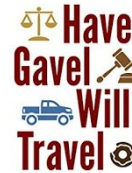
SOROPTIMIST® April 2024

The Signpost

Investing in Dreams



President's Message
Margaret Smith, MD



Happy Easter and Happy Spring,

Fellow Soroptimist! This is the time of renewal and rebirth.

Past president, Norma challenged us at the last business meeting to look beyond our comfort zone to create a more diverse, dynamic, and inclusive club.



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This year's president elect, Lynn introduced us to a wonderful cadre of speakers who shared what they are doing to improve the lives of women and girls in our community. Let's keep the momentum going.

Join with fellow Soroptimists this month to support Flourish Furnishings through the bed race and new pillow donations.

Let's find other active ways we can give back, while having fun and meeting a diverse group of like minded women!

Kay Stewart, Editor
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President Margaret

www.kcsoroptimist.org

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

Don't forget to pick up the April issue of HERLIFE magazine. Our club is showcased on page 12. Be sure to tell all your friends. HERLIFE can be found at HyVee, Price Chopper, CVS and various doctors offices.

April Calendar



Flourish Furniture Bank Running of the Beds

April 6, 2024

11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church
of Grandview

1416 Main Street
Grandview, MO 64030

Board Meeting

April 10, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Shepherd's Center
9200 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64114

Business Meeting

April 17, 2024

6:00 p.m.

O'Neill's Restaurant
9417 Mission Road
Leawood, KS 66206

South Central Region Conference

April 19-21, 2024
Vandalia, Illinois



April Business Meeting Wednesday, April 17, 2024 O'Neill's Restaurant 9417 Mission Road Leawood, KS 66206

5:30 p.m. Social Time

6:00 p.m. Dinner

Menu

Choose your own meal off O'Neill's Menu.

Go to <https://www.kconeills.com>

Make your choice. Your cost will be the amount shown on the menu plus 9.11% tax and 20% gratuity.

Payment will be due upon arrival at O'Neill's.

It is important that you be seated at the table prior to 6:00.

2024-2025 Election of Officers

Position Poker

Please be thinking about which committee(s) you wish to serve for 2024-2025 and bring five \$1 dollar bills.

Collection

New Pillows and bedding for Flourish Furniture
(see page 4 for details)

RSVP to Marie Parker

at attendance@kcsoroptimist.org

or marieparker22@gmail.com

816-769-8398

no later than Thursday, April 11



April Birthdays

Shirley Legg April 3

Angie Guynes April 12

Marie Parker April 20

Election of Officers to be held on April 17, 2024

2024-2025 Nomination Slate

Soroptimist International of Kansas City

Club President: Lynn LeCount
President Elect: Mysti Meiers
Secretary: Candy Routledge
Treasurer: Grace Boswell
Directors (2024) Angie Guynes
(2024) Marie Parker
Immediate Past President: Margaret Smith
Delegates (Region): President
President Elect
Treasurer

Soroptimist Kansas City Foundation

New trustees:
Dianne Young (2027)
Caitlin Miller (2027)
Remaining on the board:
Jerri Cofran (2025)
Marcia Boutz (2025)
Danielle Sidney (2026)
Tanya Johannes (2026)
Lynn LeCount ex-officio
Margaret Smith ex-officio

The Nominating Committee for 2024-2025

Tanya Johannes, Chair
Grace Boswell
Marcia Boutz

Thanks to our outstanding committee for their hard work in forming our 2024-2025 Board of Directors and SKC Foundation Trustees.

Community Service teams up with Flourish Furniture

Get ready for Kansas City's first-ever bed race!

On Saturday, April 6th, Flourish is hosting Running of the Beds, a community festival that will help provide free beds for families. In this thrilling, one-of-a-kind race, fifteen teams will compete neck-to-neck on home-made beds on wheels. Proceeds from the event will provide an entire home of furnishings for 1,300 families overcoming housing insecurity this year.



This event is not one to miss! Located in the heart of downtown Grandview at First Baptist Church, there will be field games, food trucks, and a performance by Mr. Stinky Feet. Following the bed race, there will be a kids' and families' parade of scooters, bikes, skates, and strollers. The Flourish race will include double-elimination heats between two teams on a 250-foot course. **Let's wear our Soroptimist T-shirts!**

WHY A BED RACE?

In 2023, Flourish furnished more homes for more families than ever before. We need your help to meet the community's need for home furnishings. Beds are the most important item we give away. By rallying support for Flourish through a creative bed race, you will directly provide comfort, safety, and stability to a family in Kansas City.

Flourish is the only furniture bank in Kansas City that provides an entire home of furnishings to families overcoming housing insecurity. Our mission is simple: we collect and refurbish donated furniture and housewares, then distribute them to families through a dignified shopping appointment. Last year, we fully furnished 1,069 homes, providing 1,348 children with furnished bedrooms.

Your Community Service Committee is not asking you to build a bed or race a bed. Just come and yell, wave, and cheer on the teams that are racing. We want to support this wonderful organization with support at a really fun event.

Then at our April meeting we want to collect NEW pillows, bedding, and anything else that could add comfort to those families receiving new beds from Flourish Furnishings. Please bring a new pillow, pillowcases, or any other bedding you would wish to donate. They will be delivered to Flourish Furnishings the next day.

South Central Region Conference

Soroptimist International of the Americas 98th South Central Region Call to Conference BUILDING BLOCKS TO THE FUTURE



April 19-21, 2024

Hosted by Soroptimist International of Vandalia, Illinois

See The Call for details!

*Your delegates to the SCR Conference this year are President Margaret,
Grace Boswell, and Tanya Johannes.*

*If you have questions or something to be addressed at this year's conference, please contact
one of them.*



Recruitment and Retention

Ladies! Our membership drive is starting in earnest this month with the publication of a highlight article in HERLIFE magazine. It is on page 12. It is formatted to entice the reader to read an overview of our club and what we do to promote education for women and girls.

Now it is up to us to make sure the message gets out there to potential members.

PLEASE pick up several copies when you see them at HyVee, Price Chopper, CVS, or your local doctor /dentist office. Pass them out to your friends and encourage them to pass them on to their friends. We will have information on our FaceBook page and our website. Take a look and “share” with everyone in your friends list. Use those business cards you all received recently.

We will have 1/4 page ads in the May, July, August and September issues of HERLIFE.

In June, HERLIFE will highlight photos of our upcoming Celebration of Service in May.

This project will carry us into our next club year and if we are successful in gaining some new members, we will explore other avenues to put our R&R budget for advertising.

Let’s give our effort to gain more members a full on push!



Service Objectives

Your Service Objectives Committee met in March by Zoom to review fifteen applications submitted by non-profits for projects making a difference for women and girls. They ranged from funding leadership programs, transportation for young mothers, housing for homeless women and their children, diapers, counseling sessions, legal representation for young girls and scholarships for young women pursuing careers in fashion.

It was difficult making choices as our funds are less this year and the need seems to increase every year. All the applicants are deserving and are adding so much value to our community.

But decide, we did....

On Tuesday, May 14, we will meet at Cinzetti's at 91st and Metcalf to honor our recipients and distribute their grants.

Please note, this is **NOT** our regular meeting night. Mark your calendars now and plan to bring someone with you to enjoy this event.

This is a great recruitment tool and women new to the idea of Soroptimist will come away impressed and want to join us.

Service Objectives Committee

Norma McKelvy, Chair

Grace Boswell

Heather Rollins

Dianne Young

Bonnie Cutler

Nora Magee

Kay Stewart



Fashion Arts Fund



On March 21, Kay Stewart, Nora Magee and Jerri Cofran attended the Fashion Arts Fund Event at Union Station. We were the guests of Jennifer Lapka, formerly of Rightfully Sewn.



The Fashion Arts Fund works to help young women find the path to Fashion Arts programs and to encourage their growth in the Fashion world.



Jennifer greeting one of the speakers. Notice her shoes. They are from a designer in Britain. Each shoe is a sculpture. They were gorgeous....

Fashion Arts Fund



Jennifer introducing one of the speakers.

There were several women design entrepreneurs, lots of students from high school and college. The University of Central Missouri took part with an excellent overview of their Fashion Arts program.

The young women below are from the University of Central Missouri. Note the dress to the right on the mannequin. They dyed and batiked the cloth then designed the dress, cut it out, sewed it and made it ready to wear.

Jerri Cofran is an accomplished seamstress and examined every seam. She was impressed.



Member News



Caitlin Miller took a group shot of our members at the March Business Meeting. Great group!

UMKC Women’s Council Graduate Assistance Fund Awards

On March 7, our club was invited to attend the annual GAF awards reception held at Grand Street Café. It was very impressive and although our award recipient, Trinity Pullam, was not able to attend, we enjoyed a great event.

L-R: Angie Guynes, Lynn LeCount, Nora Magee and Kay Stewart

