

SOROPTIMIST INDY METRO

FEBRUARY 2015

Member of the Month Francie Falls



Francie works for Stalnaker Security Service and has been assigned for almost five years to Southeast Community Services (SECS). Her job allows her to interact with all the departments and the clients who pass through. Her main function is to keep peace in the facility and protect the staff.

She does a lot of volunteering at SECS, from assisting with Volunteer Income Tax Assistance to participating in activities at the Youth Camp in summer.

She enjoys cooking; it comes naturally to her, as both her mothers were excellent cooks. Her stepfather was a chef and owned restaurants in Chicago and Los Angeles. From the time she was tall enough to operate a stove she was either in a home kitchen or with her Dad in the restaurant.

The love of Francie's life is Mia, her 5-year old tabby. Mia runs the house and everything Francie does at home is for Mia's comfort. From the time she walks in the house until she leaves for work the next day they are inseparable. Mia failed to read the chapter in her cat manual on being aloof and independent.

We owe Francie a large debt of gratitude for making arrangements for us to use the SECS facility and for the vast amount of work she does for us at our meetings and at each event.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BIRTHDAYS:

FEBRUARY 9 CARETH FLASH
FEBRUARY 15 LEAH CARROLL

FEBRUARY BUSINESS MEETING

DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2
TIME: 6:00 PM
PLACE: SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY SVCS.
901 S. SHELBY ST.
INDPLS 46203

MARCH BUSINESS MEETING (BRIEF) AND ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

DATE: MONDAY, MARCH 2
TIME: 6:30 PM
PLACE: GRANITE CITY FOOD & BREWERY
49 WEST MARYLAND ST.
INDPLS 46204

APRIL BUSINESS MEETING

DATE: MONDAY, APRIL 6
TIME: 6:00 PM
PLACE: SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY SVCS.
901 S. SHELBY ST.
INDPLS 46203

MIDWESTERN REGION SPRING CONFERENCE

DATE: APRIL 24 - 26
PLACE: CROWN PLAZA HOTEL MILWAUKEE,
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HOSTED BY: SI OF MILWAUKEE AND SI OF
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SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL 20TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

DATE: JULY 9 - 12
PLACE: ISTANBUL, TURKEY
FOR MORE INFORMATION, AND TO REGISTER, GO TO:
[HTTP://WWW.SI-ISTANBUL2015.ORG](http://www.si-istanbul2015.org)



SIIM Awards Dinner Planned



Granite City Food & Brewery downtown has been selected as the site for our March 2 Awards Dinner. It features hand-crafted foods and has an on-site brewery. In addition to the award winners, the committee is also inviting all of the judges. The meal will start at 6:30pm, but we will have access to the room by 5:30pm. The cost per person is \$25. The committee will confirm the meal choices at our February 2 meeting. Granite City is located at 49 West Maryland St., Indianapolis 46204.

Recent Federation Ballot Results

At our November meeting members discussed and voted on several Federation Laws & Resolutions amendments that had been proposed by the SIA Board of Directors and approved at the SIA convention in Vancouver last July. Our club spent some time discussing three of the nine proposals. The increase in Federation dues, which we voted against because of the step-up schedule for the increase, passed with 589 clubs voting for and 219 clubs voting against. The Cost of Living adjustment, to be initiated by the SIA Board, passed with 561 votes for and 247 votes against. The proposal to change the selection of SIA Fundraising Council members from election to appointment passed with 750 for and 55 against. All of the proposals on the ballot were passed. Interestingly, Federation had 1,311 clubs in good standing and eligible to vote and, of those, 1,280 clubs voted.

Virginia Wagner Award Update

Chairs Careth Flash and Mary Shelby report that we have submitted five eligible applications to our judges for evaluation. The judges have been asked to reply by February 14. Our winning applicant must be submitted to District Director Bev Bahr by February 19 for district 2 judging.

Sex Trafficking in our own Back Yard

Jessica Davis submits the following for our newsletter. In response to an Indy Star article, she writes, "Right here in our own back yard. This is a tragic and heart breaking story, but it makes me proud to be a Soroptimist and try to not only raise awareness, but hopefully put an end to human trafficking. Here is the link to the story.

<http://www.indystar.com/story/news/crime/2015/01/17/world-just-stopped-sex-trafficking-hits-home-carmel/21935273/>

Former Women's Opportunity Award Winner Honored

Indy Metro's Women's Opportunity Award (now Live Your Dream Award) winner, who was first runner-up for the Midwestern Region award, has continued to garner honors. She is a 2014 recipient of the "Indescribable Gift – Mother of Promises" scholarship from the Central Indiana Community Foundation. The award is for a single mother who shows promise as a parent and member of society and is given to support the mother's efforts to move her children out of poverty. She was also selected as Ivy Tech's student ambassador to the TRIO Student Support Services conference in Washington, D.C. TRIO SSS is a federally funded support program that provides a variety of opportunities for academic and personal development to students from low income families, first generation college students, and students with disabilities. Porshea is pictured below with her sons Jovan and Jamal.

