



SOROPTIMIST®  
Investing in Dreams

September 1, 2025

Dear North Atlantic Region District 2 Members-

On behalf of Soroptimist International of Rancocas Valley, I'm excited to invite you to the Fall District meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup> in Westampton Township, NJ. We will also hold the Peace Garden Candlelight Vigil on Friday at 5:30 PM.

Address for the meeting:

Rutgers Extension Building  
2 Academy Drive  
Westampton, NJ 08060

Peace Garden Address:

Lakeshore Drive & Arethusa Street (lakeside)  
Browns Mills, NJ 08015

This Packet contains the following:

- This Letter
- Peace Garden Candlelight Vigil Flyer
- Peace Garden Luminary Flyer
- Newborns In Need Flyer
- Basket Raffle Flyer
- Tentative Agenda Flyer
- Hotels Flyer
- Things to Do

This packet is being sent to all members in District 2 whose email I have. Please forward to anyone in your club who did not receive it.

The registration form will be sent to club Presidents and Treasurers only. The deadline to register is September 26<sup>th</sup>. The form and payment should be sent to Region Treasurer Sheri McLaughlin. Please RVSP separately to Ellen Catalano for the Peace Garden attendance and luminary purchases.

We look forward to seeing you in October at Fall District Meeting!

Mary Borger  
District 2 Director  
[meborger1@gmail.com](mailto:meborger1@gmail.com)

P.S. Save the Date—Spring Conference—April 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> at the Doubletree by Hilton in Washington, PA

**Candlelight Vigil in Memory of  
Victims of Domestic Violence  
North Atlantic Region Soroptimist  
Peace Garden  
To be held on  
Friday, October 3, 2025 5:30pm**



**South Lakeshore  
Drive &  
Arethusa Street  
(Located  
Lakeside)  
Browns Mills, NJ  
08015**

**For information and to RSVP for Contact Ellen  
Catalano at:**

**609-893-6550 or Email:  
[sirancocasvalley@soroptimist.net](mailto:sirancocasvalley@soroptimist.net)**



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## **Luminary Form**

**In memory of someone or to honor someone**

for the

## **Candlelight Vigil**

**In Memory of Victims of Domestic Violence**

Held on Friday, October 3, 2025 at 5:30pm in the

NAR Soroptimist Peace Garden in memory of Victims of Domestic Violence

Located on South Lakeshore Drive & Arbutus St, Browns Mills, NJ 08015

To obtain a luminary, please fill out and detach the form and mail to:

Ellen Catalano, 147 Truro St., Browns Mills, NJ 08015

Make checks payable to NAR. For multiple requests attach a sheet,  
suggested donation is \$5.00 & funds collected help to maintain the garden.

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Name on luminary \_\_\_\_\_

Name & address requesting luminary

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## **Service Project for Fall District Meeting Newborns In Need**

**We will be collecting for Newborns In Need at the Fall District meeting. This is a list of items they are requesting. So, please if you can help us to support Newborns In Need bring something from the list:**

- ♦ **Sleepers, sleep sacks, and onesies (Newborn and 0-3 months)**
- ♦ **Receiving Blankets, Quilts, Fleece Blankets & Afghans**
- ♦ **Socks, Booties & Hats**
- ♦ **Bibs, Burp Clothes, Wash Clothes, & Pacifiers**
- ♦ **Baby Wash, Shampoo & Lotion**
- ♦ **Gently Used or New Clothing sizes 0-6 months**
- ♦ **Diapers & Wipes**
- ♦ **For handmade items, they accept fabric (cotton, flannel, cotton knits, fleece) in Baby appropriate solids and pastels.**
- ♦ **Baby appropriate yarn, pastels & white (sorry no wool yarn)**
- ♦ **Office Supplies, copy paper, stamps & envelopes**





PROCEEDS BENEFIT

THE WAR PEACE BEGINS AT  
HOME GRANT

# BASKET RAFFLE

ALL CLUBS ARE  
ASKED TO BRING A  
BASKET FOR THE RAFFLE.  
A REPRESENTATIVE OF YOUR  
CLUB MAY DELIVER IT THE DAY  
OF THE FALL DISTRICT MEETING  
FOR YOUR RESPECTIVE DISTRICT



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**NORTH ATLANTIC REGION**  
Soroptimist International of the Americas  
**Fall District Meeting 2025**

9:00 am – 9:30 am	Registration/Continental Breakfast
9:30 am – 9:50 am	Call to Order Welcome Inspiration First Time Attendees Credentials Report Nominations/Applications for Open Regional Leadership Positions
9:50 am – 10:20 am	Leadership Basics Club-level Leadership Positions Defined
10:20 am – 10:50 am	Engagement (Membership) Summary of the 2025 Soroptimist Member Experience Survey Results
10:50 am – 11:05 am	15-minute break
11:05 am – 11:30 am	Philanthropy (Fundraising) Inspiring Success: Stories from Soroptimist Fundraising Events
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	District Program/Speaker--TBA
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch and Ticket/Merchandise Sales
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	Impact (Programs) Community Outreach for the Live Your Dream Awards: Recruiting Applicants Effectively Accelerator Projects
1:45 pm – 2:00 pm	15-Minute Break
2:00 pm – 2:45 pm	Brand Recognition (Public Awareness) Stronger Together: Building the Soroptimist Brand
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm	District Director Overview Region Governor Overview
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Basket Raffle Drawing Laurel Society Drawing Evaluation Collection/Drawing Pitch for 2026 Spring Conference Closing Remarks & Adjourn

**Hotels Near  
2 Academy Drive  
Westampton, NJ 08060**

Hilton Garden Inn  
111 Hancock Lane  
Westampton, NJ 08060  
.08 miles

Holiday Inn Express  
18 Western Drive  
Westampton, NJ 08060  
1.1 miles

Courtyard Marriott  
30 Western Drive  
Westampton, NJ 08060  
1.1 miles

**THINGS TO DO NEAR  
2 ACADEMY DRIVE  
WESTAMPTON, NJ 08060**

**Burlington County Prison Museum**

128 High Street  
Mount Holly, NJ 08060

There's something for just about everybody at the Historic Burlington County Prison Museum. Are you interested in local and national history, architecture, criminal law, penology, sociology, art or architecture? Then you should find the Old Prison of much interest. Fascinated by the paranormal world or murder stories? We're the place to go. <https://www.prisonmuseum.net/>

**Smithville Mansion**

803 Smithville Road  
Eastampton, NJ 08060

Hezekiah B. Smith, an inventor-industrialist from Lowell, Massachusetts, with his wife Agnes M. Gilkerson Smith, came to New Jersey in 1865, purchased the village of Shreveville for \$20,000 and renamed it Smithville. The property offered all that Hezekiah B. Smith needed to expand his woodworking machine company. Within five years after H.B. had purchased Smithville, he had rebuilt the shops and establish a foundry for the production of woodworking machinery. Depending on business conditions 125 to 275 men were employed. Smithville developed into a model industrial town in the 1870's with many opportunities for the workers and their families to improve themselves. The "New Jersey Mechanic" was first printed in Smithville in 1870. It was an eight page "weekly journal devoted to working men's interest and mechanics' arts". Agnes M. Smith was editor for the weekly journal. The descendants of Hezekiah Smith continued to live in the mansion until 1962, when it was purchased by Louis and Grace Thomas. In 1975 the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders purchased the mansion and property. Smithville is listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places.

<https://www.smithvillemansion.org/>



### **Burlington County Troll Trek**

The Troll Trek exhibition was organized by the Burlington County Commissioners and Burlington County Parks System and consists of 19 troll statues in various outdoor locations throughout Burlington County. It was inspired by Big Rusty, a large troll created by world renown artist Thomas Dambo at the site of Hainesport's future Creek Turn Park. Like Big Rusty, each troll is made from recycled or natural materials.

<https://www.co.burlington.nj.us/2076/Troll-Trek>

### **Alice Paul Center for Gender Justice**

128 Hooton Road

Mount Laurel Township, NJ 08054

The tour focuses on the values that Alice Paul learned during her childhood here at Paulsdale and the way those values led her to advocate for equality as a major figure in the women's suffrage movement. We ask visitors to participate in a dialogue with us about what spurred Alice to become a leader and how they have been inspired to take on leadership roles to benefit their communities and the causes they care about. Visitors may also review the exhibit *Alice Paul: In Pursuit of Equality* and walk around the grounds.

<https://www.alicepaul.org/>