

SOMERSET AUXILIARY  
of the  
JOHNSTOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Somerset Auxiliary of the JSO met on Thursday, **January 5, 2017** at the Oakwood Restaurant, Davidsville. The meeting opened at 12:40 pm and President Gay Reed asked members and guests to introduce themselves as they sat at elegant tables arranged in a large open square. Gay welcomed us all and wished everyone a Happy New Year. Eighteen members and Gay's guests, Charlie and Johann Fox, were in attendance.

The Sunshine gift was provided by Beth Pile and the Basket was passed around for a drawing. Johann Fox drew the winning ticket and Louise Majesky won. Beth Pile showed Louise how to drink from her new commuter coffee bottle. Wanda Byrne will provide the Shine Basket in February. Minutes from the December meeting were approved and seconded as emailed.

Treasurer, Bob Hanson reported that we have over \$1,500 in our Somerset Trust account. \$486 was raised for JSOA from the on-line sale of Poinsettias, and proceeds sent to them directly. There were other earnings as well. The report was approved and seconded. Bob emailed the total report for 2016 to members on January 3. Bob also mentioned the orchestra's upcoming annual fund drive and its importance as a key fund-raiser for the symphony. SAJSO will participate by making calls to potentially 110-120 previous donors, and perhaps others, after letters of solicitation have been mailed by the JSO office.

President Gay reviewed membership dues owed and discussed updating the membership rolls. SAJSO dues are only \$20. Teresa Marafino announced that she is still selling tickets for the JSO lottery taking place in March and responded to questions about the lottery sale.

The Georgian Inn has offered us discount on tickets to our proposed Afternoon Tea on February 18 (\$15.00 plus 20% tip (\$3) and 6% tax (\$.90), totaling \$18.90, (down from \$24). The Inn printed an adult and child's menu for us to review. The event promises to be a delightful afternoon for adults and children alike. The idea of having a Tea Party is foremost to generate interest in the symphony and to attract new Auxiliary members. A committee was called for to prepare for the Tea. Sue Menser, Leslie Custer, Mindy Forry, Gay Reed, Sam Hanson and Louise Majesky volunteered to work together on the project. Beth Pile will place an ad for the event in the Somerset Magazine and daily newspapers. Gay Reed urged everyone to come and bring a friend.

Orchestra Manager and SAJSO Vice President Beth Pile announced that the JSO has a new Executive Director, Michael Walther. He is retired military and a lawyer, with standing ties to the symphony and its supporters. Jeanne Wagle, Corresponding Secretary, updated the Birthday list, as she mails cards to members. She also spoke about a Laurel Arts Mardi Gras party, and her Batik workshop scheduled for February.

Venues for our next meeting were considered and it was decided upon Pine Grill in Somerset for our February 2 meeting at 12:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15pm.

Sincerely,

Ruth Hofmaster, Recording Secretary