

SOMERSET AUXILIARY
of the
JOHNSTOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Somerset Auxiliary of the JSO met on Thursday, **July 7, 2016** at 12:30 pm at **Kings & Queens** Restaurant in Stoystown. 18 people were present including Melanie Buffy, who is now a student intern at the JSO Office in the Galleria Mall, Richland. She is a Senior at Grove City College, PA, majoring in music/marketing. The Sunshine gift was brought by Sam Hanson and won by Leslie Custer. It was a colorfully packed picnic basket with all the utensils and fixings. Food orders were taken and the meeting opened.

President Gay Reed passed out printed copies of the June Minutes for those who did not receive them by email. A motion was made and seconded to approve them as provided. Treasurer Bob Hanson reported over \$2,000 in the Somerset Trust checking account with one check and one deposit pending. Bob subsequently emailed copies of the Bank Statement and Register Report through June to members.

All O'Shea's Chocolate Bars have been sold and accounted for. V.P. Beth Pile will make a bulk order to O'Shea's before September 1, for our September 1 meeting and the "Taste", including candy bars to benefit Youth Orchestra, JSOA and SAJSO. The more candies that are ordered the cheaper they are per bar. All members were invited to join in the effort to sell them! In addition, Beth reported on the Annual Fund Drive, which is not doing so well at this point with only over \$50,000. Last year totaled at just under \$100,000.

Beth announced that unfortunately JSO Exec. Director Rob Hudson will be leaving the JSO staff at the end of August for Tennessee, where his wife will be working. But Beth also reported that the News Conference on James Blachly's appointment as Maestro was a success. Mr. Blachly is providing a circus act at the new Gala fundraiser--the concert and party replacing the former Opera Fest. It will be a fancy event at the Pasquerilla Conference Center in downtown Johnstown. In response to a question, Beth shared that most concerts featuring the Messiah (on the Christmas schedule) include much of the oratorio but not all, usually lasting about 2 hours.

As to our Taste of the Laurel Highlands on October 18, Gay distributed tickets for selling, and passed out a list of last year's restaurants and donors, asking that members contact the same ones this year, as well as others. She has all available tickets. A new restaurant the Flying Lion has opened in Jennerstown—a good prospect. Three pianists have been lined up for background entertainment at Taste,

each playing one hour. Methods of selling liquor and wine at the event were discussed, and expert Pat Hofscher will be consulted on this. Bob Hanson will update our website on restaurants, donors and tickets sold. Businesses who contribute will get an ad on the website and in the program.

Members enjoyed bidding on 2 tickets to the Mt. Playhouse: "I Love You. You Are Perfect", provided by Teresa Marafino and 4 tickets to Seven Springs Wine and Rib Fest, provided by Roberta Lohr. These were to benefit our golf tournament. Artist Jeanne Wagle distributed a card featuring her 3 upcoming batik workshops in Ligonier. Our next meeting will be on August 4 at Mostoller's Country Corral in Friedens. They have a meeting room and gave us a gift certificate for Taste of the Laurel Highlands last October.

Sincerely, Ruth Hofmaster, Recording Secretary