

PRESIDENTIAL PAPERS



Volume 40 edition 6 march/ April 2021

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Just a Reminder...

MARCH 2021

1 2021 State Meeting Registration due; Agenda items due to President; Credentials due to Parliamentarian; Club Scrapbook Entry forms due to Chairman; Newsletter Contest entry form due to Chairman; Show and Sell Registrations due; Program booklet information due to State Meeting Chairman

March/April Presidential Papers distributed APRIL 2021

1 Executive Board member reports due to webmaster; year-end vouchers due to President.

Certificate names to Calligraphy;

Club hosting 2023 State Meeting to notify President and prepare a presentation for 2021 Saturday General Meeting.

10 President sends year-end vouchers to Treasurer

14 Treasurer soooks closed for year-end audit; Treasurer prepares 990 form for filing

Presidential Papers is a publication of the New York State Organization of Mothers of Twins Clubs. It is published:

- > May/ June
- > July/ August
- > September/ October
- > November / December
- January/ February
- > March/ April

Each member club is emailed a PDF copy through their State Rep and Club President. State Reps should forward a copy to each of their club members. Copies are also available on the website at <u>www.nysomotc.org</u>. Editor-Ericka D'Auria

<u>NYSOMOTCnews@gmail.com</u>

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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Happy almost Spring everyone!

I hope that everyone's year is off to a good start. As I am writing this, there is snow coming down outside. I like snow...but only a little at a time and for it to go away immediately. I don't like to walk or drive in it, so I'm glad that there is not much in the forecast today.

As you all know by now, 2021's Convention will be virtual. The Officers, State Meeting Chairs and I have been meeting regularly to see if we could hold our Convention in-person. Unfortunately, the hotel made that decision for us as they will not be open in time for the dates we have planned. While we are in a state of uncertainty with this pandemic still, it is the best decision to do it virtual this year. We will be having meetings on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The registration packet will be out soon so please be on a lookout for it and return it before the deadline. As a reminder, this is an election year, so please start thinking of the possibility of taking on a position on the Executive Board as all positions will be open. If you have any question about any position, feel free to ask anyone on the Board about their position, they will be more than happy to answer them.

This letter is my last letter as your NYSOMOTC President. I'd like to thank all of you for having the confidence in my 3 years ago to vote for me to do this prestigious position. For anyone thinking of running for President, it really is a rewarding position. This position works with all the Executive Board in various ways and runs each Executive Board, General Meeting and Midterm meetings. There are more duties that just running the meetings, but if you have any interest, please feel free to reach out to me.

Thank you to everyone again for giving me this opportunity and thank you to all the first responders trying to keep us safe! Sincerely,

Susie Smith, President



Hello Executive Board!!

I hope everyone is surviving the winter...and thankfully it's almost Spring. I'm not a fan of winter....or Spring...especially with it being allergy season. Christopher is allergic to tree pollen and grass so the Spring is not a pleasant time for the Smith house. But...it gets him out of mowing the lawn :)

So....Convention 2021 is virtual. The meetings will all be on Zoom each day and please be aware of the time changes for these meetings in the Registration packet. As a reminder, <u>ALL</u> Executive Board members must submit their yearend report to Michele Szatkowski no later than April 1st. It is imperative that we have reports from everyone. It's also an election year for the Officers, so please consider running for a position. If you have any questions about any position, just ask :) Please be sure to complete a resume and send it to Kristen Pace.

As this is my last letter as President, I want to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to be your President. I especially would like to thank my Officers - Lisa Cartini, Michele Camilleri, Renie Cutt, Michele Szatkowski, Mary Grace Roach and Ruth Barone - for helping throughout the last three years. Each of youl have been so helpful and supportive and I don't think that I would have been able to do this job without all of you!

Sincerely,

Susie Smith, President

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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pomopcny

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As everyone has heard by now, our convention for 2021 will have to be virtual again this year. I'm sure you are all as upset by this as I am. I feel terrible for the ladies of WNY Moms. They have been through so much, not just physically after having done everything twice but also as a past club member who hosted convention, you put all of your emotions into doing this. It really has been a rough roller coaster for them. They are strong and will come back for 2023 even stronger!

This year we will be holding elections and I would encourage everyone to think about taking a position on the board. There are so many opportunities to learn more about this organization. If you are new to wanting to do more, there is always someone to help you learn your way. Whether you are interested in an elected position, would like to be a chairman or on a committee.

One position that will be vacant is the office of Vice President. I have really enjoyed this position and would like to explain to you what this entails.

She is there for the President. Any time she needs to discuss anything she will reach out to you.

You collect the Dues and Statistics forms in June. Then forward the checks to the Treasurer and forms to the President / Editor.

Clubs will send you their reports / newsletters and you keep track of communication for the Super State Rep awards and to write your As the Turtle Goes article for the Presidential Papers

You may be contacted by potential new members from our website and you can help direct them to a club that is close to them

You must also attend the board meetings which includes the Midterm meeting held in Oct

Please give it some thought and if you have questions regarding this or any position don't hesitate to ask.

I thank you for having given me this opportunity to have served you and I encourage all of you to step up to support this organization

As the Turtle Goes

Westside Suburban was very busy in February. They held 2 fund raisers. They had a Sweetheart Raffle as well as sold out 2 Super Bowl Boards.

The ladies at **Schenectady** held their meeting via Zoom and it worked out very well for them

Nassau County held a Covid Vaccine Zoom Seminar. This was aimed to help answer questions and address any concerns. What a great idea!

Suffolk has many activities planned to include a Zoom cocktail class "Bitters with Kaleena " and they are keeping up their hiking at area parks

The ladies at **POM** are starting to get hard at work planning for an amazing 2022 convention in Syracuse.



michele szatkozuski ZRMOCC 315-986-8272 CCK638@aol.com **General Fund** October 12, 2020 – February 22, 2021 **OPENING BALANCE \$7924.16** Item Income Expenses Dues - (3 clubs) \$ 90.25 Midterm Reg. (3) \$ 120.00 **TOTAL INCOME \$ 210.25** GoDaddy \$ 948.95 Donation to MSS Fund (4 midterm reg) \$ 160.00 **TOTAL EXPENSES \$1108.95 CLOSING BALANCE \$7025.46 Eleanor Siegel Fund** October 12, 2020 – February 22, 2021 **Opening Balance \$ 307.44 Item Income Expenses TOTAL INCOME \$ 0.00 TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 00.00 CLOSING BALANCE \$ 307.44** NOT JUST



PARLIAMENTARIAN

ruth barone

ZRMOZC

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Credential packets to Officers, Past Presidents and State Reps were mailed on March 1st. Included in the packets were the Duties of Delegates/Alternates as well as the registration form which needs to be returned by Thursday, March 31.

It was decided to have a Delegates/Alternates/Officers/Past Presidents meeting on Friday, April 23 at 6:30 p.m. to review how we will be conducting the Saturday General meeting, which will include the voting processes.

In addition, included in the letter, the following recommendations will be brought to the membership at the Saturday General Meeting for a vote. The NYSOMOTC By Laws states they "may be amended at any meeting by a majority vote, provided notice in writing has been given to all member clubs at least sixty [60] days prior to the meeting, at which time they are to be voted on. If there has been no previous notice given, these Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds [2/3] vote." As it is less than sixty days, both the proposed amendment and the change of date will require a two-thirds (2/3) vote to pass. Delegates registered with the Parliamentarian will need to be present in order to vote.

- 1. On the recommendation of the elected and appointed officers, there will be a vote at the Saturday General Meeting to add to Article VIII, Section 5 Elections the following: "Electronic Voting. Business items which would require a vote of delegates and which include but are not limited to election of Officers, Nominating Chairman, Nominating Committee and future state meetings may be held via electronic voting with a minimum of 30 days' notice with the opportunity for discussing electronically or otherwise." The rationale for this is it is critically important for the organization to adopt a method by which voting may be conducted in a virtual way, if necessary.
- 2. On the recommendation of the elected and appointed officers, there will be a vote at the Saturday General Meeting to amend ByLaw Article IX, Section 1. It currently states "The Annual Meeting of the State Organization shall be held on the last Saturday of April, unless altered a majority vote of the member clubs." The proposed amendment is "The Annual Meeting of the State Organization shall be held on the last Saturday of a majority vote of the member clubs." The proposed amendment is "The Annual Meeting of the State Organization shall be held on the last Saturday of April, unless altered by a majority vote of the member clubs or safety considerations warrant the convention location and format be decided by the Officers (elected and appointed)." The rationale for this amendment is It is critically important for the organization to adopt a method by which convention may be conducted in a virtual way, if necessary. This permits the Officers (elected and appointed) to make this decision.
- 3. In addition, WNY MoMs of Buffalo is proposing the dates of the 2023 State Meeting be changed from April 27-30, 2023 to May 4-7, 2023. The rationale for this change are:
 - A substantial increase in the number of seasonal vendors available for contracting starting after May 1st;
 - b. More venue options will be locally available;
 - c. Better weather for being a tourist outside in downtown Buffalo.

As always, should you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me via email at <u>rsb070556@gmail.com</u>.

TASS TICE CHAIR / TREASURER

kathlene Lyman

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Marie Simmons Scholarship Fund – Financial Report Kathlene Lyman - Treasurer/Vice Chairman April 21, 2020- February 28, 2021 **Opening Balance:** \$5,849.21 Income: Donation: Suffolk Co MOTC \$500 \$858 2020 Lottery Ticket Fundraiser Donation: K. Lyman \$ 50 **Total Income:** \$1,408 Expense: Calendar Fundraiser Winners – \$500 (Suffolk Co MOTC)

<u>\$6,757.21</u>

<u>Closing Balance:</u> (Note: There is still one \$1500 check to be written.)

The MSSC met this month and discussed the one scholarship check yet to be written. Due to the pandemic, Emily Martinec has been unable to register for her next courses. Her scholarship will be put in abeyance for one more year. I continue to be honored to serve our fine organization. I hope all of you are well and have plans to get your COVID vaccine. I cannot wait for us to get together. Kathy



PROCEDURE MANUAL CHAIRMAN

myríam Lavora

more queens

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As I write this, today (January 29th) is a blustery 16 degrees sunny day. February 5th marks the middle of the winter season. I'm already eager to say "buh-bye Winter" and so ready to come out of my bubble/cocoon/pod. We hold on to the hope that better days are ahead.

Updates to the Treasurer, the MSS Committee and the Super State Rep Award guidelines, were prepared and distributed to the Officers, the Archivist and to the Webmaster. The current Procedure Manual is available on the website (nysomotc.org). For passwords, feel free to contact me or the Webmaster, Michele Szatkowski.

I share this quote, as it sounds so fitting: "And once the storm is over, you won't remember how you made it through, how you managed to survive. You won't even be sure, whether the storm is really over. But one thing is certain. When you come out of the storm, you won't be the same person who walked in. That's what this storm's all about."—Haruki Murakami

Best regards to each of you! Myriam



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When we had to cancel the in-person convention last year who really thought it would happen again? But thanks to our NYSOMOTC officers we are having a Virtual Convention! Not only have these women had to keep their positions for a 3rd term but they have planned – with not much time- the 56th Annual Convention – Virtually. As Membership Pins Chairman I can still fulfill my position to tally years of attendance, and announce First Time Attendees, and recognize those who are receiving attendance awards for 5, 10, etc., years. I invite all of you to attend – fill out those registration forms!

I am hoping, as all of us are, that we will be able to have our 2021-2022 convention back to in-person attendance! I can then award the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 membership pins and read the reflection summaries written by the membership pin recipients for 20+ years of attendance.

Keep your fingers crossed that we will be able to have our Membership Pins "double" awards ceremony in Syracuse 2022! Looking forward to seeing you on our Zoom convention meetings being held April 23 – April 25, 2021.

NEWSLETTER CONTEST CHAIR

Newsletter Contest Chairman News Submitted by Kristen Pace-kpace825@optonline.net

Hello ladies! I hope this newsletter finds you doing well. I have been proud to be the Newsletter Contest Chairman the past six years. However, I would like to pass along the honor to another wonderful member. The Chairman coordinates all phases of the contest, encourages club participation, obtains the judges, provides the rules and announces the winners at the State Meeting. The basic purpose of this contest is to provide the club editors with helpful tips and suggestions to improve their newsletters. If you have not done so already, and are interested in this position, please fill out a resume and send it to me (Nominating Chairman as well) and the new President will choose a new newsletter contest chairman at the upcoming Convention. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. I would also like to thank those clubs who have entered this year's contest. I look forward to announcing the winners at the Convention.

> Take care, Kristen Pace Newsletter Contest Chairman

NOMINATING CHAIR



Nominating Committee News

Kristen Pace Nominating Committee Chairman <u>kpace825@optonline.net</u>

As you know, our fabulous Executive Officers will be ending their term this April. All positions are **OPEN** and our new elected officers will be sworn in at our Saturday General Meeting. In addition to the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer positions, the position of Nominating Chairman will also need to be filled. If you haven't submitted your resume yet, nominations for all these positions shall also be accepted from the floor at the Saturday General Meeting.

The Nominating Chairman works with the committee to select nominees for the annual election of Officers of the State Organization. A double slate is preferred when possible. The Chairman and the committee shall observe rules of confidentiality and are responsible for distributing, collecting and circulating the resume form. The Chairman notifies the nominees, informs the Parliamentarian, presents the proposed slate in the Presidential Papers and prepares the Installation Ceremony. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you all very soon!

~@~ 2021 NYSOMOTC Slate ~@~



For those of you who don't know me, I'm Lisa Cartini and currently I am your NYSOMOTC Vice President and I am running for the office of President. I am a member of Parents of Multiples of Central New York. I have fraternal girls who are 24 and I have been a member of my local club since they were born. I have held many positions at both the state and local level which include State Rep, Past President of POM and Vice President, I have been the State Photographer, Nomination Chair as well as been on the Committees for the Marie Simmons Scholarship and Nominating. I am also working full time as a Dental Hygienist and I've been with my boss for 24 years. I started when my girls were 12 weeks old. I look forward to serving you in this position if I am elected.

Vice President

VACANT

The Vice President serves as the second in command, when called upon. She works with the President to be informed of all the State Organization's business and is prepared to step in as President, should there be a need. In addition, she handles all matters related to the membership as the official liaison between the State Organization and the member clubs.

Recording Secretary

VACANT

The Recording Secretary records the business of the annual State Meeting and all Executive Board Meetings. Using her notes and the tape recordings, she works with the Minutes Approval Committee and the State Parliamentarian to produce the official minutes of each meeting and mails them in a timely fashion. She provides a list of any unfinished business to the President.

Treasurer

Lorena Cutt



My name is Lorena Cutt. I am a lifetime (20 years) member of Greater Rochester Mothers of Twins Club (GRMOTC). I am a mother of 20-year-old twin girls, McKenna and McKenzie, and an older daughter Michaela who just turned 24. Michaela is a registered nurse, living in Salt Lake City Utah. McKenna graduated from college this past August and is a licensed Radiation Therapist in Utica, NY. McKenzie is in her junior year of college in Beverly Massachusetts working on a BFA in illustration. I recently retired from the City of Rochester after 30 years of employment. I am currently on a per-diem assignment training my replacement a couple days a week, as well as a part time gig as a dance studio office manager.

I have been involved with the NYSOMOTC Organization for over 15 years, many of which have been on the Executive Board. I have held the committee positions of Unity project, Website Committee, Membership pins, MSS Committee, Nominating Committee, and Twin Photo Registry. I was also the 2018 State Meeting Chairman. Lastly, I have held the elected positions of Treasurer, Secretary, Vice president, and President. I am currently the advisor to President Susie. I truly love being a part of this organization. I treasure the friendships I have made and the great women and role models I have the opportunity to see every year.



Shira Dubey MOTC Suffolk 330-612-0715

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Hello, I hope everyone is staying warm and cozy this winter. Although this year's convention will be virtual, I look forward to seeing everyone on Zoom. Hopefully we will have some scholarships to present to one or two students in pursuit of higher education! As of this date we have not received any applications, and although the deadline is quickly approaching, the committee is hopeful that we will receive a submission by the deadline. The committee looks forward to reviewing all applications and awarding two scholarships this spring!

The committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, 2/17/21 via Zoom. At that meeting we will have reviewed the rules and regulations for judging the scholarship submissions in preparation for our task! We will also discuss any other business relating to the scholarship award.

Please continue to purchase lottery dates for the calendar raffle—you could win big at Convention! The MSS Scholarship Fund appreciates your support very much.

So many of us are extremely passionate about this valuable resource we are privileged to offer our children. Please consider sending a donation to the MSS Fund when you send in your registration or prior to our convention so we can include it in the 2020-2021 books.

Wishing you and your families a healthy 2021!

Respectfully Submitted,

Shira Dubey

MSS Committee Chairman 2020-2021



Mariko Denton

WNYMoMs

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Warm greetings all!! The State Executive Board and our club have both come to the same conclusion - that the 2021 Convention is best held virtually this year. Our club wants to put on a big party for everyone and we don't want it diminished in any capacity when we do it, so hitting the brakes on this for now is the best decision. The 56th Annual State Meeting is being designed and run by the State Executive Board and we look forward to seeing everyone by Zoom. Sending big virtual hugs to all, and our club in WNY are ready and excited to invite you all to come see us in the not too distant future. In the meantime, we all look hopefully towards seeing everyone in Syracuse in 2022.

Best wishes, Renee Orr and Mariko Denton Reflecting on 2020 for Silver Linings.

I am sure that every one of you could write a story about how you spent 2020. Although there was so much isolation, division, sadness, and violence I choose to reflect on the Silver Linings.

Early in the pandemic, we were all trying to stay connected and we were looking for every opportunity to see friends or family and have fun. I found myself getting very connected with the Suffolk County Mothers of Twins club. This club was one of my Silver Linings of 2020. It started with House Party playing Chips n guac or trivia with them, many of whom I had never met. I would jump in whenever I could, and at first, I felt like an intruder, but they never let me think that way again. These women were so much fun and welcoming. We were hanging out and laughing together a few times a week at first, Silver Lining! Then I was introduced to Pure Romance and a new bunch of women, not to mention some fun stuff for us. I certainly cannot highlight 2020 without talking about their introduction of Color Street nails to me. Who in Suffolk has not had a Color Street party? I attended Sira's, Susie's, Kathy's & Nicole's and maybe a few more. Thank you for my new obsession, which my daughters have become obsessed with as well. Kristie organized a Women owned small business Holiday Shopping event before Christmas and I met a bunch of wonderful women and was able to do most of my holiday shopping with them. POM did a virtual cocktail class with The Bitter Bottle (my daughter's business) and we had some other twin moms attend that too. My Facebook feed was suddenly filled with young loving families, lots of babies and kids being kids! I got to see their crazy MOTC Halloween Trunk or Treat which was amazing and I was so impressed with all your creativity.

Then, things got crazy for Jim and I and we busily moved back to NY from Colorado. Moving across the country during a pandemic trying to be as safe and careful as possible was not an easy task, but I will save that story for another time. In January 2021, Covid still on the rise, my brother had a heart attack and was in the hospital for 12 days never regaining consciousness before he died. Like so many families- this was the hardest part, the impact that this pandemic has had on how our healthcare systems have to operate now. My sister in law was getting one call a day from the doctor, could not visit, nor could anyone from the family. We had no way to let him know that we knew he was in the hospital or that we were praying for him. Grasping at straws, I messaged our MOTC President, Susie asking if any of the Suffolk County moms worked at the hospital where he was. Sure enough Susie connected me with Trisha (SILVER LINING). Trisha just happened to be on her way to work. This angel took time from her busy night to go visit my brother, and call my sister in law and then me, and allowed us to speak with him using her cell phone. This was the first time we were able to let him know we were praying for him. Trisha gave us the most compassionate and wonderful gift, one that we will never forget. She offered to see him again for us and was asking about him daily. I look forward to the day when I can meet Trisha face to face and hug her! The things this MOMS club does with their kido's is just awesome, but the best part about this club is that they really know how to support each other. Your club reminds me of how our club was back in the day when our babies were growing up and we did so many fun and creative things together. And look at us now, we are still supporting each other and I am sure the bond you ladies have will last. MOTC Suffolk, you ladies (and your families) have my heart. Thank you for your friendship and being my 2020 Silver Lining! Oh and the Girl Scout cookies SILVER LINING!!

To all of you- Thank you all for the kind words via calls, Facebook and cards of sympathy and support , they were all very comforting.

Linda LoNigro Goldsworthy



Doreen Grenci MOTC Suffolk 631-567-1644 saldorie1@hotmail.com

Everyone should by now have gotten a link to the Google Form for the Research Survey on Birthdays and Multiples or an email attachment to print out with the survey on it from their State Rep. MoM's with multiples of all ages can participate. If your multiples are old enough, they can fill it out for you! If you're not answering for young children, base your answers on an age when they were regularly going to friends' birthday parties. Thank you for your help in gathering this information. Please return the survey so it reaches me by April 1st.

I have enjoyed being the research chair for the last 7 years. If anyone is interested in serving on the board, it is a nice position to start in. It involves picking a topic to do a survey on and developing some questions. You can find old research studies on the National Moms of Multiples page to help you. Once you have a survey put together and approved by the board, you can send it out as an email attachment and/or a Google Form to all the State Reps. Lasty, right before the convention you have to compile all the data you've collected into a report that you can present at convention and send out to the State Reps. for distribution. The Twin Data Registry has been stagnant because I never get around to starting the work. It will be a major project since I have to start from scratch with a new database. I am willing to start work on that if someone else would like to do the research survey. Please think about it and contact me if you'd like to learn more about it.





NYSOMOTC State Convention 2022

We all regret that we have to meet virtually this year, POM of CNY is busy planning "L king for You in 2022" and we plan to be IN PERSON!!

In order to prepare – we need to fundraise. So please attend our virtual fundraising Zoom event on Friday April 23, 2021 at 6:15 PM, after the Executive Board Meeting and prior to the Delegate/Alternate meeting. We plan to have at least 4 baskets/gifts items and of course the ever popular Room Raffle for the 2022 Convention in Syracuse NY!!

Please plan to attend to see what we have along with instructions on how to purchase your tickets. Winners will be announced at the afternoon session of the Saturday General Membership Meeting.

Thank you and we L k forward to seeing you Friday Night.

NYSOMOTC 2022 Convention Co -Chairs POM of CNY Peggy Fiorini & Susie Venditti



Ericka D'Auria MOTC Suffolk 631-521-9260 NYSOMOTCNEWS@gmail.com

Happy Spring Everyone!

I hope everyone has been enjoying this new year, and I look forward to seeing everyone on ZOOM during Convention. As the newsletter editor of Presidential Papers, I gather all articles submitted to me by the various committee members, I then proofread them and edit them for spelling and certain grammar. I then create the newsletter and add graphics and make it colorful and fun. I try to make the newsletter enjoyable to read.

I hope you enjoy reading about everything that is going on and are enjoying the newsletter as much as I enjoy creating it for our wonderful organization. Please send all articles, recipes, and fun the to <u>NYSOMOTCnews@gmail.com</u>.



Sharon Witul WNY MoMs 716-479-6262 sawbox@aol.com

A little something different for this issue "Kids with Issues". It may not fit you but someone you may know.

1) Troubled Families - Problem Children

By Carolyn Webster-Stratton & Martin Herbert

A good book as 2/3's of all children that are referred to any Mental Health agency are labeled "Conduct - Disordered" and this book will explain it. Children with this have anti social behavior. Help for such families is needed to support all involved. Kids can also be at risk for physical abuse by their parents, become school drop outs, get into drug abuse and much more. They can also suffer from poor physical health.

2) Homemade books to help children cope

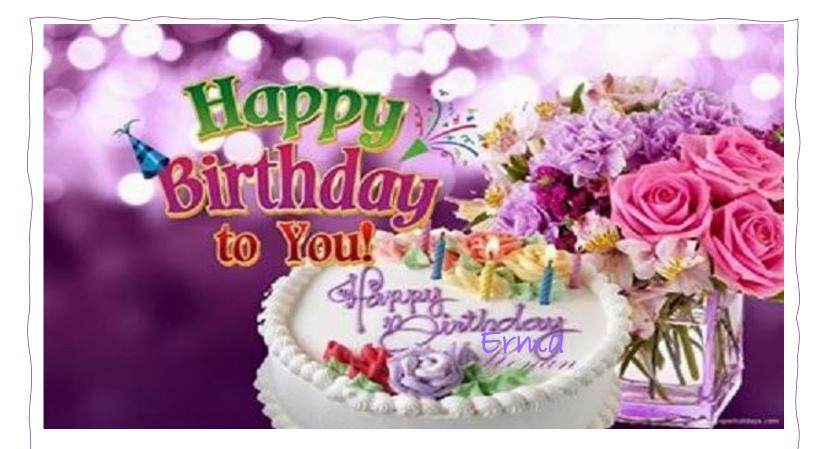
By Robert G. Ziegler MD

Illustrated by Robert G. Ziegler and Patricia Ziegler This is written for parents with children aged 4 - 13. It offers ideas for making a variety of life situations. It has easy step by step explanations and many indorse this book.

3) What do you do with a problem?

By Kobi Yamada

This is story book that has been on the NY Times #1 Best Seller list. A persistent problem that a boy avoids keeps getting bigger the more he ignores it. When he finally faces the problem it turns out to be something very different. Maybe it will be a good book to help us adults.



A Very Special Happy 87th Birthday to Frma Dineen!

Let's show her some Love! If you would like to send a card and maybe some scratch-offs (her fave!) Send to: Erma Dineen 362 2nd Street Ilion, N.Y. 13357



MOTC Suffolk's Holiday Dinner at Pollo Rico Latin Bistro



~Schenectady met by Zoom this month due to Covid-19 cautions. We missed two members due to work and by time difference, but hopefully that won't happen next month!

So good to see everyone was smiling and healthy, great to catch up with each other also! We hope everyone is healthy and doing well!

~Schenectady has been able to stay in contact with each other by using the Zoom app! Kathy B has been kind enough to set this up for us and it has worked out great! We can wish each other Happy Birthday and share any personal information and exciting news such as that we have a couple of new Grandma's now! Many members have been able to get their COVID-19 vaccine also!

Schenectady hope's that everyone can stay and healthy! Jane Martinec, Schenectady State Representative

Thank you, Jane Martinec for sharing this delicious Pizza Recipe

Have zucchini crust pizza all summer

BY GRETCHEN MCKAY Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

You probably haven't been inundated with zucchini yet because it's too early in the season for friends and neighbors to be pawning off summer's most bountiful backyard garden crop.

However, since you can find plenty of the slender green squashes in most grocery stores, now is the time to perfect your recipe for a zucchini crust pizza.

It's exactly what it sounds like — pizza made on a bed of shredded zucchini. Eggs, grated cheese and flour bind the crust together, and the pie can be topped with whatever you like — an assortment of chopped vegetables, mushrooms, cherry tomatoes, tomato sauce and cheese and/ or a simple sprinkling of grated Parmesan.

I used gluten-free flour but have also made the recipe many times with whole-wheat and all-purpose flour.

One tip: Be sure to grease the pizza pan or cookie sheet well, or line it with parchment paper. The thinner you spread the zucchini crust, the quicker it will bake.

ZUCCHINI CRUST PIZZA

2 cups grated zucchini (about 2 7-inchers) 2 eggs, beaten 1/4 cup whole wheat flour 1/2 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

1/2 cup shredded Parmesan cheese

1/2 teaspoon basil

1/4 teaspoon oregano 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided

Topping suggestions: sliced tomato, extra mozzarella (sliced or grated), thinly sliced garlic or peppers, mushrooms, and sliced olives.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Spray a 10-inch pie pan or baking sheet with nonstick spray or grease with oil and coat lightly with flour.

In a large mixing bowl, stir together zucchini, eggs, flour, mozzarella and Parmesan cheeses, basil, oregano and 1 tablespoon olive oil.

Press crust into a greased pie plate (for extra-thick pizza) or spread in a circle or square on a greased cookie sheet or pizza pan. Bake for 20 minutes and then

remove crust from oven.

Brush with remaining tablespoon olive oil. Top with your favorite pizza toppings and bake for another 15 to 20 minutes, or until the crust is lightly browned and crispy at the edges and the topping is heated through. Serves 4.



GRETCHEN MCKAY/PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTI

This vegetarian pizza is made with shredded zucchini, mozzarelia and Parmesan cheeses and egg.