



# SUSSEX COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB, INC.

[www.scrwc.net](http://www.scrwc.net)

## SCRWC HISTORY \*

The Sussex County Women's Club, Inc., (SCRWC) was created during the summer of 1952 with a membership of 181 charter members. The primary objectives were to assist in the election of Republican candidates, present the party in a favorable atmosphere and seek Republican voters. Lillian Martin was the Organizational Chair of the Club, and in August of that year was elected as the first President of the Delaware Federation of Women.

SCRWC officers were elected and committee chairs were chosen to serve two year terms. Regular meetings were held on the evening of the last Wednesday of the month and originally were held at the Republican Headquarters in Georgetown. As the Club grew, subsequent meetings were held in various venues in order to be equally accessible to all members. Executive meetings were always luncheons.

In addition to dues, funds were raised by selling chances on cakes and other items. Club prizes were awarded to the clubs which had gained the most members or had been designated as most improved. Contributions were given to state and local candidates and also to the DFRW Building Fund.

Notable Republicans were usually included among the 300-350 attendees at the Club's annual dinner meetings which were held at various locations in Sussex County. Interest in the Club's activities remained high with attendance averaging 75. SCRWC was presented the Blue Ribbon First Place State Award Certificate by the National Federation of Republican Women for outstanding achievement in the "Caring for America" Project and, through the years, has been awarded the NFRW Diamond Award, signifying overall superior club achievement.

Seventy years later, the SCRWC still:

- fills Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army distribution to local, needy children
- collects and distributes items needed at the Home of the Brave and the Home of the Brave II, which are local sanctuaries for homeless male and female veterans
- continues to place wreaths at veterans' monuments on Memorial Day Weekend
- donates books with the Republican philosophy, to local libraries, as part of the Mamie Eisenhower Literary Project
- supplies volunteers to work at the Republican Headquarters in Georgetown and on Republican campaigns in Sussex County
- donates thousands of dollars to Republican candidates at the Sussex County, state and federal levels

Additionally, today's SCRWC presents at least two or more scholarships every year to deserving women of Sussex County, and each September participates in the National Federation of Republican Women's literacy month by donating dictionaries and/or thesauruses to local schools as requested.

This history was excerpted from Lillian Martin's Report.