Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe

President's Message

THANKFUL. When the calendar turns to November we know the Thanksgiving holiday is in our future and we start thinking about being thankful and thinking about who and what we are thankful to have in our lives. It really is a wonderful mental exercise, personally and collectively, as members of SIGP! We also start thinking about food, but that is another subject!!

I looked up the definition of THANKFUL and I found; conscious of benefit received; expressive of thanks; well pleased; glad.

Oh my! It is also my definition of being a Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe member!

Our members are so very special to me and to each other. We know our club is spectacular and each of our members is too. We do so much for so many without much fanfare. We are so appreciative of what each of you do to further our mission; whether it is going to Positive Images to teach a Parenting class, writing a check for our fundraisers, submitting an article to our Grosse Pointe News for recognition of our awards or activities, gathering gift certificates for our Dine Around Town raffle, and recently, helping with Days for Girls is easy if you are having fun projects. There are so many

other activities that support us and our mission and I want to express my thanks to all of you and each of you.

Recently SIGP learned we are the largest club in the Midwestern Region. Our Governor Vivian has asked our club for an article for The Vision to explain what we do to attract. retain and engage such a large membership. I have been thinking about this as a member (for almost 10 years) and as your co-president. We have a very repeatable process.....we attract members with important, relevant and meaningful programs, we have very supportive members who are available to each of you and all of us, we schedule some fun activities, (and I do mean fun) and we have an attitude of gratitude for all of you and all you do!! It is a recipe for success!!

It somewhat mirrors the 4 pillars of Soroptimist International, which are Program, Fundraising, Membership, and Public Awareness. Our club's four little pillars are: Program, Support, Fun and Appreciation!! I truly believe, at a club level, you must emphasize the Support and Fun. Appreciation and getting support. Program is why we do what we do and it

attracts members. But to have fun together is so very special!

Thank you Jane Evola, for organizing our Ghost Tour at the Whitney last Tuesday! It was FUN and well-attended and everything was fabulous because you attend to every detail! I had a great time and so did my guests. Thank you, Jane for all you do!

I found a quote I want to share, if I didn't know for sure I would think the author of this quote was a Soroptimist

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us". --Albert Schweitzer

Thank you all for all you do! I am so very THANKFUL for you!

Roseanne & Ross

Your Co-Presidents



November 2017 Edition

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Dorothy	Wasinger	11/2
Roseanne	Horne	11/6
Anita	Sandercott	11/6
Vicki	Granger	11/8

Dates to Remember

2017 Calendar

11/01 Board Mtg. ~ Mary Ellen Condo ~ 6:30

11/08 Gen. Bus. Mtg. ~ GPYC~ Meet & Greet at 6:00 ~ 6:30 Mtg.

11/18 Packing Day For Girls ~ 10am to Noon

11/28 Newsletter article's due to Karrie B. by 9:00 pm.

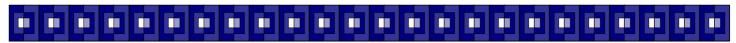
> SAVE THE DATE FOR **SPRING CONFERENCE**

April 27, 28 & 29, 2018 Sheraton Lisle Hotel in Lisle, IL





Follow us on Facebook and Twitter



Programs & Services

Updates to SIA Procedures/ Standards for Working with Youth

At the recent meeting of SIA's Board of Directors, our Board approved a change to the SIA Procedures and the Standards for Working with Youth.

Previously, clubs were required to track compliance of members involved with projects involving youth AND clubs were required to report compliance to you as the Dream It, Be It Region Chair. You were then required to track and report clubs' compliance to SIA headquarters.

Now, only the club is required to track compliance of members involved with projects involving youth. There is no longer a requirement to report to SIA headquarters.

Club presidents will maintain the important responsibility of ensuring that all members working with youth follow the Standards for Working with Youth. This change will be messaged to club presidents within the Guidelines for Club Presidents, the annual club mailing, the Soroptimist Summary, and other communications.

Please assist SIA headquarters in sharing this update with clubs in your region. Please ensure clubs understand their compliance with the Standards for Working with Youth is still extremely important. Only the burden of reporting has been lessened.

<u>Procedures (Section B. 7.)</u> Standards for Working with Youth

If you have questions regarding the Standards for Working with Youth, please contact Yvonne D'Amelio, SIA Chief Operating and Financial Officer, at Yvonne@soroptimist.org or 215-893-9000 ext. 126.

Programs & Services ~PI

Parenting classes continue with the addition of supplemental activities brought to the group by Nancy Solak. Nancy, Dorothy, Jane, Diane K., and new member Bette LaPouttre met at Diana's house on October 23rd and reviewed the Hazelden program and then plugged in supplemental activities. These activities will help with the themes of the chapters. Everyone is excited about this new endeavor.

Nancy and Betty are hoping to open the computer lab and provide after-Parenting opportunities for

clients including 'coloring'. Members interested in being part of this initiative please let Diana know ASAP.

Currently this volunteer day is Tuesday but Friday is another possibility. The shopping list for Positive Images children will be distributed at the November meeting. \$25 for clothing and \$25 for 'toy' will be your contribution if you decide to take part in this service activity. More details at the meeting.

HUGS, diana



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Programs & Services

SOROPTIMIST SUPPORTS "DAYS FOR GIRLS"

At the October business meeting, Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe supported DAYS FOR GIRLS with a \$500 donation for materials and supplies. DAYS FOR GIRLS has a vision that every girl and woman around the world have ready access to feminine hygiene by 2022. Their mission is to create a more free, dignified, and educated world through providing lasting access to feminine hygiene solutions and health education. This non-for-profit organization creates feminine hygiene kits with include panties, pads, soap and information that have reached over 800,000 women and girls in more than 100 countries. The kits have been distributed by women who accompany each delivery and then teach recipients how to use the hygiene products. Why is this so necessary? In many countries when young girls begin to menstruate, they do not go to school. This monthly missing of school adds up to loss of education and often the girl stops coming to school resulting in continuing the cycle of poverty and early pregnancy.

Soroptimist members volunteer their time on the last Saturday of each month at the Eastside DAYS FOR GIRLS workshop from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church at 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms. Contact Sandra Mengel at ssmengel@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering with DAYS FOR GIRLS. Contact Roseanne Horne if you are interested in Soroptimist at Rosewa33@aol.com



DAYS FOR GIRLS
PACKING DAY,
SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 18
(ALL HANDS
WELCOME)
10-NOON

Photo id: L to R: Soroptimist Co-President Roseanne Horne, Sandra Mengel and Joan Richardson accepting the check from Co-President Ross Braun.

Programs & Services

Joint Service Project with SI Hikone (Japan)

SIGP hasrecently supported a joint service project with our friendship link, SI Hikone (Japan). Each club has contributed \$600 to help fund the "EcobagLivelihood Training Project" for the SI Batangas Premier club, located in Batangas, Philippines.

SI Batangas Premier has provided sewing machines, material, and thread to the local women's jail in order for inmates to create reusable shopping bags to sell at a local supermarket and department store. The purpose of the project is "to improve the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of the women inmates" and "to develop further their skills for future employment". This project gives inmates fulfilling and dignified work each day instead of being idle, bored, and depressed. The inmates are paid a small wage for their work, which supports their financial needs in jail.

The project was started in July 2015 with fifteen inmates as cutters and sewers, and they produced

55 bags per week. As the women started to improve their skills and become more familiar with the sewing machines, they quickly improved to produce 182 bags per week. In less than two years the project has produced a whopping **42,952**ecobags! The project is self-sustaining since the sale of the ecobags allows more material and supplies to be purchased to create additional bags.

In 2016, SIGP and SI Hikone supported this project with \$1600, so this is our second donation! With the additional \$1200 from SIGP and SI Hikone in 2017, more sewing machines will be purchased and additional inmates will be trained on how to create the bags. SI Batangas Premier believes the project is a "good psycho-social therapeutic program" for the women inmates, as it not only gives them the opportunity to earn extra income, but it also helps restore and build their self-confidence and improve their lives. SIBP has shared some photos of the "Ecobag Livelihood Training Project".

Submitted by Kerri Green, SIGP Teasurer



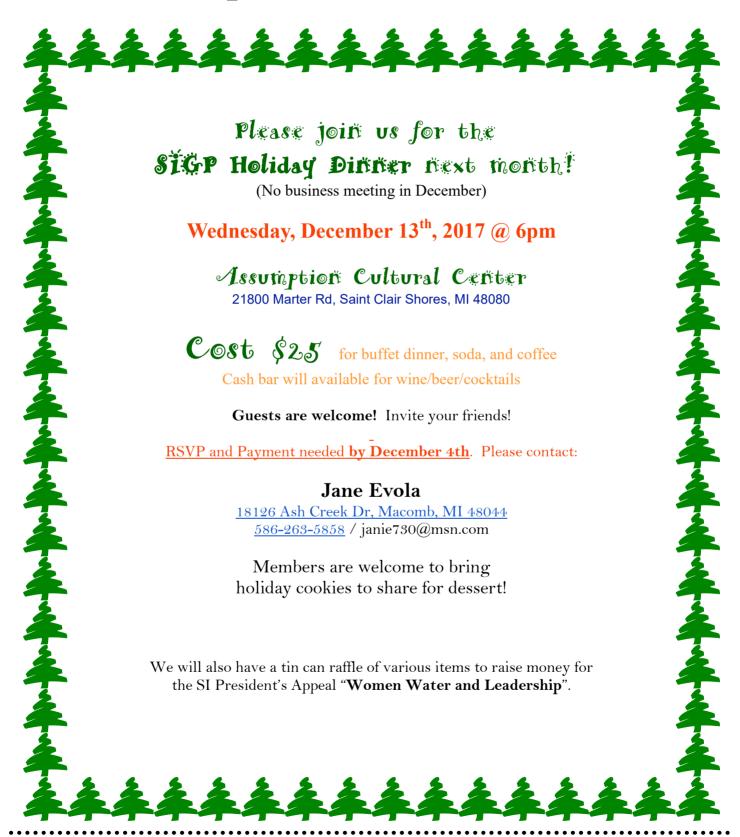








Membership





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Membership

SI of Grosse Pointe Michigan in District 3 has currently 58 members making it the club in the Midwestern Region with the most members according to SIA HQ numbers. Congratulations to SI of Grosse Pointe and well wishes for more members.

AN EMAIL FROM SIA MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR, Allison Sylvester

Hi again Governor Vivian!

The highest club membership I found recorded in our archives was 101 members in SI Indianapolis in June 1990.

I am not certain this is the highest club-level membership ever attained in Midwestern Region, but it is likely close to it. Down to the club level, we only have end-of-club-year (June 30) data available going back to the 1990s. So Indianapolis or another club may have had a higher membership during another month that year or another year. Additionally, a club may have had a higher

membership in a year before 1990. But that is close to the time that SIA as a federation had its membership peak, so it is a good guess that the highest or nearly highest club membership was at that time.

I hope this information helps! Let me know if I may provide additional support.

Have a wonderful weekend, Allison

Allison Sylvester
Membership Coordinator
Soroptimist International of the Americas

LiveYourDream.org 1709 Spruce Street Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-893-9000 Ext. 110 215-893-5200 fax

www.soroptimist.org www.liveyourdream.org

Award Information

Live Your Dream Award Applications due November 15, 2017

The Soroptimist Live Your Dream Awards (formerly the Women's Opportunity Awards) assists women who provide the primary source of financial support for their families by giving them the resources they need to improve their education, skills, and employment prospects. The Live Your Dream Awards involves three levels of cash awards. The program begins at the local Soroptimist club-level,

where award amounts vary. Local-level award recipients become eligible for region-level awards of either \$3,000 or \$5,000. Region-level award recipients then become eligible to receive one of three international-level awards of \$10,000.

For information and applications for SIGP applicants please see our website or contact Mary Ellen Burke at MEB650@aol.com or Kathy Kraydich at kjkraydich@gmail.com



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Award Information

How much do You Know about the Ruby Award: For Women Helping Women?

This award honors women who, through their **personal or professional** activities, are making extraordinary differences through their work to improve the lives of women and/or girls. The work of these women helps to promote the issues that are important to the Soroptimist organization, such as, access to education, empowering girls and ending violence against women and girls. Honorees are ordinary women who have worked in extraordinary ways to benefit other women and/or girls. The program enables local Soroptimist clubs to thank these women and encourage others to explore ways to assist women and/or girls.



Finding the Person You Want to Nominate

Eligibility Requirements:

A Ruby Award recipient should be a woman who:

- Has worked to improve the lives of women and girls.
- Has identified and focused on a need in their communities, which has significantly contributed to the improvement of women and girls' lives.
- Would inspire and encourage other women.
 The majority of the nominee's work should have occurred within the past two years. Previous award winners, Soroptimists and Soroptimist employees are not eligible for the award.

Please nominate your eligible candidates today!
Forward your nominations to Marlane Washington, at marlanewashington@gmail.com or Rosanne Morrow at mosanne723@comcast.net on or before January 15, 2018.

Thank you - Your Ruby Award Co-Chairs

VIRGINIA M. WAGNER EDUCATIONAL GRANT APPLICATION ARE DUE

January 15, 2018

The Midwestern Region's Virginia M. Wagner Educational Grant (VWA) honors the effort and scholarship of a woman who is attending a college or university to earn a bachelors, masters, or doctoral degree.

First established in 1972, the award was renamed in 2004 to honor Dr. Virginia M. Wagner (Midwestern Region Governor 1982-1984) to commemorate her interest in higher education for women.

The Virginia Wagner Educational Grant application can be found on our website: grossepointesoroptimist.org and the Midwest Region website: simwr.org

Qualifications: applicant...

- is enrolled full time in a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree program
- has overcome obstacles to get an education
- has given back to community in some way
- submits a current complete transcript
- has not won previous VWA

The VWA is specific to states in the Midwestern Region: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin and Kentucky. Women living in these states and attending a college or university in pursuit of a bachelors, Masters or Doctoral degree are eligible to apply.

For questions please contact Diana Langlois at dilang58@comcast.net or Liz Lucas at elspetpeabo@gmail.com

Thank you - Your VW Award Co-Chairs

Fundraiser- Dine Around Town Raffle

2017 Dine Around Town Winners:

First Place \$775 - Jim Colson

Second Place \$650 - Donna Stoner

Third Place \$560 - Carolyn Mulford

Fourth Place \$400 - Ernesta Tobin

Fifth Place \$250 - Rich Pribula

Six Place \$200 - Kerr Green





Of the 54 member's who received books of raffle tickets 44 members sold their requested amount of tickets and 10 members sold more than the requested amount.

Of the 600 books of raffle tickets printed we sold 321 books. GREAT JOB LADIES

Fundraiser- Garage Sale Sign's



Eva Rizk Habib, one of SIGP's newest member is taking art lessons and very much involved in sketching and painting. She has designed these two signs for our garage sale's and will also be painting them for us. Thank you Eva and Welcome to SIGP!

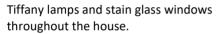




Fundraiser









Welcome to the Whitney
Front Doors to The Whitney

Some photo's from The Whitney Ghost Tour.

Fundraiser

Shop with Amazon and support SIGP!

We have a great way to support Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe while shopping online with Amazon. They have a program called AmazonSmile, which contributes to non-profit organizations while you shop as normal with Amazon. If you use the following link to shop from Amazon, they will return 0.5% of your purchase directly back to our club!

http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-6099835

It's that easy! So start your holiday shopping and contribute to SIGP at the same time!!



Supporting: Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe, MI ▼

Browsing History ▼ Karrie's Amazon.com Today's Deals Gift Cards & Registry Sell Help



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AWARENESS

The Stevenson High School cheer team got a visit from SIGP club member and author Rasheda Kamaria Williams on October 16 during National Bullying Prevention Month. SIGP club member Diana Langlois purchased copies of the book "Be EmPOWERed: How to Live Above & Beyond Life's Drama" for each girl. Diana's daughter, Robbie, coaches the team which is made up of 22 ambitious and dedicated girls.

The girls had been reading the book since the beginning of the semester. To reward the team for their recent successes and to encourage them to keep up the good work, Diana coordinated the visit. This is a prime example of how SIGP members continue to collaborate to do what's best for girls and women.











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AWARENESS - Anti Human Trafficking

SIGP Human Trafficking Committee meeting 10-25-2017

In attendance: Roseanne Horne, Mary Ellen Burke, Sarah Sheppard, Carrie Petrocelli, and Aleksa Andjelkovic

Topics:

Event? We discussed the possibility of planning a Human Trafficking event next spring. Discussed the ideas from Karrie B. (about inviting the young woman that was Human trafficked by her mother to speak) and Carol H. (who suggested partnering with the woman who planned the HT event at St. Hubert's. We decided that a panel discussion event might not be the best idea since there has been so much in the news about Human Trafficking now as opposed 8 years ago. Awareness is not as necessary, maybe fundraising to help organizations support victims makes more sense.

<u>Liberator Awards-</u> Theresa Flores started these awards to recognize individuals and organizations that are working to combat Human Trafficking. Mary Ellen is going to nominate Laurie Jost for the Individual Award and the Wayne State Medical Society Foundation for the Organization Award. Nominations are due by October 31st. Voting will take place online during month of November.

Human Trafficking Shelters- Find shelters for Human Trafficking victims that we can help. Aleksa suggested Sanctum House which is very near opening. They need help painting, cleaning, etc. May need household items too. Elaine Flowers is working on opening a house too. Aleksa will check to see how we can help.

END HUMAN TRAFFICKING NOW!

Report a tip

Call 1-888-3737-888 or text BEFREE

https://humantraffickinghotline.org/

<u>SOAP project</u> - Aleksa will check to see when and where Theresa Flores will be hosting the Soap up the Auto Show this year. We can offer the opportunity for club members to get involved.

Stuck in Traffic Movie- Carrie P. came up with the idea to get the Movie, Stuck in Traffic, in the schools by showing it to the teachers and counselors (Teach the Teachers). We will try to get the movie and educational materials presented at a Teacher's Inservice meeting. Roseanne will contact Jenny Sherman at Grosse Pointe North High School.

5K Walk /Run We think this might be a better option than a panel discussion or keynote speaker event. We can get the community involved (HS girls clubs, Sports teams, etc) and raise awareness and money for a HT Shelter or Organization. This will take a lot of work on part of volunteers in our club. Carrie P and Sarah S will present to club to see if people are interested. Carrie P has helped put on 2 Walks in Louisville and Las Vegas. We need to start looking at dates in Spring, logistics, sponsors, partner with Macomb, where to hold it, etc.

If anyone has any other ideas, please let us know. Next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 28**th (4th Tuesday of the month) at 7:00 pm at GPW Library.





Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe member of the Midwestern Region

2016-2018 Board Members & Chairs

Roseanne Horne-Co-President
Ross Braun-Co-President
Aleksa Andjelkovic-Pres. Elect
Program Chair
Dorthea Williams-VP
Membership Chair

Mary Ellen Burke-Past Pres

Kerri Green-Treasurer Jane Evola-Asst. Treasurer Fundraising Chair

Ellen Chapin-Secretary
Nancy Solak-Asst. Sec.
Public Awareness Chair

Myra Golden-Director
Marya Malkovich-Director



Please have your article's to
Karrie Blankenship by 9:00 pm
on or before 28th of each
month to:

karrieb40@gmail.com

Soroptimist Pledge

I pledge allegiance to Soroptimist and to the ideals for which it stands:

The sincerity of friendship, The joy of achievement, The dignity of service, The integrity of profession, and the love of country.

I will put forth my greatest effort to promote, uphold, and defend these ideals, for a larger fellowship in home, in society, in business, for country and for God

For upcoming events and to see what SIGP has been up to check out our website by clicking the link below http://www.grossepointesoroptimist.org/

Connections for Local, Region & HQ

District III Emails Contacts

Governor- Vivian Walczesky - (vivianwal@sbcglobal.net)

Governor-Elect Kris Armstrong - (krisquin@msn.com)

Secretary - Anita Newman - (siurbana@soroptimist.net)

Treasurer - Valencia Clark - (vclark003@columbus.rr.com)

District III Director - Darcy Merritt (dmerritt81@hotmail.com)

District III Secretary - Mary Pilon (pilonm@sbcglobal.net)

Soroptimist International of the Americas - (siahq@soroptimist.org)

Soroptimist Websites

Soroptimist International Midwest Region - (simwr.org)

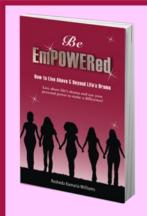
Soroptimist International of the Americas (soroptimist.org)

Soroptimist International (soroptimistinternational.org)





Bulletin Board



EMPOWERING
TEENS TO LIVE
ABOVE
BULLYING, DRAMA
AND SOCIETAL
PRESSURE

Get "Be EmPOWERed" on Amazon!

Rasheda Kamaria Chief Empowering Officer Empowered Flower Girl 313-492-3879 (Cell)

www.rashedakamaria.com





I have been a Massage Therapist for over 15yrs and I am licensed with the state of Michigan, insured, and attend continuing educational classes to stay current with the latest techniques.

I am trained in many styles of message therapy techniques some of which are listed below:

Swedish (lighter style)

Therapeutic (getting into those sore areas)

Deep (getting deeper into those knots)

Reflexology (concentrated massage on the hands, feet, legs arms, can stay mostly dressed for this one)

Prenatal (massage for the Mom to be).

Massage's help many different aspects of your life such as circulation, stress/anxiety, muscle soreness, headaches, insomnia, menstrual cramps, sinus problems, just to name a few. Since I work with the body muscles I can sell BioFreeze, a pain relief gel which comes in roll-on or gel in a tube for \$12 each.

YOU get my undivided attention, I work on you the whole time you pay for no cutting corners and I can design a massage program just for you and your specific needs. I have a massage special that can't be beat, a 70 minute massage for ONLY \$60, my office is located in a quiet and private area of the Eastin Inn complex, 2nd floor, located on Little Mack Ave. between Masonic Ave. and 13 Mile Road in Roseville, Michigan.

I offer gift certificates, I can travel to you, I also do private parties or come to your office to offer stress relief for the staff with my Massage Chair, the ideas are end-

Feel free to call and discuss options 313-205-7117









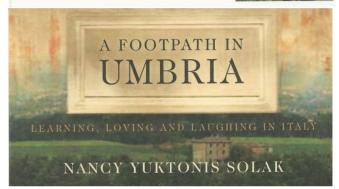


Nancy Yuktonis Solak

Nonfiction Editor: memoir, travel, medical, health, history, essay, technical & how-to

E-mail: solaksinitaly@yahoo.com Website: www.areluctanttraveler.net







Sarah Sheppard

313-804-4100 sshepp01@gmail.com



Writer, Book Editor, Copy Editor, Ghostwriter, Writing Instructor



Below is SIGP's book club picks for 2017.

If you are interested in reading any or all of this years picks and joining us in the discussion please contact Karrie Blankenship or Mary Ellen Burke for the details. We meet the third Thursday of each month at 7pm. Every month is hosted by a different member of the club.

- 11/16 Circling the Sun Paula McLain
- 12/21 Born a Crime Trevor Hoah





Katherine Baetz

Limited Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Cell phone 313/530/7414 Email: Katherine@Baetz.net

2006 Black Ford Fusion SE

with 138,000 miles for sale! \$3,500

Car has newer brakes (past year) and cosmetic damage to the passenger side doors.

For More information contact: Roseanne Horne at 313-706-1801



Photo IS NOT the car for sale just a photo of a 2006 Black Ford Fusion SE



Do you like to cook? Do you like to eat great food? Would you like to try new recipes and cuisines?

The SIGP Foodies group (Diana, Laura, Carolyn, Marya and Maddy) meets once a month, rotating at the home of that month's host member, with everyone providing a menu item that compliments the "theme" chosen by the hostess. This year we have enjoyed trying new food experiences from Eastern Europe and Italy, while also learning more about soups and stews, making homemade ravioli, preparing a very portable Mediterranean picnic and making an elegant yet comforting beef dinner in a crockpot. We are eagerly looking forward to our second year of culinary delights.

Even more importantly, Foodies provides an ongoing opportunity to en-

joy the fellowship of our SIGP members outside of our typical venues. We would like to extend this same opportunity to other members, particularly those new to our club. Ideally we would like to add 1-2 new members to Foodies. If you have any questions about our Foodies or are interested in joining us, please contact Maddy Jeffs at 509-551-1695.



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GUEST SPEAKERS

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Betty Cook Scott, MI State Rep
Stephanie Chang, MI State Rep
Tasha Green, Westland Council Candidate

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Tickets: Gen. Admission \$45/Two or more \$40 ON SALE NOW 313 402 4997 OR VISIT WWW.POSITIVESISTERS.COM



MIDWESTERN REGION 2017-2018

FOCUS - IMPORTANT DATES

** Use MWR dates for ALL awards – do not use SIA dates **

July 1 Club Celebrating Success Entries due to Vicky Hicks
July 1 2017-2018 Club Dues to SIA HQ with Club Officer info
July 1 2017-2018 Member & Club dues to MWR w/Club officer info

July 21-23 MWR Summer Board Meeting – Middlebury, IN

October 6-7 District I & III Meeting at Best Western – Hilton Garden Inn Chesterton, IN

October 20-21 District II & IV Meeting at Holiday Inn Express, Lima OH

November 15 Form 990 due to IRS

November 15 Live Your Dream Applications due to Clubs

December 2 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
December 10 Human Rights Day – SI President's Appeal

December 15 Club Live Your Dream Award Winner due to District Director

2018

January 11 National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness in US
January 15 Virginia Wagner Award Applications due to Club
January 15 District LYD Award Winners due to Region Chair

February 15 Virginia Wagner Club Award Winner due to District Director

February 15 Region LYD Winner info due to both SIA and Treasurer Valencia by Region Chair

March 1 Soroptimist Club Grant Applications due at SI HQ

March 8 International Women's Day

March 8 Virginia Wagner District Winners due to Region Chair

March 15 Award Report due from District Directors to Governor-Elect Kris

March 31 Region Virginia Wagner Award winners names to Region Treasurer Valencia by Re-

gion Chair

March 31 Governor's Club Award form due to Governor Vivian

April 27-29 2018 Spring Conference – Sheraton Conference Center – Lisle, IL

July 30-

August 2 SIA Convention – Yokohama, Japan