



# The Pointer

## Presidents' Message

### Nealmetria Loper Goes on to Win Region Award

*I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel. – Maya Angelou*



*SIGP members who attended the 2022 SI Midwestern Region Conference celebrate with District III LYD Awardee Nealmetria Loper. (L-R) Bette Lepouttre, Karrie Blankenship, Laurie Jost, Nealmetria Loper, Ellen Chapin, Laura McCourt, Mary Ellen Burke and Roseanne Horne.*

One of our club's Live Your Dream awardees, Nealmetria Loper, brought the audience to tears at our Awards Banquet in March. It wasn't just her life story that touched our hearts, but the fact that we made her feel she was a worthwhile person, deserving of our love and commitment. In turn, she made us feel that we had made a difference in someone's life.

She again touched the hearts of the Soroptimists who attended the Spring Conference when she accepted the Midwestern Region Live Your Dream award. While the monetary award will increase her ability to overcome financial challenges, even more significant to her is the feeling that she is a person of worth, that she is deserving of good things. That impact spreads as she fulfills her goal of reaching out to other women to help them in their own personal struggles.

The money she has won will be spent but the feelings of self-worth and love will remain within her heart as she touches the hearts of others.

— Marya Malkovich Rosenthal and Ellen Chapin

SIGP Co-presidents

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**  
**SIGP's next Business Meeting**  
**A Toast to Spring at 6:15**  
**Wednesday, May 11, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom**

## Business Meeting May 11, on Zoom, 6:30 (A Toast to Spring at 6:15 p.m.)

### Attendance is important for voting on new slate of officers

Please join us for the May 11 business meeting, since we will vote on the nominations for the 2022-2024 SIGP Board Members.

ARTICLE V. Section 2 — Nominations and Elections according to Bylaws The election shall be held at the May business meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be read again. Additional nominations may be made from the floor provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained. The election shall be by secret ballot if there are two or more nominees for any office.

#### Current Nominations:

**President** – Karrie Blankenship

**President Elect / Program Chair** – Bette Lepouttre

**Vice President / Membership Chair** – Diana Langlois

**Treasurer** – Ernesta Kurrle

**Assistant Treasurer / Fundraising Chair** – Mary Ellen Burke

**Secretary** – Mary Bryk

**Assistant Secretary / Public Awareness Chair** – Nancy Solak

**Directors** – Roseanne Horne, Kerri Green, Carolyn Barth (non-voting)

**Past President** – Marya Rosenthal

If you are interested in running for any of the Board positions,  
contact Kerri Green at: 586-651-9222 or jazzykerri@yahoo.com

Below are the duties of the SIGP Officers as stated in the current Procedures. Please note that both the Bylaws and Procedures of the Club are in the process of being updated and the duties of officers will be finalized in the near future.

ARTICLE IV. Officers — Officers according to Procedures. All officers are members of the Board. Duties of Officers.

**The president** shall: direct the conduct of the business of the Club, set meeting agendas for Club and Board meetings, preside at Club and Board meetings, oversee all committees, work closely with the President-Elect and Vice-President, be an ex-officio member of all committees, except nominating, sign all checks in the absence of the treasurer, appoint delegates from a list of District, Region, Federation, or International meetings, serve as the club delegate at District, Region, Federation, and International meetings, or appoint an alternate from a list of meeting attendees.

**The president-elect** agrees: to assume the office of president at the end of her two-year term, shall be responsible for program of service committees, shall have such duties and powers as they arise from membership on the board or as assigned by the president or the Board.

**The vice-president** shall: be responsible for membership activities, shall have such duties and powers as arise from membership on the Board or as assigned by the president or the Board.

**The secretary** shall: keep the minutes of the Club and the Board meetings, be custodian of the Club's permanent records, submit to the membership the minutes of the business meetings and the recommendations of the Board, submit to the Board the minutes of the Board meetings, send out notices and carry on such correspondence as does not properly belong to other officers.

**The assistant secretary** shall: maintain a log of attendance at Club business meetings, fulfill the responsibilities of the secretary in her absence, perform any other duties assigned by the president or the secretary, be responsible for overseeing public awareness.

**The treasurer** shall: receive all funds of the Club and deposit them in financial institutions authorized by the Board, sign all checks or arrange for the president to do so, make remittances as required by Federation Bylaws and Procedures, prepare monthly Treasurer's Reports for each of the Club funds, serve as ex-officio member of the Finance/Budget Committee, have the authority to define and supervise committee procedures as they relate to the finances of the club.

**The assistant treasurer** shall be responsible for overseeing fund raising, maintain a roll of membership (directory), prepare and send acknowledgements for donations from non-members, assume the responsi-

*(Continued on next page)*

Business Meeting *continued from previous page*

bilities of the treasurer in her absence, serve as ex-officio member of the finance/budget committee, perform any other duties assigned by the president or the treasurer.

**The directors** (2) shall: be a SIGP member for 2 years, attend all board meetings as a voting member, assist the board with her knowledge and opinions.

**The past president(s)** shall: serve as the Awards Chair, oversee the LYD Award Chair, the Virginia Wagner Education Award Chair, the Ruby Award Chair, the Continuing Education Award Chair, and the Awardee Associate Program, plan the Awards Banquet, attend all board meetings as a voting member, assist the board with her knowledge and opinions.

**Thank you to the Nominating Committee:  
Kerri Green, Diana Langlois, and Ross Braun**



**SOROPTIMIST®**  
**Investing in Dreams**

## Dues Invoice

**Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe**  
*Investing in Dreams*

**JUNE 1, 2022**

32 Lake Shore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236  
grossepointesoroptimist@gmail.com

TO Member Name:

Member Phone Number:



SIGP DUES	NEW MEMBER ONE TIME FEE	PAYMENT TERMS	DUE DATE
\$125.00	\$25.00	Due on receipt	June 8, 2022



DISTRIBUTION	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	LINE TOTAL
	Soroptimist International of the Americas--Federation		
	SIA dues	74.00	74.00
	per capita payment to Soroptimist International	9.00	9.00
	Club liability insurance	9.00	9.00
	Founders' pennies	6.12	6.12
	Soroptimist International of the Midwestern Region	15.00	15.00
	Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe	11.88	11.88
		SUBTOTAL	125.00
		NEW MEMBER FEE	
		TOTAL	

**OUR VISION:** Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams.

**OUR MISSION:** Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

## Spring Conference: First-time SIGP attendees give you a front-row seat at the theatre-themed weekend

SIGP was well represented at Midwestern Spring Conference in Akron, Ohio, April 22-24, 2022. Seven members, along with our Live Your Dream winner Nealmetria Loper, enjoyed a weekend of friendship, informative speakers, awards, prizes, beautiful weather, and good food too!

Soroptimist International President Maureen Maguire, from Ireland, was the keynote speaker, opening the conference on Friday evening. She shared her 2021-2023 President's International Appeal of "Opening Doors to a Bright Future." Each of the five Soroptimist Federations will have an Appeal project focusing on providing tangible benefits to marginalized and disadvantaged women and girls through educational, mentoring, and service programs. The first project has begun in Cambodia which is part of the South West Pacific Federation. Each year, our SIGP holiday raffle supports the President's Appeal.

The Business Meeting on Saturday morning opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by SIGP member and retired USAF Colonel Mary Ellen Burke. Another SIGP member, Midwestern Region Membership Chair Roseanne Horne (pictured below) presented the membership report. She stated that through the pandemic, the Region has retained 592 members in 25 Clubs, with 18 of the 25 at an 85% or higher retention rate.



At the conclusion of the business portion of the meeting, members attended workshops of their choice on Women's Health, Human Trafficking, Leadership, Finance, Membership Retention, or Technology.

SIGP members Laurie Jost and Karrie Blankenship presented the *Insights on Human Trafficking 2021* documentary, and Roseanne Horne led the Membership Retention workshop along with District representatives to answer questions and share ideas on membership.

SIA's Dream Big campaign was presented by past Midwestern Region Governors. This is an ambitious goal of raising \$15 million by 2031 to impact the lives of half a million women and girls, four times the number that are currently reached. The Dream programs will be funded and sustained, giving women and girls access to education, training and career support to transform their lives.

The Awards Luncheon celebrated the determination and resilience of the Live Your Dream and Virginia Wagner awardees. Nealmetria Loper brought the audience to tears with her heartfelt story of courage and perseverance to move forward in her life to be a role model and advocate for other struggling women. She accepted the first place Midwestern Region Live Your Dream award and will now be entered into the Federation judging.

*Spring Conference continued on next page*



## SPRING CONFERENCE *(continued from previous page)*

The awards continued! SIGP won the Public Awareness Celebrating Success award for the National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month Interviews. These interviews were procured and compiled by SIGP members Laurie Jost and Karrie Blankenship.

Next came the Midwestern Region Governor's Award giving SIGP an "Excellent" rating, and finally the theatre-themed award for "best screenplay" went to our spectacular Club newsletter, *The Pointer*.

The evening concluded with a competitive trivia game with SIGP almost taking first place!

Sunday morning began with the Celebration of Life honoring Soroptimists who passed away. Two SIGP members were included: Cathie Baldwin and Dolores Goodger.

Freda Powell, an SIA director, from Amarillo, TX, spoke on SIA's work and commitment to the Dream Big campaign and complimented the Midwestern Region on their work to support women and girls.



*SIGP members Laurie Jost and Karrie Blankenship hold the Celebrating Success certificate they helped earn for SI Grosse Pointe.*

Maureen Maguire invited everyone to Dublin, Ireland, in 2023, for the Soroptimist International Conference.

Finally, the eagerly awaited raffle for baskets was held. SIGP member Mary Ellen Burke was the only SIGP lucky winner, winning two baskets!

The Soroptimist Pledge was recited, and Spring Conference 2022 officially ended.



*— Ellen Chapin, SIGP Co-president*

*Summaries from first-time attendees on next page*

FIRST-TIMERS AT SPRING CONFERENCE *(continued from previous page)*

**From: Laurie Jost**

As a first-time attendee of a Soroptimist International Midwestern Conference, I was most impressed by the dedication and professionalism of the members who take an active role and responsibility to support women and girls. Every woman attending (117) was there to advocate for women and those less fortunate. Every woman in attendance has given her time, energy, and heart freely to make a difference for women. In every encounter, the power and hope emanating from all in attendance offered a great reminder that our world is abundantly blessed with good people doing good things.

A definite highlight was witnessing Nealmetria Loper shine and receive the Midwestern Region Live Your Dream Award. Her story, bravery, and gratitude left no eye dry in the room. Nealmetria is an inspiration in her own right. Many groups and individuals received awards and recognition for outstanding accomplishments; SIGP received its fair share. The weekend included networking and educational opportunities interspersed with fun and good food. I will not hesitate to attend again. My only regret was missing the outdoor sunshine and warm weather.



**From: Bette Lepouttre**

My first Regional Conference was an outstanding one. I had a chance to put names and faces together, laugh, learn and celebrate. Kudos to those who were challenged to plan, organize, and complete a conference.

It was humbling to stand with our Live Your Dream winner Nealmetria Loper as she accepted the LYD Regional Award. She is an inspiration and motivator to keep us on the path to help women and girls! Awesome conference!

*At left, Bette and Nealmetria's smiles tell it all. By the way, during the theatre-themed conference, Nealmetria won "Best Costume"!*

**From: Nealmetria Loper**

I had such an amazing time at the conference last weekend. Learning in real time the work Soroptimist International does was eye opening. I saw how much other women need help so desperately and how you all answer that call. Hearing the stories of how they are impacted by you

all and literally brought back to life in their spirits was amazing and touching. It made me reflect on how much more I need to do to help women as well. It made me proud to be invited to something like this. It was an honor to be in the presence of all the women who gave me encouragement and wisdom on those days! The conference was so well planned and thought out. No group felt left out of the awards or recognition for all their hard work. Of course, I was rooting so hard for Grosse Point Soroptimist one hundred percent! The food was amazing because I have never sat down for a formal dinner or wore a formal dress. On that night I got the opportunity to look like who I am on the inside. I'm so thankful for the experience and all the love and learning through the breakout sessions because the work must continue. To do that it was good to have some teaching moments as well. To build relationships with all the women I didn't know until now felt like I had always known them. That's how welcomed and loved I felt at the conference. Thank you so much for igniting a fire and desire inside me to go even harder for my dreams and aspirations for myself and my children. Thank you!

*(More Spring Conference on next page)*



SPRING CONFERENCE (continued from previous page)

## Celebrating Success! That's what the Region Conference Is all about

Soroptimists Celebrating Success Awards recognize outstanding club projects that improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment or promotes Soroptimist as an organization that improves the lives of women and girls. These awards recognize the best practices of Soroptimist clubs in each of the four pillar areas supporting the SIA strategic plan: fundraising, membership, program and public awareness. The Soroptimist Celebrating Success Award honors outstanding programs undertaken in that club year.

The 2021 award for Public Awareness was presented to SIGP for their National Slavery & Human Trafficking Awareness Month Interviews. SIGP members Karrie Blankenship and Laurie Jost accepted the award.

*At the screen, SIGP members Laurie Jost and Karrie Blankenship and Bev Todd (seated) from SI Greater Macomb .*



*Two of three SIGP members who received a yellow rose for being members of the Laurel Society: Roseanne Horne and Mary Ellen Burke. Not pictured: Bette Lepouttre.*



*The basket SIGP members put together to bring and raffle off at the Spring Conference.*

*More Spring Conference photos on next page*

## SPRING CONFERENCE continued from previous page



*All these SIGP members won a purse + other goodies either in the SI Midwestern Raffle or at the Spring Conference. (L-R) Roseanne Horne, Ellen Chapin, Diana Langlois and Nancy Solak. Yes, Ellen found a \$100 bill in her purse. Nancy won a copy of Read My Pins, by Madeline Albright.*



*Lavina Hutchinson*

## Correction

In the April edition of *The Pointer*, Lavina Hutchinson, pictured here, was mis-identified as a recent recipient of the Continuing Education Award.

In fact, Lavina received the Virginia Wagner Educational Award at our club's 2022 Awards Banquet. The award honors a woman who is enrolled in a university degree program and shows effort toward a scholarship and has financial need.

Lavina will use the award to assist her with tuition costs in the RN-BSN program at Oakland University. In 2020, she won SIGP's Live Your Dream Award. At that time, she was completing an associate degree in science at Macomb Community College.

Then, in 2021, she received SIGP's \$500 Continuing Education Award as she entered Oakland University. Her goal is to become a nurse practitioner. SIGP plans to mentor her through that journey to graduation.

In addition to these accomplishments, Lavina became the primary support of her two younger half-sisters at an early age. She took on the role of mother so her sisters wouldn't have to struggle as hard as she did. They are now on their own, having benefited from an outstanding role model.



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Ellen Chapin and  
Marya Malkovich Rosenthal  
*Co-Presidents*

Karrie Blankenship  
*President Elect*

Laura McCourt  
*Vice President  
Membership*

Aleksa Andjelkovic  
*Past President*

Mary Ellen Burke  
*Treasurer*

Bette Lepouttre  
*Assistant Treasurer  
Fundraising*

Maureen Anthony  
*Secretary*

Diana Langlois  
*Assistant Secretary  
Public Awareness*

Carolyn Barth  
*Director  
Grant Coordinator*

Madeline Colavito  
*Director*

Nancy Solak  
*Director*

## **PI Cooking Class - You Can Help!**

A cooking class is scheduled for the women at Positive Images (PI) on Thursday, May 19. Our goal is to demonstrate that nutritious food does not have to involve a lot of preparation. Just like the "magic of television," assembly of ingredients will be shown, followed by tasting the finished dish (prepared in advance). SIGP will donate both air fryers and crockpots to PI as part of our Wilson Grant, encouraging clients to utilize both of these time-saving appliances with the goal of eating better during their recovery.

You can help by donating:

- ◆ A favorite EASY crockpot or air fryer recipe to Laura at: [lauraleecook@yahoo.com](mailto:lauraleecook@yahoo.com) by May 15. We will assemble your ideas and provide each client with an original "cookbook."
- ◆ A new or gently used crockpot or air fryer.
- ◆ Clean, reusable plastic storage containers.
- ◆ Like-new or new aprons as part of our "improve your cooking" initiative.

In addition to the cooking demonstration, we will encourage clients to "eat a serving," "freeze a serving," and "trade a serving" of their dish with a friend.

Donations can be dropped off in Ellen Chapin's white box, located next to her garage at 1003 Harvard, GPP.

## **A TOAST TO SPRING...**

Join us at 6:15, just before our May 11 Business Meeting for a brief social (quarter) hour. Bring your favorite cocktail, or mock tail, wear something that makes you feel like we have turned the corner on winter, and enjoy a bit of conviviality before we get underway. The meeting will be on Zoom unless the weather is guaranteed to be good. In that case, you will be notified by email. More likely it will be via Zoom. You will receive the link the day of the meeting.

## **A Stroll and Dinner on the Riverwalk**

Elena Nuno, the Detroit Riverwalk Conservancy representative who gave us an interesting presentation on this award-winning development, will lead us on a walk along the Detroit River followed by dinner at a venue of your choice. Scheduling is in progress and guests are welcome. Details will follow as soon as a June date is finalized.

— Laura McCourt  
*Vice President/Membership Chair*

## OUR GHANA GIRLS

*A new volunteer, a new headmistress, and area fires worsened by global climate change*

SIGP member Carol Hofer writes: Dear SIGP sisters,

We have a new volunteer and a new headmistress (Mary Assumpta) of St. Anne Girls Senior High School (SAGISS) in Damongo, Savannah Region, Ghana, where we support seven students seeking education to change their lives and the lives of their communities. One of our girls wrote a note of thanks for our support. (See next page.) Although addressed to me as “Mummy Carol” it’s meant for the generous members of SIGP.



Karen Hunka, a volunteer from Pennsylvania and a resident of Damongo for the past four years, is now serving as bursar. At left she is shown wearing a mask with several of our students and the new headmistress, Mary Assumpta.

Karen, who lives with our students, writes how climate change is affecting the school and the lives of our students. Perhaps you have heard that poor countries suffer the brunt of this global phenomenon even though they contribute

little to the cause. Extreme drought, winds, floods, and more can leave devastation among those least able to cope. Karen says, “There are two seasons in this region of Ghana, the dry season and the rainy season. The dry season is just that; HOT and dry! There is no vegetation, and everything is brown.

“It is not uncommon to have bush fires at this time of year. Several have come very close to my bungalow. The girls here at St. Anne’s Girls’ Sr. High School where I live are used to battling the flames, one bucket of water at a time. At first, I ran in the other direction when the blazing flames were approaching. Now I help fill buckets.



*Continued on next page*

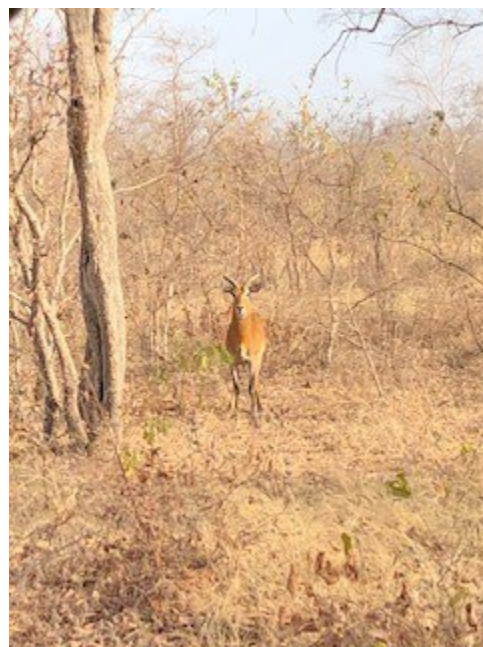
## OUR GHANA GIRLS *(continued from previous page)*

"The rainy season has just begun. It is beginning to look more like a jungle than a desert. It is amazing how quickly brown turns to green.

"While fire destroys the environment during the dry season, rains and wind will take a toll during this season. This year's rains and wind have caused immense damage not typical for this area. Roofs have been blown off homes and shops, and floods have washed away entire dwellings. Here at St. Anne's, several sections of the wall surrounding our compound have been washed away.

"Climate change is occurring here as it is all around the world. The changes can be devastating not only to the environment but also to the health of those already marginalized. Flooding increases cases of malaria and cholera. A decrease in the water supply due to an extraordinary dry season, which we had in Damongo last year, increases the incidence of guinea worms, and an increase in temperature causes more cases of cerebrospinal meningitis. Unfortunately, these are just a few examples of how climate change can affect the health of those I live amongst. Living in this part of the world makes me realize more than ever how important it is for us to slow down the global warming that our way of living in excess has caused."

**Carol Hofer:** Perhaps some of our students will study ways to beat the challenges of global climate change. That's what education, curiosity, hard work and good hearts can do for our world, make it a better place



## A letter of gratitude from one of St. Anne's students

Dear Mummy Carol,

I am very glad to write you this letter. I hope you are doing well. By the grace of our almighty Lord I am doing well. I am very glad for you (**AND THE WOMEN OF SOROPTIMIST**) accepting to make it possible for me to study in St. Anne's Girls Senior High School to further my education. You have been paying my school fees for three years now, and I am very glad for that. I pray you live long to continue to give help to the needy. May God guide and Protect you. Yours Faithfully, Bigra Prudence Npaa-Imwin

## Happy May Birthday to:

Mary Bryk, May 07

Mary Clare Toffanetti, May 08

Amanda Be, May 10

Toni Adams, May 16

Ross Braun, May 25



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# SOROPTIMISTS FOR JERITHA

National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM)

Kidney Walk at the Detroit Zoo, Sunday, May 15, 2022

***“There is little we can do physically for Jeritha but perhaps increasing our awareness of kidney disease and the need for donor kidneys may save someone’s life.”***

## Registration

Anyone wishing to participate in the Detroit Zoo Kidney Walk, regardless of age, must register online at [www.kidneywalk.org/detroitzoo](http://www.kidneywalk.org/detroitzoo).

Please register as part of our team (**Soroptimists for Jeritha**). Maddy Colavito has registered as our Team Captain and includes our past LYD recipient, Jeritha Brown, her family and friends.

If you already registered but not as a member of our team, please consider joining us by calling Karen Miller at NKFM (734-222-9800).

The deadline to register is Wednesday, May 11.

Anyone who would prefer to support our efforts by volunteering to help out during the event should call Sharon Hardin, 734-765-6188 or 734-222-9800. Your volunteerism will be counted toward our team’s total contribution.

## Financial Support

Although most of us would enjoy the Zoo walk in and of itself, let’s face it, The Kidney Walk is the primary NKFM fundraiser that directly supports the more than one million adults in Michigan, like Jeritha, with kidney disease and educates thousands of children to prevent kidney disease.

To offset the cost of the zoo admission ticket, parking voucher and entertainment, the NKFM has set a minimum donation of \$50 for each walker over the age of 12 and \$15 for all walkers 3-12 years old. Walkers 2 and under are free. I am respectfully asking each person who is joining us or wanting to support Jeritha in her fight to hopefully receive another donor kidney, to give a donation that at least covers the cost of each participant.

Those unable to attend the Walk in-person at the Detroit Zoo are still encouraged to register, fundraise, and participate in the Michigan Virtual Walk program.

Anyone wishing to support the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan’s programs and services and to band together in supporting Jeritha may donate without participating in the Zoo Walk.

Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Unless otherwise specified, donations of \$50 or more will receive an acknowledgment letter.

## Pledge and Fundraising Collections

Credit card donations are preferable and can be made at [www.kidneywalk.org/detroitzoo](http://www.kidneywalk.org/detroitzoo) even after registration has closed (May 11) but bring a copy of any late donations when you check in at the Kidney Walk so you get credit for these donations.

Checks should be made payable to the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM) and turned in to Team Captain and SIGP member Maddy Colavito no later than April 29, to ensure that Maddy can get your admission tickets and T-shirt vouchers prior to Walk day. Doing this will also eliminate the need to register at the Zoo the morning of the Walk.

If you miss the registration deadline you will need to visit the Day-of-Registration tent to present your donations, get your Zoo admission and parking tokens and, if applicable, the Kidney Walk T-shirt voucher.

Each team member who individually raises \$100 or more will be eligible for prizes including a Kidney Walk T-shirt. Those raising \$250 or more will be eligible for other prizes depending on the level they achieve. Walk T-shirts will be available for pickup on the day of the Walk.

*Continued on next page*

## SOROPTIMISTS FOR JERITHA (*continued from previous page*)

### Event Details

Check in begins at 7:00 a.m. and the Walk festivities begin at 7:30 a.m.

The Kidney Walk will commence, rain or shine.

The Walk is approximately 1 mile in length and is a marked, non-competitive route.

Routes will be clearly marked with signs. In some cases, maps are available on Walk Day.

Restrooms are located throughout the Zoo.

Food and drinks will be available for NKFM donors as well as dialysis-friendly food in the Champions Tent. The Zoo will also have a variety of snacks and beverages available for purchase.

Strollers are allowed but unfortunately the only dogs allowed are service dogs.

Walkers as well as NKFM staff may take photos and videos. By attending this event, you are consenting for them to use photos and videos you may appear in.

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY to you and the women of Positive Images!



Each year, SIGP prepares 50 Mother's Day baskets for the women of Positive Images.

Each basket contains a gift-wrapped set of jewelry (bracelet, necklace and earrings), a mug, journal, pen, small lotion, a women's magazine, cosmetic bag, flower, toothpaste, toothbrush and this year, a card (see photo bottom right) designed by SIGP member Dorothy Wasinger.



At left are SIGP members Mary Ellen Burke and Diana Langlois.

At right are SIGP members Maureen Anthony and Karrie Blankenship.

The photo at the left shows a portion of the filled baskets on a table ready to be wrapped in cellophane and delivered to PI.



## Your chance to attend the 2022 SIA Convention virtually!



Today, we invite a delegate from each club and all other members, to join us at SIA's Virtual 47th Biennial Convention as we look ahead and dream of our brilliant future!

**July 22 & 23, 2022**  
**6:00-10:30pm EDT**  
**Interpretation Provided**

**Mark your calendars and register today!**

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

There is so much to share about this unique event! Please see our [Call to Convention](#) for more exciting information. Included is a preliminary schedule of events to help you plan for the events.

On behalf of the SIA Board of Directors, we look forward to welcoming you to this exciting event. The dreams of our brilliant future can't happen without you!





**When:** Monday, May 2, 2022

**Time:** 2:45 p.m. (movie starts **promptly** at 3:00 p.m.)

**Where:** Okulski Family Theater at the Lavins Activity Center- Windmill Pointe  
Park-Grosse Pointe Park

**Movie: *Something the Lord Made*.** This biographical film is about the Black cardiac pioneer, Vivien Thomas (1910-1985) and his complex and volatile partnership with white surgeon, Alfred Blalock (1899-1964), who pioneered modern heart surgery. This bittersweet true story is an important tool for dialogue as America continues to search for a public vocabulary to discuss issues of race.

**Cost:** \$15.00 (pre-paid by following the instructions and completing the form below). **There will be no collections at the door and therefore no walk-ins will be honored.**

**Masking is encouraged and social distancing at your discretion.**

This is a fundraising event. Bring a friend and support the American Association of University Women Grosse Pointe Branch for an afternoon of friendship and camaraderie.

**RSVP deadline: Thursday, April 28, 2022**

**Please return the form below with your payment. Proceeds will benefit our STEM Program and the AAUW Scholarships.**

Make checks payable to *AAUW GP Education Program* and send to:  
Barbara Tecos, 1237 Balfour, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230, (313) 882-1081

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Total # attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of those attending \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## District III Emails

Interim Governor – **Christine Fowler Shearer**  
(fowlerartistic@gmail.com)  
Region Secretary - **Sheila Zingler-Gilbert** - (sheilasifdl@gmail.com)  
Treasurer - **Audrey Jarvey** - (audreyjarv@charter.net)  
District III Director - **Kellie Klingel** (ktingel@yahoo.com)  
District III Secretary - **Patricia Cavell** (bsktpac@comcast.net)

## Soroptimist Websites

Soroptimist International Midwestern Region - ([simwr.org](http://simwr.org))  
Soroptimist International of the Americas ([soroptimist.org](http://soroptimist.org))  
Soroptimist International ([soroptimistinternational.org](http://soroptimistinternational.org))  
Soroptimist International of the Americas -  
([soroptimist.org/about-us/contact-us/index.html](http://soroptimist.org/about-us/contact-us/index.html))  
For upcoming SIGP events and information, click the link  
<https://www.grossepointesoroptimist.org/>

## 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.



## The Who's Who of SIGP's PUBLIC AWARENESS COMMITTEES

Submit photos, club information, news, upcoming events and dates to this e-mail so the information can  
be accessed by all public awareness chairs: [socialmediasigp@gmail.com](mailto:socialmediasigp@gmail.com)

WEBSITE: grossepointesoroptimist.net ..... Karrie Blankenship  
or <https://www.grossepointesoroptimist.net/calendar-of-events.html> for calendar

INSTAGRAM: soroptimistgp ..... Anne Schwartz

E-MAIL: [grossepointesoroptimist@gmail.com](mailto:grossepointesoroptimist@gmail.com) ..... Anne Schwartz

### SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS:

FACEBOOK and facebook.com/soroptimistgrossepointe ..... Anne Schwartz

NEWSLETTER: THE POINTER is on the website and  
is emailed to members ..... Nancy Solak

MEDIA: Newspaper articles, radio PSAs, etc. .... Diana Langlois

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# SIGP Member Ads

## A SIGP Member Has a Special Deal for You!

Due to the virus and surgery on my hand, I have been off of work many weeks off and on. Now I am back and ready to help you with YOUR aches and pains. I am an independent massage therapist. Independent means no staff, no major company to hire me. I am on my own. So you'll know that you get all my time. No time taken off for you to get on and off the table like the chain companies do. I have 20 years' experience with knowledge of many modalities. I blend many options within your time with me.

My office is in a private, quiet location above WOW Gym (Women's Only Workout), 22601 Greater Mack Ave, SCS. It's across from Tropical Smoothie Cafe, corner of Elizabeth, opposite corner of SCS CVS. My special for any Soroptimist member is 70 minutes for \$60; 90 minutes for \$90.

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Sincerely, Rosanne Morrow at 313-205-7117

*Rasheda Kamaria Williams*  
Mentoring consultant, speaker, author

Rasheda is an award-winning mentor, speaker and founder/chief empowering officer for Empowered Flower Girl. She empowers youth and youth advocates to live above life's drama to make a powerful difference.

Learn about Empowered Flower Girl's engaging and empowering programs for youth and adults, including Girl World Peace Academy - a new virtual course for educators, counselors, mentors and afterschool program professionals.

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**SIGP members are welcome to place ads here at no cost.**

**To place an ad, contact *The Pointer* editor, Nancy Solak, at  
[solaksinitaly@yahoo.com](mailto:solaksinitaly@yahoo.com)**