

# The Pointer

*Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe*

## President's Message

Dear SIGP Members,

We are ready to begin a new and exciting year or two! Roseanne and I have met and mapped out a mode of operation for our co-presidency of this great club. We are honored and humbled that we are in this position and we hope to do our best. For the most part, we will be sharing the responsibilities and alternating our duties publicly. As members, you will continue to have enthusiastic leadership! Please do not hesitate to call on either of us (or both!) to let us know how we are doing. Our success is measured by the satisfaction and positive energy you feel for our club.

We have great news to share about recent events. The SSS at Roseanne's house in early June was very successful and made over \$3,000 in 3 days! Over 20 members helped and/or donated to the sale and we thank all of you. We could not have such success without the contributions of all of our members.

We received notice from SIA a couple weeks ago that our Ghana Grant was awarded \$6,000! We are able to continue to educate all our girls and perhaps, see them graduate! We are so thankful for all those who worked on the Grant application and we are over the moon with our success to get this grant! To be able to offer an education, even for a short time, to a young lady in Africa, is so wonderful!

Looking ahead to July:

Our old and new board will meet at Jane Evola's home on July 6 for our board meeting.

Diana Langlois has invited members to a Day on the Lake in Lexington on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

Roseanne will attend the SIA Convention at Disney World from July 20-23. She is still collecting cash donations for "Keeping Our Girls in School" and will purchase items while in Florida. Please help out, if you can.

Finally, a Garden Tea Party at Michelle Straight's beautiful home is scheduled on July 31, from 1-5 pm. Details will follow! This will be a fabulous opportunity for all our members to invite a guest or two who might consider

"MemberShip" in our amazing club!



**Co-President Roseanne Horne and Ross Braun at installation - Our new Captains**



July 2016 Edition

### **Birthday's**

**Aleksa Andjelkovic 7/08**  
**Rasheda Kamaria 7/15**  
**Jane Lightfoot 7/19**  
**Rosanne Morrow 7/23**  
**Catherine Baldwin 7/24**  
**Mary Ellen Burke 7/27**  
**Jane Evola 7/30**

### **Dates to Remember**

- 07/31 Garden Tea Party ~ Michelle Straits home ~ 1pm-5pm

### **District Meetings**

- District 1 & 3  
9/30 - 10/1 ~ Best Western Plus ~ La Porte, IN
- Districts 2 & 4  
10/14 & 15 ~ Deer Creek State Park & Lodge ~ Mt. Sterling, OH
- 2017 Spring Conference
- 04/21, 22 & 23  
Kalahari Resort & Conventions Center, Sandusky, OH

# MemberSHIP

INSTALLATION OF THE NEW  
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF GROSSE POINTE  
OFFICIAL BOARD for 2016-2018

CO-PRESIDENTS: Roseanne Horne and Ross Braun

PRESIDENT-ELECT: Aleksa Andjelkovic

VICE PRESIDENT: Phyllis Darden

PAST PRESIDENT: Mary Ellen Burke

TREASURER: Kerri Green

ASSISTANT TREASURER: Jane Evola

SECRETARY: Ellen Chapin (not pictured)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Nancy Solak

DIRECTOR: Myra Golden

DIRECTOR: Marya Malkovich (not pictured)



# MemberSHIP

You're invited to join  
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF GROSSE POINTE  
for a  
Garden Tea Party!

SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2016

Drop in any time between 1:00 and 5:00pm  
to enjoy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments



At the Home of:  
Michelle Strait  
1457 Seminole  
Detroit, MI 48214

Cost is \$25 per person  
Guests are welcome!

Limited capacity, so please RSVP in advance to Kerri Green (586) 651-9222 or  
[jazzykerri@yahoo.com](mailto:jazzykerri@yahoo.com)

# Program & Service

The Mother's Day bags were very much appreciated by the women and here are a few Thank You's from them. (these are unedited)

Thank you for everything. You are greatly appreciated. You have a wonderful program....My name is Gilda and I'd like to say thank you very much for the bag I've received upon coming 2 Positive Images Recovery Program. I appreciate all the items I received in my bag. Thank you very much....the gift made my mother's day it lifted my spirits may God Bless you always....Thanks so much this actually the only thing that I got from anyone. I am very happy to say thank you you made my day my mother's day.... Thank You so much 4 the thought you are Wonderful Woman!! Make god Bless You, Ms.Unique!!....



We can always use more jewelry (necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and/or pins) and jewelry boxes since each woman gets a wrapped gift of jewelry.

Thank you everyone who has donated these items and please keep the women of PI in mind before you toss these item in a drawer. We collect items all year round.

**MARY ELLEN  
BURKE**  
meb650@aol.com



## MOTHER'S DAY ITEMS

**Mugs**  
**Cosmetic Bags**  
**Tote bags**  
**Oprah magazines**  
**Key Chains**  
**Nail polish**  
**Toothbrushes**  
**Toothpaste (sample)**  
**Dental Floss**  
**Mouthwash**  
**Scarf's**





# Ghana Grant for 2016



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan "Sam" Collier Buchenau  
President

RoseMary Reid  
President-elect

Sue Riney  
Secretary/Treasurer

Beverly Bucur

Elizabeth DiGeronimo

Yoko Ichigatani

Meen Seon Kim

Dana Martin

Virginia "Gigie" Peñalosa

Wanda Price

Donna Ronca

Eriko Shinojima

Mariza Soares de Azevedo

Ryoko Yasukawa

Dona Gaddis Wolf

Elizabeth M. Lucas,  
CAE, MBA  
Executive Director  
and CEO



## Soroptimist International of the Americas

an international volunteer organization for women

June 13, 2016

Roseanne Horne  
1247 Elford Ct  
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236-2346  
USA

Dear President Roseanne,

Congratulations to you and SI/Grosse Pointe! Your club has been selected to receive a 2016-2017 Soroptimist Club Grant for Women and Girls in the amount of USD\$6000 to be used to support the Empowering Ghana Girls Through Education project. Your Soroptimist Club Grant is made possible by the generous donations of clubs and members.

This is a particularly great honor since we received 64 proposals this year requesting nearly USD\$390,367 in funding. A task force made up of SIA Region Program Chairs reviewed proposals and recommended funding levels. Upon review, 29 projects were awarded a total of USD\$120,000. Your club's proposal demonstrated an exemplary effort to improve the lives of women and/or girls and was therefore selected for an award.

The next step in securing the grant is to submit the requested additions and/or changes to the proposal and/or budget (please see the attached note). Please revise accordingly and submit to SIA headquarters along with the enclosed contract.

This contract is particularly important, as it documents your club's agreement with your federation. Your club is responsible for the use of funds as described in the project budget, and for meeting all reporting requirements. Please email, mail or fax the contract to the attention of the Program Department at SIA headquarters by June 27, 2016. Funds will not be released until the signed contract is returned to your headquarters office.

Again, congratulations on being awarded a Soroptimist Club Grant for Women and Girls! We wish you every success with your project.

Sincerely,

Susan "Sam" Collier Buchenau  
President

Cc: Midwestern Region Governor Vicky Hicks  
Executive Director and CEO Elizabeth Lucas  
Senior Director of Program Services Lori Blair

Here are a few words from the young women we are helping in Ghana..

LAWEH SANDRA Education as they say is the key to success and if anybody wants to be successful one must be educated. When I came to St. Anne's Girls Senior High School, I never had the courage and the enthusiasm to make it in life, but through education I'm able to do certain things I never thought I could do. When I came to SAGISS as such Learning, Moral and Social training is what we also gain while staying on Campus.

...I can boldly say after I complete S.H.S. (Senior High School) that I can search for a job....I would be able to do something on my own to help others since others are taking care of me why would I not also help others.

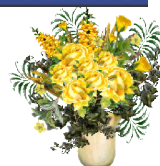
DITUNGMA BENEDICTA This year of education will make me more hardworking towards my books in order to achieve my aim at the end....my teachers and parents most especially my mother advised me a lot on how to manage with my time and engage myself in studying my books and also how to concentrate in class...

TENGBIL CATHERINEI would like to thank you whoever that is sponsoring for my education. May the Good Lord richly bless you....for through you, I have a chance to be in school this year, which has and is going to make a great positive change in my life. THANK YOU SOOO!! MUCH!!

1709 Spruce Street | Philadelphia, PA 19103-6103 | phone: 215.893.9000 | fax: 215.893.5200 | email: siahq@soroptimist.org | Soroptimist.org | LiveYourDream.org

Women and girls will have access to essential economic opportunities and live their dreams.

Improving the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.



## Health & Hospitality



Mary Bryk's mother passed away and the family service was last week. Please keep Mary and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Also remember to keep Ann Cunningham and Cathie Baldwin in your positive thoughts as they continue to recover from their illnesses.

## Girlfriends by Melody Morgan

*As we chart new paths, begin a new journey, or even face life's decisions on our current path, it becomes so very clear that our circle wraps it's loving arms around us tighter and tighter. Those who are closest to us, almost instinctively know just what we need. I have noticed this everyday in my new walk. It is a fabulous feeling, just knowing that you have the love and support of those you hold dear to your heart. How do they become so dear to us? The experiences they have weathered with us creates that. I am so very blessed to have that circle around me. This circle can be comprised of both female and male but I can tell you, the women are the most precious.*

*Women need other women. They always do. It is a special bond. It is like no other. Our circle, our posse, our tribe, our girlfriends. They become more and more important as we grow older. As time and nature work their changes and their mysteries upon a woman, girlfriends are the mainstays of our life.*

*After almost 50 years of living in this world, here is what I have learned:*

*Time passes.*

*Life happens.*

*Distance separates.*

*Children grow up.*

*Love waxes and wanes.*

*Hearts break.*

*Careers end.*

*Jobs come and go.*

*Parents die.*

*Colleagues forget favors.*

*Men don't call when they say they will.*

*BUT, girlfriends are there, no matter how much time and how many miles are between you. A girlfriend is never farther away than needing her can reach. When you have to walk that lonesome valley and you have to walk it for yourself, your girlfriends will be on the valley's rim, cheering you on, praying for you, pulling for you, intervening on your behalf, and waiting with open arms at the valley's end. Sometimes, they will even break the rules and walk beside you. Or come in and carry you out. My friends bless my life! The world wouldn't be the same without them, and neither would I.*

*When we began this adventure called womanhood, we had no idea of the incredible joys or sorrows that lay ahead. Nor did we know how much we would need each other. Every day, we need each other still.*

*My heart overflows with the joy and happiness my circle brings to me. I am forever grateful that God has blessed me with the incredible women in my circle! I truly could not do it alone!*

*Much love to all,*



## In The News

### CONGRATULATIONS Marina Houghton! A Grosse Pointe Soroptimist member since 2006.



#### **Marina Houghton Honored as One of Michigan's Most Influential Women**

*Crain's Detroit Business Selects Baker Tilly's Houghton for Her Leadership, Commitment and Dedication to the Community*

Southfield, Mich.– Marina Houghton, Michigan managing partner for Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, has been chosen as one of the 100 most influential women by *Crain's Detroit Business*. Ms. Houghton was the founder and president of Wolinski & Company, CPA. P.C. for 24 years before her firm merged with Baker Tilly in June 2015. Ms. Houghton is one of 100 women chosen from Michigan.

"We selected Marina because she is a proven leader who drives key decisions in industries, companies, academia and in civic and policy organizations," said Mary Kramer, publisher of *Crain's Detroit Business*.

Ms. Houghton was named one of the "Top 40 under 40" by *Crain's* in 2002. In 2003, she received Wayne State University's "Emerging Corporate Leader Award" and was a finalist for the Eastern Michigan 2003 Ernst & Young "Entrepreneur of the Year" award.

Ms. Houghton specializes in providing accounting and consulting services to governmental, healthcare, manufacturing and nonprofit organizations. She is responsible for client service and firm administrative matters involving business planning, contract negotiations, employee development and policy administration.

She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, the Healthcare Financial Management Association where she is a past president, the Government Finance Officers Association, the Michigan Municipal Finance Officers Association, the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts and the National Association of Professional Women.

She is treasurer of the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education and serves on the Wayne State University School of Business Board of Visitors. She also serves as a board member of the Detroit Zoological Society and an audit committee member for Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation.

Marina is a graduate of Wayne State University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and has completed advanced studies at Harvard Business School. In addition to being a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and a Certified Global Management Accountant (CGMA), Marina is certified in forensics (CFF), business valuations (CVA), and healthcare (FHFMA).



# Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe

## 2016-2018 Board Members &

### Chairs

Roseanne Horne-Co-President

Ross Braun-Co-President

Aleksa Andjelkovic-Pres. Elect

### Program

Phyllis Darden-VP

Member

Mary Ellen Burke-Past Pres

Kerri Green-Treasurer

Jane Evola-Asst. Treasurer

Fundraising

Ellen Chapin-Secretary

Nancy Solak-Asst. Sec.

Public Awareness

Myra Golden-Director

Marya Malkovich-Director

Hospitality



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/](http://www.grossepointesoroptimist.org/)

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

month to:

[karrieb40@gmail.com](mailto: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

Soroptimist is an international volunteer organization for women who work to improve the lives of women and girls, through programs leading to social and economic empowerment in local communities and throughout the world.



## Bulletin Board

We still have room in our book club if anyone is interested. This book club is not exclusively for Soroptimist members so if you know of someone who is looking to join a book club please forward this information onto them. Below is our calendar

Thursday, July 21, 2016	The Passion of Artemisia / Susan Vreeland
Thursday, August 18, 2016	Child 44 / Loe Demidov
Thursday, September 15, 2016	Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania / Erik Larson
Thursday, October 20, 2016	Three Wishes / Liane Moriarty
Thursday, November 17, 2016	What She Left Behind / Ellen Marie Weisman
Thursday, December 15, 2016	Golda / Elinor Burkett

Contact information: Karrie Blankenship at [karrieb40@gmail.com](mailto:karrieb40@gmail.com) or Mary Ellen Burke at [MEB650@aol.com](mailto:MEB650@aol.com)