

The Pointer

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe

President's Message

February 2017 Edition

Dear SIGP members,

Our club is off to a great start for 2017! We have many events, programs and activities planned. In addition to our ever-popular Wine Tasting/Accessory Sale coming up on Friday, February 17th at Ross Braun's house and our annual Awards Night coming up on Thursday, March 9th at Andiamos Trattoria, we have some new events too! One of which was a beautiful House Tour of member, Michelle Strait's historic Indian Village home last month. Thank you, Michelle, for hosting a relaxing evening with our Soroptimist friends and guests. There are new opportunities to volunteer at Positive Images parenting classes and computer lab and Days for Girls is looking

for volunteers too. At a time when many women are asking that their voices be heard, **let's not forget that actions speak louder than words!** Write a letter to your congressman about Human Trafficking laws, pack a feminine hygiene kit for a girl in a Third World country so she can go to school every day, donate your time to update a computer lab, facilitate a parenting class, the list goes on and on. By empowering the girls and women that we help through our grants, awards, projects and programs we are making all our voices louder and they will be heard!!

On a sad note, I regret to inform all of you that our oldest member, Lee Meyer

has passed away peacefully at 101. Lee was a committed member of our Club even into her nineties! She has many Soroptimist friends throughout the region and world which she made through attending meetings and conferences (there was no FACEBOOK back then!) Rest in peace, Lee, you will be missed.

All the Best for Women,
Roseanne and Ross



Roseanne Horne (Left)
Ross Braun (Right)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Rebecca Minardi 2/4
Karen Klein 2/26

Dates to Remember

2017 Calendar

- 02/01 Board Meeting ~ 6:30
- 02/08 Gen. Bus. Mtg. ~ 6:30
- 02/17 Wine Tasting ~ 6:30 ~ Ross Braun's Home
- 02/22 Meeting for Tuition Awards for high school girls ~ time TBD ~ Mary Ellen's Condo
- 02/28 Article's to Karrie B.
- 03/09 SIGP Awards Dinner ~ 6:30 ~ Andiamos' Trattoria ~ GPW
- 03/18 **Save the Date** for Saturday, March 18th for District III Luncheon in Toledo area. More info to follow

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.



Follow us on Facebook

MemberSHIP

SIGP members and friends gathered at the home of Michelle Strait on January 25th. Michelle and her husband live in historic Indian Village in Detroit, and she provided Christmas wonder to everyone who toured her beautifully-decorated home! We all shared appetizers and desserts while strolling through each holiday themed room and hearing the

history of the house built in 1911. Many thanks to Michelle Strait for inviting club members and our guests to her home, and thanks to Jane Evola for coordinating the details of the event!



Fundraising - Dine~Around~Town

I have volunteered to chair the Dine Around Town (DAT) committee and I am looking for volunteers to joining the DAT committee with me and a few other members who have already made a commitment to join the committee.

These are just some of the duties I will be needing help with..

1. Collection the gift cards. We have created an Excel spread sheet that will track who has collected the GC, what restaurant's donated the GC, the value of the GC, the number of GC donated and the contact information for the restaurant; we send out "Thank You" letters to the manager/owner of the restaurants. With this responsibility you will also need to keep the club informed of this information so the members are not repeating the restaurants. You need to have basic knowledge of Excel.

2. Bundling the gift cards. Sue Stewart and Sue Lewandowski have in the past been on this committee and have done a fantastic job. I'm sure they will both be happy for the additional help. I'm not sure if they are planning to do the bundling this year, but I'm sure they will be available for any questions we may have

and recommendations to help the process along.

3. Tracking the Raffle Tickets. This duty is very detailed. After we have collected the GC and bundled them we send the list off to the printer. When we receive the raffle tickets from the printer each member is asked to sell five books of raffle tickets at \$20 a book, five tickets to a book (they get the 5th ticket for free) or \$5 a ticket. This member will need to track all the tickets issued to each member, now remember we are suggesting they sell only five but there are members who sell a great deal more and these need to be tracked too. We do have a spread sheet Mary Ellen created, however if you would like to create your own spread sheet that would be fine as long as it has all the pertinent information we need on it. We need to keep track of the first and last name of the ticket holder, their contact information (you do not need to be present to win so we need to be able to get a hold of them if they win) the member who sold the ticket and the amount of money we received for the tickets sold. All this information will be on the ticket stubs turned into you along with the money. I will be available to

help with this process and duty since it's very detailed and for new members can be very intimidating. Please don't let all these details discourage you from joining the DAT committee, it's not as scary as it sounds.

4. Sending out the Thank You's. Since this will be SIGP' 8th year we have ALL the letters already produced just updating the information is all that's needed. Now that being said, if you are proficient with Microsoft Word and mail merging this will be a breeze. Your duty will be to send out the Thank You letters to the restaurant with the winners and the amount of money we raised due to their generosity. This duty is not needed till the end of October or November once we get all the final numbers together.

For those of you who are new to this fundraiser you now have an idea of what is needed and I hope you will be joining Maddy Jeffs, Ross Braun and myself to the DAT committee.

Hugs..

Karrie Blankenship
DAT Committee Chair
karrieb40@gmail.com / (810)602.7685

Member Awareness



20 October, 2016

The sixty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 13 to 24 March 2017. Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world will attend the session.

This year's priority theme will be 'Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work'. The Review theme is 'Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls' (agreed conclusions of the fifty-eighth session), and the Emerging Issue is 'The empowerment of indigenous women'.

Soroptimist International, Graduate Women International (GWI), the International Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW International), National Alliance of Women's Organiza-

tions (NAWO), Widows for Peace Through Democracy, Women for Water Partnership and Zonta International, have released a statement concerning women's economic empowerment and its link to sustainable development. These seven organizations are united around the principle of empowering women locally, nationally and internationally up to the highest level. Based on the expertise of these seven organizations, the statement calls for:

Concerted action to be taken to ensure that all women and girls can access continuing and lifelong education and training, both formal and informal, ensuring that women can adapt their skills to the changing world of work;

Increased financial awareness through training to enable the development of women-led and owned small and medium enterprises;

Improved gender diversity across all sectors of the workplace, ensuring employers in the private sector to take specific actions to increase the number of women in leadership positions and provide more access routes for women into the world of work;

Recognition of women's land rights and inheritance, empowering them to contribute to the economy of their local communities and providing for their families;

Equal terms and conditions for women in their employment as men, including equal pay;

For further information on the sixty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women please visit www.unwomen.org/en/csw/ngo-participation

Health & Hospitality- Lee Meyer

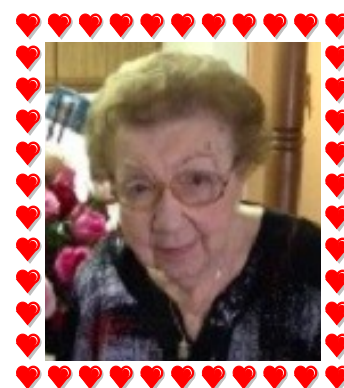
Lee Meyer, a dedicated Soroptimist since 1956, passed peacefully on January 26, 2017 at the age of 101.

Lee was the owner of This 'N' That for Pets in Grosse Pointe for 50 years, a member and past President of the Mack Avenue Business Association, and a member of the

Grosse Pointe Jewish Council. She also served as President of the Women's Auxiliary of both the Michigan Veterinary Association and Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Association.

But to us, her friends in Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe, she was a gracious woman who gave of her time and energy to fulfill

the Soroptimist mission to improve the lives of women and girls, through programs leading to social and economic empowerment in local communities and throughout the world. For over 60 years she was a Soroptimist who held many Board positions including being President for three



Health & Hospitality

terms, i.e., six years! She seldom missed a monthly meeting, a District meeting or the annual Region Conference. And for many years she and her friend, Ann Cunningham, traveled to International Conferences around the world. In an interview for her 100th birthday, Lee stated that she most enjoyed working with Positive Images, a residential treatment program in Detroit for women in recovery from substance abuse. While being in charge of the Soroptimist

Resource Center at Positive Images, Lee noticed that many of the women were having trouble reading so she started buying reading glasses to give to the women and asked her friends to contribute to her supply! She made a positive difference to these women who affectionately called her "Miss Lee".

At the age of 92, Lee created and chaired the Dine-Around-Town Restaurant Raffle that funds Soroptimist

Awards for women who are furthering their education.

Dine-Around-Town has been a successful fundraiser for seven years resulting in Soroptimist Awards of over \$26,000 to women to assist them with educational expenses.



Lee Meyer will be remembered not only for her dedicated service to Soroptimist but for her loving and cherished friendship to many. May she rest in peace.

Program & Service

Day for Girls update

We met 57 times (!) in 2016 to work on Days for Girls feminine hygiene kits. Yes, that is more than once a week. Some weeks we met three times! Some weeks, (like Christmas) we took a break. A couple of times we only had 2 or 3 of us, but we have also had as many as 56! On average there are 16-18 dear people who come to work.

Thank you for all you have done! Looking forward to seeing everyone!

Susan Smith

Here are the distributions that we sent out in 2016!

April - 210 kits

- Riviere Mancelle, Haiti.
"The Haiti Project"
www.PartnerInHaiti.org
Denise and Bob Snyder

June - 130 Kits

- Zambia
www.comegowithus.org
- Karen Bucher
karencomegowithus@gmail.com

July - 90 Kits

- Peru "Amazon Promise"
Patty Webster
patty@amazonpromise.org -50 kits

- Zambia, Africa
"Come go with us" -40 kits

August - 225 Kits

- Burundi, Africa
Free Methodist Church of America - 50 kits

- Middle East (particularly in refugee camps) Asia...Cambodia, Nepal, Myanmar and India
Africa (several countries in mostly central Africa) Free Methodist Church,
David Rolle- 100 kits

- Jeremie, Haiti.
United Methodist Church,
Carmen Ziegler - 75 kits

October - 125 Kits

- Dessalines, Haiti
"Ebenezer Glenn Orphanage"
Beth Cooley
cooleys4haiti@gmail.com -50 kits

- Jeremie, Haiti.
United Methodist Church,
Carmen Ziegler -75 kits

December - 275 Kits

- Mzuzu, Malawi.
"Rafiki Foundation"
Susan and Bob Hegel - 75 kits
- Bulgaria, Malawi, Haiti and Myanmar. "Free Methodists"
Donelda and Duane Clevenger -100 kits

- Varettes, Haiti
"Hands for Haiti"
Jeff and Debbi Gischia -100 kits

Total 2016..... **1,055 kits**

Programs & Services ~



DAYS FOR GIRLS
Packing/Assembling Kits

Upcoming Events

Trinity Church of Livonia
34500 6 Mile Rd, Livonia, MI 48152

Wednesdays Noon-4pm
February 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd
(Basically, ALL Wednesdays year round, except holiday weeks)

Saturdays 11 am -3 pm
Feb. 18th, March 18th

<http://www.daysforgirls.org>

Days for Girls:

Millions of girls and women around the globe struggle for lack of access to hygiene products. Volunteer Chapters and Teams all over the world are stepping up to give women back their days. For more information check out: www.daysforgirls.org website.

On Saturday, January 21st I volunteered at a "Super Saturday Kit Packing day" for the Farmington/Livonia MI Days for Girls team. There were 30 volunteers that day including 4 from Soroptimist Inter-

Antioch Lutheran Church
33360 W 13 Mile Rd,
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Tuesdays 6:30pm-9:00 pm
Jan. 17th, Feb. 14th

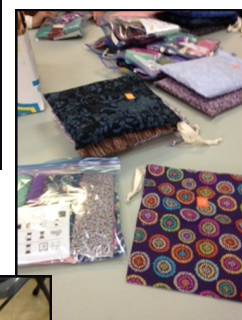
Questions? Please send us an email, we will get back to you ASAP!

farmingtonmi@daysforgirls.org

For up-to-date information
FACEBOOK

Days for Girls Farmington/
Livonia

Days for Girls are always looking for missionaries and medical teams to do distributions in developing countries. If you or anyone you know seems right for this work, send us an email, we 'd love to talk about it and see what can be done.



national of Macomb club. We were assembling kits to be sent to Kenya with Joan Bickes's group of nursing students from Wayne State. They hope to take 1500 kits with them!

This organization has the kit packing assembly down to a science! Each kit includes a handmade drawstring bag, a plastic Ziploc bag with 2 pair of underpants, a washcloth, 8 hand sewn reusable and washable liners, 2 hand sewn reusable and washable shields, one bar of travel soap and instructions. The Farmington Hills chapter has a group of committed sewers who come on Tuesdays dur-

ing the day and Wednesday evenings to sew the bags, shields, and liners. There are also volunteers who cut, press and pin the fabric. Once a month on Saturdays they assemble the kits. We assembled 300 kits the day I was there! The next kit packing day is Saturday, February 18th at Trinity Church in Farmington Hills. Let me know if you would like to come help this very worthwhile cause. We are asking other Soroptimist Clubs to send volunteers that day to help as well. Roseanne Horne 313-706-1801

Programs & Services - Award

VIRGINIA WAGNER EDUCATIONAL AWARD

THERE WERE 8 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE VIRGINIA WAGNER EDUCATIONAL AWARD. THEY ARE CURRENTLY BEING JUDGED BY THREE WOMEN WHO ARE NOT SOROPTIMISTS BUT WHO HAVE WORKED WITH WOMEN IN THE EDUCATIONAL FIELD. THE WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING.

HERE IS THE PROCESS: THERE WILL BE ONE WINNER FROM SIGP WHO WILL RECEIVE \$3000. HER APPLICATION WILL BE SENT TO DISTRICT III WHERE IT IS JUDGED AGAINST THE WINNERS FROM THE EIGHT OTHER CLUBS IN OUR DISTRICT. THE DISTRICT III WINNER WILL RECEIVE A \$500 AWARD. HER APPLICATION THEN MOVES ON TO MIDWESTERN REGION WHERE IT IS JUDGED AGAINST THE DISTRICT I, II AND IV WINNERS. THE REGION AWARD IS \$2500. IF OUR WINNER EARNS THE REGION AWARD SHE WILL HAVE RECEIVED A TOTAL OF \$6000 TOWARD HER EDUCATIONAL GOAL! OF COURSE, WE HOPE THAT THIS HAPPENS! THANK YOU TO ALL IN SIGP WHO HELPED FIND CANDIDATES FOR THIS AWARD!

RUBY AWARD

Ruby award winner will be selected next week.

LIVE YOUR DREAM

SIGP's Live Your Dream award winner was the District III winner...now she goes on to be judged for our Region winner!

Wednesday, March 9
6:30 pm

Award's Ceremony at
Andiamos Tratorria
in Grosse Pointe Woods.
\$20 for dinner.

Please bring money to
February meeting or contact
Kerri Green to
RSVP and pay
at jazzykerri@yahoo.com



We accept

Paypal,



Master-
Card,

Visa, Checks and Cash



Programs & Services - PI

POSITIVE IMAGES

Parenting classes continue at Positive Images every Tuesday from 12:30 - 2:15. There is a *desperate need* for any members who want to participate in this program to let Diana know ASAP. (313-690-1515). We need to be able to cover the class when current Soroptimists are not available on their Tuesday and it is mandatory that two

SIGP members be in attendance or the class is cancelled. All you need is the ability to follow the prescribed lesson and be able to listen to the women in recovery. It is an eye-opening experience to a different life style. If you are available on Tuesdays, *please consider* giving this a try to see if it something that you would like to do. You are welcome to come and observe any Tuesday at 1336 E. Warren Ave., Detroit.

And last (but not least) Dorothea, Carolyn and Diana are going to look at the computer lab in the Resource Center on Jan. 30th, determine it's needs and make plans to update this facility so that it can be of use to clients. Mary Ellen will be involved with this when she is back in Michigan. More to follow as progress is made!



**Join us for Wine Tasting and
an evening of friendship and information about
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF GROSSE POINTE**
website: grossepointesoroptimist.org

If you are interested in supporting and helping women in the community and around the world, this is an opportunity for you to meet the dynamic women of SIGP and take a look at SOROPTIMIST projects at local, national and international levels.

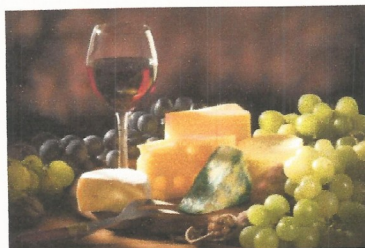
Take part in the Accessory Sale during the wine tasting...bring new or gently used items (jewelry, scarves, purses, belts, surprises) Something you no longer want may become a treasure to someone else!

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2017
6:30 – 10:00 p.m.**

Home of
Ross Braun
515 Middlesex
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

**Bring a favorite bottle of wine to share
and an
appetizer to pass.**

RSVP by Monday, February 13th to Ross Braun at (313) 909-0230



Grants - Letters from Ghana

Excerpts from Ghana Girls 2016 Writing Project

What was it like to spend your first night away from home?

During our holidays, I was told by one of my favourite aunties to come and stay with her for some time before I return to school. I was very excited about going. After my family sent me to the lorry station to charter a bus for me, it was time for the bus to take off. I good-byed my family and on we left.

On our way, the bus broke down. Where we got to was in the bush. It was very far away from town and it was also late in the night. We had not help from anybody [and] we were compelled to spend our night on the bus. The whole place was dark and silent as the cemetery. I started panicking. I was afraid, I could not sleep, my eyes were widely open and I could not wait until the next day.

All of the passengers were silent except for one man. He snored so loudly which made me more afraid. My concentration was now on the man that was disturbing all the peace in the bus. No one snores in my home. I always have a peace of mind to sleep. In my home, I always have a comfortable bed to sleep on and enjoy the fresh air produced by our fan, but where this bus broke down was so hot and there was no comfortable bed.

I felt so bad, I never experienced that in my entire life before. It made my journey so miserable. I never thought of sleeping in that way when I am travelling, but, unfortu-

nately, it happened and I had to sleep, not even a good sleep, but a sleep that was full of distraction.

Catherine

How has this year of education affected your life?

This year of education has made me into an extrovert. In fact, from my childhood up to this noble year 2016, I used to be an introvert, keeping things to myself, and I did not want people to know my problems. But in this year I have been taught by my teacher the importance of sharing one's problems with other people. This changed my life ... in that it enabled other people to support me in my difficulties.

Taadibe

Do you think men and women are equal in today's society?

Gender equality is one of the things that is importantly fought for in most countries today. A new realization has dawned on our stakeholders to ensure men and women are given equal treatment and opportunities. But the question here is, "Is this working?" As much as I want women to be equal to men in every aspect of life, I don't think this is the case.

Inasmuch as women match boot for boot with men when it comes to intelligence, potential, boldness and all that is considered good qualities in a person, the continued fight for equality I do

not think men and women are equal in today's society.

To start with, for men and women to be equal, the educational, social and economic gap that has been created between them has to be bridged and since that has not been done, how can they be equal? Women are doing all they can to cancel out that difference but the day hasn't come yet for their efforts to be crowned with success and so though better than before, men and women are not equal.

Also, some significant positions are still given to men because of their sex. In many homes, the mother is the breadwinner of the family but because directly or indirectly it has been established that the man is the head of the family, he takes all the glory for the success of the family and goes ahead to blame the wife when something goes wrong. When decisions are to be made, be it at the house level or the societal level, men are given the audacity to decide when women could have done better. Is this what equality is all about?

Furthermore, due to ignorance, men and women are not equal in today's society. Knowledge of gender equality is not something people know about. Many women will not report their husband to the authorities when they are abused because

Grants - Letters from Ghana

they do not know they are supposed to. How, then, can such women be equal to their male counterparts in society?

To conclude, even though efforts are being made to ensure men and women are equal, I do not think this is happening. There is still a lot to be done. Oh, how I long to see this day!
Faiza

What is something you appreciate about your parents?

I used to cry whenever they told me to go to school because I never knew how important school would be to me. So they, being determined, never gave up. They continued to plead with me to go to school till I got to the Junior High School. Here I began to realize how important education was because some of my colleagues were dropping out of school due to certain things such as teenage pregnancy, drug abuse, etc. It got to a time that things were becoming tough for my parents and they didn't know what to do so they tried their best by making sure I got the necessary materials for me to go to school. Sometimes they would go to the farm during the rainy season in order to farm food. After that, they would harvest it and give it to us to go and sell at the market. By studying hard to pass my examination, I let them know that they are not wasting their resources.

Sandra

If you had a chance to live anywhere in the world, where would it be?

One of the strongest dreams and hopes I have is to be able to travel around the whole world, get to know different people, cultures, impact positively on people, gain knowledge from them, share their experiences, reach out to them.

But if I had a chance to live anywhere I could, I would choose Ghana, my own country.
Faiza

How has this year of education affected your life?

With all I have received through my education this term, I think this year's education will change my life positively by the grace of the Almighty Allah (God). In all these I give thanks to God and then my sponsor for his or her kindness and love toward me. Oh, journal, how I want to see the face of my sponsor and to say a proper thank you to him or her. I know some day, this will come true. Later, SWEET JOURNAL.
Fiaza

How has this year of education affected your life?

This year of education has been so great to me. I did everything with happiness because of this sponsorship. At first, I thought I would be sacked from school every term because of my school fees. I wondered how my guardian was going to pay for my school fees because it was something she found very difficult to

come by. I thought of leaving school, but to my greatest surprise, I had been sponsored by you which has helped me a lot. Your sponsorship has moved me from a situation of not having hope on my education into a better one for me. I will try all my possible best in order to learn and to pass all my examinations because I am happy.
Catherine

THESE ARE SOME OF THE QUESTIONS FROM THE JOURNALS THE GIRLS WERE REQUIRED TO WRITE IN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

SAGISS



St. Anne School, part of exterior.



Carol Hofer with some of the girls from St. Anne School.

2016-2018 Board Members &

Chairs

Roseanne Horne-Co-President

Ross Braun-Co-President

Aleksa Andjelkovic-Pres. Elect

Program

Dorthea Williams-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



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 lar-
ger fellowship in home, in society, in busi-
ness, 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** - (vcclark003@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)



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women®



Bulletin Board

Foodies Interest Group Meeting (1/26/2017)

Attendees: Carolyn Barth, Karrie Blankenship, Maddy Jeffs and Diana Langlois

Goals: To open ourselves to new foods, techniques, and recipes
To share what we already know with other members to help broaden their cooking repertoire
To have fun and build community among our Soroptimist sisters who participate

Maddy presented some of the Foodies organizational issues with which she's had experience.

She answered questions and the group discussed and recommended the following:

- We hope for a commitment of 6-8 women in a Foodies group that will meet monthly. Members who are unable to attend any of the monthly dinners are expected to inform the remaining members at least two weeks in advance so that, if appropriate, alternative arrangements might be made e.g.; add alternates, change the date, go ahead with fewer members, etc.
- We will meet on the 1st Monday of each month except in December and January. This meeting schedule was chosen because it generally does not conflict with any SIGP meetings and also is close enough to a weekend to allow for some food preparation which everyone believed would be helpful. Monthly Foodies events will begin at 6:30 with dinners being served at 7:00.
- Members will rotate hosting duties which consist of 1) hosting at her home or other site appropriate to the dinner, 2) determining the theme for the dinner, and 3) proposing other menu options to the rest of the group. We will develop a yearly calendar with themes as they become known to assist members in planning.
- In most instances, members are encouraged to prepare as much of their menu item as possible prior to the Foodies event but can finish off their dishes at the hostess's home if appropriate.
- Members will provide the recipes of the dishes they bring to each Foodies event and these will be stored in a drop box for future retrieval and as a historical record.
- Members who participate in the monthly dinners will also provide a libation that pairs well with their menu item.
- Women who are interested in Foodies but are unable to commit to the monthly dinners may request alternate status. When at least two weeks advance notice is provided of a Foodies absence, the list of alternates will be notified of an opening and the dinner's theme. Alternates will be chosen on a first come, first served basis.

If you would like to join our Foodies group please contact Maddy Jeffs at mjeffs@frontier.com

We are looking to add three to four more women who can commit to a monthly meeting so it will be first come first to join





Bulletin Board



REMEMBER-
ING... March
14, 1968...
Grosse Pointe
High School...
Martin Luther
King, Jr.
speaks on "The
Other Amer-
ica"

Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) was invited in 1968 to Grosse Pointe to speak on the race problem in the United States. This month, on January 14th, the Grosse Pointe/Harper Woods chapter of the NAACP invited the community back to Grosse Pointe South High School to hear the actual audiotape of this event. While sitting in the audience and hearing the voice of MLK you could feel his presence and pick up the antagonism of some in the crowd in 1968. Here are some quotes from MLK's 1968 speech on race. I'm wondering if you think these quotes are applicable in 2017?

* "I want to use as a title for my lecture tonight: "The Other America". And I use this title because there are literally two America's. ...
* "One America is beautiful. In this America millions of people have the milk of prosperity and the honey of equality flowing before them. ... children grow up in the sunlight of opportunity."
* "But there is another America. This other America has a daily ugliness about it that transforms the buoyancy of hope into the fatigue of despair. In this other America, millions of people, men in particular, walk the streets in search for jobs that do not exist. ... the schools are so inadequate, so over-crowded, so devoid of quality, so segregated, that the best in these minds can never come out. Probably the most critical problem in the other America is the economic problem."
* ...there must be recognition

on the part of everybody in this nation that America is still a racist country. ... It is the notion that one group has all of the knowledge, all of the insights, all of the purity, all of the work, all of the dignity. And another group is worthless, on a lower level of humanity, inferior."

* "For me justice is indivisible. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

* "Ultimately, a genuine leader is not a succor for a consensus but a mold of consensus.... And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe nor politics nor popular but he must do it because conscience tells him it is right."

* "...the destinies of white and black America are tied together. And somehow, we must all learn to live together as brothers in this country or we're all going to perish together as fools."

SIGP members Elaine Flowers and Marlane Washington are active in the NAACP. We thank them for announcing this event to SIGP at our January business meeting. Also attending were Maddie Jeffs, Roseanne Horne, Nancy Solak and Diana Langlois. ...1968 or 2017?



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. Each month is hosted by a different member of the club.

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan / by Lisa See

Thursday, March 16, 2017

The Mountain Story / by Lori Lansens

Thursday, April 20, 2017

The Shipping News / by Annie Proulx

Thursday, May 18, 2017

Small Great Things / by Jodi Picoult

Thursday, June 15, 2017

The Pearl of China / by Anchee Min

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Born with Teeth / by Kate Mulgrew

Thursday, August 17, 2017

All the Light We Cannot See / by Anthony Doerr

Thursday, September 21, 2017

Mademoiselle: Coco Chanel and the Pulse of History / by Rhonda K. Garelick

Thursday, October 19, 2017

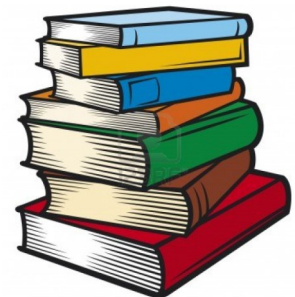
Flight Behavior / by Barabara Kingsolver

Thursday, November 16, 2017

Circling the Sun / by Paula McLain

Thursday, December 21, 2017

Born a Crime / by Trevor Noah





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 **PHIRE & ICE**

2nd annual celebration and Fundraiser
strolling dinner, full bar, coed backyard curling, silent raffle and music

Saturday, February 11, 2017 at 7:00pm
521 Middlesex, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

Reserve Your Tickets: www.Phoemale.org/events
Donations Also Accepted at the Door

RSVP by January 31, 2017
qboddy@phoemale.org


Pronounced /fē,māl/
Origin: The words Phoenix and Female combined. Woman rising from Ashes.
Phoemale is a tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service.

Phoemale is comprised of a group of women who like to host parties and FUN events where we empower each other and at the same time, raise money to change the lives and empower OTHER women who have been dealt a bad hand in life.

This year, we are teaming up with Wayne County SAFE (www.wcsafe.org) to identify women who have been victims of sexual assault and human trafficking that need help putting their lives back together.

Our goal is to help these women build a new life...to start again...to rise from the ashes.

EVERY DOLLAR raised at this event will benefit these victim survivors.
None of the raised money will be used for any cost of the event.

MIDWESTERN REGION 2016 – 2017

FOCUS – IMPORTANT DATES

July 1	Club Celebrating Success Entries due to Vicky Hicks
July 1	2016-2017 Club Dues to SIA HQ with Club Officer information
July 1	2016-2017 Member & Club dues to MWR with club officer information
July 1	Best for Women Fall issue article deadline to SIA HQ
July 20-24	SIA Convention – Orlando, Florida
August 15	Article deadline for Sept The Vision to Karrie Blankenship
September 30-October 1	District 1 and 3 meeting, Best Western, LaPorte, Indiana
October 1	Article submission deadline for Soroptimist Magazine due at SIA HQ For January – April edition
October 14-15	District 2 and 4 meeting, Deer Creek State Park & Lodge, Mt. Sterling, OH
November 15	Form 990 due to IRS
November 15	Live Your Dream Applications due to clubs
November 25	Soroptimist Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence
December 2	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
December 10	Human Rights Day – President's Appeal
December 15	Club Live Your Dream Award Winner due to District Director
January 10	Deadline for The Vision article submission for February edition
January 11	National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness in United States
January 15	Virginia Wagner Award applications due to Club
January 15	District Live Your Dream Award Winners due to Region Chair
February 1	Article submission deadline to SIA HQ for May – August issue
February 15	Virginia Wagner club award winner due to District Director
February 15	Region Live Your Dream winner information due to both SIA and Treasurer Valencia Clark by Region Chair
March 8	International Women's Day
March 8	Virginia Wagner District winners due to Region Chair
March 11	Soroptimist Club Grant Applications due at SIA HQ
March 21	Award Report due from District Directors to Governor-Elect Kris
March 31	Governor's Club Award form due to Governor Vivian
March 31	Region Virginia Wagner Award winner names to Region Treasurer Valencia Clark by Region Chair
April 21-23	2017 Spring Conference – Kalahari Resort, Sandusky, Ohio