



# The Pointer

## **SIGP General Meeting, Wednesday, September 9, at 6:30 p.m.**

Physical Distancing Will Be Employed

Please bring all you need for yourself:

A mask, hand sanitizer, bug spray, your own refreshment (optional) and lawn chair (optional).

**THE MEETING WILL ALSO BE BROUGHT TO YOUR HOME VIA ZOOM! A link will be emailed to everyone.**

Grosse Pointe Shores Park, 800 Lake Shore Rd, Grosse Pointe Shores, Gatehouse Phone: 313-884-7018

At the gate, tell them you are a Soroptimist. Your name will be on the list.

Thank you to club member Marina Houghton for reserving the space for us!

## **Special Guest Marc Rosenthal, Ph.D., D.O. to speak at our September Meeting!**

Many of us still have questions about Covid-19. Thanks to Maureen Anthony, Liz Lucas, and other members for suggesting a question and answer session on this important topic.

Marc Rosenthal, Ph.D., D.O, an Emergency Room physician who serves on the front lines of the fight against COVID, joins us at our September 9, General Meeting. Dr. Rosenthal will offer his unique perspective on where we are, and where we are going during the Pandemic.

Remember, our General Meeting will be another hybrid event so join us in person or online. A Zoom link will be emailed to everyone.

Please send your questions to Dr. Rosenthal via Laura McCourt at [lauraleecook@yahoo.com](mailto:lauraleecook@yahoo.com) or phone/text: 954-232-4398

See you at the meeting, either in person or on Zoom!

*Laura McCourt  
SIGP Vice President and Membership Chair*

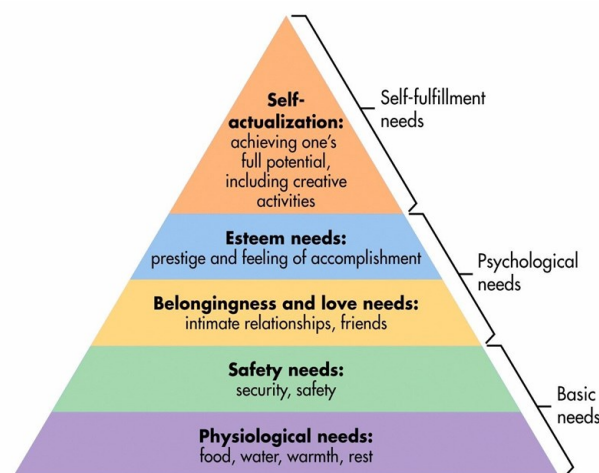
**Goats, Hens, Dogs, Rabbits, Yoga and Wine???**  
**If you're curious, see page 7. You won't regret it!**

## Co-Presidents Column: Navigating our club during a pandemic

*By Ellen Chapin and Marya Malkovich Rosenthal*

Zoom, social distancing, face masks, virtual, in person...these are words we never would have thought about when we first decided to take the helm of SIGP. But the pandemic that just won't go away has forced us into a new way of life.

Our goals for navigating the club through the pandemic and retaining and attracting new members was presented at our first general meeting using the framework of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. (See illustration below.) At our August general meeting, members gave their suggestions as to how to fulfill these needs at each level during this challenging time.



Some great examples for meeting physiological needs include finding ways to reduce "The Covid-15" (which refers to weight gain) and setting up group yoga, meditation, or mindfulness exercises. Helping members find resources to meet their very basic needs such as restful sleep, food, and transportation were also suggested. Safety and security needs might include meetings and activities presented virtually and in person with masks and social distancing. Providing updated information on COVID-19, based on the latest research and science will hopefully improve our sense of safety and security.



*Ellen Chapin*



*Marya Malkovich  
Rosenthal*

Welcoming each other at meetings, whether in person or online, helps meet our members' need for love and belonging. Membership activities, accompanied by an invitation to a new or current member to carpool, as well as resuming a virtual cocktail hour as we are forced indoors, reminds all of us that we are a valued member of the group.

Esteem needs may be fulfilled by acknowledging membership contributions to club functions or collaborating with women in other organizations to advance our shared mission of helping women and girls. Working with members to develop new interests, either individually or as club, was another suggestion. Taking on leadership roles, such as lead-

ing Dream It, Be It, becoming an awards chair, getting involved as a mentor, or taking on a board or district level position, helps reach the pinnacle of Maslow's hierarchy, self-actualization.

Our first attempt at a hybrid meeting, where some attended in person and others on Zoom, was a success, allowing everyone to participate and contribute. As you read through the rest of the newsletter, you will see the various ways we have changed course and will continue to move forward, adapting our activities to meet members' needs and succeed as a club through this unprecedented pandemic.

*(See photos of August meeting on p. 16)*

# SIGP GARAGE SALE



SOROPTIMIST®  
Investing in Dreams

**When:** Thursday, September 10 — 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Friday, September 11 — 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Saturday, September 12 — 8:30 am – 1:00 pm

**Set-Up:** Wednesday, September 9 — 8:30 am – 5:00 pm

**Clean-Up:** Saturday, September 12 — 1:00 -5:00 pm

**Where:** Roseanne Horne's house 1247 Elford Ct. Grosse Pointe Woods

## Safety Guidelines and Important Information:

- ◆ All volunteers and customers MUST wear masks.
- ◆ Gloves and hand sanitizer will be available.
- ◆ Sign-in sheet for customers to give us their name and contact phone number or email in case we need to contact them.
- ◆ Number of customers in the yard will be limited. Others will need to socially distance as they wait.
- ◆ Disinfectant will be available to wipe down objects and tables as needed throughout the sale.
- ◆ We will NOT be selling clothes.
- ◆ Donations and tables will be accepted at Roseanne Horne's house starting September 1.
- ◆ Volunteers needed to make signs, set out signs and take down signs.
- ◆ Diana Langlois to place an ad in the *GP News*.

## Volunteer List to Date (Please feel free to just show up to lend a hand or call Roseanne, 313-706-1801, to sign up for a particular time.)

<b>Set up:</b>	<b>Wednesday, September 9, 8:30-5 pm</b> Peggy Hickey Mary Ellen Burke Bette Lepouttre Maureen Anthony Carolyn Barth Diana Langlois Dorothy Wasinger	<b>Sales</b>	<b>Thursday, Sept 10, 12 noon-3</b> Bette Lepouttre Mary Ellen Burke Diana Langlois Dorothy Wasinger	<b>Sales</b>	<b>Saturday, Sept 12, 8-12 noon</b> Mary Ellen Burke Diana Langlois Anne Schwartz Roseanne Horne
		<b>Sales</b>	<b>Friday, Sept 11, 8-12 noon</b> Bette Lepouttre Mary Ellen Burke Diana Langlois Dorothy Wasinger	<b>Sales</b>	<b>Saturday, Sept 12, 12-3</b> Mary Ellen Burke Diana Langlois Roseanne Horne Marya Malkovich Sara Baker Peggy Hickey Ellen Chapin Carolyn Barth
<b>Put up Signs</b>	Roseanne Horne				
<b>Sales</b>	<b>Thursday, Sept 10, 8:30 am-noon</b> Peggy Hickey Carol Hofer Katherine Baetz Mary Ellen Burke Bette Lepouttre Anne Schwartz Diana Langlois	<b>Sales</b>	<b>Friday, Sept 11, 12-3</b> Mary Ellen Burke Diana Langlois Nancy Kelley		<b>Clean Up Sat., Sept 12, 1-5</b> Nancy Solak Mary Ellen Burke Roseanne Horne Diana Langlois

## 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  
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Diana Langlois  
*Assistant Secretary*  
*Public Awareness*

Carolyn Barth  
*Director*  
*Grant Coordinator*

Madeline Colavito  
*Director*

Nancy Solak  
*Director*

## How to turn “free money” into scholarship money!

### Update on our club’s Can and Bottle Drive

Big Shout out to all our members who have donated cans and bottles, advertised to their friends and neighbors to donate cans and bottles, have returned cans and bottles and given SIGP their bottle return money to the cause. We have surpassed the \$3,000 mark and are on our way to \$4,000. This is truly remarkable! What a great way to turn “free money” into “scholarship money”! Nancy Solak and Roseanne Horne are still accepting your can and bottle donations.



Roseanne Horne surrounded by returnables.

## Good News for our Ghana Girls

Hurrah! It took six months and numerous contacts but success prevailed. Through the help of the International Book Project four boxes of books are on their way to Ghana, thanks to friends at Center Line High School. These include donations of textbooks in math, science, literature, and history. All will be put into the school library which is quite small. Our girls and all the girls to follow will surely benefit from these offerings.

A recent yard sale put on to support our girls brought in (including cash donations) \$1,445! Way to go!

As of late August 2020, there have been around 44,000 cases of Covid- 19 in Ghana with 270 deaths. Most of these cases are in the south or in the larger cities of Kumasi and Tamale. As of this writing we are trying to find out if there are cases in Damongo in the north where our girls attend St. Anne.



Natalia Nagorniak

## Happy September Birthday to ...

Judi Dara, September 9

Carrie Petrocelli, September 16

Geri Pleva, September 17

Kathy DiCenzo, September 17

Laurie Jost, September 20

Maureen Anthony, September 30

## ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMITTEE & SUBCOMMITTEE MEET RE 2021 5k/Walk/Run Event

SIGP's Anti-Human Trafficking (HT) Committee met via Zoom on 9/1/2020 to discuss a date and time for the spring 2021 5K Walk/Run Event. Immediately following, the Anti-Human Trafficking Sub-Committee met. They discussed the upcoming HT Awareness event to be held in January. Laurie Jost and I hope to have more details for these events at our September general meeting. — *Karrie Blankenship, HT Co-Chair*

## FUNDRAISING FOR THE LIVE YOUR DREAM (LYD) AWARD

Bette Lepouttre and I have been collaborating to create a GoFundMe/Charity page to help support our **Live Your Dream Award (LYD)**. It is almost finished and we will be submitting our progress at the September board meeting. Hopefully we will be able to go live soon! If the LYD GoFundMe/Charity fundraiser becomes successful, we will discuss using this platform to help sponsor our Virginia Wagner Award also.

I would like to say a special "Thank You" to all of these women who have taken on the responsibility to chair our awards:

*Ruby Award, **Maureen Anthony***

*Live Your Dream Award, **Bette Lepouttre***

*Virginia Wagner Educational Award Co-Chairs, **Liz Lucas and Maddy Colavito***

*Award for High School Student, **Helen Clarren***

Would you like to join these women in chairing an award? *Dream It Be It* (DIBI) still needs a chairperson. Co-presidents Marya and Ellen, who formerly chaired this award, are happy to help, suggest and guide you with the DIBI program. **Even if you aren't ready to take on the challenge just yet, perhaps you can consider it?** Contact Marya, Ellen or me (contact info below) if you would like to learn what's involved and find others to help. Remember, you are never alone since you have SIGP standing right next to you.

SIGP's website has been updated with the latest application information, links, and Award Chair information.



*Karrie Blankenship  
President Elect/Program Chair*

President-Elect: Karrie Blankenship at [karrieb40@gmail.com](mailto:karrieb40@gmail.com) or (810) 602-7685

Co-President: Marya Malkovich Rosenthal at [mmalkovich@gmail.com](mailto:mmalkovich@gmail.com) or (313) 310-6683

Co-President: Ellen Chapin at [ellenchapin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ellenchapin@sbcglobal.net) or (313) 409-0549

## MENTORING FOR SUCCESS, 2nd Training Recap

Maddy Colavito and Diana Langlois presented the second mentor training on August 19 via ZOOM. Main topics included:

- ◆ Defining mentoring
- ◆ Why mentor?
- ◆ SIGP's goal for the program, and
- ◆ The do's and don'ts of mentoring.

SIGP's Mentor for Success goal is simple and yet challenging. Mentees (the recipients of our Live Your Dream and Virginia Wagner awards) will be continuing their college educations and ultimately completing their degrees or reaching their career goals. During that time they may need someone to help guide them through whatever barriers may arise.

Lucy Gould from Alternatives for Girls (AFG) was a guest speaker at our ZOOM meeting. She gave a brief introduction to AFG and their mentor program which is all virtual now. Nancy Solak, Bette LePouttre and Diana Langlois will be following up with AFG and possibly doing their mentor training as well as ours!

*If you missed this recorded session which included a PowerPoint presentation and want to drop in for a view, contact Karrie Blankenship (810-602-7685) and she will send you the link to view it.*

**All members of SIGP are invited to take part in this new initiative.** We are striving to learn together how to carry out this valuable service to girls and young women!

Contact Maddy (509-551-1695) or Diana (313-690-1515) for further information.

### Mentors and Mentees Get Together

**Wednesday, September 16, 6:00 -7:30 p.m.**

Grosse Pointe Patterson Park Picnic Pavilion, 16006 Essex Drive, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

A light meal will be served via take out.

Mentors and mentees will get the opportunity to meet each other, determine their goals,

And prepare a mutually agreeable contact schedule.

**In case of inclement weather, we will reschedule.**

**Next SIGP Board Meeting** Wednesday, September 9, 2020, Marya's backyard

In case of inclement weather, the board will socially distance indoors.

## Goats, Hens, Dogs, Rabbits, Yoga and Wine! Oh My!

Sunday, August 30, was a perfect summer day; 76 degrees, partly sunny, and a light breeze. What could be better than spending the morning with a couple Great Pyrenees dogs, the largest rabbit ever, an affectionate flock of color-coordinated chickens, and a tribe of miniature goats who seemed to like us as much as we enjoyed them? All this, and yoga too!

Thirteen SIGP Soroptimists were joined by 5 members of the Macomb chapter at the Youngblood Vineyard in Ray Township, about 45 minutes from Grosse Pointe.

The venue, not far from Romeo, is a third-generation family-run farm. For the past four years, the family has been hard at work growing its winery.

The hands-down highlight of the morning was when one of the chickens cuddled up to a goat who was hanging out with Ellen Chapin on her yoga mat, and proceeded to lay an egg. Ellen reports she will treasure this gift and not eat it.



After an hour of easy yoga, our group gathered on the front porch of the farmhouse for a wine tasting featuring seven farm-grown and produced wines.

You can book a class at: <https://www.youngbloodvineyard.com/visitus>

— At left, Laura McCourt, SIGP Vice President, Membership Chair, in tree pose.



*SIGP member Helen Clarren makes friends with one of the Great Pyrenees dogs.*



*SIGP member Katherine Baetz surrounded by a plethora of goats.*



*SIGP Co-president holds up the special gift a hen laid on her yoga mat.*



*Enjoying a glass of wine on the porch afterward are Laura McCourt (standing), Peggy Hart (in red), Ellen Chapin in blue) and Darlene Sulad (seated far left), a guest of Ellen's.*

## Update on Days for Girls — Still Making Kits During Covid!

It's been six months since we've been together and no ideas as to when we can reconvene. We continue to miss our gatherings and socializing. But there is work to be done. We have a mission partner in Malawi — Warm Hearts — that is accepting kits and we're preparing 100 kits to be completed some time in September. Our hope is to prepare 100 kits for Warm Hearts every three months.

So please let us know if you are interested/available to do some non-sewing work at home. It could be washing fabric, folding washcloths/underwear/liners, tracing templates, cutting ribbon, etc. There are so many tasks that do not require sewing to get these kits into the hands of girls.

Please let us know if you have the time to do some work at home. We'll create a contact list once we hear from you and proceed from there.

If for whatever reason you no longer are available for volunteering for Days for Girls, please let us know and we will remove your name from our email list.

Thanks so much,

*Sandy and Mary, Co-founders Days for Girls*



*This photo illustrates the joy the kits bring to Malawian women and girls.*

Menstruation is a normal part of life for women. However, for some Malawian women and especially Malawian girls, a lack of menstrual supplies makes periods far more of a struggle than they need to be. For many, during their periods, they do not attend school and thus fall behind or even drop out. Warm Hearts (WH) seeks to remedy this by providing thousands of reusable feminine hygiene kits to support girls' education. The kits, and support by a Malawian nurse, have improved attendance and the confidence of these young women faced with what is a completely natural process.

In 2020, WH, as part of its campaign to "KEEP GIRLS IN SCHOOL," launched the Young Women's Health Initiative to focus on 12 schools in rural Mangochi, Malawi, where 2,000 girls were receiving no support or supplies for their menstrual periods. We hope to be able to expand this project to additional schools in the future.

# SIGP CREATES A VIRTUAL BOOK SALE FOR ITS MEMBERS!

Have you run out of reading material since you've been quarantined?

Your Soroptimist family can help YOU ...

and you can help US achieve our annual fundraising goal in the process!



*We're collecting and selling books like these (left) ... not like these (right). :)*

Gather your gently used, almost like-new books. NO old, musty books which you've been storing and just want to toss. That is not the idea.

We want books you have read and would love to share with others. Drop them off at Ellen Chapin's home (1003 Harvard, Road, GPP) or call Kathy DiCenzo (586-772-5007) to arrange for a pick up.

We've already sent an email to each of you with a list of titles. More emails will arrive periodically with updated lists.

Once you've reviewed them, **text 313-409-0529** or email ([ellenchapin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ellenchapin@sbcglobal.net)) your choices. If more than one person requests a title, the first response will be awarded that book. You will be notified and arrangements made for pick up and payment.

**Softcover books      \$2.00**

**Hardcover books      \$4.00**

It doesn't get much better than this! We will continue as long as there are donations and requests for books. Call us if you have any questions! Happy Reading!

*Ellen Chapin    313-409-0549*

*Kathy DiCenzo*

*586-772-5007*

SIGP supports and assists Positive Images. Here's some information on what they do!



## WE HAVE OVER EIGHT DIFFERENT TREATMENT PROGRAMS!

While COVID-19 continues to exacerbate social and medical inequities across the country, the staff at Positive Images Inc. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Recovery Community have stretched themselves to reconfigure services for those in need.

As unemployment rates rise and more people lose their employee-sponsored health insurance, Positive Images Inc. must remain open to provide care for all, regardless of insurance status.

Help the community by spreading the word - We Are Here For You!

We appreciate your support!

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND  
MENTAL HEALTH  
TRANSITIONAL SUPPORTIVE  
HOUSING PROGRAM  
MATERNAL INFANT HEALTH  
HOME BASED SERVICES  
ENHANCED WOMEN'S SERVICES  
CHILDCARE PROGRAM  
RECOVERY HOUSING  
RECOVERY AND OTHER SERVICES**

Connect with [US](#)

**Visit our website**

## The Road to Equality ... Soroptimist International Webinar

### by SoroptimistLab Thursday, August 20, 2020

SI President Sharon Fisher started the presentation by stating that the theme of the Road to Equality will be, “Leave No One Behind.” The main way to create change is through education. SI continues to work with the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women to improve the lives of women locally as well as globally. To create change will take more than a village. We all need to work together. Since COVID has hit the world we have discovered that “we are all in the same storm, but we are not in the same boat.” COVID has increased all forms of gender inequity including child marriage, female genitalia mutilation, domestic violence, human trafficking, as well as more refugees and elder women without adequate care.

Olga Sidenko, President Appeal Coordinator from a Switzerland club, spoke about the migration of refugees, human trafficking, and domestic violence. Refugees are seeking to escape violence and war, and are in danger of being raped. Human traffickers are taking advantage of these vulnerable women and are “rescuing” them only to capture them into the life of prostitution. Domestic violence is also on the rise due to COVID.

Ayushi Kundu, President Appeal Coordinator from a SI club in India, spoke about child marriage, older women and FGM. Ten-year-old girls are being married to men twice their age, thus being deprived of continuing their education. These girls become pregnant before becoming a woman. They create more children than they can financially support, which perpetuates the cycle of child marriages. During COVID, many families have been struggling so more young girls have become victims of child marriages. Older women have experienced more financial hardships during COVID, causing isolation, violence, discrimination, and lack of adequate health care. FGM has also continued causing pain, healthcare problems, and sometimes death. SI Presidential Appeal Road to Equality funds are currently being channeled to Sierra Leone, Gambia, Somalia, Kenya, and Nigeria to alleviate these problems.

The final speaker was Kyayanga Wisike from SI of Nairobi, Kenya. She spoke about the challenges women and girls face in Kenya, especially in the villages. Women are the “beasts of burden” and are expected to work the land, create children, and carry the water. They face violence, child marriage, FGM, and human trafficking. Men have total control over their lives and women are expected to obey. They are disciplined, abused, and sometimes assaulted. Women are valued by the number of children they produce. They are discarded if infertile. Some men marry as many as fifteen women. During COVID, more girls are at risk for FGM since they are no longer in school. Currently prevention programs, education, funding for support, and family court cases of domestic violence are ongoing. The goal is to change the laws and the current culture through education and creating women role models.

Soroptimists are encouraged to act to provide support with these six injustices done to women and girls by taking action in their own communities. Unfortunately, women in most of the world are victims of child marriage, female genitalia mutilation, domestic violence, human trafficking, as well as inadequate care for refugees and elder women.

*--Summary by Mary Ellen Burke, SI of Grosse Pointe, MI*

## THANK YOU from the CASOE Group, Inc.

At our last meeting we asked our members if they could individually help CASOE Group to help with its online learning. We had six members donate supplies and checks totaling \$250. Together we made a big difference for the students. Janice and one of the children's mothers expressed their thanks for our support as you can see from the two thank you notes below.

Dearest Rosanne,

You are awesome! And I am grateful. Please let your members know that we are grateful and that we send them our sincere thanks! — *Janice Smith, Director, CASOE*

My son loves to draw and is pretty good at it. He suffers from ADHD and drawing is a good way to calm him down and center his energy.

The CASOE Group, Inc. provided an art class that taught him the fundamentals of art and introduced him to painting. Great, free program especially during the pandemic.

— *L. Baity*



Soroptimists, and Soroptimists representing AAUW and the League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe (LWV-GP), attended a photo shoot on July 28. It was sponsored by the LWV-GP. The three organizations convened at the War Memorial in support of the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage.

Presidents Ellen Chapin and Marya Malkovich, V.P. Laura McCourt, President Elect Karrie Blankenship, and Past Presidents Aleska Andjelkovic and Roseanne Horne represented SIGP. AAUW was represented by Vicki Granger, Mary Ellen Burke, Carolyn Barth, and Diana Langlois. SIGP member Mary Ellen Brayton represented the LWV-GP.

(Note: Due to the masks, you'll have to figure out who's who! — Ed.)

**Please see following pages for non-Soroptimist happenings in our neighborhood.**

# AAUW G.P.

*celebrates*

the  
100th Anniversary of the  
Ratification of the 19th Amendment

with a parade on  
October 11  
at 1 p.m. starting at  
G.P. South High School



Register at  
[www.grossepointe-mi.aauw.net](http://www.grossepointe-mi.aauw.net)

# SUFFRAGE

*More on next page*



August 23, 2020

Dear Friend,

**One Hundred years** ago, the American Suffragists succeeded, through determination and courage, in getting the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution ratified. This amendment gave women the right to vote.

The Grosse Pointe Branch of the American Association of University Women is commemorating this historic event by hosting a 100 Year Suffrage Parade. The Celebration Parade will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. It will begin at Grosse Pointe South High School and will end at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. Those who are unable to march can meet us at the War Memorial at approximately 1:30 p.m. for a short program.

We are inviting you and members of your organization to join us in this celebration. All are welcome: women, men, and children. Social distancing and masks are required. Participants are encouraged to wear white as the 1920 Suffragists did when marching.

Attached are the flyer and registration form. Please visit our website at [grossepointe-mi.aauw.net](http://grossepointe-mi.aauw.net) for additional information.

We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,  
The AAUWGP 100 Year Suffrage Parade Committee

*To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.*



**American Association of University Women-Grosse Pointe  
100<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Parade to Celebrate the  
Ratification of the 19<sup>TH</sup> Amendment**

**Sunday, October 11, 2020 1:00 P.M.  
Grosse Pointe South High School to Grosse Pointe War Memorial**

Participation in this parade is free. However, donations will be accepted to support the AAUWGP scholarship and STEM programs. This is a non-political event. Masks are required and social distancing will be observed. Please wear white to support the Suffragists. Sashes are optional. You can wear your own or purchase one (see below).

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_\_Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_Email address\_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact\_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone number\_\_\_\_\_

Complete and mail this form to: AAUW Grosse Pointe, P.O. Box 36776, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

Participants can check in starting at 12:30 in the Grosse Pointe South High School parking lot, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd. Grosse Pointe Farms.

**Deadline to register: September 30, 2020**

If you are interested in becoming a member of AAUW Grosse Pointe, please go to our website at: [grossepointe-mi.aauw.net/join/form/](https://grossepointe-mi.aauw.net/join/form/)

If you or your group would like to purchase either sashes or pins, we recommend you go to [etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com) and search for the following:

Sashes: Votes for Women, Suffragette Protest Sash 1918

Pins: Suffragette City100, Suffragette Yellow Gold Rose 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment

**Thank you for participating! We look forward to seeing you.**

*To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.*



## The Junior League's 2020 Designer Show House in Indian Village is a go!

September 19 through October 4

In past years, a group of SIGP members toured the house together.

Here are the details if you are interested in forming a group.

Monday through Friday | 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Thursday and Friday | 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday | 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday | 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.

**Tickets are ONLY available online (not at the door). Here's the link to purchase tickets:**

<https://junior-league-detroit.ticketbud.com/cal>

Here's another link with general info about the Show House (ticket pricing, location, etc.):

<https://www.jldetroit.org/fundraiser/designers-show-house/>

**Photos are of SIGP's August meeting at the Shores Park. We hope you join us on Wednesday, September 9 in person or via ZOOM Sept 9! Both start at 6:30 p.m.**



(Photo 1: l-r) Laura McCourt, Roseanne Horne, Aleksa Andjelkovic, Maddy Colavito and behind her, Renee Rodriguez. Photo 2: Mary Ellen Burke, Maureen Anthony, Karrie Blankenship and Diana Langlois. Photo 3: Ellen Chapin holds the computer so ZOOM attendees can see the speaker, Bette Lepouttre. A microphone and audio speaker is used so everyone can hear. This is an amazing re-creation of SIGP's meeting that takes advantage of technology and of in-person, safe distancing. Those who attend in person also get to enjoy an evening sitting outdoors!

## A heartfelt letter from a 40-year member of SI Great Britain

Dear Chat Liners

I've been reflecting on several things recently and thought I'd share them with you. Everything falls within my Soroptimist experience.

Listening to the radio this morning I was reminded that 75 years today the first atomic bomb fell on Hiroshima. The presenter referred to the current situation in Beirut and the devastation there which is only a fraction of the explosive power of the atom bombs dropped. Then, thousands of lives were lost, thousands of people suffered from the effects throughout their lives and total families were destroyed.

I have been in contact with my friends in the Lebanese Campaign to ban landmines; thankfully I've heard from Haboubba that everyone is safe but their offices and equipment are just a pile of rubble. By chance my young friend Simon Conway was interviewed on BBC4 this morning on the explosion in Beirut!

When I attended the SIA Convention in New York many years ago, several of us from Northwestern Region visited the UN. Seeing the exhibits of the atom bombings made a lasting impression on me, and made me proud to be a member of an organisation working towards world peace.

This was further impressed upon me when together with IP Hanne Jensbo, Dawn Marie and Summer Lockerbie in 2009, I was part of the SI delegation to the UN DPA Conference in Mexico City, "For Peace and Development – Disarm Now". After the opening by Ban Ki-moon, the speakers included my old friend Jody Williams (recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize) and The Mayor of Hiroshima. Again, I felt proud to be a Soroptimist, representing you there.

Step back several years ago to the time when my granddaughter asked me for help with her homework which was about the atomic bombing of Japan. One of our dear Chat Line friends from Japan stayed with us during 2003, so I asked for her help, and she sent this email to Ashleigh:

*"At 8.15 am on August 6, 1945, the first atomic bomb named "Little Boy" was released to Hiroshima from an American B29 bomber. More than 250,000 people were dead, and the seriously injured people were innumerable. On August 9, Nagasaki became the next atom-bombed city.*

*I was born in 1946 just after the war and I was in Hiroshima in my high school days. Some of my classmates were atom-bombed in their mother's bodies. All of them, babies and mothers, suffered the radiation sickness, which remains more than half a century, to the next generation.*

*I have a complicated emotion as a person in Japan, which is the first and last (I do hope) atom-bombed country. Gradually, the witnesses of this tragedy became older and fewer. However, Japanese have "No More Hiroshima" spirit as the only atom-bombed nation. I recommend all youth in the world to visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.*

I later learned that my Soroptimist friend Kyoko Nishimura personally experienced the tragedy in Nagasaki. When I became a Soroptimist in 1981, I could not have envisaged that one day I would have friends who had survived 6<sup>th</sup> August 1945 or that I'd have spent the last 25 years as I have.

Many of you know, it was through SI that I was introduced to the Mines Advisory Group in 1995. In the ensuing years this has opened opportunities for me to serve Soroptimist in the disarmament world – also helping to ensure the name Soroptimist was recognised. Imagine, eventually I never had to explain who (or what) we were (or did)!

On this 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the world is experiencing a global pandemic and it's unlikely that we will return to our 'normal' lives again. Let's take this opportunity to work together for SI using new technologies, prove we are adaptable to and can accept challenges and change! Whatever the problems, we **can** move forward to our Centenary - still working together to transform the lives of women and girls.

It's not very often I pour my heart out on the Chat Line, but today I felt I had to sit and pull my thoughts together. If you have managed to read through this long missive, thank you.

We move forward to 2021 and our Centenary – when we celebrate our "Bright Past and Brilliant Future". For me? I will celebrate 40 years of membership, inspired to join when listening to Thelma de Leeuw!

*Love and cyber-hugs, Kate Moore, SI Newcastle & District, Midland Chase Region, SI.GBI*

Roseanne Horne  
c/o SIGP  
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Ladies (S) \_\_\_\_\_

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Ladies (L) \_\_\_\_\_

Force (XL) \_\_\_\_\_

Ladies (XL) \_\_\_\_\_

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Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe



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## Soroptimist Websites

Soroptimist International Midwest Region - ([simwr.org](http://simwr.org))  
Soroptimist International of the Americas ([soroptimist.org](http://soroptimist.org))  
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([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](http://grossepointesoroptimist.net) ..... Karrie Blankenship  
or [https://www.grossepointesoroptimist.net/calendar of events.html](https://www.grossepointesoroptimist.net/calendar%20of%20events.html) for calendar

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

### SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS:

FACEBOOK and [facebook.com/soroptimistgrossepointe](https://www.facebook.com/soroptimistgrossepointe) ..... Renee Rodriguez

NEWSLETTER: THE POINTER is on the website and  
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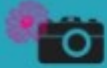
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