

The Pointer

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe

President's Message



Since our last edition of, The Pointer, our club is reeling at the recent loss of three members. Ann Cunningham, age 96, passed away on August 3, after a long and active life. Dena Cukr, one of our past presidents, passed away on August 22, in Northern Michigan, under the care of hospice, at age 75. Then, just last Thursday, on August 25, at age 66, suddenly, Phyllis Darden died. She was one of our newer members and we were just getting to know and love her.

Each of these women embraced our club and gave us so much of their

time. Ann was a member since 1978, Dena joined in 1989, and because of illness did not renew her membership last year. Phyllis recently retired and sought out our club to further her volunteer activities and goals. She attended a meeting last winter and came to our wine-tasting in January and joined us! She became very active, very quickly and recently joined our board!

While our club will individually and collectively grieve the loss of these wonderful members, it will be a bit easier (hopefully) that we can do it together. I know we all support the Soroptimist mission, and the mission of Ann, Dena and Phyllis, in wanting the "Best for Women".

Let us all take a deep breath, say a quiet prayer, and give thanks for our club and all its members, past and present.

Our very best regards,
Ross and Roseanne
Your Co-Presidents



Co-President Roseanne Horne and Ross Braun



September 2016 Edition

Birthday's

Kathy DiCenzo 9/17

Susan Stewart 9/25

Dates to Remember

- 9/7 ~ Board Meeting
- 9/10 ~ Business Meeting ~ GPYC ~ 6pm meet & greet ~ 7 pm meeting starts
- 9/17 ~ 11:15 am Yankee Air Museum Tour at Willow Run Airport

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

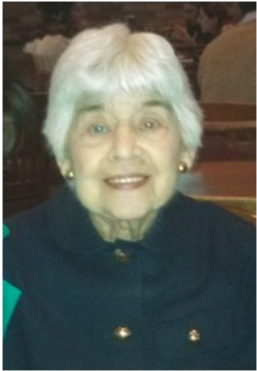
- 04/21,22 & 23 Kalahari Resort & Conventions Center, Sandusky, OH
- SIA: 45th Biennial Convention, Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan July 30-August 2, 2018
- SI: 21st SI Convention, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia July 2019



Follow us on Facebook

Ann Cunningham

September 9, 1919—August 3, 2016



Ann Cunningham joined Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe (SIGP) in January 1978 when she was 58 years old. She had been a Training Manager at Hudson's Retail Store for most of her life. She remained a member of SIGP for the rest of her life, 38 years. She was a SUPER dedicated Soroptimist, and we all will miss her.

She held many leadership positions, including the secretary several times. She volunteered to be the president from 1983-85, after only being a member for five years. She participated in most club projects including our 60th anniversary party. She put the postage stamp on each of the invitations sent out to celebrate our clubs "60 Years of Service".

She participated in all our club service projects. The last 25 years we have been focusing on Positive Images. Ann always supported the Christmas party by buying children's clothes as well as dressing up as Christmas Carol and helping to pass out gifts to the children. She supported the Mother's Day bags by contributing items all year, and then helping to prepare the bags before Mother's Day. She participated in two of the SIA grants we received by fixing up client rooms at Coplin, and by shopping for items for the Boulevard House.

When she was membership chair, she personalized our installation ceremonies of new members. Besides giving each member their SI pin, nametag, and yellow rose, she introduced the member to our club by sharing something personal about her. Sometimes it related to the woman's civilian profession and how those skills would carry over to serving our club. Then she was asked to conduct the new officers induction. Her last induction was based on a train. She gave each officer a train car (caboose to director, up to locomotive for the president) as she welcomed them into their new service role.

About 30 years ago Ann volunteered to be the Friendship Link Chair. Our club has been friends with two clubs in Japan, and one in Australia, in Ecuador and Britain. Ann was very faithful to corresponding with these clubs and exchanging gifts at Christmas each year. Ann saved all the letters received as well as hand copying the letters she sent out so club members could read the correspondence. Members learned what women were doing to help women and girls in other countries.

Ann also became our club historian, a position she has also held around 20 years. We have several albums with original newspaper articles, with photos of our Award winners, and photos of club members participating in local club projects. We are so grateful to Ann for preserving our history so diligently.

Ann also enjoyed meeting Soroptimists in other clubs and countries. She attended District III meetings, Midwestern Region conferences, SIA Conventions, and even a SI Convention. Her last regional conference was in Dearborn, MI at age 94. She started going to SIA Conventions as early as 1986 to Seattle, and her last one was San Francisco in 2010 at age 91. She even attended a SI Convention in Helsinki in 1999. Ann enjoyed meeting Soroptimists at these conventions and began a correspondence with them, and looked forward to seeing them at future conferences. She had a pen pal relationship with some Philippine and Australian Soroptimists, who were not part of our Friendship Links.

Besides these major contributions to SIGP, Ann also decided to send each member a birthday card. She bought the cards, and stamps and mailed each member a birthday card from SIGP on her actual birthday. Ann took this self-appointed activity seriously. She never missed a birthday, even when she was in the hospital this May and June.

In 2004 when Ann was 85, former SIGP President and SIMWR Governor Mary Parsigian created the "Ann Cunningham Dedication Award" to honor Ann's many years of service. An SIGP Soroptimist is chosen every two years based on her service to SIGP. The award includes a silver bowl engraved "Ann Cunningham Dedication Award" with the name and date of each SIGP recipient.

Soroptimists are sad to see Ann leave us but we will never forget her feisty nature, determination, and dedication to improving the lives of women and girls everywhere. She was a giving, caring woman and SIGP has been very fortunate to have had her as a member. We will all miss her.

Dena Smith Cukr

November 25, 1940—August 22, 2016



Dena Smith Cukr joined Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe (SIGP) in February 1989 when she was 48 years old. She had started taking courses in nursing, but left to become an office manager for Lutheran Haven. She was an active participant in SIGP but mainly behind the scenes.

She served as president from 1994-96, after being a member for only five years. She also served as a secretary several times. Dena joined SIGP when we started assisting Positive Images. She actively participated in these service projects. Every year she helped shop for Christmas gifts for the client's children, and then volunteered at the Christmas party. She was there to prepare the Easter baskets for the children, and the Mother's Day bags for the clients. She also helped make drapes, stuff pillows, and purchase bedspreads for the Positive Images residents at Coplin.

Dena also participated in the projects at the Children's Home of Detroit. This included the Pet Parade as well as the Mardi Gras party. She attended Human Trafficking events, especially the early ones that Theresa Flores attended as the guest speaker.

In 1996, Dena was very involved in planning SIGP's 40th Anniversary Party. She also chaired the Cornucopia fund raising event, a shopping fair with participating vendors. Dena also supported the Dine Around Town Raffle when that became our major fundraiser.

Dena did attend District III meetings, Roundtables, Midwestern Region Conferences, and one SIA Convention in Dallas.

Dena was a dedicated Soroptimist who preferred to give "behind the scenes". She was planning to attend our "Sixty Years of Service" Anniversary Party this April, but cancer prevented her from coming. We were sad not to see her and will miss her unfailing support.

Phyllis Darden

April 23, 1950—August 25, 2016



Phyllis Darden joined Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe (SIGP) on February 16, 2016, the day SIGP hosted the Roundtable meeting for District III. Even though Phyllis lived 40 minutes from SIGP, it never stopped her from attending most events.

She came to our Wine Tasting event on January 15, 2016 and met the group. She was ready to join our club! She attended our "Sixty Years of Service" Anniversary party in April, bringing her entire family. She volunteered to help set up and sell at our Garage Sale at the end of May.

She decided she wanted to volunteer at Positive Images (P.I.) in the parenting program and started attending club committee meetings. She was due to attend the required orientation this month. She helped to prepare the Mother's Day bags for P.I. in May. She also attended the Human Trafficking event at Cobo Hall in June, representing SIGP at their booth.

She became very active as a new member, attending every general meeting and most club activities. SIGP board members asked her if she would be interested in serving on our board as Vice President/Membership chair. She agreed and adopted "60 members in honor of 60 years" as the motto for her membership drive. She attended board meetings, and even came to the budget meeting on Wednesday, August 17.

She also attended the club outing at Diana's Lake home in July, and joined SIGP book club last spring. She read each book and attended all the discussion meetings including the one on Thursday, August 18. She signed up for our fund raising outing at the Yankee Museum this September.

Phyllis has only been a member of our club for seven months. In that short time she has literally "jumped into almost all activities" including club management. Many SIGP members have gotten to know her because of her outstanding participation. We are committed to meet her membership goal, and will miss her unfailing presence and support.

MemberSHIP

Yankee Air Museum



Where: 47884 D Street Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 483-4030

When: Saturday, September 17, 2016

Time: 11:15 am until approximately 3:00 pm Lunch included.

What: **Tour of Yankee Air Museum**

Tour includes:

- Behind the scene tour that is normally NOT open to the public along with going to Hangar One which is normally totally off limits. (1+ hours)
- Regular Museum Tour in the Exhibit Gallery (1+ hours)
- Flight simulator experience

Cost: \$20 per person Picnic Lunch included

Please **RSVP** and pay \$20 to Kerri Green or Jane Evola
by **September 7, 2016**

Yankee Air Museum
A Smithsonian Affiliate located at Historic Willow Run

yankeeamuseum.org



Fundraising— Rosie the Riveter



The Village of
East Harbor

A SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

A Mission of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan

Make sure to attend Septembers meeting and meet a real Rosie the Riveter. Frances Masters, a resident of The Village of East Harbor in Chesterfield, will be visiting Soroptimist to share her experiences as a Rosie the Riveter. Fran will be sharing her story at 7:00 pm so please make sure to have your questions ready.



YANKEE AIR MUSEUM
WHERE HISTORY TAKES FLIGHT



Program & Service

Parenting classes continue at Positive Images. Many thanks to Dorothy, Ellen, Jane, Diane K., and Laura for their commitment to do the classes through the summer months.

NEEDED: new and gently used tote bags- the kind you use for shopping. Bags are given to the woman when she finishes the 8th week of parenting classes.

NEEDED: calendars, any size

Please bring these items to the September meeting and give to one of the women who volunteer there. These are ongoing needs- we collect all year.

THANKS!



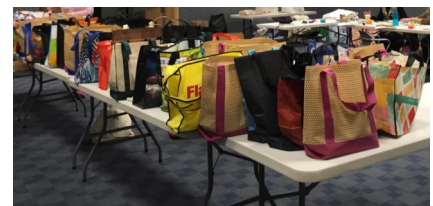
Program & Service



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
Scarves



Program & Service



What You Just Made Possible



Thank you for your gift!

Through your support, you are helping to create a more free world for women and girls. Each Days for Girls Kit lasts 2-4 years, giving back hundreds of days of time, education, and opportunity that would otherwise be missed without hygiene options. When women and girls have what they need, communities, nations, and our world are stronger.

Thank you for your efforts to ensure this is possible.

"I am not free while any woman is unfree, even when her shackles are very different from my own." — Audre Lorde

With Gratitude,

Your Friends at Days for Girls

Photo: girls receive DfG Kits in Rwanda. Copyright © 2016 Days for Girls International.

Days for Girls

Roseanne Horne purchased the items listed on the thank you letter with the money the members of SIGP donated for Days for Girls and presented them to Celeste at the 2016 SIA Convention.



8/26/2016

Dear Roseanne Horne

Thank you for your important support. Your significant in-kind donations to Days for Girls International are tremendously important, making it possible to reach many girls and women worldwide. This contribution helps ensure that more girls have more dignity, education and hope.

You should see the girl's faces when they receive kits. They are so grateful. One girl recently said, "We will no longer have to fear." Thanks to you more girls will have less fear, more dignity, more safety, less distraction at school. For that matter, without your support, she might not have been able to stay in class at all. It never ceases to amaze me that such a simple, direct solution improves so much for girls around the globe. Thank you for being an important part of the solution.

Thank you again for the dignity, education and hope that you just made possible for girls.

With gratitude,

Celeste Mergens
Executive Director

Days for Girls International Donation Receipt

This is to acknowledge receipt of valued in-kind donation(s)

Donation from: Roseanne Horne

Item(s): 1,000 bars of soap, 520 ziploc bags, and 240 washcloths

Value declared by the donor:

Tax ID number: Days for Girls 501©3 # 45-3934671

Every Girl. Everywhere. Period.
www.DaysforGirls.org 1610 Grover St. Suite B22 Lynden, WA 98264
info@daysforgirls.org 360-220-8393

Health & Hospitality



Ghana Grant Committee

Plantain Anyone?

Well, ladies, the Ghana Grant team was pleased to dip into West Africa recently. The occasion was a gathering of friends at a restaurant popular for West African dishes. Among those enjoying the feast were three people native to Ghana, including two nuns from the south of the country, and the bishop of Damongo, who is responsible for St. Anne Girls High School. You will recall that SIGP is supporting six girls in their quest for a diploma at this school.

Here is how it happened. Bishop Peter Paul Angykier was busy doing mission appeals in Chicago when he called SIGP member and former Peace Corps volunteer Carol Hofer, who had served in Damongo years ago. Together he and Carol arranged his trip to from the windy city to Detroit to meet our very own Ghana Grant Team of Diana Langlois, Myra Golden, Marya Malkovich, Mary Ellen Burke, and Carol. Team member Mary Clare Toffanetti could not join us that evening.



Plantain (cooked banana), rice, chicken, yams, and spinach were enjoyed by all, topped off with birthday cake to celebrate Mary Ellen's special day, and ice cream cones. Note the looks of satisfaction on the faces of all.

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

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



Finding the Person You Want to Nominate

Eligibility Requirements:

A Ruby Award recipient should be a woman who:

- Has worked to improve the lives of women and girls,
- Has identified and focused on a need in their communities, which has significantly contributed to the improvement of women and girls' lives,
- Would inspire and encourage other women.

The majority of the nominee's work should have occurred within the past two years. **Previous award winners, Soroptimists and Soroptimist employees are not eligible for the award.**

Please nominate your eligible candidates today! Forward your nominations to Marlane Washington, Ruby Award Chair, at marlanewashington@gmail.com on or before January 15, 2017. The nomination form is attached for your convenience. If you would like to be part of the Ruby Award committee, please feel free to contact Marlane at the email above.

Thank you,

Marlane Washington



Soroptimist International of Grasse 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

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

Greetings everyone, the non-profit organization **Still Standing & RedeeMed** will be hosting a community gathering on the issue of Domestic Violence on Friday, October 21, 2016 from 6pm-9pm at the **Charles H Wright Museum of African-American History** **no fee**

Join the event and become acquainted with the leaders spearheading the healing of the community.

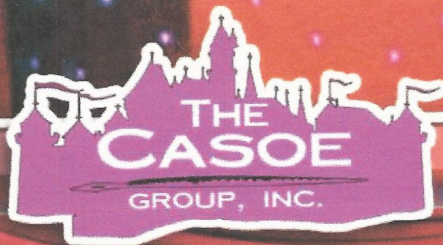


THE STILL STANDING ORGANIZATION
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR
ANNUAL PURPLE INFUSION EVENT
"SOLUTIONS TO ERADICATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE"
FRIDAY, OCTOBER TWENTY-FIRST
TWO-THOUSAND AND SIXTEEN
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
CHARLES H. WRIGHT AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM
315 EAST WARREN STREET
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48202
(REGRETS ONLY) CALL SHARI WARE
(313) 444-4132

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



P R E S E N T S

"Meeting Jesus at 3:00 PM"

Performance By
CASOE YOUTH THEATER

Friday, September 9, 2016 7:30 pm

at the
Charles H. Wright
Museum of African American History
General Motors Theater
315 E. Warren Ave. • Detroit, MI 48201

CASOE Theater House

8801 Woodward Ave. Floor 3

(Located inside the Bethel Community Transformation Center)
Detroit, MI 48202

www.thecasoe.org

For Tickets or more information, Contact Janice Smith @ 313.656.4600

Production made possible by The Skillman Foundation, National Endowment of the Arts,
Comerica Charitable Foundation, Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, Community Connections Grant

TICKET ORDER FORM

PRESENTS

MEETING JESUS AT 3PM

AUDIENCES WILL STAND UP AND CHEER

CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM
OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY
315 EAST WARREN AVE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48201

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2016 7:30PM
GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY

TICKET PRICES:

\$15.00 (ADVANCE) \$20.00 (DOOR) \$13.00 GROUP (10 or more)
\$12.00 (YOUTH 12 & UNDER)

_____ Adult Ticket (s) at the cost of \$15.00 per individual (Advance)
Total Cost \$ _____

_____ Youth Ticket (s) at the cost of \$12.00

_____ Group Tickets at the cost of \$13.00 Advanced (minimum 10)

_____ I cannot attend "MEETING JESUS AT 3PM" but would like to contribute
\$ _____

Name: _____

Full Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please forward payments to: The CASOE Group, Inc.

PO Box 21854

Detroit, MI 48221

www.thecasogroup.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT