

The Pointer

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe

President's Message



Dear SIGP members:
Our active club is revving up for a busy October! We have lots of fun activities planned and hope to see many member and guests attend. On Sunday, October 9th we will celebrate with Amanda Be and her new baby Margaret Mei at an Open House at Diana Langlois' home. Marya Malkovich and Laura McCourt are planning another "Dine Around Town Crawl" to be held on Friday, October 21st. Come along and bring some potential new members as guests. Ross Braun will be hosting our New Member Orientation at her home on Wednesday, October 26th. A great night for our new members to learn more about our Club

and the Soroptimist Organization as a whole.

October is anti-bullying month and October 11 is International Day of the Girl. Rasheda Williams has arranged for London Bell to speak at our meeting this month. London is President and CEO of Bell Global Justice Institute. She works on global issues concerning women and girls.

SIGP is so fortunate to have such a dynamic group of members who are committed to the Soroptimist mission of helping women and girls be their best. From awards chairs, committee chairs, Positive Images volunteers, to board members and event chairs our club members are always ready to step up and get the job done. Ross and I would especially like to thank Dorothea Williams for taking over the Vice

President/Membership chair position. Let's all try to help Dorothea fulfill Phyllis' goal of 60 members for our 60th year. Did you know the Number One way new members join Soroptimist is by word of mouth? Have you asked a friend, family member, tennis partner, neighbor, etc. to come to a meeting or event? Let's all give it a try this month!

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



Co-President Roseanne Horne and Ross Braun



October 2016 Edition

Birthday's

Paula Davis	10/1
Nancy Hohlfeldt	10/15
Lakissa Purnell	10/15
Lee Meyer	10/19
Dorothea Williams	10/26
Marina Houghton	10/28
Carolyn Barth	10/30

Dates to Remember

- 10/5 ~ Board Meeting
- 10/09 ~ Open House Baby Shower for Amanda and Margaret Mei-An ~ 2—5 at Diana Langlois house (see flyer for details)
- 10/12 ~ Business Meeting ~ GPYC ~ 6pm meet & greet ~ 7 pm meeting starts
- 10/26 ~ New Member Orientation ~ 7pm ~ Ross Braun Home ~ 515 Middlesex~ GPP

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
-



Follow us on Facebook

Public Awareness



Bell Global Justice Institute (Organization founded by October SIGP speaker London Bell)

The Bell Global Justice Institute will host an event commemorating the United Nations' International Day of the Girl in Detroit. The United Nations has set aside the official Day of the Girl (October 11) to raise awareness around the unique challenges that girls face globally. On October 15, 2016, the organization will host a community discussion about

the state of human rights for girls in Detroit and globally. Part of the event will include a film viewing and discussion of the riveting documentary "Girl Rising" -- stories of young girls around the world and their journey to access their human right to education.

Healthy snacks and refreshments will be served. The event is free and open to the public.

WHERE: 3663 Woodward Avenue, Ste. 150, Detroit, MI

WHEN: October 15, 2016, 1-4 p.m.

MemberSHIP



Dear SI Members,

As you steer your club's ship this year, it is important to engage new members to help you with the dream programs in your community. You know the more members we add to our ranks, the more we increase the collective impact of Soroptimist!

To assist you in your club's recruitment efforts, please check out the latest "[Tip for Growing Membership!](#)"

Sincerely,

SIA Headquarters

MemberSHIP



ITINERARY FOR THE CRAWL

MEET AT WHISKEY SIX FOR HAPPY HOUR ANY TIME FROM 4:30 TO 5 P.M.

AT 5:15, WE WILL WALK TO MARAIS FOR AN APPETIZER AND WINE (OR DRINK)

AT 6 P.M., WE WILL RIDE THE TROLLEY TO THE HILL. HERE WE WILL VISIT JUMPS FOR A SALAD AND THE HILL FOR PIZZA.

AT 8- 8:30, WE WILL RETURN TO THE VILLAGE VIA TROLLEY AND HAVE ICE CREAM AT EITHER TCBY OR COLDSTONE.

ALL FOOD IS INCLUDED FOR \$25.

DRINKS ARE NOT INCLUDED BUT MAY BE PURCHASED AT EACH STOP.

This is a way to get together and socialize as well as show appreciation for our wonderful supporters of Dine Around Town and our anniversary party.

Guest are welcome!

We need a final count and payment at our next business meeting on October 12th.

Laura McCourt
lauraleecook@yahoo.com

Marya Malkovich
mmalkovich@gmail.com

Whiskey Six
646 St Clair Ave, Grosse Pointe,
MI 48230
[\(313\) 939-2403](tel:(313)939-2403)



Fundraising— YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

If you are like most of us on this tour, you knew basically nothing about this historic bomber plant in our backyard! The YANKEE AIR MUSEUM is located at Willow Run Airport near the World War II Willow Run Bomber Plant. Both were built in 1941. Willow Run was the industrial showpiece of America's "Arsenal of Democracy" building the B-24 bomber aircraft for the WWII. It employed 42,000 workers, over a third of whom were women! The famous 'Rosie the Riveter' worked here. Henry Ford created the bomber production line resulting in the assembly of one complete bomber aircraft per hour! We were actually able to crawl into a B-24 bomber and see first-hand what the men endured and how they fought. Today you can actually book a 30 minute flight in the B-24 for \$400!



FRAN MASTERS

A GENUINE

ROSIE THE
RIVETER



Jane Evola arranged this outing and was able to get SIGP a "behind the scenes" tour. We met volunteers who were passionate about their collections. We saw hundreds of uniforms, boots, helmets, and other items from every branch of the military. We visited the wood and metal shops where volunteers build everything! And to top it off, Jane catered a delicious lunch of chicken ceaser salad, fresh fruit and rolls. Kerri Green treated us to homemade cupcakes with confetti on the top! Attending this fun and educational outing were Jane E., Kerri G., Karrie B., Myra G., Marlane W., Mary Ellen B., Ellen C., Maddie J., and Diana L. A big THANKS to our fund raising chair, Jane, for a wonderful outing!

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—PI

Parenting classes continue with one improvement...when the client "graduates" after seven weeks of classes she will receive a tote bag and a Live Your Dream Journal. These items were requested by the members who work with Positive Images Parenting Class - Dorothy Wasinger, Ellen Chapin, Jane Lightfoot, Laura McCourt and Dianne Kashuba. Thank You SIGP for helping P.I. women in their journey to recovery and Thank You Mary Ellen for shopping for these items!

Charlotte Jarrett-Hunter, a supervisor at Positive Images, has had surgery to remove plaque from many places in her body including her legs and stomach. She is in a rehabilitation center at the DMC for another week or so, then she will be able to go home to continue her recovery. She hopes to be back on the job sometime in December! Please keep her in your prayers for a speedy and complete recovery. If you wish to send her a card or email, please contact Diana for her information.

Program & Service—Joint Project

Joint Service Project with SI Hikone (Japan)

As voted and approved at the July 13th business meeting, SIGP is supporting a joint service project with our friendship link, SI Hikone (Japan). Each club is contributing \$800 to help fund the "EcobagLivelihood Training Project" for the SI Batangas Premier club, located in Batangas, Philippines.

SI Batangas Premier has provided sewing machines, material, and thread to the local women's jail in order for inmates to create reusable shopping bags to sell at a local supermarket and department store. The purpose of the project is "to improve the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of the women inmates" and "to develop further their skills for employment". This project gives inmates fulfilling and dignified work each day instead of being idle, bored, and depressed. The inmates are paid

a small wage for their work, which supports their financial needs in jail.

The project was started in July 2015 with fifteen inmates as cutters and sewers, and they produced 55 bags per week. As the women started to improve their skills and become more familiar with the sewing machines, they can now produce 182 bags per week. The project is self-sustaining since the sale of the ecobags allows more material and supplies to be purchased to create additional bags.

With the additional \$1600 from SIGP and SI Hikone, more sewing machines will be purchased and additional inmates will be trained on how to create the bags. SI Batangas Premier believes the project is a "good psycho-social therapeutic program" for the women inmates, as it not only gives them the opportunity to earn extra income, but it also helps restore and build their self-confidence and improve their

lives. SIBP has shared some photos of the "Ecobag Livelihood Training Project".

Submitted by Kerri Green, SIGP Treasurer



BAGong Pag-asa, Changing Lives of Inmates

Since its inception, SIBP has been in a whirl of activity -learning to navigate our way in the Soroptimist world, playing catch-up with the older clubs, trying to find our unique place among so many singularly exceptional clubs. In the past year, we have opened our eyes and hearts both as individuals and as an organization to the great need around us to educate, empower, extend help to at-risk women and girls. Our attitude to service has now taken on a deeply personal perspective. We have also seen many of our members exercise creativity, resourcefulness and leadership in undertakings that they normally would not even give a second look. This year, we put more sense and sensibility to our social-civic consciousness. Last March 10, 2015, we submitted a proposal to SIA under the Soroptimist Club Grants for Women and Girls 2015-16 for an economic project involving inmates of the Batangas City Jail (BCJ) women's facility. We were fortunate to be one of only four clubs in the Philippines to be granted US\$3, 000 to implement the proposed program. Thus, the BAGong Pag-asa Project was born - an economic empowerment venture of eco-bag-making for chosen women inmates of the BCJ, with Ms. Teresa Co as Project Head. With the help of the OIC Wardress, SJO4 Irene Kapirig, seven inmates were initially trained by SIBP ladies to measure, cut and sew eco-bags that will be sold to interested retailers in the city. SIBP provides the textile, cutting and sewing equipment, and the sewing machines. The use of these are regulated and secured by

the Jail management. The inmates work in teams of two, one cuts and the other sews. They are given a quota to meet every week. Currently, another 3 to 5 inmates are in-training as cutters and sewers so that in case of absence, the quota is always met. Marketing is not a problem since Batangas City is now fully compliant with the local Environmental Code. Per Environmental Code of Batangas City, Ordinance No. 16, Series of 2010, Section 85. Prohibited and Punishable Acts: All business establishments and/or individuals are prohibited from selling and providing plastic bags to customers as secondary packaging materials on wet goods; selling and providing plastic bags to customers as packaging material on dry goods; selling and providing styrofoam as containers; and disposing plastic wastes." SIBP is supplying a major department store part of their eco-bag requirement. Income is determined thus: From July 30 up to August 18, proceeds of sales were divided equally among the cutters and tailors. But after that week, it was jointly decided that payments will be given by number of bags that they produced at P2.00 per bag for the one who sews and P1.00 per bag for the one who cuts. This gives the project-beneficiaries fulfilling and dignified work to do every day as well money to spend on their daily needs (shampoo, toothpaste, extra food, etc.)

that they do not have to ask from their relatives. SIBP members were grouped into visitation teams scheduled every week for inspection and fellowship with the project-beneficiaries. All the ladies have an opportunity to



This is an article

SI Batangas Premier

sent us which was

published in their

local newspaper

October 2015



Board Member Marvey Mariño and Brgy. Chairman Jeyson Alda led the ribbon cutting ceremony in the inauguration of the city government funded-Brangay Health Center in Barangay De la Paz Pulot Aplaya this morning, Oct. 6, following the distribution of senior citizens booklets there. Others in photo are Councilors Claudette Ambida-Alday, Julian Villena, Mando Lazarte, Serge Atienza, Alyssa Cruz and Nito Pastor who is one of the administration's candidate for councilor in the elections next year.

A Message from our Director—Darcy Merritt

Many of you may have already heard that I will be assuming the duties of District III Director. I am very excited about being your District Director again and looking forward to working with all of you. I will be having my knee replaced in October so I will not be visiting clubs until January but I am only a phone call or email away if you need anything. I was not expecting to be your Director so I had scheduled a trip during the District meetings so unfortunately I will not be at the meeting. I have retired since I was your previous Director so my contact information has changed. My phone number is (734) 968-7991 and my email address is dmeritt81@hotmail.com

District III Secretary Mary Pilon can be reached as well at pilonm@sbcglobal.net or (313) 405-5807



DISTRICTS I & III Fall Meeting September 30th & October 1st

Best Western Plus in LaPorte, IN

Room rate is \$119.00.

Make your reservation by calling 1-219-362-4585 and ask for the Soroptimist International Midwestern Region Room Rate.

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



Photo's from District 1 & III Meeting



Roseanne Horne proudly accepted SIGP's award for participating in the Dream It Be It Program



Roseanne Horne proudly accepted SIGP's award for participating in Club Giving



Roseanne Horne proudly accepted SIGP's award for participating in Live Your Dream



Roseanne Horne proudly accepted SIGP's award for participating in Club Participation

Bulletin Board

a new mobile-friendly email reminder



Unchained Fashion Show

Sunday, October 9, 2016 @ 2pm
The San Marino Club
1685 E. Big Beaver Road
Troy, Michigan

More Info!

[Purchase TICKETS Here!](#)

Michigan Abolitionist Project | www.map-mi.org |



Bulletin Board



Meeting with President Obama

Well, we can proudly say that SIGP has a definite link to President Obama.

Recently our Ruby Award winner of 2014, Sister Carol Weber, sat down with eight other activists

for a private meeting with the president. You may recall that Sister Carol is co-founder of St. Luke New Life Center in Flint which offers women employment preparation, a sewing co-op, a nutrition program, a food pantry and now, clean water.

She had been drinking contaminated water along with almost everyone else in Flint for the past few years. The water crisis has garnered attention from all over the world, and most specifically from those of us who live in Michigan.

"I found him extremely

understanding, extremely intelligent, genuine, and very, very much in a listening mode," Sister Carol recalled. He listened to the concerns of each of the community leaders represented at the table. She spoke of the sense of support that she received from the meeting. "He (the president) talked about being behind us, being with us, but he said, 'I can't do it. You're the people in the field who are really working.'"

Also attending the meeting was Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, who had tested the children of

Flint, discovered the high levels of lead in their systems, and made the water crisis known publicly.

It is gratifying to know that SIGP knows how to spotlight those women who are making real contributions to help girls and women in society, in spite of many challenges. Now we know that our nation's president recognizes the good work of one of our champs as well.

Submitted by: Carol Hofer

Mark your calendar!

The premiere of the
Wayne County Medical Society's
educational documentary

"Stuck in Traffic - Modern-Day Slavery in Michigan"
is November 3, 6:00 pm,

at Health Management Systems of America,
601 Washington Blvd., Detroit, MI.

There will be a formal invitation sent out in early October.

If you know anyone who should be invited to this event, please provide their name and address and I will send an invitation to them.

Saturday, October 8, 2016, there is a human trafficking workshop being held at

**Monroe County ISD,
1101 South Raisinville Road,
Monroe, MI,**

Beginning at 7:30am til 4pm. There will be several speakers and survivors lined up. There is a light menu of breakfast items and lunch will be catered. Registration on [Event Brite](#)—it's Ten dollars (\$10.00) per person (fee \$ 0.84) when you pay with credit card or Paypal. You may also bring toiletries, blankets, etc. for Clair's House.

Sponsored by the Monroe County Anti Human Trafficking Coalition, Monroe, Michigan.

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe

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



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.

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)



S O R O P T I M I S T

Best for Women

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