



The Pointer

SIGP activity continues through the summer

Ever since 2014 when I joined SIGP, I have been amazed at how much our members accomplish through Soroptimist activities and the teamwork. But, the true teamwork and camaraderie became even more evident since I was honored with the presidency in June 2018.

During the transition period between the outgoing and incoming board, many seasoned members stepped in to assist with our new duties. I would like to thank the outgoing members for all they have done to help us new directors step into our new roles. Also, many thanks to Ross and Roseanne for the great leadership and continued prosperity our club has experienced during their tenure as co-presidents!

Meanwhile, club members remained busy this summer with fundraising preparation, including the Dine Around Town Raffle. Diana Langlois spearheaded the time-consuming task of collecting restaurant gift certificates, \$3,000 worth in all! Once done, a group of members bundled them. They are now printed and ready for members to start selling them.

Stop Trafficking 5K Walk/Run preparations for Saturday, September 29th are going strong, and the Human Trafficking Committee has been reviewing details to ensure the public is aware of this fundraising event. All proceeds will be donated to metro Detroit organizations, shelters, and initiatives dedicated to ending human trafficking in our region.

These are just a few of the many activities that SIGP members have been engaged in as they continue to improve the lives of women and girls.

In August, we will hold an annual budget meeting for our club's upcoming fiscal year. All interested members are invited to attend.

During July's general meeting we had a guest join our club that night. Please be sure to welcome our newest member Leigh Kistler!

Wishing you all a good summer and see you at Soroptimist meetings and activities.

Aleksandra Andjelkovic, President, SIGP



RAFFLE NOTES

- Take a look at over \$3,000 worth of gift certificates from 92 restaurants! The raffle ticket is ready and can be viewed on our website: grossepointesoroptimist.org
- Raffle tickets will be ready for distribution to members for selling at the August 8th business meeting at Gilbert's Lodge.
- Raffle tickets sell for \$5 each or a book of 5 tickets for \$20.
- We hope each member can *sell at least \$100* worth of tickets to friends and family. Or, if you don't feel comfortable selling tickets, we hope you will consider purchasing them for yourself, family and friends.
- There will be opportunities for you to volunteer to sell raffle tickets at Grosse Pointe community events.
- According to Michigan State law, unsold raffle tickets need to be returned by the night of the drawing, October 10th.
- You do not need to be present to win.
- This is the 10th year that SIGP has done this fundraiser...it has proven to be very successful! Thank you for your continued support of improving the lives of women and girls.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Aleksa Andjelkovic
President

Carolyn Barth
Program/Service Chairwoman

Dorothea Williams
VP / Member

Roseanne Horne
Ross Braun
Past Presidents

Mary Ellen Burke
Treasurer

Bette Lepouttre
*Assistant Treasurer
Fundraising*

Laura McCourt
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Ellen Chapin
*Assistant Secretary
Public Awareness*

Myra Golden
Director

Marya Malkovich
*Director
Hospitality Chair*

END HUMAN TRAFFICKING NOW!

Report a tip to: Call 1-888-3737-888 OR Text BEFREE

<http://humantraffickinghotline.org/>

STOP TRAFFIC 5K

Planning for the Stop Traffic 5K on September 29, 2018 continues as the event quickly approaches. We have made great progress. A few of the highlights in July include:

- The St. Clair Shores Police Chief has approved the preferred route for the walk/run.
- The sponsorship committee is now actively visiting with business owners in the community to seek sponsors for the event. If you have any leads for monetary or in-kind support, please contact one of our 5K sponsorship co-chairs, Roseanne Horne or Carolyn Barth.
- A DJ has generously offered his free services to entertain the participants before they take to the streets.

NOTE: Members should have received the PDF version of the 5K flyer in July. Everyone is encouraged to share it via email and/or through social media. If you did not receive it, please contact Carrie Petrocelli at carreebeth@yahoo.com and she will resend it to you via email.

A poster for the 'STOP TRAFFIC 5K' event. At the top, it says 'SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF GROSSE POINTE'. Below that, on the left, is 'St Lucy's Church, 23401 E Jefferson, St. Clair Shores'. On the right, it says 'Saturday Sept 29th' with '7:30 AM check-in' and '8:00 AM start time'. The main title 'STOP TRAFFIC 5K' is in large, bold, black letters. Below the title is the subtitle 'Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Walk/Run'. The central image is a black and white illustration of a woman lying on the ground, her body partially obscured by vertical black bars that resemble a barcode or prison bars. Below the illustration, the text 'SHE'S NOT FOR SALE' is written in bold, black, all-caps letters.

For more information and to register, please visit:
grossepointesoroptimist.org and click the 5K Walk/Run tab



Proceeds benefit anti-human trafficking organizations in the Metro Detroit area



Above is the poster, designed by Eva Habib, that we'll be posting around town to publicize our STOP TRAFFIC 5K

Remember, those interested in participating can now register online by visiting grossepointesoroptimist.org and clicking the 5K Walk/Run tab.

The direct link for the registration page is:

<https://www.grossepointesoroptimist.net/stop-traffic-5k-walk-run.html>

From this page, a registration form can also be printed if someone wishes to mail-in a check.

The next meeting of the Anti-HT/5K planning committee is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 13, 2018 at St. Lucy's Church at 7:00 pm.

If you have any additional questions in the meantime, feel free to contact Carrie Petrocelli or Sarah Sheppard (carreebeth@yahoo.com and sshepp01@gmail.com, respectively).

POSITIVE IMAGES

Soroptimist members who give service to Positive Images met at Dorothy Wasinger's home on Friday, July 13, to talk about implementing some of the activities from the **Dream It Be It Program** into the Hazelden Parenting Program.

It was the first time in almost a year that Dorothy, Jane Lightfoot, Ellen Chapin, Nancy Solak, Bette Lepouttre, Diane Kashuba, Laura McCourt, Mary Ellen Burke and myself sat down together! So, it was a good time to review what was happening with the Parenting Program and to see how the "teams" were doing.

Lots of sharing resulted in an initiative to look over the activities in **Dream It, Be It**, to see where they might correlate to the chapters in the Parenting Program. Each member chose two chapters to work on.

We met again at Dorothy's on Wednesday, July 25, to share activities we had chosen to correlate with the parenting chapters. It was a lively discussion with ideas for making the parenting material more interesting and more fun!

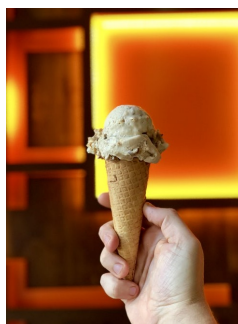
Any new (or "old") member who would like to be involved with this service to Positive Images are welcome. Talk with Dorothy or Laura at a business meeting or call Diana at 313-690-1515 if you would like more information.

DONATIONS:

Soroptimist dropped off three carloads of donations to Positive Images at the Coplin residence center during July. Some donations were left from the garage sale, and some were donations from members' friends.



In July, new and old board members got together at Jane Evola's house for a combined Board Meeting and Fourth of July Celebration. Thank you, Jane, for opening your home and providing such delicious food.



**A MUST-PUT-ON-THE-CALENDAR
TCBY Fundraiser**

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Our Club gets 20% of proceeds from our supporters, so plan to bring your friends and family on that day and treat yourself to an ice cream!

Please have your articles to Nancy Solak by 9 p.m. on or before the 28th of each month.

E-mail them to:

solaksinality@yahoo.com

Plarning — Yes, you read that right!

Do you have too many plastic shopping bags hanging around? Let's recycle them to [MOTOR CITY MITTEN MISSION.ORG](http://MOTORCITYMITTENMISSION.ORG). This non-for-profit founded by Gail Marlow takes plastic bags and cuts them into strips for "plarning" (plastic plus yarn=new word!) and creates mats, pillows, mittens, and bags for the homeless. Gail and volunteers bring them to people on the street and to shelters.

I was thinking that Soroptimist can help in a small way by bringing your plastic grocery bags to the business meetings. I will collect them monthly and drop them off at SOC (Services for Older Citizens, 158 Ridge Rd., GP Farms, 313-882-9600).



Each Wednesday at SOC, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., volunteers assemble the plastics and crochet the items. Any Soroptimist member who would like to volunteer and get involved in this service project is encouraged to do so just by showing up at SOC on Wednesday!

If you would like to have lunch at SOC, it's \$5 and you need to call the day before to make a lunch reservation. Be sure to tell them you are a SOROPTIMIST!!!

[Google: Motor City Mitten Mission for more information or call me if you have questions.](#)

Diana Langlois, 313-690-1515

How SIGP Supported Local Youth

Five young women in need from Grosse Pointe North High School completed the ACT/SAT Preparation class. SIGP is honored to have financially underwritten their efforts to further their education beyond high school. We asked them to evaluate the preparatory course, and they had a lot of positive comments about it. Here is a sampling:

"I didn't know what to expect for the ACT test and this course increased my confidence in taking the test."

"It definitely helped my English and writing skills. I was able to learn and develop strategies to help me succeed with the test."

"Learning strategies in order to finish more efficiently was so helpful."

When asked what they would tell another student considering taking this course, they all agreed that it was a good use of their time.

Award Deadlines—Plan Ahead

Live Your Dream—November 15

Kathy Kraydich, Renee Rodriguez

Virginia Wagner Award—January 15

Liz Lucas, Diana Langlois

New process—applications are all online

Ruby Award—Mid February

Marlane Washington, Roseanne Morrow

Members can nominate candidates.

Bestowing educational awards to empower women is one of the primary reasons for our club's existence. If you have any questions about the awards or their procedures, you can either go to the SIGP website: <http://www.grossepointesoroptimist.org/> or call one of the co-chairs listed above.

Party With Marya She's getting married!



Sierra Station

**15110 Mack Ave, Grosse Pointe Park,
Thursday, August 9, 6 p.m.**

Dinner is on your own/\$3 margaritas

No gifts please

**RSVP: Text or call Ellen Chapin 313 409
0549 OR Laura McCourt 954 232 4398**

“IF YOU SEE IT, YOU CAN BE IT”

What follows was written by SIGP member Mary Ellen Burke who attended the 62nd United Nations Commission on the Status of Women Conference on March 11, 2018.

This statement, “If you see it, you can be it,” was one of the opening remarks at the Conference. The panelist was stating how important it is for women to assert themselves. We all have a moral obligation to stand up and find our voice. Ireland has had two women presidents. “If you see it, you can be it.”

More than 2,000 women from all over the world attended the conference. This solidarity of women is making a difference everywhere. Currently, gender inequality is the moral challenge in this century. We need to end poverty and violence by empowering women. Women need to stand up to unacceptable behavior whether it's domestic violence, human trafficking, child and forced marriage, female genitalia mutilation, or unwanted sexual advances (ME TOO!). Education is the key to success.

The most beautiful gift you can give someone is encouragement. Never underestimate the power of a kind word. Remember it only takes one woman to make a change.

DIMES FOR DREAMS

Why SIGP member Myra will be asking for your loose change

Myra proposed to the SIGP Board that we donate this year's *Dimes for Dreams* to support SI of Norwich, England's project. Many families from India live in England. When they return to India to visit, they often leave a young girl behind in an arranged marriage. Currently 80 million girls in India are married before they turn 18. Unfortunately, this practice forces them to drop out of school, thus limiting their options for a better life.

SI of Norwich discovered a book written for young adults, *But It's Not Fair*, by Aneeta Prem. It is a fictional account of a girl who learns she has the choice to continue attending school instead of getting married. SI of Norwich is raising money to purchase this novel to donate to Indian girls in their community.

So, when Myra comes a calling at our meetings, please consider donating any (or all) of your loose change to help fund these books. We're told Myra also takes paper money!

We have a copy of the book if anyone is interested in taking a look at this easy-to-read, informational novel. For more information about it, go to: <http://butitsnotfair.com/>

Soroptimist International Midwestern Region

Call to District Meeting

Join old friends, make new friends, learn new ideas, and find the hidden treasure of new members.



District I & III Meeting: October 5-6, 2018

Hilton Garden Inn, 1300 Cinema Way, Benton Harbor,
MI 49022

District II & IV Meeting: October 12-13, 2018

Holiday Inn & Suites, 803 S. Leonard Ave. Lima, OH 45804

August

2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 Board Mtg Mary Ellen's	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Gen.Mtg Gilberts Lodge 6 p.m.	9 Marya's Wedding Shower Sierra Station 6 p.m. No gifts	10	11
12 Diana Langlois birthday	13 HT-5K Mtg 7pm St. Lucy's	14	15 Budget Meeting Mary Ellen's	16	17	18
19 District 3 Picnic Heritage Park Taylor	20	21	22	23 Susan Lewandowski birthday	24	25
26 Tina Edgar birthday	27 Ellen Chapin birthday	28	29	30	31	1

CONTACTS

District III Emails

Governor-Elect **Kris Armstrong** - (krisquin@msn.com)
Governor Elect- **Darcy Merritt** (dmerritt81@hotmail.com)
Secretary - **Missie Austin** - (missieaustin@gmail.com)
Treasurer - **Audrey Jarvey** - (audreyjarv@charter.net)
District III Director - **Mary Pilon** (pilonmary0@gmail.com)
District III Secretary - **Lata Shastri** (shastrilata@gmail.com)

Soroptimist Websites

Soroptimist International Midwest Region - (simwr.org)
Soroptimist International of the Americas - (soroptimist.org)
Soroptimist International - (soroptimistinternational.org)
Soroptimist International of the Americas Headquarters Email- (siahq@soroptimist.org)

For upcoming SIGP events and information, click the link below:
<http://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.

SIGP Member Ads

RENÉE RODRIGUEZ PHOTOGRAPHY



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