

The Pointer

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe



President's Message

November 2016 Edition

Birthday's

Dorothy Wasinger 11/2
Roseanne Horne 11/06
Anita Sandercott 11/06

Dear SIGP members:

You have seen the T.E.A.M. acronym many times. It means Together Everyone Achieves More. If you work in a place with more than a few employees or are a sports parent, as I was for many years, you totally understand the significance. SIGP is my new T.E.A.M.!

SIGP really has had that approach for more than 60 years, but I want to acknowledge the T.E.A.M right now. This is the attitude and mentality that allows our club to get it ALL done in a continuous and consistent manner! I am regularly amazed by our collective accomplishments! We are a large and strong club and this year will be our best ever!!

Ladies, please take a bow! You are all so awesome and inspiring to all around you and to me and Roseanne!

This past month we celebrated Amanda and her new daughter, Margaret Mei-An, at a party at Diana's newly restored-home, after her dev-

astating fire.

We had London Bell, from Bell Global Justice Institute, present at last month's meeting about global issues concerning women and girls. She was an inspiration to us and we will look for ways to help her in the future.

Rasheda presented copies of her new book, Be Empowered, How to Live Above & Beyond Life's Drama. We are so proud of Rasheda, and will do all we can to help her promote her very valuable publication!

Many of our members participated in a "Dine-Around Town Crawl" in the Village and the Hill. It reportedly, was the best ever! We will begin to plan a next-year version, which may mean a bus trip to Downtown Detroit!

This was truly a group effort and our thanks to Laura and Marya for organizing it!

Our New-Member Orientation, just this past week, was another reflection of our team in action! We had exceptional attendance, great participation, and even a visit from Vivian, our Regional

Governor! I cannot thank all the members who contributed food and presented information about our club, the Awards, the hierarchy of SI and SIA, so our new members are feeling welcome, well-fed and informed about their commitment to the Soroptimist organization! Another amazing team effort!

Let's look forward to November! We are so very thankful for our members and friends! Let's keep that Member Ship still sailing and bring even more wonderful additions to our club! If you know of someone who could benefit from joining our great organization, please extend an invitation to them to join us at our general meeting at GPYC on November 9th.

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



Co-President Roseanne Horne and Ross Braun

Dates to Remember

- 11/02 ~ Board Meeting ~ 6:30
- 11/03 @ 6 p.m. ~ Human Trafficking Movie premiere ~ HMSA ~ 601 Washington Blvd, Detroit
- 11/09 ~ General Meeting ~ 6pm Meet and great ~ GPYC
- 11/15 ~ Live Your Dream Applications due to club chairwomen Elaine Flowers
- **12/17 ~SAVE THE DATE
PI Christmas Party**



Follow us on Facebook

MemberSHIP



Carolyn Barth had a "zero" birthday in October and we celebrated with cake and candles at the October business meeting

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CAROLYN and many more

AManda Had a Helper opening Margaret's new Frozen Big Wheel



We would like to introduce Margaret Mei-An Be and Momma

MemberSHIP



We would like to introduce 3 of the 9 new members Dorothea and I inducted into SIGP at our September meeting. Pictured are Dorothea Williams our Membership Chair and Vice-President, Judge Deborah Thomas, Madeline (Maddy) Jeffs, Paula Davis and Karrie Blankenship, newsletter editor and webmaster.



Each new member was presented with a yellow rose which represents friendship and a Soroptimist pin. All 3 members made a short speech about why or how they became a



Fundraising

Shop with Amazon and support SIGP!

AmazonSmile will give 0.5% of eligible purchases back to our organization. Use the link below when doing your holiday shopping or go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38) and search for Sorotimist International of Grosse Pointe. <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38>

MemberShip– Dine Around Town



Hors d'oeuvres at Marais



Trolley ride to the Hill



Pizza at the Hill

MemberShip– Orientation



**Co-President Roseanne Horne
Governor Vivian Walczesky
Co-President Ross Braun**



While everyone had plenty to fill their stomach there was also plenty to fill their minds with Soroptimist information.

Governor Vivian opened the orientation with a few words and then Roseanne presented Judy Burton and Geny Senior with their pins and Soroptimist name tags.



SIGP Guest Speaker

Bell Foundation:

Bell Global Justice Institute President and CEO London Bell was SIGP's guest speaker during the October meeting. Bell, who also serves on the National Council of the United Nations Association of the United States spoke about the foundation's mission and gave an overview of the the UN's 2030 goals. Her visit coincided with the International Day of the Girl, observed Oct. 11. The Bell Global Justice Institute is a Detroit-based non-governmental organization focused on advancing and promoting the international human right to education for girls.



Awareness— SIGP partnering with AAUW

How do we recognize the signs of potential abuse and domestic violence?

Did you know there are new changes to Michigan law now making it possible to get restraining orders in a dating relationship and even when a pet has been abused?

We all likely know women (and men) who may be in relationships that strike us as "not quite right." Certainly, the Grosse Pointe area has had one of the most highly publicized cases in our life time with the brutal murder of Jane Bashara in Grosse Pointe Park a few years ago, a case that was only recently put to rest by the legal system.

The AAUW is fortunate that one of their new members, Maria Menozzi, is a couples' therapist

with a practice in St. Clair Shores and along with their longtime member Judge Lynne Pierce, who is assigned to Family Court in Wayne County, will be the guest speakers Thursday, November 10th at the Grosse Pointe Library on the topic of recognizing the signs of potential abuse and how the legal system handles these cases.

Maria Menozzi will discuss how to recognize domestic violence—which is often in the form of mental abuse, not physical, and the honorable Lynne Pierce will discuss the legal aspects of these types of cases.

Topics include:

- How to recognize unhealthy patterns in relationships
- How to tell if a relationship is unsafe
- How to help teenagers deal with social media bullying and threats

Seating is limited so please contact the AAUW for your reservation at aauwgrossepointe@gmail.com

Building Healthy Relationships

Panel discussion on Thursday, November 10, at 7 p.m.

in the Program Room of the Woods Branch of the GP Public Library

Sponsored by American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Grosse Pointe

Co-sponsored by the Soroptimists of Grosse Pointe and Dining for Women, Grosse Pointe Chapter.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, including teens.

Human Trafficking

Hello SIGP members,

Our Soroptimist Club has been invited to the movie premiere viewing of "Stuck in Traffic- Modern-day Slavery in Michigan" This movie was produced by the Wayne County Medical Society of Southeast Michigan. Laurie Jost, a former Soroptimist member of our club brought information to our club about this movie production. I was interviewed and have a short 90 second part in the movie. The movie will be shown at HMSA which is located at 601 Washington Blvd Detroit (next to Cobo Hall)

If you are interested in attending and did not sign up at the last meeting please let me know. They do have limited seating.

Roseanne Horne

[313-706-1801](tel:313-706-1801)

Visit our STOP Human Trafficking tab to view the formal invitation.



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

Parenting classes continue under the guidance of Dorothy Wasinger, Jane Lightfoot, Ellen Chapin, Laura McCourt and Diane Kashuba. They meet each Tuesday from 12:45 - 2:15.

Program & Service-PI Christmas Party

We are waiting for details, but the P.I. Christmas Store will be on **Saturday, Dec. 17** this year. If you are looking for a place to give away some of your Christmas decorations that are no longer used but are in great condition...then you may want to consider donating them to the Christmas raffle for Positive Images women. Also any winter items like scarves, gloves, hats or any household items that you would like to donate can be given at this time. You can bring them to the November business meeting or drop them at Roseanne's home. We will be organizing gifts and wrapping baskets at Roseanne's home later this month and early December. Watch your emails for exact times.



CLOTHES AND A GIFT FOR THE CHILDREN...

SIGP members also buys for the children of the women who are clients of Positive Images. We bring these items to the Christmas Store on **Dec.**

17th. Positive Images will give us the names of children for the November meeting and I will pass them around for you to see. Generally we spend a value of \$50 on each child...value of \$25 for clothing and value of \$25 for a gift or toy.

Questions and clarifications on shopping can be directed to **Mary Ellen or Diana.** Further announcements at the November business meeting. Thank you for your support for this *annual service project.*



WHAT A LEADER NEEDS NOW

June 2013 Issue of INC. Magazine

The following article was presented by Vivian Walczesky, Governor of SI Midwestern Region at the District I & District III Meeting, on October 1, 2016

"Labeling traits as masculine or feminine reflects popular perception rather than evidence-based fact. But it's a handy way to think about what works in organizations today. The following qualities, traditionally identified with women, produce results for leaders of both genders.

EMPATHY—Being sensitive to the thoughts and feelings of others.

VULNERABILITY—Owning up to one's limitations and asking for help.

HUMILITY—Seeking to serve others and to share credit.

INCLUSIVENESS—Soliciting and listening to many voices.

GENEROSITY—Being liberal with time, contacts, advice, and support.

BALANCE—Giving life, as well as work, its due.

PATIENCE—Taking a long-term view."

As Soroptimist leaders we need to remind ourselves of these qualities. They can help us create a highly functioning club, district, region, or federation

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



Awards— Seeking Virginia Wagner Applicants

**APPLICATION ARE DUE
January 15, 2017**

The Midwestern Region's Virginia M. Wagner Educational Grant (VWA) honors the effort and scholarship of a woman who is attending a college or university to earn a bachelors, masters, or doctoral degree.

First established in 1972, the award was renamed in 2004 to honor Dr. Virginia M. Wagner (Midwestern Region Governor 1982-1984) to commemorate her interest in higher education for women.

The Virginia Wagner Educational Grant

application can be found on our website:
grossepointesoroptimist.org

the Midwest Region website:
simur.org

and Facebook: *Soroptimist Grosse Pointe*.

Qualifications: applicant...

- is enrolled full time in a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree program
- has overcome obstacles to get an education
- has given back to community in some way
- submits a current complete transcript
- has not won previous VWA

Deadline: JANUARY 15, 2017

The VWA is specific to states in the Midwestern Region: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin and Kentucky. Women living in these states and attending a college or university in pursuit of a bachelors, Masters or Doctoral degree are eligible to apply.

The award process begins at the club level where SIGP is awarding \$3000 to the winner. The winner's application is then forwarded to District III for further judging. The finalist from each of the four Districts will receive a \$500 award and in turn those four applications will be judged at the Region level. One Region winner will be chosen and will receive a \$2500 award

Please let your family and friends know about this award grant and direct applicants to websites and Facebook.

Questions: contact
Diana VW Award Chair
at
[313-690-1515](tel:313-690-1515)
or
dilang58@comcast.net

SIGP & SIMWR Awards



The Soroptimist Ruby Award:
For Women Helping Women

Deadline February 28, 2017



Application due November 15, 2016

**VIRGINIA
WAGNER
AWARD**

Application due January 15, 2017

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



Bulletin Board

Establishing a FOODIES Group

During the Yankee Air Museum trip and the wonderful homemade picnic lunch provided by Jane Evola, I mentioned that I too had a great love of food and that I had belonged to a foodies group in Washington. Some of our members were interested in the concept so I promised to provide some information about such a group. Actually, I have been involved with three Foodies groups, one of which is still going strong after 10 years. I've listed below what I've learned from these groups and what worked well in the hope that some of you would have an interest in being part of a foodies group here in Grosse Pointe.

- The goal of a foodies group is to share a love of food by meeting on a regular basis in a relaxed atmosphere wherein we each contribute toward a meal or a food-related activity.
- The ideal number of members is 6-7 people; 6 because most of us were able to accommodate 6 people around a table without difficulty and 7 because we would have a workable number of attendees even if some were unable to attend.
- We met monthly and rotated the location to the home of whoever hosted that month.
- Whoever hosted determined the theme of the foodies for that month and had first pick of what she would contribute to the dinner. Most often the hostess would choose to make the entrée. The other attendees would choose what they would bring but generally we hoped the following would be covered: appetizer, salad or soup, vegetable, potato/pasta/rice side dish, dessert. If we had less than 5 members attend, we might double up on a selection or two. What food we contribute is dependent on the chosen theme and can be something we have made previously or something we've never made before.
- Once the hostess chose the theme, there were multiple ways to determine assignments. The following are examples:
 - Hostess determined theme but allowed everyone else to determine what menu item/recipe they would bring (e.g. Thai, Cooking with Beer, Comfort Foods, etc.),
 - Hostess determined theme and provided recipes of other menu selections that attendees would choose from,
 - Hostess chose her menu item and attendees then decided on other selections that would pair well with the hostess' item,
- Another hostess option was to suggest another food-related activity for that month such as all of us attending a cooking class to learn how to make homemade pasta or tamales.
- Attendees brought copies of the recipes she had selected for that month's foodies.
- Attendees provided a bottle of wine that paired well with their menu selection. The pairing of libation was as important as the menu selection. The libation did not have to be wine but could also be a cocktail, beer, tea, non-alcoholic drink, etc.
- We determined the best day of the week/week of the month (e.g., third Thursday of each month) to schedule our foodies meeting so that we could plan in advance and maximize the probability that everyone could attend. Nonetheless, there were months where we had small attendance so that we either doubled up on food assignments or decided to skip that month. It was more difficult to schedule foodies during July and August and also in December due to our conflicting schedules and because of the holidays.

I have learned so much from my foodies group and, more importantly, these ladies are among my dearest friends as we have gone through much together. Our monthly foodies get-togethers are more than opportunities to eat great food and share recipes; it has become a time we all cherish. If any SIGP members would like more information or might be interested in this idea, please give me a call (509-551-1695) or email me at mjeffs@frontier.com.



Bulletin Board



Soroptimists of Wyandotte-Southgate-Taylor are offering an opportunity to learn some painting techniques while helping our organization raise funds for our Live Your Dream Award and Virginia M. Wagner award educational grants.

This event will be held on Wednesday, November 16 at 6:00 pm at Lush Brush, 3406 Fort Street, Lincoln Park, MI. Tickets are \$40. There will also be raffles available.

So, no. We are not painting bats!! They are two cute little owls, but for some reason my picture is upside down!!

Cash payments please.

Let me know if you'd like to join us!

Sue Renaud

susan.renaud@yahoo.com

SIGP Empowered:



Mary Ellen Burke, Ross Braun, Nancy Solak and Kerri Green display their copies of "Be EmPOWERed: How to Live Above & Beyond Life's Drama," a new book by fellow Soroptimist Rasheda Williams. A book launch and anniversary celebration is scheduled Saturday, Nov. 19 at Good Cakes and Bakes, 19363 Livernois in Detroit.

Visit empoweredflowergirl.com for more information

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