



The Pointer

SIGP AWARDS DINNER WEDNESDAY MARCH 11, 6:30 p.m.

Assumption Cultural Center, 21800 Marter Road, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

Please RSVP by **March 6, 2019 to:**

Roseanne Horne at rosewa33@aol.com / 313-706-1801 or

Ross Braun at braunross@aol.com/ 313-909-0230

Payment of \$30 Cash, Check or Credit Card is due by March 6th to

Bette Lepouttre at 191 Ridgemont Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

Guests are welcome to attend! This is a wonderful evening that showcases what Soroptimists do to help improve the lives of women and girls in our community!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ◆ Bring your completed club survey form to the Awards Dinner or mail to Dorothea Williams before March 11. New-member surveys are also due then.
- ◆ Bring any international items to be included in the club raffle basket being prepared for the Midwest Spring Conference. If you are not attending and have an item to donate, contact either Cara Crawford or Robin Crawford. See details of Spring Conference on pp. 6-8.
- ◆ Anti-Human Trafficking Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, March 3, 7 p.m. at the YMCA, 23401 East Jefferson Avenue, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080. See details on p. 2
- ◆ An Orientation to Mentoring, Wednesday, April 22, 6:30-8:30, Grosse Pointe Woods Library Community Room. See details on p. 3
- ◆ **SAVE THE DATE!** Saturday, May 16, SIGP members will tour this year's Junior League Show House with a docent. This is a "fun"raiser in the interest of getting together to enjoy each other. \$35

SIGP Anti-Human Trafficking Committee Update

On February 4th the SIGP's Anti Human Trafficking Committee (HT) met to close out the 2019 5K Walk/Run event. The committee decided to split the proceeds between [Phoemale](#) (\$1575), which was the recipient of last year's Ruby Award, and Elli's House (\$1575). [Elli's House](#) is a shelter for runaway or homeless women involved in sex trafficking in the city of Detroit.

Deb Ellinger, Executive Director and Founder of Elli's House is delighted and honored to be a recipient of our hard work and energy to bring awareness to our community about human trafficking.

Deb stated that her organization's greatest needs are the following items: **flip flops, leggings, travel size wipes and deodorant**. If you would like to donate any of these newly purchased items please bring them to the SIGP Awards Dinner on March 11th where we will be presenting Deb Ellinger and Jenelle Lefief, President of Phoemale their checks.

Those of you who are on SIGP's HT Committee can bring any donations for Elli's House to our next HT meeting on March 3rd at the Lakeshore Family YMCA in St. Clair Shores.

If you are not able to attend the Awards Dinner and still would like to donate items, please contact one of the co-chairs listed below. Thank you!

Karrie Blankenship / karrieb40@gmail.com
Mary Ellen Brayton / maryellenbrayton@comcast.net
Laurie Jost / jostlau@yahoo.com

If you are interested in attending the 75th Anniversary Awards Banquet of SI of Greater Macomb on April 16, at the Italian Cultural Center, visit this Evite link:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/144476743328566/>

To car pool with other SIGP members, contact Roseanne Horne. She and other members are already going in anticipation of a possible 65th anniversary celebration of our club.



APR
16

75th Anniversary and Awards Banquet
Public - Hosted by Soroptimist International of Greater Macomb



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women®

Interested in
learning more
about mentoring?

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe
invites you to a

MENTORING for SUCCESS ORIENTATION

APRIL 22, 6:30 -8:30 p.m.

Grosse Pointe Woods Library, Community Room
20680 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods

Presented by Soroptimist Rasheda Kamaria Williams
Mentor, Speaker, Author
CEO of Empowered Flower Girl

Seating is limited. RSVP: text 313-690-1515 or email dilang58@comcast.net

Please visit: empoweredflowergirl.com and grossepointesoroptimist.org

This Orientation is free to the public however a donation to
Empowered Flower Girl will be appreciated.

Please consider volunteering to be on the NOMINATING COMMITTEE.
Mary Ellen Burke has already signed up but more are needed and welcome.
This is great opp for a short-term volunteer stint. Contact Mary Ellen at 313-399-8934
if you want to join the committee, nominate someone or want to serve on the SIGP Board.

BOARD MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES 2020

POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE 2020-2022 TERM ARE:

PRESIDENT, PRESIDENT-ELECT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND 2 DIRECTORS

The President shall

1. Direct the conduct of the business of the Club;
2. Set meeting agendas for Club and Board meetings;
3. Preside at Club and Board meetings;
4. Oversee all committees, working closely with the President-Elect and Vice-President;
5. Be an ex-officio member of all committees, except nominating;
6. Sign all checks in the absence of the treasurer;
7. Appoint delegates from a list of district, region, Federation, or International meetings;
8. Serve as the club delegate at district, region, Federation, and International meetings, or appoint an alternate from a list of meeting attendees.

The President-Elect agrees (program chair)

1. To assume the office of president at the end of her two-year term;
2. Shall be responsible for program of service committees;
3. Shall have such duties and powers as arise from membership on the board or as assigned by the president or the Board.

The Vice-President shall (membership chair)

1. Be responsible for the planning of member development activities;
2. Be responsible for organizing membership recruitment activities;
3. Maintain a roll of membership (directory);
4. Be responsible for conducting new member survey and member survey annually;
5. Shall have such duties and powers as arise from membership on the Board or as assigned by the President or the Board.

The Secretary shall

1. Keep the minutes of the Club and the Board meetings;
2. Be custodian of The Club's permanent records;
3. Submit to the membership the minutes of the business meetings and the recommendations of the Board;
4. Submit to the Board the minutes of the Board meetings;
5. Send out notices and carry on such correspondence as does not properly belong to other officers.

The Assistant Secretary shall (public awareness chair)

1. Maintain a log of attendance at Club business meetings;
2. Fulfill the responsibilities of the secretary in her absence;
3. Perform any other duties assigned by the president or the secretary;

Continued on next page

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Aleksa Andjelkovic

President

Carolyn Barth

Program/Service Chairwoman

Dorothea Williams

VP / Membership

Roseanne Horne

Ross Braun

Past Presidents

Mary Ellen Burke

Treasurer

Bette Lepouttre

Assistant Treasurer

Fundraising

Mary Ellen Brayton

Secretary

Ellen Chapin

Assistant Secretary

Public Awareness

Myra Golden

Director

Marya Malkovich Rosenthal

Director

Hospitality Chair

Board Member Responsibilities continued from previous page

4. Be responsible for overseeing public awareness.

The Treasurer shall

1. Receive all funds of the Club and deposit them in financial institutions authorized by the Board;
2. Sign all checks or arrange for the president to do so;
3. Make remittances as required by Federation Bylaws and Procedures;
4. Prepare monthly Treasurer's Reports for each of the Club funds serve as ex-officio member of the Finance/Budget Committee;
5. Have the authority to define and supervise committee procedures as they relate to the finances of the club;

The Assistant Treasurer shall (fundraising chair)

1. Be responsible for overseeing fund raising;
2. Prepare and send acknowledgements for donations from non-members;
3. Assume the responsibilities of the treasurer in her absence;
4. Serve as ex-officio member of the finance/budget committee;
5. Perform any other duties assigned by the president or the treasurer.

The Directors (2) Shall

1. Be a SIGP member for 2 years;
2. Attend all Board meetings as a voting member;
3. Assist the Board with her knowledge and opinions.

The Past President shall

1. Serve as the Awards Chair;
2. Oversee the Virginia Wagner Award Chair, Live Your Dream Award Chair and the Ruby Award Chair;
2. Attend all Board meetings as a voting member;
3. Assist the Board with her knowledge and opinions.

MARCH — Happy Birthday to ...

Marya Rosenthal, March 8
Jean Kroll, March 18
Deborah Weatherston, March 18
Diane Kashuba, March 26
Pat Casey, March 29





Welcome to the 113th Midwestern Region Spring Conference!

The Midwestern Region Board is excited that you have chosen to spend the weekend with us here in Ann Arbor. As always, it's a long drive for many of us, but I know you won't be disappointed by what we have in store for you. To be honest, the best part about conference is always the drive to and from, when we solve all the world's problems while cruising down the highway.

Take time to meet your old friends, make new ones, learn new ideas, laugh, maybe cry, and be joyful that you made the decision to continue your Soroptimist Journey by committing the weekend to yourself, your club and the Region. I hope that this conference fuels your passion for Soroptimist. We will be joined by Margo Hartman, our official visitor from Soroptimist International of the Americas. Margo is a member of the Scotts Bluff County, NE, club, which is part of the Rocky Mountain Region. She will be presenting important information from SIA.

And let's not forget that we are a global organization and that we influence and create change by reaching outside our community boundaries. Soroptimist International President Sharon Fisher, along with our VIS, Beverly Bucar, Soroptimist International Director of Advocacy, will join us to share information about our efforts to align with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Speaking of speakers, Dr. Nina Smart, a member of the Downey, CA, club, has agreed to join us and present a program about eradicating Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Plus, a very special guest, former MWR Soroptimist, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell will be joining us! I'm super stoked to have all four of these women share their time and talent with us.

When you take a look at the agenda, you'll see we're fitting lots of activities into the weekend. You'll have opportunities to learn directly from Soroptimist International leaders, and we're giving you the ability to ask questions beforehand by filling out a form included with the Call.

We will present four workshops on Saturday morning, providing tools to learn and apply practical "how to do Soroptimist stuff." We will also have a bit of fun with technology—bring your phones tablets, laptops and our Social Media experts will help you learn how to interact online. Don't forget to bring spending money as we will be holding a 50/50 raffle on Friday night, a Mystery Purse raffle on Saturday and, of course, our fabulous basket raffle on Sunday morning.

Anything else? Oh, yeah. How about electing a new board of directors and installing a new Midwestern Region Governor! Woooo! It's my honor to pass the torch to Governor-Elect Darcy Merritt and her team. Leadership is Fundamental.

Are you ready? Let's go.

Kris Armstrong
Governor 2018-2020



Graphic Artist: Cynthia Miller

Helping Women RISE

This year's Midwest Region Conference will be held right in our backyard: Ann Arbor. You can see from the highlighted areas of the program below that SIGP members who will play an active role in the program. Please feel free to contact any one of them if you'd like to go. **The registration deadline is March 31.** The cost is \$175 plus lodging. More information on next page and page 10.

Friday April 24, 2020

9:00 – 12:00pm	Midwestern Region Board Meeting
12:00-4:30 pm	Registration Open
5:30-6:45 pm	Buffet Dinner
	<i>Hostess clubs will begin selling 50/50 raffle tickets</i>
7:00 pm	Call to Order..... Governor Kris Armstrong
	Pledge of Allegiance..... Mary Ellen Burke
	Introduction of Honored Guests..... TBA
	Introduction of Region Board & Former Governors..... TBA
	Celebrating Success Report Vivian Walczesky
	Introduction of first time Attendees..... Governor-Elect Darcy Merritt
	Fundraising Report..... Patricia Cavell
	Keynote Address Congresswoman Debbie Dingell
	<i>50/50 Raffle Drawing</i>
	<i>Cocktails to celebrate 1st Time Attendees – open to all</i>

Saturday, April 25, 2020

7:00-8:15 am	Breakfast Buffet
	Registration Open
	Sales Tables Open
	Raffle Baskets in Place
8:30 am	Business Meeting
	Call to order Governor Kris Armstrong
	Inspiration TBA
	Credentials Report TBA
	Parliamentary Comments Karen Fleming
	Adoption of Standing Rules Secretary Missie Austin
	Approval of the 112th Conference Minutes..... Secretary Missie Austin
	Appointment of Pages and Tellers..... Governor Kris Armstrong
9:00 am	Treasurer's Report Treasurer Audrey Jarvey
	Public Awareness Report Karrie Blankenship
	Membership Report..... Roseanne Horne
9:40	Keynote Address Dr. Nina Smart
10:20	Nominations chair..... Valencia Clark
	Announcements

About Dr. Nina Smart: Keynote Speaker at Midwestern Conference in Ann Arbor



Dr. Nina Smart is a non-violent human rights activist, sociologist and author who educates people about female genital mutilation (FGM) and works to eradicate the practice in Sierra Leone, West Africa, and right here in California. In 2004, Dr. Smart founded Servicing Wild Flowers—SWF International, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit NGO that raises awareness about FGM through lectures and presentations for students, immigrants and socially conscious groups. She works directly in rural areas of Sierra Leone, together with SWF partners, who facilitate community meetings addressing FGM and with International organizations that hold consultative status with the United Nations. She contributed towards the first FGM Summit in the US, participates in the End FGM network and has recently launched the FGM Taskforce in L.A.

A proud Soroptimist and enthusiastic volunteer in both African and Romanian communities, Dr. Smart was chosen as 2016 “Woman of the Year” for her nonprofit work by Senator Mendoza of California and honored by the United States Congress. She proudly represents SI Downey at the region and federation levels highlighting the contributions made by Downey Soroptimists in their communities. In her role as Camino Real Region Chair of International Advocacy, Dr. Smart uses her expertise in world polity transmission to share information about the role SI plays in shaping international laws affecting the lives of women and girls through the United Nations. A repeat SI delegate to the Commission on the Status of Women, Dr. Smart is also passionate to raise awareness about SI President’s Appeal for the 2019-2021—The Road to Equality. She donates 50% of her book

Wine Tasting and Accessory Sale a Great Success on February 28, 2020

Special thanks to Ross Braun for hosting this fun event!



*More photos on
next page*

More Photos from Wine Tasting and Accessory Sale Continued from Previous Page



FaceBook (FB) Marketplace

SIGP has a new way to raise funds and individual members are invited to get involved.

Here's how it works: Say you have something around the house that could bring in \$20+ without having to put an ad in a newspaper. Instead you place your ad on the FB Marketplace for free.

SIGP member Cara Crawford has offered to help walk any member through the process. If you are a do-it-your-selfer, you can watch the YouTube video linked below. Cara says it will tell you everything you'd ever want to know about setting this up.

In your ad, make sure you add that you are selling for:

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe

OUR MISSION: Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

OUR TAG LINE: Investing in Dreams

grossepointesoroptimist.org

This fact that the proceeds are going to a nonprofit will help you sell at your original price when someone tries to negotiate a lower one. You'll also want to add pertinent information about the item under the "Description Section."

What Cara suggests, is that when you get a buyer, you exchange the item for the money at a public place, such as one of Grosse Pointe's three library branches. Or at your local police station or city hall. Who (besides Cara) will be the first to give this a go? THAT is the question. Let us know!

[Click Here for YouTube FaceBook Marketplace Video](#)



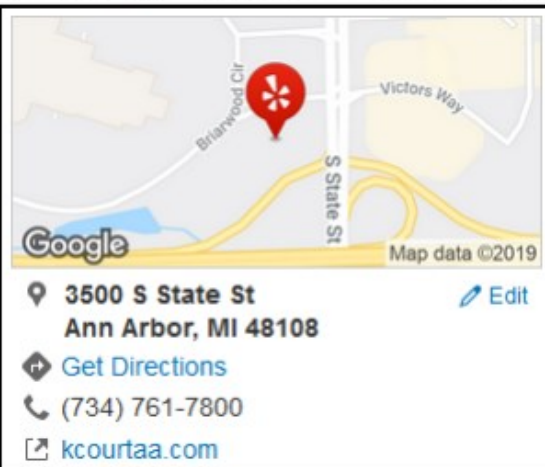
SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Save the Date
Spring Conference 2020
April 24, 25, & 26
Kensington Hotel Ann Arbor MI

Educate to Empower



Darcy Merritt
Installed as Governor of the
Midwestern Region

If interested in attending, contact
Karrie Blankenship or Roseanne
Horne.



**Helping women and girls
live their dreams**

Next SIGP Board Meeting Thursday, March 5, 2020, Mary Ellen's condo, 6:30 p.m.

District III Emails

Governor- **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 -
(soroptimist.org/about-us/contact-us/index.html)
For upcoming SIGP events and information, click the link
<https://www.grossepointesoroptimist.org/>

Soroptimist Pledge

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

WEBSITE: grossepointesoroptimist.net Carrie Petrocelli
or <https://www.grossepointesoroptimist.net/calendar-of-events.html> for calendar

E-MAIL: grossepointesoroptimist@gmail.com Anne Schwartz

SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS:

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/soroptimistgrossepointe Renee Rodriguez
INSTAGRAM: [soroptimistgp](https://instagram.com/soroptimistgp) Sarah Sheppard
TWITTER: [@soroptimistgp](https://twitter.com/soroptimistgp) Jean Kroll

NEWSLETTER: THE POINTER is on the website and
is emailed to members Nancy Solak

MEDIA: Newspaper articles, radio PSAs, etc. Diana Langlois



Remember to use AMAZON SMILE smile.amazon.com
(look for Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe)

SIGP Member Ads

RENÉE RODRIGUEZ
PHOTOGRAPHY



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