

# The Pointer

*Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe*

## President's Message

March 2017 Edition

Dear SIGP members,

We had a little hint of spring last week and it seems so inviting! But let's not hurry our calendar along too quickly, because we might miss something! One of the reasons we do what we do, is to raise funds for our very deserving scholarship recipients. On Thursday, March 9, at Andiamo Trattoria, we will meet our honorees and hear their stories at our annual Awards Dinner. This is a very memorable evening for our winners and our members, as we see our hard work pay off in a way to assist another woman reach her goals and dreams. All the women honored will make an impression on us. Occasionally we meet someone who has overcome unbelievable

challenges to go a little further for herself and her family. We collectively help her reach that important, next step. Every now and then we meet someone who is giving back herself in a big way to help other women and girls, and we are able to help her cause too.

Spring is a time of renewal and rebirth. For SIGP and our many valuable members, it is a time to be thankful for our group and all it does to help women and girls. It is certainly a time for us to fire up and look for more ways to raise funds to continue our scholarships and other worthwhile projects. If you need a little inspiration to renew your dedication to our cause, try to

attend this dinner and hear the sincere thanks from our award winners. We are part of something so important and life-altering at times, it bears

*For, lo, the winter is past,  
The rain is over and gone  
The flowers appear on the Earth  
The time of the singing of  
birds is come  
And the voice of the turtle  
is heard in our land.*

All the Best for Women,  
Roseanne and Ross



Roseanne Horne (Left)  
Ross Braun (Right)

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Marya	Malkovich	3/8
Diane	Kashuba	3/26
Pat	Casey	3/29

### Dates to Remember

#### 2017 Calendar

- 03/01 Board Meeting
- 03/08 International Women's Day
- 03/08 Virginia Wager Award information due to District Award Chair
- 03/09 SIGP Awards Dinner ~ 6:30 ~ Andiamos' Trattoria ~ GPW
- 03/28 Article's to Karrie B.

*Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.*



Follow us on Facebook

## MemberSHIP - Wine Tasting

SIGP held another successful Wine Tasting and Accessory Sale which was held on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

Once again, co-president, Ross Braun opened her beautiful and spacious home to 30 SIGP members and guests. After introductions were made and a little information about our club was shared, we all enjoyed an evening of wine tasting and shopping for bargains amongst the huge variety of jewelry and accessories. All of which was donated by members. A total of \$430 was raised for our service

projects.

Along with the assorted varieties of wine, members were also treated to delicious appetizers and a few desserts. We also had a birthday cake to celebrate our youngest member, Rebecca Minardi's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday!



## MemberSHIP - Spring Conference

**Let's go to Spring Conference!!! Kalahari Resort, Sandusky, Ohio April 20-23, 2017**

Attending Spring Conference gives you the opportunity to not only learn more about Soroptimist, but also to meet women from across our Region that are working like you to make a difference for women and girls.

The Kalahari Resort is an awesome venue. It has something for everyone...grand rooms, a wonderful spa, an outrageous dessert bar, shopping

and a disco! What more could you ask for in addition to making new friends, learning more about what our Region is accomplishing and meeting Soroptimist goals?

This year our Live Your Dream award winner, Sara Baker, will receive the Region award of \$5,000 at the Awards Luncheon. Come celebrate this achievement and hear what other award winners have accomplished.

Karrie Blankenship, Paula Davis and Roseanne Horne are planning to attend. We plan to car pool and share a room. Let us know if you would like to come along for the fun.



# Awareness

"Richmond Rosies" is Women's History Month presentation

Join four Grosse Pointe women's organizations for a viewing of "The Richmond Rosies," a film about women who worked in the shipyards during World War 2. This presentation is in honor of Women's History Month.

Between 1941 and 1945, 747 Victory and Liberty ships were built in Richmond, CA, and women made up nearly 60% of the workforce. Young women, who had never worked outside the home before, now had to take the place of men who went overseas to fight the war. These women were called Rosies, short for "Rosie the Riveter."

Five still active "Rosies tell their stories about what it was like to travel across the country on their own as young women, and enter the shipyards as pipe welders, draftswomen, and electricians. These women not only helped win WW II, but secured their own financial independence, changing the course of history for women throughout the United States and the World.

The presentation is presented by the American Association of University

Women, Grosse Pointe Branch, and is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe, the Grosse Pointe Soroptomists, and Dining for Women, Grosse Pointe chapter.

The film is at being shown on Saturday, March 11, at noon, in the Program Room of the Woods Branch Library at Mack and Vernier in Grosse Pointe Woods.

This program is free.



**Celebrate Women's History Month with the "Richmond Rosies"**

Film shown on Saturday, March 11, at noon,  
at the Woods Branch Library  
Free admission

Sponsored by the  
American Association of University Women, Grosse Pointe Branch  
Co-sponsors  
League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe, the Grosse Pointe Soroptomists,  
and Dining for Women, Grosse Pointe chapter

# Health & Hospitality-



**IF YOU HAVE NEWS AND  
WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IT  
WITH THE CLUB PLEASE  
CONTACT OUR  
HOSPITALITY CHAIR**

Marya Malkovich

at

[mmalkovich@gmail.com](mailto:mmalkovich@gmail.com)



# Programs & Services - Ghana Girls

Members of SIGP know of the club support for our six students in northern Ghana. Do you know their names? We have some new girls since several have graduated. Here are the present six: Agnes Kwabena Chanama, Patience Wepiah, Evelyn Iddrisu Warinatu, Mary Assumpta Kpliinmable, Francisca Anobila, and Rejoice Adjadiwor.

Perhaps you would be interested in reading excerpts of their writings. Below is a sample response to the following question, selected as one of several possible short essay topics from which students could choose. No attempt is made to "clean up" the spelling, sentence structure, punctuation or grammar of this piece. We are rooting for each girl to become more adept at articulating her thoughts in English as she progresses through her school studies.

If you could make one change about the world what would it be? Why would you make this change?

Patience Wepiah

If I could change one thing about the world I presume I will have taken away death from the world. I will take death away because death is a misfortune that takes the life of once love away from the

world.

People lose their love ones day in and day out which is very painful and difficult to endure. When this happen to both parents and leaving their children behind it becomes difficult for the children to stay will, others especially if it happens to be the nuclear family side.

The children endup lossing the properties which was suppose to be given to them.

Family members take these properties from the children and leaving them useless in the society. The children left behind sometimes endup being a victim of some of these people for example, thief's rapes, prostitutes etc. which contribute to the destruction of the community or society in which we find ourselves.

Women who's husbands are no more in the world go through so many criticisms and discriminations which is not fair

because men are not treated as how women are treated when they lose their husbands.

For instance women are made to swallow the saliver of the dead husband, sleep with it and sometimes grinded hot pepper is put in their eyes which can cause harm like abnormality to the woman.

This is mostly practiced by the Akans as one of their cultures.

It also destroy the relationship between the living and the dead. Its a painful experience that can happen to anybody in this world, it's a memory that is not easily forgotten when it happens to your love one, itleads to pains, sadness, destraction and that is why I presume that death should be change from this world in order to end discrimination among women, criticisms among women and children becoming useless to the society when their parents are no more in the world.





# Programs & Services - PI

From POSITIVE IMAGES...all is status quo! Most pressing need is one or two members who have time available during the day on Tuesday's that can give 2 hours of service time to Positive Images Parenting. Please contact Diana if you are THE MEMBER who can help!

[313-690-1515](tel:313-690-1515)

## MOTHER'S DAY ITEMS

**Mugs**

**Cosmetic Bags**

**Tote bags**

**Oprah magazines**

**Key Chains**

**Nail polish**

**Toothbrushes**

**Toothpaste (sample)**

**Dental Floss**

**Scarves**



# Fundraising - Dine~Around~Town

Dine Around Town (DAT) is SIGP's biggest fundraiser of the Year and it's that time of Year again ladies!

Back in 2007, Lee Meyer, SIGP's longest standing member created a fundraiser named, Dine Around Town. Each year members are asked to contact their favorite restaurants and ask for donations of gift cards/certificates in various denominations. These gift cards are then bundled into 5 to 6 different prize packages ranging from \$650 worth of gift cards for 1st place, to \$150 worth of gift cards for 6th place, depending on the total dollar amount of gift cards collected. Once the raffle tickets have been printed, members are asked to sell the raffle

tickets to family and friends. The tickets are \$5 each or a book of 5 tickets for \$20. The club also sells tickets at events and stores in the Grosse Pointe area. In the past, SIGP has raised over \$6,000 from the sales of these raffle tickets for our Dine Around Town Raffle. The money collected from the Raffle funds our Ruby, Live Your Dream and Virginia Wagner Awards.

This year's DAT committee had its first meeting at Karrie Blankenship's house on Monday, February 27th. Karrie has volunteered to chair this year's committee. Anyone interested in joining the committee please contact Karrie.

Members will be receiving hard copies of the restaurant letter at the April meeting. You can also find the letter on our website on the Awards page. Each member is asked to try to get at least 2 gift cards donated. All the gift cards are due to Diana Langlois by June 11, 2017. Please contact Diana with the restaurants you will be contacting so she can keep a spread sheet of the restaurants. We don't want multiple members contacting the same restaurants.

Thanks for helping make this our most successful fundraiser!

# Programs & Services -

Members who attended the February meeting helped place two packages of panties into a plastic bag for Roseanne to take with her to the next packing for "Days for Girls"

SIGP packed up about 110 bags!!



# Programs & Services - SSS Sales

## **SECOND HAND SALE** fund raiser to support Soroptimist awards and programs

**April 27,28,29 at**  
**561 Hollywood, GP Woods**

**Donations** can be brought to  
Diana's **after April 11th.**  
If you need to bring them be-  
fore April 11, please call me to  
check if someone will be home.

All donations should be clean and  
ready for display.

**Set up will be all day Monday,**  
**April 24 and Wednesday, April**  
**26.** please mark your calendar!!!

Members will be needed to help sell  
on:

**Thursday, April 27, 7:30 - 3:00**

**Friday, April 28, 8:00 - 3:00**

**Saturday, April 29, 8:30 - noon**

**Take down will be Saturday at**  
**1:00**

Items not sold will be designated for  
Positive Images and/or Vietnam  
Vets. If you have a different sugges-  
tion of where to send the unwanted  
items, please let me know. Sign up to  
help at the April meeting or call Diana

Remember that SIGP profits depend  
entirely on what is donated by mem-  
bers and their families and  
friends. THANK YOU SO MUCH for  
your support of this fund raiser over the  
past years. It is one of the reasons that  
SIGP can give significant awards to  
women that make a difference in their  
lives.

**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*



Please have your article's to  
Karrie Blankenship by 9:00  
pm on or before 28th of  
each month to:  
[karrieb40@gmail.com](mailto: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 lar-  
ger fellowship in home, in society, in busi-  
ness, for country and for God*

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/>

# Connections for Local, Region & HQ

## District III Emails Contacts

Governor- **Vivian Walczesky** - ([vivianwal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vivianwal@sbcglobal.net))

Governor-Elect **Kris Armstrong** - ([krisquin@msn.com](mailto:krisquin@msn.com))

Secretary - **Anita Newman** - ([siurbana@soroptimist.net](mailto:siurbana@soroptimist.net))

Treasurer - **Valencia Clark** - ([vcclark003@columbus.rr.com](mailto:vcclark003@columbus.rr.com))

District III Director - **Darcy Merritt** ([dmerritt81@hotmail.com](mailto:dmerritt81@hotmail.com))

District III Secretary - **Mary Pilon** ([pilonm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pilonm@sbcglobal.net))

Soroptimist International of the Americas - ([siahq@soroptimist.org](mailto:siahq@soroptimist.org))

## Soroptimist Websites

Soroptimist International Midwest Region - ([simwr.org](http://simwr.org))

Soroptimist International of the Americas ([soroptimist.org](http://soroptimist.org))

Soroptimist International ([soroptimistinternational.org](http://soroptimistinternational.org))



SOROPTIMIST  
Best for Women®



## SUPER INTELLIGENT WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Hidden Figures is a 2016 film, which tells the true story of several African-American women who have made a significant contribution to our country by using their minds. Margot Lee Shetterly, the author of *Hidden Figures: The Story of the African-American Women Who Helped Win the Space Race*, tells the true stories of Dorothy Johnson Vaughan, Mary Winston Jackson and Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson. All four of these women used their gift of intelligence in significant ways to change life in America for the better.

In 2010, **Margot Lee Shetterly** (born 1969) decided to tell the story of the brilliant African-American women who worked at National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Her father worked at NASA so she grew up hearing the stories of many scientists. In 2013, Shetterly founded The Human Computer Project, an organization whose mission is to archive the work of all of the women who worked as computers and mathematicians in the early days of NACA and NASA. Her decision to preserve these gifted women's contributions to the US Space Program has given all of us the opportunity to both be aware of their stories, and be inspired by their assertiveness. *Hidden Figures*, her first book, reached number one on *The New York Times* Non-Fiction Best Sellers list. Recently Fox films produced Shetterly's 2016 non-fiction book, which has been nominated for Best Picture by the Academy Awards.

**Dorothy Johnson Vaughan** (September 20, 1910 – November 10, 2008) was an African American mathematician who worked for NACA, and NASA, at Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. In 1949, she became acting supervisor of the West Area Computers (African-American women mathematicians). She was the first African-American woman to supervise a staff at the NACA. When IBM computers were ordered to replace the "West Area Computers" Dorothy taught herself as well as her staff FORTRAN, the computer machine language. She used her brilliant mind to keep up with the technology of the times, and create professional jobs for her entire department.

**Mary Winston Jackson** (April 9, 1921 – February 11, 2005) was an African American mathematician and aerospace engineer at the NACA and NASA at Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. She started as a computer at the segregated West Area Computing division. She used her brilliant mind in order to be admitted into University of Virginia's segregated advanced engineering classes. In 1958, she became NASA's first black female engineer.

**Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson** (born August 26, 1918) is an African American physicist and mathematician who made contributions to the United States' aeronautics and space programs with the early application of digital electronic computers at NASA. Known for accuracy in computerized celestial navigation, she conducted technical work at NASA that spanned decades. During this time, she calculated the trajectories, launch windows, and emergency back-up return paths for many flights from Project Mercury, including the early NASA missions of John Glenn and Alan Shepard, and the 1969 Apollo 11 flight to the Moon, through the Space Shuttle program. She used her brilliant mind to create calculations, which proved critical to the success of these missions. Johnson also did calculations for plans for a mission to Mars. In 2015, Johnson received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

All four of these women would qualify for the Soroptimist Ruby Award. The Ruby Award honors women who, through their professional or personal efforts, are making extraordinary differences in the lives of women or girls. Their work has had a significant impact, and also inspires and encourages other women. Margot Lee Shetterly, Dorothy Johnson Vaughan, Mary Winston Jackson, and Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson all used their brilliant minds to improve the lives of women and girls. But just as importantly, they developed their intelligence and professional careers in the areas of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). They were determined and achieved their goals through their brilliance. Reading the book, or watching the movie Hidden Figures is important for all of us. All four of these women deserve to be remembered as Famous Heroines instead of Hidden Figures.





# Bulletin Board

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## HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS AS AN ADULT (AND WHY IT MATTERS)

WHEN YOU'RE A KID, MAKING FRIENDS IS SEAMLESS. YOU MEET AT THE PARK OR AT SCHOOL, PLAY TOGETHER AND BEFORE LONG, YOU'VE GOT A NEW BESTIE. MOST OF US ALSO MADE FRIENDS EASILY ENOUGH IN COLLEGE, OR AT EARLY JOBS, WHEN EVERYONE'S DOING THE SAME THING AT MORE OR LESS ...



<http://www.henryfordlivewell.com/make-friends-adult-matters/>

Below is SIGP's book club picks for 2017.

If you are interested in reading any or all of this years picks and joining us in the discussion please contact Karrie Blankenship or Mary Ellen Burke for the details. Each month is hosted by a different member of the club.

Thursday, March 16, 2017

Thursday, April 20, 2017

Thursday, May 18, 2017

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Thursday, August 17, 2017

Thursday, September 21, 2017

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Thursday, November 16, 2017

Thursday, December 21, 2017

The Mountain Story / by Lori Lansens

The Shipping News / by Annie Proulx

Small Great Things / by Jodi Picoult

The Pearl of China / by Anchee Min

Born with Teeth / by Kate Mulgrew

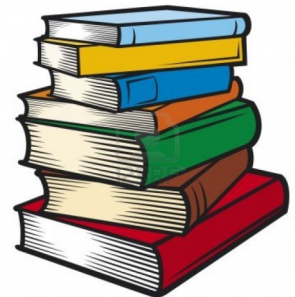
All the Light We Cannot See / by Anthony Doerr

Mademoiselle: Coco Chanel and the Pulse of History / by Rhonda K. Garelick

Flight Behavior / by Barabara Kingsolver

Circling the Sun / by Paula McLain

Born a Crime / by Trevor Noah





# Bulletin Board

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Friends of Hope Against Trafficking,

One of the many ways we are planning to raise funds this year is by offering and participating in a series of events we call, Dine for a Cause. We have partnered with several restaurants in the Detroit Metro area who have graciously offered to donate a certain percentage of their sales for a one-day period of time to Monarch Wings. Our next event is THIS FRIDAY at Bird and Bread in Birmingham.

We are writing to you to ask you to join us for this event and to promote it to your friends, co-workers, and family. I've attached the flyer that you may print or email.

We hope to see you at the event. Everyone is sure to have a great time!  
Thank you,

Tammie  
Hope Against Trafficking

