



The Pointer

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT VILLAGE GRILLE

Wednesday, January 9, 2019, at 6 PM

16930 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe; Parking & Private Entry Door in Rear

Meet and greet at 6 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.

SIGP has many things to applaud

We raised \$5,890 at our Wine-Tasting Event on December 6, 2018. This included the sale of 163 tickets and \$1,000 in wine sales. We made \$640 on the raffle. So, the total for this fundraiser was \$6,530. Kudos to **Ross Braun** for spearheading this once-in-a-lifetime event, and to **The Village Wine Shop of Grosse Pointe Park** and its owner **Zack Assaf**.

We raised \$650 from the Tin Can Raffle at the Holiday Dinner. This money goes to SIA's President's Appeal called "Women, Water & Leadership. **The most we have ever made.**

We raised \$7,500 on the Dine Around Town this year. **The most we have ever made.**

We raised \$3,600 on our first 5K Human Trafficking Run.

We are also receiving donations from Aleksa's friends since she and Tom asked them to donate to their charities instead of purchasing wedding gifts.

So, Ladies, we are on a huge roll. It is wonderful to have so much going on and so many women participating in programs, membership, fundraising and public awareness.

Congratulations to us!

Mary Ellen Burke, SIGP Treasurer

The Wine-Tasting Fundraiser held at the Ark (at St. Ambrose) on December 6, was wildly successful!

All photos of the event were provided courtesy of SIGP member Renee Rodriguez. Thank you, Renee!



Judi Dara, Helen Clarren and Diana Langlois



Karrie Blankenship



Amanda Be and Kerri Green



Vivian Walczesky, former Midwestern Region Governor, and Darcy Merritt, Midwestern Region Governor-Elect. Both are from SI Monroe Club.



Kim Ingram and Loretta Rountree



Mary Blair and Ross Braun. Thank you, Ross, for chairing this event!



Zack Assaf, owner of The Village Wine Shop of Grosse Pointe Park, donated all proceeds of this event to Soroptimist Grosse Pointe. Thank you ever so much!



Roseanne Horne tells the assembled group what Soroptimist volunteers do for women and girls.

One of the many ways SIGP gives others a boost



Dear SIGP members,
I am thrilled to announce that our club's 2017 Live Your Dream Award winner, Sara Baker, graduated from U of M Dearborn on December 15, 2018! Talk about living your dream!

Sara has overcome many obstacles in her journey to graduate from college. As a single mother of 3 children, Sara left an arranged, abusive marriage to start a new life....in a shelter with basically nothing. Sara set a goal to continue her education, worked several jobs and cared for her children. As the winner of our club's Live Your Dream award, Sara went on to win awards at the District and Regional levels. She then went on to win at the Federation level!

Sara says that more than the financial support she received (\$18,000 total), it was knowing that a group of women believed in her that made a difference in her life! She became more self-confident and has achieved much more than she ever imagined!

Rosanne Horne, Past President

*Sara Baker with her daughter Miriam, and SIGP President Aleksa Andjelkovic.
Please note that Sara attached her Soroptimist pin to her graduation gown!*

*It takes a village to raise a child, but it takes a Soroptimist to build a woman.
Thank you very much for building me up to success. – Sara Baker*



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women®

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.

And another way SIGP helps girls get an education

Last month *The Pointer* ran an essay from one of the two girls SIGP recently took on to help support their education at St. Anne School in Ghana. In this issue, we feature an essay from Dery Jennifer.

My name is Dery Jennifer. I am sixteen years old and I come from Mandom in the Upper West Region.

I grew up in Navrongo in the Upper East Region, had my basic education from ~~class~~ K.G to JHS. And now I am in St. Anne's Girls Senior High School - Damongo. I am in the Home Economics class. I want to become a nurse or a nutritionist.

My father is a farmer in our village in ~~Atada~~ Mandom. As for my mother, I never knew her. I was told she died when I was born. My grandmother who took me as a baby to Upper East gave me to a woman who took care of me through the help of our people until I completed Junior High School.

I have ~~re-joined~~ joined my

(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

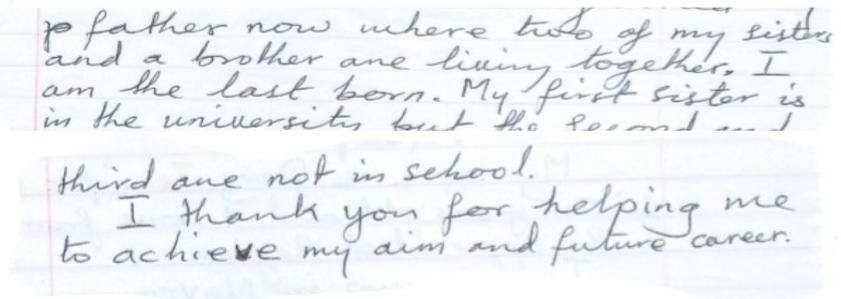
Laura McCourt
Secretary

Ellen Chapin
Assistant Secretary
Public Awareness

Myra Golden
Director

Marya Malkovich
Director
Hospitality Chair

(Dery's essay continued from previous page)



to father now where two of my sisters
and a brother are living together. I
am the last born. My first sister is
in the universities but the second and
third are not in school.
I thank you for helping me
to achieve my aim and future career.

First came the preparation for giving clothes and toys to children at P.I. (Positive Images), along with baskets for the women recovering there ...



(Above left) Mary Brayton and Anita Sandercott, and (above right) Peggy Hart and Jean Kroll. They were just a few of our members who gathered in Diana Langlois' living room and garage to prepare baskets of goodies.

Meanwhile, inside, (at right) Tina Edgar, Ellen Chapin, and Bette Lepouttre sort the children's clothes by size and gender.



The adage, "Many hands make light work," proved true when the 15+ volunteers prepped everything for the party inside of two hours.

... then SIGP volunteers returned to assist at P.I.'s annual Christmas Party



Maisha Kenyatta (seated), Founder and Director of Positive Images, brims with gratitude for all the “elves” surrounding her.



(Left) Everyone was thrilled and honored to have Miss Black USA, Kelsi Horn, help with the party. She is pictured here in the library at Coplin. The photo behind her is of the late Susan B. Nielsen, who created the library.



(Right) Maisha Kenyatta, Mary Ellen Burke, Nancy Solak and Diana Langlois. Many other SIGP members helped too.

(Below) Every woman in the program received one of these nifty baskets. They were thrilled!

The party begins with a prayer circle, followed by the women shopping for their children’s clothes and toys. This is followed by a pizza lunch and the raffling off of the baskets. The women then visit with each other and sing Christmas carols. All spirits are raised.



HURRY! HURRY! HURRY! Deadline: January 15!
Feel free to print and circulate the following flyer.



Soroptimist International
Midwestern Region
Virginia M. Wagner
Educational Award

www.grossepointesoroptimist.org

Are you a woman living in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan,
Ohio or Wisconsin and seeking a Bachelors, Masters or Doctorate degree?

The Virginia M. Wagner Educational Award was designed to help women achieve
their higher education goals.

The cash award amount is \$3000.

Candidates are judged on the following criteria:

- ✚ Effort toward education
- ✚ Scholarship
- ✚ Extra-curricular activities
- ✚ Financial need
- ✚ General impression

For information about applying for the Virginia M. Wagner
Educational Grant, please contact:

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe _____

Name _____ Liz Lucas _____

Email _____ grossepointevweg@gmail.com _____

Phone _____ 586-467-5699 _____

Application Deadline: January 15, 2019

Amount of Club Award: \$3000



Make a Difference. Be a Mentor.

By Rasheda Kamaria Williams

Do you aspire to make a difference in 2019? If so, I encourage you to consider mentoring.

You may have thought about it in the past but weren't sure if you'd have the time or qualifications. But chances are – you do!

January is National Mentoring Month – a time for individuals and organizations across the country to bring awareness to the need for caring adults to serve as role models for youth.

According to MENTOR, the national mentoring partnership, 1 out of 3 children in the United States will grow up without a mentor. That means that millions of young people across the country need someone like you to step in and step up.

It only takes a few hours a month of face time and a phone call a week to help increase a child's self-esteem. From one-on-one to group mentoring, there are many options. And for those of you really pressed for time, there are a number of virtual mentoring programs – like [iCouldBe](#) - which allow you to connect



Rasheda Kamaria Williams is an award-winning mentor, speaker, author and chief empowering officer for Empowered Flower Girl, a social enterprise on a mission to transform the way young people relate to one another and themselves. Rasheda is also a member of Soroptimist GP!

with youth all over the country from the comfort of your home and laptop or mobile device.

Not sure if mentoring is right for you? Download a FREE copy Empowered Flower Girl's *Mentoring Guide* by visiting www.rashedakamaria.com.

**Join us for Wine Tasting and
an evening of friendship and information about
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF GROSSE POINTE**

website: grossepointesoroptimist.org

February date and details to be announced soon!

An outstanding greeting from across the pond!

Dear Link Friends all over the world, we send you a photo (at right) of our new monument of Emmeline Pankhurst which was unveiled in Manchester last Friday 14th of December 2018. SI Manchester was well represented at this historic event.

May I also take this opportunity to wish you on behalf of Manchester Soroptimists a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

In Friendship,
Malgorzata Kmita,
SI Manchester Friendship Link Coordinator



Emmeline Pankhurst stood up for women's right to vote.

Hazel Reeves is an award-winning figurative sculptor, passionate about people and their stories, with figure and portrait commissions in bronze a specialty, such as the monumental Sir Nigel Gresley statue for King's Cross station. She is based in the UK.



If you're wondering how we linked up with SI Manchester, you can thank SIGP's Friendship Chair Karrie Blankenship!



SIGP's Holiday Dinner may be just a memory, but what a fun memory to have!



Past Co-Presidents Ross Braun and Roseanne Horne



Irem Yoruk



Peggy Hart



Helen Clarren



Rasheda Williams, and Paula Davis



Sarah Sheppard



Renee Rodriguez, Liz Lucas, and Ellen Chapin

The dinner was to celebrate each other—the raffle was to raise funds for the SI President's Appeal called **WOMEN, WATER & LEADERSHIP**



Marlane Washington

Holiday Dinner (continued)



Karrie Blankenship and Sara Baker



SIGP President Aleksa Andjelkovic introduces a short film about the SIA President's Appeal



Amanda Be and Rosanne Morrow



Maddy Jeffs and Myra Golden



Diana Langlois and Cathie Baldwin



Carolyn Barth



Carol Hofer reminded us of how fortunate we are and led us in a spirited rendition of Jingle Bells.

Photos courtesy of Renee Rodriguez

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](https://www.grossepointesoroptimist.net/calendar%20of%20events.html) for calendar

E-MAIL: grossepointesoroptimist@gmail.com Anne Schwartz

SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS:

FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/soroptimistgrossepointe](https://www.facebook.com/soroptimistgrossepointe) Renee Rodriguez

INSTAGRAM: [soroptimistgp](https://www.instagram.com/soroptimistgp) Sarah Shepherd

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)



Memories of cookies past.

January 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2	3 <i>Board Meeting 6:30 Roseanne's</i>	4	5
6	7	8	9 <i>General Meeting Village Grille 6 p.m.</i>	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 <i>Happy B'day Mary Jo Harris!</i>	19
20 <i>Happy B'day Maddy Jeffs!</i>	21	22 <i>Happy B'day Felecia Berry! AND Deborah Thomas!</i>	23 <i>Happy B'day Liz Lucas!</i>	24	25	26 <i>Happy B'day Karen Klein!</i>
27	28	29	30	31		

Award Deadlines—Plan Ahead

Virginia Wagner Award—January 15, 2019

Liz Lucas, Diana Langlois, Judi Dara

New process—applications are all online

Ruby Award—Mid February, 2019

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:

www.grossepointesoroptimist.org/
or call one of the co-chairs listed above.

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 -

(soroptimist.org/about-us/contact-us/index.html)

For upcoming SIGP events and information, click the link
<http://www.grossepointesoroptimist.org/>

SIGP Member Ads

RENÉE RODRIGUEZ PHOTOGRAPHY



SIGP Friends & Family
SUMMER SPECIAL
PORTRAIT MINI SESSIONS
\$50
INCLUDES
30 MINUTE SESSION
10 DIGITAL IMAGES
PRINT RELEASE

BOOK NOW!
renerodriguezphotography@gmail.com
www.renee-rodriquez.com

