



The Pointer

WEDNESDAY JULY 10, MEMBERSHIP MEETING at VILLAGE GRILLE

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

General Meeting starts promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Meet and Greet at 6 p.m.

BOARD MEETING PRECEDES GENERAL MEETING AT 5:30 P.M.

A call for restaurant gift certificates

The Dine Around Town raffle brings in more money for SI-Grosse Pointe than any other fundraiser. But, FIRST, we need to gather a boat-load of gift certificates from metro area restaurants.

It's not too late to collect restaurant gift certificates or gift cards!

Last week an email list of restaurants already contacted was sent to you. If you contact any of the restaurants below, or aren't sure that your favorite restaurant has been approached, you may call or text either Mary Ellen Burke or Bette Lepouttre. They may even have an idea as to who you can approach.

Below are restaurants who donated last year but have NOT yet been approached (to our knowledge). There's still time! The more we can procure, the more we can improve the lives of women and girls.

Apple Annies	Cedar Garden	Ruby Tuesday	Is your favorite on the list?	Wally's Frozen Custard	Uncle Harry's Deli	Irish Coffee	Nautical Deli	Rex's Deli	Buddy's Pizza
--------------	--------------	--------------	-------------------------------	------------------------	--------------------	--------------	---------------	------------	---------------

All gift certificates/cards are due at the July 10th general meeting.

We're not quite up to last year's amount of \$3,000 in gift certificates. Let's see if we can do the same or better this year!

A Virtual Upscale Sale!

An old-fashioned garage sale can be fun. But it's also labor intensive.

Take a look at the photo of the cup of coffee and computer at right. We could be selling our stuff comfortably online or we could be schlepping, sorting, displaying and fretting about the weather while staring at the radar map on our screens.

Thanks to new SIGP member Cara Crawford, something different just might be easier. Of course it depends upon all of us. Here is a summary of how it would work. Right after you've finished your Fourth of July festivities, you can start. That's like, in a few days.



- This virtual garage sale uses online apps (Grosse Pointe Facebook groups, Offer Up, etc.). We will do a two month pilot project (July-August) to see how it goes.
- Cara Crawford will work with Renee Rodriguez on a Facebook landing page (they'll send you a link via email). That way, all items can be found in one central online location.
- Cara will use her garage to store items. People can coordinate with her at (505) 610-1283 to schedule drop offs. She works from home and plans to be available after the July 4th holidays.
- Cara will post items to the sites and work with the person who donates the item to determine a price.
- Since it will require a bit more effort to sell each item, only higher quality items are requested (i.e., \$20 dollars or more). People can send Cara photos of their items before drop off to ensure they are good to sell.
- Any Soroptimist members who have the ability to sell their own items via phone apps are encouraged to do so.

If there are a lot of leftovers at the end of the trial period, then we'll more than likely need to put on a real-live garage sale this fall. At least we'll have a good start!

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

Director

Hospitality Chair

Congratulations SI-Grosse Pointe!

Submitted by Roseanne Horne, Midwestern Region Membership Chair

The results from Phase 1 of the Diamond Campaign Membership program are in! Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe was one of 9 clubs in the Midwestern Region (which includes 32 clubs) that reached the Phase 1 goals of the Diamond Campaign.

All clubs that qualified for completing Phase 1 goals were entered into a raffle for \$500. SIGP along with SI of Dayton, Ohio, won the raffle in our Midwestern Region! Here is the letter we received from SIA headquarters:

*Dear President Aleksandra,
Congratulations again to SI Grosse Pointe, MI, for your successful performance during Phase 1 of SIA's Diamond Campaign!*

We are happy to inform you that of all 174 of the high performers entered into a drawing for meeting all 3 Phase 1 goals, your club was one of ten randomly selected to win a cash prize of USD\$500.00 to support your Dream Programs!

We are very happy to support your club's Dream Programs as we continue working as one to strengthen our organization.

Congratulations, and shine on!

The following goals had to be met last year to reach the goals of Phase 1:

- ◆ 14% or fewer terminated members – SIGP had 6 terminated members
- ◆ -1% or greater net change in members – SIGP had a 12.90% net change
- ◆ 13 % or more new members – SIGP had a total of 15 new members

How our club helped local high school girls with SAT/ACT prep

[Note: This is an amazing story. —Ed.]

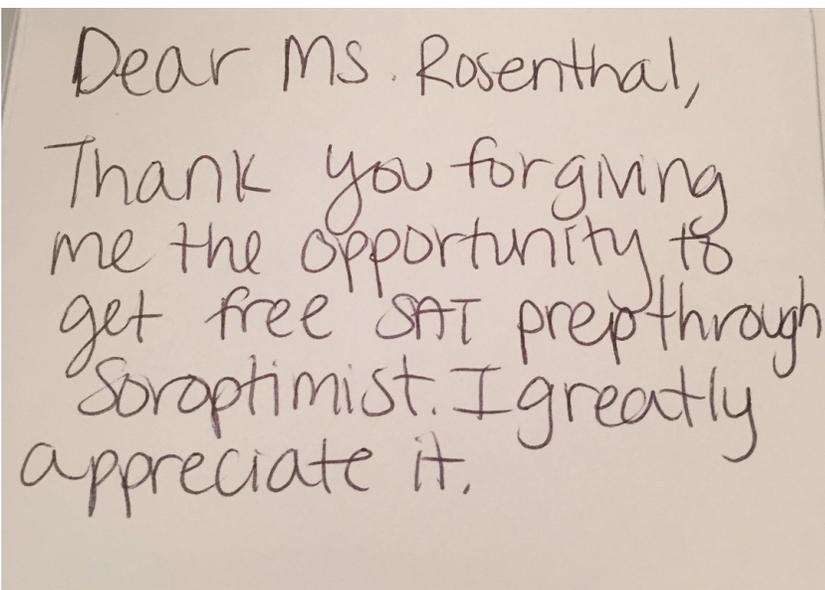
Our club started a program to help local high school girls begin to realize their dream to attend college. This program evolved from another one of our educational programs in Damongo, Ghana, Africa. SIGP has been funding several of these girls' high school education for the past 5 years. Meanwhile, some SIGP members discovered that there are girls within our Grosse Pointe community who feel marginalized and face barriers to continue their education beyond high school.

Then this question arose, "What about our local girls?" SIGP member and teacher, Marya Malkovich Rosenthal, ran with the idea of helping local girls.

She contacted Grosse Pointe public school counselors who helped our club reach girls based on financial need. The counselors' professional/personal knowledge of the students helped winnow the field to the candidates who wanted it most.

The question went from, "What about our local girls?" to, "What if girls who **could not** afford to pay for an SAT/ACT test preparation course had the opportunity to take one?"

Inquiries led to College Quest, a company that offers a 7-session SAT/ACT preparation course for \$375. The owner of the company, Scott Allen, upon hearing about our award, offered the course to 5 girls from Grosse Pointe North High School for \$1000 in the first year of our program. This past year, he offered the course to 10 girls for \$2000. Our objective the second year was to offer the same



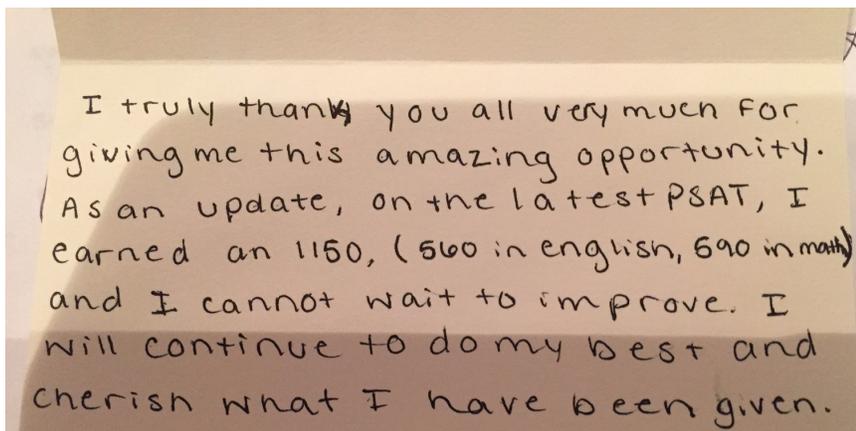
award to girls attending Grosse Pointe South High School as well as Grosse Pointe North.

An application form was developed by club members. It included open-ended questions, asking the girls to discuss what prompted them to apply for the award, how they believed the course would help them and why attending college/university was important to them.

The impact of our project was apparent in their responses. Here are excerpted samples:

- ◆ "I have been raised by a single mother my whole life. We live in a low-income family and life can be a challenge because of that. It doesn't help that my father doesn't pay child support. I have only met him twice and he has shown no intentions to see me again... By taking this class to prepare me for the SAT and ACT I will have a greater opportunity to get great scores on both.... Attending college is different for me than for anyone else in Grosse Pointe. I will be the first person in my family to go to college...."

Continued on next page

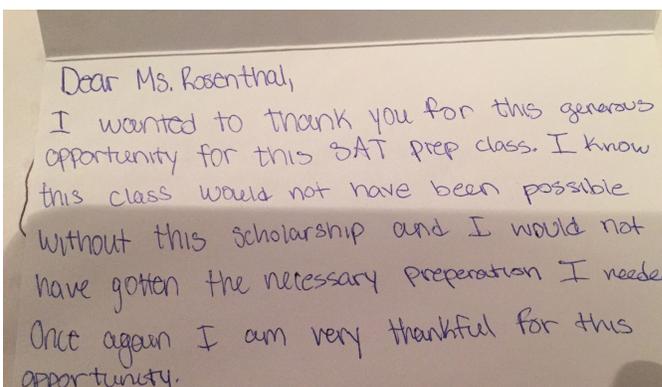


I truly thank you all very much for giving me this amazing opportunity. As an update, on the latest PSAT, I earned an 1150, (560 in english, 690 in math) and I cannot wait to improve. I will continue to do my best and cherish what I have been given.

◆ “My parents divorced when I was 5 years old and my father became a single parent to three girls. He had many health problems over the years which kept him in and out of the hospital. I started my first year at Grosse Pointe North in September and the day after I began school, my dad had surgery. Every day for 2 weeks I followed a routine of school, to the hospital and back home after 10 p.m. Then, on Sep-

tember 15th, the most important person in my life left me forever...Although it has been very hard, I still have my sisters by my side...Education can mean a traditional school or even vocational school. To me, reaching above and beyond is what I strive for. I wish to impress my father and make him proud that I am his daughter. Every step I take will be for him.”

- ◆ “When my counselor presented this opportunity of applying for the scholarship, I was ecstatic. When we originally moved to the Grosse Pointe area at my young age of 6, we were so in love with the community we decided to stay. But it hasn’t been easy for us. Back when I was in elementary school, I didn’t have many friends and often spent most of my time with the kindergarteners, helping them out in class so I wouldn’t have any encounters with the ‘popular girls’ who usually hurt my feelings. It eventually grew to a point where I came home crying one day because I didn’t want to go back to school. And this really hurt my mom because I’ve always been in love with school and learning. Even though I still didn’t want to go back to school, it was my mom who encouraged me to keep going. It was her advice that later influenced my personal motto, ‘Keep your head up high and your smile even higher....’ During my freshman year, my mother and I were constantly getting sick. And eventually, it reached a peak. One morning, my mom drove us both to the hospital and we were diagnosed with carbon monoxide poisoning. My mom was furious and we moved. Only problem was, we had nowhere to go. So we went to stay with my uncle in his 1-bedroom apartment all the way in Hamtramck, MI. This means we had to wake up even earlier every morning, drive to school then drive back home after I got out of practice at 6:30 p.m. Eventually, we found a house in the area where I attend school and moved back here. But, due to all the detriments to our health, I missed plenty of school. All of this has only made me want to strive even harder to reach my goals and ambitions in life. If I am granted this scholarship, I feel



Dear Ms. Rosenthal,
I wanted to thank you for this generous opportunity for this SAT prep class. I know this class would not have been possible without this scholarship and I would not have gotten the necessary preparation I needed. Once again I am very thankful for this opportunity.

Continued on next page

SAT/ACT prep continued from previous page

that I will be one step closer to accomplishing my dreams... Attending a college/university is EXTREMELY important to me. Even though my mom struggled to make ends meet due to it being expensive for her to live out here rather than Detroit where it's cheaper, she willingly stayed in Grosse Pointe Woods. Because Grosse Pointe has an overall extremely good education system, my mom told me that she only wants me to have the absolute best. My mother's biggest hope is that I make something out of myself so I won't have to struggle supporting my family like how she and my sister do.

As a result of the question, "What about our local girls?" 15 young women have benefitted from this program, sponsored by SIGP. All the girls strongly agreed or agreed that the course helped them understand concepts more clearly, helped them improve reading, writing and math skills, provided practice for testing and improved overall test-taking skills.

On the two previous pages are a few samples of their thank you notes.

[Amazing story promised—amazing story delivered! Thank you to all SIGP members involved in this project! — Ed.]



SIGP member Diana Langlois took this photo at a Michigan rest area. It is a display of anti-trafficking materials.

In a similar vein, SIGP member Nancy Solak stopped at a rest area in Nebraska where there were signs warning that, "Truckers Are the Eyes and Ears of Our Nation's Highways." It was sponsored by the Truckers Against Trafficking association.

Awareness is the key, and our club is an integral part of contributing to increasing that awareness. Thank you!

FOODIE FUN!

“The Foodies” (an unsponsored offshoot of our Club) decided to dress in the decade of their birth at their last meeting. They also brought food from their era.

Representing the 1930s and taking center stage is Carolyn Barth. Diana Langlois, Laura McCourt and Maddy Jeffs represented the 1940s. Roseanne Horne, Marya Malkovich and Terry Welch represented the 1950s.



(L-R) Maddy Jeffs, Roseanne Horne, Carolyn Barth, Laura McCourt, Diana Langlois, Marya Malkovich and Terry Welch.

This ‘n That

- ◆ If you have a topic to be discussed at the general meeting, or if you want to see something on the agenda, please contact President Aleksa Andjelkovic 48 hours in advance of the meeting and cc Roseanne Horne and Ross Braun. We want to hear from YOU!
- ◆ Midwest Spring Conference will be held April 24-26, 2020.
- ◆ It’s not too early to start squirreling away any costume jewelry you have or find as you garage sale this summer. Mary Ellen Burke collects the items throughout the year for Mother’s Day gifts for women at Positive Images.

JULY

Happy Birthday to ...

Sara Baker, July 1
Aleksa Andjelkovic, July 8
Renee Rodriguez, July 14
Rasheda Williams, July 15
Jane Lightfoot, July 19
Rosanne Morrow, July 23
Catherine Baldwin, July 24
Mary Ellen Burke, July 27
Jane Evola, July 30





Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe presents the Stop Traffic 5K Walk Run

Saturday, September 21, 2019
Saint Clair Shores, MI • St. Lucy's Catholic Church 23401 Jefferson Avenue Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080

RUNNING • 5K • SAINT CLAIR SHORES, MI

REGISTER LINK BELOW

Get up to
\$10 OFF
this event

Members save up to
\$10 on registration fees.

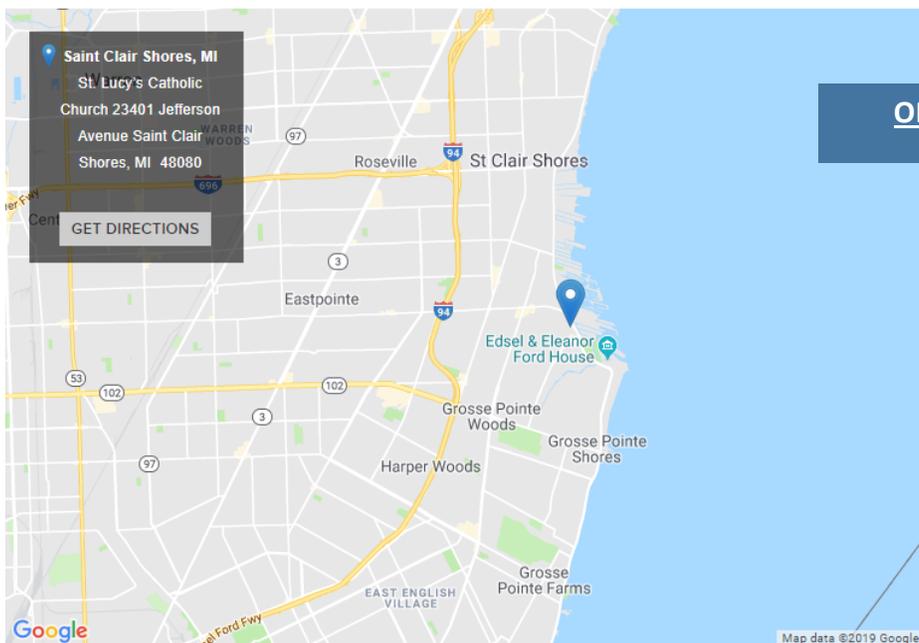
Save Today

The Stop Traffic 5K is an UNTIMED walk/run in beautiful Saint Clair Shores, Michigan. Proceeds will benefit human trafficking awareness initiatives in the Metro Detroit area. The event also features exhibitors from anti-trafficking organizations to provide information on how we can all do our part to stop human trafficking and care for trafficked survivors. Despite the sadness in all our hearts regarding the cause this race supports, this is a family-friendly race with fun giveaways, lots of enthusiasm, and a celebration of making our communities a safer place for all.

We would like to thank St. Lucy's Church for supporting our cause and allowing us to use their property for this event. Their generosity is amazing and much appreciated!

Event details and schedule

Meet us at St. Lucy's Church
Registration/Check-in: 7:30 am
Race Start Time: 8:00 am
Refreshments Post-Race: Yes!
Exhibitors: 7:30 am - 10:00 am
Restroom Facilities: Yes. Inside St. Lucy's Church.



[ONLINE: CLICK HERE](#)

Overheard at a general meeting: “What the heck is the Laurel Society?”

Established in 1994, the Laurel Society is SIA’s prestigious recognition program for donors who contribute gifts totaling \$1,000 or more.

Before you start thinking, “Holy cow! I could never donate that much!” SI-Grosse Pointe has addressed this issue. At each general meeting you will see a swath of navy-blue felt with tags pinned to it. For \$10, you get a chance to become a member of the prestigious group. Each time the quilt gets filled up with \$1,000 in \$10 donations, a drawing is held. Carolyn Barth is currently in charge of the quilt.

Since its inception, nearly 7,000 Laurel Society members have given more than \$12 million to help economically empower women and girls through SIA’s Dream Programs.

While dues pay for member services, governance, and administration, your charitable contributions are used for fundraising and program expenses. Thanks for asking!

HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOT LINE / 1-888-3737-888 / OR TEXT: BEFREE



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.

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
<https://www.grossepointesoroptimist.org/>

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 Shepherd

TWITTER: [@soroptimistgp](https://twitter.com/soroptimistgp).....Jean Kroll

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

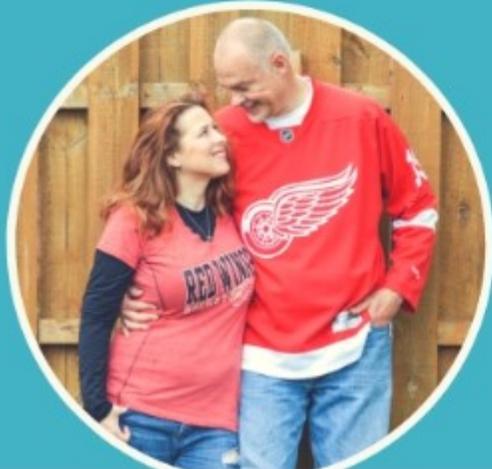
MEDIA: Newspaper articles, radio PSAs, etc.Diana Langlois



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

SIGP Member Ads

RENÉE RODRIGUEZ
PHOTOGRAPHY



Soroptimist Special

Mini Portrait Session \$100

30 minute photo session
10 high resolution digital images
Photo Print Release

Book your session today!
Contact

renerodriguezphotography@gmail.com
248.778.8206

www.renee-rodriquez.com