



# The Vision



## Governor's Message

Greetings Sorooptimist Fans!

By now, you've all read the Call to Conference. What do you think? I hope you're excited to attend, because I am. This will be my 25<sup>th</sup> conference and I've made it to all but two. In that time, I've made a lot of friends outside of my club and District. If you are new to Sorooptimist or maybe new to attending Spring Conference, please avail yourself of the opportunity to meet and get to know other people, you won't regret it. "The sincerity of friendship" is a real thing.

One of our challenges this year, as it is almost every year, is Membership. We talk about it, we email about it, we blog about it, we Tweet about it – you get the idea. Did you see the results of the recent Lapsed Membership Survey from SIA and what do you think?

- Top reasons reported for leaving Sorooptimist are: Club functioning (locked in tradition, no orientation, pressure to accept leadership role); Club personality (personality conflicts, did not feel welcome); Asked to give/spend too much money
- Membership and public awareness continue to be most frequently identified as the areas most needing improvement in the club.
- **Former members age 25-35 were far more likely to identify networking opportunities as the reason they joined SIA compared to lapsed members overall. When asked why they left SIA, this age group chose "unfulfilling activities" more frequently than respondents in other age brackets.**
- The majority of respondents indicated they would join a club again in the future, and this is highest among former members age 35-54.

Note the bit in bold print. Younger members value the ability to network more than older members - which totally makes sense. It was one of the reasons I joined my club at age 29. At 54, it matters less, but it still matters. Midwestern Region is in the midst of a demographic shift in which Millennials will start playing a larger role in leadership positions and I'm hopeful that we'll be able to address this issue in a way that resonates with them and with GenZ. If we want to grow Sorooptimist, it will take all of us, from Gen Z to Baby Boomers.

In closing, more of the future. Make sure to check your club's .net email account for instructions on using Federation's first ever electronic ballot! This should be a huge improvement in managing the election process across all of SIA. Checkout the [February Sorooptimist Summary](#) for pointers.



**Kris Armstrong,**  
Midwestern Region Governor

## Inside March 2020 Edition are:

Articles from SI of...

- ◆ Cleveland
- ◆ Columbus & Franklin County
- ◆ Dayton
- ◆ Downriver Area
- ◆ Flatrock
- ◆ Greater Macomb
- ◆ Grosse Pointe
- ◆ Lucas County
- ◆ Mt. Vernon & Knox Co.
- ◆ Monroe
- ◆ Trenton

## Important Dates for 2020

**03/01 Sorooptimist Club Grant applications due at SI HQ**

**03/08 International Women's Day**

**03/08 Virginia Wagner District Winners due to Region Chair**

**03/15 Award Report due from District Directors to Governor Elect Darcy**

**03/31 Region Virginia Wagner Award Winners names to Region Treasurer Audrey Jarvey by Region Chair**

**03/31 Governor's Award Form due to Governor Kris Armstrong**





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

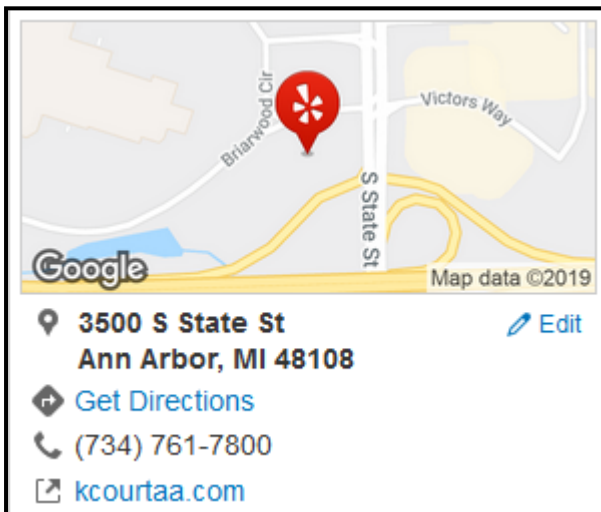
**Educate to Empower**

**Darcy Merritt**  
Installed as Governor of the  
Midwestern Region

SCROPTIMIST  
Best for Women

SCROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL  
MIDWESTERN REGION

The poster features a blue sky background with white clouds. At the bottom, there is a silhouette of a group of women holding hands. The text is in various fonts and colors, including black, white, and yellow.



Google Map showing the location of The Kensington Hotel at 3500 S State St, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. The map includes a red location pin and labels for Brianwood Cir, Victors Way, and S State St. Below the map, the address is listed as 3500 S State St, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. Other information includes a phone number (734) 761-7800 and the website kcourtaa.com.



# The Call

Helping women and girls  
live their dreams

## Soroptimist International of Lucas County

The year 2020 is starting out with great enthusiasm and ideas for this year. After the December judging of the LYD applicants, the three women getting awards will be honored on March 5, 2020. Please save the date and come and join us. Location, etc. will appear on our FB page.

We have made a donation to *Covered International* which they will use for their Care Program. The Program helps to meet the needs of women and children going through a transition from the sex trade industry to freedom. The Care Team hosts community outings to build healthy, trusting relationships and to provide fun-filling life experiences.

Late Spring or early Summer will be our annual pizza party at the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter. This year in addition to pizza, we will include a build-your-own ice cream sundae bar.

Our fall wine-tasting event will be held October 3. Always a fun-filled event. You are invited to save this date also. Not only is this a fundraising event, we make time to talk about Soroptimist and encourage membership. Details coming soon.

We are going to have another membership event somewhere in between. Like I said, busy, busy.

## Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe

### January Meeting Illustrates SIGP's Depth

SIGP member Kerri Green gave an entertaining and informative slide presentation about the recent trip she made to Ghana with SIGP members Carol Hofer and Rosanne Morrow.

We also had guest speakers Gail Marlow and Aaron Richards of the Motor City Mitten Mission. If you're one of our members who has donated plastic grocery bags, you'll be happy to know that 4 million of them have been collected and made into washable, durable and insulating mats and pillows for the homeless.

The Motor City Mitten Mission ([www.motorcitymittenmission.org](http://www.motorcitymittenmission.org)) has also served more than 17,000 meals to people who live on the street. Volunteers go out each evening to distribute the meals. If you're interested in volunteering in one of several capacities, go to their website listed above.

With Kerri, Gail and Aaron, we learned a lot about our own community and that of Ghana's.



At left, Kerri Green dressed in typical Ghana garb, and at above, the gorgeous photo album she made of the trip.

## Soroptimist International Midwestern Region Membership Chair



# Diamond Campaign membership goals:

### A look at how our Midwestern Region is doing!

Below are the membership goals for all regions and individual clubs:

- **-1% or better net change in membership**

**As of January 2020, the Midwestern Region has increased its members from 709 in July 2019 to 737 in January 2020. This is a 3.9% increase. Our region goal is 760 members by May 31, 2020. Only 23 more members are needed!**

- **14% or more new members**

As of January 2020, our region has gained 68 new members since July 2019. Our goal to reach 14% more new members for the year is 108 new members.

- **15% or fewer terminated members**

As of January 2020, our region has lost 107 members. In order to stay under 15% terminated members our region cannot lose any more than 115 members this year.

- **Charter more than one new club per region.**

Our Region has **not chartered any new clubs yet this year.** However, we do have 2 areas where meetings are being held to start the chartering process: Green Bay, Wisconsin and Western Oakland County, Michigan. If you have any family or friends in these areas that may be interested in joining a Soroptimist Club, please let me know!

**Remember**, in order to increase membership in our clubs, we must all continue to invite guests to our meetings, events and programs to get them interested in what Soroptimists is all about. This really helps to get new members!!

**Hope to see everyone at the Spring Conference in April!**

**Roseanne Horne**

**Midwestern Region Membership Chair**

**Rosewa33@aol.com**

**Unlock the potential of women and girls**

## Soroptimist International of Greater Macomb



Our 'tech team' has been very busy working to improve and increase SIGM presence on the internet and social media. Our website has been totally revamped. Thank you Amanda! [www.si.greatermacomb.org](http://www.si.greatermacomb.org)

In addition, we have subscribed to Constant Contact which we will be able to use to contact members and other contacts with reminders, invitations, etc. It can also be used to purchase tickets for fund raisers, even our upcoming 75th Silver Anniversary Awards Banquet; it includes a link for online payment.

Another member is working on getting a Instagram set up for us, and I'm told Constant Contact will be able to integrate with any other platform we're using.



On Saturday, March 7 we are holding another one-day Dream It Be It program. We are again teaming with Macomb County 4H Club and it will again be held at the county's Verkuilen Building.



THE ALABASTER GIFT

We're looking into a couple of partnering opportunities for assisting survivors of Human Trafficking. A local restaurant owner has contacted us to partner with his restaurants to raise money with the proceeds to go to [Alabaster Gift](#), Macomb County's walk-in shelter for survivors as well as those who are still caught in the web.

In addition, Nate Knapper, founder and CEO of The Joseph Project, has contacted SIGM about the possibility of working with them to help realize some of their goals. The Joseph Project works to enlist attorneys to offer pro bono work for trafficking survivors.



We are looking forward to seeing you all in Ann Arbor in April!

## Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe



February 28th was another successful gathering of friends and neighbors at SIGP's annual wine tasting event. A little birdie told me we may have two new members joining due to our clubs influence in our community...or it may have been the wine influence, but which ever it was fun was had by all.



## Soroptimist International of Bloomington Normal



*SIBN members (from left to right); front - Becky Alwes, middle - Sandy Groves, Nancy Armstrong, Nancy Raymond, Lina Wombacher, Joanie Gullett, Bernie Lindoerfer, Diana Lewis, Becky Mentzer, Melanie Alwes, Barb Adams, back, Sue Young, Kris Armstrong*

**SI Bloomington-Normal held our Charter Dinner on February 16th, it was enjoyed by all as we celebrated an "Evening with the Stars." For those attending the event they were able to meet most of our winners and runner-ups for the Virginia Wagner Educational Award and the Live Your Dream Award. Their stories and goals were so inspiring to hear. The evening program concluded with the "SIBN Oscar Awards," when all in attendance were recognized for a specific category. Everyone was on the edge of their seats to hear who would be announced as the next Oscar winner!**

### **Virginia M. Wagner Educational Award**

Sandy Groves

Twenty applications were distributed including 7 application requests from the SI Midwestern Region website. Ten completed applications were judged by Dorothy Kennett (retired ISU), Sandra Hupp (retired ISU), and Gena Glover (Heartland Community College).

Second Runner-Up (\$500) – Rebekah Baughman, Latham, IL is a second year senior at Emporia State University, Kansas majoring in micro and cellular biology. She plans to go on for her master's degree in Dietetics and Nutrition. Rebekah's check and certificate were mailed as she was unable to attend Charter Dinner

First Runner-Up (\$750) – Demet Yigitbilek, Normal, IL is a doctoral student at Illinois State University majoring in English Studies, specifically TESOL, Teaching English as a Second Language. She student taught for the English Language Institute at ISU and at Bloomington Jr. High. Demet previously had been an English Language instructor from her home country of Turkey prior to coming to ISU in 2017.



2020- SIBN Virginia Wagner Award Winner (\$1000): Kelsey Anderson, is a Social Work master's student at Illinois State. She previously was from Roselle, Illinois. She earned her Bachelor's in Social Work from ISU and

has been employed by Children's Home and Aid in Bloomington. The Wagner Award will allow her to continue to work full-time as an Early Start Home Visitor while completing graduate school without having to acquire a second job. Her positions with Children Home and Aid have included being a CYFS Adoption Intern, a Foster Care Case Manager, and currently an Early Start Home Visitor. Kelsey was not able to be at the Charter Dinner due to sickness but received her award recently at Panera's.

## Soroptimist International of Cleveland



Lauras home picture: Sally, Janet, Julia, Emily, Anne, Laurie Erin, Shannon, Lindsay, Emmerson, Emily, Lori



We need to thank our Lucky Charms to all that have been supporting our Club over the last 10 months!

Our Service Project for February at Laura's Home. We stuffed envelopes and made hygiene bags. It's amazing how taking on a few administrative tasks can be so impactful to a non-profit. It is also fun for our members to give back, help and laugh with each other.

Thanks to all of our Wine Lovers who supported Lauren Rudman on her side hustle selling ONEHOPE Wine and for Emily Adams for hosting. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be donated to Soroptimist International of Cleveland. What better way to give back? So far we have raised over \$150 and the party is still open!

We also partnered with FETCH as their January non-profit and hosted a shopping day which our members love!

Our April Service Project will be at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

As we wind down our first year as a club we are asking for nominations for all board and committee position. What a great year we have had and we are looking forward to next year! We already have our calendar of events planned!

## Soroptimist International of Columbus & Franklin County



The purpose of International Women's Day is to bring attention to the social, political, economic, and cultural issues that women face, and to advocate for the advance of women within all those areas. As the organizers of the celebration state, "Through purposeful collaboration, we can help women advance and unleash the limitless potential offered to economies the world over." The day is often also used to recognize women who've made significant contributions to the advancement of their gender.

### *What colors signify IWD?*

Internationally, purple is the color for symbolizing women. Historically the combination of purple, green and white to symbolize women's equality originated from the Women's Social and Political Union in the UK in 1908. Purple signifies justice and dignity. Green symbolizes hope. White represents purity, but is no longer used due to "purity" being a controversial subject.

### *History (select portions) of IWD?*

On the eve of World War I campaigning for peace, Russian women observed their first IWD on the last Sunday in February 1913. In 1913 following discussions, IWD was transferred to March 8 and this day has remained the global date ever since.

1975- IWD was celebrated for the first time by the United Nations. Then in 1977, the General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming a United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace to be observed on any day of the year by Member States, in accordance with their historical traditions.

1996- The UN commenced the adoption of an annual theme.

The world has witnessed a significant change and attitudinal shift in both women's and society's thoughts about women's equality and emancipation.

The unfortunate fact is that women are still not paid equally to that of their male counterparts, women still are not present in equal numbers in business or politics, and globally women's education, health, and the violence against them is worse than that of men.

IWD is an official holiday in many countries. The tradition sees men honoring their wives, mothers, girlfriends, colleagues, etc. with flowers and small gifts. In some countries IWD has the equivalent status of Mother's Day where children give small presents to their mothers and grandmothers.

The IWD 2020 campaign theme is drawn from a notion of "Collective Individualism." We are all parts of a whole. Our individual actions, conversations, behaviors and mindsets can have an impact on our larger society. Collectively, we can make change happen. Collectively, we can each help to create a gender equal world. We can all choose to be **#EachforEqual**.



One hundred years ago, on Valentine's Day, a group of women led by suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt gathered in the Gold Room of Chicago's Congress Hotel and formed the League of Women Voters.



## Soroptimist International of Soroptimist International



### 2020 – NEXT STEP ON THE JOURNEY TOWARDS EQUALITY

6TH JANUARY 2020 PRESIDENT NEWS, PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE1 COMMENT



Dear Soroptimists

“Happy New Year to you all!

The value of any social movement is having everyone moving in the same direction toward common goals. We can be the messenger that brings the complex global issues facing women and girls into focus and aligns them with the programme work of

Soroptimist International (SI).

We all share the dream for Soroptimists to be a voice for gender equality, and as we *Educate, Empower* and *Enable* women and girls, we can realise a better future for all. I believe we are stronger together – working in harmony at all levels will strengthen our Clubs, Federations and organisation, to meet the challenges that we will face.

We know that education is key to removing barriers for women and girls, and yet often access to education can be negatively affected by gender-based violence, harmful traditional practices, conflict, disaster, and climate issues. Violence not only has negative consequences for women and girls, but also for their families, the community, and the country at large.



There is much work to do and also lots to celebrate in the next two years, including:

- Increasing our profile by collaborating with other organisations;
- Completing the dream of chartering the Africa Federation;
- Celebrating 100 years of service;
- Filling the buses to travel the ‘Road to Equality’;
- Supporting the work of our dedicated Advocacy Team;
- Increasing and maximising communications to Federations and Members;
- Launching the next century of Soroptimist International!

A warm welcome to 2020 and I look forward to our mutual cooperation in meeting our goals, fulfilling the dreams of women and girls, and sharing fun and laughter with Soroptimist friends.

Thank you to everyone who has already taken the time to show their support for the new SI President’s Appeal ‘The Road to Equality’, there is so much more to come.

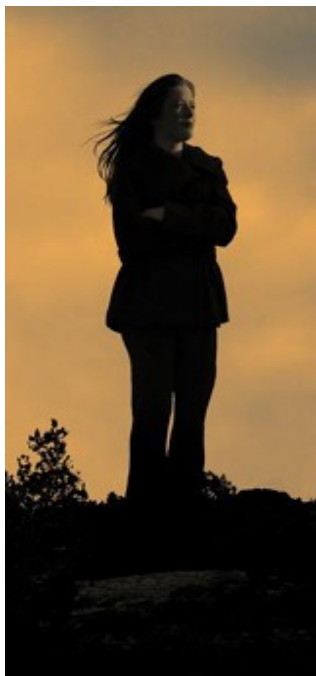
The world is changing and change creates opportunities for the issues we are passionate about. I am excited to join you as we engage in the possibilities”.

**SI President 2020-2021 Sharon Fisher**

## Soroptimist International of Dayton

SI Dayton will be hosting a free showing of the film *"I AM JANE DOE"* on March 28<sup>th</sup> at the downtown Dayton Metro Library. The showing runs from 1-3:30 with a panel discussion following the film. *"I AM JANE DOE"* chronicles the battle that several American mothers are waging on behalf of their middle-school daughters, victims of sex-trafficking on Backpage.com, the adult classifieds site that for years was part of the iconic Village Voice.

The Jane Doe plaintiffs who have filed lawsuits against Backpage include middle school girls from Boston, a 15-year-old violinist from Seattle, and a precocious 13-year-old girl from St. Louis. The documentary follows the journey of these young girls and their mothers in real time as they run headlong into a collision course not only with Backpage but with judges, special interest group, large technology companies, and Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, an internet freedom law that has been interpreted by federal judges to protect websites which facilitate criminal conduct.



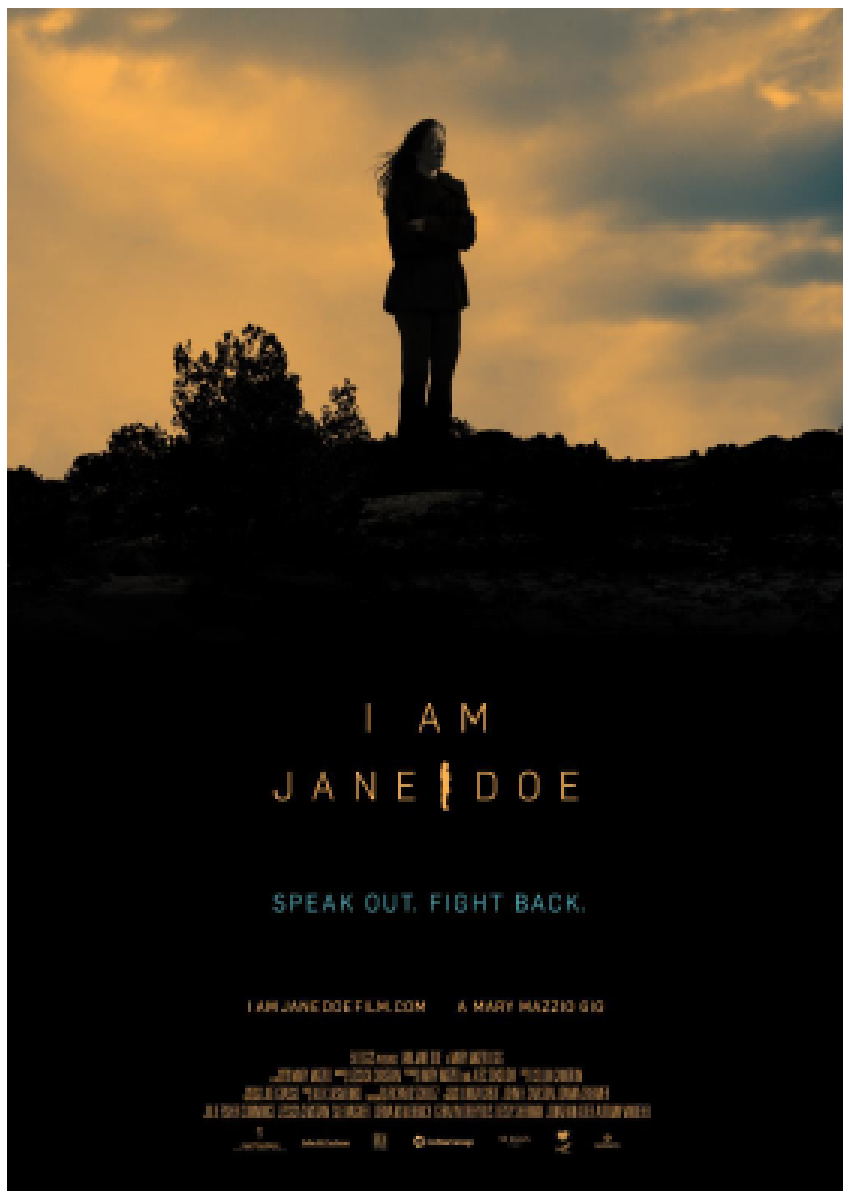
If interested, register by March 20<sup>th</sup> at [EventBright.com](https://www.EventBright.com)

To download a copy of the flyer on the next page  
click the link below

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3AAscds%3AUS%3A183922a8-ae0e-4b79-84c4-e2725cc6b704>

**NATIONAL  
HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING  
HOTLINE**

Call 1-888-373-7888 (TTY: 711) | Text 233733 | Live Chat



**Based on a true story about the fight against Human Trafficking**

**Don't miss this free movie documentary.**

**Information that every parent and teenager should know!**

**Register by March 20<sup>th</sup> at EventBright.com Search: I Am Jane Doe**

**Seating is limited!**

**Premier Sponsor Abolition Ohio**



**Other Sponsors CBCB Bar and Grill-Beavercreek**

**MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>  
SATURDAY 1P – 3:30P  
“I AM JANE DOE”**

**Host: Downtown Dayton Metro Library**  
215 E. Third St., Dayton, OH  
(Convenient parking garage onsite plus street parking)

**Brought to you by:  
Soroptimist International  
of Dayton**

[sidaytonoh@soroptimist.net](mailto:sidaytonoh@soroptimist.net)



## Soroptimist International Of Trenton

### BATTLE FOR FREEDOM: DETROIT STYLE By: Erika Repasky

Soroptimist of Trenton Area raises more than \$20,000 to be donated to local human trafficking charities

On January 25th, Soroptimist of Trenton Area held its bi-annual hair and fashion runway competition, Battle for Freedom. The event was held at the Prestige Hall in Allen Park. Nearly 400 guests packed a sold-out venue to enjoy a night of food, drinks, and fashion to support a cause that hits very close to home. According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, Michigan currently ranks #7 in the nation for human trafficking.

This year, seven salons participated in the Battle for Freedom. Each salon customized their models' looks from head to toe with creations that represented the night's theme: Detroit Style. Guests were treated to artistic representations of popular Detroit locales that included Eastern Market, Greektown, Hart Plaza, and The Detroit Zoo. Also in the mix were creative shout-outs to the Detroit Free Press, the Movement Electronic Music Festival, and The Heidelberg Project.

After the runway show, attendees placed cash votes to support their favorite salon. In a very close match, Aubrey Salon of Riverview walked away with the first-place win. Other salons who participated included Daybreak Salon and Spa, InStinct Salon, Stylezz Ink, Sterling Hair Co., Volume, and Glammed Up Inc. The audience's cash votes raised over \$9,700 in donations.

During Battle for Freedom: Detroit Style, Soroptimist of Trenton Area joined forces with Hope Against Trafficking (HAT), a restorative rehabilitation program for trafficking survivors based out of Pontiac. Soroptimist will be donating 40 percent of the evening's proceeds to HAT. The rest of the funds raised will be used to help other local charities that support human trafficking awareness, prevention, and education.

Also part of the evening's festivities were the basket raffles. The baskets contained goods and services donated by several local businesses as well as citizens of the community. Contributing to this year's Battle for Freedom either by basket donation or sponsorship were JSP Dental, The Iron Bandogs, T.U.T Moms, Advantage First Realty, Kallas Restaurant Accounting, Sibley Gardens, Speros Atsalak is Coaching, and VAMP. Personal contributions were made by Kris Conkright, Vincent Bondy, and Becky Burnett of Keller Williams Real Estate.

Pre-show entertainment included guest speakers from Hope Against Trafficking and performances by Trenton School of Dance.



BFF - Daybreak Picture



Trenton School of Dance Picture



Photo Credit: Paetrah Collins

Soroptimist International Of Flat Rock



The Soroptimist International of the Flat Rock Area

# FASHION SHOW

featuring



THURSDAY

March 26, 2020

CRYSTAL GARDENS

16703 Fort St.

Southgate

Doors open at 5:30 pm

Dinner at 6:15 pm — Fashion Show at 7:00 pm

Tickets \$40 pp — Includes Dinner & Fashion Show — Cash Bar Available

For Tickets go online: <http://sifra.brownpapertickets.com>

or purchase at these locations:

Traffic Jam Boutique, 3019 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, 734-285-9029

Porter & Clark Chiropractic, 29100 Gateway, Ste 100, 734-379-9200

Corporate Sponsorships Available

*Silent Auction, Raffles & High Energy Fashions!*

**Educate to Empower!**



Proceeds to benefit our Educational Award Winners and Local Charities.  
Learn more at [soroptimist.org](http://soroptimist.org) and join us on the first Tuesday of the month at 6p at  
Big Bear Lodge, Flat Rock.

## Soroptimist International Of Mount Vernon & Knox County

## Soroptimist International Of Downriver Area

### Step into Spring Style Show April 4



**Co-Producers Diana Oswalt,  
Chris Kompton**

**DOORS OPEN AT 11:00 am**

Individual Tickets: \$25

Corporate Tickets: \$250

*8 tickets includes prime  
seating and favors*

**GALLAGHER CENTRE**

Ohio Eastern Star Home

1451 Gambier Road

Mount Vernon

LUNAFEST, the fundraising film festival dedicated to championing women filmmakers and bringing women together in their communities, will be hosted by Soroptimist International of Downriver at The Catherine Daly Theater in Wyandotte, MI March 27 and 28, 2020. The Soroptimist Club has partnered with The Downriver Actor's Guild in a joint fundraiser.

This unique film festival highlights women as leaders in society, illustrated through seven short films by women filmmakers. The films range from animation to fictional drama, and cover topics such as women's health, body image, relationships, cultural diversity and breaking barriers.

All proceeds from LUNAFEST will benefit Soroptimist Programs, Downriver Actors Guild and Chicken & Egg Pictures, a nonprofit organization that supports women nonfiction filmmakers whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change. Thus far, LUNAFEST, which is created and funded by LUNA®, The Whole Nutrition Bar, has raised more than \$5 Million for nonprofit organizations across the US and Canada.

The event begins on Friday, March 27 with a red-carpet reception and viewing. Tickets to the reception are \$25 each and include food, raffles and door prizes prior to the viewing. The after glow party's location is to be announced. Two general viewings are scheduled for Saturday, March 28. Tickets to Saturday's viewings are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors and students.

The club is currently looking for additional sponsors and in-kind donations to make the event a big success! For more information please contact the club at [Lunafest.wyandotte@gmail.com](mailto:Lunafest.wyandotte@gmail.com)

# Ways You Can Help

We all have unique gifts to share with the communities who need it most. By empowering women and girls through access to education and training, the lives of individuals, families, and whole communities can be improved.

### Soroptimist International of Monroe



It Happens in **Your** Zip Code

# 2020 Human Trafficking Conference

**Date:** Saturday April 18th, 2020

**Time:** 7:30am –1:00pm

**Location:** Monroe County Intermediate School District (ISD)  
101 S. Raisinville Rd. Monroe, MI

### Speakers:

**Dr. Celia Williamson PhD MSW** - University of Toledo

Director of the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute

**D/Sergeant Gerald Yott**- Michigan State Police -

Computer Crimes Unit

*Protecting Children in a Digital World*

**Cost:** \$40.00 early registration (before March 1st 2020)  
\$50.00 after March 1st 2020 Students \$10.00

**Register at:** Register on Classy @

<https://give.classy.org/Knowhumantraffickingconference>

### Survivor and Author:

**Lockey Maisonneuve**

Book: A Girl Raised By Wolves

(Available for purchase)

**Sponsored by:** The Monroe County Anti Human Trafficking Coalition

FB @ MonroeAntihumanTraffickingCoalition

Twitter @mahtc.michigan@gmail.com email: mahtc.michigan@gmail.com

For more information and to register for this event click the link below

<https://www.classy.org/event/2020-human-trafficking-conference/e256180>

**NATIONAL  
HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING  
HOTLINE**

Call 1-888-373-7888 ( TTY: 711) | Text 233733 | Live Chat

Our work is being recognized and being taken serious. LARA is the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs for the State of Michigan and THEY are requiring a class for identifying victims of human trafficking

## Soroptimist International Of Cleveland

Save the date for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual golf outing scheduled for Friday September 11<sup>th</sup> at Bunker Hill in Medina. Last year we raised over \$6000 for our club with very minimal turnaround time. This year we are hoping to raise even more.



## Soroptimist International Fundraising Information

The SIA Fundraising Council (FRC) meet for their annual meeting in Philadelphia October 25 – 27. The group worked diligently to review and analyze FY 18 – 19 results, reviewing FY 19-20 plans and firming up any details that were needed. The FRC is charged by the SIA Board to solicit and attract charitable donations, gifts, sponsorships and bequests in order to support the programs of Soroptimist International of the Americas, and to provide recommendations regarding fundraising in support of the Board's fiduciary responsibilities. The Fundraising Council is a committee of the Board and as such reports to SIA's Board of Directors. The FRC also supports the Region Fundraising Chairs to ensure they have the tools, resources and training to complete their role with impact and confidence.

MWR was well represented at the meeting with Lee Ann Cochran and Diane Thompson. If you have any questions around fundraising please reach out to your Region Fundraising Chair, Patricia Cavell or the SIA FRC Chair, Lee Ann Cochran. Between the two you will certainly get an answer on all things related to fundraising!





## Soroptimist International Midwestern Region Board

**Governor Kris Armstrong**

SI Bloomington Normal

**Governor-Elect Darcy Merritt**

SI Monroe County

**Region Secretary Missie Austin**

SI Kenton Hardin Co

**Region Treasurer Audrey Jarvey**

SI Fond du Lac

**District I Director Susan Frankel**

SI Fond du Lac

**District I Secretary Connie Gindt**

SI Fond du Lac

**District II Director Barb Flory**

SI Middletown

**District II Secretary Jennifer Prater**

SI Hancock County

**District III Director Mary Pilon**

SI Wyandotte Southgate Taylor

**District III Secretary Lata Shastri**

SI Wyandotte-Southgate-Taylor

**District IV Director Chris Fowler Shearer**

SI Canton/Stark County

**District IV Secretary Abby Bouton**

SI Columbus & Franklin County

CHECK US OUT ON  
THE WEB!

WWW.SIMWR.ORG



Editor for The Vision  
Karrie Blankenship  
SI Grosse Pointe  
karrieb40@gmail.com

## Soroptimist International Midwestern Region 2018 / 2020 Board



**Standing:** Christine Shearer, Jenny Prater, Barb Flory, Susan Frankel,  
Connie Gindt, Mary Pilon, Lata Shastri, Abby Bouton  
**Seat:** Missie Austin, Kris Armstrong, Darcy Merritt, Audrey Jarvey

## Connections for the 2018–2020 Midwestern Board

### Emails Contacts

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

Governor Elect -Darcy Merritt - ([dmerritt81@hotmail.com](mailto:dmerritt81@hotmail.com))

Secretary - Missie Austin - ([missieaustin@gmail.com](mailto:missieaustin@gmail.com))

Treasurer - Audrey Jarvey - ([audreyjarv@gmail.com](mailto:audreyjarv@gmail.com))

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 Summary ([soroptimistsummary.org](http://soroptimistsummary.org))

Soroptimist International Midwestern Region Social Media connections

Tweet us [@SoroptimistMWR](https://twitter.com/SoroptimistMWR)  
Like us on Facebook at [@simwrgov](https://www.facebook.com/simwrgov)

**GOVERNOR**

Kris Armstrong – SI Bloomington-Normal IL  
607 W. Hamilton Road  
Bloomington, IL 61704  
Cell: 309-530-5989  
Email: krisquin@msn.com

**SECRETARY**

Missie Austin – SI Kenton Hardin Co OH  
513 N. Detroit Street  
Kenton, OH, 43326  
Cell: 419-673-7374  
Email: missieaustin@gmail.com

**DISTRICT I DIRECTOR**

Susan Frankel – SI Fond du Lac WI  
291 Old Pioneer Road  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
Cell: 920-251-2259  
Email: smfrankel5@gmail.com

**DISTRICT II DIRECTOR**

Barb Flory – SI Middletown OH  
5016 Oakview Drive  
Middletown, OH 45042-4901  
Home: 513-422-1882  
Email: bflory@cinci.rr.com

**DISTRICT III Director**

Mary Pilon – SI Wyandotte Southgate Taylor MI  
1711 Chestnut Street  
Wyandotte, MI 48192  
Cell: 313-405-5807  
Email: pilonmary0@gmail.com

**DISTRICT IV DIRECTOR**

Christine Fowler Shearer – SI Canton Stark Co OH  
4590 Rockridge Way  
Copley, OH 44321  
Cell: 216-408-4124  
Email: fowlerartistic@gmail.com

**GOVERNOR-ELECT**

Darcy Merritt – SI Monroe MI  
1554 Riverview Avenue  
Monroe, MI 48126  
Cell: 734-968-7991  
Email: dmerritt81@hotmail.com

**TREASURER**

Audrey Jarvey – SI Fond du Lac WI  
N74W13737 Appleton Avenue #116  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051  
Cell: 920-979-0606  
Email: audreyjarv@gmail.com

**DISTRICT I SECRETARY**

Connie Gindt – SI Fond du Lac WI  
250 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
Cell: 920-948-1357  
Email: Connie@ep-direct.com

**DISTRICT II SECRETARY**

Jenny Prater – SI Hancock Co OH  
PO Box 156  
Findlay, OH 45839  
Cell: 419-979-9884  
Email: Jmprater92@yahoo.com

**DISTRICT III SECRETARY**

Lata Shastri – SI Wyandotte Southgate Taylor MI  
37279 Aspen Drive  
Farmington Hills, MI 48335  
Cell: 248-890-0343  
Email: shastrilata@gmail.com

**DISTRICT IV SECRETARY**

Abby Bouton – SI Columbus Franklin Co OH  
2101 Mackenzie Drive  
Columbus, OH 43220  
Cell: 614-285-8212  
Email: abbouton@yahoo.com

---

**MIDWESTERN REGION 2020**

January 10-12	Winter Board Meeting - Time and Place TBD
January 11	National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness in the US
January 15	Virginia Wagner Award Applications due to Clubs
January 15	District Live Your Dream Award Winner due to Region Chair
January 18-20	MWR Winter Board Meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana
February 1	Club Live Your Dream Report due to District Director
February 15	Virginia Wagner Club Award winners due to District Director
February 15	Region LYD Winner info due to both SIA and Treasurer Audrey Jarvey by Region Chair
March 1	Soroptimist Club Grant applications due at SI HQ
March 8	International Women’s Day
March 8	Virginia Wagner District Winners due to Region Chair
March 15	Award Report due from District Directors to Governor Elect Darcy
March 31	Region Virginia Wagner Award Winners names to Region Treasurer Audrey Jarvey by Region Chair
March 31	Governor’s Award Form due to Governor Kris Armstrong
April 23 & 24	MWR Board Meeting Kensington Hotel - Ann Arbor, MI
April 24 - 26	2019 Spring Conference Kensington Hotel - Ann Arbor, MI
May 31	Club Giving and Founders Pennies contributions to SIA for 2020 recognition
June 1	Dream It, Be It Online Club Reporting due to SIA
July 1	Club Celebrating Success forms due to Kris Armstrong
July 10-12	MWR Summer Board Meeting, Location TBD
July 22 - 25	SIA 46 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention- Bellevue, WA
July 26 – 27	Governors Roundtable – Bellevue, WA

---