



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

NEWSLETTER

June 2016

Area 2 • District 6

2016-2017 Zonta Club of Milwaukee

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**Send your newsletter submissions
to Krista Betts:
bookmaster04@gmail.com**

**Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org**

Zonta Year-End Social

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Join us for our year-end social! Come enjoy the company of your sister Zontians before we break for the summer.

We'll be enjoying the hospitality of the Northwest Family Center, the same location as our holiday party in December. Just like the holiday party, this event is sure to be a good time.

As a reminder, we will not have a monthly meeting in July or August.

Northwest Family Activity & Events Center
4104 W Good Hope Rd, Milwaukee

Social: 5:30 pm
Dinner and More Social: 6:00 pm

Cost: \$30 per person, includes tax and tip

Reservations: Please RSVP to **La Toya Sykes** at sykestoya@yahoo.com or 414-305-3889. (Email is preferred.) Your RSVP *must* be left by 9:00 am, Monday, June 20, 2016.

President's Message



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Happy Summer!

As I write my first president's message, I cannot help but think about all the contributions that Zonta makes to our local and international communities, and how it has contributed to my personal growth.

As with anything worthwhile, what you get out of it depends on what you put into it. I recently sent an email to every member of the Milwaukee Club asking each of you to think about how you want to contribute to our Club over the next biennium. I have heard back from some of you and look forward to hearing from the rest of you shortly.

I need each of you to consider where your passions lie. Do you want to use skills you have acquired in your job to help the Club? Do you want to try something completely different to help acquire new skills? Our Club only succeeds through the contributions of our membership.

While we will not meet as a Club in July or August, several committees will be working. Our **Forward Committee** will begin to investigate long-term service opportunities. Our **Advocacy Committee** needs a subcommittee to plan our 2nd annual Zonta Says No walk, scheduled for September. Our **Service Committee** needs subcommittees for the Neu-Life Career Day and our annual school supply/backpack drive, both scheduled for August. In addition, our **Program Committee** will begin planning our fall dinner meetings and speakers. **PR** will be working with all of our committees posting pictures and events on social media.

The time commitment to serve on a committee or subcommittee varies greatly so you can choose an opportunity that accommodates your schedule as well as your passion. Please review the email I sent in May describing the opportunities available. If you have questions, please contact me or the committee chair. Search your heart and decide how you want to contribute our Club, and in turn, our community and the world.

I will see you at our June year-end party, and I hope you all have a great summer. I am looking forward to reporting in September on the International Convention in Nice!

– Helen Ludwig



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June 11
Mary Staten

June 19
Joann Comodore

Meeting Minutes *for May 25, 2016*



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Lisa Attonito of Sojourner Family Peace Center, 619 W. Walnut Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, gave us a warm welcome and an informative history and tour of the new center.

This new facility is a comprehensive, state-of-the-art building which enhances the vision and mission of Sojourner Family Peace Center: “to create a community where people live peacefully, and to practice helping to transform lives of people impacted by domestic violence.” The principles, values, and beliefs draw on the following: “People have the right to safety and to live free from violence. People have the right to equality in their interpersonal relationships. People have the right to choose how to change their lives.”

Sojourner Family Peace Center functions with the involvement of Foundational Partner Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin; Co-located Partners, which have staff and offices on-site to provide programming and services daily; Visiting Partners, which have organizational infrastructure elsewhere but visit regularly to ensure comprehensive and successful delivery of the services and programs for clients; and Community Partners, which provide clients with community-based programs and services, initiated through a referral process.

The Co-located Partners are:

- Aurora Health Care
- Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin and its Child Advocacy Center, Child Abuse Prevention Fund (CAP Fund), Children’s Service Society of Wisconsin (CSSW), Project Ujima and Behavioral Health department.
- Milwaukee Police Department, Sensitive Crimes Division
- Milwaukee Public Schools
- Jewish Family Services
- Marquette University (Finalizing Details) – College of Nursing, Law School/ Restorative Justice
- Milwaukee County District Attorney’s Office
- Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division program Wraparound Milwaukee
- Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services
- CORE/EL Centro (Finalizing Details)
- Goodwill Industries (Finalizing Details)

The Visiting Partners are:

- Centro Legal
- Legal Action of Wisconsin
- Manpower
- Milwaukee Mediation Center (Initiating Partnership)
- Wisconsin Office of Crime Victim Services (Finalizing Details)

Meeting Minutes *for May 25, 2016 (cont.)*



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The Community Partners are:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Milwaukee
- Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin
- Hillside Neighborhood Association
- Hmong American Women's Association (Exploring Partnership)
- Milwaukee Muslim Woman's Coalition (Exploring Partnership)

We are a very fortunate community to have Sojourner Family Peace Center available to the needs of domestic violence victims.

The evening blessing was given; we welcomed our guests, enjoyed a lovely dinner, and initiated our new Zonta Club of Milwaukee member, Angela Doyel.

President, Donna Kahl-Wilkerson, convened the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Diane Lindsley reported that the issue with the IRS has been resolved with the help of Zonta International Headquarters. We have now registered the correct Federal I.D. number and name. The financial numbers balance.

Scholarship (Missy Creevy): We were honored to meet our Young Women in Public Affairs scholarship recipient, Abigail Thompson. She also received the District-level award and has a chance to receive the international award as well. Abigail gave a moving dramatic reading of her award-winning speech, *We must act now!*, which she had presented at Milwaukee's annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.

Service: Donna Neal spoke about Neu-Life winning the Wisconsin Association of Child and Youth Care Professionals (WACYCP) Program/Agency of the Year award. Donna won the WACYCP Youth Work Volunteer of the Year award. Congratulations, Neu-Life and Donna Neal.

We were reminded that Girls on the Run will be on June 5, 2016, at Bay Shore at 8:15 am. Club members were encouraged to support the girls of Neu-Life.

Committees: Helen Ludwig, our incoming Club President, has sent out an email about committees; she is encouraging each one of us to join at least one committee, spreading the support and sharing the fun.

President Donna Kahl-Wilkerson honored District Governor Donna Conant and the Club Board members.

Meeting adjourned so that Zonta Club of Milwaukee members and guests could experience a tour of the Sojourner Family Peace Center facility.

Respectfully submitted by Judith Lehman, Recording Secretary



Girls on the Run 5K

Thank you to Helen Ludwig and son Coy, Elizabeth Stull and Donna Neal for turning out June 5 to run, walk and cheer for the annual Girls on the Run 5K Race. I believe this is the race's 9th season and that Neu-Life is one of, if not the, longest-standing inner city team participating.

Ten girls from the Neu-Life Gwen T. Jackson site participated, and everyone finished the race.



Opportunities for hands-on service continue through the summer.

Career Fair and Back-to-School Celebration

The Neu-Life Career Fair and Back-to-School Celebration is scheduled for **Thursday, August 11 from 1:00 to 3:15 pm**. The backpacks will be distributed at 3:00 pm. About 100 youth are expected to participate in each.

The event will be held at the Neu-Life main site building at 2014 W North Ave in Milwaukee. Hopefully the construction will finally be completed!

Career Fair

We need volunteers to conduct short interactive presentations with groups of youth of different age groups. The target is 5 or 6 presentations of about 10 to 15 minutes each. In the last two years, we've presented on running your own business, marketing, marketing research, fundraising, training, and information technology careers, as well as interviewing tips and skills.



We'd love to have more volunteers and some new topics this year – Neu Life is open to any and all ideas.

In addition to volunteer presenters, we need a volunteer to coordinate the Zonta Club of Milwaukee's involvement at this event. You have so much to share with these youth, perhaps more than you realize. Please respond enthusiastically!

Back-to-School Collection

We will again participate in Neu-Life's school supplies drive this summer. The need is for 20 kindergarten, 40 elementary, and 40 middle/high school backpacks filled with supplies.

We need a volunteer or two to help coordinate this project, including the collection of the items and the packing of the backpacks at Neu-Life late in the afternoon of August 10, the day before the event. And of course, we need volunteers to purchase/find supplies. Please respond enthusiastically!

Keep your eyes open for sales on the wish list items.

Back-to-School Wish List	
Backpacks (small and large for elementary and high school)	Colored pencils
Loose leaf filler paper	Pencil sharpeners (basic ones)
Folders	Notebooks (wide or narrow ruled)
Regular pencils	Loose leaf paper
Mechanical pencils	Glue sticks
Pencil pouches/cases	Regular glue
Pens (blue or black)	Erasers (pencil top or regular)
Crayons	Scissors (kid size and regular)
Markers	

*Respectfully submitted by
Donna Neal, Service Chair*





ZONTA SAYS NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

2nd Annual Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women Walk

Last September, in partnership with End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin, the Zonta Club of Milwaukee held its first walk to honor those who died the previous year as a result of domestic violence.

About 50 participants, including Zontians, domestic abuse survivors and other citizens, made a silent walk around the Milwaukee downtown area, beginning and ending at City Hall. We received great news coverage for the event.

This coming September, we hope to increase participation and draw even more attention to the problem of domestic violence. Therefore, we will start planning for the march over the summer.

If you are interested in joining the planning committee, please contact Donna Neal at donnaineal@gmail.com.

The tentative date for the walk is set for Monday, September 26.



Club Calendar

Club Meetings

June 22

Save the Date

2017 Fashion Show

Saturday, April 1, 2017

Membership Corner



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Thanks to all for inviting and welcoming our guests in May.

A warm welcome to our newest member, Angela Doyel, who we installed at our May meeting. Angela is a Project Specialist/Event Planner for Johnson Financial Group in Racine. Krista Betts is her sponsor.

Also welcome Amrei Debatin. Amrei had been a member in Germany in the Hamburg-Elbufer Club and her husband has been transferred here, so she will be joining our club. Amrei is a lawyer by profession.

Hopefully we will have more new members in the upcoming months. Please feel free to invite any prospective members to the June 22 social event. It will be a great time for them to meet other members in a casual setting.

Thanks to our club mentors – Jackie, Cheryl, Helen, Joni, Barbara W-S, Kim, Diane, Chris and myself – who have helped with the new members. If anyone else would like to be a mentor, please let me know.

I will be working on an updated roster and hopefully will have that to distribute by the end of June.

– Pam Knackert

If you have not sent Diane Lindsley, the Club's Treasurer, your 2016–2017 dues, please do so NOW.

The \$170 dues check should be made out to Zonta Club of Milwaukee and sent to Diane Lindsley at:
1340 E. Standish, Bayside, WI 53217

If you are not planning to renew your membership, please let Pam Knackert or Diane Lindsley know NOW.

Dues payments were due on May 1.



Welcome to Our
Newest Members!

Amrei Debatin
Angela Doyel



Young Women in Public Affairs Scholarship Recipient:

ABIGAIL THOMPSON

Zonta International's Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Award Program was designed to encourage more young women around the world to participate in Public Affairs. It's a tri-level competition for pre-college students, with club, district and international awards of \$1,000, \$1,000 and \$4,000 respectively. Eligibility requirements include: active volunteerism, leadership achievements and dedication to advancing the status of women.

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee presented its 2016 YWPA award to Abigail Katherine Thompson during the May 25 dinner meeting. In addition, the Club honored her as the District 6 award winner and a contender for one of the 10 Zonta International awards. Columbia College Chicago, where she will be majoring in acting and education, will match all of her scholarship awards dollar-for-dollar.

Abby's impressive credentials include maintaining a 4.0 grade point average, achieving the #1 class ranking, and being named one of the three valedictorians for the Class of 2016 at the Milwaukee High School of the Arts.



Her many stellar achievements also include:

- Winning 1st Place in *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's* Martin Luther King Jr, Speech Contest; 1st Place in University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Wisconsin Women Making History Essay Contest; and the State Championship in the Poetry Out Loud Competition.
- Serving as President of the National Honor Society; President of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater Teen Council Leadership Board; and Representative for the United Performing Arts Fund, chosen to attend the Arts Day Conference in Madison to speak with state legislators, community volunteers, politicians, educators and business leaders regarding The Creative Economy Development Initiative.
- Working for social justice by creating a documentary on racial issues in the Washington Park neighborhood; leading workshops on gun violence through spoken words and poetry; mentoring children at the African American Children's Theater; and performing in social justice plays such as *Glory Rising*, which focused on sex trafficking and child slavery in Malawi.
- Appearing in productions by the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, First Stage Children's Theater, African American Children's Theater, Milwaukee Youth Theater and Morning Star Productions, and the Milwaukee High School of the Arts.