



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

NEWSLETTER

June 2017

Area 2 • District 6

2017-2018

Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Officers

Helen Ludwig, President
Maria Bellmann, President Elect
Joann Comodore, Vice President
Diane Lindsley, Treasurer
Karen Smith, Secretary

Club Board

Krista Betts
Margaret Holzbog
Janet Kloser
Joyce McCrary
La Toya Sykes
Regina Young-Ferguson

Foundation Board Officers

Joni Reese, President
Victoria Frazier, Vice President
Elizabeth Stull, Treasurer
Sandra Goldmann, Recording Secretary
Sheryl Dean, Corresponding Secretary

Foundation Board

Gloria Jones
Pamela Knackert
Lynne Oehlke
Mary Staten

**Send your newsletter
submissions to Krista Betts.**

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

Zonta Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, June 28, 2017

Join us at a **new venue** for our June 28 meeting – **Mo's Irish Pub** at 10842 W. Bluemound Road, Wauwatosa (northeast corner of Bluemound and Hwy 100). There's plenty of parking and the food is GOOD.

We will be in the Green Room and will have our own servers. Because we must meet a minimum of \$500 with our food and beverages, we are requesting that members order and pay for beverages through the servers. If we account for beverages that members are buying anyway, we should easily meet the minimum.

Here's the schedule:

5:30 to 6:00 pm – Gather and register for dinner
6:00 pm – Dinner
6:30 pm – Club meeting with Forward Committee discussion
Following – A fun activity!

Menu: Each guest can choose one starter and one main course from these options:

Starters – House Salad; Caesar Salad; Tomato Soup; or
Chicken Dumpling Soup

Main Course – Cobb Salad; Chicken Sandwich; Pub Burger;
or the Jackie Special

These choices will be made when you are at the table. Cost is \$30 per person

RSVP: Please contact Lori Peterson by Sunday, June 25 at 9:00 pm, preferably by email (lorapeterson@wi.rr.com) to make a reservation. Leave a message at 262-370-9540 if you must.

www.zontamilwaukee.org

President's Message



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Happy summer, everyone!


I hope to see you at our June meeting. In addition to enjoying some social time, we will be receiving the Forward Committee's report and recommendations for our new service and advocacy commitments. While we all certainly appreciate all of the hard work of the committee, it is important to remember that the committee's recommendation is just that, a recommendation. All of us, as a Club determine the direction we will take going forward. Therefore, I strongly encourage you to attend our meeting. I am hoping we will have a lively, productive discussion and that we will be able to come to some decisions regarding our upcoming future.

Just a reminder, we will not be meeting in July but we have decided to meet in August this year. After much research, our June meeting will be at Mo's Irish Pub in Wauwatosa – and this will be a trial for next year's dinner meetings.

The committee for our 3rd annual Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Walk has already begun planning our September walk. If you are interested in working on the committee, please let me know. As soon as the final date is determined, an email will be sent to all members. Please encourage anyone you can think of to join our walk. The more people on the walk, the more impact our message will carry.

If you have not signed up to work on a committee for the next year, please let me know. I would be happy to discuss the different committees so that you can find the right fit. Finally, please consider attending the Zonta District 6 Fall Conference in Madison, October 13–15. If you are considering attending, you should book your room as soon as possible – it is a football weekend in Madison.

– *Helen Ludwig*



Please review the 2017–2018 Committee Commitments sheet attached with the newsletter.

If you'd like to change your commitments, please contact Helen.

Meeting Minutes *for May 24, 2017*



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President Helen Ludwig called the meeting to order.

Guests: Regina Young-Ferguson introduced her guests, Lawanda Dotson and CeCe Ferguson.

Lori Peterson led the blessing.

Speaker: Eliz Greene shared her ideas and observations regarding reducing stress in our work and non-work lives. We learned the importance of being able to say “no” and concentrate on the important things in our work and life. As a speaker for the American Heart Association, her comments were timely and healthy.

Neu-Life Community Resource Center: Joann Comodore and Jody Rhodes thanked the club for the five-year partnership which has had a huge impact in the Lindsay Heights neighborhood. The deep relationship between the two organizations, manifested with financial support and advice as well as physical and advocacy service, has been tremendous. Jody handed out thank-you notes to the club members.

Scholarship: Erica Lofton of University School of Milwaukee has been awarded the Young Women in Public Affairs Scholarship for 2017. Erica, who is now 16 years old, began a non-profit organization at the age of 7: Girlz in Action (www.girlzinaction.com) which focuses on younger girls (ages 7-12) and teaches manners, self-esteem communication and social skills. Erica was also invited to the White House in 2016 as a Champion of Change in building bridges between youth and law enforcement. Locally, Erica is a United Way representative, a motivational speaker and numerous other activities.

The applications for the JMK Women in Business and the Women in STEM scholarships are due by June 15, 2017.

Finance: As of the end of April we had \$15,499.31 in the checkbook and a CD worth \$5646.46. Thirty-seven members have paid their dues.

Advocacy: Safe Harbor Legislation – Cards that we made out at a previous meeting to send to our state representatives made a difference. Seventeen state senators are on board with this bill. In addition, US House bill 1625 has been entered and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. It is cited as the “Targeted Rewards for the Global Eradication of Human Trafficking”, or the “TARGET Act”.

Board Installations: New Club Board Directors Marge Holzbog, Janet Kloser and Regina Young-Ferguson were installed. Retiring Board Members Donna Neal, Deb Koller and Laurie Ward were thanked for their service.

Club Calendar

Club Meetings

Club meetings are held the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Join us:

June 28

August 23

(No Meeting in July)

Board Meetings

Club Board meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Our next meeting is **August 8**.

Meeting Minutes for May 24, 2017 (cont.)



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New Foundation Board Members Elizabeth Stull, Sandra Goldmann and Gloria Jones were installed. Retiring Board Members Jackie Beaudry, Lori Peterson and Susan Koepsell (deceased) were thanked for their service.

Forward Committee: Montez Ashley discussed the results of the tabletop exercises done in March. There is full agreement within the Club to continue with ARTREACH. The Club will also continue with backpacks and the career fair for Neu-Life. We will concentrate on Mentoring Others, Social Justice, and Race Relations and Justice. Other Forward Committee members are Barbara Wyatt Sibley, Donna Conant and Donna Neal.

Service: There will be a fundraiser for Neu-Life at Rock Bottom Restaurant on June 1. Tickets are \$5 each. Please keep your eyes open for venues for ARTREACH presentations to the public. A Location Committee has been developed to identify such locations.

Club members were requested to bring items for donation to Lad Lake (whose chief program officers was the speaker in March). If anyone wants to take a tour of their Dousman facility on a weekend, let Joni Reese know. Montez Ashley, Pam Knackert, Lynne Oehlke, Gloria Jones, Donna Neal and Lori Peterson expressed interest.

Advocacy: The Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women annual walk will likely be Monday, September 25. Email Krista to be on the planning committee. Donna Neal expressed the need to increase the number of marchers. First year (2015) we had 75 people; in 2016 we had 40 and we want more than 100 marchers for 2017.

Membership: There was a presentation for potential members on May 3.

Program: We are looking for a new location. Many of the suggestions will not work unless we raise our prices. We try to keep the meal below \$19.50 so with tax and tip it stays around \$25. We need to cover meals for guests and gifts for speakers.

Public Relations: Elizabeth Stull now heads up this committee. Joni Reese will continue to focus on the website and social media. She will post the club Annual Report on the website with updates. Krista Betts arranges and publishes the newsletter.

Neu-Life Notebooks: Joni Reese will arrange an order for these, in regular or spiral binding, for members who are interested. They are \$10 each and have a choice of two covers. It was determined that the club will order 20 spiral books of each cover to sell at the Fall District Conference. There was also a discussion of a ½ size padfolio; Diane Lindsley and Donna Conant will research if we want to order some of these for sale.

Fashion Show: We netted \$26,000. Committee meetings for next year's show will begin in September. There will be a final committee meeting by phone in early June.

Membership Committee

Increasing club membership remains a focus. Our June gathering provides another opportunity to invite friends and co-workers to come out and get to know ZONTA.

– Joann Harris-Comodore

Meeting Minutes *for May 24, 2017 (cont.)*



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United Nations: No report.

Foundation: The new board will meet immediately following the club meeting.

Fall District Conference: The fall conference will be held in October in Madison – a block of rooms will be held. Snap these rooms up quickly – it's also homecoming weekend, and if you reserve a room, don't relinquish it without checking with other club members first.

Service Hours: We will start to tally up service project hours. Details need to be determined.

*Respectfully Submitted by Lori Peterson, on behalf of
Karen Smith, Secretary*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June 11
Mary Staten

June 19
Joann Comodore

July 1
Lesa Jordan

July 10
Joni Reese

July 19
Joyce McCrary

July 22
Donna Kahl-Wilkerson

July 22
Lynne Oehlke

July 28
Montez Ashley

UN Committee



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Sally Bean, International Foundation Development Chairman, recently accompanied International President Sonja Honig Schough to Madagascar to visit those implementing “Let Us Learn Madagascar: An Integrated Program for Adolescent Girls.” Sally Bean is a Past District 6 Governor.

Sonja has shared her thoughts on the trip ([follow the link](#)), and the most recent project update (April 2017, [link](#)) are available on the Zonta International website. I urge you to visit www.zonta.org often to check the progress on our international project commitments. Visits are being made by the officers, international board members and others to inspect progress on our behalf.

Suggested Reading: *Mad Country* by Samrat Upadhyay

Mad Country tells (poignantly and pitilessly) the stories of a cross-section of characters in Nepal and the United States: journalists harassed and murdered by their own government, a Nepali-American immigrant who joins the Ferguson protests, a white American woman in Katmandu obsessed with Nepali culture, and a range of others: loners, fractured families, characters drawn to or repelled by otherness, people caught between cultures in global currents they can only partially comprehend. (Description from the author’s website.)

Samrat Upadhyay is the author of numerous award-winning books (short stories and novels), including *Arresting God in Katmandu*. He is the Martha C. Kraft Professor of Humanities at Indiana University.

– Marge Holzbog



YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS 2017 RECIPIENT: ERICA LOFTON



We had the pleasure of having our 2017 YWPA Award recipient, Erica Lofton, and her mother, join us for the Club’s May meeting.

Her accomplishments were even more impressive in person than they were on paper.

Please be sure to check out her charity, Girls in Action, Inc., through which she teaches girls ages 8 to 12 how to become leaders. Visit <http://girlzinaction.com>.

Service Committee



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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, July 27, 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.

Revised date for the Career Fair and Backpack Distribution:
Thursday, July 27

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 past, we've presented on running your own business/nonprofit, marketing, marketing research, fundraising, training, metal-smithing and jewelry-making, and information technology careers, as well as interviewing tips and skills. We're looking for new topics or new takes on past topics this year.

If you would like to take part in the Career Fair, please reach out to Montez Ashley no later than July 7.

Back-to-School Collection

Club members gave the thumbs-up to participate in another year of the school supplies drive. The need is for 20 kindergarten, 40 elementary, and 40 middle/high school backpacks filled with supplies. Keep your eyes open for sales on the wish list items.



As they are able, members are asked to purchase/find supplies. Packing of the backpacks will take place at Neu-Life late in the afternoon of August 9, the day before the event. *Look for details to come on collection of supplies and how else to get involved.*

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

Advocacy Committee



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3rd Annual Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Walk

The 2017 Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Walk will be scheduled for a Monday in late September, timed with the release by End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin of the list of those who died in 2016 as a result of domestic violence.

We need your help to organize the logistics and, importantly, recruit like-minded groups to join us in this effort. Planning activities will take place over the summer—look for updates via email!

If you are interested in being part of the planning, please send an email to Krista Betts (bookmaster04@yahoo.com) and Donna Neal (donnajneal@gmail.com).



ZONTA SAYS NO
TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN