



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

NEWSLETTER

October 2017

Area 2 • District 6

2017-2018

Zonta Club of Milwaukee

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

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Margaret Holzbog
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La Toya Sykes
Regina Young-Ferguson

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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, October 25, 2017

Speaker: Deacon Steve Przedpelski, Franciscan Peacemakers

Franciscan Peacemakers provides programs for women and girls who are being sex trafficked, including:

STREET MINISTRY on the streets of Milwaukee, reaching out primarily to women engaging in prostitution. Most days, between 4 a.m. and midnight, Deacon Steve and volunteers can be found on the streets in neighborhoods both on the north and south sides of Milwaukee, meeting between 20 and 60 women and girls who are being sex trafficked. While handing out bag lunches and personal care items to meet immediate needs, the Franciscan Peacemakers team also invites the women and girls to come off the streets with offers of shelter, and detox or hospitalization as needed.

CLARE COMMUNITY is a transitional housing and mentoring site for women who are making the difficult journey off the streets. Most recovery programs can accommodate people only 60-90 days before running out of funding; this gravely abbreviated time is inadequate for those healing from years of abuse, often compounded by addiction. Working with other recovery organizations, Clare Community offers a complementary housing option to facilitate long term healing, thereby greatly increasing the opportunity for successful recovery. The women grow individually and collectively while living in community.

EDUCATION & ADVOCACY The Franciscan Peacemakers ministry members make themselves available to speak to church and civic organizations to educate people about sex trafficking that often occurs unseen right in our communities. Franciscan Peacemakers' staff and volunteers work as advocates for the specific individuals they meet, as well as for all victims known and unknown.

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President's Message



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Thank you to all who participated in our 3rd annual Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Silent March. Once again, the committee and our club did a great job in bringing this issue to the forefront. If you have not already, please check out the pictures of the event on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ZontaClubMilwaukee/).

As always, I encourage all of our members to become involved in as many activities as possible. The Board and committee chairs are working on putting together information with regard to the duties and time commitment involved with each of our committees/activities. Special thanks to Pam Knackert for developing a template for us to use. We hope to have something to discuss at an upcoming club meeting.

It is now time to start planning our 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence. If you have suggestions for how our club can publicize our "Zonta Says NO" message during those 16 Days – November 25 to December 10 – please share your ideas at our October meeting.

I hope to see many of you in attendance at our Fall Conference. There are five members of our club who have made reservations to dine with Zonta International President Elect Susanne von Bassewitz. Members will be reporting back on both of these events at our October meeting for those of you unable to attend.

We will be selling Neu-Life notebooks and note cards as well as Zonta District 6 portfolios in the Zonta Store at Fall Conference. If anyone is interested in purchasing any of the items, please let me know. We can bring the leftover items to the October meeting.

Hope to see you all at Mo's Irish Pub for our October dinner meeting.

– Helen Ludwig



Zonta Dinner Meeting

Continued from Previous Page

GIFTS FOR THE JOURNEY is a social enterprise employing the women of Clare Community, with proceeds directly benefiting these women who have survived lives of abuse, prostitution, addictions and violence. Together with Franciscan Peacemakers volunteers, participants create bar soaps, lotions, and other bath and body products that are as good for the earth as they are for the body. While working at Gifts for the Journey the women learn skills in planning, manufacturing, packaging, marketing, sales and administration. This is a supportive workplace where women acquire the skills needed to both become employable and earn a living wage.

Deacon Steve will bring products from Gifts for the Journey to sell at our meeting.

Mo's Irish Pub, 10842 W. Bluemound Road, Wauwatosa (northeast corner of Bluemound and Hwy 100)

5:30 pm – Social

6:00 pm – Dinner; Speaker and meeting to follow

Menu: Each guest may choose one starter and one main course:

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

Main Course – Cobb Salad; Pub Burger; or Killarney Club

Choices will be made when you are at the table. Cost is \$30 per person. Please order any beverages through our servers.

RSVP: Please contact Lori Peterson by Sunday, October 22 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.

Meeting Minutes *for September 25, 2017*



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Helen Ludwig, President, called the meeting to order.

Helen Ludwig read the invocation.

Speaker: Donna Neal, Zonta International Foundation Ambassador. Donna is serving her second term as Ambassador for District 6 and shared a presentation on the Zonta International Service Projects and Zonta International Strategies to Prevent Violence Against Women (ZISVAW) projects. Foundation revenues come from Zonta clubs, donations, and Friends of Zonta. All operating expenses are paid for by dues. Therefore, 100% of your contributions go to the specified projects.

Treasurer's Report: As of the end of August the checking balance is \$13,250.14. The CD balance is \$5,067.51.

Legislation Update: Diane Lindsley reported that a bill has been proposed at the state level to weave trafficking education into truck driver training. At the federal level, a trafficking bill has cleared the senate committee that will follow the money through banks for human trafficking. Another bill is being introduced to try to stop internet companies (such as Backpage) from facilitating sex trafficking.

Service: Helen circulated a thank-you from Neu-Life for the backpacks from the club.

Membership: Welcome to new member Renita Switzer!

Fall Conference:

- Dinner with ZI President Elect Susanne von Bassewitz on the Wednesday before Fall Conference. We have five people from our club attending, and there is still room for more. This is a unique opportunity. If you are interested, please let Sally Bean know.
- Delegate election revision – Joann Comodore will be our alternate as La Toya Sykes is not able to attend.
- Volunteer sign-up – If you are going to conference and have not signed up to help, we still need volunteers to help with registration and the Zonta Store.

Club Calendar

Club Meetings

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| October 25 | November 29 |
| December 20 | January 24 |
| February 28 | March 28 |
| April 25 | May 23 |
| June 27 | |

Board Meetings

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

District Conference

October 13-15

Madison, WI

<http://zontadistrict6.org/2017-fall-conference/>

2018 Fashion Show

April 14, 2018

Milwaukee Marriott West

Waukesha, WI

Meeting Minutes *for Sept. 25, 2017 (cont.)*



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Committee Reports:

Advocacy: The 3rd annual Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Walk is next Monday, at 11:55 a.m. at Milwaukee City Hall. This is a 1-mile walk followed by a program in City Hall. Speakers include Mayor Barrett as well as other elected officials and local leaders. Funded agencies have been invited to join us. Neu-Life will also be joining us for the walk. We are hoping to exceed last year's participation numbers.

Fashion Show Fundraiser: The first meeting for the 2018 Fashion Show is tonight. The fashion show will take place on April 14, 2018. Please start contacting your friends early in order to fill your table. Last year we raised \$26,000, which was used to fund our selected agencies through the foundation. The committee is also looking for donations of baskets and raffle items, as well as corporate donations. Baskets that are food or drink related tend to have the most interest.

Membership: We are looking at a "Each One Bring One" program. More information to follow.

Program: Our speaker next month is Deacon Steve Przedpelski from the Franciscan Peacemakers.

Public Relations: Newsletter articles are due the 7th of the month. Joni Reese has put the Club and Foundation annual reports up on the members only section of the Zonta Club of Milwaukee website. If you take any pictures at events, please forward them to Joni to be used.

Scholarships: Erica Lofton will be at the District 6 Fall Conference. Starting around November we will be promoting next year's Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) scholarship.

Service: We are considering ways to use ARTREACH art on items that can be sold. If you have ideas, let Marge Holzbog or Donna Neal know. ARTREACH will have a display in the main branch of the Milwaukee Public Library for the month of February.

Mini Service Project: In conjunction with Fall Conference we are participating in The Period Project, collecting women's sanitary items for homeless shelters. If you are going to conference, please bring your donations. If not, your donations can be handed off to someone who is attending.

Z Club: The girls are embracing the Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Walk and encouraging participation from various clubs at the school.

Foundation: The board has not met yet, but will hopefully meet in early October.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Next meeting October 25 at Mo's Irish Pub.

Respectfully Submitted by Karen Smith, Secretary



Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Silent Walk

On Monday, October 2, the Zonta Club of Milwaukee partnered with End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin to hold our 3rd annual Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Silent Walk in downtown Milwaukee. This was timed with End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin's annual release of its Wisconsin Domestic Violence Homicide Report.

The walk was attended by more than 50 people, including more than 20 Zontians and their friends, family, sorority members, and co-workers. Also in attendance were about a dozen students from Milwaukee High School of the Arts, including some of our Z Club members who walked from their school to downtown to draw additional awareness. Neu-Life was represented and as was the Hmong American Women's Association.

The walk was conducted in silence to honor those who had died as a result of domestic violence in Wisconsin in 2016 (see box at right). The aim of the walk was to generate community attention for the issue of domestic violence and inspire action. WISN Channel 12 interviewed Pam Knackert, and a news segment with video covering the walk was on the evening news.

We were proud to have the support of our community leaders. And thanks to La Toya Sykes for being the emcee and introducing the speakers and reading the names of the fallen victims. Our speakers included:

- Tom Barrett, Mayor, City of Milwaukee
- John Chisholm, District Attorney
- Captain Aimee Obregon, Commander of the Milwaukee Police Department Sensitive Crimes Division
- Tammie Xiong, Executive Director of Hmong American Women's Association, Member of Milwaukee's Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Carmen Pitre, President and Chief Executive Officer, Sojourner Family Peace Center
- Ashanti Hamilton, District 1 Alderman, Milwaukee Common Council President
- Shawn Mohammed, ASHA Project and representative for End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin

Stats from the 2016 Wisconsin Domestic Violence Homicide Report

- Domestic violence claimed 73 lives in 2016 – up from 58 in 2015.
- In 2016, individuals died in Wisconsin due to domestic violence at a rate of 1 death every 5 days.
- Perpetrators of domestic violence homicide incidents were overwhelmingly male.
- In 2016, over one third of the victims of intimate partner-related homicides were killed after the relationship ended or when one person in the relationship was taking steps to leave the relationship.

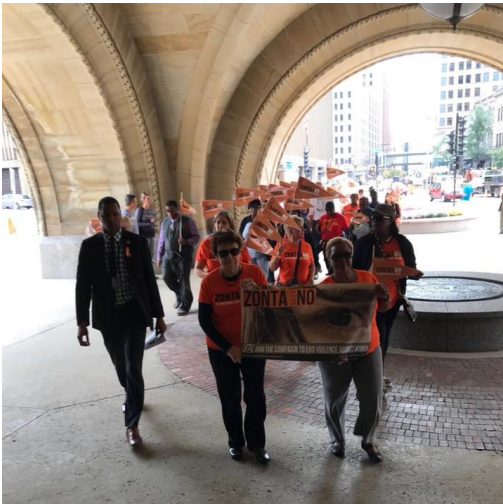
Read the complete report online at <http://www.endabusewi.org/homicide-reports/>.



Advocacy Committee



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Z Club

MHSA FEM Z Club joined the Zonta Club of Milwaukee in its call to action advocacy, the Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Walk on October 2. In addition to participating in the walk, the Fem Z Club solicited the support and participation of MHSA teachers and students, which resulted in the Fem Z Club with other students/teacher walking **from** MHSA **to** City Hall, where they joined Zontians and other walk participants.

— Joann Harris-Comodore



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2018 Fashion Show



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As you know, our Fashion Show is our club's primary fundraiser—and your support is needed! Please start reaching out to your contacts for raffle and silent auction donations: craft and artisan items, sports memorabilia, tools, fishing gear, hotel and restaurant certificates, etc. Also, start recruiting your friends to fill a table. A Save the Date will be coming out soon, but mark your calendar now for April 14.

Your assistance is also needed for **corporate sponsorship solicitations** for the 2018 Fashion Show. We have been fortunate to have faithful sponsors each year, but it is time to refresh the list, adding sponsors and replacing those no longer able to continue.

To accomplish this, consider:

- Your employer/company
- A corporation/foundation/company with a woman CEO
- A bank/financial organization/health facility/hospital
- Friends/relatives in business (e.g., family dentist, doctor)
- Celebrity contacts (e.g., Ellen, Oprah [Yes, she did send a signed oversized purple Tee many years ago])

Use your imagination--many on my past lists are now retired, so we need to update!

Benefits to Sponsors:

- **\$100 – Friend of Zonta** – name listed in the Program
- **\$250 – Contributing Sponsor** – name listed in the Program, plus a one-quarter page ad in Program
- **\$500 – Patron Sponsor** – name listed in the Program, one-half page ad in Program, and two comps
- **\$1000 & Above – Supporting Sponsor** – name listed in Program, recognized by speaker at the beginning of the event, a full-page ad on the Program, and four comps

Please share your contacts with me at toddcr71@hotmail.com.

Request letters will be sent in late October, after the committee selects our theme. Prior to that, YOU can send a letter, OR e-mail me with the Name, Title, Address, City, State, ZIP, Telephone Number, E-mail, and I will send one out. After our event, a thank-you letter will be sent, or you can thank your contacts yourself, but let me know.

Look for a sample request letter shortly. THANK YOU!

– Christine Todd, Corporate Sponsorship Chair, Fashion Show

October 2017

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

**October 6
Debra Koller**

**October 15
Donna Conant**

**October 28
Amrei Debatin**



As you are aware, this biennium Zonta International is partnering with UN Women on a project in Nepal addressing labor migration and trafficking, particularly of women and children. The project, to which Zonta has committed \$1,000,000, focuses on prevention as well as response to trafficking.

Earthquakes in Nepal in April and May 2015 (a 7.6 magnitude earthquake followed by more than 400 major aftershocks through November 2015), affected 31 out of the 75 districts in Nepal, and severely affected 14 of those 31 severely. There was a loss of 9,000+ people, 22,000 were injured, more than 900,000 houses damaged, and 8,000 schools and 1,000 health centers destroyed. In the aftermath, Nepal faced a heightened risk of human trafficking and unsafe migration. It was recognized that some of the districts hit hardest by the earthquake are historically known for high rates of trafficking.

As mentioned in an earlier newsletter, Aveda purchases Nepal signature green lokta paper to wrap their specialty holiday gift boxes for their annual holiday campaign. Grants funded by their holiday campaign have been providing much needed relief and recovery support to communities still struggling to recover from the earthquakes.

For several years, Aveda has partnered with people in Nepal to create the wrappings for their beautiful holiday gift sets. This long-term partnership with Nepal's paper making communities, to date, has helped 2,400 families buy food and clothing, repair their homes and send their children to school. Now, more than 49,000 people (91% women) work in these communities to make more than 1,400,000 sheets of paper for the Aveda holiday gift sets. By using lokta paper, they are also protecting 34,000 acres of forest which helps the climate change fight.

Aveda hair, skin care and makeup products in holiday gift sets wrapped in lokta green paper made in Nepal are now available for purchase at participating hair salons.

Recommended Read: *Little Princes: One Man's Promise to Bring Home the Lost Children of Nepal*, by Conor Grennan

After volunteering in Nepal as a young man, Mr. Grennan launched NEXT Generation Nepal (NGN), a nonprofit organization dedicated to reconnecting trafficked children with their families. These resilient children are not orphans at all but were taken from their families by child traffickers who promised to keep them safe from war before abandoning them in the chaos of Kathmandu. It is a remarkable tale of corruption, child trafficking and civil war in a faraway land.

– Marge Holzbog