

Zonta Club of Milwaukee



Zonta Club of Milwaukee
Member of Zonta International

BULLETIN

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

International District 6 – Area 2
Chartered: January 8, 1926

Wednesday, December 19, 2012

Zonta Club of Milwaukee Holiday Celebration



Hostess: Elizabeth Stull

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Contact Kim Brinsko for sign-up for Potluck Dish you wish to bring.

**Remember to bring your non-perishable food item for our group donation
to Hunger Task Force**



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IN **THIS**
Issue

Zonta Club of Milwaukee Holiday Celebration– Page 1
President's Message – Pages 2
UN Committee Calls for Ban on Female Genital Mutilation & Scholarship Update –
Page 3
YOUR CORNER ON SERVICE – Page 4
Membership Corner and Zonta Fashion Show Fundraiser –Pages 5
November meeting minutes – Pages 6
Human Trafficking Update, Zonta Club of Milwaukee meeting schedule, and
December Birthdays – Page 7

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee is club #39, located in District 6 (Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana). The Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month, September through June, for networking, dinner, program and business meeting.

*President: Joni Reese
Membership Chair: Claudyne Whitaker
Bulletin Editor: Joann Henry
Newsletter deadline for articles is the 10th day of each month.*

*For more information on Zonta, visit
www.zontadistrict6.org*

2012/2013

Zonta Club of Milwaukee Officers

*Joni Reese, President
Donna Kahl-Wilkerson, President Elect
Barbara Fitzgerald, Vice-President
Elizabeth Stull, Treasurer
Victoria Frazier, Secretary*

*Camelia Clarke, Club Board
Carol Cline, Club Board
Lynne Oehlke, Club Board
Connie Thoma, Club Board
Kim Brinsko, Club Board
Barbara Wyatt Sibley, Club Board*

Milwaukee Zonta Foundation Board Officers

*Helen Ludwig, President
Pam Knackert, Treasurer
Dana Felton, Recording Secretary
Judy Lehman, Corresponding Secretary*

*Susan Koepsell, Foundation Board
Laureen Ward, Foundation Board
Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry, Foundation Board
Donna Neal, Foundation Board*

President's Message.....

Dear Zontians:

Welcome to our newest member Karen Hunt! It is so nice that we continue to increase the membership of the Zonta Club of Milwaukee.

I can't believe that the holidays are upon us already! Every year it seems that way. Even though everyone is extremely busy right now, I hope you all have time to sit back and enjoy the holidays in a way that is important and fulfilling to you.

Personally, although I am extremely busy with my job right now, I am attempting to maintain our traditions and focus on what is important to both my family and me. To offset the lack of time, so far I have done all of my shopping online which has been a great time-saver, but unfortunately I have a lot more shopping to do.

Thank you to all who participated in the Neu-Life gift collection for the kids. I believe that we will truly make a difference and hope to see a bunch of happy little faces at the party on the 12th. Thank you also to Laurie W. and Jan J. for coordinating. I hope you have the opportunity to spend time with family and friends during the holiday season and spend some meaningful holiday time with others. I am excited about our December party and hope to see you all at Elizabeth's, since it will be great time to be able to socialize and network with each other.

Happy Holidays! Thank you for all you do, for women locally and around the world,

Joni Reese



UN Committee Calls for Ban on Female Genital Mutilation

November 26, 2012

UN Committee Calls for Ban on Female Genital Mutilation
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED NATIONS (AP) Campaigners against female circumcision scored a major victory Monday with the approval by a key U.N. committee of a resolution calling for a global ban on female genital mutilation.

The resolution, adopted by consensus by the U.N. General Assembly's human rights committee, calls the practice harmful and a serious threat to the psychological, sexual and reproductive health of women and girls.

It calls on the U.N.'s 193 member states to condemn the practice, known as FGM, and launch education campaigns for girls and boys, women and men, to eliminate it. It also urges all countries to enact and enforce legislation to prohibit FGM, to protect women and girls "from this form of violence," and to end impunity for violators.

With 110 sponsors, the resolution is virtually certain to be approved by the full General Assembly, which is expected to take it up in the second half of December. Although not legally binding, assembly resolutions reflect international concerns and carry moral and political weight.

Italy's U.N. Ambassador Cesare Maria Ragaglini, who has been working with African partners for a ban, called the resolution "a breakthrough in the international campaign to end the harmful practice of FGM."

"I think that together we can change the fate of many young girls around the world, and today this goal appears closer than ever," he said. "The resolution, in condemning the practice and promoting social and educational programs, is ... the beginning of a new journey."

The centuries-old practice stems from beliefs that FGM controls women's sexuality, enhances fertility, or is required by religious belief although both Muslim and Christian leaders have spoken out against it.

The procedure involves the removal of a girl's clitoris and sometimes also other genital parts, usually in childhood or early adolescence. Critics say it can lead to painful sexual intercourse, complications in childbirth, and eliminates any pleasure for women during sex.

The U.N. said in 2010 that about 70 million girls and women had undergone the procedure, and the World Health Organization said about 6,000 girls were circumcised every day.

According to Amnesty International, FGM is commonplace in 28 countries in Africa as well as in Yemen, Iraq, Malaysia, Indonesia and among certain ethnic groups in South America, but it is also a worldwide concern because it is also practiced by immigrants in diaspora communities.

Jose Luis Diaz, Amnesty International's U.N. representative, said this is the first time the General Assembly's human rights committee has addressed the problem.

"FGM is an indictment of us all that a girl or young woman can be held down and mutilated is a violation of her human rights and, shockingly, an estimated three million girls are at risk each year," he said.

Alvilda Jablonko, coordinator of the FGM program at the organization No Peace Without Justice, applauded the committee's action as "a landmark step in the international campaign to foster global leadership" in the campaign against the practice.

Scholarship Committee Update

By Judy DuSell

As we are halfway through the school year, it is necessary to start thinking already about next school year. The committee would like to report that the application for our first scholarship of 2013, the Young Woman in Public Affairs, is available on our website.

This award is for a high school student, engaged and participating in volunteer and leadership programs for the advancement of women in society. This scholarship encourages leaders of tomorrow to become more actively involved in their political and public futures. The applications must be received by March and will have a \$500 local award with the chance to advance to the District Level for additional funds.

If you know of someone who will benefit from this Award, please encourage them to fill out an application.

Applications for the Jane M. Klausman Woman in Business Award, Women in Science Award, and Technical Specialty Operations Award will all be available on our website in January of 2013.



Your Corner on SERVICE

By Donna Neal and Donna Kahl-Wilkerson, Service Co-Chairs

Service Calendar

Wednesday, Dec 12	Holiday Celebration	Gwen T. Jackson Elementary, 2121 W. Hadley, 4-5 PM
Tuesday, Jan 22	Annual Youth Art Show Planning Session	Neu-Life, 2014 W. North Ave., 6 PM
Thursday, Feb 28	Black History Month Celebration & Banquet	Neu-Life, 2014 W. North Ave., 5-7 PM
Saturday, May 18	Annual Youth Art Show Fundraiser	Neu-Life, 2014 W. North Ave

Laurie Ward and Jan Jeanneret have been fantastic project team leaders for the **Holiday Gift** project for the Neu-Life students participating at the Gwen T. Jackson Elementary School. By the time this newsletter is published, 62 children will have received holiday gifts tailored to their wants and needs in the name of Zonta. The support from the project team members (*Jackie Beaudry, Camelia Clarke, Victoria Frazier, Donna Kahl-Wilkerson, Donna Neal, Lynne Oehlke, Joni Reese*) who made sure all the students were covered, and the generosity of our Club members was awesome! We hope many of you were able to share in the celebration at the school on Dec 12 – if not look for pictures on Facebook and at the holiday party!

On Sunday, Nov 18, **Running Buddies** Joni Reese, Donna Conant, Helen Ludwig and Donna Neal walked and/or ran with their middle-school girl partners in the **Girls on the Run 5K Race** at Greenfield Park in West Allis. It was a fabulous event for the girls and the buddies, particularly because the girls accomplished things they likely never expected to be able to do, and the buddies were an important part of their accomplishments! The opportunity to make personal connections with these girls was a real pleasure.

In the spring, there will be girls participating from both the Neu-Life main site and the Gwen T. Jackson Elementary School, so there again be volunteer opportunities. (Note: this is not a strenuous run – it’s more like jog/walk/jog/walk. If you like to walk for exercise, you’ll be fine with this.)

On Thursday, Nov 29 Donna Neal gave a brief presentation at Neu-Life’s **International AIDS Day Celebration** on the ZIF project to reduce mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS in Rwanda. Students had done research and gave lectures on HIV/AIDS and possible cures and means of prevention, and others gave drumming and dancing performances or recited poetry.

Zonta will be helping Neu-Life turn its **Annual Art Show**

into a more substantial **fundraiser**. The first planning meeting took place on Tuesday, Nov 27 with Jody Rhodes (director) and Joann Harris-Commodore (CEO) to brainstorm. We now are developing a formal project plan that we will share with the Committee and any other interested Zontians. We may be calling on a few individuals for their particular expertise. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, Jan 22 at 6 PM at Neu-Life**. Anyone interested in joining the team (*Donna Conant, Jan Jeanneret, Donna Kahl-Wilkerson, Donna Neal, Chris Todd, and Laurie Ward*) or simply participating in the next meeting, please contact Donna Neal.

We will be **collecting school supply donations at our regular Club meetings** through the course of the year to provide support in this school year as well as to do a little prep work for the **2013 Back-to-School Celebration** in August. Pick up items as you run into sales.

SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION
Always Needed
Filler Paper
Notebooks
Regular Pencils
Mechanical Pencils
Back-to-School Wish List
Backpacks (small and large for elementary and high school)
Regular Pencils
Mechanical Pencils
Pencil Pouches/Cases
Pens (Blue or Black)
Crayons
Markers
Colored Pencils
Pencil Sharpeners (basic ones)
Notebooks (wide or narrow ruled)
Loose Leaf Paper
Glue Sticks
Regular Glue
Erasers (pencil top or regular)
Scissors (kid size and regular)

Neu-Life wish list for organizational and development assistance:

- making connections with Forest County Potawatomi Foundation, and figuring out how to become a “signature agency” with Potawatomi Bingo’s *Miracle on Canal Street*
- making connections with Bayshore Town Center’s parking meter program
- ❖ researching how to start a Capital Campaign to rehab their existing main site building (grants, tax credits, other programs)
- ❖ starting up and managing an Individual Donor Campaign
- expertise with Word Press website management to help with updates, setting up online donation capability, etc.
- promoting designated donations in United Way’s workplace giving campaign
- any other connections to foundations or corporations who might be potential donor targets

If you feel you could help in any of these listed areas, please contact one of the Service Committee co-chairs.

Membership Corner

By Pam Knackert

I'd like to welcome back to the Zonta Club of Milwaukee, Karen Hunt. She was installed at our November meeting. Karen is Development Manager for Center for Resilient Cities.

Thanks to all of you who completed your membership survey. I've passed on your ideas for meeting topics and speakers to the board and program committee, your names to committee chairs if you indicated a committee interest and any other suggestions to the board.

Zonta Fashion Show Fundraiser

By Carol Cline and Maria Bellmann

**Save the Date of Saturday,
March 2, 2013**
for our "World of Fashion"
luncheon, fashion show fundraiser.

**It will be held at a new location this year
Marriott Milwaukee - West in Waukesha
right off the freeway on Hwy F.**

Start making a list of who you will invite. The holidays are just around the corner so mention it to all you see and encourage them to save the date. Invites will be going out to our invitee list mid January (you can review list at our Dec. get together) and members will get an e-mail copy at that time and actual invites to members will be available at the January 23rd meeting.

Don't know what to get someone for Christmas? Give them a gift certificate to attend the "World of Fashion" with you in March. You can print the gift certificates and provide the names of your guests with payment to Pam or Helen (\$50/guest). Each member will be asked to sell a table of 10 this year.

Chris Todd is handling sponsorships this year. Tell her if you know of a company or someone who might be interested in being a sponsor for the event. Chris will be happy to contact them. Sponsorships begin at \$100. See any member of the committee for information about the sponsorship levels.

You should have received the solicitation letter and donation form via e-mail so you can start asking places you frequent for a raffle or silent auction donation or donate something new yourself. Laurie Ward will be collecting items at the meetings.

Also we will be doing the wine raffle again this year. Missy Creevy will be collecting your donation of bottles of wine with a value of \$10 or more.

Our next committee meetings will be Thursday, January 3, 2013 at 5 pm at the Marriott West and Tuesday, January 15 at Carol's office.



November Club Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2012

5:30 pm Social, 6:00 dinner, speaker and business meeting

Welcome, Introductions and Dinner: The meeting was called to order by President Joni Reese at 6:00. Guests were introduced and welcomed. After an inspirational reading, dinner was served.

Speaker: Kim Brinsko introduced the speakers for the evening. They were our service partners, Joann Harris Comodore, founder and CEO of Neu -Life Community Development and Jody Rhodes, Director. Joann Harris Comodore shared her vision for empowering children and youth with skills and strategies to make better life choices. Jody Rhodes shared the many activities and projects that Neu Life has been involved with and the ways that Zonta has participated and can continue to support the program. Jody also presented hand-made thank you sheets to the Girls on the Run “running buddies” that were made by the girls.

Installation:

Karen Hunt, a former Zontian, was reinstated. Karen was pinned by Cheryl Lucas- DeBerry.

Neu- Life Holiday Celebration

Laurie Ward gave an update on the Holiday Gift Celebration for our Neu -Life Service Project. Gifts for the children should be submitted by December 7, 2012. The event will be held at the Gwen T. Jackson School on December 12, 2012.

Committee Reports

Treasurer, Elizabeth Stull proposed a three year budget to the club. This three year budget was recommended by the Zonta Board so that the budget would be aligned to the biennium. Years one and two remained the same and the third year was added. With a minor correction, Lynne Ohelke made the motion to approve the budget. It was seconded by Jan Jeanneret. Motion was called for a vote. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Neu - Life Service Project

Donna Neal discussed Girls on Run Race activity held November 19.
November 29, will be World Aids Day Celebration.

Program:

The Holiday Social will be held at Elizabeth Stull's house on Wednesday, December 19, 2012. It will be Pot Luck.

Jackie Beaudry recommended that instead of gift exchange amongst club members that we each bring a food item to be given to the Hunger Task Force.

Membership:

Pam Knackert announced that there was still time to submit the membership survey.

Scholarship:

The committee will create a list of high school and college counselors to notify them about scholarship that are available. The website is also being updated with the scholarship information.

Fashion Show:

The fashion show will be held on March 2, 2013 at Marriott Milwaukee West in Waukesha. The theme for this year is the *World of Fashion*. Electronic invitations will go out in January, so we should be receiving the guest list to update.

Advocacy:

Diane Lindsley reported that a Human Trafficking survivor, Theresa Flores will speak at Cardinal Stritch on December 2, 2012. Other important dates for advocacy are listed below:

November 25, 2012 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
November 25 - December 10 - 16 Days of Activism

Foundation:

Helen Ludwig informed the club that the Foundation applications are due on 12/15.

Announcements:

Joni Reese shared information from the ZI newsletter on the Launch “Zonta Says No” to fight abuse and violence against women. All Clubs are expected to participate in this campaign.

Upcoming Dates:

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at the ICC (6:15pm)

Next Club Meeting: Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at Elizabeth Stull's House

Save the Date: Fashion Show, March 2, 2013

Area 2 Spring Workshop - April 6, 2013
hosted by Janesville.

Neu -Life Luncheon w/the Youth Art Show - May 18th

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 by President Joni Reese.

Human Trafficking Update

By Diane Lindsley

On December 2nd, Pam Knackert, Cheryl Lukas-Deberry, and I attended a human trafficking program at Cardinal Stritch. An estimated 27 million people worldwide are being trafficked. There is a new victim every minute. They are mostly women; one-half are children. Recruitment for exploitation is by threat, force, fraud, coercion or deception. It is the second leading crime in the world.

Labor trafficking can be found in the cleaning industry, rugmaking, domestic service and agriculture. It is growing because there is a growing demand for cheap labor and goods and there is a supply of 2 billion poor people. It is a source of revenue for organized crime with high profits and low risk. It is the second leading crime in the world.

The United States is a source country, a transit country and a destination country. The top three states are Florida, California, and Texas, followed by Minnesota & Ohio. In Wisconsin, there were 100 sex trafficked children in 2011. Wisconsin joins Georgia and California as the top three states for juvenile sex trafficking.

They are mostly women; one-half are children. One hundred thousand are American children. Recruitment for exploitation is by threat, force, fraud, coercion or deception. Who recruits these children? Older boyfriends, runaways, people posting false job ads, domestic services, landscapers, roofers, sweat factories, Craig's List, high school "friends". Contributing factors include poverty and patriarchy. If sold into the sex trade, girls service 10-15 men per night. They have a 40% higher chance of death by suicide, murder or drug overdose. They have a 77% higher chance of becoming adult prostitutes.

The justice system is broken. There is a dire need for safe houses for children who are trafficked. Support services need better coordination.

The keynote speaker was Theresa L. Flores who was a 15 year old caught up in sex trafficking through deception and blackmail – all the while living at home outside Detroit with unsuspecting parents. Pam & I purchased her book so if any members care to borrow it, just ask us.



Zonta Club of Milwaukee Meeting Schedule

Please mark your calendars for future Zonta Club of Milwaukee meetings as listed below.

The remainder of the meetings will be scheduled for the Italian Community Center, unless we opt out for another location. The schedule is:

January 23

February 27

March 27

April 24

May 22

June 26

DECEMBER Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



**Pamela Knackert
Donna Neal
Jacqueline Beaudry
Susan Koepsell**