



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

NEWSLETTER

January 2016

Area 2 • District 6

2015-2016 Zonta Club of Milwaukee

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Helen Ludwig, President Elect
Victoria Frazier, Vice President
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Foundation Board

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Lynne Oehlke
Jackie Beaudry
Susan Koepsell

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

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

Zonta Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

**Speaker: Lori Hanewold,
District 6, Area 2 Director**

Italian Community Center (I.C.C.)

631 E Chicago
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Social: 5:30 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm

Speaker and meeting to follow

Menu:

Entree

Stuffed pork tenderloin *or* Stuffed portobello mushroom
Dauphinois potatoes
Carrots

Dessert

Apple spice cheesecake

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

Reservations:

Please email Lori Peterson at lorapeterson@wi.rr.com
or leave a message at 262-370-9540. Your RSVP
MUST be left by 9:00 am, Monday, January 25, 2016.

President's Message



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Greetings, Milwaukee Zontians... It's 2016!!

Happy New Year!! Yes, it's a new year and another opportunity to make a positive difference for women in Milwaukee. We're starting our service year off with a visit from our Area Director, Lori Hanewold. She will dine and visit us this month at our monthly club meeting.

Remember that we voted to support Ms. Kosovka Spreco (our JMK Awardee) with Alverno's business attire event in early February. Please bring at least two articles of clean, gently used business clothing to our meeting this month. For more information, contact Missy Creevy.

On March 5, the Madison Club is having their annual Zonta Fling. Tickets are \$30.

Remember: Our Annual Fashion Luncheon is April 9, 2016. This is our annual, important fundraiser...the more we sell tickets, the more work we can do in our community!

Also it's time to begin planning for the Area 2 Spring Workshop on April 23. The chairs have been designated, but like all our projects, this is a club event. Everyone will be called upon to ensure our hosting success...beat the rush and volunteer! It's also time to decide if you're going to the Zonta Convention in Nice, France. Please consider doing so, if possible.

Next Club Meeting: January 27, 2016 at the Italian Community Center.

Happy Birthday to all members who will celebrate their "day" during January 2016!!

Donna KW, Club President

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 14
Laureen Ward

January 24
Judith Lehman

January 18
Maria Bellmann

January 26
Victoria Frazier

Meeting Minutes *for December 16, 2015*



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The Zonta Club of Milwaukee Holiday Gathering was held December 16, 2015, at the North West Family Center, 4024 West Good Hope Road. Thank you to Victoria Frazier for sharing the North West Family Center building for the gathering. The refreshments were delicious, the “white elephant” exchange fun, and Gloria Jones won the contest for the “Most Unusual Christmas Sweater.” We played games and enjoyed one another’s company, finishing out a productive 2015.

We welcomed new member La Toya Sykes and at our January meeting will welcome Verona Swanigan.

Ongoing reminders:

Area Workshop: The Area 2 Workshop will be hosted by the Zonta Club of Milwaukee on Saturday, April 23.

Donna Kahl-Wilkerson: The Area 2 Director, Lori Hanewold, will be our January program speaker.

Scholarship Committee: We will continue to assist in gathering “business formal” clothes for 2015 Women in Business Scholarship winner Kosovka Spreco’s Dress to Impress for Less project at Alverno College. The collection will end February 4, 2016, for the February 11 event. The 2016 Young Women in Public Affairs Scholarship search will begin in January. Please spread awareness to possible candidates. The other two scholarships, the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business and Women in STEM, will be posted in March; more information to come.

Fashion Show Committee: Lynne Oehlke reminded the club that the date of the Fashion Show will be April 9, 2016. Please begin working on your tables of 10 guests, and it would be wonderful if you would like to create a basket for the auction. Our partner will be Goodwill, for Fashion through the Decades.

Special Projects: Donna Kahl-Wilkerson delivered the 1,491 diapers donated by Zontians to Stork’s Nest, United Way.

Respectfully submitted: Judith Lehman, Recording Secretary

The **Young Women in Public Affairs Award Application** is now available on the Zonta Club of Milwaukee website. Spread the word about this tri-level (club, district, and international) award for young women ages 16 to 19.





16 Days of Activism Report Out

For the **16 Days of Activism**, we had a little more presence in 2015 than in 2014. Thank you to the committee of women who met to strategize our campaign: Krista Betts, Donna Conant, Sheryl Dean, Joyce McCrary, Donna Neal and Jody Rhodes. Our service work was highlighted through the **ARTREACH display at Milwaukee City Hall** and an interview with Neu-Life's Jody Rhodes on Fox 6 News that aired December 1. Thank you to **Christine Todd** and everyone who helped pull the event together. The exhibit is on the move and will be displayed on **Friday, February 5 at a Racine Coalition Against Human Trafficking** fundraiser. Consider joining **Donna Neal** and Neu-Life at the event.

We posted on Facebook for the entire 16 days in a social media blitz that coincided with Zonta International's efforts. We were encouraged to wear and share orange ribbons to raise awareness on the violence against women that occurs on too routine of a basis. **What stories did you encounter wearing your orange ribbon?**

International Women's Day, March 8

In anticipation and celebration of **International Women's Day, Tuesday, March 8**, a series of events are occurring in late February/early March throughout the state. Please consider participating, as your schedule allows.

ADVOCACY TRAINING <i>Hosted by Zonta Club of Madison</i> Saturday, February 27 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm Madison Memorial High School 201 S. Gammon Road Madison, WI	Participants will learn how to share their stories and how to relate those stories to legislative issues in order to better communicate with their elected officials and other women and advocate for their welfare. The event is a workshop format and is a great starter for those who may not feel comfortable talking one-on-one with their elected officials. Registration deadline: February 19, 2016. Contact Kathi Vos at kathiv@tds.net .
LEGISLATIVE VISITS: "LOBBY DAY" <i>Hosted by Zonta Club of Madison</i> Tuesday, March 8 11:30 am – 3:00 pm Wisconsin State Capitol Room 328 NW Madison, WI	A number of us have attended this event in the past. It is a high-energy day starting with a brief meeting to discuss current legislative bills affecting women in Wisconsin, followed by scheduled meetings with your representative and state senator. This is a great opportunity to meet with the person who is elected to represent your voice through his or her vote on Wisconsin law. Registration deadline: February 19, 2016. Contact JoAnn Gruber-Hagen at joann.gruberhagen@gmail.com .

Advocacy (continued)



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COMMUNITY CELEBRATION Saturday, March 12 5:00 pm Eagles Club 2109 Barton Drive (near Reindahl Park) Madison, WI	This event is in conjunction with the African Women's Association of Madison. The evening consists of a short program, a meal and a dance. Last year more than 20 African nations were represented with their traditional dress. The event drew over 250 women. Registration deadline: March 4, 2016. Contact Fatou Ceesay at Greatfatou@gmail.com .
Whether you decide to attend one, two or three of the events above, you'll pay just \$10 total. High school students attending the Legislative Visits event may attend for free but must register .	
TRIBUTE TO WOMEN LUNCHEON <i>Hosted by Zonta Club of Janesville</i> Friday, March 18 Janesville, WI	Details forthcoming

I will be wrapping up my Wednesday night commitment on March 30 and look forward to resuming my regularly scheduled dinner programming with all of you soon. In the meantime, thank you for your patience in my ever-absent role as your Advocacy Chair! Email me at karen_hunt@wi.rr.com if you want to be more involved in advocacy.

– Karen Hunt

“Dress to Impress for Less” Clothing Drive

This is the last month for us to collect clothing for Alverno College's “Dress to Impress for Less,” organized by our very own Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship winner Kosovka Spreco.

Please bring to the January meeting new or gently used professional clothing that would be appropriate for Alverno students to wear to job fairs, interviews, networking events and/or work.

Fashion Show Update



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Invitations are being printed. It's time to complete your guest list for one table, or more, for our 90th celebration.

This year's success depends on you! Our Club wants to fund deserving organizations, provide scholarship support to deserving students, and further Zonta's Mission here and around the world.

Fashion Show
Saturday, April 9, 2016
10:30 am – 2:00 pm
Marriott Milwaukee West
Pewaukee, WI

You are encouraged to be involved prior to and on the day of our celebration. We look for you to:

- Fill one or more tables of 10 with special guests, or make a monetary donation.
- Donate items for the raffle or silent auction. Bring them to the January meeting for Pam, if they are done.

You will also have an opportunity to renew your dues with a credit card at the Fashion Show.

When you receive your invitation, watch for the return deadline, entree choices, and option to share your guests' special needs, if any.

The Committee asks all Zonta members to enthusiastically lend your energy and talents to make this a special event as we celebrate 90 years of service to women and girls. We look forward to seeing you at the Fashion Show presented by Goodwill with fashions through the decades.

– *Christine Todd*

Club Calendar

Board Meetings

February 9

March 8

April 12

May 10

June 14

Club Meetings

January 27

February 24

March 23

April 27

May 25

June 15

Fashion Show

Saturday, April 9

Area 2 Workshop

Saturday, April 23



SAVE THE DATE

— SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2016 —

Fashion Show Fundraiser

10:30 AM - 2 PM

at the Marriott Milwaukee West

W231 N1600 Corporate Court • Pewaukee, Wisconsin

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee

CELEBRATES

Empowering Women & Girls

for **90** Years

Join us for a day of networking, food, fun and fashion as we celebrate the Zonta Club of Milwaukee's 90 years of Empowering Women & Girls

"Fashion Through the Decades",

a Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin, Inc. Vintage Fashion Show of women's clothing and accessories from the early 1900s through 1990s

\$60 per person

\$30 per ticket is tax deductible

Reservations Required

FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO: <https://2016-zonta-fashion-show.eventbrite.com>

ARTREACH Update

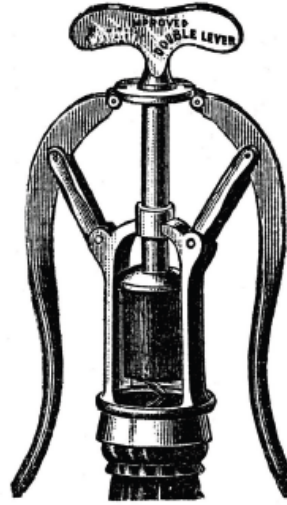


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The Neu-Life ARTREACH paintings that were exhibited at Milwaukee City Hall in late November/early December will be displayed in Racine on **Friday, February 5** at a **Racine Coalition Against Human Trafficking** fundraiser.

Jody Rhodes from Neu-Life and Donna Neal will be attending. **Other Zontians are more than welcome.**

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE: a taste for hope



A night of wine & craft beer tasting to benefit the Racine Coalition Against Human Trafficking

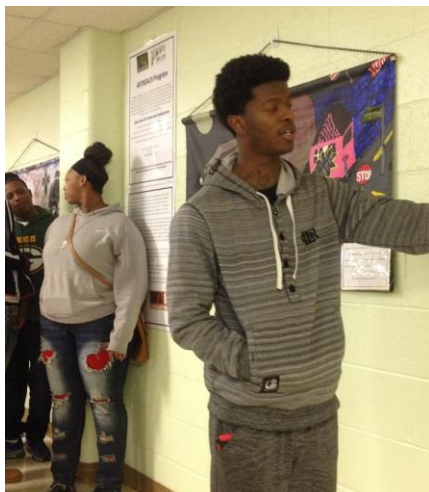
WHERE: 1012 Main Street
The Racine Masonic Center

WHEN: 6-10pm
Friday, February 5th, 2016

COST: \$40 per person,
includes 10 wine/craft beer
samples, appetizers &
desserts

TICKETS:
www.racinecoalition.org
262.498.9621

*Featuring live jazz by
4th Street Elevator,
singer-songwriter
Haley Klinkhammer,
Cash bar, optional
mansion tours,
Neu-Life Student Art Display,
& more*



Milwaukee Displays

The ARTREACH artwork was on display at a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event in Milwaukee (pictured) and will be featured by the **Human Trafficking Task Force of Greater Milwaukee** at its January meeting, **Tuesday, January 26**.

Jody Rhodes will also speak about the ARTREACH program during the Task Force's Human Trafficking Awareness Month event **Thursday, January 28**, at **88.9 Radio Milwaukee**.

Our Holiday Gift Giving



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On Thursday, December 17, 73 children opened gifts from Milwaukee Zontians. Here are some photos from the celebration at Gwen T. Jackson Elementary School.

Thanks to Cheryl Nowak and Janet Kloser for organizing the collection.



Our Holiday Gift Giving



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Thanks to Neu-Life for
inviting us to the
celebration and letting
us see the smiles!



Membership Committee



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Again, I'd like to welcome La Toya Sykes whom we installed at our December holiday event. Hopefully we will be installing Verona Swanigan at our January meeting.

Please feel free to invite any prospective members to the January 27th meeting. We will be hearing from our Area 2 director, so it will give them an opportunity to see Zonta's scope beyond our Club.

Joann Comodore has had some health complications, so please continue to keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Joyce McCrary will continue to ask for pictures and bios for new members in the upcoming months and will continue to reach out to our other members who we haven't featured yet in the newsletter. Joann will do so as well after she's up and better again.

Gloria Jones has agreed to be our "Membership Corner" person. If you have any bits of news about yourself and want to keep us up to date on what's happening with you, let Gloria know and she'll have a little update in the newsletter each month. Who knows, she may even ask you.

Also, any seasoned member who has not offered to be a mentor for new members, if you are interested please let me know.

– Pam Knackert



WELCOME TO OUR
NEW MEMBER

La Toya Sykes

Meet Our Members



LA TOYA SYKES

La Toya Sykes is the President & CEO of Our Next Generation, Inc. – an organization which provides academic tutoring, enrichment programming, and social support to thousands of students in the heart of one of Milwaukee's most challenged communities. She is also the Managing Partner at Dampeer & Canady LLC – a consulting firm that helps organizations improve performance through strategic planning, training, outreach and development.

La Toya has worked for more than 20 years to develop communities through collaborative partnerships, training, and assisting students and families in reaching their higher education potential. She has directed the philanthropic efforts of organizations, committing over \$46 million in funding, support and resources for college outreach and access programs and professionals. She has collaborated with college access programs, community-based organizations, colleges, universities, and state and national associations to create innovative partnerships that open the doors to higher education to more students and families from all walks of life.

She is the Board Treasurer for A-LEGO (African American Ladies Empowered to Grow Opportunities) and currently serves on the Board of the Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee and the Board of Trustees for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society. She has served as Board President of Lead2Change, Inc., as a member of the National College Access Network and the Ohio Board of Regents Student Access and Success Coordinating Council, and as Vice-Chair of the National Council for Higher Education Loan Programs – College Access Initiative.

Additionally, she served for two years as Co-Chair of the Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators – Family Educational Concerns Committee and for the first three inaugural years of the State of Wisconsin's College Goal Sunday program as the Statewide Coordinator. La Toya has also served on the Board of Governors for the Wisconsin Foundation for Independent Colleges, the Advisory Board of Admission Possible – Milwaukee and the Board of the Minnesota Jump\$tart Coalition.

La Toya served in the United States Army. She received her Associate degree in Liberal Arts & Sciences from Milwaukee Area Technical College, a Bachelor of Arts in Management and Communication from Concordia University Wisconsin, and her Master of Science in Human Services with a Concentration in Community Counseling Psychology from Springfield College.

