

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, September 26, 2012

Zonta Club of Milwaukee Dinner Speaker: Margaret Henningsen

Zonta Club of Milwaukee is excited to present our first speaker of this biennium, Margaret Henningsen. She is the Executive Director of the Women's Fund. Like Zonta, the Women's Fund wants a world that is just and fair for both women and children. We also both believe that this can be achieved through the empowerment of women. Please join us for an enlightening evening and discussion.

**Ramada Inn, 633 W. Michigan Ave.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203
5:30 PM - Social
6:00 PM – Dinner
7:00 PM – Speaker: Margaret Henningsen
Cost: \$30 per person, includes tax and tip**

RESERVATIONS: Please call Helen Ludwig or e-mail her with the cancellation of your standing reservation or any call-in reservation by 9:00 am on Friday, September 21, 2012. Dinner choice: Rock Cornish Hen or Eggplant. Once reservations have been made, you will be billed for each reservation.



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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

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Carol Cline, Club Board

Lynne Oehlke, Club Board

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Milwaukee Zonta Foundation Board

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Laureen Ward, Foundation Board

Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry, Foundation Board

Donna Neal, Foundation Board

President's Message.....

Dear Zontians:

I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable summer and had plenty of time to spend with family and friends. A little more rain would have been nice for the plants and farmers, but we can't complain about it not being hot enough this year in Wisconsin!

While the Milwaukee Club has been on their official summer break, there has still been an abundance of activities going on. I will touch on a few here.

The 2012 Zonta International Convention was held in Torino, Italy in early July. Our delegates, Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry and Donna Neal, will be sharing their takeaways from the convention and trip highlights at the September meeting. I personally can't wait to hear about the convention, the Italian food, wine and how many pairs of shoes that Cheryl bought!

The Milwaukee Club is hosting the District 6 Fall Conference, which is just around the corner on October 5-7th. We have several busy committees and individuals handling registration, hotel/venue, entertainment and technology. Cheryl is co-chairing the event with Sally Bean. The Area 2 Clubs are sharing in the responsibilities for other aspects of the conference, so there have been several conference calls to coordinate among the Clubs. I am truly appreciative of all of the hard work that has been invested to put on this event. If you haven't made your Fall Conference reservation already, please consider doing so or let me know if you would like to volunteer.

Our backpack service project for Neu-Life was a success! Thank you to Victoria Frazier and all who contributed to the backpack and supplies donations. The kids were very appreciative of receiving new fully-loaded backpacks to start out the school year right!

This is a time of transition. The kids are back to school, fall weather is fast approaching and I am looking forward to a busy, fun, and productive year. I want to officially welcome the recently installed members: Deboralynn, Jan, and Maria; and, we look forward to installing Miss and Judy this month! As your new President, I look forward to leading the Zonta Club of Milwaukee into the next two years and will continue to expand my knowledge of Zonta through all of you.

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President's Message....cont'd

With Donna Neal, Donna Conant and Jackie Beaudry in their Area, District and International positions, we have great leadership to help lead us forward!

Thank you for all you do, for women locally and around the world.

Joni Reese



LAA Update: Good News for Women's Health

By Diane Lindsley, Legislative Awareness & Advocacy

Beginning Aug. 1, a key provision of the Affordable Care Act goes into effect, making preventive care more accessible and affordable for 47 million women. From this point forward, women enrolled in new or renewed insurance plans will be able to access a wide range of preventive health services without co-pays or additional out-of-pocket costs. No longer will women be compelled to forego or delay needed preventive care due to economic hard times.

The new package of health benefits for women includes access to contraceptive services. The Affordable Care Act also requires insurers to cover mammograms, pap tests and other critical preventive services, including screening for gestational diabetes; domestic violence screening and counseling; breastfeeding support, supplies, and counseling; HPV testing; screening for sexually transmitted infections and counseling for sexually-active women; and HIV screening and counseling. And beginning in 2014, women can no longer be charged more than men for the same health plans and can no longer be denied coverage due to pre-existing conditions.



September, 2012

Zonta Club of Milwaukee BULLETIN

Members Update

By Claudyne Whitaker

INDIAN SUMMER?? Isn't it wonderful? With the changing of the summer landscape, enjoy the weather while you can!

WELCOME BACK Zontians from what I hope was a restful and enjoyable (short) summer!! Now that you have rested (somewhat), I know that you are geared up for a FABULOUS new and exciting 2012-2013 .

Remember the District 6 Conference October 5-7, 2012 at the Ramada City Centre, 633 West Michigan Avenue. As hostesses, we are Front and Center and time is moving fast. Let's be prepared to be THE hostesses for the BEST District Conference ever held! TOGETHER WE CAN.

I know we are all looking forward to a great report on the adventures and grand time held by all from the trip to TORINO, ITALY. Pictures will more than likely be included.

Please remember our members that are sick, shut in, and recuperating as we continue to wish them a speedy return to HEALTH. Offer to provide transportation to bring a member to a meeting this year. This may be the only way that she will be able to participate for now. It is important to always be a blessing to others.

The Membership Committee encourages you to "talk" up Zonta but better yet, invite a prospective member or two to one of our meetings to let them see for themselves who we are and what they are missing! We will have a fall and spring Prospective Membership Reception to further the effort and interest. Please let us know if you have any prospective members you would like for us to invite. Feel free to give your names to Claudyne, Kim and/or Pam so your guest(s) can be sent an invitation.

Look forward to Zonta news by reading the newsletter and participating in projects and activities to the extent that you can. REMEMBER TEAMWORK=SUCCESS.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Zontians born in July, August and SEPTEMBER!! May you be blessed with MANY more!!

IF YOU WERE ARRESTED FOR BEING KIND, WOULD THERE BE ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO CONVICT YOU?

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Membership Corner

By Pam Knackert

We'd like to provide another warm welcome to Maria Bellmann & Jan Jeanneret who were installed in June and to Missy Creevy who we will install at our September meeting. We will also be installing Judy DuSell at our September meeting, welcome Judy!

Also please invite other prospective members that you have to this September meeting. It should be a good meeting and would be a great opportunity for them to meet our members and hear about all that is going on with our club. (Make sure any reservations are made with Helen by Friday Sept. 21 at 9 am).

Milwaukee Delegate Report – Convention 2012

By Donna Neal and Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry

Thank you so very much for giving us the opportunity and responsibility of representing the Zonta Club of Milwaukee at this year's Zonta International Convention July 7-12 in Torino, Italy. It is always so exciting and rewarding to see together thousands of women dedicated to the Zonta mission, to renew relationships with old friends and to make new ones. The week was packed with events and business meetings, and the delegates were certainly kept on their toes.

While there was a fairly heavy dose of tedious by-laws changes (too much in my humble opinion), interspersed was highly spirited debate on some issues that mark important changes for the potential evolution of Zonta International into a 21st century powerhouse. Notably, Zonta International has approved the creation of e-clubs to improve our reach among women who cannot participate in existing clubs. On the program front, Zonta International will support an edutainment (educational entertainment) service project to reduce the incidence and scale of domestic violence by challenging social norms that perpetuate violence against women in twelve Asian and African countries.

Importantly, the goals for this biennium are highly focused – there are only four. The first is increasing credibility and visibility, the idea being that with increased credibility and visibility will come

increased membership, successful advocacy initiatives, demand for our educational programs, and an increase in donations to Foundation. The second two goals relate to the governance structure of both Zonta International and the Zonta International Foundation (ZIF). The fourth and last goal is to continue to promote increased donations to ZIF.

As always, the fellowship and networking opportunities are fabulous at Convention. Lunches, dinners, and breaks are times for informal issue discussions as well as making friends, not to mention the fact that it is virtually impossible to eat badly in Italy and the meals themselves were a pleasure. There were numerous little restaurants and trattorias close-by to the Convention Center where we were able to relax and enjoy each other and the food.



Scholarship/Award Winners and Committee Chairs on stage after the winners' speeches.



Cheryl and Vicki Bladl after the travelers' luncheon where past years' traveling buddies were able to reconnect.

YOUR CORNER ON SERVICE

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

Immediate Opportunities

Your Service Committee Chairs are working with Jody Rhodes from our partner, Neu-Life Community Resource Center, to put together a service calendar for the year. Here's what we have planned right now – our goal is something for everyone, whether you want hands-on service or advocacy work, or to provide financial or professional support. We'll update the list based on some follow-ups we've already identified as well as your feedback at this month's meeting.

Thanks to Victoria Frazier and her team; we had a spectacular success this summer collecting school supplies for the kids. We filled 51 backpacks, and put aside some supplies to replenish items through the course of the school year. The kids thought the backpacks were really cool, and everyone got to pick out their own at the **Back-to-School Celebration** on August 24th. They've made us a Thank You card that Jody will deliver at the September Club meeting.

We will be collecting item 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 next summer.

- **Filler paper, notebooks, and pencils** (regular and mechanical) are **always welcome**, as these are the items that Neu-Life runs out of through the course of the year.
- Any of the other items on the Back-to-School Wish List are also welcome to save for next summer's Back-to-School Celebration. Pick up items as you run into sales!

Partnership goes two ways, and we'll see one benefit of this in just a few weeks. Neu-Life youth will be putting on the **Saturday night entertainment at our Fall District Conference**. Don't miss the African dancing by high school girls, African drumming by elementary and middle school students, or the poetry reading!

Girls from the Neu-Life main site will be participating in the **Girls on the Run 5K race on Saturday morning, November 18**. Plan to show up and cheer the team on the day of the race! Also, the girls need **Running Buddies** – responsibilities include attending two practices to get to know the rules and the girls, one the week of Nov. 12th, and of course running in the race and encouraging your buddy. Up to 9 slots are available for Running Buddies. If you're interested, you must sign up by Sept. 28th, and pay a \$25 entrance fee. In the spring, there will be girls participating from both the Neu-Life main site and the

Gwen T. Jackson Elementary School, so there will be twice as many 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.)

Neu-Life's **Robotics Team** is looking for **adult mentors** (one or two) with math/science/engineering skills. The team is preparing for a robotics tournament sponsored by Lego Robotics in November and could use some coaching at some of their practices and the tournament itself. Right now, Odell and group are working on getting the practice table. The youth competed last year and were in the running for quite some time. If you are interested or know someone who might be, let one of us know.

Dates to put on your calendars: Let's support the **Neu-Life youth World AIDS Day Celebration on Thursday, Nov. 29th from 5-7pm** and their **Black History Month Celebration and Banquet on Thursday, Feb. 28th, also from 5-7pm**. The November celebration may be a potluck, so you may be asked to bring a dish or dessert. The February event will include performances, projects, and art developed by the youth. More details to follow!

If there is enough Club interest, we'd like to sponsor a **Holiday Celebration** in mid-December. We'd be looking for **75 gifts** for the younger children; a second priority would be **75 gift cards** for the high school students.

We'd like to **establish a team** (with a team leader) to work with Jody and Tracy at Neu-Life helping turn their **Annual Art Show** (in spring, usually May) into a **fundraiser**. Perhaps we could coordinate some activities with the Fashion Show Committee as well? The team would provide marketing and publicity ideas and assistance; advice on items and pricing, a raffle and/or silent auction; ideas on food/hors d'oeuvres or dinner/banquet, etc. Neu-Life has a facility and they have the cooking and serving talent (it could coordinate with their Healthy Cooking Club, and Odell is a terrific chef).





Longer Term Service Opportunities

In addition to **connecting Neu-Life girls with relevant Zonta scholarships**, we've already identified a few other areas where the Zonta Club of Milwaukee and Neu-Life may be able to make some meaningful connections and engage in on-going activities.

Billboard Project

The Neu-Life youth have designed a billboard that they'd like to get posted in their neighborhood, contrasting the number of outlets where alcohol is available with the number of outlets where one may purchase fresh food. Right now, they are sharing the billboard design with neighborhood groups who might have an interest. Ultimately, they will prepare and deliver a pitch to Clear Channel to ask for the space (they've identified the placement(s) they'd like). A group of Zontians could be very helpful in giving them feedback on their sales pitch, and especially encouraging them to not be afraid of asking too much. We'll let you know when they're ready and what they need from us.

Beasty Barrels

This is the youth-led rain barrel business. Zontians might be useful in providing ad hoc consulting in various aspects of business development and execution. At this point, the youth have a business plan and have produced ten painted barrels; now they need to sell some before they have enough money to produce more. They will need to develop and implement a sales and marketing plan. Once things are settle in the back-to-school process, we'll get a better idea of how and where Zontians may be useful. This project is completely youth-led, so it will proceed at their pace. Be patient!

Organization Development

We've asked Jody to put together a wish list of what she needs and wants in terms of administrative and development assistance. We'll talk through the list in a few weeks and bring back opportunities to the Club. Possibilities might include: making contacts, researching foundations, writing grant applications, helping with current grant administration, marketing and publicity for the organization, writing a marketing plan for Neu-Life, designing a professional annual report, etc. These are areas where our skills may be very useful in propelling the organization forward. Stay tuned on this one too!

It's an exciting time getting started on a new partnership with such a deserving organization! Please sign up to support where you are able and interested, and feel free to give us any feedback or other ideas. It's up to all of us to make this a success!

Zonta District 6 Conference in Milwaukee, October 5-7, 2012

By Donna Conant

Milwaukee's Ramada City Center will be filled with Zontians from District 6 Clubs in Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin on the weekend of October 5-7, 2012 as they gather for their Annual District conference. Co-Chairing the event are Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry, finishing up her term as president of the Milwaukee Club, and Sally Bean, past governor of District 6 and member of the Janesville club, under the leadership of incoming District 6 governor Linda Hiltabrand of the LaSalle-Peru club.

Zonta District 6 Conference will literally "fill" the hotel, as it is the only event at that hotel that weekend, and all meeting rooms and some "public" areas – will be reserved for Zonta's use.

All Milwaukee Zonta club members are requested to hold these dates on their calendars, as the Milwaukee club, together with the other clubs in Area 2 (Wisconsin) host the event. Many thanks to the club members who volunteered to help with the event.

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:

October 24

November 28

December 19 (this is the 3rd Wednesday, due to the holidays)

January 23

February 27

March 27

April 24

May 22

June 26

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Elizabeth Bruderle-Baran

Kim Brinsko

Nellie Kendrick

Barbara Wyatt Sibley

