

# **NEWSLETTER**

August 2018

Area 2 • District 6

## 2018-2019 Zonta Club of Milwaukee

#### **Officers**

Maria Bellmann, President Karen Smith, President Elect Krista Betts, Vice President Lori Peterson, Treasurer Barbara Wyatt Sibley, Secretary

#### **Club Board**

Margaret Holzbog Karen Hunt Janet Kloser Renita Switzer Patricia Taylor Regina Young-Ferguson

#### **Foundation Board Officers**

Pam Knackert, President La Toya Sykes, Vice President Elizabeth Stull, Treasurer Sandra Goldmann, Recording Secretary Sheryl Dean, Corresponding Secretary

#### **Foundation Board**

Gloria Jones Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry Joyce McCrary Laurie Ward

Send your newsletter submissions to Krista Betts by the 7th of the month.

Visit us online at www.zontamilwaukee.org

## **Zonta Dinner Meeting**

Wednesday, August 22, 2018

#### **Program: All Bootstraps Are Not Created Equal**

The August program has been prepared by our Club's Racial Justice Committee and will be emceed by club member Krista Betts. The interactive program will include:

- A group discussion on racism as a barrier to the empowerment of women
- An experiential activity led by HR professional Montez Ashley
- The Tale of Two Zontians personal story-telling from two committee members, Karen Hunt and Montez Ashley
- Next steps the committee's proposed plan for the 2018-19 club year for your feedback

No doubt, this topic is a difficult and serious one. It may be uncomfortable for many but we encourage you to lean into your discomfort. The committee is committed to providing a safe environment free of judgment.

Committee members have spent hours together sharing our experiences and thoughts, learning, listening – and listening and listening – and developing trust. It has been an experience that has been enlightening, personally enriching and rewarding. We'd like to bring you along with us as we embark on this powerful journey. Each club member is free to participate in whatever manner she is comfortable.

See page 4 for the mission of the Racial Justice Committee.

**Our new venue is the Genesis Restaurant,** located on the northeast corner of Beloit Road and Hwy 100 at 3740 S. 108th St in Greenfield. Cost for dinner is \$30. We will select the entrée when seated at the table. See the next page for details on dinner options.

**RSVP:** Lori will need to know if you will attend the meeting by Monday, August 20 at 9 pm, preferably by email to <a href="mailto:lorapeterson@wi.rr.com">lorapeterson@wi.rr.com</a>; phone 262-370-9540 if you must.

www.zontamilwaukee.org

## President's Message



#### Ohayo (Hello), Zontians.

I hope everyone is enjoying the great weather we have had these past several weeks. I am back from the Zonta International Convention, where I got to practice my Japanese with the locals, who were so very gracious with my pronunciation and misuse of words. I learned so much during my time at the convention and was able to network with some fantastic women from around the world. I have brought back some thoughts and ideas that will, hopefully, help our club grow and enhance our time together. I shared many ideas at Marge's get together/debrief earlier this month. I am looking forward to further sharing what I have learned with the board and the rest of the club.

If you haven't seen the pictures from convention (and other events, like Neu-Life Career Day) on our Facebook page, please make sure to check them out – then like and share them with your friends. This helps get our name out there.

Zonta International Convention 2020 is only two years away and our club will be helping to make that convention in Chicago a great one. Many Zontians are very excited to attend it in Chicago, and so am I.

As a reminder, our fall conference will be the weekend of October 5. Nothing official has come out yet, but please save the date on your calendar.

I'll see you all soon!

- Maria Bellmann, President

#### **Dinner at Genesis Restaurant**

When you enter Genesis, let the hostess know that you are with the Zonta meeting; they will expect us starting at 5:30 pm. Our room is in the far right side from the entry.

We will be choosing from the Sit-Down Dinner menu which includes a crisp green salad, choice of potato, vegetable, fresh bread, coffee or soda and ice cream.

Our selection of entrees for this meal is baked ham, roast turkey with stuffing, chicken parmesan, chicken alfredo or homemade lasagna. We can also order something vegetarian as needed.

Lori will update directions later in the month depending on which ramps are open or closed.

#### Club Calendar

#### **Club Meetings**

August 22 September 26

October 24 November 28

December 19 January 23

February 27 March 27

April 24 May 22

June 26

#### **Board Meetings**

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

#### **District Conference**

Relevant Membership Through Diversity October 5-7

Fairview Heights, IL http://zontadistrict6.org/

## Advocacy



Your Help Needed to Make Our Walk Against Domestic Violence a Success

Our 4th Annual Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Silent Walk will take place Monday, October 1. The City Hall Rotunda has been reserved, but we need your assistance!

Whether you are able to help with logistics, speaker invitations, or promotion, please contact Maria Bellmann to join the planning committee.

Also, please tell your friends, neighbors, family, coworkers and like-minded groups to join us on the walk. If you know people in Madison, let them know that the Zonta Club of Madison will be hosting a walk on the same day.

### Save the Date

## Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women 4th Annual Walk

Monday, October 1, 2018 11:55 am – 1:00 pm | Milwaukee City Hall

Join us in a silent walk around the Milwaukee downtown area, beginning and ending at City Hall, for the purpose of remembering those in Wisconsin who have died this past year as a result of domestic violence. Together, we can inspire community action.





Sponsors



## **Advocacy**



#### Women's Equality Day August 26

"Women's Equality Day commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, granting the right to vote to women. The amendment was first introduced in 1878. In 1971, the U.S. Congress designated August 26 as Women's Equality Day.

With little financial, legal or political power of their own, and facing a well-financed and entrenched opposition, women fought state by state for their rights as citizens. To win the right to vote, women circulated countless petitions, gave speeches, published newspapers, and traveled the country to win support. They were frequently ridiculed, harassed and sometimes attacked by mobs and police. Some were thrown in jail, and then treated brutally when they protested. Still they persevered. Finally, on August 26, 1920, their goal was achieved with the 19th Amendment. Women had won the right to vote and hold public office."

Source: National Women's History Project,

http://www.nwhp.org/resources/commemorations/womens-equality-day/10-ideas-for-womens-equality-day/

#### Milwaukee Housing Ordinance

Per a message from Milwaukee County Supervisor Theo Lipscomb, an ordinance was passed by the County Board in June, on a vote of 12 to 3, that seeks to prevent housing discrimination based solely on a tenant's use of rental assistance.

The measure also asks that the Milwaukee County Housing Division explore ways in which existing funds can be leveraged to further improve outcomes for tenants with rental or housing assistance.

#### The mission of Racial Justice Committee is to:

- Communicate and spread understanding of how racism is a barrier to the empowerment of women, and
- Encourage action, as we believe women are uniquely positioned to do something about racism and make a difference,
- Grow as women and as a club
- Model our journey for Zonta International

### **ARTREACH**



Two part-time ARTREACH-dedicated staff, supported by Zonta Foundation and other outside grants, came on board at Neu-Life in late May. Katherine Sieger has assumed the role of Curriculum and Evaluation Coordinator, responsible for the creation of a new toolkit/workbook-formatted program with facilitator guide that can be exported to other agencies working with youth,



and (later) developing trafficking curriculum for 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Samantha Collier is Outreach Coordinator, planning and coordinating ARTREACH classes, exhibits, and talks, managing communications, and coordinating/distributing marketing materials.

In July, about 12 Milwaukee High School for the Arts (MHSA) students participated in a four-session ARTREACH program. Donna Neal led the program and new Neu-Life ARTREACH staff members Kat and Sam observed and participated. While there was only one 1½ hour session for art, some amazing work was created in multiple formats – musical, verbal, visual and combinations. What an amazing group of students!

#### Coming Up

Advances in curriculum are causing us to consider a branding change for the program. The original ARTREACH program was founded by Human Trafficking Awareness Partnerships (HTAP) (<a href="http://humantraffickingawareness.org/artreach/">http://humantraffickingawareness.org/artreach/</a>). Here in Milwaukee, over the last 5 years, we have increasingly modified the original ARTREACH curriculum, added substantial new material and localized it. The changes we now have underway will move it into a new sphere focused on prevention and interactive learning, still maintaining a strong art component.

If you have thoughts or are interested in participating in the dialogue regarding the program's new branding and linkages with the past, please contact Donna Neal.

An ARTREACH Community Placements Committee meeting will be scheduled in the near future, and Samantha Collier from Neu-Life will join us. We'll discuss issues with generating placements and develop a plan for 2018-2019.

The Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel recently reported on youth sex trafficking in Milwaukee – and the warning signs. From the article:

Your teen comes home with flashy jewelry, new sneakers or a tech gadget you know she can't afford.

She starts skipping school, running away and refusing to tell you where she's going.

You pick up her phone one day and see she's taken sexually explicit selfies.

These are warning signs and should prompt a parent or caregiver to take action— at least that's the aim of "WI, We Need to Talk," a public awareness campaign about sex trafficking.

"All of that does not mean they're being trafficked, but it opens up a conversation about what would be those appropriate relationship boundaries," said Joy Ippolito, the anti-human trafficking coordinator for the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families.

Read the full article, "Youth sex trafficking is a bigger problem in Wisconsin than you might think. Here's what parents need to know," by Ashley Luthern, June 29, 2018, at <a href="https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2018/06/29/sex-trafficking-wisconsin-how-see-warning-signs-and-get-help-youth/741822002/">https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2018/06/29/sex-trafficking-wisconsin-how-see-warning-signs-and-get-help-youth/741822002/</a>.

### Service



#### Neu-Life Career Fair and Backpack and School Supplies Project

Thank you to all those members who shopped and donated items and money toward our Neu-Life backpack project. With some additional funds from our Foundation account we were able to donate backpacks and supplies for 120 kindergarten, elementary and middle school students. Thank you also to Donna Neal and Donna Conant for helping to stuff the backpacks. We were also lucky enough to have Jody's two daughters helping us. The Neu-Life kids are always excited to receive their own backpack.

Also, thank you to Montez Ashley for coordinating our member participation in the Career Fair and to Joni Reese and Maria Bellmann for sharing their expertise in Information Technology.









## **UN Report**



A good discussion was held the afternoon of Saturday, August 4 about the happenings in Japan at the Zonta International Convention. It was reported that this biennium's Zonta International Service and ZISVAW programs were agreed upon as follows:

- "Let Us Learn" Madagascar \$1,000,000 UNICEF USA
- "Hand in Hand" Jordan \$1,000,000 UNWOMEN
- "Ending Child Marriage" Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia \$2,000,000 UNIFEF UNIFEF/UNFPA
- "Human Trafficking & Unsafe Migration" Nepal \$1,000,000 UNWOMEN

Please refer to the Zonta International website (https://www.zonta.org/Global-Impact/Service) for details.

## **Zonta Foundation Board Meeting**

The Zonta Foundation Board will be meeting on Tuesday, September 11 at the Aurora Business Center, 12500 W. Bluemound Rd (available through Sandra Goldmann). We will meet at 5:30 pm and Sandra will be there to let us in.

- Pam Knackert, Foundation President

## Membership

We plan on installing **Debbie Buchanan** at our August meeting. Debbie is Executive Director of Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative, one of the agencies we gave an award to at the fashion show. Please come and welcome her.

Remember to invite a prospective member to the meeting, especially if there was someone who was interested from the fashion show and has not been able to attend a meeting.

Judy Lehman will be updating the roster. If you have new info that she may not have, please forward to her.

Please note: Our June meeting was a social event. Therefore, there are no minutes for June.

### **Member News**



**Gloria Jones** and her husband, Reuben, request the club's support and prayers. In May, Gloria lost her mother, at the age of 102. Reuben has now unexpectedly lost his father, who has passed away at the age of 90 from a heart attack. As Gloria and Reuben go through this difficult period, please keep them in your thoughts.

