



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

# NEWSLETTER

May 2019

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

## 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](http://www.zontamilwaukee.org)

## Zonta Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

### Program: Moving Toward Action

#### *Presented by the Racial Justice Committee*

The program will include stories from two committee members, as well as a facilitated discussion about possible actions the Club might take to address issues of racism and racial justice.

The committee will seek direction from the Club to narrow a long list of possible actions to a shorter list that we can explore more fully over the summer and come to final decisions about in the early fall.

The evening will also include a brief presentation from our Young Women in Public Affairs Award recipient Joya Headley on her community service work in Milwaukee. (See more on page 9.)

**We will meet at Genesis Restaurant**, 3740 S. 108th St., Greenfield (Northeast corner of Hwy 100 and Beloit Avenue).

5:30 pm – Arrive and mingle

6:00 pm – Dine and complete business

6:45 pm – Program and discussion

We have three menu choices this month: Roast Turkey with Stuffing (including potato and vegetable), Cheeseburger, or Chicken BLT Ranch Wrap (grilled chicken, bacon, tomato, lettuce and cheddar cheese with ranch dressing) along with a crisp green salad, fresh bread, coffee or soda, and ice cream.

**RSVP:** Please contact Helen Ludwig by Sunday, May 19, by 9:00 pm. You can reach her via email at [hludwig@ludwiglaw.org](mailto:hludwig@ludwiglaw.org) or by phone at 414-322-7783.

[www.zontamilwaukee.org](http://www.zontamilwaukee.org)

# President's Message

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Hello Zontians,

What a very full April. We made it through one of our busiest months for our club. I am so grateful for all your efforts in helping this club with our annual fundraiser. I am also grateful for the great participation at our annual meeting this year. We had a lot to run through for the annual club report and the annual foundation report.

Unfortunately, we ended April losing one of our own, Lori Peterson. As you all know, Lori was our treasurer and we are working on sorting out all the membership dues. If you have not yet paid your annual dues this year, it would be very helpful if you could send your dues to me. I will be at the club meeting with the square reader to hopefully take whatever dues are remaining via credit card.

Thank you for all you do!

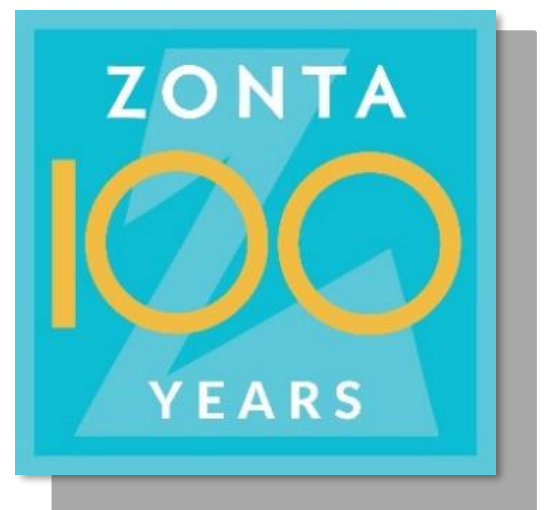
With much appreciation,  
*Maria Bellmann*  
*Club President*

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## Save the Date: November 8, 2019

The Centennial Committee is planning a cocktail reception to celebrate Zonta International's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on November 8, 2019. Details to follow. Please contact me if you have suggestions for the event or if you would like to join our committee.

– *Helen Ludwig, Centennial Committee Chair*



# Meeting Minutes *for April 24, 2019*

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The Zonta Club of Milwaukee Annual Meeting was called to order at 7pm by President Maria Bellmann. Each committee was asked to give one to three highlights from the year.

## **ADVOCACY – Donna Neal**

- 1) Racial Justice – The committee is developing a plan for the coming year that will have service, advocacy and community action. They will be presenting at the May meeting.
- 2) Silent Walk – Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women Silent Walk in downtown Milwaukee.
- 3) ARTREACH – In collaboration with Neu-Life, educating about Human Trafficking.

## **MEMBERSHIP – Kim Brinsko**

- 1) The club had three new members this year.
- 2) Prospective new member social in May.
- 3) Potential new members from the interest card at the spring fundraiser will be invited to the May social.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry**

- 1) Candidates for the Club Board were presented. Three candidates (Beaudry, Conant and Reese) to serve a two-year term and two candidates (Murillo and Siwala) to serve a one-year term.
- 2) It was moved by Lynn Oehlke and seconded by Helen Ludwig to accept the slate for the club. The vote was unanimous to accept all candidates. Installation will be in May.
- 3) Candidates for the Club Foundation board were presented. Candidates (Kloser, Comodore and Lucas-DeBerry) will serve a three-year term.
- 4) It was moved by Donna Neal and seconded by LaToya Sykes to accept the slate for the Foundation Board. The vote was unanimous to accept.

## **PROGRAM – Lori Peterson**

- 1) Racial Justice programming was a major focus for the club year.
- 2) Reviewed programs by month, which are in the annual report.
- 3) Feedback will be sought regarding the location for next year. The cost of the meal may be reduced for the 2019-2020 year.

## **FINANCE – Lori Peterson**

- 1) CD value is \$5,226.40
- 2) Checks have been written for reimbursement and will be distributed at a later date.
- 3) Members are urged to pay dues. They can use Apple Square. We have not incurred a lot of service charges since making it available to members.
- 4) Monica Sowinski is in the progress of reviewing our financial records. A final report should be ready for the June meeting.

## **SCHOLARSHIP – Krista Betts**

- 1) Young Women in Public Affairs – Six candidates in 2019
- 2) Jane M. Klausman Women Business Scholarship – No candidates in 2018
- 3) Women in STEM Scholarship; local scholarship only – Five candidates in 2018
- 4) Tri-level Women in Technology Scholarship is new for 2019

# Meeting Minutes *for Apr. 24, 2019 (cont.)*



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## **PUBLIC RELATIONS – Krista Betts**

- 1) Website is up to date.
- 2) Using social media, Facebook and Twitter. Members are urged to share.
- 3) Newsletter being distributed each month. Kudos to Marge Holzbog on always getting her submission in on time.

## **FASHION SHOW – Karen Smith**

- 1) Final report has been updated for the annual report.
- 2) 80% of the membership participated. Hope to improve next year. 271 guests.
- 3) Net Income was up \$1,000 from last year.

## **Z CLUB**

- 1) Significant leadership turnover in the school.
- 2) Not optimistic about the relationship going forward.
- 3) Looking for mentoring opportunities with some other organization that serves girls.

## **UN COMMITTEE – Marge Holzbog**

- 1) Is sharing suggested readings in each newsletter.
- 2) Funding emphasis of Zonta International is on child marriage.

## **ZONTA FOUNDATION, INC. REPORT**

- 1) \$17,000 was raised. \$8,900 will be sent to Zonta international.
- 2) There were 17 grant requests; seven were given. The report reflects 2018 awards.
- 3) 2018 – \$71,148 in the investment account. This is down from the previous year. Insurance was also purchased which reduced the account.

## **CLUB BUSINESS**

### **Centennial Report – Helen Ludwig**

They are planning a reception on November 8, which is a Friday. The event will include a fundraising activity, either a 50/50 or an auction item. Half will go to the Foundation and a portion to something specific which has not been determined. It was suggested to invite past members, scholarship winners, sponsors and agencies who have received grants from the foundation.

The Centennial Committee needs help; their next meeting is May 7 at 8pm. It will be a conference call. If interested, Helen will give you the call-in number.

## **Club Calendar**

### **Club Meetings**

May 22

June 26

### **District 6 Fall Conference**

September 20-22, 2019

Indianapolis, IN

### **Zonta Centennial Celebration**

Friday, November 8

Location TBD

# Meeting Minutes *for Apr. 24, 2019 (cont.)*



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## **Dinner**

Lori shared there were only 20 members were present; we are committed to 25. The other meals were purchased. She also shared that a \$200 donation was sent to Sojourner Family Peace Center.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Fall Conference** is 9/20/19 in Indianapolis, IN. Drury Plaza is the hotel. The Zonta International President will be there. There will be cake to celebrate the centennial.

## **New Life Art Show**

Theme: "Dreams"

May 4, 11am – 1pm

Cost \$25 (Donna Neal has tickets)

**Next meeting is May 22.** Members are urged to invited guests.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

*Respectively submitted,  
Barbara Wyatt Sibley  
Secretary*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

**Regina Young-Ferguson**  
May 9

**La Toya Sykes**  
May 21



# In Memoriam



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## LORI PETERSON

In April, the Zonta Club of Milwaukee lost a valued member, Lori Peterson.

Lori joined Zonta in June 2013. She was looking for a new group of friends and volunteer purpose as she approached retirement. She was then a Senior Engineer at We Energies, retiring only about two years ago and until recently working on contract for them.

Lori was very active in the Zonta Club of Milwaukee – most recently as Treasurer, Program chair and taking reservations for our meetings and fashion show. She had also served as Recording Secretary on the Foundation Board. She was always willing to take on a new task or responsibility.

Lori was a lifetime member of the Girl Scouts and had thus been involved with girl-centric activities for a number of years. But as her troop grew up and graduated, she began looking for other outlets which would positively affect girls and women. Zonta filled that need.

She was a life-long resident of the Pewaukee area. She and her late husband moved twice in the quest to get onto Pewaukee Lake, which finally happened in 1987. She was brought up doing inland-lake sailing and met her husband through the sport.

Lori has two children and a granddaughter. Her 96-year-old father lived with her in a house she had just moved to in December.

We will truly miss her.



*(Top) Lori Peterson at the 2019 Zonta Club of Milwaukee Fashion Show. (Bottom) Lori at her installation as a Zonta member in 2013.*

# 2019 Fashion Show Update



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This year's fashion show, "Still Fashionable After 100 Years – Empowering Women and Girls," was a great success and celebrated our 93<sup>rd</sup> year of service. The event, held April 13, 2019, at the Marriott Milwaukee West in Waukesha, was attended by 271 guests and Zontians, netting \$28,064. Fashions were presented by Chico's of Brookfield and were a real show pleaser with very positive reviews.

Our guests went above and beyond to support our event. Despite slightly lower attendance, we were able to raise \$1,931 more than last year. The 50/50 raffle was the highest ever, selling \$1,630 in tickets and the winner donating her winnings back to Zonta!

We had 80% of our club participate in the event, either by attending or providing a donation. We very much appreciate the hard work of our club members and are so pleased with the amazing amount we made for our Club's Foundation and Zonta International, which received a check for \$9,354 from our club.

Thank you!





## Building a More Equitable World for Women and Girls – ZONTA INTERNATIONAL AND UNICEF USA

Zonta International's partnership with [UNICEF USA](#) began nearly 50 years ago with six mobile medical units in Ghana. It was one of Zonta's earliest international service projects and the first time Zonta and the UNICEF USA came together to help women and children in need.

Recognizing, even then, the lack of basic facilities in the rural areas of developing countries, Zonta International worked with the UNICEF USA to establish six mobile pediatric medical units to serve the health needs of mothers and children in remote areas of Ghana from 1972 to 1974. The units were staffed by physicians, nurses and other paramedic personnel who visited six villages a week, providing pre- and post-natal care, information on nutrition and family planning, and treatment of diseases, such as malaria, tuberculosis, trachoma and leprosy.

Zonta International's support for UNICEF USA and its efforts to improve the lives of mothers and children globally has only continued to grow since that first project in Ghana. To date, Zonta International has provided nearly US\$9 million to UNICEF USA to support projects in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Columbia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Yemen and Zambia.

This biennium Zonta International has committed US\$2,000,000 to UNICEF USA to support the UNICEF/UNFPA Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage in 12 countries: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Yemen and Zambia.

*Source: Zonta International website*

## Suggested Reading: "The Art of Leaving" by Ayelet Tsabari

This is truly an engaging memoir by Ayelet Tsabari who was born in Israel to a large family of Yemeni descent. After serving in the Israeli army, she traveled extensively throughout Southeast Asia and North America and now lives in Tel Aviv where she teaches creative writing at the University of King's College.

In her travels from New York to India, she searches for love, belonging, and an escape from grief following the death of her father when she was a young girl. Throughout her memoir, Ms. Tsabari sprinkles bits and pieces of her Yemeni heritage.



The Foundation has chosen its officers for the 2019-2020 year. They are:

- President: La Toya Sykes
- Vice-President: Joann Comodore
- Recording Secretary: Sandy Goldmann
- Corresponding Secretary: Laurie Ward
- Treasurer: Elizabeth Stull

New members Joann Comodore, Janet Kloser and Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry will be installed at the May meeting.

## Young Women in Public Affairs Award

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**Be sure to attend the May Club meeting to meet our exceptional 2019 Young Women in Public Affairs Award recipient, Joya Headley.**

Joya is a senior at the Milwaukee School of Languages with an outstanding academic record, and is deeply involved in community service. She represents the 15<sup>th</sup> district on the Milwaukee Youth Council; coached athletes in the Special Olympics; and is a part of Leaders Igniting Transformation (LIT), a youth-led organization engaged in direct action and leadership development.

Through LIT, she led a press conference demanding an agenda to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline. The press conference garnered national attention, including an invitation from the Center for Public Democracy to attend a conference in New York. During the summer of 2018, she facilitated LIT's summer program, educating Milwaukee's youth on social issues.

In college, she plans to major in Global and Public Health Services, to achieve her goal of serving underrepresented communities like her own.

You can read her Op-Ed on "What It's Like Being Young and Black in a Post-Parkland World" at <https://blavity.com/what-its-like-being-young-and-black-in-a-post-parkland-world>, then come hear her voice at our Club meeting.

# Membership



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Members,

Please invite anyone who is interested in learning more about Zonta, especially anyone who indicated interest at the Fashion Show, to our May 22 meeting and/or to the May 29 Prospective Member Reception.

Also, if you are attending the May 29 event let Kim know if you can bring an appetizer, dessert or beverage to the event. She will have a sign-up sheet at the May 22 meeting; otherwise email her. And if asked by Cheryl to be on the agenda, please say yes enthusiastically.



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You are invited to the

Zonta Club of Milwaukee  
Prospective Member Reception  
Wednesday, May 29, 2019  
6:00 p.m. socializing  
(light hors d'oeuvres will be served)  
6:30 to 7:30 p.m. program

at  
The Porticos Apt. Complex  
500 W. Bradley Road  
**Building C** (way in back by tennis courts)  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Community Room**  
Fox Point, WI

RSVP to Pam Knackert at [pmknackert@gmail.com](mailto:pmknackert@gmail.com) or  
262-784-7613 or cell 262-309-3927 by Saturday, May 25th

Come learn more about Zonta International and the Zonta Club of Milwaukee, an organization whose mission is to empower women & girls locally and worldwide through service & advocacy. There will be time for questions and answers.

For more information about Zonta & the Zonta Club of Milwaukee visit  
[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org) and [www.zontamilwaukee.org](http://www.zontamilwaukee.org)