



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

NEWSLETTER

June 2019

Area 2 • District 6

2019–2020

Zonta Club of Milwaukee

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Send your newsletter
submissions to Krista Betts.

Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org

Zonta Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Join Us for a Social Event!

Cost: \$30 – includes the costs associated with the activity and the dinner.

Our own Karen Smith will lead us in a glass painting activity. She will provide paints and brushes and will have a variety of items to choose to paint, such as wine glasses or vases.

Please bring your creativity and a painting apron or shirt. Karen will have some examples and suggestions for all talent levels.

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 Paint

In order to accommodate painting and eating, we will be having a buffet this month consisting of broasted chicken, roast beef, mostaccioli, mashed potatoes, and vegetables along with a salad, coffee or soda, and ice cream.

RSVP: Please contact Helen Ludwig by Sunday, June 23, 9:00 pm. You can reach her via email at hludwig@ludwiglaw.org or by phone at 414-322-7783.

www.zontamilwaukee.org

President's Message



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Happy Summer, Zontians!

Finally, we are blessed with some very nice weather in the Wisconsin area. I hope you are all enjoying the weather and kicking off your summer with some summer fun!

I am looking forward to our social meeting this month and as a reminder, we will not have a club meeting in July. Also, remember that we have the District 6 Fall Conference in Indianapolis:

Fall Conference 2019
Friday, September 20 to Sunday, September 22
Drury Plaza Hotel
Indianapolis, IN

Please make your reservations at the hotel and mark your calendars. We are excited to be celebrating the Centennial Birthday of Zonta International at this conference with guest members from international. What a great opportunity to meet members from the other Zonta Clubs. Let's all get out of our comfort zone.

See you all soon!

Maria Bellmann
President

Club Calendar

After our June 26 meeting, we will adjourn for the summer. Our next meeting will be August 28.

Meeting Minutes

No minutes were captured for the May 22, 2019, club meeting.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June 2
Debbie Buchanan

June 19
Joann Comodore

Committee Members



Our committees are at the heart of our club. They are the way we organize and get work done to empower women and girls – in our community and as part of Zonta International.

Over the past couple of months, we have been circulating the committee list for sign-up, and below are the club members who have indicated their planned involvement for the 2019-2020 club year.

We are still in need of committee members and chairs. To start planning for the coming Zonta year, we are in particular need of people to join or lead the Program and Service Committees.

If you haven't yet had a chance to put your name on the committee lists, please let me know. Need more information about the committees? Concerned about leading a committee on your own? We can answer your questions and find someone to coach or co-chair.

Thank you,
Maria Bellmann

Service Committee	Nominating Committee	Fashion Show Committee
Donna Conant	Cheryl Lucas DeBerry	Maria Bellmann
Jen Murillo	Laureen Ward	Marge Holzbog
Joni Reese		Debra Koller
Advocacy Committee	Program Committee	Pam Knackert
Donna Neal (chair)		Judy Lehman
Krista Betts		Diane Lindsley
Judy Lehman		Cheryl Lucas DeBerry
Diane Lindsley		Carol Mangold
Carol Mangold		Joyce McCrary
Membership Committee	Scholarship Committee	Jen Murillo
Kim Brinsko (co-chair)	Krista Betts (chair)	Lynne Oehlke
Cheryl Lucas DeBerry (co-chair)	Debra Koller	Joni Reese
Pam Knackert	La Toya Sykes	Karen Smith
Judy Lehman		Christine Todd
		Laureen Ward
Public Relations Committee	UN Committee	Centennial Committee
Joni Reese (chair)	Marge Holzbog	Helen Ludwig (chair)
Krista Betts	Carol Mangold	Maria Bellmann
Jen Murillo	La Toya Sykes	Pam Knackert
Z Club Committee		Joni Reese
Deb Koller		Karen Smith
Cheryl Lucas DeBerry		Christine Todd
Donna Neal		
Christine Todd		



Neu-Life Back-to-School and Career Fair

Neu-Life will celebrate Back-to-School and host its Career Day on Thursday, July 25. The Career Day portion will run from 12:30 to 3:00. If you'd like to host a booth and talk with youth about your career, please contact Donna Neal. Groups of youth range from elementary through high school.

At our club meeting this month, we will be gauging club interest in supporting a backpack/school supplies drive again this year. If you feel the urge to do a little advance shopping, feel free, and bring your purchases to the club meeting.

Past school supply needs have included:

Backpacks	Pocket folders
Erasable markers	Kid scissors
Pencils	Wide ruled paper
Glue sticks	Pens
Erasers	Colored pencils
1-subject notebooks	

Save the Date

November 8, 2019

The Centennial Committee is planning a cocktail reception to celebrate Zonta International's 100th 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



Membership



Thank you to all members who participated in the Prospective Member reception on May 29. We had four prospective members attend and a couple of those will be joining soon. We are planning to have an installation ceremony at our June meeting. Please invite any of your friends or co-workers who are prospects that couldn't make it on the 29th to our June 26 get-together. This gives them an opportunity to meet other members and hear more about Zonta.

As you know, Judy Lehman is trying to update our roster information, so if you have a new job, address, etc., please provide her that as soon as possible. She will hopefully be able to get out an updated roster by the end of the month.

Zonta Says NO Silent Walk Needs You

It's that time again – time to start organizing our annual Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Silent Walk.

Please contact Donna Neal if you would like to serve on the planning committee. We need 4 to 6 people. We typically meet just once in person – to review the project plan and the program for the event, to decide if there are any changes we want to make, to develop a speaker list, and to divvy up responsibilities. We have templates for speaker invitations, speaker thank-you's, participant invitations, press releases, etc., so the work is not onerous. Beyond the first meeting, we usually manage to coordinate our efforts via email.

For the event itself, we really need everyone in the Club to participate (to walk or to be at City Hall for the program) AND to invite friends, co-workers, and other organizations to walk with us. Let's set a turnout record for this, our 5th year! 100+ walkers for this Zonta International Centennial Anniversary year!



Neu-Life Update



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The Neu-Life main site at 2014 W North Avenue is no longer a drop-in site; it is now the home of Neu-Life's Youth Work Innovation Center. Neu-Life has added workforce development to its afterschool and prevention programming.

For years, Neu-Life's Staff Pipeline Initiative has served to grow and retain current talent while recruiting teen program participants to become the next generation of Neu-Life staff. In fact, over half the staff are alumni of Neu-Life's programs, who began as teen workers. The initiative has been recognized as a best practice throughout the city.

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee has had a long-standing partnership with Neu-Life Community Development, supporting their mission to empower youth with skills and strategies to make better life choices.

We have awarded Neu-Life grants through our foundation; partnered with them in the ARTREACH human trafficking awareness program; and shown our support with back-to-school supplies, career fair presentations, and holiday gifts.

The Youth Work Innovation Center is an expansion of that program. The workforce development program now begins with middle school students – after interviewing to be accepted into the program, youth receive professionalism and prevention curricula and hands-on project activities. Teen workers recruited from nearby neighborhoods also interview to be accepted, and when selected are placed in project-based work groups. Teen Workers develop the curriculum for Middle School Workers and elementary youth from the school sites, and are given opportunity to become Entry-level Certified Youth Workers. They also have opportunities to pursue other employment tracks – Farmfork Catering, carpentry, social media marketing/design, and others. Teens receive an hourly rate, the middle school workers a small stipend.

ARTREACH Update

The ARTREACH human trafficking awareness program has also been undergoing substantial change, so much so that it won't be called ARTREACH anymore – new name still TBD.

Over the years, the ARTREACH program has diverged more and more from the original curriculum, as we worked to customize it for Milwaukee, add more experiential elements, and expand the creative component beyond paintings. More recently, it is being recast in a context of healthy relationships, something that was missing from Neu-Life's prevention programming. The new curriculum was mini-piloted with Neu-Life youth who had participated in ARTREACH previously, then with youth at two high schools this past spring. It likely will be tested one more time this summer.

Two part-time staff members are devoted to human trafficking curriculum and outreach. Kat Sieger is leading the curriculum development – its workbook format designed to be exportable to other agencies, so it can reach more youth across the city. Sam Collier is leading the outreach efforts. She recently achieved a multi-month display of ARTREACH paintings at the Medical College of Wisconsin. The committee that the Zonta Club of Milwaukee had working on community placements last year ran into a lot of roadblocks in terms of achieving placements beyond City Hall and the Main Library. Once Sam returns from maternity leave, I hope we can resume efforts to help with community placements of the trafficking paintings. Look for more on that in the fall.

– Donna Neal, Neu-Life fan and liaison

Club Field Trip Opportunity



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During last month's Racial Justice Committee program, many Club members expressed interest in visiting the *Evicted* exhibition. We are planning a late summer field trip to see it.

Evicted Exhibition

Saturday, August 24, 11:00 am

Mobile Design Box, 753 N. 27th Street, Milwaukee

The *Evicted* exhibition is opening here in Milwaukee as the first stop on a national tour. According to Neighborhood News Service, "*Evicted* is an immersive exhibition that introduces visitors to the intimate, painful process of low-income renter eviction. Inspired by Matthew Desmond's Pulitzer Prize-winning book about eviction in Milwaukee, the experience presents data developed by Desmond's Eviction Lab and features original photography and audio examining reasons for and the fallout from eviction."

One thesis of Desmond's book: what mass incarceration is to men of color, eviction is to women of color. Housing insecurity is a major issue for women and their children.

Following our visit to the exhibition, we plan to have lunch together at an ethnic restaurant, place TBD and dependent on how many we'll be. Contact Montez Ashley or Donna Neal if you'd like to join the committee for the event, or for the event and the lunch both. Admission to the exhibit is free, lunch on your own.

If you can't join us that day, the exhibit is open Friday evenings from 5-8 and Saturdays from 10-4, June 21 to September 28. The June 21 Grand Opening runs from 5-9 pm.

Suggested Readings

If you're interested in reading more about any of the topics discussed at the May meeting, here are a few suggestions:

- **School-to-prison pipeline:** Monica Rohr, "[Pushed out and punished: One woman's story shows how systems are failing black girls](#)," *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, May 15, 2019.
- **Housing:** "[Evicted by Matthew Desmond – review: What if the problem of poverty is that it's profitable to other people?](#)" *The Guardian*, April 7, 2016.
- **Healthcare:** "[Why America's Black Mothers and Babies Are in a Life-or-Death Crisis](#)," *The New York Times Magazine*, April 11, 2018.
- **Pre-trial Detention:** "[Thousands of Americans are jailed before trial. A new report shows lasting impact](#)," *Vox*, May 7, 2019.
- **Environmental Racism:** "[Crumbling pipes, tainted water plague black communities](#)," *TMJ4*, Sept 1, 2017.

The Racial Justice Committee met on June 6 to debrief the May Club table discussions and feedback. We'll be meeting next on Thursday, July 11 at Donna Neal's home to complete the debriefing and develop an action plan. Join us if you like!



YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS 2019 RECIPIENT: JOYA HEADLEY

Congratulations again to Joya Headley on receiving the Zonta Club of Milwaukee YWPA Award. It was a pleasure to welcome her and her parents to our May meeting.

Joya has just graduated from the Milwaukee School of Languages with an outstanding academic record, and is deeply involved in community service. She represents the 15th 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.

At UW-Madison, she plans to major in Global and Public Health Services, to achieve her goal of serving underrepresented communities like her own.

