



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

NEWSLETTER

January 2020

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, January 29, 2020

Speakers: Jody Rhodes, Executive Director, and Tracy Hranoja, Director of Strategy and Innovation, Neu-Life Community Development

Established in 2000, Neu-Life Community Development offers development programs for youth ages 3 to 18+ primarily from the 53205/53206 ZIP codes. Their mission is to empower youth with skills and strategies to make better life choices. The Zonta Club of Milwaukee had a formal partnership with Neu-Life for 5 years involving service, advocacy, and financial support, and has maintained an informal partnership with them for the past couple of years.

Neu-Life programming, goals, and vision have changed and grown dramatically since the start of our partnership. Jody and Tracy, well known to many of us but new to many as well, will share the major current initiatives and future plans. The Youth Work Innovation Center and workforce and career development programming are central, as are the Farmfork Culinary Arts Program and STEPP (Sex Trafficking Education and Prevention Program, an evolution of ARTREACH).

Following the program, Neu-Life staff will join Zontians in table top discussions about future opportunities for engagement.

We will meet in the private dining room (State Room) at Saz's, 5539 W. State St., Milwaukee.

5:30 pm – Arrive & mingle

6:00 pm – Dinner & program begin

Please see next page for details regarding the dinner.

RSVP by January 22 to Maureen Siwula at
mortsiwula@outlook.com or 262-844-4609.

www.zontamilwaukee.org

President's Message



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Happy New Year, Zontians!

I hope all of your holidays were full of warm cheer and family fun!

Just a few reminders to keep in mind as we finish up January: The early bird registration for the Zonta International Convention in Chicago will be ending on February 12th. Please remember to head out to the website: <http://convention.zonta.org/Registration/Convention-Registration>

Next reminder is around the Area Spring Workshop at MRA on March 28th. It is an all-day event and we will be hosting the event. Last year's cost was around \$45.

Don't forget this month's meeting date has changed to January 29th at a new location, same time.

See you all at the meeting.

Maria Bellmann
Club President

Zonta Dinner Meeting: Menu & Location Details

This is our pilot dinner with Saz's, where we may book future meetings. Saz's is located at 5539 W. State St., Milwaukee.

A buffet meal will be available to include: dinner salad, rolls, baked herbed chicken and baked cod, fingerling potatoes, steamed mixed vegetables, and cookies for dessert. A few plain chicken breasts can be available upon special request.

Cost: \$30.00 check, cash or card

Drinks will be available at the bar for cash: Soda \$3; Coffee/Tea \$3; House Wine \$6; Tap Beer \$6. Rail drinks are also available at cost.

If you RSVP yes and do not show for the meeting you will need to pay the \$30.

December Meeting Minutes

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee had a social event in December with no business meeting. There are no minutes.

Zonta International Convention



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Early-bird registration for the Zonta International Convention ends February 12. Register now and save! Not sure about attending? Here's a glimpse of the special events at the convention:

Summer Splash Mixer – Friday, 3 July

All first-time attendees are encouraged to attend this event to mix and mingle with fellow Zontians before the official opening of convention. We also invite our seasoned convention goers to welcome them and offer a friendly Zonta smile.

Opening Ceremony & Reception – Saturday, 4 July

Convention officially opens with our traditional flag procession and colorful native dress. Join us for these festivities plus entertainment and keynote speakers. Your convention committee promises they have special plans in store for you in honor of centennial celebrations – you will not want to miss it.

Friendship Dinners – Saturday, 4 July & Monday, 6 July

Are you looking to experience the diversity of Chicago's restaurants? Relax and enjoy the company of fellow Zontians and we will take care of the reservations.

Celebrate on the Lake – Sunday, 5 July

Nothing could be finer than dining on a cruise ship on Lake Michigan on a summer night. Enjoy views of the best skyline in the world while enjoying dinner, a DJ and fireworks on a multi-story luxury ship with an open rooftop deck. This event will sell out so register early to reserve your spot.

Meet Chicago Women – Monday, 6 July & Tuesday, 7 July

Meet Chicago Women is your opportunity to visit with women leaders of Chicago in various realms of work. Enjoy an evening of networking while learning about these outstanding organizations.

Centennial Anniversary Closing Dinner – Wednesday, 8 July

Celebrate the closing of the Centennial Biennium with a memorable evening at the jewel of Chicago – the Aon Grand Ballroom at Navy Pier. After dinner, stay for the entertainment and fireworks and make memories. Seating is limited to 1,400 and will be based on first-come, first served.

If you cannot attend the whole convention, one-day registration options are also available. Visit <http://convention.zonta.org/> to learn more about registration and schedule details.



Fashion Show Fundraiser 2020



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Hi, everyone! Are we excited about our fast-approaching Fashion Show fundraiser? Please plan to attend, and we ask each member to please try and fill a table of guests (10 people). Your personal invitations will be coming soon. If you elected to have your contacts remain on the email list, then they will receive an invitation directly from the club.

This year, we will be offering two hot lunch options: Chicken Chutney Plated Lunch and Vegan Vegetable Ravioli. Each will include a salad and a parfait for dessert. Lunch will also include coffee or tea service.

Corporate sponsorship solicitations are actively underway. If you have a corporate contact that you think might be willing to sponsor the event, please pass this information along to Chris Todd as soon as possible.

Please continue to reach out to your contacts for raffle and silent auction donations. Consumable items seem to bring the most interest. Please contact restaurants, hotels and the like for gift certificates. We can put things together in baskets so you do not have to provide all items for the basket. When you have your raffle items, please give them to Pam Knackert.

We will be starting to collect monies for the wine pull at our January meeting. We request that each club member consider at least a \$20 donation to this event, which doubles your initial gift. Please give any money gifts to Deb Koller or Karen Smith. Deb will have a collection box at the January meeting registration table.

Sign-up sheets to volunteer at the event will be routed at upcoming club meetings. **Please be sure to volunteer your time as this is the primary fundraiser for our club and allows us to provide scholarships as well as funding for agencies that directly deliver on our mission to "Empower Women and Girls."**

SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020
The Zonta Club of Milwaukee Presents
AROUND THE WORLD
Empowering Women & Girls for Another 100 Years

Women in Aviation



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January 11th of each year is Zonta International's recognition of Amelia Earhart's accomplishments and her empowerment of women in science.

"On this day in 1935, legendary pilot Amelia Earhart embarked on a 2,408-mile trip from Honolulu, Hawaii to Oakland, California. The next day, she became the first person to fly solo to the United States mainland from Hawaii. Since she had flown over the Atlantic Ocean five years earlier, this flight also made her the first person to fly across both the Pacific and Atlantic oceans."

To hear in Amelia's own voice her vision of economic independence for all women, access:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqi-VFvQVKg>

In the early 20th century, Amelia wasn't the only woman who dreamed of flying. This is an excerpt from the National Women's History Museum's tribute to **Bessie Coleman** (1892-1926) written by Kerri Lee Alexander.

Bessie Coleman soared across the sky as the first African American, and the first Native American woman pilot. Known for performing flying tricks, Coleman's nicknames were; "Brave Bessie," "Queen Bess," and "The Only Race Aviatrix in the World." Her goal was to encourage women and African Americans to reach their dreams.

Born in Atlanta, Texas on January 26, 1892, Bessie Coleman had twelve brothers and sisters. Her mother, Susan Coleman, was an African American maid, and her father George Coleman was a Native American sharecropper. Her brothers served in the military during World War I and came home with stories from their time in France. Her brother John teased her because French women were allowed to learn how to fly airplanes and Bessie could not. This made Bessie want to become a pilot. She applied to many flight schools across the country, but no school would take her because she was both African American and a woman. Famous African American newspaper publisher, Robert Abbott told her to move to France where she could learn how to fly. She began taking French classes at night because her application to flight schools needed to be written in French.

Finally, Coleman was accepted at the Caudron Brothers' School of Aviation in Le Crotoy, France. She received her international pilot's license on June 15, 1921 from the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale. She gave speeches and showed films of her air tricks in churches, theaters, and schools to earn money. She refused to speak anywhere that was segregated or discriminated against African Americans.

Unfortunately, her career ended with a tragic plane crash, but her life continues to inspire people around the world.

To read the full article, access: <https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/bessie-coleman>

– Racial Justice Committee

Young Women in Public Affairs Award



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2020



YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AWARD

Recognizing young women for their commitment to volunteerism, volunteer leadership achievements and dedication to empowering women worldwide



1 APPLICATION, 3 OPPORTUNITIES

1 Zonta Club of
Milwaukee award
US\$1,000

32 district awards
US\$1,500 each

10 international awards
US\$4,000 each

Applications must be received by the Zonta Club of Milwaukee by March 15, 2020. To download an application, please visit: www.zontamilwaukee.org

CLUB DEADLINE:

March 15, 2020

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:

zcscholarship@zontamilwaukee.org

The Young Women in Public Affairs Award is a Zonta International program funded by contributions to the Zonta International Foundation. Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

The Young Women in Public Affairs Award application is now available online at www.zontamilwaukee.org.

Aimed at young women ages 16 to 19, the goal of the Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Award Program is to encourage young women to pursue careers or seek leadership positions in public policy making, government, and volunteer organizations and further their education with these aims in view.

Applicants must show their commitment to the volunteer sector, evidence of volunteer leadership achievements and a dedication to empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee gives a \$1,000 award and forwards the winner's application to Zonta District 6 for consideration for an additional \$1,500 award. The district winner's application is sent on to Zonta International for consideration for one of the ten \$4,000 international awards.

Completed applications are due on or before March 15, 2020. Share the word with local schools!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 14
Laureen Ward

January 18
Maria Bellmann

January 24
Judith Lehman

January 26
Victoria Frazier

Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women



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A Wisconsin teenager, Chrystul Kizer, is facing life in prison on charges of murdering her alleged sex trafficker. As reported in the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*,

[Chrystul's] case comes at a time when police and prosecutors across the country are reevaluating how victims of sex trafficking should be treated. This year, Tennessee released Cyntoia Brown, whose story went viral in the midst of the #MeToo movement. She went to prison at age 16 and served 15 years for killing a man who purchased her for sex.

Brown's story, along with the downfall of financier Jeffrey Epstein and singer R. Kelly, reveal what most child sex trafficking actually looks like in America: vulnerable kids, not kidnapped and held captive, not chained and smuggled across borders, but groomed by someone they trust and manipulated into believing they are the ones to blame for the abuse.

Under federal law, all children who are bought or sold for sex are trafficking victims, regardless of the circumstances. Thirty states and the District of Columbia have stopped charging minors with prostitution.

Most states also have a law that gives sex-trafficking victims an "affirmative defense." If they can prove at trial they committed a crime because they were being trafficked, they can be acquitted of certain charges against them.

Wisconsin is one of those states — and Chrystul wanted to use that law to defend her actions. Despite prosecutors' certainty that her crime was premeditated, her lawyer argues she still has a complete defense to the charges.

But the affirmative defense law has never been used in a homicide or any other violent crime. Not in Wisconsin and, as far as advocates know, not anywhere else."

Read the complete article, "He was sexually abusing underage girls. Then, Kenosha police said, one of them killed him," by Jessica Contrera, *The Washington Post*, at <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2019/12/18/sex-trafficking-girl-he-having-sex-charged-his-death/2677259001/>

The Human Trafficking Task Force of Greater Milwaukee is expected to look into this case further and propose recommendations for action. In the meantime, a Change.org petition has been started to call for Chrystul's freedom: <https://www.change.org/p/bryan-steil-wis-teen-face-life-in-prison-for-killing-man-who-allegedly-raped-her-and-sold-her-for-sex-b75d03ab-ceb7-468f-a161-4b6d1ab03767?>

Club Calendar

Club Meetings

NEW DATE! January 29

February 26

March 25

April 22

May 27

June 24

Spring Area Workshop

Saturday, March 28

Milwaukee, WI

Fashion Show

Saturday, April 25

Marriott Milwaukee West

Zonta International Convention

July 4-8, 2020

Chicago, IL