



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

NEWSLETTER

March 2020

Area 2 • District 6

2019–2020 Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Officers

Maria Bellmann, President
Karen Smith, President Elect
Krista Betts, Vice President
Renita Switzer, Treasurer
Barbara Wyatt Sibley, Secretary

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Donna Conant
Jennifer Murillo
Joni Reese
Maureen Siwula

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La Toya Sykes, President
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Sandra Goldmann, Recording Secretary
Laurie Ward, Corresponding Secretary
Elizabeth Stull, Treasurer

Foundation Board

Gloria Jones
Janet Kloser
Pam Knackert
Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry

Send your newsletter
submissions to Krista Betts.

Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org

Zonta Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

Speaker: Christine Lidbury, Executive Director, Wisconsin Women's Council

Celebrate Women's History Month with us at our March club meeting! Our speaker will be Christine Lidbury, Executive Director for the Wisconsin Women's Council since 2004.

Christine will share with us the status of women in our state. More information on Christine and the council is found here: <https://womenscouncil.wi.gov/pages/home.aspx>

Where: Saz's State Room, 5539 W. State Street, Milwaukee

When: 5:30 p.m. – Gather, meet and greet
6:00 p.m. – Dinner buffet and club meeting

Cost: \$30.00

RSVP: To Maureen Siwula at mortsiwula@outlook.com or 262-844-4609 by March 18

Please note: If you have a standing reservation, we expect to see you and you will be charged if you do not give advance notice. Thanks for your cooperation.

Please wear your name tag to the meeting.
It helps new members get to know us all!

www.zontamilwaukee.org

President's Message



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Hello Zontians,

Happy March! I can't believe we are already in the third month of the year. This month we have many things going on as we prepare for the annual Zonta meeting in April.

For our April meeting, we need all committee chairs to pull together their committee information for the annual report. We need the report to Barbara Wyatt-Sibley by March 17. We will send the annual report out to the club by April 11, at the latest.

Also, remember to sign up for the Spring Workshop. We are hosting the Spring Workshop going on Saturday, March 28 at MRA. This workshop is close for us to attend, so I hope to see you there.

Our fabulous nominating committee is pulling together the next group of leaders for our club. Remember to accept enthusiastically!

Fashion Show is April 25 and "day of" volunteering slots are out for sign-up. Please take a slot.

I appreciate you all and everything you all do for our club.

With Much Appreciation,
Maria Bellmann,
Club President

Thank you to all who contributed to the collection for Sojourner at the February meeting.

And thank you to our speaker, Sojourner CEO Carmen Pitre.



Meeting Minutes *for February 26, 2020*



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February meeting minutes will be published at a later date.

Annual Zonta Says NO March

Our annual Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Silent Walk will take place in late September/early October. We'd like to get an earlier start on planning this year and are now looking for committee volunteers. Most of the activities are clearly defined based on past years and easy to execute. The MAJOR IMPROVEMENT we want to make this year is MORE MARCHERS. In this, our centennial year, we want 100 or more marchers.

If you are willing to serve, please contact Donna Neal. Focus over the next couple of months will be on building connections with like-minded organizations and working to gain their support and participation. As we heard from Carmen Pitre of Sojourner Family Peace Center at last club meeting, and as we've seen in the news the past several months, the domestic violence problem is getting worse not better.

There's something in it for potential partners – publicity! We encourage them to wear their logo-identified clothing just as we do – the more organizations the more impact. We had TV coverage on all local channels last year and can do it again (especially if we can get on Gwen Moore's schedule sooner rather than later)!

Club Calendar

Club Meetings

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

Zonta Foundation Grants



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The Milwaukee Zonta Foundation recently decided to award seven (7) grants to local non-profit organizations. We had \$19,000 to disburse from our 2019 Fundraiser profits. We received twelve (12) applications in total. The organizations receiving grants are as follows:

- Alverno College – Girls Academy of Science and Mathematics Program \$3000
- Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative – Women’s Veterans Initiative \$3000
- Neu-Life Community Development – Neu-STEPP Program \$2500
- Our Next Generation – Still I Rise Program \$2500
- PEARLS for Teen Girls – College and Career Readiness Program \$2500
- Sojourner Family Peace Center – Life Skills Program \$3000
- The Women’s Center – Employment and Life Skills Program \$2500

Awards will be given to the recipients at our April 25, 2020, fundraiser event at the Marriott Milwaukee West.

Best Regards,

Laureen Ward

Foundation – Corresponding Secretary

Now Showing – Worth Seeing

The Milwaukee Repertory Theatre presents *Eclipsed* written by *Black Panther* and “Walking Dead” star Danai Gurira in the Quadracci Powerhouse, March 3-29, 2020.

Eclipsed is a play about five extraordinary women and their tale of hope and resilience set in the midst of the Liberian Civil War. Drawing on reserves of wit and compassion, these defiant women ask: when the fog of battle lifts, could a different destiny emerge? Nominated for six Tony Awards, including Best Play, *Eclipsed* has been called “rare and powerful” by *The New York Times* and “a must-see production” by *New York Magazine*.

Every week of the run in March, Milwaukee Rep will highlight the work of three individual women of color who are fighting for the betterment of the community as a Milwaukee SHERo. A Milwaukee SHERo exemplifies the values of dedication to one’s community, collaboration and sisterhood.

2020 Fashion Show Fundraiser



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“Around the World, Empowering Women and Girls for Another 100 Years”

April 25 is fast approaching, the big day for our annual Fashion Show fundraiser, “Around the World, Empowering Women and Girls for Another 100 years,” being held at the Milwaukee Marriott West in Pewaukee.

The Fashion Show Committee is hard at work preparing for the event. We are hoping that our club members are working to fill their table of guests. As a reminder, this is the only fundraising event for our club and funds our charitable donations to like-minded local organizations as well as our club contribution to Zonta International.

If you have silent auction items or raffle items, it's not too late to get them to Pam Knackert and Laurie Ward. In addition, club members are reminded that we are requesting a \$20 per club member (or more greatly appreciated) towards the wine pull. The raffles, auctions and wine pull add to the day's fun activities for our guests as well as contribute to overall funds raised.

The Fashion Show also requires the participation of all club members to make the event a success. Sign-up sheets will be routed at the March club meeting where you can volunteer for your activity of choice the “day of” the event. If you cannot make the March meeting, please contact Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry at 414-507-0919 to sign up to help.

If you have any questions about the event and how you can participate, please contact Karen Smith at 414-336-5848 or Lynne Oehlke at 262-240-1424.

– Lynne Oehlke & Karen Smith



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Gloria Jones
March 13

Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry
March 30

Area 2 Spring Workshop



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Join us for the Area 2 Spring Workshop to learn more about how Zonta is working to end child marriage. Your fellow club members will also be presenting a session on the importance of inclusivity to club retention and growth.

Here are the details:

March 28, 2020 • 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

MRA Conference Center
N19W24400 Riverwood Dr., Waukesha, WI

Cost \$45.00
Light breakfast and lunch will be provided

Invitations were mailed to all members. Please take a moment to fill out the registration form and mail it with your check to :

Maureen Siwula
21111 W. Windsor Drive
New Berlin, WI 53146

262-844-4609
mortsiwula@outlook.com

Area Workshop

The Racial Justice Committee will be leading an interactive session at Spring Workshop. We've designed it to be thought-provoking and action-inspiring and relevant to Zonta recruitment and retention goals. Please attend and engage.

Our next committee meeting will be Thursday, April 9 at 6:30 where we will debrief and plan next steps. Feel free to join us. We meet in person at one of our homes. Call Donna Neal for details.

– *Racial Justice Committee*