



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

NEWSLETTER

August 2020

Area 2 • District 6

2020–2021

Zonta Club of Milwaukee

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Donna Neal, Recording Secretary
Laurie Ward, Corresponding Secretary
Elizabeth Stull, Treasurer

Foundation Board

Kim Brinsko
Janet Kloser
Pam Knackert
Debra Koller

Send your newsletter submissions
to Joni Reese @
tnjreese@wi.rr.com

Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org

Zonta Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, August 26, 2020 @ 6:00pm

The monthly Milwaukee Club Meeting on August 26^h, 2020 will again be a virtual meeting.

Our speaker will be Debbie Buchanan, Zonta member and Agency Director for Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative (MHVI).

MHVI was a grant recipient from the Emergency COVID19 Fundraising that the Club did this summer. Debra will share with us how our donation helped MHVI meet the needs of their clients. <https://www.wisconsinvets.org/>

Please check your email for the meeting invitation and information which will be coming from Club President Karen Smith.

We hope that you all can join the meeting. Hopefully we will be able to gather again soon. Stay safe and healthy!



www.zontamilwaukee.org

President's Message



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Welcome to the end of summer and the promise that there is always a new season to look forward to.

This has certainly not been a typical year. When things are not as expected it challenges us as individuals and leaders to think about different ways to move forward. I am happy to say that our club has certainly risen to the challenge.

We have continued to have our regular club meetings via Zoom. In addition, our club quickly rose to the challenge, creating a COVID-19 Response Action Plan, to find ways to continue to help women and children that are experiencing even more hardship due to the virus. While it may not be a direct impact of the illness, many of our like minded agencies have experienced setbacks in funding which can impact their ability to provide critical services. Our club was able to send \$500 to four agencies in our community (Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative, Sojourner Family Peace Center, Sixteenth Street Health Center and Cathedral Center). A great thank you to our generous club members!

Likewise our club, along with our sister club of Heidelberg, Germany, continued to engage in a time of sisterhood. On July 16, we held a virtual Centennial Zonta Sisterhood Connection via Zoom. Members from our club, the Heidelberg club and other Zonta members from our district and around the world attended. In total we had 27 attendees. It was a pleasure to witness this connection and see the friendships that have formed. Again, such a testament of resilience.

As we all know, the challenges continue. At present, District 6 is looking at options for Fall Conference, which is scheduled for October 9-11 in Joliet, IL. Restrictions would allow for a maximum of 50 attendees in the space. It is anticipated that Fall Conference will be largely virtual at this point and the conference organizers should have the plan worked out by the end of August for us to share with our club members.

As the year continues, may we continue to find new ways to continue our fellowship, deliver on our mission, and be open to new ideas that are presented.

All the best,
Karen
Club President

What's your knowledge? What is your passion? What is your interest?

Now is the time to offer up your services to contribute to the Club's success through offering your time and talents!

Talk to Karen or other Club representatives and sign up for a committee today!

Club Meeting Minutes – June 24th



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Zoom Meeting was called to order by Karen Smith at 6:14.

Treasurer's Report: Maria Bellmann presented the treasurer's report. Maria reported that she was able to reconcile through the end of May.

Balance as of May 1, 2020	\$16,255.15
Plus dues (square)	1,613.00
dues (checks)	910.00
donation (to go to Foundation)	25.00
	<u>\$18,803.15</u>
Less Square expenses:	49.49
Balance as of May 31, 2020	<u>\$18,753.66</u>

Additional expenses incurred in June are internet expenses of \$539.55, payment of International Dues and fee for Zoom Meeting membership.

Business:

Service "Thank you": Karen presented a Zonta Vase to Maria for her service as President.

Service & Advocacy Project and Fundraising Update:

- Donna Conant reported that 10 members volunteered to participate on the Covid 19 fundraiser committee. As of the meeting, \$950 has been raised through Facebook and \$800 in checks paid directly to the Foundation. Four agencies were chosen to support: Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative; The Cathedral Center; Sojourner Family Peace Center; Sixteenth Street Health Center. The committee will meet to determine the timing of the donations.
- Neu Life Backpacks. Donna Conant reported on the items still needed. Members volunteered to purchase all of the remaining supplies except the remaining backpacks. On-line purchases can be sent directly to Neu Life but Pam should be notified. Other members will donate money for backpacks. Checks should go to Elizabeth made payable to the Zonta Foundation with an indication that the funds are for the backpack fundraiser.
- Donna Neal reported that the "Zonta Says No Walk" for September has been cancelled. She has requested that members think about alternatives and contact her with suggestions. She will contact End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin to learn if it has a different plan for the release of names in September in light of the pandemic. Karen suggested we share the victims' stories on-line and on Face Book. Cheryl suggested that we each take a screen shot holding a victim's name and post all of those on-line and/or on Face Book. Maureen suggested that we stand with the domestic violence "purple figures" set out in Waukesha. The victims on the list are from 2019. Donna would like to consider an effort to recognize that Covid 19 has caused an increase in domestic violence in 2020.

Fashion Show Fundraising Update (Auction):

Committee decided to go ahead with an on-line auction in September to run for 1 week. Notice will be sent to Fashion Show distribution list. Joni also created a Face Book donate request in lieu of Fashion Show Fundraising.

Club Meeting Minutes – June 24th



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Announcements:

- Former member Claudyne Whitaker passed away. Her family has requested prayers.
- Zoom Gathering with Zonta Club of Heidelberg, Germany – July 16, 2020 @ 11:00 am CDS. More information will be sent out in the next week.
- No “Zonta Says no Walk” in September.
- Zonta International Voting – By-laws and club officer elections, July 4 -8, 2020.
- Next club meeting August 26, 2020 @ 6:00 pm
- Newsletter articles to Joni by August 7.

Club Calendar

Board Meetings

September 8

October 13

November 10

December 8

Club Meetings

August 26

September 23

October 28

November 18

December 16 (tentative)

Online Auction

September 19-27

D6 Fall Conference

October 9-11

Joliet, IL & Virtual(tbd)

ZCM's COVID-19 Crisis Response



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Zonta Club's Covid-19 Crisis Response - Service and Advocacy initiative

\$2,000 Donated to 4 local agencies through our Covid 19 Response Initiative!

Thank you sister Zontians! Your generous giving helped 4 local agencies in need due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

In mid-July Zonta Foundation checks in the amount of \$500.00 were issued to each of the four agencies listed below, from the funds raised for the Covid-19 Response Initiative

- Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative (MHVI)/ WOVIN –Women Veterans Initiative:
 - Women veterans and their families
 - Providing housing and food
- Sojourner Family Peace Center:
 - Women and their families, as domestic violence is spiking in COVID19 crisis
 - Providing safety, food, housing
- Sixteenth St Health Center:
 - Patient and family-centered medical care and social services, serving largely below poverty level Spanish-speaking population in Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties
 - Open and accepting new patients, need protective equipment
- The Cathedral Center:
 - Primary focus is on women and children, working to end homelessness
 - Concerned about running out of supplies, basic needs and PPE

These agencies were selected by our Club's Service & Advocacy Covid-19 Response Team: Jackie Beaudry, Donna Conant, Pam Knackert, Diane Lindsley, Helen Ludwig, Donna Neal, Cheryl Nowak, Joni Reese, Barbara Wyatt-Sibley, Maureen Siwula. This team also agreed on how the funds are to be disbursed.

We raised a total of \$2170.00 for this initiative as of July 6, 2020. The team will shortly decide how the remaining funds will be disbursed.

The Covid-19 crisis is adversely affecting women and families, particularly regarding basic needs, not only health, but also food, shelter and safety with increases in domestic violence, unemployment, and evictions. We are supporting agencies whose resources are stretched due to this crisis and whose mission aligns with ours.

Again, thank you! You made a difference!

As we remain in a virtual meeting world, we ask that you consider continuing to donate your monthly meeting costs to the Milwaukee Club's Zonta Foundation account until we can be together again.



Foundation Thanks



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Good afternoon my sisters,
Please accept my apologies for missing the meeting and for my lack in communication. During Covid we have lost not only veterans but other pillars of the community, and family members to this awful virus.

We deeply appreciate the support of \$3,000 to support women veterans and their children. I look forward to sharing how we are utilizing these funds to provide emergency food and rental assistance for those facing evictions due to recent job loss.

In the upcoming weeks we are expecting a flood of vets seeking support. Please keep the MHVI staff and ALL our Vets in your thoughts and prayers.

I hope all of you are safe and that your families are doing as well as can be expected during these times. I look forward to future meetings!

Take care,

Debbie Buchanan
Executive Director
Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative
P.O. Box 14575
West Allis, WI 53214
(414) 257-4111

www.mkehomelessvets.org
<https://www.facebook.com/mkehomelessvets.org>

**"Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others."
-Booker T. Washington**

our next generation
WE SEE THE POSSIBILITIES

Thanker!

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President & CEO

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Schwartz SC
Susan Lubar Solving
Growing Minds, Inc.
Rebecca Simers
Community Volunteer
Adam Sklar
Apple, Inc.
Dennis Thomas
The Effective Communication
Coach, LLC

April 28, 2020

Elizabeth Stull
Treasurer
Zonta Foundation, Inc.
15125 W. Fenway Dr.
New Berlin, WI 53151

Dear Ms. Stull,

Each school day we welcome children to our neighborhood center to fulfill a simple wish: to come to a safe, secure and welcoming place where they can be kids, dream big and receive mentoring from trusted adults.

We are extremely grateful for your generous gift of **\$2,500.00*** to Our Next Generation. Thanks to dedicated partners like you, we are able to serve inner city children in 1st through 12th grade by:

- Providing much needed tutoring & mentoring
- Participating in a wholesome meal
- Giving them opportunities to explore Milwaukee, career possibilities, and various cultural customs & beliefs
- Building self-confidence, a strong sense of personal value and self-worth

We couldn't do this without your generosity! You are shaping a vibrant, positive community of up-and-coming leaders. I hope you will find an opportunity to visit our neighborhood center and that you'll share Our Next Generation with friends and family.

With gratitude,
La Toya Sykes
President/CEO

*For IRS guidelines, no goods or services were provided in exchange for this gift.

3421 W. Lisbon Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53208 | P: 414-344-2111 | F: 414-933-9710 | www.ongkids.org

PEARLS
FOR TEEN GIRLS INC.

May 7, 2020

Elizabeth Stull
Zonta Club of Milwaukee
3049 S. 39th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53215

Dear Elizabeth,

I am very grateful you are part of our PEARLS family, and thank you for your donation to help young girls in Milwaukee! I can't tell you how much I appreciate your generosity and support in improving the quality of life and strengthening our community one girl at a time—especially during times like these. We continue to provide our critical programming to girls virtually and your gift goes towards that important and vital work.

Last year PEARLS served a total of 1,263 girls in the Milwaukee area, and 100% of these girls chose not to get pregnant, graduated high school, and are on track for post-secondary education! Your support of \$2,500.00 will help us continue to provide support to girls in our community, and empower young women with the self-development tools for a better, brighter future!

Thank you for believing in our community, for helping girls in Milwaukee believe in themselves, and for supporting our impact. We are able to make a difference in Milwaukee, one girl at a time, with the kindness you show.

With Gratitude,
Gerry Houze
Gerry Houze
Executive Director

No goods or services were received in exchange for this donation and your contribution is entirely tax-deductible. PEARLS for Teen Girls is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. PEARLS tax id # is 39-1997970.

1805 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive • Milwaukee, WI 53212
Phone: 414-265-7555 • Fax: 414-265-0500 • www.pearlsfor.org

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August 9, 2020

Zonta Foundation Inc.
Attn: Elizabeth Stull
15125 W Fenway Dr
New Berlin, WI 53151-5814

Dear Elizabeth,

Some people make choices that change lives. Thank you for being one of them. Your donation made on behalf of the Zonta Foundation, Inc. helps transform the lives of nearly 12,000 women, kids, and families who have experienced domestic violence.

Your recent gift is creating a culture of hope and healing for survivors:


"To whom has given hope to me and my children, thank you for being the only place I've felt safe at some scary times in my life. Without you, I'd still be lost and possibly not found." – Olivia, survivor

"You've given me my life back. Thank you for believing in me." – Mia, survivor

"Thank you! I am a survivor and thriver. I am stronger, more independent, and more willing to help others. I realized I am not alone on this journey, and that I have many people to support and help me." – Jackie, survivor

Thank you for all you do for survivors in our community. We are grateful for your partnership and we look forward to sharing our successes with you.

Gratefully,


Carmen Pitre
President and Chief Executive Officer

P.S. Stay in touch to see the impact of your gift. Follow us on social media for inspiring survivor stories, agency news and more.

Facebook.com/SojournerMKE
Instagram.com/SojournerMKE

Linkedin.com/company/sojourner-family-peace-center
Twitter.com/SojournerMKE

Gift Amount: \$500.00

Gift Date: 8/4/2020

Designation: Sojourner Fund

Sojourner Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization that exists to support Sojourner Family Peace Center programming and services.
No goods or services have been or will be exchanged for this gift of support. Please use this letter for tax purposes.



Sojourner Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization that exists to support Sojourner Family Peace Center programming and services.

619 W. Walnut Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212 414-276-1911



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Peter Peterson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Angela Mancuso

April 2020

Elizabeth Stull
Treasurer
Zonta Foundation, Inc.
3049 S. 39 Street
Milwaukee, WI 53215

Dear Elizabeth:

Thank you for the generous \$2,500 grant from the Zonta Foundation, Inc. in support of our Employment & Life Skills Program. During this unprecedented time, your support of The Women's Center and those we serve is especially appreciated.

Our programs and services continue to be available during Wisconsin's "Safer at Home" order to survivors of all ages and all genders through tele-advocacy, emergency shelter, and our 24-Hour Hotline. We remain committed to supporting those in crisis that turn to us for safety and shelter, staying true to our mission, always.

As Waukesha County's only agency of its kind providing this type of programming, community partners who share in our mission are a crucial part of making the work we do possible.

We have marked our calendars for your Fashion Show Fundraiser on Saturday, September 26, and look forward to seeing you there. On behalf of the survivors we've served and those still yet to walk through our doors, thank you for the important role you've played in creating more futures free from violence.

Peacefully, *with*
life special thanks
Angela Mancuso
Executive Director

No goods or services were received in exchange for this grant. Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

A life-changing place since 1977.

505 North East Avenue | Waukesha, WI 53186 | Phone 262.547.4600 | 24-Hour Hotline 262.542.3828 | www.twcwaukesha.org
All genders welcome here.

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April 22, 2020

Laureen Ward
Corresponding Secretary
Zonta Foundation
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Laureen,

On behalf of the entire Alverno community, I would like to thank the Zonta Foundation for its support of the Girls' Academy of Science and Mathematics with its recent \$3,000 payment.

The Zonta Foundation's continued support and recognition of the Girls' Academy as a successful program is especially appreciated during this unusual time of Covid19. As you know, we are continuing to offer our program in an online format in order to keep the girls engaged and learning and on track to enroll in College.

Your help reaching and empowering disadvantaged young women with STEM knowledge and skills and preparing them for college attainment is perhaps even more critical now.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the girls around us. We're honored to include you in our community of supporters.

For Alverno,

Andrea Petrie
Vice President for Advancement

cc Pam Knackert

Under current Internal Revenue Service guidelines, the full value of this contribution may be deductible. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this gift.

3400 South 43rd Street P.O. Box 343922 Milwaukee WI 53234-3922 P 414-382-6090 F 414-382-6354
alverno.edu



April 13, 2020

Zonta Foundation Inc.
Attn: Elizabeth Stull
15125 W Fenway Dr
New Berlin, WI 53151-5814

Dear Elizabeth,

Some people make choices that change lives. Thank you for being one of them. Your donation made on behalf of the Zonta Foundation, Inc. helps transform the lives of nearly 12,000 women, kids, and families who have experienced domestic violence.

Your recent gift is creating a culture of hope and healing for survivors:

"To whom has given hope to me and my children, thank you for being the only place I've felt safe at some scary times in my life. Without you, I'd still be lost and possibly not found." – Olivia, survivor

"You've given me my life back. Thank you for believing in me." – Mia, survivor

"Thank you! I am a survivor and thrive. I am stronger, more independent, and more willing to help others. I realized I am not alone on this journey, and that I have many people to support and help me." – Jackie, survivor

Thank you for all you do for survivors in our community. We are grateful for your partnership and we look forward to sharing our successes with you.

Gratefully,

Carmen Pitre
President and Chief Executive Officer

P.S. - We would love to stay connected so you can directly see how your gift provides strength and comfort to survivors. Request a tour through our website at www.familypeacecenter.org and visit our social media channels.

Gift Amount: \$3,000.00

Gift Date: 4/10/2020

Designation: Hope and Healing

Sojourner Foundation is a 501(c) 3 organization that exists to support Sojourner Family Peace Center programming and services. No goods or services have been or will be exchanged for this gift of support. Please use this letter for tax purposes.

Thank you to the Members of Zonta for all you do to make the world better for women & girls. All.

CDBG

Sojourner Foundation is a 501(c) 3 organization that exists to support Sojourner Family Peace Center programming and services. 619 W. Walnut Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212 414-276-1911

Did you know???

You can now donate to the Milwaukee Club's Foundation at the top of the www.zontamilwaukee.org website!





Neu-Life Back-to-School Service Project

Thank you to all those who participated in our Neu-Life back-to-school service project.

Zonta Club of Milwaukee supplied 100 backpacks with supplies for 80 elementary school students and 20 middle school students. We spent roughly \$15 per full backpack. This included approximately \$800 in in-kind and monetary donations, and the rest is coming from the Foundation coffers of which no specific service money was available. You can still make a donation to Zonta Foundation, Inc. to help cover the costs. Neu-Life staff chose to stuff them all this year and they were given to the students on Friday, July 31st at multiple sites. Neu-Life chose not to do the career fair this year.



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2020 Fashion Show Fundraiser



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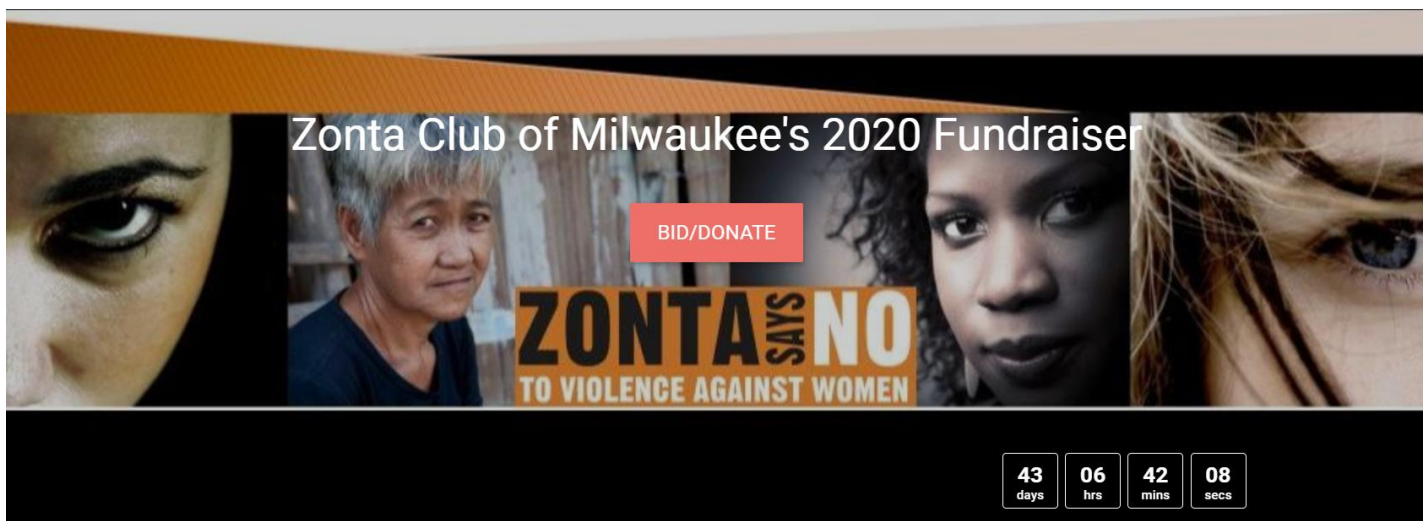
2020 Online Auction Fundraiser – Coming September 19th!

Since we could not safely hold our 2020 Zonta Fashion Show fundraiser, we were not able to raise approximately \$25,000 for nonprofit services serving women and girls. Our alternative is **an online auction to be held September 19th through September 27th** along with seeking monetary donations.

The money raised will be distributed in 2021 to local non-profit agencies that empower women and girls in the Milwaukee metro area. This will be the only effort to raise funds for next year's grants. These organizations provide education, basic needs such as food, housing and transportation, domestic violence support, and/or job preparation. Over the years we have supported over 75 local nonprofit agencies as well as Zonta International Service Projects and Scholarships.

Here's our opportunity to support next year's grants to local nonprofits serving women and girls. Please also promote this event to your friends, relatives and co-workers. The items are interesting and participation is fun & easy. Even though we will be emailing the information to those on our guest list that we have emails for there are many that you personally invite so spread the word. **Success depends on each of us.** The link to the auction is <https://go.rallyup.com/2020zontafundraiser> or go to www.zontamilwaukee.org to find the link, but it will not be available for bids/donations until Sept. 19th. Monetary donations to Zonta Foundation, Inc. can be made at bottom of auction page, through a donation page <https://go.rallyup.com/zontadonation> (already available and linked to a **Donate Now** button on our website), our Facebook page or by writing a check payable to Zonta Foundation, Inc. and mailed to Elizabeth Stull Foundation Treasurer at 3049 S. 39th Street Milwaukee, WI 53215.

Milwaukee Zonta members have proven to be very generous. Here is one more opportunityif you are able, give someone a reason to smile.





'Women Rise for All' to shape leadership in pandemic response and recovery

Source: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/07/1068321>

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has generated an unprecedented global health, humanitarian and development crisis, it has also revealed the power of women's leadership, according to the UN Deputy Secretary-General.

"Over the past months, people around the world have come to see what many of us already knew: women's leadership makes a profound difference", Amina Mohammed said in July. The evidence has shown — in country after country — how governments led by women are more effective in flattening the curve and positioning for economic recovery. "This crisis has brought to light an undeniable truth: that the leadership of women is essential for us to effectively recreate the world...that is more human-centered, that is more equal; a world in which such social justice is the goal", she said in her keynote address.

Graça Machel, the former Mozambican minister, believes it was no accident that countries with women Heads of State—such as New Zealand, Germany, Finland and Taiwan—have been comparatively successful in beating back the deadly new coronavirus. "This crisis has brought to light an undeniable truth: that the leadership of women is essential for us to effectively recreate the world...that is more human-centered, that is more equal; a world in which such social justice is the goal", she said in her keynote address.

Shared for the newsletter by Diane Lindsley

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL: AUGUST 26, 2020

On August 26, 2020, the National Women's History Museum will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment with **a full day of programming** and the launch of its new non-partisan voter engagement initiative, *Women Vote, Women Win*.

Programming will include two virtual "Determined to Rise": Women's Historical Activism for Equal Rights panel discussion events, both addressing different topics related to the woman suffrage campaign. In addition, there will be screenings of three short films: *Finding Justice*, a film about the 2000-lb. bronze replica of the Liberty Bell that suffragists used as a call to action in their fight for the vote; and two short films about suffragist and women's rights advocate Inez Milholland. The day concludes with *Women Take the Stage* (9 p.m. ET), a free, livestreamed multi-ethnic concert and rally to increase votes by and for women before the November election featuring **Gloria Steinem, Dolores Huerta, Vanessa Williams, Idina Menzel, Lily Tomlin, Billie Jean King, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Indigo Girls**, and more!

<https://www.womenshistory.org/august-26> It is funded by donations via Eventbrite.

Membership



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Let's Meet Maureen Siwula!

After attending many Zonta Fashion Shows and seeing all the great work Zonta does I joined the Club “enthusiastically” in February of 2019. Zonta’s mission is aligned with my personal commitment to Social Justice and Human Rights. Zonta’s focus on racial equity, eradicating sex trafficking and domestic violence are issues and human concerns that I am passionate about working on for systemic improvements.

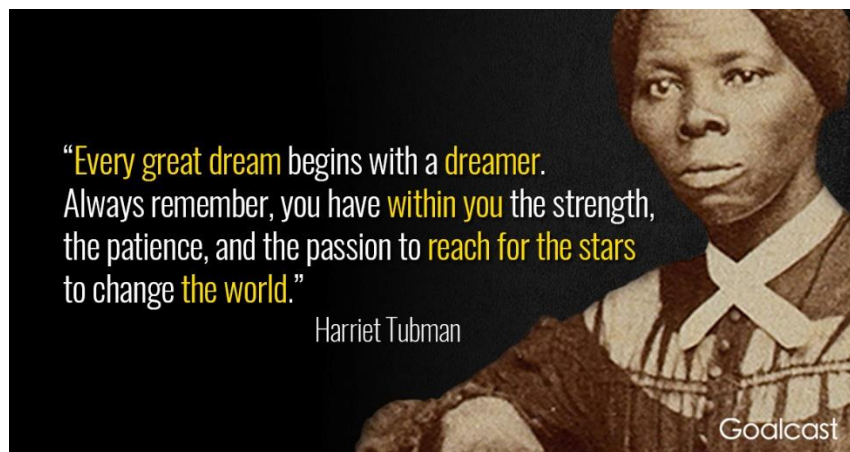
My husband John and I live in New Berlin Wisconsin and have three son’s Patrick, Thomas, and James. We have been married for 38 years and enjoy time with family and friends at our Lake Home in Wild Rose WI. John and I are both from Illinois and met at Bradley University in Peoria IL. We have lived in WI for the last 31 years.



I am a volunteer at New Berlin Food Pantry where I work with Zonta member Pam Knackert. I work professionally for MRA as a Human Resources Advisor. This is where Zonta members Cheryl Lucas-Deberry and Janet Kloser work with me as colleagues. These women have been instrumental in me joining the club. My Human Resources Career of over 35 years has given me great experiences working to ensure employees and employers have positive and rewarding working environments.

I am inspired by the Zonta History and the Women who have come before me to make such a positive impact in this world! I have been involved in advocacy and activism since my teen age years.

I look forward to my involvement in Zonta and thank all for the warm welcome!





Let's Meet Debbie Becwar!

Debbie joined Zonta in June of 2019. She has been involved with volunteer organizations throughout her life that give back to the community, women, military and children and she was excited to hear of the work and mission of Zonta.



Debbie is originally from Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin and after she graduated from High School in 1975 she enlisted in the U.S. Army for three years. Her military service was a leap of faith into a life changing adventure, she served in Germany. After her military service, she completed her bachelors degree from UW - LaCrosse. Debbie lived in the Chicago, Illinois area and later Denver, Colorado working as a travel agent for several years, before returning back to Wisconsin. She also reenlisted in the Army National Guard while in Colorado.

She moved to careers in federal government service, the USDA Forest Service and then the Department of Labor. Along with continuing her military service she moved to the Wisconsin Air National Guard. She has since retired from both the government and the military (26 years of service) and enjoys volunteering and travel. She is from a big family of eight and especially enjoys spending time with her nieces and nephews and going to Prairie du Chien to visit her mother.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Maggie Aboagye
Aug 24

Margaret Holzbog
Aug 18

Diane Lindsley
Aug 1

Cheryl Nowak
Aug 27

Karen Smith
Aug 11

Christine Todd
Aug 15

Zontian Sisterhood



Centennial Zonta Sisterhood Virtual Connection Held 2020 JULY 16

At the invitation of Andra Rupietta & Karen Smith, Presidents of the Zonta Clubs of Heidelberg & Milwaukee, 26 Zontians from the Milwaukee Club, Heidelberg Club, and many dear friends who have celebrated with us over time joined in a ZOOM connection. This continued the tradition over the last 15 years of getting together at Zonta International's biennial International Convention.

After meeting at the 2004 Zonta International Convention in New York City, members of both clubs remained in communication and in 2005 officially became "Sister Clubs". This started our convention "Sisterhood" gathering and celebration at each convention since then, growing to about 100 Zontians!

It was so wonderful to see and hear from so many of our Zonta sisters last month....such big smiles and happy stories. Glad all are well and dealing with the Corona/Covid pandemic, as well as helping others affected more than us.

Special Thanks to . . .

- Karen Smith & Sigrid Duden for leading our 2020 gathering and connecting.
- Andra Rupietta & Karen Smith, Presidents of the Zonta Clubs of Heidelberg & Milwaukee for their excitement to keep this friendship growing.



Zonta Sisterhood Ceremony 2005 in Heidelberg Germany.
Ceremony led by Sigrid Duden - Zonta Club of Heidelberg & Donna Conant, Zonta Club of Milwaukee,
Club Past Presidents, 2004-2006.

Zontian Sisterhood



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

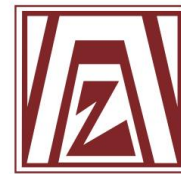
Zonta Club of Heidelberg / Zonta Club of Milwaukee Sisterhood Gatherings

1. 2005 Heidelberg Sisterhood Celebration & Southern Germany tour
2. 2006 Melbourne – Dinner
3. 2006 Wisconsin tour
4. 2008 Rotterdam – Dinner & pre-convention tour
5. 2010 San Antonio, TX – Dinner & pre-convention tour from Chicago to San Antonio
6. 2012 Torino, Italy – Dinner
7. 2014 Orlando, FL – Dinner
8. 2016 Nice, France – Dinner
9. 2018 Yokohama, Japan – Dinner
10. 2020 Virtual Zoom Gathering

Here are a few 2020 screenshots to bring a few more smiles, courtesy of Fernanda and Karen S.



Zontian Sisterhood



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MILWAUKEE
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Opportunities for YOU!

Historically, Zonta Club members served on various city Boards. Milwaukee's Equal Rights Commission is looking to fill three vacancies. These are volunteer positions open to any adult resident of the City of Milwaukee. We welcome all voices and are particularly interested in hearing from city business owners, communications professionals, people with expertise in housing and employment markets, or anyone with a passion for increasing equity in the city.



The City of Milwaukee Equal Rights Commission is seeking applications for the position of Commissioner. Add your voice to the equal rights conversation!

The Equal Rights Commission is a group of diverse and invested city residents who advocate and celebrate Milwaukee's diversity – while also working to eliminate all forms of bias and discrimination. Known as Commissioners, these members are official city officers appointed by the Mayor and charged with advancing the efforts and mission of the City and the Commission.

This vital work must happen in every neighborhood and reach to all of Milwaukee's diverse communities, ages, and backgrounds. In order to move Milwaukee forward, together we must continue to fight for our vision as a welcoming, affirming, and inclusive city for all.

Join Milwaukee's Movement for Change.

The ERC is seeking applicants for the position of Commissioner. Currently, three seats on the commission are vacant. This is a volunteer position open to any adult resident of the City of Milwaukee. We welcome all voices and are particularly interested in hearing from city business owners, communications professionals, people with expertise in housing and employment markets, or anyone with a passion for increasing equity in the city.

The Equal Rights Commission's priority activities for 2020 and 2021 include:

- Fairly investigate discrimination complaints
- Provide resources and information to help Milwaukeeans combat discrimination together
- Collaborate with city departments to promote the goals of the Equal Rights Commission

Commissioners are expected to attend bi-monthly commission meetings, participate in at least one monthly board committee meeting, and to represent the interests of the City of Milwaukee and its residents, workers, and visitors in matters pertaining to equal rights.

We need your voice!

If you would like to be considered for appointment to the ERC, please apply using this link: [ERC Applications & Nominations](#). Email ERC@Milwaukee.gov for information or with questions.

General information about the City of Milwaukee Equal Rights Commission is available at milwaukee.gov/ERC.





Advocacy Activity Highlights

S. Res. 648---Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)/Considered and agreed to (7/02/20)---A resolution designating August 2020 as “National Women's Suffrage Month.” The Senate is out of session until July 20th so no more details are available at this time.

About the WI Dept. of Justice establishing a task force to Violence Against Native American Women and Girls (excerpt). Taken from **Sarah Volpenhein**, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, July 3, 2020

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2020/07/03/wisconsin-creates-missing-and-murdered-indigenous-women-task-force/5371614002/>

“The Wisconsin Department of Justice has created a task force to combat violence against Indigenous women and girls, Attorney General Josh Kaul announced this week.

The Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Task Force will examine the factors contributing to the higher rates of violence against Indigenous women than women of other races, according to a press release issued by the Department of Justice.

A [2008 report to the U.S. Department of Justice](https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/223691.pdf) (<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/223691.pdf>) found that Native women experience higher homicide rates than white women and higher rates of sexual violence than women of other races.

The task force will also focus on understanding the roles federal, state and tribal jurisdictions play and how to improve and implement robust data collection and reporting methods, according to the release. The Department of Justice release does not say who will be on the task force, though Welch said “the agency has been working with tribes in Wisconsin to lay out a plan for the task force and ensure it is Indigenous-led.”

milwaukee journal sentinel

WISCONSIN

Feds direct \$1 million to Wisconsin to help human trafficking victims

Bruce Vielmetti Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Published 10:09 a.m. CT Aug. 5, 2020 | Updated 1:04 p.m. CT Aug. 5, 2020

Federal prosecutors announced \$1 million in grants to a pair of Wisconsin agencies to provide housing and other services to victims of human trafficking.

Pathfinders Milwaukee, Inc. and Newcap, Inc., which serves ten counties in northeastern Wisconsin, will each get about \$500,000 over three years from the U.S. Department of Justice. Nationwide, the DOJ is providing more than \$35 million to 73 organizations for trafficking victim support.

U.S. Attorney Matthew Krueger, whose office announced the local grants, said the money is much-needed. “From our experience, we know that providing safe, stable housing is essential to helping victims break away from their trafficker.”



The money will help pay for up to two years of rent, deposits, utilities and other costs of relocation for victims who typically live at locations controlled by their pimps while being trafficked for commercial sex or exploited for other kinds of labor.

Grant funds will also support Pathfinders' and Newcap's efforts to help victims get counseling, training, employment and permanent housing.

Renee Kirnberger, senior vice-president of development and communications with Pathfinders, said lack of a steady home is one of the factors that make victims vulnerable to sex traffickers, and that the DOJ grant will allow Pathfinders to marry its existing housing and anti-violence efforts among young people.

"This is such an incredible opportunity," she said. "We can't say how incredibly grateful we are."

Coronavirus has hit Milwaukee's nonprofits hard as money and resources dry up. Here's how they are fighting back.

Talis Shelbourne

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Updated 11:34 am CT Apr. 6, 2020

Cathedral Center, meantime, has funding concerns of its own, said Executive Director Donna Rongholt-Migan. The homeless shelter, which serves dozens of women and families with children, had originally budgeted for the crisis to last four weeks. Rongholt-Migan said the center could probably make it another four weeks, but after that, she'll have to start making hard decisions.

"I'm just spending this money," she said. "If it went into a third month or beyond, I'd have to consider reducing services, letting some staff go, borrowing money and all those extremes."

Rongholt-Migan said the center has \$25,000 in unplanned expenses and \$15,000 in lost income because she had to cancel a fundraiser. Even if she is able to hold the center's main fundraiser on July 29, she knows it is unlikely donors — who are hurting financially themselves — will be able to give as much.

"This isn't going to just end for us when shelter at home is done. It's going to have financial and programmatic ramifications for us ... 12 months from now."

Girl Scouts & Civic Engagement

"Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) is working to equip the next generation of women with the tools they need to become strong leaders and effective decision makers: They recently released 24 new badges designed to prepare girls to make a difference in their community. The new badges focus on entrepreneurship, STEM career exploration, automotive engineering and civics, and are tied to age-appropriate activities for girls in grades K-12, with the goal of helping them acquire skills they may be unable to or discouraged from learning at school or at home. For too long, women have been underrepresented in politics. These new badges demonstrate GSUSA's commitment to supporting the next generation of women leaders and provide a path for girls to reach their goals and make a difference."

<https://msmagazine.com/2020/08/05/new-girl-scouts-badges-emphasize-importance-of-civic-engagement/>



2020 Zonta Club of Milwaukee Scholarship Recipients

2020



YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AWARD

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

Young Woman in Public Affairs (\$1000) - Elizabeth (Lisa) Wong

Lisa is a graduating senior at University School of Milwaukee. Elizabeth plans to pursue a degree in biomedical engineering, which “fuses both my love of medicine and scientific innovation, but also allows me to fulfill my greatest personal goal: serving others. As a biomedical engineer, in order to help save lives, I will work to develop creative solutions to global health issues and help improve the way in which we diagnose and treat patients. In doing so, I endeavor to address global health inequities and develop and improve not only healthcare products, but society as a whole.”

Lisa’s impressive resume includes serving as president of the forensics team, co-president of the Spanish National Honor Society, co-editor-in-chief of the school’s Phoenix Literary Magazine, and a member of student council. In her roles as a student leader in the Global Scholars Program and vice president, and a dance teacher, at the Milwaukee Chinese Community Center, she celebrates global diversity and highlights cultural richness. She served four years as a student researcher at the Department of Pediatrics at the Medical College of Wisconsin. As president of Operation Dream, a non-profit providing academic tutoring and social support to underserved youth, she has worked to combat education inequality in Milwaukee.

In addition to being the Zonta Club of Milwaukee’s Young Woman in Public Affairs Scholarship recipient, Lisa was recently awarded the District 6 Scholarship (\$1500) as well. Congratulations Lisa!

2020



Jane M. Klausman

WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP

Expanding opportunities
for women in business

Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship (\$1000) - Julia Markun

Julia earned her Bachelor’s Degree in Public Relations and Spanish from Marquette University, graduating Magna Cum Lauda in 2016. Jane has been an active member of the Distinguished Young Women of



Wisconsin and Illinois, a program that promotes and rewards scholarship, leadership and talent in young women. Julia served as a mentor, program coordinator, and state committee member.

Julia is currently employed at Kohl's Corporate as a Senior Public Relations Coordinator. As stated by a Manager at Kohl's, "Ms. Markun has become one of the most talented, trusted, well-respected, and determined professionals on our team. Every day she displays incredible talent in media relations expertise, public relations strategy and execution, critical-thinking, agility, and collaboration with internal and external partners."

Julia is also enrolled in Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management MBA Program. With the support of Zonta, Julia stated she will be able to "more easily continue my studies in Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management M.B.A. program and pursue a career shift to business strategy and, further down the road, executive leadership."

Zonta Club of Milwaukee STEM Scholarship (\$1000) - Valerie Lynch

Valerie is a student entering her third year at Michigan Technological University (MTU), pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering. Valerie's professional goal is to work in a managerial position as a design engineer for an entertainment company such as TAIT or Disney. Therefore, she is pursuing a mechanical engineering major and a technical theatre minor, and plans to obtain an MBA after graduation. Valerie chose to study mechanical engineering "because of my passion for design work and problem solving." She was on her high school's Supermileage Vehicle Team where her team designed, built, and competed for efficiency with small gas and electric cars. Valerie's all-girls team won first place in the state with their electric car two years in a row.

In addition to excelling at her studies at Michigan Technological University, Valerie has been an active participant in numerous organizations at MTU such as President of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Secretary and Founding Member of the Theme Park Engineering Group at MTU, a General Member of the Society of Women Engineers, and a General Member of Pi Tau Sigma at MTU, a Mechanical Engineering Honor Society.

Valerie's direct supervisor for an internship she completed at the John Deere Product Engineering Center indicated "she was provided a complex drivetrain engineering project to take from idea to concept. She exceeded my expectations in execution of this project....I was impressed with her ability to learn quickly and her persistence and drive to get things done."

Congratulations