



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

# NEWSLETTER

October 2021

Area 2 • District 6

**2021–2022**

## Zonta Club of Milwaukee

### Officers

Karen Smith, President  
Joann Comodore, President Elect  
Carol Mangold, Vice President  
Maria Bellmann, Treasurer  
Helen Ludwig, Secretary

### Club Board

Crystal Carter  
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Laureen Ward

### Foundation Board Officers

Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry, President  
Jacqueline Beaudry, Vice President  
Donna Neal, Recording Secretary  
Janet Kloser, Corresponding Secretary  
Elizabeth Stull, Treasurer

### Foundation Board

Kim Brinsko  
Margaret Holzbog  
Debra Koller  
Barbara Wyatt Sibley

Send your newsletter submissions  
to Joni Reese @  
[tnjreese@wi.rr.com](mailto:tnjreese@wi.rr.com)

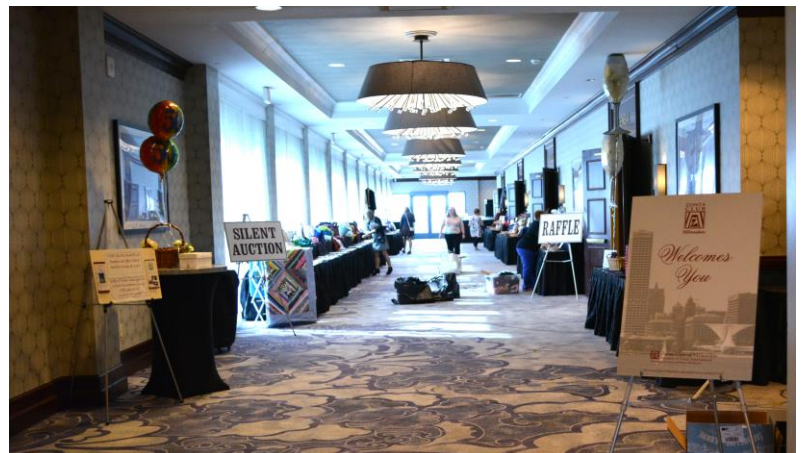
Visit us online at  
[www.zontamilwaukee.org](http://www.zontamilwaukee.org)

## Zonta Meeting

**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**  
**Wednesday, October 27th at 6:00pm**

*Speaker and Topic: TBD*

*Our Fashion Show Fundraiser is Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>!*



**Silent Walk on October 4<sup>th</sup>:**



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

# President's Message



**ZONTA**  
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Hello Sister Zontians,

As I write this letter, it is a time of excitement just coming off of two incredible Zonta events.

First, the silent walk. If you were able to attend, I think you will agree that Donna Neal and the Advocacy committee did an amazing job pulling it all together. We had around 75 walkers, excellent speakers, a great message with coverage by 4 television stations and the Journal Sentinel. If you didn't see the coverage, checkout our Zonta Club of Milwaukee Facebook page where our admin, Joni, has put several links to the media coverage as well as posted pictures she took at the event. Many thanks to all who came to share the message on domestic violence.

In addition, District 6 Fall conference completed on October 10. It sure was nice to have an in-person event with the other clubs in the district. Conference attendance was 90, which was a pretty good turnout. With our club as the host club for the 2022 conference I am hoping that all members from our club are able to attend to help work the event and to connect with other Zontians in Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana. I know for me personally, fall conference is where I learned the big picture of Zonta, and it made much more sense!

With that, I look forward to seeing you at the Fall Fashion Show on the 23rd. At the time of this writing, we are at 167 attendees, and we anticipate more will still come in. Thank you to those who have purchased a table, invited guests, or made cash donations. This is the primary funding method of our Club's foundation, which provides the local agency monetary awards and also funds international projects and scholarships.

Have a great fall!

Karen  
*Zonta Club of Milwaukee President*



## **Upcoming Club Dates:**

**October Club Meeting:** Oct 27th

**November Club Meeting:** Nov 17<sup>th</sup>

## **Fashion Show:**

**October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

# Fashion Show Fundraiser



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## Fashion Show Fundraiser October 23, 2021

Looking forward to our Fashion Show on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Marriott Milwaukee West.

Please remember we have a **10 am start time this year**, so remind your guests. Don't want them to miss out on the raffles, etc. (we must be out of the Marriott by 2 pm)

**New this year - Gift Card pull** - We will be having a new "Gift Card" pull this year besides the wine pull. For \$20 you can pick an envelope by number off a board which will have a gift card inside with a value of \$20 or more. Some of them may be a restaurant, a store or even a few Amazon gift cards. You won't know until you open the envelope.

**Wine pull** – We'll be selling bottles of wine for \$20 in the nice SCOUT bags.

**50/50 Raffle** for \$10 a ticket to be in a drawing for 50% of what we take in money for the 50/50 raffle.

**Raffles** – we will be selling raffle tickets for \$20 for 10. Some nice items to be had.

**Silent Auction** – we will be having several great silent auction items. Dinners out, custom dinner for 4, jewelry, mink coat, Solo Stove Bonfire, cabin stay, holiday themed baskets, hotel stays and Vera Bradley items just to name some. Bring your credit card.

**Volunteers** – hopefully you signed up to help that day, since we will need all hands-on deck. If not, let Pam know and hopefully if you did sign up you remember what you did sign up for. Could maybe still

**Thank You!**  
On behalf of the members of the Zonta Club of Milwaukee, we thank you for your support.  
Your participation in this event makes it possible for the Zonta Club of Milwaukee to continue its mission to improve the lives of women and girls, locally and internationally.

**Location:**  
Marriott Milwaukee West

**Directions:**  
I-94 to Exit 295. Go north on County Road F, left onto Ridgeview Parkway, and then left onto Corporate Court.

**Parking:**  
Complimentary parking in front & back lots

**Local agencies' programs helped by your support in 2020:**  
• Alverno College's Girls' Academy of Science and Mathematics  
• Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative (or MHVI) Women Veterans Initiative (or WOVNI)  
• New Life Community Development's New STEPP Program  
• Our Next Generation's SEI / Rise Program  
• PEARLS for Teen Girls  
• Sojourner's Life Skills Program  
• The Women's Center

**WE SHALL NOT REST**  
until women's rights are recognized as human rights

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee Presents  
**Empowering Women & Girls**

**Here and Around the World**

Fashion Show Fundraiser • Saturday, October 23, 2021

use help selling raffle tickets.

And if you are not attending and haven't sent in a donation, please do so to either Helen or Elizabeth, checks made out to Zonta Foundation, Inc.

**Thanks for all the support.**

Please join us  
For a Brunch, networking, fashions and fun as we celebrate our Zonta Club's 95 years of service, advocacy, and community involvement.

**Local agencies' programs helped by your support in 2020:**  
• Alverno College's Girls' Academy of Science and Mathematics  
• Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative (or MHVI) Women Veterans Initiative (or WOVNI)  
• New Life Community Development's New STEPP Program  
• Our Next Generation's SEI / Rise Program  
• PEARLS for Teen Girls  
• Sojourner's Life Skills Program  
• The Women's Center

**Fashion's by Chico's Brookfield**  
Located at Harvard Square  
18000 W. Bluemound Road - Suite 5 - Brookfield, WI 53045

**Here and Around the World**  
Saturday, October 23, 2021  
at the Marriott Milwaukee West  
W231 N1600 Corporate Court • Pewaukee, Wisconsin

**Please Join Us**  
Mix & Mingle: 10:00 am  
Bids & Raffles: 10:00 am  
Brunch: 11:00 am  
Fashions by Chico's: Noon

**Brunch Menu**  
**Spinach Quiche Lorraine**  
A creamy French quiche with spinach, cheese and ham.  
Topped with a Gruyere cheese Mornay sauce, and prepared with a blueberry-maple chicken breakfast sausage.

**OR**  
**Vegan Option that can also be Gluten Free**  
Portobello mushrooms and braised leeks baked in pastry turnover with sauce au gratin, grilled asparagus, turned and sauteed potatoes.

**Both choices include** cup of fresh cut fruit, glass of orange juice, fresh baked rolls, butter, coffee and tea service, and a parfait dessert.

**Reservations Required**  
To join our celebration, return your response card or reserve online at <https://2021-zonta-fashion-show.eventbrite.com>  
No later than October, 6, 2021

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Chico's has a combination of great style, one-of-a-kind details, and warm, personable service, featuring all sizes including petites.  
Walk into any Chico's boutique, and the associates will help you coordinate, accessorize, and build a wardrobe that's right for you.

For more information about Zonta, or this event, go to our website at [www.zontamilwaukee.org](http://www.zontamilwaukee.org) or to our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/ZontaClubMilwaukee/](https://www.facebook.com/ZontaClubMilwaukee/)

October 2021

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



**Our Sixth Annual Zonta Says No Silent Walk was held on Monday, October 4**, beginning and ending at City Hall. We estimate about 75 walkers were in attendance, thus exceeding our numbers from the past couple years. Once again, we got terrific press coverage – substantive segments on TMJ4 and CBS 58 afternoon and evening news, and coverage in the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel. Several of our walkers, organizers, and speakers were interviewed.



Following the walk, community leaders commented on the issue of domestic violence, especially in this time of COVID and heightened levels of violence and lethality. There were record numbers of homicides in Wisconsin and in Milwaukee in 2020, and the trend continues.

Shawn Mohammed, Associate Director of The Asha Project, spoke on behalf of End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin, the organization that publishes the annual Homicide Report. He was followed by an impressive group: Sargent Theresa Janick, Domestic Violence High Risk Team of the Sensitive Crimes Division, Milwaukee Police Department, District Attorney John Chisholm, Karin Tyler, Family Injury and Violence Prevention Manager, City of Milwaukee Office of Violence Prevention, and Carmen Pitre, President and CEO, Sojourner.

Next year we want to make this a big event. As Carmen Pitre said in her remarks, “this atrium should be filled”. Our plan is to start early next year with a focus on building connections with other organizations that are concerned about the issue and will march with us. We need some new blood on the Committee to get this done!

Thanks to the very hard-working committee that put together this event, and all who showed up and walked with us!

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Neal, Advocacy Chair





Helen Ludwig, left, and Karen Smith lead about 50 marchers down Water Street for the Zonta Club of Milwaukee annual silent march to bring attention to domestic violence. The group started at Milwaukee City Hall and did a one-mile walk through downtown. ANGELA PETERSON / MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

## Domestic violence victims remembered with silent walk

**Dozens died last year, according to group**

**Ashley Luthrum**  
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel  
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

The marchers walked silently for a mile through the blocks of downtown Milwaukee.

They held flags, each one carrying the story of someone whose life ended because of domestic violence.

They passed out cards to onlookers, explaining their mission of memorializing victims and their commitment to ending domestic abuse.

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee's sixth annual walk, "Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women," came at the start of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and less than two weeks after a report found Wisconsin experienced a record number of domestic violence-related homicides in 2020.

Fifty-eight people were killed in acts of domestic violence last year, according to the annual report from End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin.

In addition, eight perpetrators died by suicide and two others were killed by responding law enforcement, for a total of 68 people dying in domestic violence incidents, the report found.

Behind every number are a host of loved ones left to grieve — people like Carrie Scott-Haney. Her daughter, Audrey "TuTu" Scott, went missing in 2017 from a downtown bar and was murdered by her ex-boyfriend.

Scott-Haney came to Monday's walk to push for change. She has started a petition to create a "Purple Alert" system for adult women who go missing and have previously been victims of domestic violence.

"There's so many people that go missing and when their remains are found it's never determined if it's domestic abuse,

but their families know" that it was, she said.

Scott-Haney was among the speakers at City Hall, where the nearly 50 marchers gathered after the walk sponsored by Zonta, a women's service organization seeking to end gender-based violence and empower women.

Karin Tyler with the city's Office of Violence Prevention shared some of her personal experiences with domestic abuse.

"I am a survivor," she said, her voice echoing in the City Hall rotunda.

She had been strangled and threatened with a gun, and she focused on keeping her children safe, she said.

"It infuriates me when I hear people say 'Why did she stay?'" she said, describing how abusers can return again and again, and how women run into barriers when trying to leave.

And men have to be part of the effort to end domestic abuse, said Shawn Muhammad, director of The Asha Project, which serves African American women in Milwaukee.

"In order for us to eradicate intimate partner violence it will take all of us, and if the sisters could do it on their own, it would be eradicated already," he said.

Deaths from domestic violence are the tip of the iceberg, said Carmen Pitre, executive director of Sojourner Family Peace Center.

"What it sits on is thousands of other situations right here in Milwaukee, where people are living in terror, who are suffering and who are living in isolation," she said.

She called on those gathered to reflect on the stories they had carried. She shared how, at one point in the walk, a gust of wind tore her flag from her hands and sent it tumbling down the block.

She chased after it, thinking of the 60-year-old woman honored on it, a woman only a year older than her.

"She was lost once, she doesn't need to be lost again," Pitre said.

### How to get help

Milwaukee's 3rd Annual **Love Without Violence Conference** will be a three-day virtual event on Oct. 20-22. More details are available at [facebook.com/cvpmka](https://facebook.com/cvpmka).

The **Sojourner Family Peace Center** in Milwaukee operates a 24-hour confidential hotline at (414) 933-2722 and offers assistance with e-filing for restraining orders at (414) 278-5079. The **Milwaukee Women's Center** also offers a hotline at (414) 671-6140.

The **Asha Project**, which serves African-American women in Milwaukee, provides a crisis line from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at (414) 252-0075.

**Diverse & Resilient**, which serves the LGBTQ community, operates the "Room to Be Safe" resource line (414) 856-5428 and has online resources at [roomtobesafe.org](https://roomtobesafe.org).

The **Hmong American Women's Association**, which serves the Hmong and southeast Asian community, has advocates available at (414) 930-9352 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The **Wi Hmong Family Strengthening Helpline** is available after hours at (877) 740-4292.

The **UMOS Latina Resource Center in Milwaukee** offers bi-lingual, bi-cultural, domestic violence, sexual assault and anti-human trafficking supportive services and operates a 24-hour hotline at (414) 389-6510.

The **National Domestic Violence Hotline** can be reached at (800) 799-7233. For a list of domestic violence resources across the state, go to [endabusewi.org/get-help/](https://endabusewi.org/get-help/).





## Zonta Club UN Report – October 2021

### International Day of Peace – September 21, 2021

The International Day of Peace is observed each year as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace. This year, the United Nations' theme is "Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world."

The UN explains that as we heal from the COVID-19 pandemic, "we are inspired to think creatively and collectively about how to help everyone recover better, how to build resilience, and how to transform our world into one that is more equal, more just, equitable, inclusive, sustainable and healthier."

Zonta International is dedicated to achieving peace because we cannot realize gender equality and the Sustainable Development Goals without it," said Zonta International President, Sharon Langenbeck, "Today we call for an end to conflict and for the global community to work toward gender-inclusive solutions to the challenges facing our world today."

Around the world, communities are suffering the effects of complex conflicts, humanitarian crises and the COVID-19 pandemic – which is hitting underprivileged and marginalized groups the hardest.

Women are often most impacted by these crises, bearing the brunt of conflict and paying a higher price of the devastation – from increased gender discrimination and violence, to the waning gender-sensitive structures and programming," UN Women said in a recent statement.

Though evidence proves that women's participation in peace processes leads to lasting, positive peace, women are largely excluded from peacebuilding. The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the full extent of gender inequality in conflict-affected areas and made gender-inclusive approaches even more vital.



# Club Meeting Minutes



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Zonta Club of Milwaukee  
Meeting Minutes  
Minutes Wednesday September 22, 2021

Zoom Meeting was called to order by Karen Smith at 6:05.

**President's Message:**

- Blessing
- Announcement - Speaker scheduled was unable to join us.

**Treasurer's Report:** Maria Bellmann presented the Treasurer's Report:

- |                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Balance as of August 1, 2021: | \$14,338.38        |
| Expenses: Pam reimbursement     | 35.40              |
| Maureen reimbursement           | 44.86              |
|                                 | <u>\$14,258.12</u> |
| Income: 1 Member dues:          | <u>\$ 176.42</u>   |
| • Balance as of August 31, 2021 | <u>\$14,434.54</u> |
| • CD Balance:                   | \$ 5,330.20        |

**Program:** Leana Yang, Director of Outreach & Education for the Hmong American Women's Association, Inc. was unable to join us due to a scheduling error.

**Bylaw Changes:** Diane and Pam presented the proposed Bylaw changes that were previously emailed to the members.

A proposed change was made to remove paragraphs (ii) and (v) in the "Public Relations and Communications Committee" definition.

La Toya moved to approve the Bylaws as amended. Gloria Jones seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Elevator Speech:** District 6 is having an elevator speech contest. Karen will submit the following as our submission:

**Zonta is a worldwide organization dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls, locally and globally, through service and advocacy. We work towards ending gender-based violence, expanding access to education and we advocate for gender equity.**

**Committee Reports:**

**Service and Advocacy:**

- **Service:** No report was made.
- **Advocacy:**
  - Hearing is coming up tomorrow on the Safe Harbor bill. If it succeeds, we will be given more information on sending support post cards to our legislators.
  - Zonta Says No silent walk is scheduled for October 4.

# Club Meeting Minutes



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## Public Relations:

- Facebook and Website were updated for ZI International Women & Technology Scholarship.
- Facebook was updated with a reminder for the Fashion Show reservations.
- Donna Neal will be getting Joni information regarding the Zonta Says No silent walk to post on Facebook a couple of times next week.
- Joni requests that club members share these posts with friends.

## Fashion Show Fundraiser:

- Fashion show - October 23, 2021
- Reservations are due October 6, 2021
- Volunteer sign-up
- Silent Auction/raffle items and gift cards due to Pam or Laurie by October 10
- Pam will send out an email reminder to the email list by the end of the week.
- Membership will plan a virtual prospective member meeting in November to be announced at the Fashion Show
- Foundation has chosen 5 recipients. Descriptions will be submitted to Diane inclusion in the program.

**Scholarship:** No report was given.

**Membership:** See above.

## Program:

- Heidi Moore will be joining us again in January and February to lead the racial justice discussion virtually.
- Discussion was had regarding meeting in person. It was decided that we will continue to meet virtually through February, 2022; however, the December meeting may be an in-person, socially distant event.

**Foundation:** See above.

**UN:** No report was given.

## Fall Conference 2022:

- October 7-9
- Venue likely to be Embassy Suites in Brookfield. RFP is being negotiated.

## Announcements:

- Zonta Says No Walk – October 4, 2021
- Next Club Meeting – October 27, 2021
- Fall Conference October 8 – 10, 2021 in Oak Brook, IL
- Fall Fashion Show October 23, 2021
- 2022 Fall Conference October 7-9, 2022

Meeting adjourned at 8:01.







## **Foundation Board Decisions**

On Thursday, Sept 21 the Foundation Board met and made its final decisions on agencies and Zonta Foundation for Women giving for the biennium.

Between the PNC bank account and the cash in our Baird brokerage account, we have approximately \$16,500 on hand before tapping into any Baird YTD earnings (our total gains this year were approximately \$29,000 as of Aug 31).

We have a long-standing past practice of donating 1/3 of funds raised in our annual fund-raising event to ZIF projects and scholarships, in line with ZI expectations. The Club 2021 Annual Report reported \$12,500 in funds raised from the 2020 fund-raising auction. The Foundation Board voted to donate \$4150 from Baird cash reserves representing 1/3 of funds raised in the Fall of 2020, as the Board had not authorized that previously

We reviewed the five (5) agencies selected at our Sept 2 meeting and the programs and amounts requested, and we agreed to support the amounts requested. The agencies are, in alphabetical order:

- Alverno College Girls Academy of Science and Mathematics tuition support (\$3000)
- Exploit No More, Inc. Freedom House Long Term Care Facility (\$5000)
- Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative WOVIN (\$5000)
- Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition (MMWC) Our Peaceful Home Youth Leadership Program (\$3000)
- Sojourner Hope and Healing (\$5000)

The total donation to agencies, to be presented at the Fashion Show, will be \$21,000.

Therefore, it is the Foundation Board's decision to utilize the Baird cash reserves and liquidate an additional \$9,000 in Baird account investments to execute these decisions.

We also agreed to donate 1/3 of funds raised in the upcoming Fashion Show to the Zonta Foundation for Women, completing our biennium objective.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Neal

Recording Secretary



**We have a couple of upcoming service projects planned for the Club. Participation is voluntary.**

## **Neu Life Community Development Center Holiday Gifts**

We reached out to Neu Life regarding their holiday gift program for 2021 and they would be thrilled if we would like to help them reach their goals of providing presents to approximately 100 youth.

We will discuss with the Club members at our meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> and will be looking for member interest in donating gifts again this year, and commitment on the number that we believe the Club members can fulfill.



## **Cathedral Center Sheet and Blanket Donations**

The Club was contacted regarding the continued need for new sheet sets and blankets. We will also discuss this with members at the meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

When women and families sheltered at the Cathedral Center leave the shelter, they take a set of sheets and a blanket with them. **Twin XL is the size of sheets and blankets needed.**

***More to come on the logistics and timing for this service project.***

Shop the sales! Over the weekend, with some good sales, discounts, and coupons, I was able to pick up some great deals on blankets!!

