



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

Area 2 • District 6

**2022–2023**

## **Zonta Club of Milwaukee**

### **Officers**

Joann Comodore, President  
Carol Mangold, President Elect  
Crystal Carter, Vice President  
Laureen Ward, Treasurer  
Judith Lehman, Secretary

### **Club Board**

Diana Barnett  
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Ruth Robertson  
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### **Foundation Board Officers**

La Toya Sykes, President  
Donna Kahl-Wilkerson, Vice President  
Donna Neal, Treasurer  
Janet Kloser, Corresponding Secretary  
Margaret Holzbog, Recording Secretary

### **Foundation Board**

Jacqueline Beaudry  
Debra Koller  
Lynell Meeth  
Barbara Wyatt Sibley

Send your newsletter submissions  
[jonizonta@gmail.com](mailto:jonizonta@gmail.com)

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

# NEWSLETTER

December 2022

## Monthly Zonta Meeting

*The December social meeting was cancelled due to low attendance. Hope to see everyone in January!*



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

# President's Message



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Holiday Greetings Zontians,

As 2022 draws to an end, I reflect over the past several months, and continue to be amazed at the participation and productivity of our club. In November, we hosted our Annual Fashion Show Fundraiser. Although, the weather was wet and chilly, the event was well attended, energetic and embracing of Mount Mary College - fashion designers/models. A special thanks to Pam, Lynne, Fashion Show Committee, family, friends and all who contributed to making this event a wonderful success.

On November 16, the Membership Committee hosted a Prospective Member Event. Six potential prospective members attended the event. Thank you Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry and Pam Knackert.

Donna Neal, Racial Justice and Advocacy Committee continued to advocate "Zonta Says No to Violence" - 16 Days of Activism Campaign (November 25-December10), providing pertinent and essential information to victimized individuals.

December Service Project is purchasing Christmas gifts for Neu-Life youth! Thank you, Joni Reese & Donna Conant, and all members contributing to make this project a success. You make a difference!

We Move into 2023 with a focus on leadership and goal development, membership enhancement, and making a difference in the lives of women and girls.

Warm wishes to you and your families, this holiday season.

Joann Harris-Comodore

*Zonta Club of Milwaukee President*





## Membership Update

### Membership

Thanks again to all who attended our Prospective Member Event on November 16<sup>th</sup>. It was a great showing of our membership and thanks for your participation and to those who talked on the various topics. We had 6 prospects attend and several more that had shown some interest at the fashion show. I have followed up with some but if they were your guest, please follow up with them also. Please invite them to our January 25, 2023 meeting so they can see more of what our club is about. I would also be happy to talk or meet up with anyone you think might be interested in joining Zonta, just let me know.

Pam



*Volunteer Opportunity... Please say yes "ENTHUSIASTICALLY"!!*

**The Advocacy Committee needs a new chairwoman!**

**If advocacy is your passion, please consider stepping into this leadership role with a great group of women who share your passions!**







## Neu Life Community Development Center Holiday Gifts

*Thank you to all who purchased holiday gifts for the children of Neu Life Community Development Center and making the holidays brighter for these kids and families.*







## Advocacy

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Facebook posts were made by the Racial Justice Committee most days during the **Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women 16 Days of Activism, November 25, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, through December 10, Human Rights Day.**

Club member feedback about the posts is welcome. And desired. Please let us know what you think.

Our intent next year is to simplify the process substantially. We will use Facebook-ready material from ZI or simply re-post ZI or the USA Caucus posts.

## Foundation

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*Apologies that this announcement didn't go out prior to year-end.*

### **Year-End Donations Welcome!**

Please consider the ZI Zonta Foundation for Women and our local Zonta Foundation, Inc. in your end-of-year giving. Gifts to the ZI foundation can be made online or by mail. Gifts to our Club Foundation should be sent to:

Donna Neal, Treasurer  
Zonta Foundation, Inc.  
2624 E Bellevue PL  
Milwaukee, WI 53211

All donations are tax-deductible. There are no administrative costs in either case. Funds donated can be unrestricted or directed to specific funds/purposes. Any questions, contact Donna Neal.

## Committee Chairs “Ask” for Budgets

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Please establish and submit your anticipated budget needs for 2023 and 2024 to Laurie Ward by January 30<sup>th</sup>. Laurie sent out an email on this ask on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

*\*Please note that there are a couple of modules on the Core Competency training on budgets and finance that might be helpful.*



## **Zonta Club of Milwaukee Club Meeting November 16, 2022**

### **Prospective Member Event and Brief Meeting**

November 16, 2022 – 6 pm

Led by Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry, the following potential members were welcomed as guests to the evening event: Josephine, Linda, Mary, Carew, Barb, Cathie, and Janet were welcomed.

Information about the following areas of Zonta Club of Milwaukee were addressed by club members.

Zonta International	Jackie Beaudry
Headquarters	
Structure	
ZI Foundation	
ZI Service Projects and Scholarships	
Convention	

Area and District	Karen Smith
Structure	
District Conference	
Area Workshop	

Zonta Club of Milwaukee	Joni Reese
Board	
Meetings	
Committees	

Service	Donna Conant
Neu-Life	
Mini service with agencies	
Potential hands-on projects	

Advocacy	Carol Mangold
Zonta Says NO	
Racial Justice	
16 Days of Activism	

Zonta Club of Milwaukee Foundation	Donna Kahl-Wilkerson
Background	
Board	
Agencies	
Fundraiser	

Club Scholarships	Deb Koller
Time, Role, Responsibility	Joann Harris-Comodore



# Club Minutes



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## Club Meeting Topics from President, Joann

### Agenda:

- Extreme Weather Alert notification
- Dinner Reservations
- 2023 Club focus
- New Committee Report updates
- Announcements

Discussion of the procedure for severe weather procedure – the following response to Club Board request for member views – If the Milwaukee Public Schools are closed, the board will decide and email members as to the decision.

Members need to put in their information as to whether they are attending one week in advance. Members who have standing reservations and cannot attend a meeting must also put in information for cancelling a week in advance. This will help Zonta for not being charged for people not attend and assure there will be food for those who attend.

The Budget for the next year will be presented at the January meeting.

The December Zonta meeting will be held at Neu-life – a “crafty” evening, December 14, 2022, unless otherwise advised.

Meeting Adjourned: Joann Harris-Comodore

## Upcoming Dates:

### Club Meetings

January 25<sup>th</sup>  
February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
April 26<sup>th</sup>  
May 24<sup>th</sup>

*North American Intra-district Meeting: June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023*

*Zonta Club of Milwaukee Fashion Show Fundraiser: October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023*



# Announcements

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## Home Club Heroes:

As we approach our 100th Zonta Club anniversary, January 8, 2026, a few of us members were thinking about our history and the many heroes who preceded us and are also leading today. Suggested is highlighting these heroes and their stories in a series of articles in our Club newsletter. We will step up our planning in January 2023.

### Two Questions:

- 1) Are you interested in collaborating and helping with this effort?
- 2) Who do you suggest we highlight as one of our Home Club Heroes?

Please reply to Donna Conant at [conantd56@gmail.com](mailto:conantd56@gmail.com).

To get you thinking and spark your interest, check out our history on our club website: <http://zontamilwaukee.org/> and click on club history on the menu on the left side.

A few interesting facts about our club members/club heroes:

- Our first club president in 1926 was an Dr. Bessie Childs, an Osteopath
- Club member “firsts” and “notables” included
  - o First African American member of Zonta International
  - o First woman to serve as Assistant District Attorney in Wisconsin
  - o First woman to serve as Executive Director of Milwaukee’s Fire and Police Commission
  - o Co-founder & co-owner of the first black-owned savings and loan in the state
  - o Assistant Treasurer of the United States
  - o Chair of Zonta International’s Service Committee
  - o And there are many more!

We hope this has you thinking and excited about sharing more of our history and leadership!

Again. . . **Will you help? Who do you suggest we highlight?** Our team looks forward to hearing from you.

*Thank you!*

*Home Club Heroes collaborators: Jackie Beaudry, Donna Conant, Diane Lindsley, Marge Holzbog, Donna Kahl-Wilkerson*