



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

Area 2 • District 6

2022–2023

Zonta Club of Milwaukee

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Carol Mangold, President Elect
Crystal Carter, Vice President
Laureen Ward, Treasurer
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Donna Neal, Treasurer
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Margaret Holzbog, Recording Secretary

Foundation Board

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Debra Koller
Lynell Meeth
Barbara Wyatt Sibley

Send your newsletter submissions
jonizonta@gmail.com

Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org

NEWSLETTER

November 2022

Zonta Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, November 16th

5:30pm Social

6:00pm Prospective Member Program

7:00pm Brief Club Meeting



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You are invited to the

Zonta Club of Milwaukee
Prospective Member Reception
Wednesday, November 16, 2022
5:30 p.m. socializing
(light hors d'oeuvres will be served)
6:00 to 7:00 p.m. program

at
Saz's State Room
5539 W. State St.
Milwaukee

RSVP to Pam Knackert at pmknackert@gmail.com or
262-784-7613 or cell 262-309-3927 by Friday, Nov. 11th

Come learn more about Zonta International and the
Zonta Club of Milwaukee, an organization whose
mission is to empower women & girls locally and
worldwide through service & advocacy. We invite you
to be a part of an organization helping to build a better
world for women and girls. There will be an
opportunity for questions and answers.

For more information about Zonta & the Zonta Club of Milwaukee visit
www.zonta.org and www.zontamilwaukee.org

Location: Saz's State Room
5539 W. State Street

RSVPs are due now to Pam @ pmknackert@gmail.com OR
262-784-7613 or 262-309-3927 cell

*The cost will be \$35 per person, **which you will be asked to**
pay if you secure a reservation.*

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President's Message



ZONTA
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Hello Zontians,

Thanksgiving is upon us, and for me offers a period of pause. A time to stop and reflect, remembering and responding with gratitude for the wonderful people, and positives in life, that has been instrumental in shaping and developing the good in us.

I'm still marveling over the club's activity, unity, and productiveness over the past couple of months (Silent Walk, D6 Fall Conference & food projects). Each providing opportunity for Zontian sisters to collectively memorialize past year victims of domestic violence, strengthen relationships & connect with one another district wide. Additionally, in October, Ms. Martha Kannas, Executive Director of Exploit No More, updated us on the current state of Sex-trafficking in Wisconsin.

It is with this same enthusiasm & purpose that we continue to move forward, this month hosting our Annual Fashion show Fundraiser, Prospective Member Reception, and 16 Days of Activism.

The **Annual Fashion Show** remains our only Fund Raiser, 2/3 of funds raised goes to foundation and supports Scholarships and awards to like-minded, nonprofit organizations. 1/3 of funds raised are sent to Zonta International (ZI) to support its projects.

The Prospective Member Reception (11/16-3rd Wednesday of November due to holiday) reflects continuing effort to increase membership & retention, with a focus on diversity. A brief member meeting will follow reception.

Your participation and attendance is encouraged, these events offer great opportunities to meet and introduce Zonta to others.

Racial Justice and Advocacy committees - **16 Days of Activism** (November 25-December 10) supports Zonta says No to Violence Against Women. The committee continues to request that information on individuals or organizations providing services supporting men seeking to prevent/stop Violence to Women be sent to Donna Neal.

In December, we will provide Christmas gifts for the Neu-Life youth and come together for our holiday social gathering (3rd week in December).

This season is a great reminder of how dependent we are on one another, and when working together we can overcome obstacles and rise to challenges.

I am thankful to have a club as hard working & dedicated as you!

Joann Harris-Comodore

Zonta Club of Milwaukee President



November 2022

www.zontamilwaukee.org

Club Updates



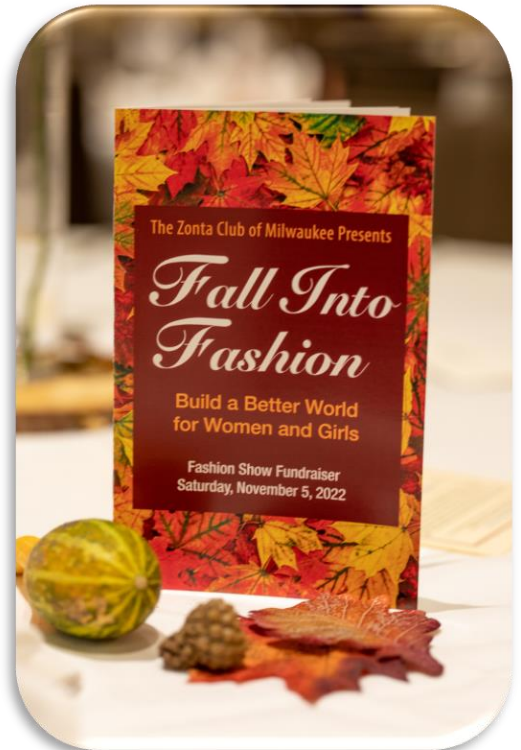
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2022 Fashion Show Updates

Thank you to all our members & your guests and family for the great support you provided to make this a successful event. We had over 250 attendees and although all the numbers aren't in, we should be close to \$25,000.

The Mount Mary designers with their fashions and models were well received. Everyone seemed to have a good time. The agencies we provided awards to were very appreciative.

The committee will be meeting November 28th for a wrap up and then start planning for next year. If you'd like to join the committee, please let Pam know.



Club Updates



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Neu Life Community Development Center Holiday Gifts

Thank you to all who committed to purchasing holiday gifts for the children of Neu Life Community Development Center at the October Club meeting. With the response of those who attended, we estimate that the Club could probably fulfill approximately 40 gifts. Thank you to all who chose to participate in making the holidays brighter for these kids and families. **We will send a link out shortly to the Target gift registry for Neu-Life.**



Also, Neu Life is continuing to build its library, so purchasing books for them is another option we encourage. Here is a link to the book list: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2LY7MP5B8EJR2?ref=wl_share. Jody will be updating the list this coming week.

Our super heros Donna and Joann from the Neu-Life Annual Art Show



Engaging Girls on Climate Change in Madagascar - UNICEF USA \$500,000



The Goal:

Support girls and a generation of children and adolescents by providing environmental education in Madagascar through child-friendly schools.

Specific Objectives:

- (1) Enable children to learn in safe and inclusive environments and empower them to take actions to build climate resilient communities.
- (2) Support Madagascar in meeting water, sanitary and hygiene (WASH) sustainable development goals (SDGs), while also contributing to improving the quality of children's education, especially girls, through environmental conservation and education initiatives.

Facts:

Disaster Risk Reduction and Education for Sustainable Development are major objectives of Madagascar's National Education Plan.

Deforestation has impacted approximately 94% of Madagascar's previously forested lands. Almost 40% of forest cover disappeared between the 1950s and 2000, including the reduction of almost 80% of Madagascar's "core forest."

41% of the Madagascar's population has access to basic water services; 17% to basic sanitation services and 23% to basic hygiene services.

81% of the schools lack safe water and 31% lack basic latrines.

Focus:

The target beneficiaries are more than 1,000 students (540) girls, 750 teachers and residents of school communities in Beloha and Ambovombe districts in the region of Androy, the drought prone region of the South

At least 750 teachers at 700 primary schools will receive training on climate and environmental sanitation and hygiene practices, clean school environment and development of disaster risk plans to enable learning to continue during natural disasters.

Five pilot schools will promote environmental education and reinforce hygiene and sanitation behaviors that promote children's access to education through gardens managed by child clubs under the supervision of schoolteachers.

Membership



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Prospective Member Event Wed. November 16th

Your membership committee is planning a **Prospective Member Event** in place of our regular meeting on Wednesday, November 16th at Saz's (see invite included and as an attachment so you can forward to those you want to invite).

Please invite any prospective member: friend, relative, fashion show attendee, coworker. This is a great opportunity for those who might have some interest or you think would be good members to come and meet us and see what Zonta is all about.

The program will include introductions and some of our members telling about the different areas of Zonta International and our club. Some of you may still be asked to be part of the program.

Light appetizers will be served. Members will be charged \$35 and prospective members will be our guests. Cash bar for members. We will be using the standing reservation list so if you don't have a standing reservation, please let Pam Knackert know by Friday, Nov. 11. If you are bringing a guest or guests, please let her know as well. If you have a standing reservation and can't make it, please let her know that also, but we will be happy to welcome any prospect you might have. pmknackert@gmail.com 262-784-7613 or 262-309-3927 cell

Joann is also planning a brief club meeting after the prospective member event to touch base on a few things before the holidays.



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Zonta Club of Milwaukee Club Meeting October 26, 2022

October 26, 2022 – 6 pm

President, Joann Harris-Comodore, called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Joann welcomed members and guests, thanking members for their many contributions and hard work. The following members received a certificate honoring years of membership, service, and contributions.

Maria Bellmann	10 years
Carol Mangold	10 years / Denver included
Nola Hitchcock- Cross	20 years
Laureen Ward	20 years
Donna Neal	30 years
Jacqueline Beaudry	35 years
Diane Lindsley	35 years
Chris Todd	35 years
Barbara Wyatt Sibley	35 years

- Zonta Blessing was read and dinner was served.
- President, Joann Harris-Comodore shared information about the tea-towels the Aurora Club is offering.
- Laureen Ward presented the budget, which was approved.

Maureen Siwula introduced our speaker from Exploit No More, Ms. Martha Kannas, Executive Director. She presented information about the organization, which empowers women against sex-trafficking and abuse, including unpaid labor, forced organ selling, child marriage, and domestic violence. Also presented were effective visuals about how there are many things that happen that we don't see. Exploit No More has 55 beds, but a waiting list of 140. Exploit No More is one of our Zonta Club of Milwaukee grant recipients. The message shared is – if someone sees something that looks/feels wrong, report it by calling 911 or 888-373-7888.

Core Leadership Training – The Zonta International Website has information on Core Leadership Training that we should get familiar with before the Spring workshops.

Committee Reports:

Advocacy: Donna Neal reported that the walk was well attended and effective. The 16 Days of Activism will include names and descriptions of organizations that service the Milwaukee area, with an effort to connect particularly with those which have men members and are involved in efforts to stop domestic violence.

Club Minutes



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Service: Donna Conant reported that Zonta collected 400 pounds of food for the food pantries at the Conference; Our club has agreed to gather at least 40 gifts from Target online for the Neu Life students' Holiday Party. We will continue to gather books for the Neu Life Library, although there are no specific reading groups needing books at this time.

Program: There will be further discussion on the possibility of working on a Local Advocacy Project.

Finance: Please see Treasurer's Report

Foundation: Donna Neal reported that the information will be in the next Newsletter, and that work was being done on the Investment Policy.

Scholarship: No updates

Membership: Next meeting will be for inviting perspective members, so please bring guests to learn about Zonta. There will be light appetizers.

Public Relations: No new updates

Fashion Show: Things are in place and moving along. Members are asked to check the schedule for their specific volunteer duties.

UN Report: The UN report will be in the Newsletter.

Notes from the meeting notice:

Reminder: The intent for 16 Days is to surface/publish/spread awareness of initiatives that focus on DV prevention by involving men.

The Advocacy Committee IS ASKING members of the Club who care about the issue of DV to:

- Do some research online to identify programs for abusers that are successful in the prevention and/or mitigation of domestic violence, or
- Network with your contacts, or do some online research to identify initiatives or partnerships that involve groups/organizations of like-minded men to educate men and build community awareness, or
- Identify successful community-wide prevention programs anywhere in the US or the world, or the Zonta world (not just programs run by the service providers for victims and abusers)

10-minute discussion at the October meeting to share any preliminary learning/findings.

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.

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

December Social Meeting (TBD 13th/14th/15th?)

January Club Meeting – January 25th