



ZONTA
 CLUB OF
 MILWAUKEE

Area 2 • District 6

2024–2025

Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Officers

Carol Mangold, President
Open Position, President Elect
 Ruth Robertson, Vice President
 Laureen Ward, Treasurer
 Shari Januszewski, Secretary

Club Board

Lynda Jackson Conyers
 Gloria Jones
 Christine Todd
 Barbara Wyatt Sibley
Open Position

Foundation Board Officers

Cheryl Nowak, President
 Joni Reese, Vice President
 Donna Neal, Treasurer
 Janet Kloser, Corresponding Secretary
 Donna Conant, Recording Secretary

Foundation Board

Joanne Harris-Comodore
 Donna Kahl-Wilkerson
 Debra Koller
 La Toya Sykes

Send your newsletter submissions
 to jonizonta@gmail.com

Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org

NEWSLETTER

December 2024

Holiday Gathering

**Our holiday party is December 18
 from 6-8:30 PM**

Location: 10200 W Bluemound Rd, Milwaukee, WI
RSVP to Ruth and signup for food!

RSVP: RUTHROB59@ATT.NET
 BY DECEMBER 16

ZONTA
 CLUB OF
 MILWAUKEE
**DECEMBER HOLIDAY
 SOCIAL**

DECEMBER 18, 2024, 6-8:30 PM
ARRIVAL 5:30-6 PM

Please join your Milwaukee Club Zonta sisters for our December social gathering. This is a great chance to get to know your fellow members on a more personal level. Please bring a dish to pass (sign up link below) and RSVP to Chris Todd. If you would like to participate in a fun gift exchange, please bring a \$10 wrapped gift.

Location: St. Camillus—Life Enrichment Room
 10200 W. Bluemound Rd, Milwaukee
 Park in WEST lot and enter WEST entrance. Register at security desk immediately to the left of entrance.

SIGN UP FOR FOOD AT LINK BELOW

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1MAGRd4EWFQ3TVhMfIC-JIGJNTDxKU9GE/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=105627889541551331124&rtfpof=true&sd=true>

President's Message



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE

Greetings Zonta Sisters,



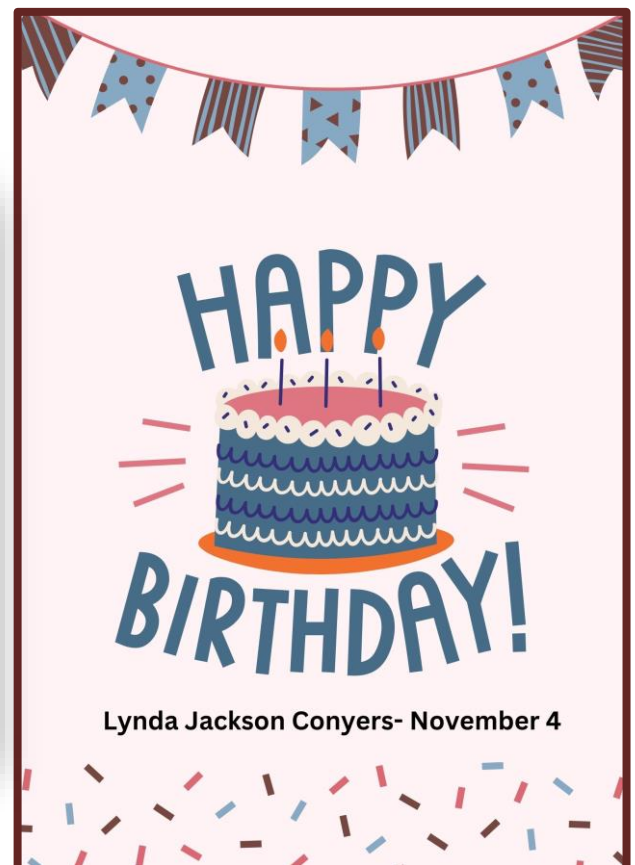
Happy Holidays to everyone! The turkey is history, Christmas trees are decorated, our neighborhoods sparkle with lights, Black Friday deals grab our attention for that perfect gift, and the aroma of cookies in the oven fills our kitchens. This is a busy time of the year for many of us trying to meet the demands we put upon ourselves and the expectations of others. We can listen to the voice in our head that tells us to slow down and give ourselves permission to set realistic goals and the gift of self-care. It's also a time to remember those who may be struggling during this season and spread kindness where we can.

I'm looking forward to our Zonta party on December 18th hosted by Chris Todd at St. Camillus and hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend. The evening will be a fun time of good food, catching up, and enjoying each other's company.

As 2024 draws to a close we can look back with pride on all that we've accomplished over the past year to make lives better for women and girls. I am grateful every day for the opportunity to be a part of this group of women who give their time, talents, and resources for the greater good. Each of you brings your own special skills to make this club work so we need and appreciate all of you.

May the peace and joy of this season touch your hearts and lives.

Carol Mangold
President Zonta Club of Milwaukee



Club Updates



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE

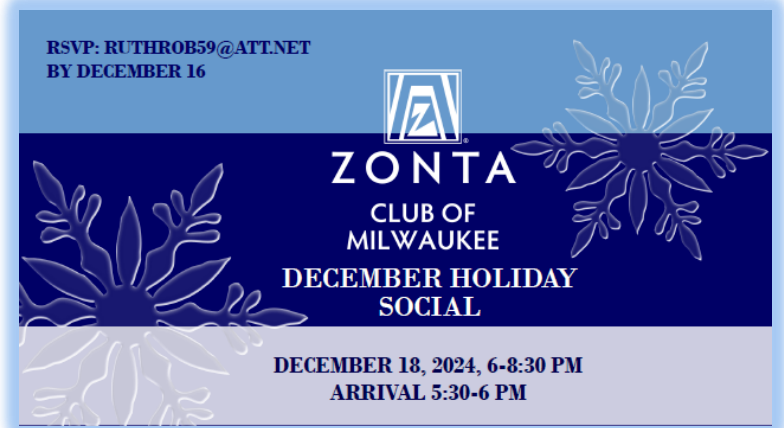
Program – Upcoming Club Meetings

December 18 will be our Holiday Social event which will be hosted by Christine Todd at St. Camillus in the Life Enrichment Room at 6:00 PM. Please see the invitation for more information on this fun time together to connect with each other on a more personal level. We look forward to seeing everyone in their fun holiday fashion!

As we approach Wisconsin winters and dark evenings, our January and February meetings will be held on Zoom with the intent to return to in person meetings for our March meeting on March 26. Watch for an email invitation from club president, Carol Mangold, with the Zoom link shortly before the meeting.

Happy Holidays everyone!

-Program Committee-



Fashion Show

Thank you again to all our members & friends for your support of our major Fashion Show Fundraiser. We netted **\$31, 005**, so biggest one ever. We are starting to plan for next year's fashion show. If anyone is interested in being on the committee that hasn't been in the past please let me know. And remember that if you get any gift cards you won't use, please donate them to us for our gift card "tree" at the fashion show.

Membership

Thanks again to all those who attended and participated in our Prospective Member Event in November. We had 3 guests, and one has already completed her application. Most of them have been invited to our Holiday get-together but please follow up with any prospective members and invite them to come.





Service:

Awesome Holiday Gift Collection for Allies for Teens in Foster Care!

[\(https://alliesforteens.org/\)](https://alliesforteens.org/)

Thank you, generous members, for these donations to Allies for Teens in Foster Care:

- 20 Blankets
- 21 pairs of Nike socks
- 16 \$25 Target gift cards
- 1 \$20 Target gift card
- \$250 in donations (\$200 via a check from our Foundation; \$50 direct donation)

Allies for Teens in Foster Care is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose main objective is to provide a secure channel for connecting goods and services to teens in the over 35 foster care group homes in the Milwaukee community. Our Service Committee rated Allies in the top 3 organizations to support with service based on strong alignment with our Zonta mission and our club's areas of interest. At our October 23rd meeting, Club members voted to support Allies for Teens in Foster Care with Holiday gift donations again this year.

Thank you, awesome members! You are making a difference, improving the lives of women and girls in our community!

*Donna Conant & Helen Ludwig
Service Committee Co-Chairs*



December 2024



www.zontamilwaukee.org

Club Updates

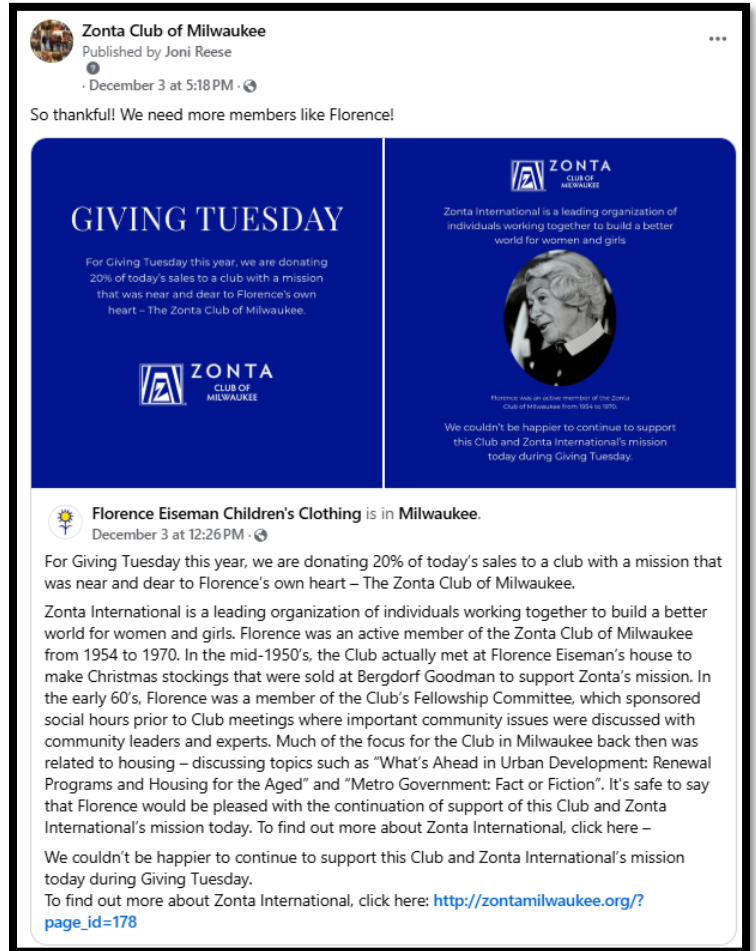


ZONTA CLUB OF MILWAUKEE

Foundation

In November, the Foundation Board met with Celene Funke, our investment advisor from RW Baird. We reviewed our investments, performance and market outlook for the year, and average performance for several years. No changes were made at this time. We will not be meeting again until the end of January.

The Florence Eiseman Company, founded by former Zontian Florence Eiseman, contacted us about donating a percentage of what they raise on "Giving Tuesday" to our Zonta Foundation. We sent them information to make this happen and we netted \$495 from the day. Yay! **Thank you!**



Advocacy

Thank you to the Advocacy Committee for providing 16 Days of Activism posts for Facebook and Instagram, and PR for post-production and sharing. **I will attach the 16 Day's posts to the newsletter email, if you would like to review these. The first 4 posts are on a page at the end of this newsletter.**

In addition, 16 more posts/memes shared from District 12 were also posted each day to Facebook and Instagram..





UN Report

At Zonta's International's 2024 Convention in Brisbane Australia, the following International Service Projects were approved for the 2024-2026 Biennium for a total of \$3,450,000:

Climate Empower: Community Empowerment And Innovation For Gender-Transformative Climate Action



Emerging evidence shows the direct and indirect impacts of climate change on women and girls and their sexual and reproductive health and rights. Climate challenges are fueled by persistent and deeply rooted discriminatory sociocultural norms that justify or tolerate violence against women and girls and limit their autonomy in many areas of life (i.e., education, healthcare, economic empowerment), especially women and girls in rural areas.

Women and girls' roles need to be leveraged as leaders in promoting climate change resilient community actions, as these are the individuals from vulnerable communities who experience the most challenging impacts of climate change. Their active involvement, therefore, in finding solutions is crucial to more gender transformative, lasting change. By integrating their perspectives, solutions are better tailored to protect all community members, specifically addressing the intersection of climate stressors and GBV.

For the next two years, Zonta International has committed US\$1,000,000 to the UNFPA program: Climate Empower: Community Empowerment and Innovation for Gender-Transformative Climate Action to prevent climate-induced gender-based violence (GBV) and other harmful practices through interwoven innovative approaches and community-driven in **Madagascar, Mozambique and South Sudan**, some of the countries most vulnerable to climate change globally.

The Global Programme To End Child Marriage

Globally, one in every five girls is formally married or in an informal union before reaching 18 years of age. Health crises, conflicts and climate change are increasing the risks of child marriage for millions of girls worldwide.

The Global Program to End Child Marriage is engaging adolescent girls as key agents of change in the following 12 countries with high prevalence of child marriage:

Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Yemen and Zambia.



Zonta has supported ending child marriage since 2014, contributing US\$2 million to delay early marriage in Niger from 2014-2018. From 2018-2022, Zonta contributed US\$3.5 million to the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Program to End Child Marriage – the first private-sector donor to the Global Program. From 2022-2024, Zonta contributed US\$1.2 million to support Phase II of the project. 2024 marked the beginning of Phase III for the Global Program and over the next two years, Zonta International has committed US\$1.5 million to support the project.

Club Updates



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE

Laaha: A Virtual Safe Space For Women And Girls



One in three women experience violence in their lifetime and 12 million girls are married before they reach the age of 18. Violence is exponentially made worse during humanitarian crises such as climate-based disasters, areas experiencing civil unrest, and impoverished populations.

Laaha, the first-ever digital web-based platform created by UNICEF with women and girls from crisis-affected regions, strives to increase knowledge on gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) through quality and accurate information to women and girls, and to reduce isolation by building safe spaces of support for adolescent girls through peer-to-peer connection on a moderated user forum.

For the next two years, Zonta International has committed US\$750,000 to UNICEF USA to support Laaha and provide quality and accurate information to girls and women about menstrual health and hygiene, healthy relationships, how to stay safe and know one's rights, financial literacy, female anatomy and services for women and girls facing violence. In time, this digital space will replicate the sense of a safe social network that physical safe spaces provide.

<p> News and Events</p> <p>2026 Convention Vancouver, Canada</p>	 <p> VANCOUVER Zonta Convention 2026 </p>	<p>Save The Date</p> <p>Join Zonta International for our 67th Convention</p> <p>11-14 July 2026 Vancouver, Canada</p>
--	---	--



Book Corner – Club Sharing of Outstanding and Inspirational Women

'The Only Woman in the Room' by Marie Benedict is the fascinating story of Hedy Lamarr, best known as a glamorous American film star in the 1940's. In reality, Hedy Lamarr was far more than a Hollywood icon. She was married to a wealthy and controlling Austrian arms dealer who was working with the Nazis. While present in the room during her husband's meetings with the Nazis, she paid close attention and gained useful information. Ms. Lamarr managed to cleverly escape her husband and the Nazis, later proving herself as a scientist with a brilliant mind who helped develop an early communication technology. This book is well written, enlightening and I highly recommend it.

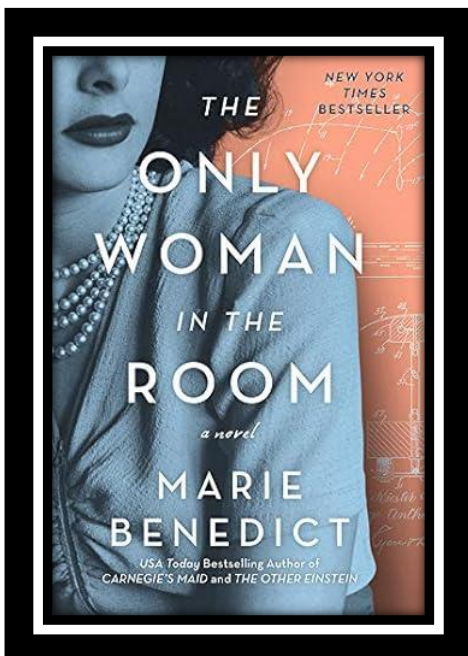


Marie Benedict also wrote 'The Other Einstein,' the story of Einstein's wife, Mileva Marić, a brilliant mathematician in her own right; 'Lady Clementine;' and 'Carnegie's Maid.'

Please share books about interesting women that you would recommend in this space.

Happy Reading!
Carol Mangold

Books suggestions and write-ups can be sent to Carol for inclusion in the newsletter.



**Upcoming Dates
Club Meetings**

- December 18th - Social
- January 22nd - Via Zoom
- February 26th - Via Zoom

Events

- D6 Area 2 Spring Workshop - Milwaukee May 17, 2025
- Zonta North American Infer-District Meeting (NAIDM) June 20-22, 2025 Novi MI



Zonta Club of Milwaukee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday November 20, 2024

In person meeting at MRA was called to order by Carol Mangold at 7:47.

Treasurer's Financial Reports:

- Treasure Laureen Ward gave both the September and October Treasurer's reports.
- Ruth moved that the reports be accepted. Barbara seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Spring Workshop:

- May 17, 2025
- MRA - cost is \$600 per room. Need 2 rooms. Cheryl will ask for an employee discount.
- Will investigate other meeting rooms. Thrive (Greater Milwaukee) – Cheryl Lucas DeBerry, Sojourner (Donna Neal), Bader (Donna Rongholt Migen). Will see if the facility is available and report to Barbara and Carol.
- Barbara Wyatt Sibley, Christine Todd, Donna Rongholt, & Ruth agreed to serve on the committee.
- Need to take reservations, food and book 2 hotel rooms.

100 Anniversary:

- January 8, 2026 is the actual date
- Will have the event in lieu of the fashion show and plan is to have the anniversary party in fall of 2026.
- Considering the War Memorial. Donna Conant will contact them to see the availability for Friday or Saturday nights in September/October 2026 and report back.
- Saturday evening, formal event.
- Silent Auction & 50/50. No raffle.
- Committee Volunteers so far: Donna Neal, Pam, Karen, Carol, Cheryl, Laurie, Ruth, Helen, Donna Conant, Joni, Deb

December Meeting:

- December 18 at St. Camillus 10200 W. Bluemound Rd. in the social room, hosted by Christine Todd.
- Sign-up sheet for food passed around
- Gift exchange of \$10, if interested in participating.

Nominating Committee:

- Vice president, president elect and board directors.
- 3 Foundation directors.
- Helen moved that Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry, Karen Smith, Barbara Wyatt Sibley serve on the nominating committee. Deb Koller seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24.

Add your voice!

JOIN Zonta in the campaign to END Violence Against Women.

#16DaysOfActivism
#ZontaSaysNo
ZontaSaysNo.com



BUILD A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

- "Since 1919, Zonta has been working to create a more equitable future for women and girls.
- We believe that fostering a **diverse and inclusive** global community is a powerful platform to bring about the social change needed to make our vision for gender equality a reality.
- As a global organization, Zonta International values the contributions of members of all backgrounds, regardless of age, ethnicity, race, color, ability, religion, socio-economic status, culture, sexual orientation or gender identity.
- We believe that a diverse community of members is essential to our ability to achieve our mission to create a more equitable future."
- We are committed to the values of **diversity and inclusion** across all Zonta International activities and initiatives.
- Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential.
- In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

Zonta International

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee

www.zontamilwaukee.org



- An advocate has been described as a person who stands up for a cause. If this is so, what better "advocate" can oneself be, for the benefit of...oneself!
- We need to teach our girls to be "advocates" for themselves early in life. Armed with statistical data on the kidnapping of girls/women for all kinds of nefarious reasons that sum up to "crimes against girls and women" in this country, it seems as if the tools of self-empowerment or self-advocacy would be an important life-long skill to learn.
- From 1st grade through high school, these skills will be needed to manage friendships, relationships, conflicts, and differences of opinion which will allow them to come to decisions that benefit them as they go through this stage of life. Awareness and knowledge are vital to the reasoning of self-advocacy.
- We also need to teach our girls at this age that they, too, have a right to be heard, express their feelings in a respectful way, and disagree with parental decisions.
- The community has to stop ignoring children just because they are children! Girls' expressions must be validated through our listening to them, and asking the five Ws (who, where, when, what and why) for a clear picture of how she feels.

Remember, **self-empowerment leads to self-advocacy... YOU!!**

- **This issue is why our Zonta Club helps support Neu-Life Community Resource Center and Our Next Generation.**

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee

www.zontamilwaukee.org



Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women

Join us and say NO to violence against women and girls worldwide

During the **Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women: 16 Days of Activism** which begins on November 25, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and runs through December 10, Human Rights Day, we are posting critical issues affecting women and girls along with resources and contacts that are breaking the cycle of violence.

- 72% of all murder-suicides involve an intimate partner; 94% of the victims of these murder-suicides are female.
 - The presence of a gun in the household increases the risk of homicide by 400%.
 - Victims of intimate partner violence lose 8 million days of paid work per year, the equivalent of 32,000 jobs. It costs the economy between \$6-13MM.!
 - Recent studies conclude that domestic violence is a major factor in mass shootings, and that mass shootings involving perpetrators with a domestic violence history are more lethal.
- ✓ **Learn about all forms of violence against women and girls and support violence prevention programs as well as survivor support organizations.**

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee

www.zontamilwaukee.org



- Wisconsin broke the record for domestic violence deaths again in 2022 with 96 lives lost, according to the annual statewide homicide report released recently by **End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin**. This is the highest total since the advocacy organization began releasing the data in 2000 and a 20% increase from 2022's total of 80 people.
 - Homicides occurred in 25 of Wisconsin's 72 counties. Ages ranged from 20 months to 92 years, with an average age of 37. About 48% of the victims were white, while about 45% were Black.
 - Childhood trauma, and systemic inequities, such as homelessness, economic stress, financial challenges and food insecurities, are among the triggers for domestic violence.
 - **What needs to change in order to make a dent in eliminating violence against women and girls? There must be a true focus on prevention and breaking the cycle of violence and abuse.**
 - **A crucial need is funding for shelters and services.** End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin and other like-minded partners are calling on State lawmakers to take up model legislation to fund programs statewide and to bridge the increased gap in federal funding.
- ✓ **Support funding for organizations that prevent the cycle of violence.**

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee

www.zontamilwaukee.org