



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
Nola Hitchcock Cross
Gloria Jones
Christine Todd
Barbara Wyatt Sibley

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
jonizonta@gmail.com

Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org

NEWSLETTER

August 2024

Monthly Zonta Meeting

Club Dinner Meeting: August 28th

5:30 Arrival & Social

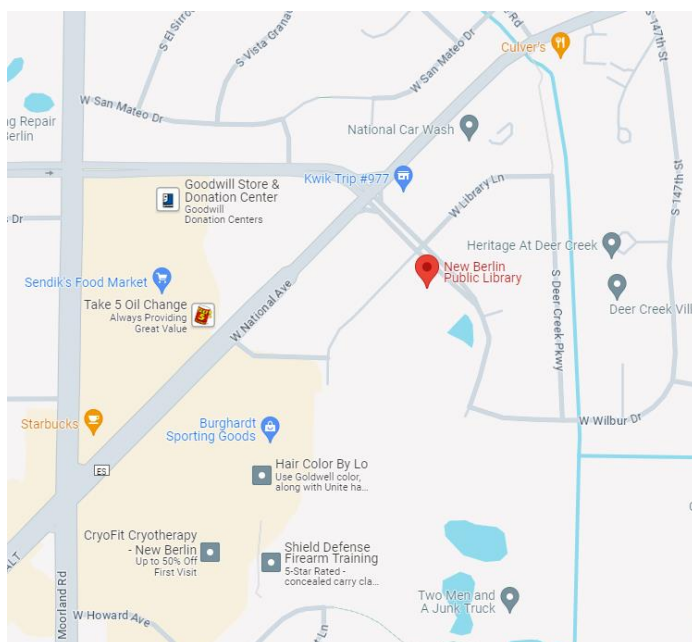
6:00 – 8:00 pm meeting

Zonta Club of Milwaukee's August club meeting will be held on August 28th at the **New Berlin Library, 15105 W Library Lane, New Berlin.** (East of Moorland, off of National Ave)

The program will feature **Donna Neal**, who will be providing an update from the Zonta International Convention in Brisbane, Australia.

A RSVP email will be sent out closer to our meeting date so we can plan food accordingly. We are happy to say that our planned **meal cost will be \$25** for the August meeting, and we will evaluate following the meeting if this amount is adequate for future meetings as well.

The meeting will begin promptly at 6:00 PM and conclude by 8:00 PM. We appreciate your patience as we try out this new venue and meal process!



www.zontamilwaukee.org

President's Message



ZONTA
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Greetings Zonta Sisters,

Now that the lazy dog days of summer are coming to a close our thoughts begin turning to fall and new beginnings. August marks the time to prepare for a new school year or to search for new activities through continuing education classes, volunteer opportunities or cultural experiences. August 26th is Women's Equality Day celebrating the 1920 ratification of the 19th Amendment to our constitution and women's right to vote in the United States. Although we've made great strides forward there is still work ahead to make a better world for women and girls. I hope as Zontians we will return after our summer break energized for the many exciting events coming up this fall.

Thanks to all who participated in the annual Back to School Backpack Distribution project and Neu-Life film festival at The Milwaukee School of Arts on July 31st. The Neu-Life youth did an amazing job of creating short films and the excitement in the auditorium was contagious! It was a joy to witness the smiles on the faces of the kids wearing their new backpacks!

At this writing I'm looking forward to the Neu-Life/Our Next Generation partnership celebration event on August 7th. Our Zonta Club will be distributing hoodies to the youth who completed the Summer of Healing Neu-STEPP program on healthy relationships and prevention of sex trafficking.

Another exciting opportunity to work with young people has been presented to our club. Two high school students have recently approached us with an interest in starting a new Z club at their school. More details will follow in the next few weeks, but if any club members are interested in working with high school girls and participating in the formation of a Z Club, please let me know as soon as possible.

It's not too soon to start thinking about District 6 Fall Conference in Indianapolis October 4-6. If you've not attended the Fall Conference before, I highly recommend it as an opportunity to learn more about Zonta in depth and meet our district officers and other Zontians from neighboring states. Two delegates and alternates will be required for the conference, so if you are willing to serve in that capacity, please let me or one of the board know.

Please mark your calendars for the 2024 Fashion Show on October 19th. Invitations are ready and should be distributed soon for you to mail out. The fashion show is our signature event of the year so the participation of everyone in the club is needed.

Thanks to Joni Reese for developing an easy-to-follow detailed communication format for newsletter, Facebook and website submissions. Please contact Joni if you need a copy of the submission guidelines. We appreciate the many hours and outstanding job Joni does in managing our communications and PR. Please respect her time and make her job easier by following these guidelines.

If you are not currently part of a committee, I hope you've given thought over the summer to volunteering for a committee that fits your talents and interests. Involvement in a committee is the best way to have a fulfilling Zonta experience. Currently the Program Committee, the UN Committee and the Service Committee are requesting volunteers, but the other committees are also open. I look forward to seeing you in person at the Aug 28th meeting in the New Berlin Library, as we begin the fall season of this new biennium.

Carol Mangold
President Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Club Updates



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Service Projects

Neu-Life Back-to-School Service Project

Thanks to members who contributed to our Back-to-School project for Neu-Life and to those who helped stuff and those who attended the film festival/distribution of backpacks on Wed. July 31st. We donated 50 backpacks with supplies for their kindergarten and elementary school children that attended their summer programs. They were very much appreciated. If you would still like to donate money toward this project you can send a check made out to Zonta Foundation, Inc. & denote Neu-Life school supplies and send to Donna Neal 2624 E. Bellevue Pl. Milwaukee, WI 53211. Their film festival will also be shown on Monday, August 19th at the Oriental Theater (6:30 pm doors open, film at 7 pm) and is open to the public, free of charge but rsvp requested through Eventbrite.

Fashion Show

SAVE the DATE for our Fall Into Fashion Build a Better World for Women and Girls fashion show fundraiser **Saturday, October 19, 2024** at the Marriott West with newly opened Third Ward vendor District Row.

The committee will be meeting the third Tuesday of each month via zoom starting at 6pm. Our next meeting will be on Tues. August 20th. If you would like to join the committee, please let Pam or Jackie know.

We will be collecting **bottles of wine** for our wine pull with a minimum value of \$15 or cash donations suggested of \$20. You can bring to our August in-person meeting or get to Deb Koller.

We will also be collecting **gift cards** of at least \$20 in value for our "gift card tree." If you have received any for gifts that you want to re-gift, or if you want to purchase one or more, please give to Pam at the August in-person meeting.

Also continue thinking of any businesses and companies (perhaps the one you work for) that you can ask for a monetary **sponsorship**. The template letters went out to members on May 1st. And let us know who you are contacting. If you would like us to contact instead let Carol Mangold know.

Raffle item and silent auction item solicitation template letters have been emailed to you (June 24th) and were sent to our solicitation list around July 20th. If you are donating a basket/item please bring to August or September meeting at the latest and give to Laurie Ward.

Invitations will be sent to members around August 10th and then a few days later will be sent to our mailing list. Electronic version will be available also and online reservations are available at <https://2024-zonta-fashion-show.eventbrite.com>



Club Updates



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Advocacy

On August 7th, several Milwaukee Zontians joined Our Next Generation for their Summer of Healing Community Event celebrating the end of summer program. This event also celebrated the collaboration between Our Next Generation (Zonta member La Toya Sykes) and Neu-Life (Zonta member Joann Harris-Commodore). In the past, we have provided support to both organizations but this collaboration among the 3 organizations is a significant opportunity for all.

Neu-Life provided Neu-STEPP programming for kids at ONG. Neu-STEPP is a healthy relationships program that includes significant educational segments on trafficking.

Hoodies were distributed. If you ordered a hoodie, please send your \$35 check to Donna Neal 2624 E. Bellevue Pl Milwaukee, WI 53211 and any donations toward this project as well, made out to Zonta Foundation, Inc.





Milwaukee Domestic Violence High Risk Team Update

Members will remember a presentation given to the Club last October by Carmen Pitre from Sojourner during which she revealed a pilot program that provides a GPS tracker to a person in a high-risk situation. Disguised as an everyday item, the device has a button that can trigger a GPS tracker, an emergency call to law enforcement and upload a case file automatically to dispatchers. It is waterproof and military-grade tough and able to withstand attempts at destroying it.

What we didn't know was that the device was developed by Shorewood resident Liz Kohler, the sister of a woman who was killed in a domestic violence-related homicide in 2007. She is hopeful the new technology will become a resource for law enforcement agencies and domestic violence shelters around the world. In an interview with the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* in June, Ms. Kohler said "About 60 people used it during a pilot project last year. According to Kohler, more than 90% of users reported reduced levels of post-traumatic stress symptoms, better perceptions of law enforcement and an overall improved sense of safety. Police response times for emergency calls from the device were seven times faster than average."

In that same article, Carmen said the Sojourner serves about 10,000 clients per year, 75% of whom are considered high risk of lethal violence. Only 60 people were able to use it last year during the pilot program. Obviously, a lot more fundraising is needed.

To read the story, go to <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2024/06/14/woman-sojourner-make-device-to-help-those-at-risk-domestic-violence/74044095007/> .

To learn more about Sojourner Family Peace Center, go to <https://www.familypeacecenter.org/> .

Diane S. Lindsley, Advocacy Committee Chair

Human Trafficking Update

It is so gratifying that bipartisan legislation is still possible in Congress.

On July 9th, Sens. Jon Ossoff (D-GA) and Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), Chairman and Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Human Rights Subcommittee, introduced the bipartisan *Supporting Victims of Human Trafficking Act*, which would cut red tape to better respond to the needs of service organizations working with victims of human trafficking and create additional flexibility in certain grant programs.

The bipartisan bill would strengthen the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) to provide more flexibility in funding for programs serving victims of human trafficking. The bill would also help increase training and technical assistance for grantees to help organizations receive Federal funding.

On May 7th, Sens. Ossoff and Blackburn's bipartisan *REPORT Act* was signed into law, which will strengthen the national tipline run by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) to collect reports of online exploitation and requires evidence to be preserved for a longer period, giving law enforcement more time to investigate and prosecute crimes.

On April 21st, Sen. Ossoff's bipartisan *Preventing Child Trafficking Act* with Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) passed the U.S. Senate to help prevent child trafficking by strengthening coordination between the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Diane S. Lindsley, Advocacy Committee Chair



Women's Equality Day – August 26, 2024

August 26 is "Women's Equality Day, the date chosen in 1971 via a Joint Resolution of Congress, to commemorate the 1920 certification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote and calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality. It was the culmination of a massive, peaceful civil rights movement by women that began in 1848 at the world's first women's rights convention, in Seneca Falls, New York.

For those of you who have not yet signed a petition in support of the Equal Rights Amendment, please go to www.Sign4ERA.org . There you can not only sign the petition but also learn more about the history of the ERA as well as its current status in Congress.

"I raise up my voice — not so that I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard ... we cannot all succeed when half of us are held back." — Malala Yousafzai

"It took me quite a long time to develop a voice, and now that I have it, I am not going to be silent." — Madeleine Albright

"Let us not be silent in the 2024 elections. Learn about the issues and then get out and vote!" – Diane S. Lindsley

Membership

Please invite any prospective member to attend our August 28th in-person meeting. This will give them a great opportunity to meet our members and to learn about what a convention is all about.

A new roster of members was sent out recently, if you have any changes, please let Shari Januszewski know since as our new Club Secretary she has agreed to keep it up.

Foundation News

The Board will be meeting in August to review and select the 2024 grant recipients. Awards will be given at the Zonta Fashion Show Fundraiser scheduled for October 19, 2024.



UN Report – August 2024

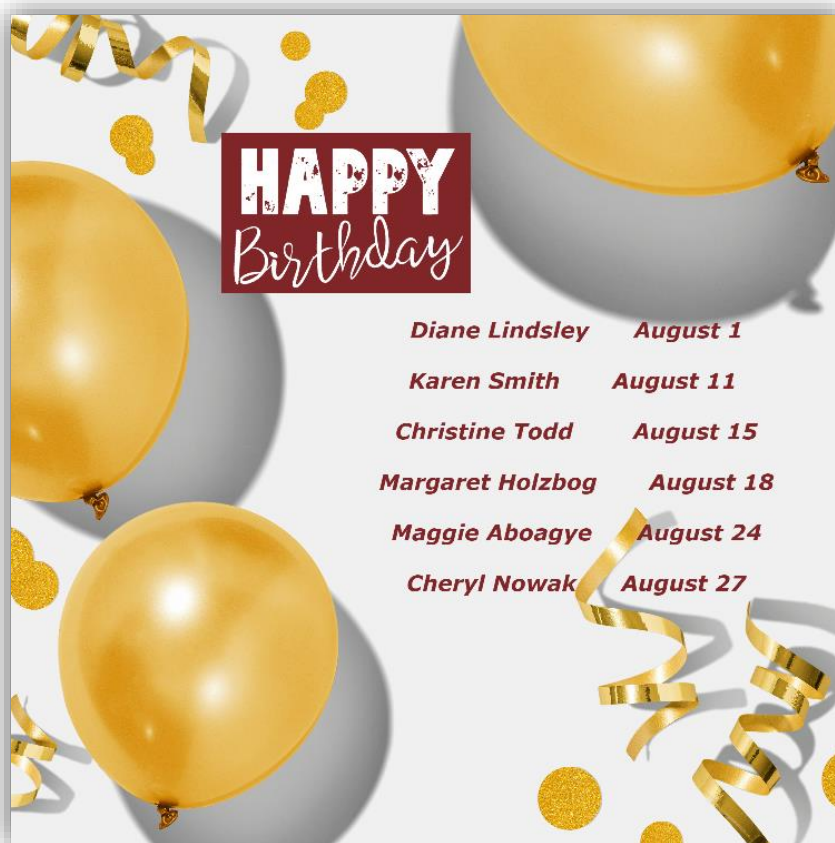
Accolades at the International Convention in Brisbane, Australia for our partnerships and support with UNFPA and UNICEF USA

Dr. Natalia Kanem, Executive Director, UNFPA

“Zonta International is steadfast in its commitment to the rights of women and girls around the world. As a dedicated partner of UNFPA since 2008, Zonta’s generous support has propelled our efforts to improve maternal health, end obstetric fistula, and to protect adolescent girls from child marriage. Most recently, Zonta and UNFPA are partnering to strengthen services for over 650,000 survivors of gender-based violence in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste – a groundbreaking collaboration that is delivering vital services for those who need them most.”

Michael J. Nyenhuis, President and CEO, UNICEF USA

“On Zonta International’s 66th Convention, I wish to commend Zontians from across the globe for their impact on women and girls. Your support to UNICEF, during the 2022-2024 Biennium was instrumental in ensuring continued progress towards gender equality. Thanks to Zonta’s partnership, adolescent girls who have experienced violence at school or home in Peru received access to healthcare and psychosocial support; marginalized girls around the world at risk of early marriage are receiving support and services that enable them to make effective choices about their lives; 1,000 students and 1,500 teachers have been trained in water conservation, environmental education, and Menstrual Hygiene Management in Madagascar. As we reflect on our 50- year partnership, UNICEF USA has been a proud partner with Zonta International since 1972, and we look forward to continued momentum for women and girls.”



Club Updates

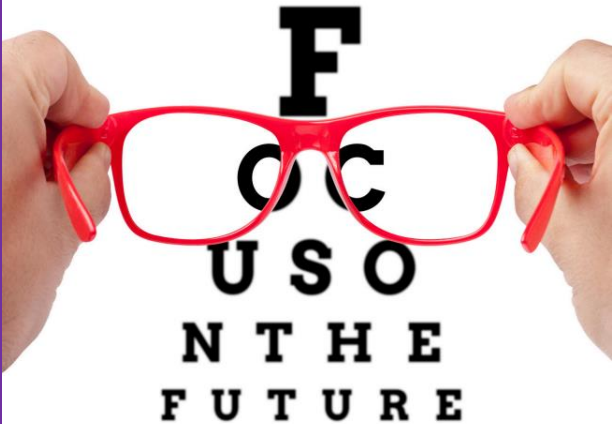


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District 6 Updates:

District 6 Fall Conference
October 4-6, 2024
Carmel, Indiana

**FOCUS ON
THE FUTURE**



Building a Better World for Women and Girls

**Meet Your 2024-2026
District 6 Board**



**ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 6**

Governor: Isabel Vidal
Zonta Club of Lincoln

Area 1 Director: Karen Herman DeMuro
E-Club of USA 3

Area 2 Director: Cathy Myers
Zonta Club of Janesville

Lt. Governor: Brandy Harrington
Zonta Club of St.Charles/Geneva/Batavia

Area 3 Director: Susan Harmon
Zonta Club of Lincoln

Treasurer: Karen Smith
Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Area 4 Director: Stephanie Buntin
Zonta Club of Frankfort

Secretary: Jane Thompson
Zonta Club of Janesville

Area 5 Director: Kelly LaMore
Zonta Club of Kankakee

**Meet Your 2024-2026
District 6 Committee Chairs**



**ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 6**

Advocacy: Michelle Miller
Zonta Club of Mascoutah

Finance: Karen Smith
Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Awards: Susie Trees
Zonta Club of Frankfort

Foundation Ambassador:
Jeni Royalty
Zonta Club of Frankfort

**Bylaws & Resolutions
and USA Caucuses:**
Mary Nagel
Zonta Club of Oak Brook

Historian: Jean Heil
Zonta Club of Alton-Wood River

District Club Creator:
Anna Weselak
Zonta Club of Oak Brook

Leadership Development:
Yvonne Chalfant
Zonta Club of Kankakee

Membership: Brandy Harrington
Zonta Club of
St.Charles/Geneva/Batavia

Parliamentarian: Myra Celestin
Zonta Club of Oak Brook

Service: Sally Bean
E-Club of USA 3

Webmaster: Amber Brainard
Zonta Club of Lincoln

Nominating: Cheryl Trudeau
Zonta Club of Kankakee

Public Relations: Joni Reese
Zonta Club of Milwaukee

United Nations: Mary Baudino
Zonta Club of Joliet Area

Z & Golden Z Club: Jeanie Beccue
Zonta Club of Lincoln



International Officers, Elected at the Brisbane International Convention



Salla Tuominen
President
Zonta Club of Helsinki I, Finland, District 20



Fernanda Gallo-Freschi
President-Elect
Zonta Club of Milano-Sant Ambrogio, Italy,
District 28



Sandy Venn-Brown
Vice President
Zonta Club of Stanthorpe, Inc. Australia, District 22



Souella Cumming, ONZM
Treasurer/Secretary
Zonta Club of Wellington, New Zealand, District 16



Margaret Akofio-Sowah
Director
Zonta Club of Accra II, Ghana, District 18



Phillippa Jacobs-Lory
Director
Zonta Club of Christchurch-Canterbury,
New Zealand, District 16



Ofelia "Lia" Bautista
Director
Zonta Club of Greater Rizal I, Philippines,
District 17



Ela Pandya
Director
Zonta Club of Porterville, USA, District 9



Christine Dersch
Director
Zonta Club of Marburg, Germany, District 28



Myra Celestin
Parliamentarian
Zonta Club of Oak Brook, IL, USA, District 6



Unna Huh
Director
Zonta Club of Seoul III-Nam Seoul, South Korea, District 32



Upcoming Dates of Interest

Club Meetings

August 28th
September 25th
October 23rd
November 20th (date tbd)
December 18th (date tbd)

Events

Fall Conference: Oct. 4-6, Indianapolis, IN

Fall Fashion Show Fundraiser: Oct. 19th

Zonta North American Inter-District Meeting (NAIDM)
June 20-22, 2025
Novi, MI |