

Zonta Club of Milwaukee



Zonta Club of Milwaukee
Member of Zonta International

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

BULLETIN

International District 6 – Area 2
Chartered: January 8, 1926

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Zonta Club of Milwaukee Dinner Meeting Speaker: Pat Rowe, Marketing & Public Relations Manager at General Mitchell International Airport

Please join us for an informative and insightful presentation on the Field Operations aspect of General Mitchell International Airport.

**Italian Community Center (I.C.C.), 631 E. Chicago
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202**

5:30 PM - Social

6:00 PM – Dinner

7:00 PM – Speaker

Cost: \$30 per person, includes tax and tip

RESERVATIONS: Please call Helen Ludwig or e-mail her with the cancellation of your standing reservation or any call-in reservation by 9:00 am on Monday, January 21, 2013. Dinner choice:

Grilled Chicken with a side salad or Eggplant roll-ups with a side salad. Once reservations have been made, you will be billed for each reservation.



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The Zonta Club of Milwaukee is club #39, located in District 6 (Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana). The Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month, September through June, for networking, dinner, program and business meeting.

*President: Joni Reese
Membership Chair: Claudyne Whitaker
Bulletin Editor: Joann Henry*

Newsletter deadline for articles is the 10th day of each month.

For more information on Zonta, visit www.zontadistrict6.org

2012/2013

Zonta Club of Milwaukee Officers

*Joni Reese, President
Donna Kahl-Wilkerson, President Elect
Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry, Vice-President
Elizabeth Stull, Treasurer
Victoria Frazier, Secretary*

*Camelia Clarke, Club Board
Carol Cline, Club Board
Lynne Oehlke, Club Board
Connie Thoma, Club Board
Kim Brinsko, Club Board
Barbara Wyatt Sibley, Club Board*

Milwaukee Zonta Foundation Board Officers

*Helen Ludwig, President
Pam Knackert, Treasurer
Dana Felton Reinhard, Recording Secretary
Judy Lehman, Corresponding Secretary*

*Susan Koepsell, Foundation Board
Laureen Ward, Foundation Board
Donna Neal, Foundation Board
Beverly Conner, Foundation Board*

President's Message.....

Dear Zontians:

Happy New Year! Welcome to our new members to be installed at the January meeting, Joann Comodore and Tracy Anderson!

As we move into January, it is a good time for reflection on our goals for the year. Many of us make personal resolutions each January, such as to lose weight, eat healthier or other self-improvement activities. Some of us think about what we hope to accomplish in our jobs or companies in the next year as part of annual goal-setting activities. All of us can consider what we want to do with the Zonta Club of Milwaukee in 2013. What do we want to accomplish? How do we make a difference? How can we support Neu-Life? What advocacy agendas need attention? How do we engage?

We have many up and coming needs and activities this winter and spring, such as the ZCM "World of Fashion" Fashion Show Fundraiser which is right around the corner. Additional activities include International Women's Day, CEDAW ratification efforts and other advocacy needs, upcoming Neu-Life activities, and our Area 2 Spring Workshop in Janesville! What interests you? How can you make a difference? How do you want to engage? What additional information would you like? As with all of our activities, there is no limit to involvement by the club members, and I welcome all members to participate. We CAN make a difference! Your involvement, leadership and participation is needed. The awesome thing is, we have many areas to choose from OR choose them all!

Think about it. How can YOU make a difference in 2013?

Thank you for all you do, for women locally and around the world,

Joni Reese

Your Corner on SERVICE

By Donna Neal and Donna Kahl-Wilkerson, Service Co-Chairs

Service Calendar

Tuesday, Jan 22	Annual Youth Art Show Planning Session	Neu-Life, 2014 W. North Ave., 6 PM
Thursday, Feb 28	Black History Month Celebration & Banquet	Neu-Life, 2014 W. North Ave., 5-7 PM
Saturday, May 18	Annual Youth Art Show Fundraiser	Neu-Life, 2014 W. North Ave

THANK YOU ALL MILWAUKEE ZONTIANS FOR PROVIDING HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR 62 CHILDREN AT THE GWEN T JACKSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE OF NEW-LIFE

The photos from the celebration speak for themselves. The Gwen T Jackson participants in Neu-Life were thrilled to attend the celebration, groups sang carols or recited poetry as part of the program presentations, and all students received a gift, no exceptions. Because it was the holiday party, many parents were also in attendance. While many Zontians were not able to attend, seven (7) Zontians were present and engaged in the celebration activities and interacted directly with the children. Zonta was given great credit at the event and Zontians were also afforded the opportunity to interact directly with the children in the program. **We need a person on the Service Committee who can manage our PR. Any volunteers? We're doing stuff that we can and should get recognition for, and we don't have the expertise/time in the current group. Volunteers?**

Laurie Ward and Jan Jeanneret were fantastic project team leaders for the **Holiday Gift** project for the Neu-Life students participating at the Gwen T. Jackson Elementary School. 62 children received holiday gifts tailored to their wants and needs in the name of Zonta, despite the fact that the wish lists were received off-cycle to our club meetings. Lessons for next year, but nevertheless amazing results!

Zonta will be helping Neu-Life turn its **Annual Art Show** into a more substantial **fundraiser**. The first planning meeting took place on Tuesday, Nov 27 with Jody Rhodes (director) and Joann Harris-Commodore (CEO) to brainstorm. A project plan is in development. **The next work group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan 22 at 6 PM at Neu-Life.** Anyone interested in joining the team (Donna Conant, Jan Jeanneret, Donna Kahl-Wilkerson, Donna Neal, Chris Todd, Lynn Oehlke, and Laurie Ward) or simply participating in the next meeting, please contact Donna Neal.

More on the **Black History Month Celebration** as soon as

we have more info.

We have **NOT** collected school supply donations at our regular Club meetings this year so far – there are items that are always needed through the school year as well as items that we will plan to collect in the summer for the **2013 Back-to-School Celebration** in August. Pick up items as you run into sales. Bring them to meetings and they'll be collected/distributed as needed.

SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

Always Needed

Filler Paper

Notebooks

Regular Pencils

Mechanical Pencils

Back-to-School Wish List

Backpacks (small and large for elementary and high school)

Regular Pencils

Mechanical Pencils

Pencil Pouches/Cases

Pens (Blue or Black)

Crayons

Markers

Colored Pencils

Pencil Sharpeners (basic ones)

Notebooks (wide or narrow ruled)

Loose Leaf Paper

Glue Sticks

Regular Glue

Erasers (pencil top or regular)

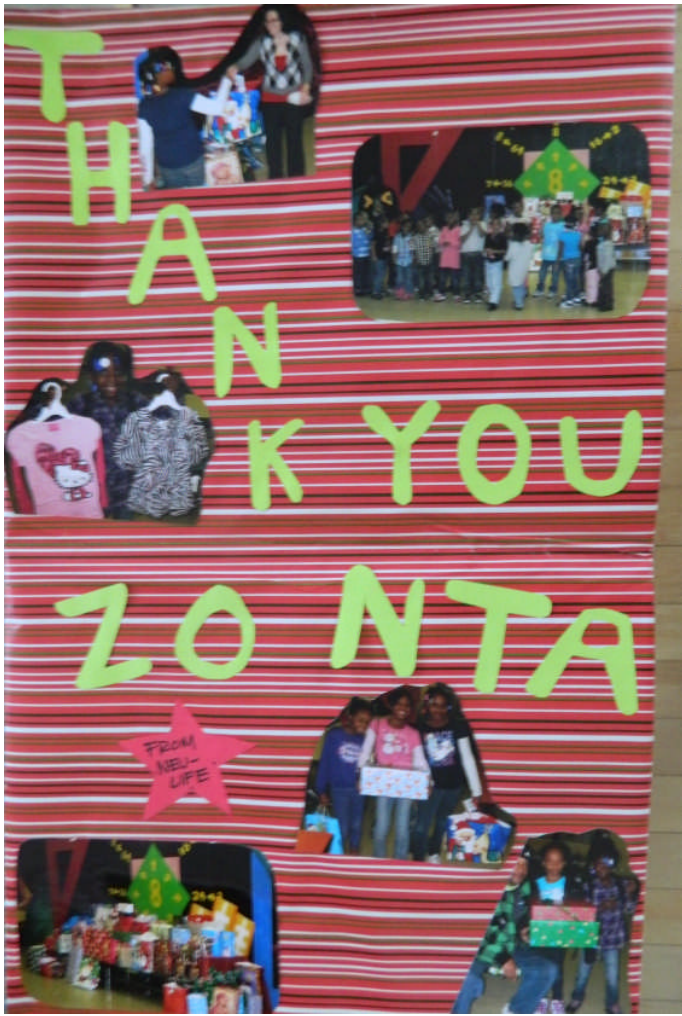
Scissors (kid size and regular)

It's an exciting time getting started on a new partnership with such a deserving organization! Our goal in the Zonta partnership with Neu-Life Community Resource Center is something for everyone, whether you want hands-on service or advocacy work, or to provide financial or professional support. Please sign up to support where you are able and interested, and feel free to give us (or any Board member) your feedback or other ideas.

We need 100% engagement. If you have issues or concerns, please express them directly to me or to a Club Board member, anonymously or otherwise.

It's up to all of us to make this a success.

Holiday Party at Gwen T Jackson Elementary School



Students performing songs and poems at the holiday party for fellow students and guests.



Zontians Pam Knackert, Connie Thoma, and Diane Lindsley with Jody Rhodes and Joann Harris-Comodore at the holiday party.

Membership Corner

By Pam Knackert

We will be installing two new members at the January meeting, Tracy Anderson and Joann Comodore. Tracy is Corporate Sales Manager for the Radisson Hotel Milwaukee West and Joann is CEO of Neu-Life Community Development, Inc. Welcome!

Get well wishes to a couple of our members who have been under the weather, Claudyne Whitaker and Donna Kahl-Wilkerson. Good luck to Chris Todd who will be undergoing hip surgery soon. And a special get well to Charlie Holzbog, Margaret's husband. Hope recovery is quick for all.

Happy warm weather to a couple of our members who are in warmer climes for a few months, Nell Kendrick and Jan Jeanneret. Don't forget us.

And congratulations to Dana Felton Reinhard who was recently married and to Susan Koepsell who recently retired.

Zonta Fashion Show Fundraiser

By Carol Cline and Maria Bellmann

**Save the Date of Saturday,
March 2, 2013**

for our **"World of Fashion"**

luncheon, fashion show fundraiser.

**It will be held at a new location this year
Marriott Milwaukee - West in Waukesha
right off the freeway on Hwy F.**

Our fashion show fundraiser is earlier this year than in the past few years. The committee has been on task to make sure it is an event to remember and successful in terms of furthering our Mission.

It will take ALL OF US to ensure we raise enough money to provide financial assistance to programs for women and children in our community and through Zonta International.

YOU as a member of the Zonta Club of Milwaukee have an important role to play.

1. Attend the fashion show on March 2 at Marriott Milwaukee West.
2. Invite friends, family, neighbors, co-workers,

and the person who does your hair, nails, gives you a massage, or checks you out when shopping – everyone.

3. Fill at least a table of 10 (\$50/each or \$500/table) and make reservations
4. Make a tax deductible donation in addition to your reservation.
5. Make a tax deductible donation payable to the Zonta Foundation if you cannot attend.
6. Donate items for the raffle or silent auction and bring to meeting. Identify companies or persons who might sponsor the event (beginning at \$100)
7. Volunteer for day-of activities
8. Donate at least one \$10 bottle of wine for the wine pull and bring it to the next meeting.

Invites will be mailed to our invitee list mid January and actual invites to members will be available at the January 23rd meeting. An electronic invite will be sent to members in mid-January.

Reservations are due Sat. Feb. 16 so work on getting your table filled and the money in.

Our next committee meeting will be Tuesday, January 15 at Carol's office.



UN Women and the Conference on the Status of Women (March 4-15, 2013)

*By Diane Lindsley
District 6 Advocacy Chair*

Zonta International recently signed onto to a letter urging the ratification of the CEDAW treaty. It was delivered to the US Senate.

USA Today Column: Why U.S. needs to ratify women's rights treaty

International pact would curb worldwide gender discrimination.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2013/01/06/emily-martin-and-arjun-sethi-on-womens-rights-treaty/1807767/>

One of the distinguishing features of American foreign policy is its claim of moral authority in the field of human rights. Our politicians regularly cite America as a beacon of freedom and as a champion of the cause of human dignity across the globe. Yet, in at least one important instance, America lags behind.

The United States remains the only industrialized democracy not to have ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, a watershed international agreement that protects women and girls from unfair treatment and abuse. In fact, only six other states in the United Nations -- Iran, Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia and two Pacific Islands -- have failed to approve the treaty.

Last week, a coalition of more than 100 organizations co-signed a letter urging the Senate to ratify the treaty in the 113th Congress. President Obama endorses ratification, and has identified the Convention as a multilateral treaty priority. The Senate must seize this moment, and ratify the women's rights convention. It must not play the same shameful partisan politics that it did with the disability rights convention, which it rejected just one month ago. The international bill of rights for women, as it's often called, was drafted in 1979 to help curb worldwide gender discrimination. A decade later, the economist Amartya Sen described the problem best when he noted in an article that more than 100 million women were missing from the world. Sen concluded that men outnumbered women because of disparate access to education, health care and

economic opportunity. There was also mounting evidence at the time that gender equality was correlated positively with economic development and democratic reform -- a principle now espoused by economists worldwide. The treaty recognizes that women's rights are human rights and, like genocide and racial discrimination before it, merit their own international commitment.

Countries that ratify the treaty agree to take "all appropriate measures" to ensure that women receive equal and fair treatment. They commit to providing periodic reports documenting their efforts to a 23-member committee, which makes recommendations regarding best practices. The committee has no enforcement authority and its recommendations are non-binding. Its power is persuasive and rests on an unwavering belief that self-evaluation and international dialogue leads to positive change for women and girls. Public reports make states accountable to the world, and empower NGO's and citizens, both at home and abroad, to take action.

Success stories from those countries that have already ratified the treaty abound. In 2005, Kenya ended inheritance discrimination against widows and daughters based on guidance from the committee. In the same year, Kuwait gave women the right to vote following the committee's recommendation. By 2009, each of Mexico's 32 states had adopted language from the Convention in legislation to end violence against women. Bangladesh has committed to eliminating gender disparities in secondary education because of the public dialogue emanating from its periodic reports.

Ratification will allow the U.S. to participate in this international dialogue, and stand up for women's rights. U.S. Ambassador for Global Women's Issues, Melanne Verveer, testified last year that U.S. ratification "would lend much needed validation" to women seeking greater political and economic expression in the Middle East in the wake of the Arab uprisings. As it stands, major human rights violators cite America's failure to ratify the treaty as evidence that women's rights aren't universal.

Approval of the treaty will also aid our own continued progress. According to the World Economic Forum's 2012 Global Gender Gap Report, the U.S. ranks 22nd in the world in gender equity. Domestic violence persists, pay discrimination lingers and the U.S. ranks last among all industrialized nations in maternal health. San Francisco has already profited from the Convention's time-tested processes. The city recently reduced gender discrimination in hiring and retention after passing an ordinance implementing the treaty's self-evaluation process on a local level.

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Critics have charged that the agreement undermines national sovereignty. Yet, the Convention relies entirely on voluntary cooperation and advisory recommendations. Should the U.S. ratify the treaty, our elected officials would be responsible for determining what measures are appropriate to advance its goals. The women's rights treaty affirms fundamental American values of fairness and opportunity for all.

In his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, President Obama declared that "America cannot insist that others follow the rules of the road if we refuse to follow them ourselves."

The time for rhetoric is over. If America seeks to promote the cause of women's rights, the Senate must take action and ratify the international bill of rights for women.

Emily Martin is vice president and general counsel at the National Women's Law Center. Arjun Sethi is an attorney based in Washington, D.C., and a frequent commentator on civil rights and social justice-related issues.

Zonta Club of Milwaukee Meeting Schedule

Please mark your calendars for future Zonta Club of Milwaukee meetings as listed below.

The remainder of the meetings will be scheduled for the Italian Community Center, unless we opt out for another location. The schedule is:

February 27: Claudine O'Leary will speak on Human Trafficking

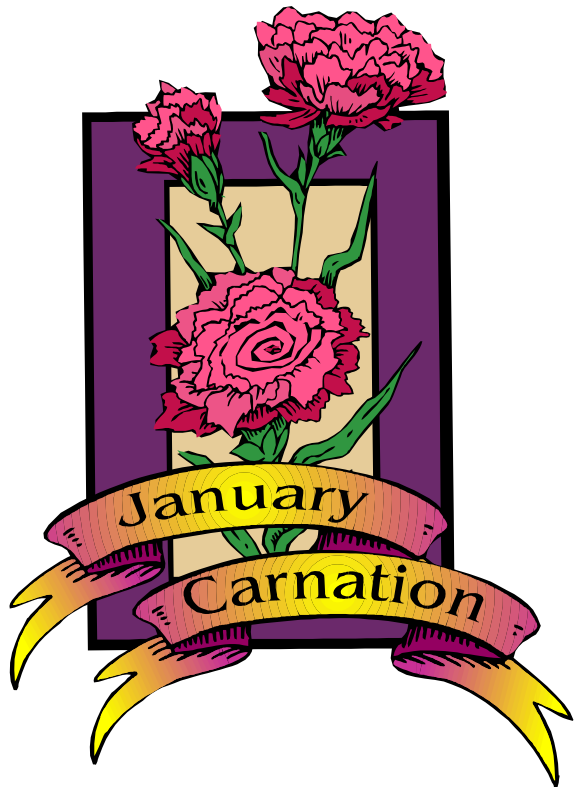
March 27: Carmen Pitre will speak on Domestic Violence

April 24: Annual Club and Foundation Meeting

May 22

June 26

JANUARY Birthdays **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



Laureen Ward

Maria Bellmann

Judith Lehman

Victoria Frazier