

# Zonta Club Wilwaukee

## Sept. 2013

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For more information on Zonta Milwaukee visit, www.zontamilwaukee.org

## Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Zonta Club of Milwaukee Dinner Meeting Speaker: Donna Neal Topic: Zonta International

#### **Welcome Back Zontains.**

The September meeting speaker is our own Donna Neal.

Donna will be speaking to us as our Area 2 Director.

Donna will present the ZI and ZISVAW projects for the 2012-14 biennium, with emphasis on the Edutainment project, and lead a discussion on how to bring ZI to life at the local level.

## What a great way to get us geared up for the upcoming year and for Fall Conference!

Meal Choices: Salad and Chicken Tetrazzini or a Salad and Eggplant Rollups for the vegetarian dinner.

Italian Community Center (I.C.C.), 631 E. Chicago Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 5:30 PM - Social 6:00 PM - Dinner 7:00 PM - Speaker: Donna Neal

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

RESERVATIONS: Please call Helen Ludwig (414-321-0078, Extension 114) or email her at hludwig@sbl-law.org with the cancellation of your standing reservation or any call-in reservation by 9:00 am on Monday, September 23, 2013.

## President's Message...

Hello Zontians!

I'm sure everyone would agree that summer flew by way to quickly! I hope everyone had time to enjoy the warmth, weather and some leisure time with friends and family.

It was wonderful to install three new members at our June meeting. Welcome to Cheryl, Lori, and Danielle! You can read more about our new members in the membership section of the newsletter.

On a sad note, we lost a long-time member, Aileen Rockjordan. Aileen joined Zonta in 1970 which means she had been a member for 43 years. A few examples of her past service to the Club: She served in many capacities over the years including club president from 1978-1980. She was club Service co-chair in 1986 and led a Discovery Day project at the Milwaukee Public Museum in which 3-D models of museum displays were created and then sighted children were teamed up with blind children and were taken on a "tour" of the museum. She was on the club board again from 1987-89. She also co-chaired our 75th Anniversary gala event in October of 2001. We will miss her and appreciate her long dedication to the Zonta Club of Milwaukee.

Another one of our members, Beverly Conner has regretfully resigned from the Club and the Foundation Board due to her relocation to Florida. We will miss her and wish her and her husband well in their new ventures.

Last month we successfully completed our 2nd annual back-to-school service project for Neu-Life. I want to thank the Club members and the backpack team service team for their generosity and hard work to pull together over 60 backpacks for the Neu-Life elementary and high schoolers! It was very much appreciated.

Thank you to all who have signed up to participate or lead the various committees. We can only be successful with your help and participation. Many of the committees will be evolving and transitioning as members move amongst the committees. There is still time to join a committee if you are interested!

Fall Conference in Springfield, IL is right around the corner. I encourage each and every one of you to attend if at all possible. It is good to be exposed to the wonderful world of Zonta outside of our Milwaukee Club. It is wonderful that so many of our Club members have roles at the Area, District and International level, and can bring that back to our Club also. I would like to personally thank them for their service.

I look forward to seeing you all at the September meeting. Thank you for all you do, for women locally and around the world.

Joni Reese



## Club Meeting Minutes

#### Social and Dinner

Meeting was called to order at 7 PM.

#### Welcome & Guest Introductions

- Club welcomed Anjana Murali and her parents along with our 3 new members (Cheryl Nowak, Lori Peterson, and Danielle Ladzekpo).

### Presentation of Young Women of Public Affairs (YWPA) Scholarship presented by Cindy Talkovic

- Anjana was presented with the YWPA scholarship and gave a quick presentation to the Club about her life and experiences, including her volunteering activities.

#### Installed 3 new members

Cheryl Nowak – IT Project Manager at WE Energies

Danielle Ladzekpo – Microbiologist originally from Ghana and has always wanted to be a Zonta member

Lori Peterson – Senior Engineer at WE Energies

### **Committee Reports**

## Program - Donna Neal

Will be at the ICC for September, October, and November. The next meeting is on September 25th, 2013.

#### Membership – Pam Knackert

There were three new members installed and we are reminded to keep an eye out for potential new members.

#### **Scholarship**

Selection of Jane M. Klausman, Women in Business scholarship was awarded to an MSOE student who will join us in September. The Women for Science scholarship is due in August. This is for a women pursuing an undergraduate degrees in science, technology, engineering or math who demonstrates outstanding potential in the field, and are entering their third or fourth year of an undergraduate degree program at an accredited university/college/institute program at the time the funds are received.

#### **Fashion Show**

The date of the fashion show is April 5th, 2014 at the Marriott. We are looking into taking internet payment for the fashion show tickets.

#### PR/Web/Newsletter

Joann Henry is taking a leave from the Zonta Club of Milwaukee and will no longer be publishing the newsletter. The Club sent her flowers to her work in gratitude for all of her years of creating the Club Newsletter. Joni's daughter Delanie is taking over the newsletter, so please get in your articles early if possible. Deadlines are by the 7th of the month.

## Meeting Minutes Continued...

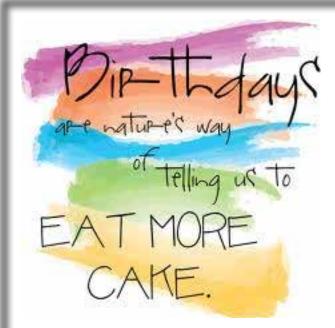
**Treasurer Update - Elizabeth Stull** 

#### Other announcements - Joni R.

- -Don't forget to sign-up for the various Club committees
- -When the committee chair is not a Board member, there will be a Board liason assigned to the committee for monthly reporting to the Board.
- -Inter-conference in Niagara Falls, ON Donna C., Cheryl, Donna N.
  - Approximately 180 people are attending the conference
  - All presentations will be available on the district website. Donna C. will send out the link when she gets it.
- -Next Conference: District Conference will be October 11, 12, 13 in Springfield, IL
  - Cost of the conference is about \$130.
  - Carpooling and hotel room sharing are available within the club.
  - Please consider attending!

### Meeting was adjourned.





Kim Brinsko -September 15th

Nellie Kendrick -September 23rd

Barbara Wyatt Sibley -September 26th

## Membership Corner By Pam Knackert

We'd like to welcome three new members to the Zonta Club of Milwaukee. They are Danielle Ladzekpo, Cheryl Nowak, and Lori Peterson. Danielle is a microbiologist for Kleen Test Products in Port Washington. Cheryl is an IT Project Manager for WE Energies and Lori Peterson is a senior engineer at WE Energies. Welcome to all.

You should have received an updated roster in late June. Also note a new e-mail for Chris Todd is toddcr71@hotmail.com.

Several current and past Zonta Club of Milwaukee members attended the wake and service for Aileen Rockjordan, one of our long time members, who passed away August 7th. Aileen had been a member for over 40 years and was 90, which none of us would ever have thought. Aileen's philosophy was "You only live once; but if you life it right, once is enough."

Don't forget to invite any prospective members to our September meeting at the Italian Community Center, especially any of those that have not been able to make one of the previous events or meetings.



## Service & Advocacy

Last May, the Club approved a proposal to merge the activities of the Service and Advocacy Committees and implement the project proposal. Several members expressed interest in working on the new Service & Advocacy Committee, and it was formed this summer. The S&A Committee met for the first time on August 29. Much was accomplished in an hour and a half and we are ready to kick off programs and projects for this year!

#### **Achievements So Far**

Like we did last summer, we got a head start on the year with our Back-to-School backpack/school supplies project. We donated 65 filled backpacks for elementary. middle, and high school students, well exceeding the 50 packs distributed last year. All of them are now in use! Extra supplies will be held at Neu-Life and distributed to students as needed through the school year. Well done, Victoria, Kristin, and team! And thanks to all who contributed supplies or cash donations – we couldn't pull off this project without the generous support of Club members.



#### On Deck for the Fall

We will kick off the Holiday Gift Collection at our October Zonta meeting (earlier than last year to make logistics easier). We are looking for co-chairs to lead the project and coordinate the assignments and collection. We expect all Club members to participate.

The Girls on the Run 5K Race practice sessions and race will be formatted like last spring. Interested Zontians should contact Donna Neal and/or Jody Rhodes. Jody will provide details on how to sign up, the timing of practices and the date of the race.

In the next month or two, a small group will be scoping out a Zonta/Neu-Life Joint Advocacy Program aiming to prevent domestic and sexual violence and trafficking, and fitting under the rubric of the ZI Zonta Says No program. The general idea is to implement an education program with an arts component – following the learning piece, students would develop art work inspired by the curriculum, to be displayed at the Art Show Fundraiser. Then, as a summer project, students would be encouraged to create messages for social media, coming from Neu-Life Kids and Zonta, jointly in some cases. Once we define the content of the program in more detail, we will set up a committee to work on the project. A key component will be achieving some publicity around the issues and generate awareness of our involvement with Neu-Life.

## Service & Advocacy Continued...

## Late Fall/Spring

Planning should begin late this fall for a **Career Event** to be held in March designed for high schoolers, and open to interested middle schoolers, at the Neu-Life main site. We are **looking for co-chairs to lead the planning** with Jody or her designate, identify the fields of interest (business ownership, medical, and science fields will be on the list) and coordinate volunteers to participate.

Jody would like **two or three volunteers with some marketing/publicity savvy** to meet with their **Annual Art Show Fundraiser planning team** 3-4 times (once a month or so) between January and April. This year the goal is to double the attendance vs. last year. Volunteers should contact Donna Neal and Jody. This year's theme will be food-related; the students will make more of the food served at the event (cooking/gardening group project). Possible theme: Food for Thought.

The Area 2 **Annual International Women's Day Advocacy Event in Madison** will take place on **Friday, March 7.** The Club is supporting this event financially. Karen H will participate on the Area 2 planning team as the Milwaukee representative. We would like to increase the number of Milwaukee Zontians attending the event in Madison – it's a terrific experience!

## Neu-Life News

As many of you are aware, Neu-Life is embarking on a capital campaign to raise approximately \$500,000 for renovations to the Neu-Life and public spaces in the building. Neu-Life's partner H20 (who helped the students create the water video presented at the Art Show) has helped them create a 90-second video promoting the Neu-Life program; work to develop a second video explaining the need for renovations is in progress. A one-pager on the project has also been created or is in development. Three foundations have already expressed interest in seeing the presentation for the project: Zilber, Bader, and Bradley. Those presentations will be the first to be made. Neu-Life may need some help with connections to other possible resources, and we will assist to the extent possible.

Neu-Life has been awarded a grant to develop a new **bike education and safety program** through Dream Big. About 60 kids will receive bikes, locks, and other equipment. This proposal was developed by the students and judged by their peers, so it's a big deal! Congratulations to Neu-Life Kids!





## Scholarship Updates

On behalf of the Scholarship Committee, we were pleased to announce the 2013 winner of the Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) at our June meeting.

The winner of the YWPA award was Anjana Murali. Anjana was a Junior at Shorewood High school and completing her High School education a year early. Her family came to the US in January of 2011. Anjana and her family experienced discrimination and many adversities as an Indian family living initially in Montana during the events of 911, many of which have shaped her life today. She is involved in the UN Initiative through the Girl Scout program as well as numerous volunteer projects. She is exploring several colleges and if we have any alumni contacts that could assist her, we would hope our members would step forward and let us know. Her academic excellence is allowing her the opportunity to explore schools such as: St. Louis University, Washington University, Brown University, and Northwestern are top on her list.



In addition to announcing our YWPA scholarship winner, we have some addition great news. Earlier this year we announced the Milwaukee Club winner of the Jane M. Klausman Award. This award went to Mollie Zuberbier. You may recall that Mollie is a student at the Milwaukee School of Engineering pursuing a BS degree in International Business. In addition, she will receive a degree in Industrial Engineering from the University of Applied Science, Lubeck Germany. We could not be more pleased to announce that Mollie is also the District 6 Jane M. Klausman scholarship winner. As the local club winner the recipient receives \$1000.00 in scholarship and now as the District winner will receive an addition \$5,000.00; As Mollie stated in her application, this will certainly help her pay off her college tuition debt.

## U.S. Should Ratify Convention For Women's Rights

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/us-should-ratify-convention-for-womens-rights/2013/07/17/ce7249d2-ed67-11e2-bb32-725c8351a69e story.html

Regarding "Pakistan's Malala gives birthday speech" [World Digest, July 13]

It is worth noting that the inspiring speech by Malala Yousafzai, the teenager shot by the Taliban while campaining for girls' education, came as we approach the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s March on Washington, where he gave his "I have a dream" speech, and follows in the footsteps of the courageous children who took the moral high ground in 1963 by standing up against violence in Selma and Montgomery, Ala.

Ms. Yousafzai's speech at the United Nations reminds us that the United States' struggle for civil rights is part of a global movement for civil and human rights. The basic human rights she is fighting for — education and empowerment for women and girls — are enshrined in the U.N. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), a convention ratified by more than 180 nations but, shamefully, not by the United States. The CEDAW committee that monitors treaty compliance has grilled Pakistan about Ms. Yousafzai's case and called for strong action to stop violence against women and girls and all forms of extremism. That call would be stronger if the United States also ratified CEDAW. It seems the very least we can ask the Senate to do.

June Zeitlin, Washington

The writer is director of the CEDAW Education Project at the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

## Upcoing Meetings

## 4th Wednesday of each month; 5:30 pm

October 23 – Social event with Neu-Life

November 20 – Intl theme (ICC)

December - Holiday gathering at Member's resident

(altered dates due to the holidays)



## Advocacy

According to research by Mother Jones:

Domestic violence is the No. 1 cause of injury to women. The incidents add up to more than all the rapes, muggings, and car accidents women experience each year. One out of every four women in the United States will be physically injured by a lover in her lifetime. That translates into a woman being assaulted every nine seconds in America. Immigrant women are beaten at higher rates than US citizens, and African American women are subjected to the most severe forms of violence. Not surprisingly, a shaky economy just makes these numbers worse.

Zonta says No! In the next newsletters you will receive information on what Zonta International is doing to stop the violence, the initiatives we in Milwaukee are launching to make our collective voices opposing violence against women heard and what you can do as an individual to stop the violence.

If you would like to take a more active role developing, planning and implementing the Zonta Club of Milwaukee's "Just Say No!" stance in the upcoming year, contact Karen Hunt @ 414-412-0049 or karen.hunt@resilientcities.org.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

## In Loving Memory of Aileen Rockjordan 1923 - 2013 Member for 43 years





"You only live once; but if you life it right, once is enough."