

Zonta International District 7

Governor's Newsletter

August 2002
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Greetings from the Governor

Kerry Dixon-Fox

Greetings fellow Zontians! We are taking off on a new biennium full of exciting prospects to make an impact in our communities and the world. I want to take a moment to thank past Governor Cathi for her leadership and friendship over the past two years – she is a great Zontian!

As we dive into the upcoming year there are several things that I want to focus on for our district – the first and foremost echoes the goal of our International President Margit – let's recruit, retain and rejuvenate our membership! Let's think outside the box for ways to attract new members as well as keep our existing members enthused about Zonta – involvement at the club and international level is key in this.

I'm hoping that the upcoming Fall Seminar in St. Paul's will help with this. We are taking a new approach and having time for fun but also having plenty of interesting speakers to keep you enthused. By including St. Paul's Global Event in the proceedings we hope to share our Zonta enthusiasm with the community members who will be present.

I also want us all to take a look at our club service projects – do they reflect the mission of Zonta – to improve the status of women? We don't have to stop doing those projects that have long been dear to our clubs, but let's look at other ways we can affect our

communities and improve the status of women in them.



There is more on my goals for the biennium later in this newsletter and I hope you take the time to share with your club members.

I'm looking forward to an exciting two years and if I can do anything to help you or your club please let me know!

Highlights from the ZI Board Meeting

On June 26-28 2002 the ZI Board met in Gotenborg, Sweden for their sixth meeting of the biennium. Among actions that were taken were:

- The decision to set the dates of the 2006 convention in Melbourne, Australia as 24-29 June 2006.
- The adoption of a new member classification system to be implemented in 2002-2004. Details will be sent to district governors as soon as possible.
- Approved Meritorious Service Awards for four Zontians.

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Governor's Goals for 2002-2004

These are my goals for the 2002-2004 biennium. These were discussed at the August board meeting and approved by the District Board. With their help and yours I hope to achieve many of them in the upcoming biennium. The primary goals reflect those of International President Margit Webjorn.

1. Recruit, Retain, Rejuvenate
 - a) To emphasize that membership is the responsibility of each member;
 - b) To remind clubs that the strength of the membership committee is directly related to the health of the club;
 - c) To encourage clubs to seek assistance from the district for membership problems.
2. Focus on our Mission – Combine Service and Advocacy
 - a) To focus on our important mission in order to achieve progress for women;
 - b) To select only service projects and advocacy efforts that aim at advancing the status of women
 - c) To combine service and advocacy efforts to enhance the efforts of our work;
 - d) To have all clubs contribute at least 1/3rd of service monies to Zonta International Service Programs.
3. Public Relations and Communications
 - a) To establish the district website and promote its use;
 - b) To encourage clubs to have a newsletter and to distribute it to members and district officers;
4. District Long Range Plan
 - a) To emphasize the importance of implementing the long-range plan at the club level;
 - b) To continue board review of the long-range plan and to update and revise as necessary.
5. United Nations
 - a) To encourage clubs to learn about the activities of the UN and Zonta's work there;
 - b) To have all clubs celebrate UN Day in October.

New Members in the District!

From the club newsletters

Jefferson City, MO: Constance Bearnese, Anita Feldman, Laura Feldman, D.O., Nancy Gratz, and Mary Roberts.

Duluth, MN: Carly Dammer and Linda Ziemski.

St. Cloud, MN: Lori Rebischke

Jamestown, ND: Janis Bensch, Judy Nohrenbert, Margaret Lee, Ginny Teller, and Lou Mayer



District Directory is Coming!!

Lieutenant Governor Linda Jacobsen is hard at work on the district directory. She will be in touch with the area directors and club presidents to verify the information we have is correct before we go to print. We hope to have a hard copy for each club as well as electronic formats available. Please be timely in response to her so we have correct information in the Directory.

Introducing the District Board and Committee Chairs

The District Board has had its first meeting and is off to a busy start this biennium. Below is a listing of the Board as well as all the District Committee chairs.

District 7 Board Members:

- Governor – Kerry Dixon-Fox, Central Iowa
- Lt. Governor – Linda Jacobsen, St. Charles
- Treasurer – Barb Zapp, St. Cloud
- Secretary – Lois Davis, Kansas City 1
- Parliamentarian – Patricia Palm, Mankato

ZI Board Highlights (from p.1)

- Endorsed November 25th as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and encouraged clubs to organize special events on that day.

At the first meeting of the 2002-2004 biennium, the ZI Board took the following actions:

- Adopted the 2002-2004 ZI budget, which includes the allocation of per capita dues (\$50) as follows: member services \$40, organization and extension \$6; and convention \$4.
- Reviewed the international nominating form and approved a revised form
- Reviewed issues for possible further consideration which were referred by the 2000-2002 ZI Board.

- Area 1 Director – Mary Jacklitch, Breckenridge-Whapeton
- Area 3 Director – Dr. Carol Munns, Brainerd
- Area 5 Director – Cheryl Disney Breedon, Johnson County
- Area 6 Director – Anne Anderson, St. Louis

District 7 Committee Chairs:

Status of Women Service:

- Kathy Swan, Cape Girardeau

Sub-Committees:

- Amelia Earhart – Janelle Weishaar, Atchison
- Young Women in Public Affairs – Sharon Stark, Topeka
- Jane M. Klausman – Suzanne Bond, Kansas City KS
- ZISVAW – Cheryl Wegner, Jamestown

United Nations:

- Laurel Haroldson, Jamestown

Public Relations:

- Nancy Vessel, Jefferson City

Nominating:

- Barb Jirges, Bismark

Foundation Ambassador:

- Amparo Thomas, Jefferson City

I am still looking for regional/state representative for Legislative Awareness and Advocacy. If you are interested in serving in that capacity, please contact me at kdixonfox@hotmail.com

Upcoming Dates and Events

September 22, 2002

St. Louis, Missouri

Zonta Day at the Ballgame

1:10 p.m. Game time! For more information Jane Herman Schultz 1-877-966-5798 or e-mail bherman01@earthlink.net.

September 26, 2002

Mankato, Minnesota

Mankato Annual Fashion Show

For more information contact Jo Cattryse at catt@rconnect.com

October 11-13, 2002

St. Paul, Minnesota

District 7 Fall Seminar

Women Changing the World – Past, Present, Future.

For more information see www.zontastpaul.org

October 31, 2002

Newsletter Deadline

Items must be to the governor for inclusion in next newsletter.

November 25, 2002

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

January 20, 2003

Conference Call

District Board Meeting

March, April 2003

Area Meetings

Dates will be set this fall. For more information contact your area director.

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**June 2003
District Board Meeting**

For more information contact Kerry Dixon-Fox.

**October 10-12, 2003
Kansas City, Missouri
District Conference**

**July 3-8, 2004
Marriott Marquis, Time Square,
New York
Zonta International Convention**

District 7 YWPA Winner Goes All The Way!!

*Via e-mail from Ana Ubides, ZI
Headquarters Staff*

CONGRATULATIONS!

Katherine Berry, the 2002 District 7 YWPA recipient, has been chosen as one of the International Young Women in Public Affairs recipients for 2002.

Congratulations to [the district] and thank you for all your help in promoting Zonta International and its Young Women in Public Affairs program.

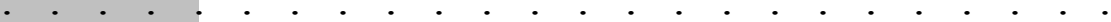
Best regards,
Ana Ubides

(Katherine was the winner from the Kansas City 2 Zonta Club.)

Twenty-nine women from twenty-nine districts and fourteen countries competed in the final selection of the five recipients of the US\$1,000 awards. Application materials for next year and biographical descriptions of the 2002 district recipients will also be available from the Zonta web site at a later date.

The five International recipients are:

- Katherine Hui, Ontario, Canada (D4)
- Katherine Berry, Shawnee Mission, KS, USA (D7)
- Heather Brink-Roby, Corvallis, OR, USA (D8)
- Abigail Ogada-Osir, Victoria, Australia (D23)
- Alexandra Engel, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia (D24)



District 7, Zonta International
818 Northwestern Ave.
Ames, IA 50010

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Views from a New Member

By Lillian Pardo, Kansas City 2

The following was taken from an e-mail to the Zonta Club of Kansas City 2, MO from its newest member who attended the International Convention.

Just to report back to all of you from Gothenburg, Sweden of my first Zonta International congress. After being a member for less than a year, it was exciting, exhilarating and empowering. I am hooked and look forward to New York City in 2004, and Melbourne, Australia in 2006, future sites of international congresses. I met not only the members of District 7 at our district meeting and luncheon, but also other Zontians from other continents that truly made this a worldly experience of no parallel in depth and breadth. If you came in with ten friends, you left with two hundred more that you want to email, call or visit. Our esteemed PIP, Harriette Yeckel, is of course a veteran of all of these gatherings, but to a newcomer like me, I look forward to many more exciting meetings such as this with as much fervor and anticipation as Harriette did many moons ago.

The keynote speakers were outstanding women who were very experienced and knowledgeable about their fields of endeavor and awe-inspiring for all their accomplishments, including a well-delivered speech by the female president of Latvia, a participating host country along with Sweden. The messages were universal, there is much more we can do as an organization in health, education and programs to uplift the status of women worldwide. Each club, each district, each country and each continent can contribute to the whole, with great successes, big or small. The simulated Nobel Prize

awards ceremony of famous women Nobel laureates was most interesting in its historical perspective that proved further the brilliance of women to receive those coveted awards. The parade of flags and the Zontians in their native costumes inspired nationalism and a sense of pride, and provided a colorful pageantry that reminded all of us that we are part of a global village without borders comprised of women of all colors and creeds.

The youthful exuberance of exchanging tokens, pins, gifts and emblems of their clubs was an example of showmanship at its best; the one with the most covered Zonta sash wins. It was quite a phenomenon to behold. Many had very creative, innovative and novel crafts from all over the world. One that I did not get, which I eyed with envy was a modest-sized pin of an American Indian theme - dreamcatchers, but one I prized the most was a mother-of-pearl Zonta emblem from the Philippines, from the District 17 governor.

There are some photos to share, but will save those for the upcoming club newsletter.

This brief account is the Reader's Digest version and hope that with time and inspiration, will file a more comprehensive report for our club.

[This is a new feature that I hope to continue in future newsletters. If you have a new member that would be willing to contribute, please contact me – Kerry]

2002/2003 AE Fellows Named

District 7 has been notified that it has a 2002/2003 Amelia Earhart Fellow in the District!

Maria-Laura Beninati is a doctoral student in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. She is an AAUW Fellow with the Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research. Her areas of research include:

- Turbulence Evolution in Vortex-Dominated Flows
- Fundamental Interactions of Turbulence and Trailing Vortices, and
- Physical Experiments Using the Wind Tunnel and Vortex Generator

Ms. Beninati holds four additional degrees from Drexel University:

- M.S., Civil Engineering
- M.S., Mechanical and Industrial Engineering
- B.S., Architectural Engineering
- B.S., Civil Engineering

Ms. Beninati will be awarded her AE wings and medal at a ceremony at the University of Iowa later this semester. More information will follow on the date and location of this event.

International Videos Available!

Looking for a club program on International programs or projects? The Zonta International video on the 2001-2002 accomplishments is here!

This video outlines the accomplishments of Zonta International over the last two years. This is an excellent program for clubs to illustrate the connection between the international level and our local clubs as well as show what has been accomplished with the club donations to the Foundation. A video on the Zonta/UNIFEM project, Reinventing India – Preventing Violence against Women and Girls, is also available.

The videos will be available from each Area Director or the Governor later this month and may be borrowed for club use.

U.S. Senate Ratifies CEDAW

ZI United Nations Chairman Jackie Shapiro passed along the good news that the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved the U.S. ratification of the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) by a 12-7 bipartisan vote! This is a HUGE step toward U.S. ratification of the treaty.

The treaty will now move to the full senate for a debate and vote. In order for the U.S. to ratify an international treaty, two-thirds of the Senate must consent, meaning 67 yes votes. Your support can make the difference!

You can take action to help CEDAW pass. How you ask?

- Write to your senators and tell them CEDAW is an important priority to pass before the elections and that you hope you can count on their support when the treaty comes up for a vote.
- Call or write the White House. The Bush administration is currently wavering in its

support for CEDAW. Republican senators are likely to follow the White House lead.

To contact your Senator or the White House you can:

- Send an e-mail to your Senators, President Bush, and Secretary of State Colin Powell through www.womenstreaty.org (click on Take Action Now)
- Contact your Senators at <http://thomas.loc.gov>
- Write directly to President Bush or Secretary of State Colin Powell at the following address:
President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington DC 20500
Comments: 202-456-1111
Switchboard: 202-456-1414
(M-F, 9-5 EDT)
Fax: 202-456-2461

Secretary Colin Powell
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington DC 20520
Comments : 202-647-5281
(M-F, 9-5 EDT)
Fax: 202-261-8577

International Liaison Named

Dögg Pálsdóttir, 2001-2003 International Director from Reykjavik, Iceland, has been appointed the Board Liaison to District 7. She will provide information from the Zonta International Board that I will then pass on to the District presidents. Highlights from her first Liaison Letter included the division of Zonta membership. Please share this information as I think it is interesting.

Membership in Zonta International as of 31 May 2002: 32,926

- Zone 1 – the Americas: 11,773
- Zone 2 – total members: 13,924
Europe (13,461)
Africa (461)
- Zone 3 – total members: 7,228
Australia and
New Zealand (3,287)
Asia (3,941)

Upcoming Newsletter Items:

- A report from Fall Seminar
- Area Updates
- Committee Chairs Speak
- News from our District Liaison
- District Long Range Plan update
- District Web Site update