

District 7 Newsletter

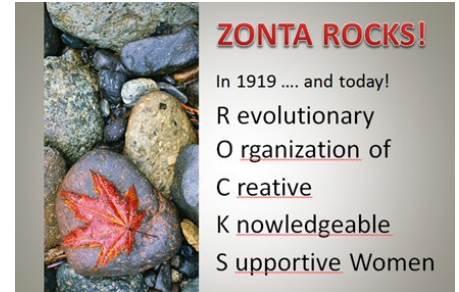
Volume 1, Issue 4, December 2011



Message from the Governor



The Fall Conference, “Zonta Rocks!” was a wonderful success! Many thanks to the Mary Nimmerfroh, Conference Chair, and her fabulous team of St. Cloud Zontians! The conference was attended by ninety three Zontians and guests. I’ve included some highlights from the conference in this issue.



Congratulations to Janet Kannard, Incoming Governor, and the incoming D7 Board 2012-2014. Janet will be installed at the end of the International Convention in Torino, Italy. Speaking of the International Convention, the website is up. <http://torino2012.zonta.org/> I hope many of you are planning to attend. It looks like a fabulous opportunity!

I’d like to address the decision to not have the Fall Seminar next year. During the Fall Board meeting our International liaison, Beryl McMillan, expressed concerned about the number of zontians attending district and area meetings. It takes a lot of effort to put on these events, and if we can’t get enough members to attend, we need to reassess. It is in the By-Laws that we have one District Conference per biennium, and Area Meetings Annually. So Beryl suggested we pole the membership and make an early decision for 2012. We did that, and the decision has been made to cancel the Fall 2012 Seminar in Kansas City. I personally want to thank those in Kansas City who were willing to step up and take it on. I have heard some of your concerns about this and it will be a topic at our next Board meeting in January.

As we move into this holiday season I wish each and everyone of you the very best. May your days be filled with joy, laughter, and love.



Governor Barb

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District 7 Pins Available for Order!

The District 7 Pins were unveiled at the Fall Conference in St. Cloud. For the past few years the district board has been trying to develop a D7 pin that we could sell to raise fund for District projects. We wanted to create an Amelia Earhart design and discovered that her image was owned by a law firm. When I became Governor I made it my mission to solve this problem, since many of you know that I love to make Zonta themed jewelry! So, that being said in long hours of searching I stumbled up a stamp dealer who had a stash of 1963 Amelia Earhart postage stamps. I then received permission from the US Postal Service legal department for District 7 to use them as a fundraiser. It took about eight months to accomplish it, but nonetheless here we are! When I thought I wouldn't get permission to use the stamps I created another pin without Amelia's image, but one that I felt captured her spirit and our love of her and her courage. It is what I would call a "steampunk" design, which is a new trend in the jewelry world.

Polly Holten, Area 2 Director, auctioned off the first Amelia Stamp pin that I made Friday evening at the 1st Business session. Gladys Schubach, from the St. Charles Club, was the generous Zontian who had the winning bid \$360! It was a great kick-off to this project. Thanks Gladys!



Limited edition Stamp pins \$25



D7 "Steampunk" Pin \$20

Place Orders with Governor Barb:

Barbara.Jirges@bismarckstate.edu

701-222-2723 (home phone)

Checks should be made out to:

Zonta District 7,
put D7 pin in the memo

Send checks to:

Janet Kannard, D7 Treasurer
5772 Marty Street
Overland Park, KS 66202

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Election of Officers for 2012—2014

Governor Janet Kannard
Kansas City II

Lt. Governor..... Polly Holten
Cape Girardeau

Treasurer..... Alice Smith
Brainerd

Area 1 Director..... Stacey Lentz
 Fargo/Moorhead

Area 2 Director.....Kay Moss
St. Louis

Area 3 Director.....Cheryl Retterath
Austin

Area 4 Director.....Anne McCleery
Johnson County

Nominating Committee:

Carol Pasanen, Chair
Brainerd

Linda Nelson
Minneapolis

Gladys Schubach
St. Charles

Club Presidents 2011-2012

Area 1

Aberdeen – Kathy Knudsen, sknudsen@nrctv.com

Bismarck – Carmen Miller, carmenmiller@hotmail.com

Breck/Wahpeton – Ann Trebesch, AnnTrebesch@catholichealth.net

Fargo – Barb Bougie, bbougie@yahoo.com

Jamestown – Jane Austin, j_austin08@yahoo.com

Area 2

St. Louis – Linda Daus, lindaus1@aol.com

St. Charles – Gladys Schubach, gladys@gmsincentives.com

Jefferson City – Joan Prenger, salon@socket.net

Cape – Kelly Green, klgreen@cityofcapegirardeau.org

Austin – Debi Irish, irish.family@yahoo.com

Brainerd – Bonnie Kriha, kriha@charter.net

Mankato – Shelley Schultz, family5@frontiernet.net

Minneapolis – Laura Krishnan, laura.krishnan@leonard.com

St. Cloud – Susan Kadlec, skadlec@rajhan.com

St. Paul – Judy Cognetta, judycognetta@comcast.net

Area 4

Atchison – Phyllis Lieb, plieb@gmail.com

Johnson County – Dolores Otto, dotto@steppandrothwell.com

Kansas City I MO – Susan McGinn, smcginn@crofttrailer.com

Kansas City II – Marilyn Curtis, mkcurtis@kc.rr.com

Topeka – Susan Miller, susanmiller5@cox.net

Area 3

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Beryl McMillan, International Representative



Beryl McMillan shared an informative and inspirational message with conference attendees. She explained what the responsibilities of an International Director are and gave a mid-biennium report from ZI. A good portion of her message focused on the importance of membership. We are in a downward trend that must be turned around. Each and everyone of us is responsible to make this happen. Without a healthy membership we will not be in a position to achieve our mission and fulfill our commitments to our projects. Beryl identified things District 7 can do to achieve a rise in membership:

- *Use OMC Tools on ZI Website
- *Every Club use the PowerPoint presentation from the ZI OMC Committee
- *Look for members in your Z & Golden Z Clubs and past award recipients
- *Research possible new clubs in Iowa, Nebraska, or other areas within the D7

Director Beryl encouraged all clubs to utilize the Club Achievement Checklist as a club activity to assess the health of your club. Check off achievements and identify areas to work on in the next year.



Educational Session Highlights

History of Zonta

What is Zonta?

Intergenerational Membership—how to make it work



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Conference Keynote Speakers



Patrick Atkinson, ITEM

Patrick Atkinson gave a powerful presentation on the realities of human trafficking, the modern day form of slavery. The statistics, images, and victims made a huge impact on conference attendees.

Atkinson, the founder and President of ITEM, is also the founder and international executive director of The GOD'S CHILD Project, and several other associated charities in the United States, Central America and Africa. The Institute for Trafficked, Exploited & Missing Persons (ITEM) is an international organization dedicated to ending contemporary slavery and human trafficking through public awareness, research, and direct intervention. ITEM is a borderless sub-program of The GOD'S CHILD Project, a non-denominational, non-political international charity that cares for and educates 5,000 orphaned, abandoned, and poverty-stricken boys and girls in Africa, Central America, and the United States. The project also provides education, health, and community-based services for 8,700 widowed, abandoned, and single mothers and their dependents. ITEM operates in conjunction with national governments and international law enforcement agencies to prevent, interdict, rescue, and recover victims of human trafficking. Both programs are internationally based in Antigua, Guatemala and Bismarck, ND. In 2000 and 2001, Mr. Atkinson was invited by the United Nations to develop child development and educational programs for street children left orphaned by the rampaging AIDS crisis in East and South Africa. He is presently working in Malawi. He serves on the board of several for-profit corporations and non-profit charities and is a widely sought after national speaker on education, spiritual, and human rights issues.



Janelle Kendall, Stearns County (MN) Domestic Violence Court

Janelle Kendall and Sarah Hennesy discussed the unique and innovative partnership between Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance's (MMLA) St. Cloud office and the Stearns County Domestic Violence court. The DV Court is a project that involves the County Attorney, judges, probation officers, victim services, county law enforcement, and Legal Aid. They explained how this partnership can about and how effective it has been. Research shows that the level of availability of legal services in the county of residence has a significant, proportional effect on the likelihood that an individual woman is abused. Less availability of legal services leads to greater likelihood of abuse. After the presentation everyone understood why these two women have come to be known as "Hell in Heels".

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Sue Keirstead, D7 Foundation Ambassador of the North

Zontians responded to the challenge given by Sue Keirstead to support the projects of Zonta International by personally donating to the Foundation. Over \$1500 was collected from conference attendees! Sue, along with the help of Janet Ruopp, Foundation Ambassador of the South, reported that D7 has donated \$55,796.57 so far this biennium. 18 out of the 20 clubs in D7 have donated to the Foundation. 16 Clubs in the district have individuals that have made donations. Thank you to all the clubs and zontians who have made that commitment. The challenge is to have 100% participation. Clubs who achieve 100% membership donations to the Foundation will be recognized at the International Convention in Torino. This is possible! So let's go for it!

It's a Gold Rush!



Conference organizers had a fabulous idea to raise money for the Foundation this year....a Gold Rush Party! Jewelers from St. Cloud came into the Hospitality Room and attendees could cash in old jewelry. The jewelers donated a portion of their proceeds to the Foundation. \$500 was raised for the Foundation!



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Upcoming dates to remember.....

**16 Days of Activism for
Elimination of Violence
Against Women**

November 25—December 10



July 7—12



January 11, 2011

Amelia Earhart Day



March 8



Rose Day/International

Women's Day