

Zonta District 7 Newsletter

January 2013



Governor's Message

The District 7 Board has been busy since International Convention this summer in Torino, which seems like a long time ago, although it has been only six months. In that time period, the District Board Meeting was held in Minneapolis, the Jefferson City Club hosted Area

2 Meeting, and District committee chairs, officers and clubs have been busy with the start of a new biennium.

Some of the District accomplishments include an International Jane M. Klausman winner, Katelin Elizabeth Weiers, whose nomination was submitted by the St. Cloud club, a revised District Web site, observance of Women's Equality Day on September 25, establishment of the first e-Club in our District, formation of a new Z Club by the St. Louis Club, observance of U.N. Day by clubs, and recognition of our District Chair's communications on issues of Advocacy and Violence Against Women from the International Advocacy Chair.

After having an AE Fellow, Emily Arnold, at the University of Kansas for two years, I was thrilled that we have a new AE Fellow studying in the District. Claudia Patricia Moreno, a native of Columbia, is studying Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics at the University of Minnesota. The Minneapolis club presented her with her certificate and wings.

The Minneapolis Club also submitted the YWPA candidate who won the District Award. Her name is Eliza Nicholas Gabriel.

In October, the Zonta Club of Topeka hosted a well-received public program on Trafficking. Keynote Speaker, Kristy Childs, founder of Veronica's Voice, provided detailed information about the life of young trafficking victims. Dorthy Stucky Halley, director of the victim services division of the Kansas attorney general's office spoke about state resources and initiatives. She also mentioned the Polaris Project of the U.S. Department of Justice. Dr. Sharon Sullivan,

associate professor - Washburn University talked about legislation in Kansas and Missouri and the need for quality victim services in our communities as well as generating awareness about how to identify and assist victims of trafficking. Many of these young women are kidnapped as pre-teenagers and the average life expectancy for them is 34 years of age.

November 25 marked the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and began the 16 Days of Activism Campaign. The 16 Days theme for 2012 was From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Let's Challenge Militarism and End Violence Against Women. Zonta International has launched the Zonta Says NO campaign to combat violence against women and girls. This campaign will run for over a year and will include joint actions throughout the world in November and December 2013. If your club does not have a VAW project, this is a good time to begin one. If you would like some ideas, please contact District Advocacy Chair Sherrill Mulhern at zonta_advocacy@yahoo.com.

I would like to express special thanks to our Web Master, Mary Nimmerfroh, who has worked diligently on our revised District Web site with assistance from Mary Reed, whose technical knowledge and assistance were very helpful, and from Past Governor Barb Jirges, whose expertise in design was very beneficial in achieving the desired "look and feel" of the site. I am also grateful to District Advocacy Chair, Sherrill Mulhern, who has worked closely with the International Advocacy Chair to keep us informed on advocacy issues of importance to us as women and Zontians.

Needless to say, District Board members, District Committee Chairs, Club Officers and all our District 7 Zontians deserve praise and appreciation for their ongoing Zonta work.



Meet the Board



Janet Kannard—
Governor



Polly Holten—
Lt. Governor



Alice Smith—
Treasurer



Mary Reed—Secretary



Stacy Lentz—Area 1
Director



Kay Moss—Area 2
Director



Cheryl Retterath—
Area 3 Director



Anne McCleery—Area
4 Director



Pam Phillips—Parlia-
mentarian



Barb Jirges—Past
Governor



Did you know????



In 1996, St. Louis hosted the Zonta International Conference. A District 7 quilt was made that year with all the clubs in the district contributing a square. The quilt was later donated to the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum in Atchison, Kansas. A replica of Amelia's Jenny Lind spool bed is in the bedroom upstairs and the quilt is displayed to all visitors to the museum.

District 7 Zontians had the opportunity to see the quilt when they toured the museum during the 2006 Fall Seminar hosted by the Zonta Club of Atchison.

News from Around the District

Topeka Trafficking Event



The Zonta Club of Topeka, KS hosted the Topeka Trafficking event. From left to right are Dorothy Stucky Halley, Director of the victim services division of the attorney general's office, Dr. Sharon Sullivan, associate professor at Washburn University, Kristy Childs, Founder and Executive Director of Veronica's Voice, Cheryl Kohr, President of the Zonta Club of Topeka, KS, and Janet Kannard, District 7 Governor.

Women's Equality Day Event



Dr. Lillian Pardo and Governor Janet Kannard at the Women's Equality Day Event in Kansas City on August 25. Governor Janet is wearing Orange on the 25th as part of the SAY NO - UNiTE Campaign

International Klausman winner from Area 3

Congratulations to Katelin Elizabeth Weiers who attends the College of Saint Benedict in St. Joseph, Mn.

Katelin is majoring in Accounting and Mathematics and has been awarded an International Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship

Katelin was the District Klausman award winner and was nominated by the Zonta Club of St. Cloud.



Dr. Lillian Pardo



News from Around the District



Barb Jirges was recognized for her service as District 7 governor. At the June board meeting, she received a gift from the outgoing board to assist her in her travels to Torino.



The Zonta Club of Jamestown recognized past Governor Barb Jirges at the September board meeting.

Area 2 Meeting

Area 2 Director, Kay Moss reported on the Area Meeting in Jefferson City. The meeting was attended by around 30 Zontians including guests from Area 4. The value of communication was stressed to all attendees.

Zonta members were treated to a trolley ride around town.



Governor Barb at June board meeting with Lt. Governor Janet Kannard



Trolley ride for Area 2 meeting attendees in Jefferson City, MO.

Congratulations

District 7 YWPA for 2012
Eliza Nicholas Gabriel,
Zonta Club of Minneapolis



Zonta Service Awards

New Zonta Service Recognition Awards – To Be Awarded to 6 Clubs and Up To 3 Districts

This new Service Recognition Award is intended:

- To give recognition to outstanding service projects undertaken by Zonta clubs or districts which benefit women or girls in the local community.
- To honor the clubs or districts for their outstanding performance in carrying out their service projects.
- To foster the exchange of ideas showcasing service projects of clubs or districts on the Zonta International website and at the Zonta International Convention in 2014.
- To draw up exemplars or models in service projects benefiting women or girls in the local community and giving visibility to Zonta International, hence, increasing the credibility of the organization.

The Zonta Service Recognition Awards will be given to deserving Zonta clubs and districts at the end of the biennium during the Zonta International Convention in 2014 in Orlando, Florida.

The Zonta Service Recognition Award will recognize six (6) of the most outstanding service projects sponsored by the clubs and up to three (3) sponsored by districts

Zonta Says NO

A campaign to end violence against women and girls

We are pleased to announce the launch of the Zonta Says NO campaign website -zontasaysno.com.

Please visit the website to check out the wonderful campaign visuals, read about some initiatives already underway and get inspired to start your own district or club project. Learn more about how your district and club can get involved and begin sharing your activities to prevent and end violence against women and girls. Our goal is to have at least 40% of clubs participate.

Please check out Zonta International President Lynn McKenzie's December eNewsletter on the Zonta website for more information.

Advocacy

Dear Zonta Advocacy Colleagues,

On December 10th we celebrated the 64th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

We recognize and are grateful for the progress that has been made by many of our heroes in these last 64 years.

At the same time, let us renew our commitment to pursue equal rights, protections, and opportunities under fair laws.

Part of this commitment concerns our pledge to strongly oppose violence against women. And, our organization has just launched the new 'Zonta Says NO' campaign.

Many of us in advocacy are still figuring out exactly what this means for our part of Zonta. Let us discuss our role as Advocacy Leaders.

Many Zonta Clubs have been addressing some facet of violence against women for years -- supporting women's shelters, vigils, strengthening victims' assistance laws & programs, providing scholarships for law enforcement training, etc. More recently this has included training & building coalitions to oppose trafficking in persons (esp. women). Certainly our ZISVAW programs have directly addressed these particular human rights abuses on an international level. The new 'Zonta says NO' campaign is all about focusing & gaining visibility for these efforts under one clear banner. We will also partner with and employ the tools of other related organizations (e.g., UNWomen, 16_Days) with full acknowledgments to them.

For some Clubs, advocacy has been a natural, integrated part of ongoing efforts to oppose VAW while assisting victims of abuse. It would be most appropriate for these clubs to continue their efforts and add extra emphasis to make their VAW programs more visible under Zonta's new banner. Other Clubs and Districts are still figuring out what role advocacy should play. A primary role of Advocacy Leaders in the 'Zonta says No' campaign is to help guide the VAW focus so that it is relevant to the community of the District or Club, provide credible VAW facts, and ensure/provide professional substance (e.g., speakers, research, articles). The advocacy role may go further in event-planning, coalition-building, and affecting policy changes. Partnering with our PR colleagues, we can best share what 'Zonta Says NO' is all about.

One of the 2012-14 advocacy objectives is that "each club will take action on at least 1 advocacy event or issue each year, make such action visible, and report on the results to its Governor & ZI." We suggest that one of these two actions (in the biennium) be related to opposing violence against women. Our Committee will be sharing ideas and examples throughout the coming months. If you have questions, ideas, or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or your Regional Representative on the ZI Advocacy Committee.

Best Zonta wishes,

--Kay

Kay Meyer

In Memoriam

District 7 Remembers Past International President Harriette Yeckel

When Harriette Yeckel spoke of her early involvement, she described herself as a “service project” of the Zonta Club of Denver, who gave her a scholarship. While the club may have strongly influenced her to join Zonta, they would not have guessed that she would become International President (1972-74). During her biennium, she also initiated the first Zonta-supported UNICEF project to provide mobile medical units in Ghana, and she said one of the children born with assistance from these units was named “Harry Zonta” in her honor. She joined the Zonta Club of Kansas City I in 1958 and later founded the Zonta Club of Kansas City II with sister Zontian Florence Metz. The club started with an impressive group of women, one of whom, Kay Barnes, became Mayor of Kansas City. Harriette will be remembered internationally as a major force in raising funds to purchase the Zonta Headquarters building in Chicago and increasing the number of Amelia



Earhart Fellowships awarded. She will be remembered by her club for bringing the Zonta world to Kansas City through the Zontian guests who visited the club.

Harriette with Sherrill Mulhern, Barb Jirges and Janet Kannard

Save the Date

***Zonta International
North American
Inter-District Meeting
Niagara Falls,
ON Canada
June 14 to 16, 2013***

- ***Network beyond your club and district***
- ***Hear great presentations***
- ***Share ideas***

***Let's work together to grow Zonta membership in North America
Watch for registration and program details in January 2013 on the Zonta International Website.***

First e-club established in District 7

E-Club Membership Guidance (extracted from the ZONTA INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP MANUAL):

What is a Zonta e-club?

A Zonta e-club is a Zonta club that conducts its Zonta business and holds meetings using the Internet and other electronic media as tools to manage the club and its projects. An e-club has all the rights and responsibilities of a traditional Zonta club, but simply holds their club meetings electronically. E-club members may meet in person as a group or independently for service projects and fundraisers dependent upon each member's proximity to one another.

Members are encouraged to have at least one face-to-face meeting per year with members of other Zonta clubs, e.g. at the District Conference, Inter-district Seminars, or International Convention.

Each e-club belongs to a district and is assigned to a district by the International Board.

Zonta district involvement in the design, planning, establishment and ongoing quality assurance is essential. The district should recognize that a Zonta e-club is a valuable asset, requiring the investment of intelligent planning and careful attention to detail.

The purpose of a Zonta e-club

An e-club serves as a tool to conveniently hold meetings and communicate with club members. This type of club is especially helpful for those with demanding schedules because it doesn't require travel to and from club meetings as business is conducted electronically. This format is also a great tool for those members who don't live by an existing Zonta club who otherwise may not have been able to be a club member in a traditional setting.

The District Manual has been updated to include information about the establishment of e-clubs.