

# Zonta District 7 Newsletter

July 2013



## Governor's Message

Although winter weather lingered into spring this year, meetings around the District began April 19 & 20 with Area Meeting for Area 1 & Area 3. The St. Cloud club hosted the meeting and most of the clubs were represented. Highlights of the meeting included a speaker on Advocacy, Mankato Club

members wearing their Zonta Says NO t-shirts, Sue Kierstead's Foundation presentation and the funds contributed to the Foundation at the meeting. Seeing everyone and enjoying an upbeat meeting made up for the cold weather outside.

The Topeka club hosted the Area 4 Meeting on May 4. The program featured a speaker on Trafficking. The presentation was both enlightening and well-received. Sherrill Mulhern, District 7 Advocacy Chair, drove directly to Topeka from Kansas City International airport, having just returned from Cuba via Washington, D.C. Fortunately, her flight arrived on schedule and she gave a very informative presentation on the history of Advocacy in our District and clarified what advocacy actions are permitted for our organization.

District Board Meeting was held in Minneapolis the weekend of May 18-19. In addition to sharing updates, the Board spent time discussing revisions to the long-range plan.

Later in May, the District was notified of the St. Paul club's intention to disband. Chartered in 1926, the club has a long history of accomplishments. Both International President Lynn McKenzie and I sent messages of appreciation to the club for their contribution to Zonta.

As the Club Award forms arrived, I see how busy our clubs have been over the past year. More information will be presented at District Conference in St. Louis at the Hilton Frontenac the weekend of September 20-22, 2013. Conference information will be sent to members and clubs as well as posted on the District Web Site: [www.zontadistrict7.org](http://www.zontadistrict7.org). I look forward to seeing you in St. Louis and request that you encourage your club's "first-timers" to attend a meeting with the District Board on Friday evening.

## Save the Date Zonta International Convention June 27-July 1, 2014

Hotel registration for the Zonta International 2014 Convention is now open.

This year's convention offers special convenience to Zontians as the Orlando World Center Marriott serves as both the 2014 Convention Center and Hotel. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Zonta International Board approved the budget for the 2014 Convention. Most significantly, the early bird registration fee for the convention in Orlando, Florida USA will be US\$399 per person and will include the following:

- Access to all business sessions and seminars
- Convention bag
- Convention program book
- Coffee breaks

The closing banquet and any other meals or ticketed events will be paid separately. Convention registration will open in September 2013.



# Get to know your District Board members

Each newsletter we will spotlight one or more of the District Board members.

## Polly Holten, District 7 Lt. Governor



I grew up in Rhode Island with 3 sisters that with whom I remain very close. I attended Eastern New Mexico University. Upon graduation I received a commission in the United States Army. I served three years in Ft Hood, Texas. I have been with Procter and Gamble for 33 years. I love my career and feel blessed to have been with a company that has the same principles and values that I have.

I have been a member of Zonta International for 31 years. Zonta has had a significant impact on my life and I am extremely grateful for all the sisters I have grown to love over the years. I love the work that Zonta does to improve the status of women and am excited about the Cape Girardeau Club's Haiti Project.

I have been married to Bruce for 29 years and have two grown children, Bradley and Jenna. I don't have any grandchildren yet. I love to travel and have been to 49 of the 50 states. Bruce and I will travel to last state which is Alaska next year for our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I have joined the century club to achieve my next goal of traveling to 100 countries! I also love to take motorcycle trips and go to NASCAR races.

## Anne McCleery, Area 4 Director



I was born and raised in Wichita, Kansas and have lived in Kansas my whole life – truly a prairie chicken. All my grandparents were descendants of pioneers that moved farther west generation by generation; one line goes back to 1600's America. My love of history, culture, and languages helped me earn a BA in Spanish from

the University of Kansas. I moved to Kansas City to take a job as a bilingual secretary, but grew tired of the secretarial part and decided to try a college entry position at an insurance company, just for a little while.

I have been working at insurance companies the past 36 years. My experience is in group insurance (employee benefits), underwriting life, medical, and disability coverages. The insurance field has taught me to make decisions with imperfect information, respect deadlines, and deal with all kinds of personalities, plus it has provided wonderful lifelong friendships. I also earned a professional designation, Certified Employee Benefits Specialist. For the past year and a half, I've been working for Cigna. It's a challenge to keep up with the millennials.

My formal education also includes a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, which was started after I realized my liberal arts degree could not support me and completed before I realized that insurance would be my livelihood.

Fortunately, my family is in the Kansas City area. I have a grown son and daughter, and my 86-year-old father is in good health. I love to spoil my daughter's two children. My spare time activity is cooking, especially ethnic and comfort food. I've been attending the same church since 1986 and get involved in projects large and small. The League of Women Voters is concerned about some of the same issues as Zonta, so I try to keep informed through their meetings.

Zonta is my window on the world. It allows me to give back to my local community and to make a small impact on the other side of the globe. I joined the Johnson County club in 2001, and have served as YWPA Chair, Treasurer, Club President, and currently as Scholarship Co-Chair. For this biennium I am Area 4 Director, and I want to encourage the clubs in my area to interact more since the geographic distance between us is not that great. It's exciting to know what's going on with other Zontians in your region, district, and on the international level.

## In Memoriam

Loretta Wolthuis, one of the long time members of the Zonta Club of Mankato, died on July 3rd.

Sue Frost from the Mankato Club wrote: Loretta was a devoted member of our club for 24 years and held nearly every office, committee chair, etc., in those 24 years. For all of those years she remained a mentor and role model for the rest of us Zontians; especially the new members. She was diagnosed with cancer only last November, so her death was quite a shock to our club. She is deeply missed.

# News from Around the District

## Area 1 and 3 Meeting St. Cloud, MN

The joint Area 1 and Area 3 meeting was held on April 20th in St. Cloud.

A hospitality suite was open on Friday evening so Zontians could visit and share with one another.

Saturday's highlights included an update on the Zonta International Foundation from Sue Kierstead, Foundation Ambassador and sharing about various activities and fundraisers from each club. Sue's presentation is available on the Zonta District 7 website at [zontadistrict7.org](http://zontadistrict7.org).



Mankato Club members sporting their Zonta Says No t-shirts

The Mankato club shared about their Zonta Says No campaign and wore their Zonta Says No t-shirts designed by the club. They have promised to order more so they can sell them to other members of District 7.

Advocacy and the difference between Advocacy and Lobbying. Dr. Haug is a professor in Political Science at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, MN.

Everyone had a good time and looked forward to meeting jointly in the future.



Kerry Dixon, Janet Kannard, and Barb Jirges at St. Cloud area meeting.

Governor Janet and Cheryl Kohr, Topeka Club President, at Area 4 meeting



## Area 4 Meeting Topeka, KS

Saturday, May 4, Area 4 Zontians from Atchison, Johnson County and KC II, MO clubs joined host club Topeka for our annual Area Meeting.

In presenting the State of the District, Governor Janet mentioned the following:

- District 7 Web site has been and is continuing to be updated. This is a good source of information for clubs and members.
- District Seminar was not held in 2012 due to low expressed interest and lack of commitment to attend.
- District Membership is the lowest in over 20 years at 521 in February.
- District donations to the Zonta International Foundation are down 63% from 2012. The Topeka Club program included a silent auction to raise funds for the Foundation.
- Raise the Women Challenge provides Zonta International with the potential for both recognition on Huffington Post and for funds for the Foundation. Members and clubs were encouraged to contribute.
- Declining membership presents a challenge for our District, but also opportunities to strengthen our clubs through focus on Zonta's mission, planning, increased visibility, mentoring of new members and leadership training.
- Sustainable leadership: Janet listed some ideas she received in Governor's training. These include: equipping and encouraging members, transparency, transformational thinking (long-term stewardship), leading with passion, defining the right outcomes, innovative thinking, teamwork, stewardship, effectively articulating the benefits of membership, building consensus, empowering others, and encouraging collaboration.

Governor Janet provided the following reminders:

- Send club newsletters to the Governor
- Respond in a timely manner to prospective member inquiries from Zonta International
- Use District and ZI Web sites to track due dates for reports and dues
- Encourage members to attend District Conference in St. Louis September 20-22
- Appoint club historian and send the name to Sharon Carmody
- Send club advocacy activities to District Advocacy Chair
- Discuss new Service Award in your club

Members attending said we need better training for club officers and need to have readily accessible information on the ZI Web site. Members were in favor of reinstating District Seminar.

Guest speaker, Sharon Sullivan, Associate Professor, Washburn University, presented the keynote address: "Human Trafficking in Our Backyard". She spoke about the vulnerability of children, teenagers and young adults in Kansas in relationship to sex trafficking.

Sherrill Mulhern, District Advocacy Chair, presented an Advocacy update titled "Setting Goals – Devising Strategies". Further information can be found on the District Web site.

# News from Around the District

## E-Club of USA-1

It's official!!! Having reached the required number of 25 members, the E-Club of USA-1 has been assigned club number 1914 with a charter date of June 1, 2013. Kerry Dixon is the club's president. Members joining before July 12, 2013 will be charter members of the club. Please welcome the members of E-Club of USA-1 to District 7.

If you know about potential new members for Zonta International that may not be able to join a traditional club, ask that they consider membership through an e-club. For more information, please refer to the club manual on the Zonta International Web site: [www.zonta.org/MemberResources/Manuals.aspx](http://www.zonta.org/MemberResources/Manuals.aspx)

### **What is a Zonta e-club?**

A Zonta e-club is a Zonta club that conducts its Zonta business and holds meetings on the Internet.

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 or Convention.

### **What is the purpose of a Zonta e-club?**

The purpose of a Zonta e-club is the same as the one of Zonta clubs: "Advancing the status of women worldwide"

### **Do e-clubs require special club bylaws?**

As with any other club, e-club bylaws shall be in alignment with the Bylaws of Zonta International.

### **How important is Zonta district involvement in the establishment of a new e-club?**

Zonta District involvement in design, planning, establishment and ongoing quality assurance is essential. An e-club is a finite resource. This means that it is critically important that the Zonta District recognizes that a Zonta e-club is a valuable asset, requiring the investment of intelligent planning and careful attention to detail.

### **What are the benefits of membership in a Zonta e-club?**

The key benefits of e-clubs membership are no different than those of other clubs:

- Meet interesting, involved professionals who seek to help women reach their potential.
- Have the opportunity to be part of a powerful network without being forced to physically attend all meetings.
- Work together, through service and advocacy, towards the objectives of Zonta.
- Socialize and network locally, nationally and internationally with business and professional people working in many different fields.
- Experience international fellowship.
- Accept leadership roles that promote personal growth and self-confidence in a friendly, supportive atmosphere.
- Participate actively in committees, meetings and interesting discussions.

## Jefferson City

### **Z-Club Raises Funds for Special Learning Center**

On Tuesday, May 14th, Z-Club held their final meeting of the current school year. During the meeting, Z-Club sponsors and members made a special presentation of a check to the Special Learning Center. Z-Club was able to provide funds that will be used to purchase much needed equipment for the Center. Amparo, Becky and Peggy are appreciative of the student's participation this past year. Thank you to Mariann Atwell, Mary Winter, and Joan Prenger for presenting a program to the members during the past school year. The Z-Club also thanks Dr. Ruthi Sturdevant for hiring the Z-Club for many years to decorate her house for Christmas. This project has served as the major fund raiser for the Z-Club. Another successful Z-Club year!



## Mankato



Supported by Bent River Outfitters, 12 women kayaked the fast moving Blue Earth River. The event raised scholarship funds for women pursuing STEM careers through South Central College and also to support young girls to attend a day long STEM camp, also sponsored by South Central College .

Because of this fundraiser, Zonta was able to offer \$150 to the girls STEM Camp (supporting 3 girls to attend that wouldn't have otherwise been able to afford it). Also, an \$850 scholarship will be offered to a women at South Central College!

## District 7 Historian Report

### March 21, 2013 UPDATE:

December, 2012: After receiving some guidelines from Zonta International my first project was to see what information we have on the district. I began with the help of past governor Linda Daus to go through boxes of district material that was stored at her home. We have District Conferences for 1985 through 1991 and 1994. I understand Zonta International has 1977 and 1984 through 1987.

January, 2013: In order to give some guidelines to the other clubs I decided that I would be my club's historian and began collecting data. (Attachment)

A memo was sent to the club presidents requesting the names of their historians. (6 of 20 replied)

March, 2013, a second memo was sent again requesting the names of their historians. (7 of 20 replied)

At this time a total of 13 have responded. I plan to contact the clubs who have not responded and have the complete list by April 1.

**SUPPORTING CLUBS:** We have really only just begun on this project and the memos above were the beginnings of communicating and supporting the clubs. My plan is to contact the clubs on a monthly basis to offer my help in any way. Our district conference is in September and time will be set aside for this project. The district also has some material (primarily newsletters) that will be returned to the clubs to help with their history.

### REPORTING CLUB ACTIVITIES:

Bismarck Club has a written history which has brief highlights starting from 1952 until 2001. They will be working to update that written history up to the present. They also have scrapbooks dating from 1999 to present. They also plan on checking the local historical society to see if they have additional information on Zonta history.

St. Cloud Club has 3 boxes of items stored in the Stearns County History Museum; lots of pictures, minutes and other items that need to be cataloged.

Jamestown Club has minutes and membership lists, largely complete, from their formation in 1952 to date, except for some years in the 1980s'; newsletters from many years dating back to the 1960s, and various photos and scrapbooks. They also have a file and scrapbook for their Zonta Park, which was established on city property in the 1980s. Currently they are able to archive these materials in boxes at a local museum.

St. Louis Club has a historical booklet covering the year the club was chartered in 1925 to 1962. Available material to review are minutes, newsletters, and pictures.

**USING ARCHIVE MATERIAL TO PROMOTE ZONTA:** Archive material is not in one place and therefore we will have to rely on the clubs to give us the information. Mary Nimmerfroh from the St. Cloud has offered to scan the material that is collected in order to have an ongoing record of the district.

**CONTRIBUTING TO ZONTA'S CENTENNIAL HISTORY:** The plans are:

1. As the material comes in I plan to collate the material by year.
2. Highlight outstanding district projects - Dorothea Radusch Fund, Operation Friendship, etc.
3. Highlight outstanding projects of the clubs.

Sharon Carmody

District 7 Historian



# Zonta Says NO!

Greetings to all Zonta members from District 7. As District PR Chair for this biennium, I want to make sure that I am meeting your club's needs and understanding of getting the great work of District 7 in the news! Some clubs have a great line of communication with their local media and others struggle to get the recognition they so rightly deserve. I need to hear from you, the PR/Communication Chair or Club President of what you would like me to do for you throughout the remaining year of our biennium.

I do have a challenge for all clubs in District 7 concerning our International project of **Zonta Says NO!** Zonta Says NO has two phases...Building off the 2012 - 16 Days of Activism and the theme of the 2013 CSW – **elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls** – the **Zonta Says NO** campaign invites all Zonta clubs and districts to participate by sharing their new and ongoing actions to end violence against women and girls between now and November 2013. These actions will be featured on a special [Zonta Says NO campaign web page](#) and official social media pages. The second phase will feature one common action by Zonta clubs and districts around the world in **November 2013** to illustrate the collective commitment of Zonta's nearly 30,000 members to preventing and ending violence against women and girls. Minimum requirements for a club to be part of this common action are:

1. To get public visibility of the orange and black campaign logo and send a picture to [pr@zonta.org](mailto:pr@zonta.org) and
2. To participate in an online pledge.

## Here is the District 7 Zonta Says NO Challenge:

- Read the articles in The Zontian June 2013 pg. 20
- View the information on the ZI website – Under Media/News – Say NO

“7 Easy Ways to Participate” <http://zontasaysno.com>

Take a look at the webinar slides that are available on the website about this project

- Do a project that calls attention to the prevent and end of violence against women and children before November 1, 2013
- Submit your **project/news release/awareness** of your project to Zonta International [pr@zonta.org](mailto:pr@zonta.org)
- Participate in the online pledge prior to November 2013

My goal is that every club in District 7 participates! Together we are strong and together we can end the violence against women and children. Also, we will take a photo at the District 7 Conference in St Louis, September 20-22 in anticipation of every club achieving this challenge!

I look forward to hearing from each club.

Peace,

Shelley Schultz, District 7 PR Chair

[family5@frontierenet.net](mailto:family5@frontierenet.net)

507.327.8803

Zonta Club of Mankato



## North American Inter-District Meeting Niagara, Ontario

NAID was held in Niagara, Ontario June 14-16. The presentations are on the District 4 Web site. To view them, go to the Web site: [www.zontadistrict4.org](http://www.zontadistrict4.org). Once you have accessed the Web site, click on the “click here for more” link under the “What is Zonta?” heading. Under the pages list on the right side of the page displayed, select “Zonta North American Inter-District Meeting”. In the “Workshop Selection” table, you can click on the red entries to access presentation material. If you would like to view presentations by District 7 Past Governors Kerry Dixon (Exploring membership options with e-clubs) and Linda Jacobsen (Zonta leaders leading change), click on the red listings for those sessions.



Zonta District 7 members attending NAID



District Governors Attending NAID

### Club By-laws review

For any clubs who have not updated their bylaws for the changes voted on last year at International Convention, please review your bylaws to make sure they are updated with the committee name changes and nominating committee change, if applicable.



### Zonta Club of St. Paul Disbands

Zonta International President Lynn McKenzie acknowledged, with sadness, the disbanding of the Zonta Club of St. Paul effective May 31, 2013. In her letter to the club President Lynn mentioned the club's chartering in 1926 and their subsequent years of service. She also commended club members for the club's monetary contributions of nearly \$15,000 to the Zonta International Foundation for service to their local community.

### The Zonta Roses

History and Details (Updated September 2011)

The beauty of a single yellow rose has been a favorite Zonta symbol for decades. The yellow rose has adorned many Zonta items from stationery to clothing, and has been used in many charter and anniversary celebrations.

The Zonta Rose is much more than a lovely flower. Since 1999, it has served as the symbol of Zonta Rose Day, which falls on 8 March and coincides with International Women's Day. On this special Day, Zontians worldwide are encouraged to publicly distribute yellow roses, or items bearing the image of yellow roses, accompanied by information about Zonta International and issues relating to improving the lives of women. (From Zonta.org)



## Make Plans to Attend District 7 2013 Conference

Dates: September 20-22, 2013

Place: The Hilton St Louis Frontenac

1335 South Lindbergh Blvd

St Cloud, Missouri, 63131

Tel: 1-314-993-1100

Reservations: Call 1-800-325-7200 and request a room for *Zonta International-District Conference*

Reservation hours:

Mon-Fri 8 am to 6 pm and Sat 9 am to 1 pm

**PLEASE RESERVE ROOM BY AUGUST 20, 2013**

COST - \$109+tax per room

Conference begins with Check-in and credentials from 3-5 pm on Friday, 9/20 and ends on Sunday at 11 am.

## Tentative Agenda

### *Friday, September 20, 2013*

3:00-5:00PM Registration & Credentials open

3:30-5:00 Zonta Marketplace open

4:00-5:00 Delegate Orientation

5:00-5:30 First Timer Reception

5:30-6:00 General Reception

6:30-8:00 Dinner

8:15-10:00 First Business Session

10:00-11:00 Hospitality Room

### *Saturday, September 21, 2013*

7:00-8:30AM Breakfast, Zonta Marketplace

7:30-10:30 Registration & Credentials Check-in

8:00-8:30 Voting

### *Saturday (continued)*

8:45-11:45 Second Business Session

11:45-12:50 Lunch

1:00-2:00PM Third Business Session

2:00-3:45 Educational sessions

4:00-5:30 Zonta Marketplace, Free time

5:30-9:00 Reception, Dinner and Program

9:00-10:00 Hospitality Room

### *Sunday, September 22, 2011*

8:00-8:30AM Memorial Service

8:30-9:15 Breakfast

8:50-9:10 Credentials Check-in

9:15-11:30 Fourth Business Session

## Slate of Candidates for District Office 2014-2016

Governor Polly Holten, Cape Girardeau

Lt. Governor Kay Moss, St. Louis

Mary Reed, Jamestown

Treasurer Susan Voeltz, St. Cloud

Area 1 Director Jane Austen, Jamestown

Muriel Hedrick, Breckenridge/  
Wahpeton

Area 2 Director

Area 3 Director Shelley Schultz, Mankato

Area 4 Director Cheryl Kohr, Topeka

Nominating

Kerry Anne Dixon, USA-1

Barbara Jirges, Bismarck

Sue Keirstead, Minneapolis

Sherrill Mulhern, KC II

Mary Nimmerfroh, St. Cloud



# Proposed Resolutions

## Proposed Resolution #1 – Advocacy

*Whereas*, Zonta International District 7 seeks to advance the status of women through timely communications of clearly-stated positions, and

*Whereas*, there is agreement that the following issues are of common concern to all members of the District:

- Achieving pay equity (e.g., Paycheck Fairness Act, Pregnant Workers Fairness Act)
- Supporting measures to oppose gender-based violence, such as trafficking, rape, & domestic violence, (e.g., Preventing Child Marriage Act,)
- Ensuring equal rights under the law (e.g., CEDAW, ERA)
- Women in Scientific, Social & Political Leadership (e.g. STEM Booster Act of 2013)

*Whereas*, legislative action and/or media attention is frequently the primary vehicle for effecting change, and

*Whereas*, the District Governor is authorized to act on behalf of the District, with the approval of the membership,

**BE IT RESOLVED, therefore, that**

1. District 7 is authorized, via the current Governor, to communicate on behalf of the District regarding these subjects, expressing the above general principles by using the District 7 issue templates whenever possible.
2. District 7 urges its Clubs and members to use these issue templates in support of legislation and/or as talking points for media placements. These will be developed and provided on the District 7 website.
3. District 7 urges its Clubs and Areas to communicate, cooperate, and combine their efforts in order to make their individual efforts more effective.
4. District 7 encourages Clubs to work with other like-minded organizations in their respective communities to further the ends expressed above and approved by this District Conference, September, 2013.

**RATIONALE:** Advocating for a cause, whether expressing an opinion or endorsing proposed legislation, requires the ability to act or respond in a timely manner. Since Zonta Clubs meet monthly and district boards even less frequently, when an advocacy opportunity presents itself, their actions are often hampered by the necessity of gaining approval, either at the club or district level. In order to facilitate Zonta Clubs' participation in timely advocacy initiatives, Zonta International is encouraging Districts to elaborate and adopt advocacy platforms that establish a list of agreed upon issues & actions.

## Proposed Resolution #2 – District Project

*Whereas:* District 7 sees the need for a District project to be designated for each biennium, and

*Whereas:* District 7 continues to sell pins as a district fundraising effort, with the idea that the proceeds would go to a district project to be decided at the 2013 District 7 Conference, and

*Whereas:* The Zonta Club of Cape Girardeau Missouri currently supports relief efforts in Haiti, and Zonta International has recognized this project as an out of Area project,

**Now, Therefore:** District 7 supports the Cape Girardeau Haiti project as a biennium project to begin in 2014, with proceeds from the sale of District items to be donated to the Haiti project and that the clubs in the District may also participate in this project on an individual basis.

The continuance of this District project will be reviewed at District Conference in 2015.

**RATIONALE:** The District 7 Board has long discussed the possibility of a district pin with the idea that the proceeds could go to a district project. In the last biennium the district pins were presented and sold within the district and internationally. At the same time the Cape Girardeau club developed an out of district project in Haiti with official approval of Zonta International. This project has grown and gained excitement and support in many D7 clubs. The District 7 Board supports the idea of a district project that will be chosen for each biennium at the district conference.

## Zonta District 7 Conference Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Dist/Club Office Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Past Offices Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Special needs (diet, disability assistance, etc.):

Have you ever attended a District Mtg. before?  Yes  No

Club is interested in reserving a Table in the Zonta Marketplace?  Yes  No

District 7 Fall Conference registration fee is:

\$150 if received by August 31, 2013

\$160 after August 31, 2013

This includes all meals and coffee  
during the dates of the Conference

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Zonta Club of St. Louis

Mail to: Norma Nisbet, Zonta Club of St. Louis

PO Box 170083

St. Louis, MO 63117