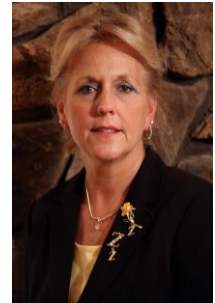


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**March 2016**

## **Governor's Message**

With spring just around the corner let's put some spring in our efforts to build our District membership. We have seen some growth in our Clubs and that is exciting! The Area Directors are actively planning for our Area Meetings which will be held in April. I encourage all of our members to consider attending these meetings. Area Meetings are an excellent way to learn what other Clubs are doing and to build relationships. This year's Area Meetings will share Best Practices. This allows Clubs to re-apply successes. This year our International Convention will be in Nice, France. Please register now to get the early bird savings. I would like to encourage our Clubs to have representation at Convention.



Polly Holten

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## ***International Women's Day***

March 8 is International Women's Day. Zonta International is encouraging Clubs to participate in this day. Please send me any pictures or activities from your events.

Here are some comments from Zonta International President Maria Jose.

### ***ENVISION EQUALITY TAKE ACTION NOW!***

*Women worldwide have been celebrating International Women's Day on March 8<sup>th</sup> since 1975, to reflect on progress made to achieve gender equality, to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities and to call for sustainable change.*

*The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals, has made 2015 without a doubt one of the most important years for gender equality and will transform our world by 2030. At this moment, 90 world leaders have already made concrete commitments and firm pledges to overcome gender equality gaps.*

*Since our foundation in 1919, Zonta has worked tirelessly locally and internationally to serve our communities, advocated for women's rights to be recognized and respected as human rights, and contributed to sustainable change and to a life with dignity and free of violence for all women and girls.*

*Equal rights and a life free of violence is NOT a women's issue; it is a societal issue that has to be solved by women and men together. This 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2016, Zonta International envisions equality more than ever and calls upon governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to take actions focusing on sustainable development and to commit adequate resources to ensure that Goal 5 and gender equality targets in the other 16 goals are implemented, monitored and ultimately realized by 2030.*

*Because through advocacy we CAN and WILL make lasting change, we Zontians worldwide join efforts with Conviction, Commitment and Courage, to achieve a world where women's rights are recognized and respected as human rights, where women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on equal basis with men, where no woman lives in fear of violence.*

## Club Activities

### Zonta 16 Days of Activism

Our Clubs were busy in November supporting the 16 Days of Activism. Here are a few posted to the ZI website.

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*The Austin Club joined with the Austin Human Rights Commission.*



*Zonta Club of Cape Girardeau received a Proclamation from the mayor and city council.*



*Jamestown billboard aiming to bring awareness about domestic violence to the community*



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*Congratulations to Jefferson City on Chartering a Golden Z Club!*



*\*I would love to have pictures with highlights to use in future newsletters.*

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Did you know? When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to the charity of your choice. Choose the Zonta International Foundation in the dropdown menu and support women worldwide.



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## Dues Reminder

Just a reminder that our District Dues were increased by \$9.00 to \$30.00 effective this biennium. All District dues must be paid to District 7 Treasurer, Susan Voeltz by June 1.

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## SAVE THESE DATES!

### Area Meetings:

Area 1/3 April 23 Fargo

Area 2/4 April 30 Jefferson City

*Area meetings are a great way to be engaged with Zonta. Learn more about our district, your area, international and meet members from other clubs. Mark your calendar NOW!*

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**Registration is now open for the Zonta International Convention in Nice.**



Please let me know if you will be attending the 2016 Convention. I will put a master list together for the District.

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## District Seminar

