



## **History of Zonta District 7**

# ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

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## HISTORY OF DISTRICT 7

District 7 had its beginning in 1925 with the organization of the Zonta Club of St. Louis, Missouri into the Confederation of Zonta Clubs. Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, soon followed both being organized in 1926. All were in District D. (At that time the Confederation of Zonta Clubs was divided into five districts – A through E.)

With the expansion of Zonta, new regions were established. Following continued growth and expansion, boundaries were changed and in 1943 the clubs in the Midwest area became a part of District IV. District IV included ten states west of the Mississippi River though there were clubs in only five of the ten states. The district included: Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Colorado, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, the eastern two-thirds of Montana,

Minnesota, and all of Canada to the north. This was the largest area of any Zonta district. In 1947, regions were abolished and each region was given the status of districts. The renumbering of districts changed District IV to District VII, with no boundary change. This geographical area continued to be twice the size of any other district.

In 1948, due to the size of the district, a program was undertaken by District VII to study possible division or change of boundary lines. The District was informed that a minimum of 250 members was required to finance the functions of a district and, therefore, the formation of more clubs was needed. Therefore, during 1950-52, Dorothea Radusch as International Organization and Extension Chairman promoted organization in District VII and persuaded five district Zontians to work on organizing clubs. Through their efforts, thirteen clubs were added during those two years. By Convention time in 1952, District VII had a total of 27 clubs, in a district that started with ten in 1948.

At the 1952 International Convention in Houston, TX District VII was officially divided by a north-south flexible line, giving established and future clubs the privilege to choose which district would serve them best, taking into consideration transportation and trading areas. Sixteen clubs elected to remain in District VII and eleven clubs made up the new District XII.

Today, District 7 includes Iowa (0 clubs), eastern Kansas (3 clubs), Minnesota (5 clubs plus 1 shared with North Dakota), Missouri (5 clubs), eastern Nebraska (0 clubs), North Dakota (3 clubs plus 1 shared with Minnesota), eastern South Dakota (1 club), and the provinces of Canada Manitoba (0 clubs) and eastern Saskatchewan (0 clubs) and western Ontario (0 clubs).

It is significant that District VII became “International” when Winnipeg, Manitoba was organized on November 6, 1952. A second club, Regina, Saskatchewan was chartered in 1954.

Since the establishment of the present district boundaries, the district has served capably in Zonta International. There have been many International Chairmen of committees and committee members from District VII as well as two International Presidents – Dorothea F. Radusch, Minneapolis, MN, 1954-56, and Harriette Yeckel, Kansas City, MO, 1972-74.

### **District 7 Accomplishments:**

**Dorothea Radusch Loan Fund** was established in 1969 as a District 7 project to honor the memory of Dr. Dorothea Radusch, a member of the Zonta Club of Minneapolis and International President of Zonta International from 1954 to 1956. Its purpose was to promote the status of women through education. Small loans are given with low interest rate.

The focus of the fund was changed in 2003 as a district scholarship award to District 7’s winner of the Young Women in Public Affairs scholarship competition with the amount based on the interest earned annually on the account.

**Open House & Operation Friendship.** The district organized the first Zonta-wide Open House.

It was the brainchild of Harriette Yeckel (District 7 Governor) and Helvi Sipila (International President). The first open house followed the Convention in Minneapolis in 1968. Seventeen Zontians from District 13 and 14 visited the district. When Harriette became International President in 1972, she continued Open House and initiated Operation Friendship.

Operation Friendship was an exchange of business and professional women both within and between Friendship countries. District 7 Zontians opened their homes to these women and scheduled visits to businesses that they are interested in. Several travelled throughout the district culminating their visit at the district conference.

**1996 International Convention.** District 7 hosted the 1996 International Convention in St. Louis. President Chief Folake Solanka presided. The Opening Ceremony speaker was the famous Maya Anjelou, an American poet, memoirist and civil rights activist. A quilt was made to be raffled off at the convention and was used at the “Dream Catcher” Memorial Service. Each club was given a block to complete that represented their area. Over \$5000 was raised for the Amelia Earhart Scholarship fund and the Girl’s Education project in South Africa. The winner gave the back to the district in exchange for a donation to her club’s scholarship fund. The district donated the quilt to the Amelia Earhart Childhood Home in Atchison, KS.

**Haiti Project.** Members of District 7 support a project in Haiti. This project was started by Zonta Club of Cape Girardeau, approved by Zonta International and adopted as the District 7 project for the 2014-2016 biennium. This project continues.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF ST. LOUIS, MO (#37)**

***Chartered November 13, 1925***

On November 13, 1925 the Zonta Club of St. Louis was organized as a member of the Confederation of Zonta Clubs. Twenty-two St. Louisans were invited as eligible for membership. Three representatives of the Confederation were present. St. Louis was the first Zonta club west of the Mississippi River. Below are some of the highlights of the Zonta Club of St. Louis.

**1920’s** - Within six months of organization the club gave their first contributions for charitable work. An interesting early planned service project was to adopt a baby but the project was abandoned because legally a group of women could not do so. To raise funds for service projects a card party was planned. Moneys raised were to build and equip a cabin (named Zonta Cabin) at the Girl Scout Camp and guaranteed the maintenance of one scout each week during the eight-week period of the Camp. In 1929, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers invited Miss Amelia Earhart to St. Louis to tell them of her experiences on her transatlantic flight. Miss Earhart, a member of the Boston Zonta Club, replied that she would come only on the condition that St. Louis Zontians were included in the invitation. This was an eventful meeting.

**1930’s** - Although times were hard during the Depression the club continued on its service course. A stove was given to the Salvation Army and the Crippled Children's Hospital was

aided. Education of young women was important to the club and during the lean years of the Depression funds were used to assist high school girls by providing lunch money, carfare, and a few needed clothes. One girl was given, upon graduation, a summer-term scholarship to Rubicam Business College. (Note: Upon graduation the girl was immediately placed in secretarial work and was paying back to the club the money advanced to her training.) In 1939, the club held a vocational conference for Senior high school girls and their parents. The purpose of the conference was to help girls decide on a career by talking to the women executives present who represented fifty occupations. Four girls were placed in jobs immediately as a result of the meeting. At the end of 1939 the club assisted one girl in college, one in high school, and an additional girl to Rubicam Business School. In 1932 Zonta International accepted the club's invitation to hold the Twelfth Annual International Convention in St. Louis.

**1940's** - The career symposium first held in 1939 was so enthusiastically received that in 1940 a series of five were given. These sessions received wide acclaim from educational directors, parents and students. Civic activities were supported in these years by supporting the St. Louis Symphony, the Civic Music League, and became a guarantor of the Municipal Opera. Upon entry of the United States into World War II, the club rose to do the work at hand. Working with the United Service Organization (USO), service projects were geared toward helping and entertaining service men. Service projects included a Little Theater Party with 25 soldiers and sailors as guests, donations to the Red Cross, and the donation of books to the Victory Book Drive. In addition, funds were given to The Women's Allied Relief Fund, USO, and the Salvation Army. Three ping pong tables were given to the American Red Cross Camp and a room was equipped for the Medical Detachment at Jefferson Barracks. The club entertained servicemen and women on every holiday. Every fourth Sunday of the month, members of Zonta served breakfast at the USO. In 1942, during Women at Work Week the club sold \$31,540 war bonds winning a \$100 War Bond for its achievement and a certificate from the Coast Guard. As the war went on the sales mounted, with \$336,575 (1943) and in 1944, the club won honors with total sales of \$653,000. At war's end, stamps were collected for the wounded to cheer hospitalized veterans giving them a hobby while recovering. To help war torn countries food was sent directly to the Zonta clubs of Denmark; 800 pounds of clothing was contributed as part of "Fill Zonta's Boat for Europe" to be sent to Poland, Finland, England, and Germany. Philippines also received clothing. Funds were given to the American Fund for Czechoslovakia Refugees, Inc. Locally contributions were giving to the Salvation Army Building Fund, the March of Dimes, St. Stephen's House, the Red Cross, the City Sanitarium, and Cancer Fund. In 1946, funding began to establish a scholarship fund at Washington University in St. Louis. (The funding was achieved in 1950.)

**1950's** - In 1950, the club was concerned with the plight of the children of Greece. Queen Frederika of Greece, who was touring the United States, was invited to the club's International Night. Although she was unable to attend, she sent her emissaries Madame Vassill Dendramis, wife of the Greek Ambassador as speaker, and Mrs. George Warsam, wife of the first Secretary of the Royal Greek Embassy. Dr. George Mylonas of Washington University was toastmaster, and music was furnished by the choir of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church. Elaborate displays of exquisite icons, silver, jewelry, and priceless handiwork were exhibited. The proceeds were given to the Children's Cities of Greece. The club received a letter of appreciation from Queen Frederika. In 1951, funds were raised for the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)

to use to refurnish a room to be known as the Zonta room and could be used for club meetings and housing the club's permanent files. The Salvation Army continued to be an interest to the club. Each year the club, from 1952 to the present, has ringed bells for the Tree of Lights Campaign and has received several awards from them. The Malcom Bliss Psychopathic Hospital became its ongoing service project (1956). The project included furnishing a recreation room with canteen facilities; assist in the funding of an Occupational Therapy Department for the benefit of the mental patients. The club assisted in converting part of the Hospital basement into an Indoor Recreation Area and purchased equipment for the area and furnished a Snack Bar adjoining the area. The club recommended that all members participate in some personal service in Zonta's name. The club was divided into two groups and each participated in a different kind of service. Some of these projects included hats for the women at the Little Sisters of the Poor; baskets with miscellaneous items for Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, clothing for an orphanage, babysitting was done, hospital patients without relatives were visited, etc.

**1960's** - The club continued to support the Malcom Bliss Mental Health Center by continuing buying monthly supplies, contributed to the establishment of research laboratory for schizophrenia, and the establishment of a staff library for doctors and nurses for research and study.

**1970's** - The club provided funds to establish a dental office at Elias Michaels School for handicapped children. This included a dental chair, mobile dental cabinet and x-ray equipment. The club sponsored a Sheltered Workshop to teach working skills to the people with physical and mental disabilities to enable them to enter the labor market. For the first time in the 27 year history of the Salvation Army's Tree of Lights project, a women's organization – the Zonta Club of St. Louis won the Grand Championship Award. They also won the Reserve Grand Champion Award for having collected the largest amount in the Women's Division in 1974. The club organized a Z Club at the Academy of Visitation. 1976 - The Zonta Club of St. Louis celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday in Zonta International. Additional service projects during the 70's included: funds for cancer research, funds for children projects, the elderly and refurbished the Zonta House at the Central Institutes for the Deaf. In 1974 the Salvation Army's program on rehabilitation of alcoholic women became the club's major service project. The club assisted in the organization and chartering of the Cape Girardeau Club (1977).

**1980's** - The Salvation Army's Women's Treatment Unit at Harbor House continued to be the club's major service project. Other projects included Women's Self-Help, an organization for helping women against violence, and bought Bliss symbols and cassettes for the St. Louis Child Haven Center. The club had been actively involved with the United Service Organization (USO) and received, in 1983, the USO Distinguished Service Award.

**1990-2019** - To celebrate the club's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the club established the Yellow Rose Award to recognize women in the St. Louis Community who exemplify good character, dedication in service to others and the community. Thirty-eight women have received this award. In 1990, the club established the Women's Another Chance Program (WAC) as the major service project. Through many revisions, the present program benefits single mothers, 24 years of age and over who are committed to pursuing post high school education and/or training in an accredited program. This scholarship provides financial aid for tuition, book, lab fees,

classroom supplies and childcare support. In addition, the WAC program assigns each student a mentor to provide guidance, counseling, and supportive relationship to help the student utilize all resources available to her from the club members and the community. Over 50 women have received this award. Other awards established are the Community Grants Award that provides funding to area nonprofit organizations; the Individual Enrichment Award that provides funding for individuals who need short-term assistance in improving their quality of life and the Sharon Carmody Scholarship Award for Challenged Individuals that provides a scholarship for individuals with disabilities for undergraduate and graduate studies. The club has established ongoing scholarship awards at Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis University, University of Missouri in St. Louis and St. Louis Community College. For twenty-five years the club has supported the Weinman Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence. In 2014 Missouri Governor Jay Nixon presented the club the 2014 Award of Distinction from the Department of Economics Development. This award is usually given to individuals and the Zonta Club is the first organization to be given this honor. The award cited the service the club gives to the community. In 2018 to raise awareness to advocacy and as a fundraiser the club presented in partnership with Maryville University and Gateway Human Trafficking the Award-Winning Documentary “Little Stones” the stories of four women using art to create changes in human trafficking globally. This event raised funds for local non-profit organizations to support their efforts in fighting human trafficking and Zonta International ZISVAW. This year also brought the addition of a Golden Z Club. While working with the student’s Empower Club at the University for the “Little Stones” project it was decided to establish the Maryville University Golden Z Club. The club received its charter in 2019.

**Zonta Club of St. Louis and District 7.** In 1948, Zonta International formed the present District 7. A total of four (Sharon Carmody (1982-84), Carla Cunningham (1994-96), Linda Daus (1998-2000) and Linda Jacobson (2004-06) have been District 7 Governors. The club has hosted six District 7 Conferences or Seminars.

**Zonta Club of St. Louis and Zonta International.** Since the beginning the club has fully supported the Zonta International Projects. The club donates at least one-third of their service funds to international projects and for the last several years, have given biannually to fund a full Amelia Earhart Fellowship Award. The club has hosted the 1996 International Convention.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA (#40)**

*Chartered February 4, 1926*

The Zonta Club of Minneapolis was chartered in February of 1926 by Katherine Wallen after she moved to Minneapolis from South Bend, Indiana. The charter dinner was held at the Curtis Hotel and attended by thirty women whom she had invited by obtaining lists of outstanding professional women in the community and important firms in Minneapolis. Members included attorneys, banking and financial professionals, educators, doctors, and businesswomen. Just two years after the club was founded, Minneapolis hosted the 1928 Zonta International Convention. Along with the Zonta Club of St. Paul, the Twin Cities provided three International Presidents between 1929 and 1956. From the St. Paul Club, Olivia Johnson served from 1929-30, helping

Zonta to weather the stock market crash of 1929 and initial days of the Great Depression. Ellen Anderson Parks, also from the St. Paul Club, served from 1937-3, presiding during the disappearance of Amelia Earhart and was instrumental in establishing the fellowship that Zontians all over the world are so proud to support today ensuring opportunity for women to study aviation and aerospace engineering. Dr. Dorothea Radusch, of the Zonta Club of Minneapolis, served as International President from 1954-56 after chairing the International Organization and Extension Committee from 1950-1953 that chartered fifty-one clubs including the first in the Philippines. During Dr. Radusch presidency, a third international service project was adopted to encourage girls and young women to pursue higher level positions in business and the professions.

Since its inception, the Zonta Club of Minneapolis has been dedicated to fundraising efforts large and small, a wide variety of service projects for local beneficiaries, providing scholarships to girls and young women pursuing their dreams, and the support of the Zonta International Fund. The club is particularly proud of the Myrtle Lee Scholarship funded by a gift from long time club member, Myrtle Lee, specifically for single mothers wishing to return to school in complete degree programs.

Today, the Zonta Club of Minneapolis meets at the Woman's Club of Minneapolis and includes members from Minneapolis, St. Paul and the surrounding Twin Cities metro area. The current members are dedicated to the same ideals of service and action as the founding members in, which was best articulated by Dorothea Radusch in 1959 in the following quote, "Tomorrow requires vision and courage to meet the challenge and provide the leadership for women in the free world. Let's not be them that just sets [sic] and listens, but them as gets up and does."

District 7 governors included Esther Westmann (1964-66) from the St. Paul Club and Darlene Siedschlaw (1974-76) from the Minneapolis Club

## **ZONTA CLUB OF KANSAS CITY , MISSOURI (#148)**

*Chartered May 29, 1937*

**(Renamed Kansas City I, MO after Kansas City II, MO was formed)**

After Kansas City, MO was chartered, the club membership continued to flourish. As the club grew, one of the members who owned a dress shop offered to organize and run a fundraiser fashion show which was the highlight of the club. The club gained many new members because of it. It was well attended by many people throughout the community.

In the late 1970's the membership had grown so large a split happened and a new club was formed – Kansas City II. The club was renamed Kansas City I Club and remained the same and continued to grow. Kansas City II Club also moved forward.

While the fashion show continued, the club also became known as the "Tennis Shoe Club", as the club was selling tennis shoes throughout District 7. All good things come to an end when the dress shop owner retired, the club discontinued the fashion show and sold all the tennis shoes



and found another great fundraiser to be known for. The club started selling gorgeous plants, annuals and perennials and still use this fundraiser today to fund the clubs service projects.

Many scholarships have been given over the years some helping young girls until they graduated from college. The club has gained two members that were previous recipients of scholarships.

Several of the members have served Zonta on many levels including Harriet Yeckel, International President (1972-74) and Eldeva Neill who served on the Zonta International Finance Committee. Governors include Dorothy Fardon (1952-53) the first Governor of District 7 and Harriette Yeckel (1966-67). Others have served on the District 7 level. One member who is very active on the District level and is a third generation Kansas City I member. The club is fortunate to have two members that have been active in Zonta for over 35 years.

Born and raised in the Midwest, Amelia Earhart is very dear to the hearts of Area 4 members. Therefore, Kansas City I decided to hold an Amelia Earhart luncheon honoring her legacy. The other clubs within Area 4 have joined in and the clubs now rotate the task of preparing the luncheon each year. In January of 2020, Kansas City I will be holding the fifteenth annual Amelia Earhart Luncheon.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI (#192)**

*Chartered April 17, 1947*

The executive director of the Girl Scouts Council, a judge, an owner of a photography studio, an attorney, a physician, several state administrators, and local business owners. Women in these fields, among others, are members of the Zonta Club of Jefferson City. They are also the professions represented by the charter members of the club in 1947.

It all started when a field representative of Zonta International acquainted a group of local executives and businesswomen with the aims and objects of the Zonta organization. It was the 192<sup>nd</sup> club organized by the international association. At one of the early meetings, the women invited Mr. Coe Pritchett, president of the local Rotary Club, to speak about the advantages and purposes of a classified club. After several preliminary meetings at the Hotel Governor, the group of 20 women organized on March 25, 1947, were granted a charter on April 17, and Mrs. Eula B. Hadlick, a local attorney, was elected president.

Several dignitaries were invited to speak at the charter dinner; including, Governor Donnelly and his wife, Council of Clubs President Mrs. A. F. Elsea and her husband, Chamber of Commerce President Mr. W. A. Bassman and his wife, the local Rotary Club president Mr. Coe Pritchett and his wife, and Miss Olive Wilkinson, vice chairman of Zonta International.

The original minutes showed the fee to join was five dollars and the club collected 10 cents from each member for the purpose of defraying incidental expenses such as postage. The committees of the club included: attendance, membership, program and publicity.

There have been numerous service projects sponsored by the Jefferson City Club through its 72-year history. Scholarships have been a mainstay for the organization. Beginning in 1950, the club assisted young women interested in the nursing profession. One of the main projects beginning in 1962 and continuing for almost two decades was the reading of a variety of subjects for the visually handicapped. Books maintained by the club show written permission from a variety of women's magazines as well as letters bearing the signatures of Ann Landers and Heloise Bowles Cruse (of Hints from Heloise).

Some of the many projects through the years have included contributions to the Teen Age Exchange Student, Salvation Army, Goshorn Handicap Center, American Field Service, Cerebral Palsy, School for the Deaf at Fulton, Girl's State and the Public Library. Club members rendered service to the Well Baby Clinic, the bloodmobile program, gave a party each year for the aged at St. Joseph's Home, and toys to the city's underprivileged children at Christmas. In the '50s they sent care packages to Europe and used nylon hose to Japan. In recent years, we have supported the Adult Literacy organization (ABLE), welcome home baskets for Habitat for Humanity, prepare meals for the teen residents at the local HALO home, and many other organizations. Zonta members volunteer their time by babysitting for the children at the Rape and Abuse Crisis Service.

In recent years, the high school Z-Club has made hygiene packets for young girls in Haiti and has supported the Central Missouri Stop Human Trafficking Coalition in several ways. The members were recognized on the Missouri House of Representative and Missouri Senate Floors for their work supporting the Coalition.

The Jefferson City Club will be hosting the 12<sup>th</sup> 5K during 2019. The theme is Superhero Stride. Proceeds from the 5K are donated to the Zonta International Foundation.

For several decades, the club has honored young women from the two local high schools each month for their contribution to their school community; this project continues today. In 2006, the club began recognizing one student from the other Cole County high schools, as well. Since 2007, the club has awarded over \$51,000 in high school scholarships.

Through the Women of Achievement Yellow Rose Luncheon, the Jefferson City Club honors local women for their outstanding contributions to the community and in their chosen field of endeavor. Recently the club hosted their 20<sup>th</sup> Luncheon. Proceeds from the Luncheon fund the club's Second Chance Scholarships. These scholarships have supported women age 24 and older who are starting or continuing their education. To date, over \$267,000 been given to these deserving women.

For 72 years, the Zonta Club of Jefferson City has been very active in the community. The Jefferson City Club hopes to continue this tradition for many more years to come.

The club has had two district governors, Irene Robinette (1972-74) and Amparo Thomas (1996-98).

## **ZONTA CLUB OF ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA (#248)**

*Chartered November 9, 1950*

The Zonta Club of St. Cloud was chartered on November 9, 1950 with 21 chartering members. The formal charter dinner was held at the St. Cloud Hotel on January 9, 1951. Dr. Dorothea Radusch, Zonta International Vice President, installed the officers. James Quigley Sr. was Toastmaster and the St. Cloud Orpheus Club presented a group of vocal numbers. Many local dignitaries attended the dinner including the Mayor of St. Cloud and presidents or representatives of local and national organizations. Also attending were Zontians from Minneapolis and St. Paul.

The major local focus for the club began with scholarships. The first scholarship was given in September 1951 to a student at St. Cloud Teachers College. After that the scholarship was given to the College. Supporting education through scholarships has continued to be a service focus. Currently the club funds scholarships for non-traditional students and participates in the Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs and the Jane Klausman scholarship awards.

The club gives community support and has been assisting the Federation for the Blind with their major fundraiser.

Fundraising to support the club's service projects has long been a focus for the members and has evolved from parties and auctions within the club membership to larger public endeavors like book and flower sales, dinners and house tours.

Beginning in 1984, a Mother's Day Flower Sale was held in conjunction with local florists began as a general service fundraiser. Currently proceeds benefit Journey Home, a program for recovering chemically dependent women and their children, and summer camps for underprivileged children.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF AUSTIN AREA, MINNESOTA (#249)**

*Chartered January 27, 1951*

The Austin Area Zonta Club of Austin, Minnesota was organized November 16, 1950 by Dr. Dorothea Radusch, Second Vice President of Zonta International, and a member of the Minneapolis Zonta Club. Dr. Radusch was the person who sparked the interest of women in Austin to form a Zonta Club. The charter was presented on Saturday evening, January 27, 1951, following a dinner at the Fox Hotel, at which representatives of the city's service clubs and their wives were guests. Mrs. Gladys Emerson, first president, accepted the charter from Dr. Radusch. Dates for the first two meetings were set for January 11 and 25<sup>th</sup>. The Austin club received a gavel (that is still used to date by club presidents) as a gift from Mrs. May Moyers McElroy, who was Zonta International President from 1940-42.

**1950's** - On November 1, 1951 the first service project was selected, and plans were made for giving gifts to members in the rest home located south of Austin. \$10.00 was allocated. In 1952 the club continued this project and selected the March of Dimes Drive as their main service project. The Austin Zonta Club received the March of Dimes Certificate of Appreciation (1954).

Other service projects include the Y Embassy, Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund and helping a young man wanting assistance in providing transportation from Germany to Austin to attend high school.

**1960's** - Austin leaders were among the 1200 professional and businesswomen executives gathered in Toronto from the United States Canada, Asia and many European countries for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of Zonta International. The Austin Club (1964) presented a copy of the book "Courage is the Price", the life of Amelia Earhart to the Austin public library. Austin Zontian Mrs. J.G. Usem was elected the new Area Director at the District 7 Conference (1965) in Kansas City. It was noted in that the "equal pay for equal work law has finally been passed in Minnesota-joining 36 other states. The rate of pay is now based on the job and not the worker. The club sponsored a Zonta Club in Rochester, Minnesota in 1966. The club donated funds (1968) to the Amelia Earhart Fellowship fund in honor of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fellowship program in memory of the famous woman flyer.

**1970's** – The Austin Club donated \$1,278.10 to UNICEF. Through this amount to the United Nations Children's fund, the club united with others in aiding millions of needy children and mothers in more the 100 countries. A birthday dinner was held celebrating the anniversary of the organizing of the Austin Zonta Club. Charter members who still belong were honored. In honor of 20 years of service the club gave \$20.00 to the Dorothea Radusch fund. The prime purpose of this fund is to improve the "status of women through education." In 1971, the club established a student revolving loan fund. Further contributions (1972) to their State Junior College Revolving Loan Fund, gave a movie projector to the library and supported many community projects. In 1973, the club continued to support of the Revolving Loan Fund, contributions to the music department. and various other community projects. Permission has been received from the school authorities to organize a Z-Club. The major project for 1975 was a donation of \$1,000 to the YMCA for maintenance and renovation of their historical building, also contribution to the "tree house" project for retarded children and various other projects in the community. Contributions to the Girl Scouts (1976) to help refurbish their rooms at the YWCA, were made as well as many other projects. The club supports many of Zonta's International projects as well as continuing to support local projects. (ex. Salvation Army, Girl Scouts and donated a copy of a biography of Amelia Earhart to the college library.)

**1980's** – The club was honored to have Esther Plehal (1980-1982) governor of District 7. In 1989, the Austin Club made a commitment in the amount of \$10,000 to construct the 6-foot-wide, 2700 feet long trail of 4" of base rock and 3" of blacktop surface for a walking trail at the Shirley Theel Memorial park in Austin. This cost is for materials and the parks & city crew will install the trail. Payments for this project will be made over a three-year time frame. The club will also "adopt the park" as a community clean-up project.

**1990's** – The club donates to the Austin Area Commission for the Arts and furnishes micro-recorders to the police department to take statements from victims of domestic abuse. In 1992-93 contributions to various community organizations as well fundraising efforts to raise monies for scholarships. The club sponsored and participated in the city's annual "Celebration of Women Champagne Brunch". Members collect supplies for Africa Medical Research project (1995). In September 1995 the club dedicated a sign with the Zonta name and logo at the walking trail at

Shirley Theel park. The club held a seminar for women of the community called "Happiness, Humor, and Health." The club's third annual women's seminar and luncheon (1997) with a theme called "Balancing Act". Sharing the strengths-implementing the club's vision and managing stress, time and physical well-being. In 1999, the club implemented the bench project at the Austin High School, bringing art to the public, thru the ZAP (Zonta Art Program). It was formed when a need for completion of a project that was started by local high school students. The partnership will give students a learning experience, while building community relationships with local artists/mentors and Zonta members. It is the club's goal to build community pride and ownership through the arts. In honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Austin Club coming up in the year 2000, plans were put in place for a project to depict the values of Zonta International. With the partnership of the high school students and members, designs were created for a six-sided cube statue with a flying dove on top symbolizing peace for every nation. It was a lengthy but very rewarding project that took a lot of time and efforts. Completion and dedication came later. Zontians donated their time and talents to help the ESL(English as 2<sup>nd</sup> language) project. This project exemplifies the values and image of the literacy programs of Zonta International. Clean up of the park continues. The main fundraiser was a "Generation Luncheon & Fashion Show".

**2000's** – In 2000 as part of the mentorship project the club received a charter for organizing a Z-Club in February. In March the ZAP project for the benches continue with the tiles being done by the Class of 2000. Service funds raised went to books to the Salvation Army; items for the serviceman thru the Red Cross; clothing to Riverland Tech, to help with job interviews and health supplies for global ministries. In 2002 the main service project-Nepal Social Services is supported by club. Monetary donations were given with results coming in as: drastic reduction of the mortality rate of children and adults, dramatic improvement of diet and nutrition, over 250 Nepal women were taught to read and write and knowledge given to promote healthier animals while increasing income-generating opportunities. Also, in 2002, a tree was planted at a local park to honor charter member Dora for her 50 years of service to the club. With some additional funds from the ZAP project some enhancements of benches/or planters were put around the peace statue. Club had a fundraiser (2007) with a "Glow in the Dark" golf tournament. In 2009, Austin Zontian, Mary Kittelson takes on a hand sanitizer project to help combat the spread of the H1N1 virus by distributing over 2000 plus purse size bottles of sanitizer. The club donated stuffed bears to comfort children of domestic violence to the local police department and organized a fundraising travel event to the Fireside Dinner Theatre. Partnering with Red Cross over 300 red ribbons were made and distributed marking World Aids Day, December 1. The club has had a wine tasting fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity. The peace statue was moved in 2011 to the new Justice Center, where it was more visible to the community. Biggest accomplishment was bringing the "Clothesline Project" to the community. Even though it is a very sad thing to experience it brought awareness and gave visual representation to domestic violence deaths of women and children in Minnesota. In 2012, in addition to the yearly contributions supporting the various local organizations, supplying scholarships and programs of valuable information on women's issues the club held its first annual "Woman of Achievement" banquet. It was started to recognize an outstanding individual woman and her accomplishments in the area. Keynote speaker, Patrick Atkinson, presented a very disturbing but informational talk on "trafficking". Another first accomplishment for the Austin Club was completing the dream of the clubs "Flag Project". The idea came about with Zonta International's movement to bring community awareness to those affected by domestic violence. Sixteen yellow flags were ordered

to symbolize one for each day of Zonta's 16 days for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. One flag is placed each day, surrounding the peace statue across from the jail and justice center. This very visible community awareness project will continue for years to come to someday eliminate violence against women. In July 2013 the local YWPA award winner was the recipient of the 2013 District 7 YWPA award from Governor Janet Kannard. (\$1,000). The club continued the year with their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Woman of Achievement banquet and fundraiser for scholarships, placed the flags for the 16 days of Activism and voted to buy and place a "Little Library Hut" for literacy for the community. In 2014 Austin club held its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Woman of Achievement banquet and fundraiser for scholarships

## **ZONTA CLUB OF BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA (#269)**

*Chartered November 29, 1951*

Dr. Dorothea Radusch, Zonta International Vice President presented the charter to the Bismarck Zonta Club on November 29, 1951 and gave the banquet address. Presidents and members of other service clubs were in attendance. There were 21 charter members.

Since 1956 the club has provided scholarships to the Bismarck Junior College. Other scholarships have been given to Girls State and the Girls Scouts.

The club supports the Zonta Park. Over the years the club has provided the park with a Shelter, grill, picnic table, a memorial marker and foot bridge.

In 1973, because of their active participation in community projects, particularly work in the city centennial, the club achieved the status of a fully recognized Service Club.

The club has had two District Governors Cathi Christopherson (2000-02) and Barb Jirges (2010-12).

The club continues to support Zonta International projects.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF FARGO-MOORHEAD, NORTH DAKOTA (#273)**

*Chartered January 26, 1952*

Zonta Club of Fargo-Moorhead was chartered on January 26, 1952 by Zonta International President Elizabeth Dozier. Service and fundraising projects have been an integral to the history of the club. The following is list of service projects that the club has supported throughout the decades:

**1950's** -- Archived

**1960's** - Service projects include an Annual Tea and Mixer for Foreign students and their foster parents, scholarships for at Moorhead State and North Dakota State University, Ramallah, sponsor a student to attend Peace Garden Music Camp, Christmas gifts for girls at Florence

Crittendon Home and gifts to own members plague by floods. In 1969 the club participated in the Annual Brotherhood Dinner. This all women's service clubs together for a social. This seemed to be the very early start of the Fellowship Meeting. The club also established a revolving loan fund to assist a needy woman to reenter the labor market.

**1970's** – The club donated money for glasses and glass repairs for young children at Fort Yates Indian reservation, sponsored girls to girl's state competition, sent Christmas cards to nursing homes for Christmas. The club raffled a snow mobile as a fund raiser. In 1972 worked with YWCA to sponsor two shelters one for High Rise for handicap and Encounter House. The club earned a total of 342 service hours in projects including bingo parties, tray favors for VA Hospital, Christmas for nursing homes, career seminar for students and working women , brotherhood dinner, Z-Club organization, ceramic show food concession and the right to read program. The club partnered with KFME to help with a fundraising telethon.

**1980's** – The club raised funds to pack Thanksgiving Baskets for disadvantaged women and children.

**2000's** – The club continued with the Thanksgiving baskets project until 2009. The club sponsored GED's for disadvantaged women. Fundraisers included Fall Craft Bazaar raising \$11,000 selling pickles, soups, and baked goods, Wine Tasting, Take Back the Night for victims of violence and garage sales.

**2011 to Present** - Over the year's membership has fluctuated from 32 members to 6. Giving locally has been strong for various organizations in Zonta's mission including YWCA, Rape and Abuse, GED and CNA scholarships, Great Plains Food Bank, Jody Crowe, and the Jeremiah Program. Fundraising efforts have ceased. The focus is on rebuilding with membership opportunities and Zonta training (at District Conference, etc.) for FM leadership. Fundraising efforts will begin with increased membership.

Genevieve Forthun a member of the club was District Governor from 1960-62.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF JAMESTOWN, NORTH DAKOTA (#297)**

*Chartered May 4, 1952*

**1952 Organizing and charter**– A group of prospective members met at the Moline Café on March 15, 1952, as the guests of Mrs. Dorothy Louden, Organizer and Field Secretary from Dickinson, ND, who had been instrumental in starting clubs elsewhere in the state. Mrs. Louden acted as Temporary Chairman. A motion was made by Mr. Marianne O'Neil to organize a Jamestown Zonta Club and this was seconded by Blanche Stevens; the motion was carried. Present at this first meeting were: Marjorie Zappas, Ethel Hauser, Laura Dehne, Louise Murphy, Ella Fetcher, Marjorie Nelson, Marianne O'Neil, Mabel Steinbach, Ethel Williams, Dorothy Skov, Blanche Stevens, and Dorothy Louden (Dickinson). The second meeting of the club was on March 22 at the Palace Café, where the first officers were elected.

The Charter was presented by Dr. Dorothea Radusch, International Vice President, at a dinner at the Gladstone Hotel on May 5, 1952, with a total of about 90 members and guests attending.

Guests included Mrs. Dorothy Louden of Dickinson; Mrs. Genevieve Forthrun, Mrs. Clarence Sandle, and Miss Christine Finlayson (Fargo club); Miss Catherine Morris, Mrs. Francis Blenheny, and Irene Gable (Bismarck club); and Jamestown Mayor Sharp. Dr. Dorothy Radusch, (Minneapolis) was the main speaker and formally installed the new officers. Committees formed during the first year were Fellowship, Service, Program, Finance, Membership, Intercity, Historian, Public Relations, International Relations, Status of Women, and Club Hostess. Dues were \$12.



**1950s** - Meetings during these years were usually held at the local café, but some were periodically held at the State Hospital, Crippled Children's School, and private homes. Business during meetings largely involved developing the club's organization, learning about Zonta International, discussing opportunities to participate in community activities, and exploration of possible service activities. The Crippled Children's School was selected as the club's service work and served as the focus of many activities through the first decades. Service activities included providing Christmas gifts to children at the Crippled Children School and to patients at the State Hospital, entertaining patients at the State Hospital, and providing Valentine baskets to a local nursing home. Funds were contributed for the James River Association for the Handicapped and toward the building of the Amelia Earhart building by the Wichita Club. Scholarships provided for girls to attend the Salvation Army's camp and the National Association of Student Councils. Fundraising activities included selling tickets for local events, sponsoring a movie and bingo party, rummage sales, benefit teas, and a dance for young people. Fines were collected for not wearing member pins. Membership ranged from 31 to 24. Dues were increased to \$15 in 1953. Dr. Anne Carlsen, head of the Crippled Children's School and herself challenged with physical disabilities from birth, was excused most of one year while she served in Washington, DC on a council for the disabled. Programs included the Crippled Children's School, coronation of Queen Elizabeth, assigned countries to learn about (Iceland and Philippines), photography by member Ida Prokov Lee (later recognized by the North Dakota Arts Council, the Lewis and Clark expedition, League of Women Voters, occupational therapy at the State Hospital, Jamestown College's nursing school, membership classification, District and international conventions, fluoridation, and the refugee problem in Europe (Zonta International service project to provide funds to refugee camps). High-ranking -high school junior girls and international students were invited annually. Interestingly, in 1952 congratulations were given to members Bertha Ebel and Harriet Shurr for their 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of living together. This decade saw several new Zonta clubs become chartered and early involvement at District and International levels. Seventeen Jamestown members attended the charter dinner of the Valley City club in October 1952. Members attended fall District Conference in Sun Valley, Idaho, and the International Convention in Bermuda. Marjorie Zappas was appointed Lieutenant Governor for District 7 in 1956.



**1960s** - Meetings were usually held at local cafes or at the Crippled Children's School. Club membership ranged from 29 to 31 members. Membership dues were \$15.00; Zonta International dues were \$4.50. Service continued to be focused on the Crippled Children's School and the State Hospital through both funds and service hours. Service included Christmas gifts to children at the school and to patients at the State Hospital, and an annual "birthday party" for patients at the State Hospital. Members contributed service hours for envelope-stuffing and a small contribution to Easter Seals. Funds were also sent to support Zonta International's service project, the Anne Frank Village and the "Father Pire Village" in Germany for under privileged families. Fund-raising activities included a members' auction and a "style show and card party", card sales, gift sale, rummage sale, sale of decorated hangers and soap, a breakfast, and doll raffle. Program topics included Jamestown volunteer fire department, United Nations, "Safe Lighting" planning for towns, mental health and patient activities at the State Hospital, Marjorie Zappas' duties as senior counselor at Girls State, status of African women, Zonta International's service project 'Ramallah', a beautification project by the Soil Conservation District, Dr. Anne's work in California and information on other rehabilitation facilities around the nation, status of women as seen by county home extension agent and public health nurse, and rationing for civil defense. An Easter Seals boy and dentist gave a presentation about their trip to Australia for a World Congress of the International Society for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled. High-ranking-high school junior girls and international students were invited annually, and exchange students from Brazil and West Germany discussed their nations. The club celebrated its tenth anniversary, with the District Governor and Area Director as guests. Continuing the interactions among clubs in the state, two members of the Dickinson Club ("the oldest club in the state") attended the June meeting and described their club's activities. Jamestown members attended the "Zonta All Dakota Dinner" in Bismarck held in 1960, the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary party of the Valley City club, and District and international conference. Jamestown hosted the District meeting in 1965.

**1970s** - Meetings were usually held at private homes, the State Hospital, or the Crippled



Children's School. Membership declined from a high of 29 to 19 members. Local dues were \$20–22. The club celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1977. Members periodically attended area, district, and international meetings. The club's service continued to focus on the Crippled Children's School, contributing funds and hands-on activities such as reading, shopping, visiting, and helping to transport children to an activity center, providing stamped Christmas cards for children to send. Other club service activities included providing gifts to and annual birthday party for patients at the State Hospital and ringing

bells for the Salvation Army. The club contributed funds and volunteer time to the city's tourism project 'Pioneer Village', visited and contributed articles for crafts and games to local nursing homes, and purchased a podium for the new Civic Center. Funds also were contributed to the United Funds, scholarships to girls attending Girls State and mentally disabled students to go to summer camp, 'New Horizons' fund (for former mental hospital patients), County Day Care

Center, library fund, among other opportunities. The main fund-raising activity was a fall bazaar. Program topics included mental health issues, speech rehabilitation, being a parent of a handicapped child and other programs about the Crippled Children's School, Girls State, Zonta International's Ramallah project, the building of Pipestem Dam, 'Project Second Chance' school program, industrial development in the Jamestown area, wills and estates, property and liability, North Dakota authors, vocational education, Jamestown's new home rule charter, and member's travels to many different countries. A Safety Committee regularly provided information at each meeting. Dr. Anne Carlsen was appointed in 1972 to President Nixon's Commission for the Purchase of Products and Services for the Blind and Other Severely Handicapped Persons; she also appeared on television's "Today Show" in 1971. In 1973 she attended the National Association of Cerebral Palsy in Venezuela and participated in the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. Dr. Anne had her picture and an article about her in the Zontian in 1970. The school was renamed in her honor as the Ann Carlsen School in 1980.

**1980s** - Meetings were generally held at private homes but also periodically held meetings at the Ann Carlsen School, the Continental restaurant, and several other local businesses. In 1981, dues totaled \$55 (local dues, including 7 dinners, were \$28; International dues \$13; district dues \$7; Marian de Forest Assessment \$2; Zonta subscription \$3; Convention fee \$1; and Amelia Earhart \$1).

Membership rose from 21 in 1980–1981 to 31 in 1989. Members periodically attended and participated in area, district, and international meetings. Service was largely through providing funds to the Ann Carlsen School, Girls State, SAFE Shelter, Jamestown's Frontier Village, the UNICEF well-water project in Sri Lanka, and the International Music Camp in North Dakota. Members continued to volunteer with bell ringing for the Salvation Army. Fund-raising was through the fall bazaar, raffles, and bake sales. Bertha Ebel's *Bariskas* (German Russian bread containing sauerkraut and meat) were favorites. Program topics included Central Valley Health Unit, employment of the handicapped, North Dakota's centennial, Job Service, Amelia Earhart, Jamestown government, arts in the schools, nursing homes and aging, SAFE Shelter, history of Zonta, banking and real estate professions, United Way, and reports from International conventions. A program on international intelligence during WWII was presented by Zonta Member Betty Gates who worked in Southwest Pacific Theater offices, commanded by General Douglas MacArthur. Outstanding junior high-school girls were regularly invited to meetings. Dr. Anne had her picture and an article about her in the Zontian in 1981. In October 1984, she reported that Zonta had given \$3,345 to the school since 1967.



Nursing School in India



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**1990s** - Membership peaked at 44 in 1994 and ranged in the 30s in most of the decade. Dues structure in the early 1990s was \$120.50 (local dues \$24, dinners \$48.50, state dues \$10, International dues \$38). Members continued good attendance and participation at area, district, and international meetings. Linda Mohn served as District 7 treasurer and Governor and Laurel Haroldson as Area Director and District 7 chair for the Jane Klausman program. Early in the decade, service was focused on the Ann Carlsen School but started to diversify, with more focus

on the SAFE Shelter and service activities most closely aligned with Zonta's mission. Other service activities included literacy project with EvenStart, Girls State, Fine Arts endowment and Fine Arts Center, community recycling, and AAUW's 'Expanding Your Horizons' which encourages junior high school girls to consider careers in science, technology, engineering, or math. Funds were also sent to support the Amelia Earhart building in Kansas, Violence Against Women program, Leadership Jamestown scholarship, Girls State, and GED tests. In other service, members helped with tutoring and literacy needs at the local Head Start program and helped with several spring cleanups along the James River in town. The club organized a 'Good for You' event in springs of 1997 to 2002. The Saturday morning event provided educational programs to women about health, wills, financial planning, gardening, crafts, and other subjects. In 1999, the club voted to support the development of a School of Nursing in rural India, through the connections of member Dr. Ruth Strutz. Over the years, more than \$5000 was contributed to help build and ultimately open the school. By 2002, the school and clinic had treated 3,285 patients and had graduated its first nursing students. The popular "Chocolate Fever" fund-raising event was started in 1993 and ran for 13 years. Zontians organized local vendors (many of them women's home-based businesses) and organizations for an afternoon at the mall and sold tickets to the public; vendors gave away pieces of home-made chocolate in exchange for the opportunity to display their goods or information. Other fund-raising included selling ice-cream at community events, raffles, concession sales at the car races, and solicitation from other service clubs and businesses for Zonta Park. Through the vision of Barb Lang, the club took on the development of Zonta Park, an abandoned strip of waste land along the railroad and across from City Hall. The city agreed to lease the land from the railroad while Zonta handled the planning, fund raising, and design of the park. The historic cupola from the old city hall was rescued, restored through many volunteer hours, and installed at the center of the new park in 1991. Funds for the project were partially raised by selling trees as lasting memorials to family or friends. A Peace Pole was installed in front of the cupola in small garden, and a 'Zonta Park' sign erected. A street festival was held at the park in 1992 to celebrate its completion. Over the years, three weddings and various events for peace have been held at the cupola, and members have continued to maintain the cupola, garden, and flag. The park continues to be a highlight of green space in the city and a visible symbol of Zonta for the community. The Jamestown Club participated in the 1996 International Convention hosted by District 7 in St. Louis, MO. The Jamestown Club planned and presented the memorial service, which was based on American Indian dream catchers, as well as assisting the St. Louis Club throughout the convention.



**2000-2018** - Membership ranged from 20 to 34 individuals. The last founding member, Char Hanson, died in 2014; she had maintained her membership for all 62 years. The club varied their meeting place monthly, using various businesses, club rooms, and homes around the community. By 2009, the club changed to meet regularly at the Gladstone Inn. In 2002, local dues were \$155 (included meals), Zonta International \$52, and district \$16. As of 2014, dues totaled \$214 (local dues \$27, meals \$83, district dues \$21, and International dues \$83). Various members regularly attended area, district,



and international meetings. Mary Reed was elected as Lieutenant Governor (2014-16) and Governor (2016-18). Mary also served as Secretary for District 7, and Jane Austin served as district chair of the Service Committee and was elected Area Director. Service activities diversified, but remained steadfast in support of the Safe Shelter, providing funds, books, and clothing. Other service activities included books at Christmas for children at EvenStart, organizing a brunch for breast cancer survivors in coordination with the local grief and cancer support groups, funds and clothing to support SART (Sexual Assault Response Team), helping with “Kids Vote”, continued support for development of the India School of Nursing, annual highway cleanup, and a clothes closet. The club partnered with Jamestown College on gender violence media events and women leadership programs. Zonta always had a booth during the city’s August “Block Party”, an event designed to better inform and integrate incoming college students about the community; at the booth, Zontians provided information on voting during election years and information on gender violence and the SAFE Shelter in other years. During the “16 Days of Activism” in 2013 and 2014, the club set up a display of shoes in the mall, representing the more than 100 individuals who had been victims of domestic violence in the community, along with information about gender violence in the community, state, and worldwide. The club began partnering with the local Girl Scout troop to



provide opportunities to expose girls to different careers and expose them to more information about the lives of girls around the world. Main fundraising activities were Chocolate Fever (later revised as “Chocolate Fantasia”, up to 2011), selling “Christmas Cookies by the Pound” at the mall or nuts for the holidays, park rummage sales, and sponsoring acapella concerts. In 2010s, members discovered lucrative income by checking IDs at local concerts and helping with the “Calypso” gaming at a fall race-track event in exchange for part of the proceeds. Programs were diverse, but often focused on efforts to address domestic violence, women’s health, legislative issues, and international women’s issues. Other programs dealt with financial planning, education for women and girls, recycling, environmental issues, demonstration and support of solar cookers for women in remote regions, Zonta International and UN programs, and travels of members to diverse countries. At each meeting, a member gave “120 seconds” about themselves and, later, about women’s issues. For several years the club was a “sister” club to the Zonta Club of Madras, India. The club held the clubs *Founder’s Day* celebration in September 2002 with a dinner, short program, and guests, including one founding member. At Zonta Park, the steep and weedy east side was converted to spreading junipers, the historic cupola at Zonta Park underwent major restoration, and the garden was updated to perennials. Two additional Peace Poles were installed around Jamestown during this era, at Jamestown College (now University of Jamestown) and in front of the National Buffalo Museum. Club members also helped with the rededication of the seven peace poles at the International Peace Garden at the border of North Dakota and Manitoba. The club sponsors a Golden Z Club at the University of Jamestown. They were chartered in 2018 had a very successful first year.

**ZONTA CLUB OF BRECKENRIDGE-WAHPETON, NORTH DAKOTA  
(#294)**

*Chartered February 21, 1953*

The Breckenridge-Wahpeton Zonta Club was organized in 1952 by Vera Bollinger of Valley City ND and was chartered with 20 members on February 21, 1953 by First International Vice President, Dorothea Radusch. In its early years club members were well represented at Area and District events, and some members were able to attend International conventions. Several club members have served at the district level. In 1969 Z clubs were formed in the high schools in both Wahpeton and Breckenridge. There is no information on their longevity or their demise.

Programs have always been an important aspect of Club meetings. Many have been presented by the two schools for eign exchange students. There has been several pertaining to education, mental health, womens health issues, community issues, and, of course, fun topics such as food and gardening.

From the beginning the club actively sought out meaningful community service projects. When the club decided to start giving scholarships to young women to attend the ND State School of Science, they held a style show on 3/29/55 with around 500 attending, raising \$174.84. Thus, began a very long series of annual style shows. After a several year hiatuses the tradition has been resurrected. The club continues to award scholarships to young women, now focusing on YWPA awards and GED scholarships. In addition to the scholarships, the club gives one third of funds raised to Zonta International Fund and provides funds and supplies to Three Rivers Crisis Center in Wahpeton and Someplace Safe in Breckenridge, facilities serving victims of domestic violence and other crimes. The Yellow Rose Award is given annually to 1-2 area women who have promoted the status of women either professionally or through volunteerism.

Many worthy projects have been discontinued over the years due either to diminished needs or in the pursuit of better alignment with Zonta's mission. Some of the long-enduring abandoned projects include: entertainment and parties given for area nursing home residents or Wahpeton Indian School students, donation of large print *Readers Digests* to nursing homes, distribution of meals or funds to needy families, delivery of Meals on Wheels, assisting with blood drives, and sponsorship of the Breckenridge and Wahpeton libraries summer reading programs

**ZONTA CLUB OF ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA (#299)**

*Chartered March 26, 1953*

The Aberdeen Zonta Club received its charter on March 26, 1953. Over those sixty-four years, it has been involved in various projects.

One of the more well-known projects was the donation of a concrete Pumpkin House to Aberdeen's very popular Storybook Land, a nursery rhyme theme park for people of all ages. In 2013 the Aberdeen Club made another generous donation to the park for some major repairs on this structure that was built and paid for by the Aberdeen Zonta Club in 1978. The building, suitable for picnics in a small enclosure, was one of the first exhibits in the park.

The Aberdeen Club has supported and continues to support many non-profit organizations and other groups needing the clubs help. Some of these include the Salvation Army, Safe Harbor, Safety Town, Adjustment Training Center, Aberdeen Boys and Girls Club, Girl Scouts, Career Closet, the Aberdeen Senior Center, and many more.

The Aberdeen Club organized two-time capsules, which were buried in Aberdeen area parks, Melgaard Park and Wylie Park.

Hosting the Rose Luncheon and selling See's Candy are the current major fundraisers for the Aberdeen Club. The funds from these two events are used to supply four annual college scholarships to non-traditional female students. Two scholarships are awarded at Northern State University and two at Presentation College.

In 2015 the Aberdeen Club received two awards for Area I. These silver awards were for Public Relations and Communications and for Service.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF ATCHISON, KANSAS (#403)**

*Chartered March 12, 1957*

The Zonta Club of Atchison, KS was chartered with 18 charter members on November 12, 1957. The club was chartered by the Wichita Zonta Club (which no longer exists) who thought that Atchison, KS, birthplace of Amelia Earhart, should have a Zonta club. Dues were \$12.00.

A variety of fundraisers including various types of sales (bake, garage, etc.), and raffle tickets through the years including a raffle for a mink stole, art and a handmade quilt. From 1963-1970 the club's major fundraiser was a style show and dinner.

To honor Amelia Earhart the club sold note cards of Amelia Earhart birthplace by Isabel Schreiber, sold memorial patio bricks as a fundraiser for restoration of Amelia Earhart's home and planted a rosebush.

Starting in 1976, Atchison Zonta helped with Friday evening reception and Saturday morning ceremony during the International Forest of Friendship a living memorial to the world history of aviation and aerospace. Atchison Zonta hosted for many years a Saturday luncheon, after the Forest ceremony, for any members of the 99's who were also Zonta members. Atchison Zonta members provided transportation to and from Kansas City International Airport for 99's and to and from Amelia Earhart Airport for those 99's who flew their own plane into Atchison.

The club provided many service projects and donations to the Atchison community including a Zonta plaque at Amelia Earhart Airport. Since 1990 members have given tours at Cray Historical Home and Museum.

Members have attended District conferences and international conventions. Sr Mary Blaise, a member, became District Governor (1988-90). The club has supported Zonta International Projects.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF BRAINERD, MINNESOTA (#334)**

*Chartered November 16, 1954*

The Charter Dinner of the Brainerd, Minnesota, Zonta Club was held at the Ransford Hotel Annex, November 16, 1954. There were 19 charter members. Dr. Dorothea Radusch of Minneapolis, Minnesota, President of Zonta International, presented the charter and gave the address. The mayor of Brainerd and representatives of all the service clubs in the community were dinner guests.

A very important project in the first years was the sponsorship of the Golden Age Club. At that time there was no gathering or support group for senior citizens. The first meeting of the Golden Age Club was held on May 22, 1955. At that time there were no government sponsored Federal programs for senior citizens. By 1970 the group was self-governing and needed help from the Zonta club only for advice and as helpers.

In 1959 the club became involved with a local project to make old Crow Wing, an historical area, a state park. Working together with other groups to secure legislative and financial assistance, the project was successful and Old Crow Wing State Park was dedicated on 1962.

Community support for local needs has continued throughout the years, with scholarships being given to women pursuing nursing and non-traditional careers almost every year since the club was chartered. In 1996 a project to raise \$10,000 for an endowed fund at the local community college was begun, and in 2001 the final donation to that fund was made. The recipients of these scholarships are non-traditional female students. In addition, the club continues to grant scholarships to young women graduating from high school pursuing careers in non-traditional fields.

Members over the years have been involved into Zonta International's leadership positions, with several women serving on the district board with members serving as District Governor, Marlene Larson (1992-94) and Carol Pasanen (2006-08). Carol Munns was a member of the board. The club has always been supportive financially of Zonta International projects, donating the recommended 1/3 of fundraising money to the Foundation. Locally, the club has consistently supported the local Women's Shelter, both financially and with service projects. Another long-term commitment locally has been the Port Girl's Home, where teenage girls in the legal system stay for varying lengths of time.

Members have consistently attended area, district and international meetings. Membership has varied through the years, with a high of 53 at one time, but currently hovering around 15.

Projects through the years have been:

- Support for Salvation Army (helping with annual bell-ringing campaign).
- Providing speakers to Girls Port (a group home for challenged girls) once a month since 2000.
- Sponsorship of a Women's Clothes Closet for women re-entering the work force.

- Providing hygiene and other small items for women at the local women's shelter (shoebox ministry).
- Christmas parties for families of women using the Women's Shelter.

Speakers on various topics have been sponsored, with the most notable being Patty Wetterling to speak about missing children and the efforts to improve the system to keep children safe.

Selling baskets to raise money for wells in Tanzania (collaborating with a local church), raising \$1000 for that cause.

Various fundraising projects have been undertaken style shows, flower sales, an art auction, food concessions, and currently, an annual Christmas house

The Brainerd Area Club meets twice a month, once for a business meeting and once for a program meeting.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS (#695)**

*Chartered June 1, 1972*

The Zonta Club of Johnson County, Kansas, was chartered on June 1, 1972. Dr. Harriette Yeckel, a Kansas Citian and then President-Elect of Zonta International, presented the charter to the club at its installation dinner. The club had 21 charter members, and Mrs. Alfreda Bachmann (first Club President) and other officers were installed.

Service projects have been integral to the history of the Zonta Club of Johnson County, Kansas. The following is a list of service projects that the Club has supported through the decades:

- 1970s – Donated ultrasound stethoscope to Johnson County Health Department; made cancer chux for hospitals.
- 1980s – Donated funds to the School for the Blind, a washer and dryer to Battered Persons (later became SAFEHOME), and furniture to Keys Home (home for children).
- 1990s – Wrapped gifts for Cancer Action, collected, repaired, cleaned coats, and donated meals for Johnson County Christmas Bureau, purchased 10 windsocks and a video camera for 10 new airstrips in Africa (AMREF) and provided eye medicine for clinics there.
- 2000s – Participated in Habitat for Humanity Women Build (2006-7); raised \$3,028.75 for the project; donated items to SAFEHOME and Spofford for their wish lists; provided childcare for Women at Center of Grace.
- 2010 to Present – Service partner with Keeler Women's Center: donate (d) hygiene bags quarterly, tutored Easy English, collected gently used household items and furniture, and provided support for women job seekers.
- Throughout the decades, the Club has donated gift cards and gift certificates for food and clothing to needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

In addition to service projects, the club has also always stressed the importance of actively raising funds to support the goals and programs of Zonta International, globally and locally.

The following are fundraising activities that the club has undertaken since the club was chartered:

- 1980s - Overland Park Fall Festival Days. Club members originally sold popcorn,



coffee, and doughnuts. In 1981 the club created clown costumes for club functions, and over the years, they have worn the costumes and offered face painting, balloon animals, and tattoo application for donations to support Zonta causes. In addition, the Club sold dinner tickets at a premium to the Tivoli Dinner Theater to benefit Zonta. Another project involved oak furniture raffles.

- 1990s – The club sold New Theater Dinner Theater tickets at a premium to support Zonta programs. The club held “Cabaret”, “Spring Fling” and “Tea” dances to raise funds for Zonta. Clowning continued at the Overland Park Fall Festival. .
- 2000s – Club members continued to clown at the Overland Park Fall Festival, the Trick or Treat Trail at Matt Ross Community Center, the Deanna Rose Farmstead, the Johnson County Community College Staff Picnic, and other schools, churches, and events, accepting donations for the club’s service projects. Club members also sold coupon books, hosted “Bunko for Zonta” parties, and held “White Elephant” auctions to raise funds for the club’s service, scholarship, and general funds.
- 2010 to present – Club members continued clowning activities, sold Foodie Discount Cards, held “Bunko for Zonta” parties and “White Elephant” auctions to raise funds.

Over the years, club members have also sold items at Zonta District and Area Meetings, including pincushion chickens; designer fabric vests, denim shirts featuring the Zonta emblem; red, white, and blue scarves, Zonta labels and stationery, decorated glassware, “Silver” Z charms, yellow rose pens, jewelry, and hand-crocheted items.

The Zonta Club of Johnson County, Kansas, has participated regularly at the Area and District levels. Club members who have been Area Directors include: Hazel Steffen, Barbara Page-Stocks, Cheryl Disney Breeden, Cynthia Yin, and Anne McCleery. The Club hosted Area Meetings in 1932, 1989, 2003, and 2010 and hosted or co-hosted District 7 Conferences in 1979 and 1997. In 1993, the Zonta Clubs of Johnson County and Kansas City, Kansas cosponsored the chartering of the Zonta Club of Saint Petersburg, Russia.

Another priority of the Zonta Club of Johnson County, Kansas, focuses on educational scholarships for women. The Club currently offers three scholarships: Nontraditional, YWPA, and the Jane Klausman Women in Business Scholarship. Since 2009, the YWPA Scholarship has been administered through the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, giving it credibility and placing it among other worthwhile scholarship programs in the community. The Club was proud to advance its YWPA scholar Iliana Alvarenga, who went on to win the YWPA Scholarship at the District level.

The Zonta Club of Johnson County, Kansas, supports the programs of Zonta International whenever possible. Throughout the history of the Club, it has donated one third of its service project revenue to Zonta International. To raise awareness of Zonta International in the local community, the Club has honored staffs of organizations to celebrate Yellow Rose Day, including the nursing staff of Children’s Mercy Hospital, SAFEHOME (shelter for battered women), Spofford Home (residential treatment for children), Keeler Women’s Center (multidisciplinary outreach to women in need), Sheffield Place (residential shelter for women), Overland Park Elementary School, and Veronica’s Voice (a program to address human trafficking).

The Zonta Club of Johnson County, Kansas, in concert with other Kansas City metropolitan area Zonta Clubs, began hosting an annual Amelia Earhart dinner or luncheon to celebrate renowned Zontian Amelia Earhart. These events raise awareness of Zonta and promote the

organization throughout the entire metropolitan area. Past speakers have included Zonta International Amelia Earhart fellow Caroline Rickert, a dynamic young female B2 Bomber pilot from Whiteman Air Force Base, a former Angel Flight pilot, two young student pilots, and many other very credible speakers.

We find it interesting that the club was chartered with 21 members, and that today, we have 22 members. Over the years, membership has fluctuated from a low of 17 to a high of 27, with an average of 20 to 21 members. The current club leadership has set a short-term goal to focus on membership during this biennium and in hopes to attract four new members. Longer-term the club believes that it is possible to build club membership to 30.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF MANKATO, MINNESOTA (#750)**

*Chartered September 1974*

The Zonta Club of Mankato was chartered in September 1974. Initially the club consisted of middle age to senior women serving in an administrative capacity. As years went by and times changed, the club moved toward a more intergenerational mix of women serving primarily in a supervisory capacity. For the past 5-10 years the club has consisted of all ages from young newly married to retired seniors. The millennium members brought to the club new ideas and energy while still embracing the mission of Zonta. Numbers have consistently remained between 25-35 women.

There were many different service projects and fundraisers over the years. Some of these proved to be very successful and others were not successful for different reasons. One fund raiser that has been consistent since the club's charter and continues to grow, has been the annual Style/Fashion show. It has become a signature event in the community. Proceeds have gone to Zonta's International Service Programs as well as various charities. For over the past ten years, the primary beneficiary has been the Open-Door Health Center (ODHC). This community center serves those people without insurance or those with limited access to medical/dental care. Their population is primarily women and children. The current president of ODHC is an active Mankato Zontian.

Throughout the years the club has supported members to attend area, district and international meetings and conventions. For many years the international parliamentarian was from our club. Other members have continued in Zonta leadership position at the area and district level.

Currently, as in the past, the Zonta Club of Mankato works closely with the YWCA, CADA (Committee against Domestic Abuse), Royal Family Kids, and Habitat for Humanity. For many years, including currently, the club has partnered with BPW (Business and Professional Women) to sponsor a monthly Clothes Closet, where immigrants, refugees, homeless and shelter women can come and shop for clothes and shoes at a local consignment shop at no cost to them. This project has successfully partnered Zontians with other women in the community. Most recently



Zonta Club of Mankato has partnered with local law enforcement, Blue Earth County district attorney's office, CADA, MSU Women's Center, and Project for Teens in recognition of sexual assault awareness month. This partnership with likeminded organizations was greatly received by the local press.

The club also sponsors a yearly Kayaking for a Cause event to raise money for scholarships for women pursuing a career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). In addition to STEM scholarship, we award scholarships to YWPA and Jane M. Klausmann in Business. Also, yearly, the club organizes a community event entitled Walk a Mile in Her Shoes to raise community awareness of domestic abuse.



The Mankato Club has received numerous District awards in the areas of Service, Membership, and Public Relations. In 2015, The Zonta Club of Mankato received the YWCA Distinctive Difference Award for the work we do to improve the community. This

was a great honor as only one award is given out each year. In addition, since 1998 seven individual Zontians have been honored as the YWCA's Women of Distinction, chosen because of their tireless commitment to making the community better. They have volunteered diligently and advocated for others to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

The club has had two district governors Muriel Anderson (1986-88) and Shelley Schultz (2018-20).

### **ZONTA CLUB OF CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI (#784)**

## *Chartered May 10, 1976*

**Charter** - Chartered on May 10, 1976 with sponsorship from the St Louis, Missouri Club. There were 25 members initiated at the Charter meeting. Linda Minner was the first President of the Club. Three original Charter members attend meetings regularly and are very active in the clubs Service Projects.

**Meetings** - Meetings are held the first Tuesday evening of every month. We have focused programs each month that center on International's mission.

**Membership** – The club has an energetic membership and are diverse in age, race and occupation. Average membership over the last several years is 42 members. Members are fully involved, and all members dedicate a minimum of 20 service hours a year. In addition, the Cape Girardeau Club helped charter a Club in Paducah KY.

**Board** – The Board is made up of 5 officers and 5 Directors. Officers include the President, Vice President, President Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. Directors are Membership, Service, Finance, Fundraising and Past President. All positions except for Past President are elected every two years. In addition to the Club Board there are Committee Chairs consistent with Zonta International Committees.

**Advocacy** – The club works with the local University to educate and participate in the 16 Days of Activism. The club actively worked to bring the movie *Girl Rising* to the local Movie Theatre. *Girl Rising* journeys around the globe to witness the strength of the human spirit and the power of education to change the world. Viewers get to know nine unforgettable girls living in the developing world: ordinary girls who confront tremendous challenges and overcome nearly impossible odds to pursue their dreams. Prize-winning authors put the girls' remarkable stories into words, and renowned actors give them voice. This was a huge success for the Club. In addition, we showed *Nefarious* during the week of 16 days of Activism. *Nefarious: Merchant of Souls* is a hard-hitting documentary that exposes the disturbing trends of modern-day sex slavery. From the first scene, *Nefarious* gives an in-depth look at the human trafficking industry, showing where slaves are sold (often in developed, affluent countries), where they work, and where they are confined. With footage shot in over nineteen different countries, *Nefarious* exposes the nightmare of sex slavery as experienced by hundreds of thousands daily, through the eyes of both the enslaved and their traffickers. *Nefarious* features expert analysis from international humanitarian leaders and captures the gripping and triumphant testimonies of survivors in order to galvanize hope and vision.

**Service** –The Zonta Club of Cape Girardeau is dedicated to advancing the status of women locally and worldwide. The club performs hands-on service projects that have a direct impact on the lives of women in the Cape Girardeau area and in Haiti. Membership has donated over 45,000 service hours to help women in Southeast Missouri and in Haiti. Local service has included support of women's shelters, financial literacy to women and scholarships to non-traditional women going to school.

In addition, the Cape Girardeau Club has created an out of District Service Project in Haiti. This project was started by Zonta Club of Cape Girardeau, approved by Zonta International and adopted as the District 7 project for the 2014-2016 biennium. Since the approval of the Project members have made 9 trips to Haiti which have included 4 Dental Missions and 3 Medical Missions. Over 0,000 lbs. of supplies have been delivered; 325 children are being fed every day during school and have incorporated 100 children from the orphanage into the school. Members have carried sewing machines and taught the women how to sew. They now make all the school uniforms. In addition, members have carried down tools. The women made the school desks and benches. Zonta is making a difference in the lives of women and children in Haiti.

The club is actively involved with partnering with Crisis Aid International, which focuses on rescuing women from sex trafficking. Supplies are collected for the Women's Safe House, Helping Hands and the Missouri Mentoring Program.

**Fundraising-** Since the club was chartered over \$ 450,000 has been raised for community and international projects. The club hosts fundraisers that support women locally, nationally and internationally. The club's major fundraising event is the Woman of Achievement Luncheon. This luncheon celebrates outstanding women in the Community. The 10<sup>th</sup> luncheon has just been completed. Prior to that the club held a Fashion Show for 25 years to raise funds. The club now includes smaller fundraising events like Flea Market, Heels to Heal Haiti 5K run and Live Auctions. An internal December auction is held at the meeting to raise funds to support sending delegates to the International Convention. In June the club has an internal auction to raise funds for the local non 501c3 service projects.

**Area Activities** – The Cape Girardeau Club has been represented at all Area Meetings since being chartered. The club has hosted several Area Meetings. Members have served terms as Area 2 Directors.

**District** – The club supports District Meetings and Conferences. The club has had two District Governors, District Kathy Swan (2008-10) and Polly Holton (2014-16).

**International** – The club supports sending delegates to the International Conventions and supported the committee that led the International Convention in St Louis, MO.

**Zonta International Foundation** – The Cape Girardeau Club give one-third of all monies raised to the Zonta International Foundation. The club is also leading a campaign to get 100% individual membership contributions.

## **ZONTA CLUB OF KANSAS CITY II, MISSOURI (#1012)**

*Chartered December 1982*

The Kansas City II Club was organized by PIP Harriette Yeckel and Dr. Florence Metz. There were 25 charter members from a variety of professions. The charter dinner for Kansas City II was held at the Princess Garden Restaurant in December of 1982. Zonta guests in attendance were from Taiwan, the Philippines, Holland, Germany, Ghana and District 7. A fabulous 7 course meal was served with such delicacies as

Peking Duck. Robert and Sam Chang of Princess Gardens donated half the proceeds from the evening towards the painting of a beautiful floral watercolor on which chances were sold to raise money for service projects.

Since Taipei I became the permanent sister club that year, and Hsin I Fei (Laura), a charter member of that club, was a close friend of PIP Harriette the two clubs has had close ties for years.

Two meetings a month were held. One was a breakfast meeting where club business was discussed and voted on. The other was an evening dinner with a program. There were also board meetings.

The first fundraiser was held at the Young Matron's Club of Kansas City and was chaired by Mary Cook. The event included noted women of Kansas City who were honored and available to meet with during the evening.

Since then, the club's fundraisers have included Casino Nights (with Zonta Bucks); Black Tie Art Evenings with auctions and International Nights featuring several countries. These nights included dinner from the selected country, art, dancers and silent auctions.

Kansas City II has been actively involved in district projects including Young Women in Public Affairs Scholarship Award (with a number of area, district and international winners) and a Jane M. Klausman scholarship winner.

The club provided membership dues for the chartering of the Moscow club and had a sister club in Rouen Rheim Mathelde, France.

The club's service projects have included Rose Brooks Center for Battered Women, the Jan Clayton Home (for women who abuse substances), the Southwest Blvd Family Health Center, a Ronald McDonald House and Sheffield Place (empowers homeless mothers and their children to heal from their trauma and help them become self-sufficient). Scholarships are given each year through University of Missouri-Kansas City's (UMKC) Women's Council's Graduation Assistance Fund.

International service includes donations to the Amelia Earhart Fellowship, UNIFEM, the Zonta International Foundation, ZISVAW. PIP Harriette Yeckel always stressed that the club should not forget that Zonta was an International Organization.

The club has hosted area meetings and district conferences and worked with the St. .Louis club to host an International convention.

Club members of note include Harriette Yeckel, PIP; Florence Metz (Zonta International Amelia Earhart chair); Janet Kannard (area director, area and district treasurer and district governor); Suzanne Bonci (area director) and Sherrill Mulhern (Zonta International Advocacy chair).

The Zonta Club of Kansas City II has been closely involved with the Mayor's United Nations Dinner through the efforts of Harriette Yeckel and Lillian Pardo. Presently the club is partnering with the United Nations Association Women's group.

The club has also participated in the University of Missouri–Kansas City’s “Six Days of Violence Against Women” and Zonta's "Just say No" campaign.

**ZONTA INTERNATIONAL  
DISTRICT 7  
2019**

**Z-CLUBS**

**Jefferson City, MO** (Chartered \_\_\_) Helias Catholic High School. (Most of the members are from Helias Catholic High School, but it is open to Jefferson City High School and Calvary Lutheran High School students. Starting this coming school year (2019), Jefferson City will have a new school, Capital City High School, and it will be open to students there, as well.

**St. Louis, MO** (Chartered \_\_\_) Marian Middle School

**GOLDEN Z CLUBS**

**Jamestown, ND** (Chartered 2018) University of Jamestown

**St. Louis, MO** (Chartered 2019) Maryville University

**International Presidents**

Dr. Dorothea Radusch (1954-56) Minneapolis, MN

Dr. Harriette Yeckel (1972-74) Kansas City, MO



DISTRICT 7  
ACTIVE AND DISBANDED  
IN ORDER OF BEING CHARTERED

CLUB	CHARTER NUMBER	DATE OF CHARTER	STATUS
St. Louis, MO	37	11/13/1925	Active
Minneapolis, MN	40	02/04/1926	Active
St Paul, MN	41	11/13/1926	Disbanded (2013)
Duluth, MN	124	06/08/1934	Disbanded (2004)
Kansas City, MO *	148	05/29/1937	Active
St. Louis County, MO	158	02/24/1939	Disbanded (1991)
Central Iowa, IA **	180	10/13/1945	Disbanded (2008)
Kansas City, KS	183	04/27/1946	Disbanded (2011)
Jefferson City, MO	192	04/17/1947	Active
St. Cloud, MN	248	11/09/1950	Active
Austin Area, MN	249	01//27/1951	Active
Dickenson, ND	264	09/30/1951	Disbanded (1972)
Bismarck, ND	269	11/29/1951	Active
Fargo, ND-Moorhead, MN	273	01/26/1952	Active
Valley City, ND	284	09/27/1952	Disbanded (1976)
Jamestown, ND	276	05/05/19/52	Active
Winnipeg, Canada	291	02//12/1953	Disbanded (1997)
Breckenridge, MN-Wahpeton,ND	294	02/21/1953	Active
Grand Forks, ND	297	05/09/1953	Disbanded (1978)
Aberdeen, SD	299	03/26/1953	Active
Wichita, KS	319	02/22/1954	Disbanded (1989)
Omaha Area, NE	323	03/26/1954	Disbanded (1996)
Minot, ND	326	04/26/1954	Disbanded (1992)
Brainerd, MN	334	11/16/1954	Active
Lincoln, NE	339	04/25/1955	Disbanded (1983)
Council Bluffs, IA	370	08/22/1956	Disbanded (2005)
Watertown Area, SD	374	10/24/1956	Disbanded (1973)
Sioux City Area, IA	379	10/29/1956	Disbanded (1984)
Sioux Falls, SD	381	11/20/1956	Disbanded (1989)
Regina, Canada	385	03/26/1954	Disbanded (1988)
Atchison Area, KS	403	01/27/1957	Active
Topeka, KS	440	06/21/1959	Disbanded (2016)
St. Charles, MO	502	01/20/1963	Disbanded (2014)
Mandan, ND	512	06/15/1963	Disbanded (1996)
Springfield, MO	517	02/24/1963	Disbanded (1985)
Cedar Rapids, IA	525	06/13/1964	Disbanded (1983)
Rochester, MN	546	04/30/1966	Disbanded (1984)
Hutchinson, KS	681	1971	Disbanded (1975)
Salina, KS	689	09/12/1972	Disbanded (1993)
Johnson County Area, KS	695	06/01/1972	Active
Mankato, MN	750	09/ /1974	Active
Columbia, MO	790	05/27/1976	Disbanded (1981)
Cape Girardeau. MO	784	05/10/1976	Active
Kansas City II, MO	1012	12/ /1982	Active

DISTRICT 7  
ACTIVE AND DISBANDED  
IN ORDER OF BEING CHARTERED

Creve Coeur/Westport Area	1037	1983	Disbanded (1986)
Blue Springs Lee's Summit	1016		Disbanded (1986)
Troy, MO	1846	2008	Disbanded (2012)
USA-1 (e-Club)	1914	06/01/2013	Active

\* Kansa City, MO club was renamed Kansas City I, MO after Kansas City II, MO was formed (1982)

\*\* Originally Des Moines, IA

## DISTRICT 7 CONFERENCES

Originally called District Chairmen – name changed to District Governor in 1949  
 Originally District D, then Region B, District II (1929)  
 District IV created in June 1943, later to become District VII in 1948  
 Divided again in June, 1952 into Districts VII and XII

YEAR	HOST CLUB(S)	GOVERNOR
<b>SPRING</b>		
1944	St. Louis, MO	Celeste Blesse, St. Louis, MO
1945	Kansas City, MO	Marion Frye, St. Paul, MN
1946	Omaha, NE	A. Helen Anderson, Denver, CO
1947	Des Moines, IA	A. Helen Anderson, Denver, CO
<b>FALL</b>		
1948	Denver, CO	Dorothea Radusch, Minneapolis, MN
1949	Excelsior Springs, MO	Dorothea Radusch, Minneapolis, MN
1950	Minneapolis, MN	Gladys Manion, St. Louis County
1951	Des Moines, IA	Gladys Manion, St. Louis County
1952 *	St. Louis, MO	Dorothy Fardon, Kansas City MO
1953	Fargo, MN	Grayce Ward, Duluth, MN
1954	Duluth, MN	Dorothy Loudon, Dickinson ND
1955	Kansas City, MO	Dorothy Loudon, Dickinson ND
1956	Minneapolis, MN	Lillian Pettigrew, Winnipeg, Man, Canada
1957	Winnipeg, Man, Canada	Lillian Pettigrew, Winnipeg, Man, Canada
1958	Omaha, NE	Opal Hulen, Wichita KS
1959	St. Paul, MN	Opal Hulen, Wichita KS
1960	Wichita, KS	Genevieve Forthun, Fargo-Moorhead
1961	St. Louis, MO	Genevieve Forthun, Fargo-Moorhead
1962	Fargo, ND	Dorothy Pile, Lincoln NE
1963	Des Moines, IA	Dorothy Pile, Lincoln NE
1964	Lincoln, NE	Esther Westmann, St. Paul MN
1965	Kansas City, MO	Esther Westmann, St. Paul MN
1966	St. Cloud, MN	Harriette Yeckel, Kansas City, MO
1967	Minot, ND	Harriette Yeckel, Kansas City, MO
1968	Tan Tara, MO	Margery Baker, Winnipeg Man, Canada
1969	Winnipeg, Man, Canada	Margery Baker, Winnipeg Man, Canada
1970	Duluth, MN	Dr. Christine Thelen, Wichita KS
1971	Omaha, NE	Dr. Christine Thelen, Wichita KS
1972	Aberdeen, SD	Irene Robinette, Jefferson City MO
1973	Tan Tara, MO	Irene Robinette, Jefferson City MO
1974	Sioux City, IA	Darlene Siedschlaw, Minneapolis MN
1975	Minneapolis, MN	Darlene Siedschlaw, Minneapolis MN
1976	Wichita, KS	Gertrude Miller,
1977	Bismarck-Mandan, ND	Gertrude Miller,
1978	St. Cloud, MN	Joyce Abraham, Kansas City, KS
1979	Kansas City, MO/ Kansas City, KS/ Johnson County, KS	Joyce Abraham, Kansas City, KS
1980	St. Louis, MO	
1981	Rochester, MN/ Austin Area, MN	Esther Plehal, Austin, MN

1982	Regina Sask, Canada	Sharon Carmody, St. Louis, MO
1983	Des Moines, IA	Sharon Carmody, St. Louis, MO
1984	Cape Girardeau, MO	Edna Deck, Regina, Sask, Canada
1985	Omaha, NE	Edna Deck, Regina, Sask, Canada
1986	St. Paul, MN	Muriel Anderson, Mankato MN
1987	Aberdeen, SD	Muriel Anderson, Mankato MN
1988	Duluth, MN	Sr. Mary Blaze, Atchison, KS
1989	Kansas City, KS/ Atchison, KS	Sr. Mary Blaze, Atchison, KS
1990	Minneapolis, MN	Carol Oberle, Topeka KS
1991	Topeka, KS	Carol Oberle, Topeka KS
1992	Mankato, MN	Marlene Larson, Brainerd MN
1993	Bismarck, ND	Marlene Larson, Brainerd MN
1994	Cape Girardeau, MO	Carla Cunningham, St. Louis MO
1995	Brainerd, MN	Carla Cunningham, St. Louis MO
1996	Brainerd, MN	Amparo Thomas, Jefferson City MO
1997	Johnson County, KS	Amparo Thomas, Jefferson City MO
1998	St. Cloud, MN	Linda Daus, St. Louis MO
1999	St. Louis, MO	Linda Daus, St. Louis MO
2000	Jefferson City, MO	Cathi Christopherson, Bismarck ND
2001	Fargo, ND	Cathi Christopherson, Bismarck ND
2002	St. Paul, MN	Kerry Dixon-Fox, Central Iowa, IA
2003	Kansas City I, MO	Kerry Dixon-Fox, Central Iowa, IA
2004	Brainerd, MN	Linda Jacobsen, St. Charles, MO
2005	Cape Girardeau, MO	Linda Jacobsen, St. Charles, MO
2006	Atchison, KS	Carol Pasanen, Brainerd, MN
2007	Minneapolis, MN	Carol Pasanen, Brainerd, MN
2008	Jamestown, ND	Kathy Swan, Cape Girardeau, MO
2009	St. Charles, MO	Kathy Swan, Cape Girardeau, MO
2010	Austin, MN	Barb Jirges, Bismark, ND
2011	St. Cloud, MN	Barb Jirges, Bismark, ND
2012	No Seminar	Janet Kannard, Kansas City II, MO
2013	St. Louis, MO	Janet Kannard, Kansas City II, MO
2014	Minneapolis, MN	Polly Holton, Cape Girardeau, MO
2015	Kansas City, MO	Polly Holton, Cape Girardeau, MO
2016	St. Louis, MO	Mary Reed, Jamestown, ND
2017	Minneapolis, MN	Mary Reed, Jamestown, ND
2018	No Seminar	Shelley Schultz, Mankato, MN
2019	Kansas City I, MO	Shelley Schultz, Mankato, MN

\* First Governor of District 7

Beginning in 1996 the District began to hold seminars on the years of the Zonta International Conventions.

**DISTRICT 7  
JANE M. KLAUSMAN AWARD WINNERS  
1999-2018**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>SPONSORING CLUB</b>
Jessica Halseth	1999	Cape Girardeau, MO
Michelle Monson	2001	Jamestown, ND
Karissa Ladlie	2003	Kansas City II, MO
Karen Kieffer	2004	St. Louis, MO
Irina Kansaka	2006	Mankato, MN
Jenene Kolensie	2007	Kansas City II, MO
Kathleen Ritter	2010	Mankato, MN
Randi Olson	2011	Aberdeen, SD
Katelin Weiers	2012	St. Cloud, MN
Morgan Mathison	2013	Jamestown, ND
Sonya Jennings	2014	St. Louis, MO
Heather Gomez	2015	Cape Girardeau, MO
Olivia Robinson	2016	Mankato, MN
Chau Nguyen	2017	Minneapolis, MN
Lindsey Strange	2018	Minneapolis, MN

**DISTRICT 7  
YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS WINNERS  
1991-2019**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>SPONSORING CLUB</b>
Catherine Lynn Cordes	1991	Kansas
Linda Beth Heggestad	1992	Kansas City II, MO
Collen Elizabeth Schaefer	1993	Minnesota
Endea Janelle Curry	1994	Minneapolis, MN
Christel Annette Highland	1994	Kansas
Emily Gardner	1995	St. Louis, MO
Victoria Lynn Schepker	1995	Kansas
Mariana Natividad Perez-Helling	1997	Minnesota
Katherine Ann Blauvelt	1998	Minnesota
Deepti Agaral	1999	North Dakota
Kjerstin Marie Elmen-Gruys	2000	Missouri
Ida Moen Johnson	2001	Mankato, MN
Katherine Louise Berry	2002	Kansas
Bridget B. Nordquist	2003	Aberdeen, SD
Erin Frances Musland	2004	Jamestown, ND
Sarah Elizabeth Lyon	2005	Missouri
Angelina Maria Guidos	2006	Cape Girardeau, MO
Kelsey Jen Gustafson	2007	Fargo. ND-Moorhead, MN
Georgia Faye Varma	2008	Jefferson City, MO
Kelly Jean Knack	2009	Missouri
Iliana E. Alvarenga	2010	Johnson County Area, KS
Hillary Elize Caldwell	2011	Cape Girardeau, MO
Eliza Nicholas Gabriel	2012	Minneapolis, MN
Kathryn Rosetta Alan	2013	Austin Area, MN
Reagan Woodson Kapp	2014	Cape Girardeau, MO
Samantha Makia Goerger	2015	Breckenridge, MN-Wahpeton, ND
Xaio Liu	2016	USA-1 e-club
Allison Ree Moga	2017	St. Cloud, MN
Sesamae Isabel Glackler-Riquelme	2018	Mankato, MN
Lara Rae Erdmann	2019	Minnesota