



## The Bridge

District 15  
Zonta International

Issue 4 of 8 (July, 2007)

[www.zontadistrict15.org](http://www.zontadistrict15.org)

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### The Official Newsletter of District 15

#### District Insights from your Governor Carole Calvert-Baxter

Summers in the Michigan and Ontario area that comprise Zonta International District 15 are some of the best in the world and this summer is no exception. The bright sunny days and cool summer nights have been great with more than half of the summer to look forward to.

The North America Inter-district Membership Seminar that was held in Ann Arbor last month was spectacular. There were approximately 145 Zontians in attendance with each of the North American districts sending representatives. Jackie Gudmundsen, Zonta International Chair for Leadership and Development, played a significant role in the success of this meeting by providing a very focused agenda for the speakers and the workshops. Many of the evaluation forms completed by the attendees remarked on how well the seminar was organized, how efficiently it proceeded throughout the weekend, how much they enjoyed the opportunity to meet with members from so many different districts and that they were looking forward with high expectations to attending next years North American conference. A very special heartfelt thank you to all of the District 15 members who worked so hard and so effectively to make the seminar such a great experience for everyone who attended.

Please take a moment to mark your calendars for the District 15, 2007 Fall Conference that will be held on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at the family-friendly Boyne Mountain Resort. The President's package and Call to Conference should arrive in your mailboxes by mid-August. An excellent selection of workshops are being planned and an exciting group of speakers have been assembled to make this Fall Conference one to remember.

Angie Morgan, co-author of "Leading from the Front—No-excuses Leadership Tactics for Women", will be one of the two keynote speakers. She will be discussing United States Marine Corps leadership principles and why learning to lead is important to all women. Mary Fisher, artists, author and public speaker, is a United Nations Aids Ambassador who has been very active in addressing HIV-AIDS issues, especially as they pertain to women and children. She has been very involved in the AIDS effort in Africa and will bring us a front-line report on the worldwide efforts being exerted to combat this devastating disease.

Remember that Zonta International only permits a club to carry the proxy of another club two times so any clubs that have met that limit are strongly urged to get their registrations in as soon as possible.

Fall in Michigan is even more spectacular than our summers and the Fall Conference offers a great opportunity to experience all that Michigan has to offer. So bring the family to the Boyne Mountain Resort for some fun and attend what should prove to be an excellent meeting and opportunity to link up with fellow Zontian's from across District 15.

The District 15 website is currently under development and we plan to unveil all that it has to offer at the Fall Conference. Speaking of web sites, our ever-vigilant District 15 Secretary, Amy Fraser-Maple, wants to draw your attention to a website that may be of interest to all. The site is [www.MIWF.org](http://www.MIWF.org). It is the official site of the Michigan Women's Foundation. This organization "promotes the economic self-sufficiency and personal well-being of women and girls in Michigan by providing assistance and funds to non-profit organizations serving women and girls".

Take a spare moment and visit this site for an organization with a mission similar to that of Zonta International.

I hope that you all enjoy the remainder of our "Water Wonderland" summer and we all get the opportunity to attend the 2007 Fall Conference in Boyne. See you there!

## ZONTA CALENDAR

### 2007

Now until Gone	Order roses to support District Jane Klausman award for 2008 delivery. See choices: ( <a href="http://www.zonta.lapeer.org/Flyer2007-8.doc">http://www.zonta.lapeer.org/Flyer2007-8.doc</a> )
August 15	Klausman District candidates due ZI Hq.
September 30	Klausman Women in Business Scholarship International recipients announced
October 16	Form 990 due to IRS if club revenue over \$25,000
October 19-21	District XV Fall Conference—Boyne Mtn. Resort
October 24	United Nations Day
November 15	Amelia Earhart applications due
Nov. 25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
December 1	World AIDS Day

### 2008

January 11	Amelia Earhart Day
February 15	Club IRS 990 tax filing due to HQ
March 7-9	MI Girl Scout Trainers Conf.—see details below
March 8	Zonta Rose Day (International Women's Day)
April 1	YWPA Club candidates due to district
May 1	Club officers report form 2008-9 due to HQ
May 31	Klausman club candidates due to district
April 26	Area 4 Workshop
April 27	Area 3 Workshop
May 3	Area 2 Workshop
May 4	Area 1 Workshop

Get rose orders in for pick up at workshop

## DISTRICT 15 BOARD MEMBERS 2006-2008

### Governor

Carole Calvert-Baxter  
[carole.calvert-baxter@chartermi.net](mailto:carole.calvert-baxter@chartermi.net)

### Lieutenant Governor

Sandra Vosper  
[Sandra.vosper@shaw.ca](mailto:Sandra.vosper@shaw.ca)

### Treasurer

Karen Armaly  
[karen@benepro.com](mailto:karen@benepro.com)

### Secretary

Amy Fraser Maple  
[afrasermapple@comcast.net](mailto:afrasermapple@comcast.net)

### Parliamentarian

Julie A. Close  
[jclose@ccdplc.com](mailto:jclose@ccdplc.com)

### Area 1 Director

Linda DeGrow  
[degrow@localnet.com](mailto:degrow@localnet.com)

### Area 2 Director

Denise Quarles  
[dequar2@att.net](mailto:dequar2@att.net)

### Area 3 Director

Bonnie Odom  
[odomb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:odomb@sbcglobal.net)

### Area 4 Director

Paula Somerville  
[Paula.Somerville@Arvinmeritor.com](mailto:Paula.Somerville@Arvinmeritor.com)

Newsletter:: Phyllis Clark  
[pclark@gfn.org](mailto:pclark@gfn.org)  
810.664.1445

Webmaster: Sue Eareckson  
[see-tsi@att.net](mailto:see-tsi@att.net)

### DEFECTIVE CLING RECALL

We regret to report that the window clings *just don't cling*. We have negotiated with the supplier and they are being replaced. If you have purchased any of these Cling-free clings they will be replaced and will be available at Fall Conference or contact me at [sandra.vosper@shaw.ca](mailto:sandra.vosper@shaw.ca). My apologies for the inconvenience. SGV



Congratulations to Liza Gill, winner of the Young Women in Public Affairs award for District XV and to Saginaw Club for nominating her!  
See the Committee's report below

**Deadlines:** Send articles for the "Bridge" to editor Phyllis Clark at: [pclark@gfn.org](mailto:pclark@gfn.org); or mail: 2447 King Rd.; Lapeer, MI 48446. For questions contact her at: 810/664-1445. *Please add Phyllis to your Club's newsletter mailing list (email preferred).*

Date copy due: August 1 for Summer Issue; November 1 for Fall; February 1 for Winter; May 1 for Spring  
Planned publication by the first of the following month (September, December, March, & April).

## Area 3 News

*(Each issue will feature one of our Areas)*

### **CLUBS (In order of date chartered)**

Detroit I (1919, second club chartered in Zonta Int'l, oldest District club)  
Windsor/Essex (1930)  
Chatham-Kent (1948)  
Lenawee (1959)  
Northwest Wayne (1979)  
Detroit II (1983)  
DownRiver (1984)  
Macomb (1992) 15th Anniversary in 2007  
Metrot Detroit (1993, newest area club)

**AREA DIRECTOR:** Bonnie Odom [odomb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:odomb@sbcglobal.net)

### **AREA 3 HIGHLIGHTS**

The clubs of AREA 3 are all in a growth mode with new members being added during this year.

Lenawee Club was instrumental in forcing a meeting regarding the mutual arrest issue in their county.

Macomb Club was recognized in The Macomb Daily for their support of the summer camp fund of Grandparents

Raising Grandchildren.

Metro Detroit Club held another successfule Pillow Project in conjunction with the Missionary Society of St. Stephen A.M.E. Church. The club also filled and distributed 100 toiletry bags to three local agencies.

Area 3 clubs will be participating in a letter writing campaign as an advocacy project in support of

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Fall Conference: October 19 - 21, 2007

## **International Feature: Membership**

In the July issue of the **Zontian** magazine, International President, Olivia Ferry, points to a tool created by International for member-orientation. It's a PowerPoint called "Welcome to Zonta". It is created so clubs can adapt it for their own use. Although it is:  
[http://www.zonta.org/site/DocServer/Welcome\\_to\\_Zonta\\_FINAL\\_MAY\\_2007.ppt?docID=15825#307](http://www.zonta.org/site/DocServer/Welcome_to_Zonta_FINAL_MAY_2007.ppt?docID=15825#307), 1,Slide 1, if you cannot open that, just go to [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org), then "Member Resources", then you'll see the Membership, Recruitment & Retention half way down the left column and when you click on that, you'll see a New Members heading on that page. That's where you'll find the PowerPoint. You'll also see a guide to help you use it. International President also indicates a member recruitment PowerPoint tool is being developed.

Take advantage of the tools that are out there for you. Work smarter, not harder. Also, remember your District resources—Sandra Vosper, Lt. Governor, is enthusiastically working on membership and Governor Carole is more than willing to help, as are the Area Directors. They all want our clubs to succeed so use those contacts listed on the second page above.

## District Features

[www.zontadistrict15.org](http://www.zontadistrict15.org)

### PR Awareness

Submitted by Charlene Bramble

Looking for a way to break into the local paper for some coverage for an upcoming event and Zonta awareness? Try aligning your event with a community issue. You can even squeeze some advocacy out of it!

Choose an issue that has an educational aspect and concerns your community. A hot topic (no pun intended) is global warming. Here's an issue that could use a venue to spread information, touches everyone in your community (and beyond) and is something that can be impacted by simple changes. This is a topic that the local news would probably be featuring at some point anyway. Your event gives the opportunity to address it now and Zonta is linked in the details.

For an example of information you could share, here are ten simple things you can do to make a difference and how much carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) you'll save doing them:

- **Join the Stop Global Warming Virtual March.** Join over 800,000 others at [www.stopglobalwarming.org](http://www.stopglobalwarming.org) and be counted as someone who wants solutions now.
- **Change a Light.** Replacing one regular light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb will save 150 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. Look for the energy *STAR*.
- **Don't Idle.** 10% of all our fuel is wasted on idling. After only 10 seconds you use less gas to turn the ignition off!
- **Recycle More.** You can save 2,400 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per year by recycling just half of your household waste!
- **Check Your Tires.** Keeping your tires inflated properly can improve gas mileage by more than 3%. Every gallon of gas saved keeps 20 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere!
- **Use Less Hot Water.** It takes a lot of energy to heat water. Use less by installing a low flow showerhead (350 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> saved per year) and washing your clothes in cold or warm water (500 pounds saved per year).
- **Avoid Products With a Lot of Packaging.** You can save 1,200 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> if you cut down your garbage by 10%.
- **Adjust Your Thermostat.** If you turn your thermostat down just 2 degrees in winter and up 2 degrees in summer, you could save 2,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- **Turn Off Electronic Devices.** Simply turning off your TV, DVD player and computer when you're not using them will save thousands of pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> a year!
- **Spread the Word!** Encourage your Friends to see [An Inconvenient Truth](#) or, better yet, include a screening at your event. Libraries should have copies for no cost.

If you can't show the movie, have a local speaker address an aspect of global warming and what is being done to effect a change—such as your local energy supplier to explain what they are doing to improve their efficiency, a representative of the local recycling efforts, a local science teacher promoting the Ecology Club.

As a result, you've supplied information, suggested several actions to make a difference and provided a venue for dialogue. Your Zonta club has been shown in a positive light as a group of concerned citizens working to make a difference...and hopefully become better known. Maybe even a group to consider joining.

## **Status of Women Committee Report**

Submitted by Martha Balfour, Chair  
District XV Status of Women Committee

### **Young Women in Public Affair**

2007 District 15 Young Women in Public Affairs winner is Liza Gill. Again this year our district winner was nominated by the Zonta Club of Saginaw. They must have a foot locker full of outstanding young women. Liza recently graduated from Saginaw Heritage High School and will attend Michigan State University. She hopes to become a doctor and wants to eventually participate in the *Doctors Without Borders* program.

During her tenure as National Honor Society president, she established a *Service Fair*. Representatives from volunteer organizations were invited to encourage students to allocate some of their time to volunteer service in the community. Liza co-founded a club, One Small Step. They raised money for 2 outstanding projects: (1) to help HIV positive widows in Kibera, the largest slum in East Africa and (2) educate girls in southern Afghanistan.

The committee thanks the Zonta Clubs of Charlevoix, Leelanau County, Marquette and Saginaw for participating in the program by nominating outstanding young women for consideration.

### **Amelia Earhart Fellowship Winners Announced**

Thirty five women from 16 countries will receive Amelia Earhart fellowships for the 2007-2008 school year. Kristina Marion Lemmer, who is studying at the University of Michigan is among the winners. Read about Kristina and the other 34 women on the Zonta International website main page: [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

**It's Important**

### **Club Treasurers:**

**See the e-mail on last page below from Zonta International Finance Director**



## Collaborative Partnership with the Michigan Girl Scout Trainers' Conference

The Michigan Girl Scout Trainers' Conference (MGSTC) brings together volunteer trainers from around the state to share resources, network, and to pursue more advanced training opportunities. Scheduled March 7-9, 2008 at the Detroit Marriott Troy, this event provides support and education to over 175 volunteer trainers involved in helping adults develop the skills needed to positively impact girls. For the Canadian clubs, the event welcomes Girl Guides from Ontario as both workshop presenters and participants.

Many of the Girl Scout volunteers who attend the event did not finish college (if they went at all). An overwhelming number of these women work outside the home in a variety of jobs (clerical, retail, etc.) to support their families in these trying economic times. The weekend conference costs approximately \$200.00 per person to attend.

Imagine the possibilities if each Zonta club in District 15 provided scholarships for Girl Scout volunteers to attend trainers' training at the conference. Visualize the program: "Trainers' Training sponsored by Zonta International District 15 list participating clubs, etc." With Zontians (Amy Fraser Maple and Pat Smith) co-hosting the event, Zonta is guaranteed high visibility and marketing opportunities. This is our chance to educate a key audience, Girl Scout volunteers, about Zonta. What response do you want to hear when someone mentions Zonta? "Oh, Zonta, I've heard of them...." or the usual, "Zonta? What's Zonta?"

A secondary goal is to build collaborative partnerships with agencies that serve girls. Why? As a District, our response to the YWPA award leaves room for improvement. (There were four applicants in 2007!) What better agencies to help us identify young women in public affairs than the Girl Scouts and Girl Guides?

Involvement as a volunteer trainer is often a stepping-stone for Girl Scout volunteers to achieving advancement in their jobs, improving their level of confidence and self-worth and simply growing as women. The skills learned in becoming a trainer enhance any resume and may lead to a promotion from an entry-level (hourly) position to a position of management.

In addition to underwriting scholarships, other collaborative opportunities include providing items for the hospitality suite and goodie bags (personalized with "Zonta ROCKS" or other identifying messages.) The MGSTC planning committee meets in August to finalize its budget. It would be terrific to confirm scholarship funding and announce the clubs of Zonta International District 15 as collaborators.

For more information, contact:

Amy Fraser Maple, Zonta Club of Southfield Area ([amaple@gshvc.org](mailto:amaple@gshvc.org))

Pat Smith, Zonta Club of Flint I ([psmith@gsfwc.org](mailto:psmith@gsfwc.org))

FROM: Larisa Morrison, Director of Finance

DATE: 12 July 2007

Dear USA District and Club Treasurers,

Fiscal Year 2007 for all Zonta clubs ended on 31 May, which means Zonta clubs in the United States must now prepare the annual filing papers for the IRS by 15 October 2007. There have been some changes by the IRS in the filing requirements. Please read this entire memo carefully, and follow the specific instructions as they relate to your district/club.

**USA District Treasurers:**

- All Districts must file as part of the Zonta International Group Filing. Please complete the five spreadsheets in the Excel workbook linked below.

**USA Club Treasurers:**

- If your club has total gross revenues greater than \$25,000, you are required by the IRS to file a Form 990. You can choose to file as part of the Zonta International Group Filing by completing the five spreadsheets in the Excel workbook linked below. You can also choose to file the Form 990 yourself.
- If your club has total gross revenues of \$25,000 or less, the IRS is now requiring a new Form 990-N (e-Postcard), which must be filed electronically. The IRS will be mailing instructions on the Form 990-N in late July to the address of record for each club. This address would be the one we verified with you or your 2006-2007 club treasurer in February 2007 as part of the Subordinate Reporting.

The IRS has not fully developed the electronic filing system, however, they have provided a web site with frequently asked questions that you can visit:

- [http://www.zonta.org/site/R?i=e19HAQc8b9GW-rDS0\\_NQEQ..](http://www.zonta.org/site/R?i=e19HAQc8b9GW-rDS0_NQEQ..)
- You can also subscribe to the EO Update, the IRS free E-mail newsletter for exempt organizations. By subscribing you will automatically receive information about the e-Postcard once the IRS has made it available. To subscribe, visit [www.irs.gov/eo](http://www.irs.gov/eo). <http://www.zonta.org/site/R?i=WR9onMPYHiaf4B3sEYFuxQ..>
- Form 990 Spreadsheet for Group Filing <http://www.zonta.org/site/R?i=ivaHue6qYAWNuNOLIVE0wQ..> The Excel workbook includes the following: 1) Statement of Position (balance sheet); 2) Statement of Activities (profit and loss); 3) Awardees; 4) Contributions Received \$5,000 or greater; 5) Fiscal Year 2007 Board Members (Board Members serving during 1 June 2006 through 31 May 2007).

Please use the year ended 31 May 2007 (FY07) financial information, and use the line items as listed. It is necessary to compile all districts and many clubs together for the IRS Group Form 990 so we need uniform line items. Please double-check that:

- a) The beginning net asset balance on the Statement of Position for FY07 matches what was submitted last year as the ending net asset balance.
- b) The ending net asset balance on the Statement of Activities is the same as the net assets balance on the Statement of Position.

Please E-mail the completed Excel file back to Larisa, [lmorrison@zonta.org](mailto:lmorrison@zonta.org), by 31 August. Remember that this satisfies your annual federal filing requirements with the IRS, but you are responsible for your state requirements, if any.

Please E-mail or call with any questions. Thank you.