

THE BRIDGE

Summer 2011

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Denise Quarles

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Sounds of Zonta District Conference	2
New Conference Features	2
October Awareness Month: Breast Cancer & Domestic Violence	3
MI Human Trafficking Task Force	4
Conference Featured Speakers	5
District Nominating Committee	6
Service Committee Report	7
Membership Matters	7
For Your Attention	8
District 15 Book Corner	8
District Calendar	8



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. During this time various entities conduct activities to garner the attention of the public on these two issues. As this is also the month during which our district conference will take place, there will be a special focus on these issues at our conference.

The media will be invited to witness the special presentation of mastectomy comfort pillows to a representative of the American Cancer Society. The Society will distribute the pillows to many women who will benefit from this very worthy service project. Any club is welcome to participate in this October project either by constructing and donating pillows for the conference presentation or for presentation in their communities. Several clubs and the Brace-Lederle/MacArthur Southfield Z Club have already indicated that they will construct comfort pillows for this presentation.

Members will have their understanding of domestic violence greatly enhanced by three Zontians who have had professional or volunteer experience addressing the tragic problem of domestic violence. They will broaden our knowledge about this problem and share information about needed social change and a successful Canadian workplace program.

Our voice can be heard as an organization doing its part to advocate for and to be of service to breast cancer survivors and victims of domestic violence. The month of October provides an opportune time for Zonta clubs to sponsor public awareness events, construct mastectomy comfort pillows for women who have had breast cancer surgery and donate funds to organizations providing professional services.

Another key focus of the conference is human trafficking. At the 2010 conference Theresa Flores gave a very moving and informative speech about being trafficked as a teenager. Since then several clubs and indi-

vidual members have expressed interest in becoming more knowledgeable about this tragic problem.

The Status of Women Luncheon keynote speaker from the University of Michigan Human Trafficking Law School Clinic will discuss what is being done to combat human trafficking. Following the luncheon she will join other panelists from the Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force and the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency. Members will benefit greatly from the expertise of these panelists who will share information about victim services, public awareness and advocacy efforts.

Please review conference details in this newsletter issue. You owe it to yourself to attend the district conference!! We will receive essential international information from the Zonta International President via video and also in person from both the Vice President and the Chair of the Amelia Earhart Fellowship Committee. Candidates for District Board positions will speak about their experience and skills and club delegates will elect the 2012-2014 District Board and the Nominations Committee. Members will be presented with a wealth of information about several critically important issues to help strengthen clubs and carry out our mission while also learning how to focus on our own health. Zonta Wellness stations will again be offered due to the very positive member response at the conference last year. Also an entertaining nutrition leader who is a renowned TV personality will teach us about habits we can adopt for a healthy lifestyle.

For a moderate all inclusive registration fee members can enjoy great speakers, meals and entertainment in the historic and beautiful atmosphere of the Dearborn Inn in Dearborn, Michigan. Help yourself and learn how you can help others while also having fun and fellowship with other Zontians October 14-16. ☺



**“THE SOUNDS OF ZONTA”
40TH ANNUAL DISTRICT 15 FALL CONFERENCE**

Oct. 14-16, 2011

The Dearborn Inn, Dearborn, Michigan



\$195 All inclusive --Friday dinner & Fun Night, Saturday luncheon & banquet (includes champagne toast and conference gift), Sunday brunch.

\$125 All inclusive for Z and Golden Z Club members.

Guests can attend the following activities - Friday Fun Night (\$20), Saturday luncheon (\$30) and banquet which includes champagne toast and conference gift (\$65)

Register by mail to Merideth Williams or online through District website via PayPal.

See additional information on our District website.

NEW CONFERENCE FEATURES 2011

Breast Cancer Awareness Month/Comfort Pillow Presentation

We all know that breast cancer is a disease that primarily effects women. This is a significant health issue about which we can have a notable impact through service and advocacy. Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which occurs in October, is an opportune time for District 15 clubs to be of service to women who are dealing with this disease. For several years some of our clubs have constructed mastectomy comfort pillows and provided them to the American Cancer Society, hospitals and other agencies for distribution to breast cancer survivors. As an optional service project for clubs, we can greatly expand our service impact and visibility if numerous clubs construct mastectomy comfort pillows for presentation to the American Cancer Society at our October district conference where media will be invited to witness this presentation.

The mastectomy pillow presentation will showcase the good work of Zonta on behalf of breast cancer patients. Pillows are being constructed by several clubs in the Detroit Metropolitan area as well as the Brace-Lederle/MacArthur Southfield Z Club. Any clubs participating in the pillow project can bring them to the conference or clubs outside the Detroit Metropolitan area may want to donate pillows in their communities during the month of October.

Conference Program Booklet Ads

Please solicit advertisements for our Conference booklet. This allows the District Board to set a moderate conference registration fee for attendees, raise the profile of the district among the businesses, organizations and individuals, attract new members, and provide information about valuable resources throughout our district geographical area. Due date for the ads: September 13.

Book Exchange

Let's enhance our knowledge about critical issues that negatively impact the lives of women by educating each other. Do you have a book(s) that you would like to pass on to other Zontians? Bring to the District conference a book(s) that are related to the Zonta mission. Book exchange tables will be set up in the Zonta Store. For every book a member brings to share, they can choose a book to take with them.

On Friday afternoon books can be dropped off in the Zonta Store at the designated table. The book exchange will occur on Saturday during store hours.





OCTOBER: BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Jaqui Stoneman, Zonta Club of Meridian East


National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) was founded in 1985 as a partnership between the American Cancer Society and what is now AstraZeneca, maker of several anti-breast cancer drugs. **The aim has been to promote mammography as the most effective weapon in the fight against breast cancer.** In October 1983, the Race for the Cure was held for the first time in Dallas, Texas, where 800 people participated. In the fall of 1991, the Susan G. Komen Foundation handed out pink ribbons to participants in its New York City race for breast cancer survivors. Each October, people raise money by organizing activities such as theme parties or a “pink day” (when employees or participants wear pink clothing or accessories.) All month, the NFL promotes breast cancer awareness by incorporating pink on its websites, graphics, and advertisements. Players show support by wearing pink gloves, cleats, patches or other apparel during games.


 12% (1 in 8) women in the U.S. will develop invasive breast cancer in her lifetime.


 Less than 1% of all new breast cancer cases occurs in men.

 In 2010, 39,940 women in the U.S. were expected to die from the disease.

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) evolved from the “Day of Unity” in October 1981 conceived by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. **The intent was to connect advocates across the nation working to end violence against women and their children.** The Day of Unity soon became an entire week at the local, state and national levels. In 1987, it was first observed for a month. That same year marks the first national domestic violence toll-free hotline and in 1989, the U.S. Congress passed a law designating October as National DVAM. Every year, the Day of Unity is celebrated the first Monday of October. The dark blue ribbon signifies Domestic Violence Awareness.

 Every 9 seconds in the U.S. a woman is assaulted or beaten.

 Everyday in the US, more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends.

 Domestic violence victims lose nearly 8 million days of paid work per year in the US alone – the equivalent of 32,000 full-time jobs.

Read on the District website interesting survey results from the agencies providing service to domestic violence victims.

Enhance your understanding of domestic violence against women and the social change necessary to end it! We will also be introduced to an example of a successful Canadian workplace program to raise awareness of the signs and dynamics of DV and how to safely intervene. Panel discussion will include Jan Manicelli, Executive Director of Petosky’s Women’s Resource Center of Northern Michigan; Sharon Mortenson, Executive Director of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in Midland; and Gayle Manley, Board member of the Women in Crisis shelter and a community member of the Algoma Council on Domestic Violence in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.



Gayle Manley



Sharon Mortenson



Jan Manicelli





Michigan Human Trafficking TaskForce
Glennnda Stephens, Chair District 15 Legislative and Advocacy Committee



Members who attend the District 15 conference will receive a wealth of information about human trafficking from the founder and two representatives of member agencies of the Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force. These individuals have extensive knowledge of human trafficking and will provide informative presentations about Michigan laws, the prevalence of this modern day slavery as well as advocating for and providing service for victims.

The Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force exists to facilitate a collaborative effort to prevent trafficking of persons within the State of Michigan, to pursue prosecution of perpetrators, and to protect and rehabilitate trafficking victims. It is made up of over 90 member agencies consisting of Federal, State, and local law enforcement service providers, NGO's, prosecution, community members and victim service and health service providers. They meet at least every other month at Michigan State University where the School of Criminal Justice is the home of the Task Force and the Director is from that background.

The mission of this organization is to increase collaboration and response between law enforcement and social service agencies relating to the issues of human trafficking, in order to create an ongoing victim support and recovery protocol; to coordinate and implement an ongoing training model for law enforcement and social service agency providers; to build awareness in Michigan communities on issues directly or indirectly relating to human trafficking; to create and maintain an ongoing information-sharing network and protocol for various stakeholders; and to collect, evaluate, and disseminate legal mechanisms to combat human trafficking.

You can find detailed information about the members of the task force, service providers, law enforcement involvement and victim resources at the website that will soon be expanded: www.humantrafficking.msu.edu and FACEBOOK . . . Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force.

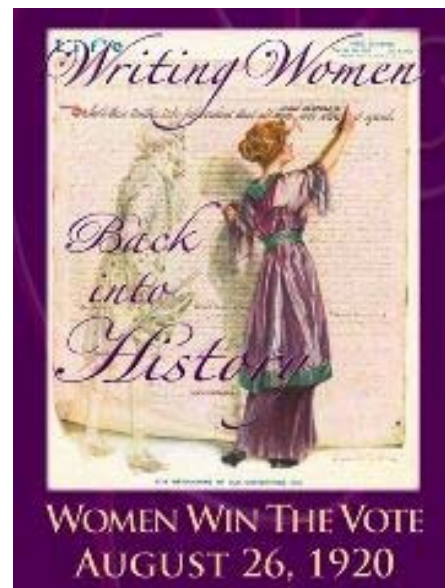
Due to the Zonta mission and our activism at the District 15 and club levels, the Task Force requests that the District 15 participate in the movement to stop trafficking by becoming a lead service organization in this opportunity to assist untold victims through service and advocacy. There will be a great deal of information about this group and human trafficking at our fall conference in October. Club delegates will also consider and vote on a proposal for District 15 to establish a cooperative affiliation with the Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force.

Late last year 5 new laws were passed in Michigan to make Michigan one of the strongest in the country to do so. Enforcement is still an issue because of finances and because we often cannot identify those who are in need of help. You can help by educating your club on these issues and sharing that knowledge with others. Your knowledge of how this very serious problem effects women can be greatly enhanced by attending the fall District 15 conference.

Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center if you think you've encountered a victim of trafficking: **1.888.3737.888**

*"Courage doesn't always roar.
 Sometimes courage is the quiet voice
 at the end of the day saying,
 "I will try again tomorrow."*

~ Mary Anne Radmacher



See District website for downloadable brochure



“THE SOUNDS OF ZONTA”

FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS



The Status of Women Luncheon Speaker
—Combating Human Trafficking in Michigan

Bridgett Carr, founder of the Human Trafficking Clinic at the U of M Law School, will share critically important information about the prevalence of human trafficking, key players in Michigan, and an overview of State laws.

Human Trafficking Panel Discussion Description

Bridgett Carr

This presentation offers a diverse examination of modern day slavery by the panel members that include the founder and international recognized trafficking expert from the Trafficking Clinic at the University of Michigan law school, a victim advocate who gives the perspective of working with victims through the Federal Agency of Homeland Security (ICE) , and the founder and Director of the Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force that represents over 90 membership agencies and individuals who in collaboration focus on prevention, prosecution, and rescuing of victims. Slavery not only exists in the world today but flourishes. Labor and sexual exploitation of men, women, and children is practiced in many forms including bondage, commercial sex slaves, selling of organs, use of farm laborers, gardeners, domestic and restaurant workers, child soldiers, nail salons workers....the list goes on and on. Modern day slavery exists in Michigan, often where you would least expect it, hidden under the surface where it is rarely recognized whether it is because of indifference or confusion from government and the public , or the stigma, fear, and shame felt by those so abused. For foreign nationals who are brought into this destination area, the Midwest, victims are seen as the most vulnerable, desperate, uneducated, impoverished immigrants seeking a better life who have indeed been promised economic rewards for their families back

home and a decent life unavailable to them in their homelands. The format will also include addressing the domestic scene in the United States where the quality of response to victims by the government and society is often lacking. Victims are usually seen as criminals. Women and children appear to be especially vulnerable in this arena. Only one reason exists for trafficking worldwide to continue and that is money. It is the third most profitable criminal enterprise of our time, followed only by drugs and guns. What that means in terms of numbers of people as victims is inestimable.



Jane White

We can end slavery in Michigan, in America. It requires commitment and action from a variety of resources. Learning to recognize human trafficking and acknowledging that it is present in our homeland is the first and big step. This challenge certainly requires service and advocacy which are the cornerstones of what Zonta clubs accomplish. Strategies that need to be employed to eliminate human trafficking are primary to this presentation whether it is through personal initiatives or through organizational efforts.



Amy Allen

Conviction Over Convenience!

Zonya Foco, registered dietitian, professional speaker, television host, author, guest presenter for “Oprah & Bob’s Best Life Challenge,” and nutrition spokesperson for Health Alliance Plan (HAP) of Michigan . Zonya will discuss how its hard to stay healthy in our culture. She will explain how conviction is key—from eating to exercise—to embrace a healthy lifestyle “paradigm shift”.

Zonya Foco





MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT 15 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Hilary Henley, Nominations Committee Chair

The Committee has been working diligently for the past several weeks to ensure that Zontians who attend the Fall Conference in October will have a full slate of nominees for the various positions on the board. Club delegates will vote for all positions except that for the Area Director positions delegates will only vote for the Area Director position for the area in which their respective club is located.

For each position, all individuals nominated for Board positions are expected to give a brief speech prior to the election. The speech may not exceed three (3) minutes and is to include their reasons for running for the position and what skills and abilities they will bring to the position. Individuals running for the Nominating Committee are not required to speak.

Slate of Nominees for Election October 2011

POSITION	NOMINEE(S)	NUMBER OF POSITIONS REQUIRED
Governor	Karen Armaly	1
Lt Governor	Sally Randall Cheryl Hall	1
Area Directors		
Area 1	Candidate withdrawal due to illness— updated slate forthcoming	1
Area 2	Barbara Schram	1
Area 3	Celina Shoji	1
Area 4	Ellen Dolsen	1
Treasurer	Patricia Johnson Linda Nabers Bonnie Odom	1
Nominating Committee	Anna Sylvester Cynthia Chilcote Charlene Bramble Karen Milton Cherie Nutter Jacquie Gudmundsen	3





Service Committee Report

Bonnie McArthur

YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AWARD WINNER

Katelyn Flint from Dow High School was selected to receive the District 15 YWPA Award for 2011.

Katelyn's application was submitted by the **Zonta Club of Midland**. Katelyn receives an award certificate and \$1,000 from Zonta International for this honor. We are pleased to offer our congratulations to Katelyn and the Midland Club.

Any questions? Email District Service Committee Chair, Bonnie McArthur at bonsmca@comcast.net.

JANE M. KLAUSMAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP

We are happy to announce that eight applications have been received for the Jane M. Klausman Scholarship – double the amount of applicants from last year. The Service committee is evaluating the candidates and will soon have their district choice to send to Governor Denise. Thanks to all the clubs that promoted this program for college-age women studying business. Both the Jane Klausman winner and the YWPA award recipient will be invited to the Status of Women luncheon at the fall conference to share information about themselves and how they will use the funds received. Plan to attend.

Any questions? Email District JMK Coordinator, Gayle Manley at gmanley@shaw.ca

Z CLUB AND GOLDEN Z CLUBS

As you plan for the next program year, do not forget to consider sponsoring a Z or Golden Z Club in your area. District 15, Coordinator Dr. Julia R. Miller has a wealth of knowledge and experience to share and information is available on the Zonta International website.

Any questions? Email District Z and Golden Z Coordinator, Julia R. Miller, Ph.D. at jrmiller@msu.edu

AMELIA EARHART FELLOWSHIP

Once again, District 15 has two winners of Amelia Earhart Fellowships. **Pavana Prabhakar** and **Sara Spangelo**, both studying for their doctorate at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, have been selected for 2011. Come to fall conference and meet these amazing young women. Also, we are pleased to announce that the Zonta International Amelia Earhart Fellowship Committee Chair, Sharon Langenbeck, will speak at the conference about the history and value of the AE Fellowship.

Any questions? Email District Service Chair, Bonnie McArthur at bonsmca@comcast.net

SERVICE DONATIONS

You work hard to raise service funds. Two thirds of those funds should stay in the local community while one third should be targeted to support our International Service projects. Please consider these guidelines as you build your budgets for this program year.ð

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Lt. Governor Karen Armaly

The District Board and the District 15 OMC committee are sad to announce the disbandment of 4 clubs this Biennium.

Area 2 – Newaygo

Area 3 – Downriver Wayne County and Macomb

Area 4 – Flint II

Please do not wait until it is too late!!! Let your Area Director know if your club needs help. She will be glad to visit and do what she can to help keep your club together.

The Zonta International OMC has issued a challenge to each club to increase by at least one new member. Members who sponsor 2 or more will receive a special pin and recognition at the International Convention in Torino July 7-12 2012. As District OMC Chair I have also issued a challenge to each one of you- sponsor 1. Have you met the challenge?

In addition to recruiting new members this is a great time to look at current members. Zontians who are less active can be contacted to discuss how they see their role in the coming year and to reassure them the need for participation in the Club. They may just need to know they are valued members.

The Zonta Club of Utica in district 2 started sending Zonta "Thinking of you" cards to members who miss meetings. Two club members that has not been seen in a while came to a monthly meeting carrying a card and commented about how wonderful they felt to receive it.

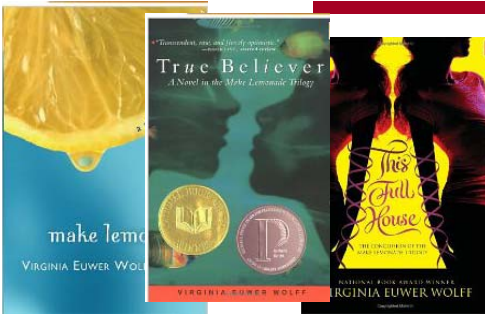
Yours in Zonta Service.





For Your Attention

- o Membership is only official after dues payment is made to Zonta International (ZI) headquarters and the District Treasurer along with a completed Member Form containing the name and contact information of newly inducted members. The form which is available on the ZI website under Member Resources, should be completed by the Club Membership Committee.
- o To ensure members receive all member communication from ZI and the District, when a member's contact information changes it is very important that this information is provided by the club Membership Committee to Zonta International and the District OMC (Organization, Membership, Classification) Committee Chair Karen Armaly via the Member Form. Members need to notify District Webmaster Joanne Lose who manages the District mass email member contact listings and update their profile in the Member Directory of the ZI website for the benefit of other members who may wish to contact them.
- o A club's web page is its public face. Clubs should send timely updated information to District Webmaster Joanne Lose such as new club board member names.
- o To avoid confusion and to ensure the appropriate person handles matters, the appropriate line of communication is member-Club President-Area Director-District Governor-ZI Liaison for District 15-ZI President. o



**Virginia Euwer's
"Make Lemonade" Trilogy**

**District 15 Book C
Submitted by Jaqui Stoneman,
Zonta Club of Meridian East**

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When do you know whether you're doing the right thing? What happens when you can't find a way to make lemonade out of lemons? Virginia Euwer Wolff takes on the biggest questions—about life and love, certainly, but also about girls and women, sacrifice and compassion. Written in a teenager's stream of consciousness, these books are fitting and appealing to both young and old.

Make Lemonade: LaVaughn is fourteen and meets Jolly, an illiterate, seventeen year old with two little kids from two different, absent fathers. As Jolly's babysitter, LaVaughn, Jolly, and the kids are an extraordinary family. Then LaVaughn takes the first steps toward building her own future, (the ardent desire to attend college) and Jolly begins the long, slow process of turning the lemons of her life into lemonade.

True Believer: When LaVaughn was little, everything made sense. But she is now fifteen and the obstacles aren't going away anymore. She already knows that life is hard and that getting ahead takes a strong mind and an even stronger will. Surrounded by poverty and violence, she strives every day not to be just another inner-city statistic. Big questions separate her from her friends. She falls in love for the first time. Her mother is distracted by a new man. The college goal could slip away from her so easily.

This Full House: Now seventeen, LaVaughn's gotten over heartbreak, she's grown up, and now she's been admitted to the Women in Science program that might finally be her ticket to COLLEGE. But the discoveries she makes during her senior year in high school—two girls pregnant, with very few options—disturb everything in her known world. And in an effort to bring together people who should love each other, she jeopardizes the one prize she has sought her whole life long. o

District Calendar

August 31	Due date for nominations for International Board positions	Clubs/Members
September 13	Due date for Fall Conference program sponsor ads	Clubs/Members
October 14-16	District 15 Fall Conference	Clubs/Members
November 1	Bridge Deadline	Clubs/Members