



May 2011 Newsletter

P.O. Box 27541, Lansing, Michigan 48909
District 15, Area 2
www.zontacluboflansing.org

May 2011

May:

- 3 Business/Committee Meeting
- 17 Installation Dinner (6:00 p.m.)
- 24 Executive Board Meeting at "Champs"
Directors Meet with Incoming Board

June:

- 7 Business/Committee
- 21 Program Meeting
- 28 Executive Board Meeting Location to be Announced

Membership Birthdays

- May 23 Jane Bitsicas
- May 31 Carrie Linderoth

Member Anniversary's

- 1996 Sally Churchill
- 1998 Dorothy Mitstifer

Member News:

We no more than welcomed back our friend and fellow Zontian Norma Bunday to the club when re received a note stating that due to health reasons, she was forced to turn in her membership resignation to President Mary Haskell. The club decided to take matters into our own hands and decided after 50 years with Norma Bunday being a part of Zonta, and working side by side with all of the membership, a unanimous vote was made to not accept Norma's letter of resignation and instead keep Norma Bunday as a life long Honorary Member of Zonta Club of Lansing. Although unable to receive International and District information, she will always be a part of Zonta Club of Lansing and would receive newsletter forever.

Carrie Linderoth hurt her ankle and was in a leg cast for a while and she too is now back on both feet and working hard trying to recruit new members. Welcome back Carrie, and we are glad you are feeling better.

Elaine West still remains in Florida due to total knee replacement. She is have some difficulty with the knee and at this point is not expected to return back to Michigan until nearly the end of June. Everyone, please think about her and send her a note or an email wishing her well and to hurry back as we miss her.

Club News

By the time you receive this newsletter it will be time to attend the annual Installation Dinner at the Country Club of Lansing. Please it is very important that you let Jackie or myself know if you will or will not be attending and if you are bringing a guest. Guest fees are \$35.

Officers being installed Tuesday May 17th are as follows:

Club:

- | | |
|--|---|
| President: | Nancy Johnson |
| Vice President: | Melody Atwood |
| Correspondence Secretary: | Jane Bitsicas |
| Recording Secretary: | Judy Manson |
| Revenue Treasurer: | Jackie Pulford |
| Expense Treasurer: | Dorothy Mitstifer |
| Director - First of a Two Year Term: | Margaret Groves and Mary Haskell |
| Director - Second of a Two Year Term: | Darlene Harris (replaces Judy Manson) and Elaine West |
| Nominating Committee: | Mary Haskell - Chair, Sue Eareckson and Elaine West |

Foundation Board:

- First year of Two Year Term:** Teresa Szymanski and Sherrie Graham



Sally Churchill attended the Women's Center of Greater Lansing's Dream, Girl! - Reach for the Stars event on Thursday, May 12th. An award was given to the women who have broken barriers to get where they are today. Sherrill Freeborough was the winner of the first Tribute to Women award and nine other nominees were honored for their profession successes. Those honorees were, first and foremost, our own Zontian

Teresa Szymanski, Chief of Police, City of Lansing and former Zontian Amy Krause, Michigan Court of Appeals followed by:

- Renee Canady, Ingham County Health Department*
- Paula Cunningham, Capital National Bank*
- Tiffany Dowling, Capital Area Women's Lifestyle*
- Kathy Harkness, HiBall Crane Company*
- Joan Nelson, Allen Neighborhood Center*
- Carmen Turner, Executive Director Boys & Girls Club*
- Janet Welch, Executive Director, State Bar of Michigan*

Congratulations to Teresa and to Amy, you are both first place winners in our book.





District 15's Call to Spring Workshop

Was held on **Sunday, May 1st**, with the Host Club being **Zonta Club of Meridian East**

Sue Eareckson, Jackie Pulford and Melody Atwood attended the Conference and walked away knowing more than when we walked in. An excellent program was shared regarding Membership called ; Membership - recruit, retain and revitalize.

We also picked up a video that will be shared with the rest of the club regarding membership activities and how it affects all of us. In addition, we purchased three new Zonta membership pins that represent our membership in District 15. An order is being placed with Denise Quarles for an order of 100 new brochures that will be shared with all members in order to help grow our membership.



Zonta International



Dianne K. Curtis
Zonta International President
Zonta International Foundation President

e-NEWSLETTER

I am excited to be able to share a story with you in this edition of the e-newsletter about a success from the Fistula Project in Liberia. It's a story of a young woman whose quality of life has greatly improved thanks to the program and is a great example of how our support of these projects truly helps make a difference. I encourage you to read the story posted on the website and share it with others.

I would also like to take this time to remind you that the official Zonta International social media pages are up and running and can be accessed through a Social Media page on the Zonta International website. I have already seen great interaction on the pages and hope that everyone finds these tools useful in communicating with fellow Zontians everywhere.

Please remember that Club Officer Contact Information forms were due 1 May. It is important that Zonta International Headquarters has updated club information in a timely fashion. Membership dues renewals are due 1 June. If you would like additional instruction on how to pay your dues, videos have been posted on the website to aid you in this process. Information about the Membership Incentive Program has also been updated on the website and more information about this can be found in the Membership section of this e-newsletter.

Thank you for your continued efforts to recruit members, keep information up to date and your continued support of all of the organization's programs.

Warm regards,

Dianne K. Curtis
Zonta International President
Zonta International Foundation President

Remembering Dr. Judith Dey (1923-2011)

In July 1974 at the International Convention in Boston, Judith Dey became the first Governor of the then District XVI (16), and a voting member of the International Board as it was then constituted. The International President 1974-76 was Eleanor Jammal, whose theme was "Service Throughout the World: The Zonta Way of Life".

At the time there were only 544 Zontians in the District. Finances were a major problem, with members scattered throughout Australia and New Zealand, and the cost of travel was so high that the four Board members were unable to attend a single meeting together during the biennium. Fortunately, Judith was able to combine work-related meetings in what was then called 'mental retardation' with visits to a number of clubs. By the end of the biennium, there were 686 members, four new Clubs had been chartered, and several more were being organized.

Major events during her term of office were a seminar organized by the New Zealand Clubs in September 1974, a seminar for International Women's Year organized by the Adelaide Club in April 1975, the mid-biennium International Board meeting in Chicago in July 1975 and in late August, the presentation of Amelia Earhart medal and wings to Hilary Cane at a ceremony on the banks of the Yarra River in Melbourne. The District Conference was held in Perth, in the presence of President Eleanor Jammal, followed by Organization and Extension workshops in Sydney in November for Australian Clubs, and in Wellington during April 1976 for New Zealand Clubs.

Judith Dey was a Charter member of the Zonta Club of Sydney in 1966 and was made a Life Member of her Club in 1999. She served as Co-Chairman of the 1984 Sydney Convention, which was an historic event, not only because it was the first time that Australia had hosted a ZI Convention, but it was only the second Convention in Zonta's history - after Wiesbaden in 1976 - to be held off the North American continent.

Judith's contribution to Zonta at an international level included membership of the Nominating Committee 1976-1978; Resolutions Committee 1978-1980; Membership and Classification Committee 1980-1982; the Amelia Earhart Fellowship Awards Committee 1982-1990; and the Convention Credentials Committee for more than a decade, which she chaired in 1992.

In 1977 Judith received the Queen Elizabeth Silver Jubilee Medal, and in 1987 one of Australia's highest honors, that of Officer of the Order of Australia.

Despite her outstanding career in the medical profession, an abundance of interests in the community at large, and her achievements in and for Zonta, she was a modest person, and will be remembered with respect and affection.

Sources: *Zonta in the Antipodes*, Hazel King, AM and *Who's Who of Australian Women*, Crown Content

ZI Membership

Important Deadlines

2011-2012 dues renewal invoices were sent in March via email to Club Treasurers, Club Presidents and District Treasurers. No forms or invoices were sent by regular mail, only electronically. If you did not receive an invoice please email memberrecords@zonta.org. Membership dues renewals are due 1 June. The necessary forms can be found in the [Club Tools section](#) of the website. To aid you in the process, [videos have been posted online](#) in English, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Spanish.

Club Officers Contact Information Forms were due 1 May. Please return this form to memberrecords@zonta.org as soon as possible to ensure information is up to date.

Membership Incentive Program

Recruit 2 or more new members before 31 May 2012 and receive special recognition at the Zonta International Convention in Torino in July 2012. [More information and forms](#) for the program can be found on the ZI website. A [document of participating members](#) has recently been added in the Membership Incentive section of the Club Tools on the website.

Do you have a story about recruiting a member and participating in the Membership Incentive Program? Send your success stories to Jill Gehring, Member Services Manager at jgehring@zonta.org for an opportunity to be featured on the website.

Special Note About Dues Payment to Euro Account

Please note that if you are submitting dues to the new Zonta International Euro account, **dues must be sent in Euros** and not US dollars. European clubs can use the existing US account to send US dollars if their club chooses. Instructions can be found on the back of [Form C](#).

The three types of Form C can be found in the [Club Tools section of the website](#) -

European (uses Euros)

North American (uses US dollars)

Non-European/Non-North American (uses US dollars)

Life After Fistula

This story was recently provided to Zonta International by the Campaign to End Fistula and UNFPA Liberia and is a great source of inspiration and example of how your support of the international programs can help make a difference. The story is about a young woman who was helped by the Fistula Project in Liberia. The complete story can be found on the Zonta International website.

Life after Fistula

T-Girl, 20, Craves to Finish High School and Go to University

(Courtesy of Campaign to End Fistula and UNFPA Liberia)

It was in September 2009 when tragedy struck T-Girl. Pregnant at age 17 dropped out of school. When it was time to deliver, she had an obstructed labor and ended with paralysis of both legs and fistula.

T-Girl though not alone, is a victim of a weak maternal health system. For every day at least four women die from pregnancy related complications in Liberia. Many are also left with severe life-changing complications including obstetric fistula.

Recalling the Ordeals of Fistula

In a country where only 37% of deliveries occur in health facilities and less than half (46%) of total deliveries attended by a skilled providers; T-Girl's situation was heightened by her area of residence which was at least three hours walking distance from the nearest health center. [Read the complete story on the Zonta International website...](#)

ZI Official Social Media

As a reminder, Zonta International Headquarters has set up official social media pages on Facebook, Flickr, LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube. These are pages managed by headquarters and provide another line of communication for members all over the world. We invite you to join these pages and be active participants. Links to the official ZI pages can be found on the [Social Media page](#) on the website.

Z and Golden Z Club Search

Are you a former Z or Golden Z club member who is now a Zontian, or do you know of a former Z or Golden Z club member in your club? The International Z and Golden Z Club Committee wants to hear from you. How did your Z or Golden Z club experience impact your life, and why did you choose to later become a member of Zonta International? Please send your name, the name of your current Zonta club and a brief story about why you joined Zonta to pr@zonta.org. Submissions may be used later on the Zonta International website or in a Zonta publication.

Zontian Magazine Now Available Online

Beginning with the next issue of The Zontian magazine, all members will have the option to choose whether they would like to receive the magazine in its current, printed format or if they would prefer to read it online in its new digital format. An email will be sent when the latest issue is available online.

Those members wishing to no longer receive a printed copy of The Zontian magazine should notify Zonta International Headquarters at pr@zonta.org, and you will be removed from our distribution list. Please include the following information in your email.

- Name
- Club Name
- Preferred email address

Please note that we will continue printing and mailing The Zontian magazine to those members who wish to continue receiving a printed copy. You do not need to take any action to remain on the distribution list for the printed magazine.

New on the Zonta International Website

See what's new on the Zonta International website:

- [ZISVAW Project Update - Ending Violence Against Women through Community Action \(EVAWCA\) in Cambodia](#)
- [ZISVAW Project Final Report - Combating Physical Violence Against Women and Supporting the Implementation of Protective and Anti-Discriminatory Laws and Policies in Egypt](#)

If you have problems or questions related to the Zonta International website, please contact webmaster@zonta.org.

[Back to top](#)

Member Profile



Zonta International Past International President Val Sarah was born in the UK, lived in Canada for four years, and moved to Australia in 1962. She counts herself fortunate to have traveled to over 50 countries worldwide, many of them through her membership of Zonta.

She has two daughters: Virginia is the International Program Director of a Foundation focused on ending avoidable blindness in over 19 countries throughout Africa and Asia; Olivia is the Head of Accounts for the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and immediate Past Governor of District 24, currently serving as the District 24 Historian.

Val's 50-year working career included 17 years producing and presenting TV programs for women and children in the UK and Australia, as director of a retail fashion business, as an international travel consultant, and finally as Community Liaison for a child and family welfare organization.

She was introduced to Zonta in 1978 by Elizabeth Lucas of Melbourne, who was a legend in her District for her leadership in establishing new clubs. After serving as Charter President of the Zonta Club of Ballarat, Val was privileged to serve as Area Director, Lieutenant Governor and Governor of District 16, with 87 clubs in Australia and New Zealand.

If you would like to nominate a Zontian to be profiled in a future e-newsletter, please send the member's name and a brief reason why they should be profiled to pr@zonta.org. Please note that depending upon the volume of submissions received, not all members may be profiled.



Zonta Club of Lansing



Committee Reports:

Fellowship, Program and Special Events

It was previously announced the Fellowship Committee had made arrangements with the writer of the award winning documentary film "The Flowers of Madison", a unique and inspirational film which chronicles life difficulties 3 different women endure and eventually overcome. The date and location has been set for the viewing of this wonderful film. September 13th, 2011 The Flowers of Madison will be premiering at the Ada Whitehouse Room of Burcham Hills Retirement Community, 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. Screening time at 7:00 p.m., Ticket prices are \$10 each and \$7. for students with ID. (A possible early trial run viewing for the residents of Burcham Hills would be shown the same day with ticket cost of \$5 for Burcham Residents only.) This being a theatrical event, our ticket prices will be reasonable for the public but as any theater we will offer goodies for sale at our own concession stands . As with other fundraisers, members will be responsible for selling/purchasing a minimum of 4 \$10 tickets.

Melody Atwood - Co-Committee Chair
No Board Action Required

Membership Committee

No report received.
Margaret Groves Acting Chair

International Relations/United Nations

No report received
Sally Churchill - Chair

Public Relations and Communication

Monthly reporting of club meetings sent to Lansing State Journal and The Pulse

No Board Action Required
Judy Manson -Chair

Service Ways and Means

**No report received
Sue Eareckson & Darlene Harris Co-Chairs**

Status of Women

Members: Dorothy Mitstifer, Chair, Jane Bitsicas, Eleanor Smith, Teresa Syzmanski.

Committee activities:

Distributed the application for the Klausman Women in Business Scholarship. The application of Eva Rojas of MSU was sent to the district for consideration for the District Award.

Distributed information about the Inland Seas Program for young women in science. Samantha Schlicklin of Perry High School was named the award recipient.

Selected the recipient of the 2011 Woman of Achievement Award.

No Board Action Required

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Mitstifer - Chair



2020= 2011 Club Board of Directors

Mary Haskell , President
Pat Curran, Vice President
Melody Atwood, Secretary
Jacquelyn Pulford, Expense Treasurer
Dorothy Mitstifer, Revenue Treasurer
Nancy Johnson, Director
Judy Manson, Director
Elaine West, Director
Mary Zehner, Director

2010 - 2011 Foundation Board of Directors

Melody Atwood
Norma Bunday
Sally Churchill
Mary Zehner
Margaret Groves
Pat Curran, ZCOL Vice President, Ex-Officio

For the Monthly Newsletter,

Final printing is completed by the third Monday of each month. Please submit all information you wish to be included in the current month's Newsletter, which includes all Committee Reports, by the second Thursday of the current month. This gives the Correspondence Secretary less than five (5) days to put together a quality newsletter that can be viewed online or a Hard-Copy to be received by those with no access to a computer. Please send information to: Jane Bitsicas at bitsicas@aol.com or 1829 Walnut Heights Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823 Information received after print date will be held for the following month's newsletter.

This is a reprint of something that appeared in a Zonta Newsletter a very long time ago. It still has meaning that each of us should take to heart so I will reprint it in its entirety.

As your president I would like to see all of us as members pause and reflect on the meaning of the Zonta Collect. When something is done repetitiously we sometimes lose sight of its meaning.

Red Skelton in a more serious moment of his career, once did a paraphrase on the pledge of allegiance. I'm no Red Skelton but I'd like to add my feelings to the Zonta Collect.

"Keep us O' God from pettiness, let us be large in thought, in word, in deed. Let us be done with fault finding, and leave off self-seeking." I'd like to think of Zonta as a team. Zonta Club needs the entire team to pull in the same direction, to fulfill International President Cornelia Hodges theme – "Action for Service, Friendship for Peace."

"May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face without self pity and without prejudice." Zonta is an International Women's Service Organization. We need to accept all people regardless of their ideals or beliefs. After all wouldn't it be boring if all of us thought alike?

"May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous." To me this says give the benefit of the doubt. If I'm not sure of the intent of a comment, I can ask or ask why.

"Let us take time for all things; make us to grow calm, serene, gentle." This tells me – be a woman, be feminine, and be proud of the role I can play in our society.

"Teach us to put into action our better impulses; straight forward and unafraid." We need to strive toward self confidence in our own abilities, not just at a personal level, but at the community level or a Zonta level.

"Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things of life we are as one." Perhaps we sometimes lose sight of those big things in life because we get wrapped up in the little things.

"And may we strive to touch and to know the great common woman's heart of us all, and O Lord God, let us forget not to be kind." I think that last line sums it up, let us forget not to be kind.

From the speech I made when I was installed as President of the Zonta Club of Lansing in May of 1983.

Jackie Pulford



To My Fellow Zontians, I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you for letting me be your Correspondence Secretary this last year. I have enjoyed writing about the newsworthy, the funny, the sad events of Zonta Club of Lansing. I hope I tried hard enough to make each month's newsletter something you looked forward to reading. Thank you again and my best wishes to your new Correspondence Secretary, Jane Bitsicas.

Respectfully,

Melody Atwood