

ZCOM News

District 15, Area 4

March 2012

The Fur Flies At April Auction!



Pictured is just one of at least three fur pieces that will be available at the April Auction on 4/17. The March dinner meeting was a veritable pelt-o-rama where there was no shortage of volunteers to model the furs.

Other items have been highlighted in previous newsletters and include collectible cigar boxes, metal wall art, vintage toaster, games and toys, an original Lorna Poulos print, jewelry, and a tax preparation certificate. Page 3 is a collage of pictures previewing several of the items that will be up for bid.

The Ways and Means Committee is also providing travel destinations at great discounts as part of a silent auction segment. See the flyer on Page 4 for trip options that you can bid on. Round up some friends and do some exploring!

Sandy Weimer reported additional prizes that have recently come in: a 1-hour flight over Midland with Linda Langrill; estate planning with Wendy Kanar; lasagna/manicotti by Don and Maria Cohoon; wine from Australia, and a Zonta sweater/jacket from Sweden.

According to Diane Moomey, containers and auction items are still needed to make up gift baskets. The Committee will be assembling and wrapping like items in baskets at the Midland Area Chamber of Commerce on Monday, April 16, starting at 4 pm. If you'd like a sneak peak at the items in the baskets, c'mon over and help assemble. Volunteers are always welcome. Beverages and snacks will be provided.

A gentle reminder from the Committee: no early checkouts will be allowed the night of the auction. You'll want to stay to the very end any way because you'll be having so much fun.

The monies raised at our auction will be used to support the education of our leadership by funding Spring Workshops, sending two delegates to Fall Conference as well as providing \$100 refund to others who attend, and sending two delegates (existing and incoming presidents) to International Conference. Last year's auction raised over \$5200; do I hear \$5500?



Julie Ratcliffe and Kate Maxwell wearing two of the furs up for bid on 4/17.

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Calendar reminder: the last two pages of the newsletter are calendars for the next two months. If you're looking for birthdays, events, and notices...that's where they are.

President's Message from Cynthia Chilcote

It may seem more like summer, but the calendar says spring is definitely upon us. It's a time of change, renewal, rebirth. Inspired by the warmer temperatures and longer days, many of us feel the urge to begin new projects, buy new clothes, try a new look.

So, here's your chance – Zonta's Spring Auction!

Do some spring cleaning – donate the good, used stuff you no longer need

Redecorate your home – donate the pieces you want to replace (lamps, artwork, furniture, decorative items, rugs, throws); shop at the auction for beautiful new "finds"

Clean out your closets – donate good items you no longer wear (jewelry, furs, designer or one-of-a-kind pieces); shop for new additions to your wardrobe (who doesn't need a simple fur stole?)

Be creative – donate something handmade (jewelry, clothing, artwork, centerpieces, food); shop for that perfectly unique piece for your home or wardrobe, enjoy a fine Italian meal

Broaden your perspective and be revitalized – donate books, music, movies, trips, lessons, a service you've already enjoyed or can provide to others; shop for a new experience, see Midland from the air, get your affairs in order, take a vacation.



Spring is here! Time to clear out the old and bring in the new. Bring your fantastic auction items to share with others to the April business meeting – let's pack Sandy's vehicle with cool stuff!



We've Got a Birthday Comin' Up !

The Zonta Club of Midland will celebrate its 65th birthday on June 5, 2012 at our luncheon meeting. On June 5, 1947 our Midland Zonta Club was chartered in a ceremony in the old Midland Country Club building. We will be celebrating 65 years to the day! Stay tuned for information about the party.

★ The PR Committee will accept members' articles (with accompanying photos, if applicable) for publica- ★
★ tion in this newsletter. Articles will be edited for content and compatibility with Zonta Club goals. Please ★
★ submit your articles in Word format, pictures in jpg format, or flyers and brochures as PDFs to: Colette St. ★
★ Louis at Colette51@charter.net. ★
★ This newsletter is published by the Zonta Club of Midland PR Committee, edited by Colette St. Louis. ★
★

Auction Collage



New Auction Offerings This Year....

Zonta Club of Midland Fundraiser
Member of Zonta International



New Orleans Jazz & Dining Experience w/ 3-Night Stay at the Renaissance Pere Marquette, Dining and Airfare* for 2.

Includes daily breakfast for 2 at this 4-diamond luxury hotel, 2 VIP admissions to Preservation Hall Jazz that include front-of-the-line entry and exclusive access to meet the performers, and a 6-course specialty dinner for 2 at Commander's Palace Restaurant. Suggested Retail Value: \$5,150

Buy Now for Only \$3,000

Renaissance Hotel in Las Vegas 3-Night Luxury Stay with VIP Seating at Your Choice of a Top Show and Airfare* for 2

Includes daily breakfast for two at this 4-diamond hotel, two VIP seats at Your Choice of One of Las Vegas' top shows and Roundtrip Airfare for 2.

Suggested Retail Value: Priceless

Buy Now for Only \$2,700



Girlfriends Shopping Getaway at Bloomingdale's with a \$1,000 Gift Card and Personal Shopper, 3-Night Stay and Airfare* for 2

Your choice of participating Bloomingdale's. Stores include locations in California, Florida, George, Maryland, Nevada and More! Suggested Retail Value: Priceless

Buy Now For Only \$3,300



*Airfare for packages includes round-trip coach class service from any American Airlines destination (including Flint Bishop Airport) to anywhere American Airlines flies, subject to availability

Vacation Packages Must Be Purchased by **April 17, 2012** and can be paid via any major credit card

For more details, please contact **Diane Moomey** at **631-3010**

Member Highlight: Megan Piwowar



When growing up in the Detroit suburb of Plymouth, Michigan, Megan Piwowar never dreamed of a career in government. As an active child, and adolescent, she spent most of her time concentrating on sports and ballet. After graduating high school, she spent her first two years of college at Schoolcraft College, where her parents met, before transferring to Michigan State University. As a junior at MSU, she made the Varsity Novice Rowing team as a coxswain, and led her boat to Big Ten and Regional championship regattas. Prior to her senior year, Megan was afforded the opportunity to study in France, Belgium, England, and Monaco. Through all this, she still never dreamed of a career in government. It wasn't until her final semester in college, working as a communication and public affairs intern in Lansing, that the political bug finally bit.

After graduation, Megan began her career in public and private sector communications. She served as a press secretary in the Michigan statehouse before hitting the campaign trail on behalf of the Michigan Republican Party. Megan traveled much of the state to meet with reporters, candidates, and activists while serving as a spokesperson on behalf of the chairman. This is where Megan first learned that having a career in government means being constantly on the move. Her next role was serving President George W. Bush on the Small Business Administration as a field operations communication advisor in Washington, DC. *"Our nation's Capitol is a true treasure; one of the most inspiring places I have ever been. We are truly blessed to live in America,"* said Megan, reminiscing about her time in Washington, DC.

However, her time in Washington was limited; with a new election cycle being ushered in, candidates were actively recruiting talent. This ultimately led to Megan being recruited to Columbus, Ohio, to help the Republicans regain control of the statehouse and Governor's office. When offered the opportunity to handle media relations for the inauguration of Ohio Governor John Kasich, Megan knew this was an opportunity she simply could not pass up. Coincidentally, this move provided the perfect stepping stone to return home to the Great Lakes state. Following the ceremony, Megan moved to Midland to serve Congressman Dave Camp.

In addition to her work, Megan is pursuing a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Michigan. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering at St. Brigid Parish and is an avid marathoner, where she raises money for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. In her own words, *"I strongly believe the toughest person you face is in your head, and I relish the opportunity to be strengthened by each opportunity to serve my family, and community to the best of my ability."*



Yellow Book Pictures

Bob Stafford will be at the May lunch and dinner meetings to take pictures for the Yellow Book. The PR Committee will have a sign-up sheet at the April meetings for you to register to have your picture taken. Please make sure you stop by and sign up. Practice your smile!



IMPACT! Zonta Buys TVs and Videos for PRC

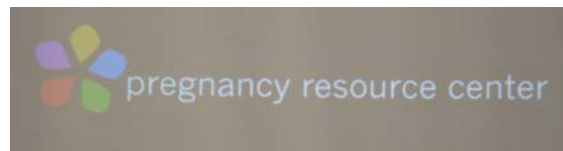


Heather Fisher, the Executive Director from the Pregnancy Resource Center was the guest speaker at our March dinner meeting. Introduced by Maureen Acker, Heather has been with PRC for nearly 4 years. PRC was founded in 1987 and opened its doors in 1988.

Heather explained the “five petals” of PRC’s programming. Medical services are represented by the yellow petal and are free and confidential. PRC performed 201 pregnancy tests and 170 ultrasounds last year and served women of all ages from 13-years-old on up.

The green petal represents “Earn While You Learn” programs. PRC supports women from early pregnancy through 18 months after the baby’s birth. Over 1000 parenting lessons have been provided with 153 parents enrolled last year. Another segment of the green petal is the Hope Closet where diapers, baby outfits, maternity clothes, and furniture are available. Parents earn points by attending classes and achieving goals in parenting skills. They can then use the points to buy items from the Hope Closet. **The funds supplied by our Zonta Club were used to buy TVs and educational videos used in this program.**

“Healing Grace” is the name of the purple petal. This program offers post-abortion support to women and men who have a history of an abortion in their past. One of the outreach initiatives is to raise public awareness about post-abortion syndrome.



The blue petal stands for the “Walk Strong” program that empowers men to become involved, committed, and responsible fathers. The purpose is to help men support women. “Daddy Boot Camp” teaches men how to care for infants and includes diapering, first aid, and bathing. There are not a lot of male figures in the school system and “Hallway Heroes” provides men who volunteer to be visible in school hallways and let boys and girls know they’re there.

Equipping youth to make healthy choices through education and open communication is what the red petal is all about. “Pure Life” also educates parents to engage in open communication with children and offers networking through the school system.

PRC is funded 75% by individuals, 20% by churches and civic organizations, and 5% by businesses. All of their services are free. They used 40 volunteers last year and impacted 350 households in 2011.

Heather closed her presentation by responding to a question about the Hope Closet. She replied that PRC will accept donations of gently-used baby clothes, furniture, and maternity items.

Looking for some Block Heads...



Planting for Midland Blooms is set for Saturday, May 19th. For the past several years, Becky Wieland and Colette St. Louis have traded off block captain duties, but both of them will not be available this year. If you’re interested in leading the Zonta and friends crew, please contact Colette or Becky.

The Zonta Club has its usual block near Carpenter and we need a block captain to attend the kick-off meeting and pick up the planting packet. On Blooms Day, the block captain(s) arrive at 8:00 am and begin setting out the plants. The rest of the team arrives at 8:30. Once again, Colonial Villa is hosting a free pancake breakfast for all volunteers immediately following planting.

This is an easy and fun event to coordinate and it’s over in about 2.5 hours. Will you be a Block Head???

Service Dollars At Work

Organizations Receiving Service Dollars in 2010-2011	
West Midland Family Center - \$500	• Pregnancy Resource Center - \$500
Cancer Services - \$500	• Girls on the Run - \$750
Big Brothers/Big Sisters - \$500	• Total - \$4250
Shelterhouse – transportation - \$500	• Volunteer Activities
House of Mercy - \$500	– Literacy Council Dessert party
Sr Services Center - \$500	– Shelterhouse Christmas party
	– Midland Blooms
	– Share the Memories
	– Loons Parking

Maureen Acker, Chair of the Services Committee, presented the committee's annual report showing the programs and activities that were impacted by the Zonta Club of Midland's donations of time and money. The slide here shows both monetary and volunteer participation for last year.

In the 2010-2011 year the committee exceeded the goals they'd set. They acquired 45% new donation opportunities and 78% of allocations were directly aligned to support women's needs. Poverty and basic needs were the two areas the committee focused our service dollars toward.

In addition, our club gave out 7 scholarships as a result of Homewalk sponsorships in 2010. With the fantastic results of Homewalk 2011 we'll be able to give out 9 scholarships this year.

Woman of Distinction

Dr. Lydia Watson from the Status of Women/Services Committee spotlighted singer Nancy LaMott as a Woman of Distinction. Born in Midland in 1951, Nancy was on the verge of major stardom when she died of uterine cancer at the age of 43 in 1995.

Nancy started singing in her father's dance band as a youngster. Later she traveled to San Francisco with her brother, a drummer, to pursue a career in music. She eventually ended up in New York where she made a name for herself as a cabaret singer. On two separate occasions, Nancy sang at the White House when the Clintons were in residence. She also appeared on Live! With Regis and Kathie Lee.

Nancy suffered from Crohn's disease most of her life and spent a lot of time in hospitals. She developed an addictive pattern due to the prescriptions she was on. Eventually, she had a bowel resection which helped her feel better.

When she was diagnosed with uterine cancer, she delayed surgery to complete her album. Because she waited, her cancer metastasized and chemotherapy did not work. She had a bedside wedding ceremony and died an hour later.

Lydia's interest was rekindled last year when Nancy was part of the Voices exhibit.



Nancy LaMott

Scholarship Applicants Sought



Jane Klausman

Applications for the 2012 Zonta International Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarships are now available from the Zonta Club of Midland through the Zonta International website www.zonta.org.

The Zonta International Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarships, first awarded in 1998, are open to women enrolled in at least the second year of an undergraduate program through the final year of a Master's program in business, leading to a business management career. The program is designed to encourage women to enter careers and to seek leadership positions in business-related fields in their communities and throughout the world. The Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarships look to the women of today to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Applications must be returned locally by **May 25, 2012** to: Zonta Club of Midland, ATTN: Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship, P. O. Box 196, Midland, MI 48640-0196. Any questions should be directed to Chandra Morse, chairperson, Intercity/United Nations Committee at (989) 832-9247. Awards will be

granted in October 2012.

The Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship is one of many programs for women and girls sponsored by Zonta. If you know a woman who possesses the qualities and qualifications listed for this award, please direct her to the International website, or to Chandra.

Hats, hats, hats!

The Fellowship Committee's icebreaker at the March dinner meeting was head and shoulders above the rest! All sorts of fantastic hats were worn and each of them came with a story.

The following hats (and their owners) won prizes:



- *Most unique: Lisa Hulbert
- *Most colorful: Deb Miller
- *Best sports hat: Lisa Orlando
- *Most cultural: Sharon Mortensen
- *Most Kentucky Derby: Cynthia Chilcote
- *Best story: Linda Malekadeli



L-R Prize winners: Deb Miller, Sharon Mortensen, Lisa Orlando, Cynthia Chilcote, Lisa Hulbert, Linda Malekadeli

Welcome to Facebook 101



On Thursday, 3/22, Megan Piwowar of the PR Committee introduced 8 Zonta members to the wonders of Facebook. According to Megan, 6 of the attendees did not have an account set up so she walked them through the process step by step.

The session lasted 2-1/2 hours and was supplemented by an instruction packet Megan prepared. She explained the different icons and links and what they do. Then she focused on the difference between private and public posts and the importance of account and privacy settings management. Users were advised to stay away from third party applications and to be wary of spam links.

Megan's presentation was well-received and she was asked to teach another session on how to upload photos. Megan is considering providing other learning opportunities for more advanced Facebooking, using

LinkedIn, and social media basics.

Encouraging the use of Facebook fits right in with the PR Committee's promotion of Zonta on Facebook. The more members we have participating, posting, sharing, liking, and communicating, the more our name gets out there.

If you have an interest in learning more about any of the social media mentioned here, please contact Megan or Deb Stephens.

Spring Workshops (taken from District 15 website)



Come discover ways to reframe and revitalize your club and it's 'connections' to members, your community and Zonta International. The Zonta District 15 Spring Workshop will show clubs how to make little 'connections' to make BIG things happen!

Registration Fee of \$30 includes a continental breakfast and lunch

Area 4 - Saturday, April 28, 2012
Hosted by the Zonta Club of Midland

Area 3 - Sunday, April 29, 2012
Hosted by: Zonta Club of Milford

Area 2 - Saturday, May 5, 2012
Hosted by the Zonta Club of Grand Rapids

Area 1 - Sunday, May 6, 2012
Hosted by: Zonta Club of Alpena

For more information visit the District website: www.zonta15.org.

**Zonta Club of Midland
Business Meeting Minutes - Proposed
March 6, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 pm by Zonta Board President, Cynthia Chilcote. The meeting began with the Zonta Blessing and introductions.

Recording/Corresponding Secretary's Report - Motion to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2012 by Esther Seaver; supported by Diane Moomey; approved.

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer's report was presented by Lynda Putt. Motion to approve the report as presented by Jill Van Buskirk; supported by Debbie Stephens; approved.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARR- Nan Blasy reported that a few Zings are in the works: one at the Whine Bar and another at Lisa Hulbert's house making earrings.

Archives - Becky Wieland reported that the committee will be meeting from 5-6 pm tonight to plan the 65th anniversary party. The committee will create scrapbooks with archival materials and would like to remind members to clip and send materials to the Archives Committee.

Attendance - Tammy Swinson. No report.

Bylaws - Cari Francis discussed publicizing other non-profits' events (such as Garden Walk) when requested by the organization. Motion to revise the bylaws by adding new wording to section D by Carole Calvert-Baxter; Linda Malakadeli seconded; approved.

Fellowship/Awards - Kate Maxwell will have flyers on tables at the March dinner meeting which will include a hat contest as an icebreaker. There will be prizes for the best hats. She updated the club on the June social planning. The event is on the third Tuesday in June at Midland Curling Center. There is a \$25 fee for guests. Ladies only due to sleep over theme. Next Committee meeting on the 4th Tuesday of March at the Cornerstone Pub.

Finance/Fundraising - Ann Beck reported that the membership voted in support of 9 scholarships at \$2000 each. Our policy is to keep our giving to International at 1/3 of our total giving. The Finance Committee recommends that we increase our pledge to International from \$9200 to \$11,775 for the 2011-12 year. The budget projects a balance of \$7054 in the Service fund at the end of 2011-12.

Motion to approve the increased amount by Sharon Mortensen; supported by Diane Moomey; approved.

Homewalk – Sue Moody and Ann Beck are starting to sign up homes for the Homewalk – there is a long list of potential homes.

United Nations/Intercity - Chandra Morse. No report.

Organization, Membership and Classification - Susan Putnam. No report.

Public Relations/Newsletter - Debbie Stephens is calling all Facebookers to commit to getting conversations going weekly from the Board and/or committees to create interest about our club. "Like" our page, make comments, or add topics. Megan will train you on how to use Facebook, if you need help.

Status of Women Service/Advocacy - Maureen Acker. No report.

Ways & Means - Diane Moomey reported that the committee is actively working on the auction. Seating will be arranged so no one has their back to the auction. A regular dinner will be served. Doors open at 5:00 pm, dinner at 5:30 pm, auction begins at 6:00 pm. There will be some silent auction items such as the travel packages, too.

Parliamentarian- Kate Maxwell. No report.

Nominating/Immediate Past President - Esther Seaver has copies of the slate of officers on the tables. The election will be in April.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There are still 2 tickets available for the Kiwanis dinner dance on Friday, March 30. The cost is \$45/person. 46 tickets have been sold out of 72 and 4 Zontians are attending.

NEW BUSINESS No new business.

DOLLAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Melissa Barnard thanked members for helping at the Dessert Party.

Sharon Mortenson announced that Sexual Assault Month is April, and April 13 is Denim Day.

Elizabeth Lumbert announced the opening of the Butterfly display at Dow Gardens.

Nan Blasy announced that the second half of winter session has started at the Midland Community Center.

The 50/50 raffle of \$30 was won by Beverly McCray.




April 28th will be the Spring Workshop for Area 4 at the Midland Country Club. The district puts on the workshop. The fee is \$30 and is reimbursed by the club. Sign up with Lynda Putt.

Mar 30 – Spring Dinner Dance, 6:00 - ?, MCC Ballroom
Apr 3 – Business meeting, 11:30 – 1:00 pm, MCC, elect officers
Apr 17 – Dinner meeting, 5:30 – 8:00 pm, MCC, Auction

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Van Buskirk, Corresponding Secretary






APRIL 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 11:30 am Business Meeting, @ MCC, Budget Presentation	4	5	6	7
8 Elizabeth Lumbert and Casey Pincumbe 	9	10 Sharon Miller 	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 5:30 pm AUCTION!	18	19 7:15 am Board Meeting @ BB/BS	20	21 Patricia Mishic 
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 SPRING WORKSHOP @ MCC
29	30					



MAY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11:30 am Business Meeting, @ MCC, Yellow Book photos	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Jerri Liphard 
13	14	15	16	17 7:15 am Board Meeting @ BB/BS	18	19 Midland Blooms
20	21 Lisa Miner 	22 5:30 pm Dinner Meeting @ MCC Scholarship Winners Yellow Book photos	23	24	25	26
27	28 Maria Cohoon 	29 Alice Strange 	30	31		