

Zonta Club of Midland

December/January Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

December 08/January 09

Zonta Club of Midland ~ District 15, Area 4 ~ www.zontaclubofmidland.org

Have a holiday gift that you don't know what to do with?

Save it for the Zonta auction! The Ways and Means committee is collecting items now, and there will be several opportunities to contribute auction items over the next few months.

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The President's Report ~ Bonnie Westervelt, President

Dear Fellow Zontians:

One of the key messages from the Fall Conference in Frankenmuth was how to "Talk Zonta". For the New Year, it is my wish for all of us to be aware of and take opportunities to bring Zonta into the conversation. Are you watching a TV program, listening to a speaker, reading a newspaper article that involves the status of women? Talk about the status of women afterward and bring up Zonta as making a difference. Bring up the Status of Women at the "office water cooler" and talk about Zonta and its impact on women's lives.

Other suggestions from Fall Conference on how to "Talk Zonta": Wear Zonta — incorporate Zonta into your daily wardrobe — pins, shirts, vests, etc. that display the Zonta emblem and/or logo. People will see these items and ask you about Zonta — and there is your chance to talk about our Midland club and all it does for women!

Ask questions when given an opportunity that will start a conversation about Zonta: Are you interested in eliminating violence against women? Are you interested in improving the health of women? Even though "you may be just one woman" you can impact and change the lives of many.

Another quote from the conference: "We all became involved in Zonta because we share one goal — improving the lives of women throughout the world. It is how we carry out the mission which draws new members — which keeps members engaged and interested in the organization."

Keep talking "Zonta".

Bonnie Westervelt, Club President

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 6: Business meeting, 11:30 am, Midland Community Center

Sunday, January 11: Amelia Earhart Day

Thursday, January 15: Board meeting, 7:30 am, Strosacker Center

Monday, January 19: Deadline for Newsletter submissions

Tuesday, January 20: Social meeting, 5:30 pm, location TBD

Since joining the Public Relations committee, Mary has brought several new great new ideas to the committee, including ways to make our website more engaging, and support the goals of other committees, such as Archives.

Member Spotlight: Mary LaForet

This month's "Spotlight" is focused on Mary LaForet. Mary is a very loyal member of Zonta.

Originally from the Detroit area, Mary and her seven year old daughter Anne moved to Midland in 2000 to be closer to her sister. Mary's mother and father then followed, so Midland benefited in many ways from Mary's decision to make this her home.

Mary has a Bachelors de-

gree in Foods and Nutrition from Michigan State University and a Bachelors degree in computers from Pierce Business College in Philadelphia. Mary worked as a Paralegal in Corporate Finance while in Philadelphia.

Mary is an entrepreneur. She owns MEL Associates, a web design and maintenance company, and she transfers photos onto DVDs and CDs, putting them to music. Mary is also a representative for ACN Telecommunications

Company.

In addition to family and work, Mary finds time to be a member of St. Brigid's Parish, Dial-A-Ride commission, Midland Chamber of Commerce and is active in the Disability Network of Midland.

January Dinner Menu

The dinner menu for January is to be determined. Please watch for more details closer to the 20th!

Yellow Roses and Congratulations to...

All of our **Zontians** who volunteered at the Christmas party sponsored by Shelterhouse.

The entire **Homewalk committee**, for their work in coordinating a successful and fun event that will benefit local organizations and future scholarship recipients.



Happy Birthday, Zontians!

Please wish your fellow Zontians a Happy Birthday!

December Birthdays

- Cari Francis, December 1
- Barb VanderKelen, December 4
- Rebecca Wieland, December 6
- Colette St. Louis, December 17
- Linda Malekadeli, December 20
- Joy Russell, December 24
- Lisa Orlando, December 29
- Julie Johnston, December 29
- Sue Moody, December 30
- Danielle Bessemer, December 31

January Birthdays

- Lisa VanDerhoof, January 7
- Cathy Budd, January 15
- Susan Montesi, January 15
- Lisa Bean, January 17
- Lynnea McCargar, January 19
- Sharon Mortensen, January 19
- Nancy Barker, January 22
- Kate Maxwell, January 28



Zonta Club of Midland Archives: What You Need to Know

The many boxes and notebooks filled with Zonta information have been emptied, contents have been reviewed, and relevant materials have been filed. The Zonta archive files have been organized by year and within each year by topic. Work continues with organizing newspaper articles, photo identification and other miscellaneous items. Zonta members are encouraged to donate to the Archives any records about the club that they have in their possession.

The collection of materials saved include minutes, financial reports, committee reports, annual reports and membership information related to the Midland club. No information was saved that is not of local interest. Though there were in some cases multiple copies of a document, only one copy was saved of each document because of space constraints.

Guidelines for accessing the archive files will be addressed by the Archive Committee to ensure that information about the membership remains confidential and that the history of our club is kept intact. Please don't hesitate to direct your questions about the Archives to committee members.

Janice Hoppe, Chair, Melissa Barnard and Sarah Gorman



Zonta Around the World

Did You Know...

If you want to “Talk Zonta” but aren’t sure what to tell others, here are a few fast facts to help start your conversations and get others interested:

- The first Zonta Club was founded in 1919. Today, Zonta International (ZI) has nearly 33,000 members in over 1,200 clubs, representing 67 countries and geographic areas.
- Younger women can be involved in Zonta too — Z Clubs for high school students and Golden Z Clubs for college and university students were established in 1948. Visit zonta.org for a list of these clubs.
- With approximately 90 members, the Zonta Club of Midland is one of ZI's largest clubs.
- Since 1998, the Zonta Club of Midland has awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships to help local women pursue their educational goals.
- Some of the local organizations and activities supported by our club include: Helping Hands Dental Clinic, Literacy Council of Midland, Midland Blooms, North Midland Family Center, Shelterhouse and the West Midland Family Center.
- According to the ZI website:
 - 70 percent of the 1.3 billion poor are women.
 - Two-thirds of illiterate adults are women and two-thirds of children not in school are girls.
 - Every year, an estimated four million women and girls are bought and sold worldwide.
 - Today, seven million women and girls will contract HIV.
 - Since 1938, over 1,200 Amelia Earhart fellowships have been awarded to women from 58 countries, totaling \$7 million USD.

Did you know...

*Zonta
International will
move to its new
location, effective
February 1,
2009.*

*Please visit
www.zonta.org
for more details.*

THANK YOUS TO ZONTA

December 10, 2008

Zonta Club of Midland
P.O. Box 196
Midland MI 48640

Dear Zonta Club of Midland,

On behalf of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (Shelterhouse), thank you for your generous donation to the Domestic Violence Housing Initiative. We join with Affordable Housing Alliance in thanking you for your gift. The funds will go to purchase security systems for all the homes as well as buy some needed furniture such as washing machines and dryers.

The Domestic Violence Housing Initiative offers permanent, supportive housing to domestic violence survivors and their children. Housing is a major obstacle for domestic violence survivors, particularly those living in poverty. This initiative provides an additional resource to quickly move qualified survivors into permanent, supportive housing. The Domestic Violence Housing Initiative is an innovative partnership between Shelterhouse and Affordable Housing Alliance, both United Way agencies.

The project goes beyond simply providing housing, to providing advocacy services through Shelterhouse staff. The idea is to provide the needed support so domestic violence survivors can successfully transition from shelter and become self-sufficient. With housing stabilized, survivors could continue their education, enhance job skills, improve parenting skills, increase their involvement in their children's education, save toward a down payment on a house and further develop themselves. Affordable Housing Alliances is the property owner and manager and Shelterhouse provides clients to live in the properties. Shelterhouse staff also provide in-home supportive services to those living in the housing.

Generous gifts such as yours make a difference in the lives of those who have been impacted by violence. Last year over 900 women, children and men were served by Shelterhouse. Our mission is to eliminate domestic and sexual violence by providing advocacy, education and shelter for people in Midland and Gladwin Counties.

Thank you for supporting the important work that we do. Everyone deserves a life without fear.

Sincerely,

Sharon Mortensen
Executive Director

December 6, 2008
Zonta Club of Midland
Contact: Linda Langrill,
989-631-4530
LLangrill@chartermi.net

Press Release: Zonta to Award Scholarships/Fellowships for 2009

December 6, 2008 – For immediate release - The Zonta Club of Midland is actively seeking candidates who will qualify for the following awards, scholarships and fellowships:

The Young Women in Public Affairs Award is awarded to young women in secondary or pre-university level studies and who demonstrate a commitment to leadership in public policy, government and volunteer organizations. The goal is to encourage more young women to participate in public and political life by recognizing a commitment to the volunteer sector, evidence of volunteer leadership and dedication to the advancement of the status of women. The district award is \$1,000 and the international award (five total) is \$3,000. Deadline for applying to the local Zonta Club of Midland is January 31, 2009. District and International level awards will be made on June 30, 2009.

The Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship is awarded to women eligible to enter 3rd or 4th year undergraduate studies for their first degree, and who are preparing for careers in business management. The scholarship is designed to encourage undergraduate women to enter careers and seek leadership positions in business-related fields. The deadline for applying to the local Zonta Club of Midland is May 1, 2009. Twelve scholarships of \$5,000 each are awarded at the international level annually in October.

The Amelia Earhart Fellowship is awarded to women for graduate level studies in aerospace-related sciences and aerospace-related engineering. The fellowships are designed to encourage women to pursue graduate PhD/doctoral degrees in aerospace-related sciences and engineering. Thirty-five fellowships are awarded annually in the amount of \$10,000 each. The deadline for applying is November 2009 and awards will be made at the end of April 2010.

Contact Linda Langrill, Chairperson, Intercity/United Nations Committee, Zonta Club of Midland, Michigan, for further information at 989-631-4530 or LLangrill@chartermi.net. The Zonta International website may be accessed at www.zonta.org with specific scholarship information available at http://www.zonta.org/site/PageServer?pagename=prog_ed_lead_yd.

**Zonta Club of Midland
Business Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 2, 2008 (Pending approval)**

The meeting was called to order at noon by Zonta President, Bonnie Westervelt. The meeting began with the Zonta Blessing and introductions.

Secretary's Report - The minutes of the meeting of Nov. 4, 2008 were presented. Motion to approve as presented by Jan McGuire; support by Sharon Mortensen; approved.

Treasurer's Report - Sue Moody presented copies of the Treasurer's Report at each table, including the Profit & Loss Statement from November 2008, and reviewed the highlights. The report reflects changes made at the last meeting to the Service Fund. Forty-seven percent of our members gave a voluntary dues donation to Zonta International.

Standing Committee Reports

Assimilation/Retention/Rejuvenation Committee – Chair, Jan McGuire On each table is a sign-up list of volunteers for the Shelterhouse Christmas party. Members can still volunteer by contacting Jan McGuire. Wrapping paper, bows, old cards, and gifts are needed and may be delivered to Jan or brought to Shelterhouse.

Archives Committee, Chair, Janice Hoppe No report.

Attendance – Chair, Laura Huckins No report.

By-Laws Committee – Chair, Esther Seaver No report.

Fellowship Committee – Chair, Nan Blasy The focus of this committee is on the end-of-year event; members with suggestions for an event may contact the committee.

Finance/Fundraising Committee – Chair, Sue Moody The committee presented checks to Greg Dorrien - West Midland Family Center, Linda Clark - North Midland Family Center, Jennifer Ogg - Coleman Railway Community Center and the Midland Housing Alliance as approved by the membership at the last business meeting.

Homewalk Committee – Chair, Pam Kastl/Amy Slabaugh Homewalk ticket money may be turned in today. Head hostess directions will be emailed along with teams. Publicity for the event has been very good, but more is planned. Esther will still accept hostess volunteers. Ornaments may be strung at Space Studios. The Afterglow is scheduled for 5:30 at Bradley House.

Intercity/United Nations Committee - Chair, Linda Langrill No report.

Organization Membership/Classification - Chair, Cari Francis No report.

Public Relations Committee – Chair, Jennifer Sigsworth No report.

Status of Women/Service – Chair, Sharon Mortensen The committee has recommended and the Board approved changing the name of this committee and adding advocacy responsibilities to be in line with ZI's restructuring. Motion by committee to make this change; supported by Sue Moody; approved.

Ways and Means – Chair, Esther Seaver No report.

Parliamentarian – Sharon Miller No report.

Immediate Past President – Lisa Hulbert No report.

Unfinished Business

New Business

New blessing proposal – A suggestion for a new blessing (below) was made at the fall District Conference. Motion to replace our blessing with the revised blessing was made by Julie Ratcliffe, supported by Nancy Barker; approved.

Loving Creator,

We thank you for this food which nourishes us, the friendships that nurture us, the opportunities that challenge us.

Bind us together with Zontians here and around the world, that together we might bring into fullness, a world of peace, justice, equality, freedom, wholeness and joy for all people.

Announcements

Wendy Kistler – Cabi Open House on Dec. 8th 12:00-8:00 at her home with 10 % of proceeds going to ZI.

Melissa Barnard - City of Midland's Citizen's Academy, news session starting, 6:30-8:30 on Wed. evenings. See her for application.

Linda Malekadelı – She has a new granddaughter, Laura Austin.

The winner of the \$46 50-50 raffle is Nan Blasy.

Dates to Remember

December 6 and 7 – Homewalk

December 15 – Shelterhouse Christmas Party

No dinner meeting in December

December 18 – Board meeting at 7:30 a.m. – Strosacker Center

December 22 – Newsletter deadline

February 10, 2009 - Intercity Dinner at the Midland Historical Museum

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Chilcote, Secretary

**Zonta Club of Midland
Business Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 4, 2008 (Pending approval)**

The meeting was called to order at noon by Zonta President, Bonnie Westervelt. The meeting began with the Zonta Blessing and introductions.

Secretary's Report - The minutes of the meeting of Oct. 7, 2008 were presented. Motion to approve as presented by Jan McGuire; approved.

Treasurer's Report – Diane Moomey presented copies of the Treasurer's Report at each table including the Profit & Loss Statement from October 2008 and reviewed the highlights. The deadline for second half of dues is today - she can take payment at the meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

Assimilation/Retention/Rejuvenation Committee – Chair, Jan McGuire Sign-up sheet is on the tables explaining details of the Shelterhouse Christmas party on December 15th. Also a list of items needed by Shelterhouse is provided – more to follow once volunteer positions are filled. Sandy Weimer suggested we add another photographer and photo printer for this event as well.

Archives Committee, Chair, Janice Hoppe Reminder to new officers to pass on important items to this committee for official filing. A Flickr account will be available soon to view archived items online.

Attendance – Chair, Laura Huckins No report.

By-Laws Committee – Chair, Esther Seaver No report.

Fellowship Committee – Chair, Patricia Tiernan No report.

Finance/Fundraising Committee – Chair, Sue Moody The committee is proposing a distribution of funds as presented at previous meetings and approved by the Board:

Move \$13,000 from Convention Fund to Service Fund;

With the total funds in the Service Fund, donate \$10,000 to the Domestic Violence Housing Project; \$3,000 to West Midland Family Center; \$3,000 to North Midland Family Center; \$2,000 to the Coleman Railway Family Center;

Increase scholarships funding to \$2,500 each year for the next 5 years (re-evaluate at that time);

Continue to give 1/3 of total charitable giving to Zonta International each year (based on local scholarships and local service funding)

Motion to support this proposal by Linda Malekadel; approved. Diane Moomey, Ann Beck, and Julie Close abstained.

Homewalk Committee – Chair, Pam Kastl/Amy Slabaugh The Afterglow will be held at the Carriage House and we will be able to enter the Bradley Home as well. Hostess attire for Homewalk is classic black – suits, skirts, or slacks. Posters will be available soon; brochures are on the tables. More volunteer hostesses are needed, especially for Saturday. Carole and Wendy have raffle tickets for members not yet receiving theirs.

Intercity/United Nations Committee - Chair, Linda Langrill The committee is looking forward to hosting Paul Clulo at the Nov. 18th presentation on Prevention of Violence Against Women. Details of the Feb. 10th Intercity Dinner at Doan Museum are forthcoming.

Organization Membership/Classification - Chair, Cari Francis No report.

Public Relations Committee – Chair, Jennifer Sigsworth No report.

Status of Women/Service – Chair, Sharon Mortensen Maureen Acker reported that when requests for service dollars are received, the committee will continue to select projects which support our objectives and mission. They have assigned 2 members to work with AAUW on the development of a career conference for women. The committee is also investigating whether to change our committee structure to match the new ZI committee structure changes.

Ways and Means – Chair, Esther Seaver No report.

Parliamentarian – Sharon Miller No report.

Immediate Past President – Lisa Hulbert No report.

Unfinished Business

Homewalk Update – Completed during committee reports.

The Midland Club won an award at Fall Conference for having the highest number of first-timers at the conference.

New Business

The Service Committee's "Local Noteworthy Woman" presentation was made by Bonnie McManus.

Club member, Sharon Miller, graduated from Hemlock High School during the Vietnam War and earned a degree in Health Care Administration at Ferris in 1984. She worked at a hospital before starting her business, Intermediate Temporary Help, in 1973. She has been involved with the Executive Women's Roundtable, Athena's Power Link Program, the National Association of Women Business Owners, Zonta, Go Red for Women, the Chamber's business incubators and the Small Business Development Center. Throughout her career she has been challenged by belonging to the "good old boys" network and fighting against the "glass ceiling". She has 2 daughters and 5 grandchildren and enjoys spending time with them.

Announcements

Pam Kastl – Homewalk posters are here.

Sarah Gorman – This Friday night there is an opening reception of the holiday exhibit – a representation of angels from 30 area artists. Nov. 16th the Midland Chorale will present a concert at MCFTA, performing with Youth Honors Choir at 3:00 pm. Nov. 19th at Creative Spirit Center, a dinner will be given to honor violinist, Rod Bieber, at 7:00 pm.

Melissa Anderson – distributed Homewalk tickets.

Nancy Barker – Time for Tea at Northwood Gallery is Nov. 5th, 4:00-8:00 pm.

Patricia Tiernan – American Red Cross tours are still available at the chapter office in Strosacker Center on Nov. 20th and Dec. 18th, noon – 1:00 pm.

Sharon Miller – MidMichigan Children's Museum will host a brunch and fashion show along with other activities on Nov. 20th; tickets \$100 – see Sharon for details.

The winner of the \$49 50-50 raffle is Ann Beck.

Dates to Remember

November 18 – Dinner Meeting – Midland Country Club, Judge Paul Clulo, Elimination of Violence Against Women

November 20 – Board meeting at 7:00 a.m., Strosacker Center

November 24 – Newsletter deadline

December 2 – Luncheon Business meeting – Midland Country Club

December 6 and 7 – Homewalk

December 15 – Shelterhouse Christmas Party

No dinner meeting in December

December 18 – Board meeting at 7:30 a.m. – Strosacker Center

December 22 – Newsletter deadline

February 10, 2009 - Intercity Dinner at the Midland Historical Museum

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Chilcote, Secretary