

ZCOM News

District 15, Area 4

June 2011

Women's "VOICES" Ring in the New Year



The 2011-2012 Zonta Year was ushered in at a wonderful event at the Doan Midland County History Center on June 14th. The "VOICES" display highlighting the extraordinary women of Midland County through the years provided an entertaining and educational venue that was enjoyed by members and several guests.

Making history "come alive" were three representatives of Midland County women who've made an impact and helped create the Midland we know today. Maggie Cunningham (shown at left), portrayed by Randi Kawakita, spent 5 years from the age of 8 as an indentured servant at a local hotel.

She worked 14-hour days and learned the trade so well that eventually she bought her own hotel for \$640. The Strosacker building is the site of the second hotel Maggie owned. She took in orphans and battered women and helped them realize a better life.

Mary Aurand played Dr. Sylvia Stoesser (pictured at right), the first female PhD to work at Dow Chemical. Dr. Stoesser worked in the physics lab because it was the Dow facility closest to a women's bathroom, which was across the street. In her career at Dow she acquired 29 patents. She also acquired the sobriquet of "best pie maker in town" and taught several young women how to make a flaky pie crust.

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Upcoming Events

Tuesday, August 16, 6-8 pm: Board planning meeting, Grand Traverse Pie Company

Tuesday, September 6, 11:30 am: Business meeting, Midland Country Club

Thursday, September 15, 7:15 am: Board Meeting, Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Tuesday, September 20, 5:30 pm: Social Meeting, Midland Country Club

Tuesday, October 4, 11:30 am: Business Meeting, Midland Country Club

Tuesday, October 18, 5:30 pm: Social Meeting, Midland Country Club

Thursday, October 20, 7:15 am: Board Meeting, Big Brothers/Big Sisters



President's Message from Cynthia Chilcote

I've been thinking a lot about beginnings lately – some of which *feel* like endings. My oldest daughter moved to North Carolina to begin a career, and I sure am thankful for the cell phone that keeps us connected nearly every day. A few months ago I reconnected with my childhood friend and neighbor through Facebook – we met for lunch today to catch up on the last 35 years – and we're beginning a new phase in our friendship.

Zonta Club of Midland has been around for a few years now, but every year we have a chance to begin again. Members come and go, new Board members move in to lead us, and new opportunities present themselves. So this year, let's make a fresh start and go back to basics with a new twist – our mission and how to best achieve it by making connections.

I believe that the future of Zonta, in general, and our club specifically, depends on our ability to focus on and publicize our mission – and it's that *publicizing* part that continues to be a challenge for us. We need to increase awareness about Zonta (make connections) to attract members and raise more service dollars. I think it sounds harder than it is. After all, our mission is a no-brainer. If women understand it, they will want to be involved ("If you build it they will come" for you Kevin Costner fans out there). All we have to do is initiate the connections with people.

So here's how we can start:

- Strengthen our relationship with District 15 and Zonta International and use the resources they offer
- Continue to develop our PR opportunities, website and a presence in social media
- Personally advertise our commitment to Zonta by telling our friends, family, and coworkers – tell everyone you know

This connecting thing is not a new concept, but it's a popular concept, thanks to social media. We know how to do it – we just have to remember to **talk about Zonta**.

I'm looking forward to a fun and successful year filled with opportunities to tell people about how we are advancing the status of women in Midland and around the world. As you think of ways to get the word out, send me a quick email. I will happily take it to the right committee for a look at how we can use it to reach out and deepen our connections. Let's all start **now** to get the word out about our great organization!



3d Quarter Happy Birthdays

JULY

Melissa Anderson, 13th
Michele Atwell, 9th
Susan Putnam, 15th
Sandy Weimer, 26th
Deborah Witt, 11th



AUGUST

Carole Calvert-Baxter, 14th
Nicole Charles, 7th
Cynthia Chilcote, 4th
Lori McCracken, 1st
Beverly McCray, 21st
Bridget Sadenwater, 31st



SEPTEMBER

Melissa Barnard, 28th
Cynthia Brooks, 9th
Susan Kleinhans, 1st
Chandra Morse, 8th
Jean Selby, 8th
Debbie Stephens, 9th
Paula Ulmer, 8th



Installation Ceremony for Officers and Board Members



2011-2012 Board Members (from left): Diane Moomey, 2d VP and Ways & Means Chair; Esther Seaver, Past President; Lynda Putt, Treasurer; Debbie Stephens, PR Chair; Cynthia Chilcote, President; Susan Putnam, Membership Chair; Linda Malekadeli, Secretary; Sue Moody, Co-chair Homewalk Committee; Kate Maxwell, Fellowship Chair; Nan Blasy, ARR Chair; Tammy Swinson, Attendance Chair; Jill VanBuskirk, Archives Chair. Not pictured: Cari Francis, 1st VP and Bylaws Chair and Finance/Fundraising Chair; Cathy Budd, Co-chair Homewalk Committee; Maureen Acker, Service Chair; Chandra Morse, United Nations Chair.

The Zonta Club of Midland's 2011-2012 board was installed at the June 7th business meeting. Carole Calvert-Baxter presided over the ceremony, which included lighting candles as the committee chairs and officers were sworn in.

Committee chairs received yellow candles. Yellow is associated with joy, happiness, intellect and energy. Active participation in the club, especially at board meetings is expected. Committee chairs serve as a "ray of light" for other members. This year's committee chairs are: Jill Van Buskirk, Archives; Nan Blasy, ARR; Tammy Swinson, Attendance; Kate Maxwell, Fellowship; Cathy Budd and Sue Moody, Homewalk; Susan Putnam, Membership; Debbie Stephens, PR; Maureen Acker, Service; Chandra Morse, UN/Intercity.

Linda Malekadeli received the Secretary's red candle which stands for energy, strength, power and determination. The Secretary serves as custodian of the club's current records.

The white candle was given to the Treasurer, Lynda Putt. It symbolizes light, goodness, purity; it's considered to be the color of perfection. The Treasurer manages the club's funds, pays dues, and presents periodic financial reports.

Cari Francis, 1st Vice-President, and Diane Moomey, 2d Vice-President. were presented with blue candles, which stand for trust, loyalty, wisdom, confidence and intelligence. As these positions are a progression to President, they may be called on to lead the club. In addition to the club leadership roles they've taken, each Vice President also serves as committee chairs. Cari will chair the Finance and Bylaws Committees. Diane will chair the Ways & Means Committee.

As President, Cynthia Chilcote received a purple candle. Purple combines the stability of blue and the energy of red and is associated with royalty. It also represents, power, dignity, independence, and wisdom. Cynthia will chair the Board of Directors meetings, preside at club business meetings, and guide the direction of our club this year.

Thank you to these leaders who pledged to devote their time to benefit the growth and stability of our club!

"VOICES" (continued from Page 1)

Dorothy Dow Arbury put in an appearance thanks to Jan McGuire (pictured at right). The youngest daughter of Herbert & Grace Dow, Dorothy grew up in The Pines. She was home-schooled in the elementary years and graduated from high school as the top woman in her class. She upset the family by attending MSU for a year, but redeemed herself by transferring to U of M. Dorothy was quite a prankster in her youth. She was known to direct friends to a "date board" at McCandless' store where they could learn about potential dates. Mr. McCandless was at his wits' end answering the "Where's the date board?" question because, of course, there was no such thing.

In addition to the living history provided by these three women, the evening included a fill-in-the-blank quiz based on the artifacts, display boards, records, meeting notes, pictures, and memorabilia that made up the VOICES gallery. As members and guests strolled through the rooms, they searched for the answers.



Mike McMath, Melissa Barnard,
and Scott Robertson

Empty Canvas was on hand for an hour and a half providing music and an original work of art. Mike McMath, the artist, and Scott Robertson, the guitarist, engaged the crowd and drafted passers-by to paint a stroke or two. The resulting artwork was a picture of The Pines fronted by tulips. Once the picture was done to Mike's satisfaction, it was auctioned off with the proceeds going to charity. Melissa Barnard was the tenacious bidder who walked away with the canvas (no longer empty).

While enjoying the exhibit, the live presentations, and the art and music, Zonta members and their guests could stop and partake of a wonderful buffet of elegant finger foods along with a decadent dessert table. Wine and other beverages were available throughout the evening. Kate Maxwell, Julie Ratcliffe and all the Fellowship Committee did a fantastic job organizing this event.

A special guest, Linda Nabers, Area 4 Director from Southfield, was introduced by President Cynthia Chilcote. Linda announced that the Zonta Club of Midland is leading Area 4 in new member inductions for 2010-2011. She also complimented our newsletter and expressed her appreciation for its coverage of our activities.



Linda Nabers and Cynthia Chilcote

Toward the end of the evening the winners of the VOICES quiz were announced. First prize, a \$40 gift certificate to the Midland Brew Pub, went to Maria Cohoon who supplied all the right answers. Linda Anthony took second prize, which was 4 day-passes to the Midland Community Center. A bottle of wine was third prize and went to Michele Atwell. In addition to the quiz, door prize winners were drawn from a bowl. A spa gift with Godiva chocolates was won by Linda Anthony and a bottle of wine by Chandra Morse.

Thank you to the Fellowship Committee for making the evening a tremendous success and a great way to start the 2011-2012 Zonta year. The VOICES exhibit extolling the accomplishments and contributions of Midland County women mirrors the Zonta mission of empowering women worldwide and reminded us of the impact we can make.

"VOICES" in Pictures



Scholarship Thank-Yous

The following thank you notes were received from two of our 2011 scholarship recipients. We are making a difference!

This is the inside of the note card received from Samantha Roberts. →

Dear Zonta Club of Midland,
 I would like to thank you for granting me as the 2011 Zonta Club Scholarship recipient. I am so grateful for your financial help. Thank you for all you do in the community. I enjoyed the scholarship dinner and getting to know you. Thank you so much!
 Samantha Roberts

July 7, 2011

Holly Snelenberger
3904 Salem Street
Midland MI 48642

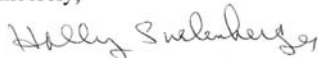
Midland Area Community Foundation
76 Ashman Circle
Midland MI 48640

Attention: The Zonta Club Members,

It is with deep appreciation that I thank you for giving me not only the faith, but the courage to continue on with my education by granting me a \$2,000 scholarship award for the 2011-2012 school year. I still wake up feeling like I am dreaming. Attending Michigan State is truly a dream of mine and at my age, I feel honored to have this second opportunity at such a fine education and to obtain my life-long goal in Social Work.

I also want to thank all the Zonta Club Members for putting on a beautiful awards ceremony and dinner. It was a very special evening and it was nice to have my mother there to share in my joy. I have just completed two of my elective courses at Michigan State and will be starting two more classes next week.

Sincerely,



Holly Snelenberger
MSU Student



The Zonta Club of Midland provides the stepping stones for young women in our area to achieve their goals and make an impact on the future.

Zonta Club of Midland
Business Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 7, 2011

Zonta President, Esther Seaver, called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm. The meeting began with the Zonta Blessing and introductions.

Officer Installation – Officers and Committee Chairs for 2010/2012 were installed.

Secretary's Report – Linda Malekadel: The minutes of the May 3, 2011 meeting were presented for approval. Motion to approve as presented by Sue Moody; supported by Maria Cohoon; approved.

Treasurer's Report – Chair, Lynda Putt: Diane Moomey presented copies of the Treasurer's Report; Motion to accept the report by Colette St Louis, supported by Becky Wieland; approved.

Standing Committee Reports

Assimilation/Retention/Rejuvenation (ARR) Committee – Chair, Nan Blasy: ZING Thursday, May 19 downtown was postponed due to schedule conflicts; will reschedule for summer. Becky Wieland reported that Midland Blooms planting went very well. Thanked to all who participated.

Archives Committee – Chair, Jill VanBuskirk: Investigating automation of the archives.

Attendance – Chair, Tammy Swinson: We had 61 active members in the beginning of the year, and the same at the end, although 11 members resigned, 11 new members joined out of 44 potentials.

By-Laws Committee – Chair, Cari Francis: No report.

Fellowship Committee – Chair, Kate Maxwell: June social will be on Tuesday, June 14th.

Finance/Fundraising Committee – Chair, Cari Francis: No report.

Homewalk Committee – Co-Chairs, Sue Moody and Cathy Budd: Still looking for homes and sponsors; especially a 2nd home in the Beaverton area. Debbie Stephens requested assistance in personal contact with potential sponsors.

Intercity/United Nations Committee – Chair, Chandra Morse: No report.

Organization Membership/Classification - Chair, Susan Putnam: One new member, Cinthia Brooks will be inducted at a later date. Encouraged members to help reach our goal of 80 new members (prior to Homewalk would be great!)

Public Relations & Communications Committee – Chair, Debbie Stephens: Photos were taken today. Tammy Swinson reported that some additional website functions were updated.

Status of Women in Service/Legislation/Advocacy – Chair, Maureen Acker: Committee has distributed all its funds and adjourned for the summer.

Ways and Means – Chair, Dianne Moomey: No report

Parliamentarian – Kate Maxwell: No report.

Past President – Esther Seaver: No report.

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Unfinished Business

New Business

Resignations: Kendra Sysak, Karen McHenry, Gwen Northrup, Sherry Kalina, Mary Margaret Collins, Patricia Tiernan, Jan McGuire, Angie Karwan, Leslie Pierfelice, and Joy Russell in good standing.

Announcements

Mary Hart – UPS Store downtown is having a Grand Opening June 23, 1-5 pm

Sue Moody – Reported that Rotary has been working with a group from Afghanistan, including a woman who is working to advance the status of women there.

Diane Moomey – Is expecting a granddaughter in August!

Lisa Orlando – Reported the previous Zontian, Charlotte Allen has passed away; Memorial service at Dow Gardens on Sunday. Requested volunteers for Loons game parking in August.

The 50/50 Raffle: \$28.00 was won by Ann Beck

Dates to Remember

June 7th - Business Meeting 11:30 am at Country Club

June 14th – Social at Historical Society

Meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Malekadel, Secretary