

# ZCOM News

District 15, Area 4

May 2012

## Scholarship Dinner: Tears and Triumphs



Our scholarship recipients (L to R): Chantel Heilman, Trisha Kayden, Heidi Krenske, Carol Webb, Holly Snelenberger. Scholarship recipients not pictured: Maria Millett, Sabrina Onstott, Katie Murphy, and Kari Jordan.

The May 22d Homewalk Scholarship Awards dinner was festive, validating, and emotional. The room was set up so members and guests were all forward-facing. Everyone had a great view of our scholarship recipients as they were presented.

Thanks to the hard work the Zonta Club of Midland put into the Homewalk in 2011, we were able to award 9 scholarships in 2012. Each recipient told her story and validated our

purpose and solidified our resolve to continue to provide these opportunities. Some of the stories brought the audience to tears; all of the stories highlighted women of strength, determination, and an extraordinary will to succeed. Here are their stories:

Heidi Krenske is a licensed massage therapist. Her scholarship will help her become a physical therapy assistant. She is a single mother of five children and the scholarship provides much-needed financial support to help her achieve her goal.

Holly Snelenberger, a two-time scholarship recipient and this year's Dow Chemical scholarship awardee, is a divorced mother of four. It's taken 10 years, but she is in her last year at MSU working toward her Masters of Social Work degree. Holly said the support of her children saw her through the really challenging times.

Trisha Kayden is a single mother of two children, one of whom has autism. She had a career, a growing family, and thought her path was set. Then her older child was diagnosed with autism. Trisha took 10 years off to care for her child and advocate for support for autistic children and their families. She ended up on public assistance after her divorce, but all that's behind her now that she's been hired full-time and has healthcare benefits again.

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### Homewalk Champion Sponsors

Thank you to Dow Chemical and Dow Corning, Homewalk 2011 Champion Sponsors. Holly Snelenberger received the Dow Chemical sponsored scholarship and Chantel Heilman received the Dow Corning award.



Cathy Budd, representing Dow Chemical, and Holly Snelenberger



Chantel Heilman with Judy Burt, representing Dow Corning



## President's Message from Cynthia Chilcote

Well, we've come full circle together with another year of service to Zonta.

My very first column as president was about *connections* in which I rambled on about the future of our club depending on our ability to communicate our mission. I challenged the club to develop our connections in these ways:

- 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

I would like to exercise my presidential prerogative now and add just two more:

- Proudly promote our mission and membership by wearing our pins to events outside of Zonta
- Make a personal contribution to the Zonta International Foundation to show your deep commitment to the ideals

We have made great progress on these goals, and I would like to thank each of you for your contributions of time, money, and talent toward helping us achieve our mission. As I write this the day after the scholarship dinner, I know that we have made a difference in women's lives – we have helped to advance the status of women.

It was a banner year for Zonta with a wildly successful Homewalk, nine scholarships, hosting Intercity Dinner, hosting spring workshops...and much, much more!

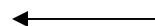
Thank you all for a great year of valuable service to this community and to women everywhere.



## Spring 2012 Workshops



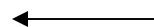
District Governor, Denise Quarles with Maureen Acker



L-R: Linda Malekadel, Megan Granda, Maureen Acker, Cynthia Chilcote, Sandy Weimer, Lynda Putt, Esther Seaver.



Cynthia Chilcote with Governor Quarles



The Zonta Club of Midland hosted the Spring Workshop on Saturday, April 28. Midland stepped in to serve as host club due to scheduling issues. Ten clubs were represented and 21 people attended. It was a good session.

Each year the workshop is held at a different location so attendees from Midland may have to travel further for subsequent meetings

## ZCOM's 65th Birthday Bash!

The following excerpts related to our Zonta scholarships are from an article written by Melissa Barnard which will be submitted to the Midland Daily News after our celebration on June 5th.

### ZONTA CLUB OF MIDLAND IS 65 AND COUNTING

On June 5, 1947 at the Midland Country Club, the Zonta Club of Midland was chartered by Zonta International. The nineteen charter members were led by Mrs. Dolores Cassidy, first president of the Zonta Club of Midland and co-owner of the Frolic Theatre.

Fundraising efforts support international and local initiatives. The Zonta Club scholarship fund was started in 1951. Early fundraising activities featured the "Aura of Spring" fashion shows in the 1960's, roast beef dinners complete with homemade desserts also in the 60's, and the children's film series in the 1970's.

The popular Homewalk fundraiser has been held for 31 years. It continues to be one of the most anticipated events of the year. Since the Homewalk began, over \$200,000 has been raised to fund educational scholarships for women. This year nine post-secondary scholarships of \$2,000 have been awarded to qualified applicants.

It is a very Happy 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as the Zonta Club of Midland celebrates their past accomplishments and looks forward to continue serving and advancing women locally and globally.



## A Scholarship Message from Cari Francis



Recently I stopped at Wendy's to have a quick lunch and happened to be wearing the sparkly Zonta pin I bought at Fall Conference a couple years ago. I noticed the woman sitting at the table facing me kept looking at me so I smiled at her. Then she said she noticed my Zonta pin and wondered if I was with the Midland Club. It turns out her daughter was one of the 2011 scholarship winners, Elayne Smith. I told her I had worked with her daughter at the Beaverton house for the Homewalk. She is a bright, energetic, driven young woman.

Elayne's mom shared with me how much the scholarship has meant to her daughter. She is a single mom with two daughters. Elayne's sister is in junior high and her mom shared that Elayne is her younger sister's role model. Elayne frequently tells her younger sister that she needs to work hard in school so she can go to college also.

This conversation struck me in two ways. First, we should be proud to let others know we are Zontians. Second, when we give a scholarship we are often affecting the lives of more than the recipient. Our membership just voted to fund nine scholarships at \$2000 each. That means we are directly affecting nine women's lives but it could be so many more!



Welcome the Zonta New Year in your PJs!

Fun!

Zonta Club of Midland  
June Social 2012



Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Midland Curling Club (Adjacent to Midland Community Center)

5:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Slumber Party!

Games

Remember when you were young and got together with your girlfriends!



Movies and Music



SCARY STORIES

Surprises!



Drinks



Food



No charge for members; \$25 for guests (female only for this event)

RSVP by June 11th

From the Fellowship Committee:

In addition to fun and games, manicures and paraffin hand waxing will be available at the June Social. Lisa Miner and three other technicians will be available for mini-manicures and paraffin hand waxing from 5:30 until 8:30. Information and instructions for signing up will be sent out in early June to members attending this event. If you know you will be attending and would like to partake in one of the treatments, please let Kate Maxwell at [klmaxwell@dow.com](mailto:klmaxwell@dow.com) know which treatment and a preferred time. We will try to accommodate your choice but cannot guarantee a specific time.

## Member Highlight: Tammy Swinson



Tammy began her career at Chemical Bank 26 years ago in 1986. She spent the last 23 years in consumer lending and is now the Service Center Manager. She manages several loan underwriters, but not for too much longer. She plans to retire from the bank after 30 years of service.

While working her way up the ladder at Chemical Bank, she also raised a family. She and her husband, Bob, will be celebrating their 17th anniversary this summer. Tammy has one daughter, Emily 14, and two stepsons, Jason and Ben, who are married and have blessed her with two wonderful granddaughters.

An avid snowmobiler (when there is snow!), Tammy took up the sport when her daughter was just 18 months old and they've been loving it ever since. Their favorite place to ride is "up in God's country" in the Upper Peninsula where the family owns a small cabin in Raco.

Tammy says she has a "love/hate relationship" with golf. She spends many hours with family and friends trying to "hit that little white ball." This May she joined a ladies golf league for the first time to build that relationship.

Tammy gives back to the community through her active involvement with Midland County Relay for Life. She's been on the steering committee as finance chair for over 20 years. Though the event is lots of work, it's become her passion and she said it "brings out the best in me." She actively promotes the fundraising for this event with all her fellow Chemical Bank employees.

As a Zontian, Tammy enjoys spending time with other women in business. She most likes to hear how individuals achieved their current success.



Bob, Tammy, and Emily at a golf outing.

## Thank you to our Homewalk Homeowners!



(L-R) Mike and Carol Brown, Christina Curato, Karen and Dr. Keith Beamer.

Special guests at our Scholarship Dinner on May 22d were some of the homeowners from Homewalk 2011. Thanks to their generosity in opening up their homes to about 1,000 people on a weekend in December, we had a fantastic fundraising event.

Mike and Carol Brown's home, the log lodge in Beaverton, had unique, nature-related decorations in an elegantly rustic setting. Local lumber was used to construct the home and Amish furniture and cabinetry enhance the natural feel.

Christina Curato owns the home that had the most visitors: the 1929 "kit home" that people were anxious to see. Christina highlighted the historical significance of the home with fascinating details for visitors to review.

The West Park home of Keith and Karen Beamer was the historic home on the walk in 2011. Built in 1926, it was lovingly renovated while retaining its early charm. One of the bedrooms was decorated a la The Grand Hotel guest rooms.

# Parking for Profit



**It's Loons' Baseball Time!** And an opportunity for us to raise funds for Zonta. Last year this effort generated over \$1500 for the club.



Maureen Acker, chair of the Service Committee, reports that we have once again been offered the opportunity to park cars at Loons' games to raise money for Zonta. The McKay Press parking lot, which is used by area non-profits for fundraising, will remain available for that purpose until the building is sold.



Last year we had volunteers to coordinate particular days. Coordinators are responsible for finding volunteers, managing the parking for the designated day, and depositing the funds into the Zonta bank account. The day of the event, volunteers will need to be available for around 2 hours: 1-1/2 hours before a game and 1/2 hour after the start of a game.



Maureen distributed an email requesting sign-up for coordinators so we could get the dates we wanted. Last year we coordinated 7 games and will keep that target for this year. The following dates have been selected and coordinators have been assigned:



**Thank you to These Volunteer Coordinators!!!**



April 13 7:05—Beverly McCray

June 17 2:05—Linda Malekadeli



April 27th 7:05—Linda Malekadeli

August 11 7:05—Linda Malekadeli



May 23 7:05—Esther Seaver

August 26 2:05—Esther Seaver



June 12 7:05—Cindy Vickery

Please consider spending a couple of hours as a team volunteer to support our coordinators. It's for a great cause!



# Tears and Triumphs (continued from page 1)

Trisha said you may be taking some hard knocks, but you have to listen for opportunity knocking, too. "Persistence pays off!"

Chantel Heilman, winner of the Dow Corning sponsored scholarship, is also a two-time recipient. She empathized with Trisha because Chantel's a speech pathologist and behavioral therapist working with autistic children. The scholarship will help her help children. It also gave her breathing room and allowed her to spend quality time with her mother suffering from ovarian cancer. Chantel's emotional display of affection for her mother, her biggest cheerleader, affected everyone in the audience. Of the scholarship she said, "It changed my life."

Carol Webb is an accounting major at Northwood and is a single mother who wants to set a good example for her daughter and son. She thanked Judge Doreen Allen for the insistent "encouragement" she gave to Carol to return to school. Carol said her daughter, Brianna, is her inspiration and they both "go for the A." Brianna is a gymnast and just medaled in 3 out of 4 events at a recent meet. Carol is the first person in her family to have a degree. She said it's important to show children that anything is attainable if you're willing to work for it.

Congratulations to all our scholarship recipients and much continued success!

**Zonta Club of Midland**  
**Business Meeting Minutes - Proposed**  
**May 1, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Zonta Board President, Cynthia Chilcote. The meeting began with the Zonta Blessing and introductions.

**Corresponding Secretary's Report** - The minutes of the last meeting are available in the newsletter. Motion to approve by Sharon Mortenson; supported by Deb Sebring; approved.

**Treasurer's Report** - Lynda Putt. Budget summaries are on the table. Revenue increased due to missed lunches and dinner, 50/50 raffle and auction which made \$6028.50.

People will be reimbursed for the Spring Workshop.

Motion to approve by Sharon Miller; supported by Linda Malakadeli; approved.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Assimilation/Retention/Rejuvenation (ARR)** - Nan Blasy announced: 1. Sign up sheets for Midland Blooms are on the table or contact Nan before May 19. Ten to twelve people are needed. Planting is on May 19 from 8:30-9:30.

2. There will be a Zing at the Dow Diamond in the Northwood Suite on May 29. Let Nan Blasy or Lisa Hulbert know if we want to attend. They are taking reservations from Zontians only through May 15. After that, members may bring a guest if space is available.

**Archives** - Becky Wieland. Sharon Mortenson and Melissa Barnard were Stars in the Midland Daily News in April.

Remember that the June 5 luncheon meeting is also our 65th anniversary party. There will be a surprise memento for everyone who attends. Also, new officers will be installed at this meeting.

**Attendance** - Tammy Swinson. Tammy gave a reminder to everybody to let her know about special dietary needs and restrictions in advance of the meals so that everyone who has special dietary needs will receive their special meal.

**Bylaws** - Cari Francis. No report.

**Fellowship/Awards** - Kate Maxwell. Kate mentioned that the June Social meeting will be on June 19 this year. A planning meeting will be at the Midland Curling Center at 5:45 pm tonight. The cost is an extra \$25 for guests at the June Social. Please RSVP if you are not attending - regrets only. You are welcome to wear pajamas or bring your favorite items to this PJ party.

**Finance** - Cari Francis. No Report.

**Homewalk** - Sue Moody and Ann Beck. Four homes have been confirmed for the Homewalk. Two tours have been set up for next week.

Sponsorship is busy. There are flyers on the tables. Please sign up if you can work on sponsorship. Tell people to save the date - we really need to sell Homewalk tickets since there will be no raffle this year.

**United Nations/Intercity** - Chandra Morse. Carole Calvert-Baxter gave the following report on Chandra's behalf. We are accepting applications for the 2012 Women in Business Scholarship. One of the qualifications is that the applicant is pursuing an undergraduate degree in business. We have one application so far. The deadline to apply is May 25. Further information is on the website.

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

**Public Relations/Newsletter** - Debbie Stephens. Photographs are being taken for the Yellow Book today. The photographer will be back to take more photographs at the May dinner meeting. He will also be taking a 65th anniversary group photo at the anniversary party. Please arrive by 5:30 because the picture will be taken by 5:45. Also, a tip from the photographer is to wear solid colors.

There is a new historical photo album on the website: [ZontaClubofMidland.org](http://ZontaClubofMidland.org)

More Zontians are posting on our Facebook page. Feel free to post and keep the conversation going. Megan Piwowar's guide to Facebook is now on our website.

**Status of Women Service/Advocacy** - Maureen Acker. No report. Cynthia Chilcote mentioned that they are in the process of approving the scholarship applications for the Midland Area Community Foundation Scholarship.

**Ways & Means** - Diane Moomey. Diane reported that the auction made \$6028.50.

**Parliamentarian** - Kate Maxwell. No report.

**Nominating/Immediate Past President** - Esther Seaver. No report.



**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Sharon Mortenson asked for a show of hands if we want to partner with Kiwassee Kiwanis for the 2013 dinner dance. Those that went had an enjoyable time at the dance. The board will discuss this at the next board meeting. This year the Zonta participation in the dinner dance was run as a Zing or a social opportunity. There was a small show of hands when asked who would be interested.

The Spring Workshop was held on Saturday, April 28, 2012. Ten clubs were represented and 21 people attended. It was a good session. Photos from the workshop will be passed on to the Public Relations committee. Midland hosted this event at the last minute due to scheduling issues. Each year the workshop is held at a different location so attendees from Midland may have to travel further for subsequent meetings.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Cynthia Chilcote announced that there are committee sign up sheets on the tables and that it is a requirement of Zonta membership to serve on a committee every year. Diane Moomey will send out a list of those who have already signed up.

Cynthia Chilcote announced the resignation of Nicky Charles. Her reason was that she is spending one week out of each month traveling for work.

Diane Curtis sent a message thanking us for our generous contribution to Zonta International.

No 50/50 raffle today.

Members were asked to fill out index cards with reasons to be a Zontian. We need 65 reasons to be a Zontian for the 65 Anniversary Party.

**DOLLAR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

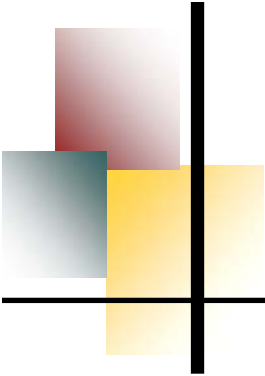
Nan Blasy - today Jackie Sorenson is being honored at Presidents Council for Lifetime Achievement Award for women throughout the country. There was a press release that may be in the MDN today

Lisa Orlando has a new job at PNC for deposits and treasury for commercial loans.

Alisha Toysan is now working at marketing at AGP and Associates.

Cynthia Chilcote mentioned that local clubs will be evaluated as to whether or not we wear our Zonta pins to events other than Zonta.

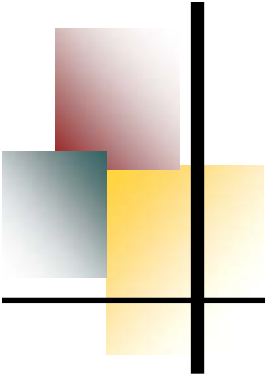
The meeting closed at 12:43 pm.



# JUNE 2012







*Celebrating 65 Years!*

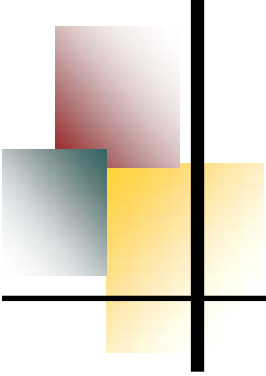
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 11:30 am Business Meeting, @ MCC, Officers Installed <i>65th Anniversary 1945-2012</i>	6 Lydia Watson-Pinney 	7	8 Maureen Acker 	9
10	11	12 Linda Cassidy 	13	14	15 Jana Chotivkova 	16 Esther Seaver 
17	18	19 5:30—9 pm June Social - "Sleepover" @ Midland Curling Club	20 Rhonda Anderson 	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Deb Miller 	28	29	30



# JULY 2011

**Birthdays Only — No Meetings This Month**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 	5	6	7
8	9 Michele Atwell 	10	11 Deborah Witt 	12	13 Melissa Anderson 	14
15 Susan Putnam 	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Sandy Weimer 	27	28
29	30	31				



# AUGUST 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Lori McCracken 	2	3	4 Cynthia Chilcote 
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Carole Calvert-Baxter 	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Beverly McCray 	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Bridget Sadenwater 	