

# ZCoM News

1947 65<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY 2012

District 15 Area

MARCH 2013

## Remembering the Holocaust (by Jenny Kendrick)



The March dinner meeting was the scene of a spell-binding presentation by Anneke Burke-Kooistra. A soft-spoken, humble, deeply emotional speaker, Anneke had us all enthralled as she recounted growing up in Utrecht, Netherlands during the Nazi occupation. Before beginning her story, she asked that we send positive thoughts and prayers her way as she often feels stage fright and wants to run out the door.

Anneke began by providing background information about her family. Her mother had six siblings and her father had three. Both had a Protestant upbringing. Her father was rebellious as a child and was often told that he would end up in a juvenile home. Little did anyone know that many years later he would be honored by the Queen of Holland for his selfless acts during the war.

In 1940, the German occupation of Holland began. At first, no one had issue with this because small improvements were made to their town, including the elimination of income taxes.

By 1941, the Jewish population was restricted from public facilities and Jewish people were required to wear the Star of David. Many Jewish people, and the Dutch people who helped them, were "put on a train to Germany." At the time, Anneke did not know what that actually entailed, but she knew that these people never returned.



In 1942 and for the next three years, Anneke's parents hid eight Jewish people in their home. At that time, her mother, Helgebas, was 27 and pregnant with their fourth child. Anneke's father was 35. Anneke was the middle child of three girls when the occupation began. She was four-years-old, and her sisters were seven and two. They lived in a townhouse located along a plaza. Because of the location of the home, there were no direct neighbors who could see people entering their home and not exiting.

Anneke took us on a tour of her home. There was no shower and the only running water was in the kitchen. The dining room on the main floor had a door leading to where the Jewish families lived during this time. A removable staircase led to four small bedrooms in the attic. Anneke and her sisters were locked upstairs when the families ate dinner.



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# President's Message



Spring is here! Whether or not the weather cooperates, the Spring Workshop is scheduled. You should have received a brochure in the mail recently listing the spring workshop schedule for District 15. Our club is in Area 4 and the workshop scheduled for our club is Sunday, May 5 in Grand Blanc. (See more details on Page 6) The theme is Mission Possible! You will become a Zonta Investigator and will uncover the mysteries of: What is Zonta?; Who is a Member?; and Where is the Money? You will also learn about Zonta International and club projects.

The spring workshop is a great opportunity to learn about Zonta and network with fellow Zontians. The cost is only \$30 and is reimbursable by the club to all members who attend. I urge you to attend. Sandy Weimer and Cynthia Chilcote will be driving so let's fill up their vehicles!

I want to congratulate the club for their outstanding effort this year in recruiting new members! We are only two new members short of our goal. Let's keep up the good work and see if we can meet our goal in the next two months!

## Upcoming Special Events



Stay tuned for details about a wine-tasting ZING in April hosted by Patty Tuma and her husband.



Batter up! Once again Zonta has the Northwood Suite (thank you, Rhonda Anderson) for a Loons' game. Mark your calendars for the 6/3 event and be prepared to have a great time!



The June Social is scheduled for June 25th at Whiting Forest. Additional details to follow as the event draws nearer.



## Join the Clipper Club

*The Archives Committee asks every member to be alert for articles and pictures about the Zonta Club of Midland in newspapers, magazines, and on the internet. Clip them out and turn over to the committee to update and maintain our Zonta history library.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
★ 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. ★  
\*\*\*\*\*

## Holocaust Story (continued from Page 1)

Their first "guest" was Mr. Palm, who was in his mid 60s and widowed. In his previous life, he polished diamonds. Six months later, they took in a mother, father, and their 22-year-old daughter. Six months after that, they took in a mother and her six-year-old daughter. When Anneke's father realized that some of these "guests" had family hiding in other homes, he brought them to his home so they could be together.

Anneke's father worked for the Dutch Underground. When he had to meet Jewish people at the railroad station, a code was exchanged. The Jewish person was to ask of those around them, "Has Mr. Brown arrived already?", to which Anneke's father would reply, "Yes." They had few belongings with them. The most dangerous time for the families began with the walk from the railroad station to Anneke's home. The Jewish people didn't look like the Dutch, so they could easily be spotted and sent to Germany. The room the Jewish people stayed in was always locked. Anneke and her sisters were forbidden to go in, being told that it was a workroom and very dirty. They took their parents at their word and never tried to enter the forbidden room. They had no idea their parents were harboring these Jewish families.

Food was very scarce for all the people of Holland, and many were left weak and dying on the streets. Bread was limited to a very small loaf once a week. The underground provided money for food. Because of the severe food restrictions, Anneke's father would ride his bike to different stores to buy their supply. Anneke's mother grew up on a farm and was able to ride the bike to different farm families who helped her out with vegetables, milk and freshly baked bread.

The Jewish families shared one small bed - two people at a time for two hours. The others would sleep on two chairs pulled together until their turn came.

Germans came to their house on three separate occasions to look for Jews. There was a "good Nazi" who lived five doors down who would warn Dutch neighbors, who would then warn their neighbors, until everyone knew the Nazis were coming. Because of this, Anneke's family always had time to get the Jewish people into a crawl space that had been dug out under the stairwell floorboards. In order to create this space, Anneke's father would take sand out of the house and dump it in the canal. The height of the room was approximately waist high, and there was just enough room for all of the families to squeeze in starting from youngest to oldest, with the oldest being closest to the door.

The last time the Nazis came, Anneke's father hid too because they were looking for able-bodied Dutch men to work for them. Three soldiers came this time. One soldier stayed at the front door and one soldier stayed by the back door. The third soldier walked back and forth in the hallway banging the butt of his rifle on the floor to listen for a hollow sound. As Anneke demonstrated the way in which the soldier walked and banged his rifle on the floor, her audience was so quiet that you could hear a pin drop. It was very moving. Anneke's mother used the girls to distract the soldiers. She had one daughter play an instrument while Anneke was sent out to speak with one of the soldiers to inquire if he might have a daughter himself. Anneke said he was very kind to her.

Anneke's parents believed that they were not caught during this visit because they hid many things underground to keep the Nazis from confiscating them. They provided safe-keeping for neighbors' valuables as well. Gold, guns, ammunition, and falsified documents in case they needed to leave quickly were some of the hidden items.

Anneke believes that this and many other miracles happened in their house during this time. Many Dutch families placed posters of Holland over their windows to prove that their families belonged to the church and were not Jewish. The Nazis were furious and broke every window that held one of these posters...except one. Anneke's mother was asked to remove the poster. The poster covered the window in the room that the Jews were hiding in.





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## Holocaust Story (conclusion)

Anneke spoke of another miracle in which one of the Jewish gentlemen was deathly ill. They called in a physician knowing full well that he might turn them in. The physician asked what they would do with the body if the gentleman died. Anneke's mother replied that it was not for him to worry about. The doctor replied, "When I step over your threshold, I will not remember what I saw in this house." The gentleman lived and they were not turned in.

On May 5, 1944, at 10:00 am, Anneke's mother unlocked their bedroom door, and she finally "met" the Jewish people who had been living so near her. Her father had a photograph taken to show these families and their surviving family members.

Thirty years later, Anneke's family was honored by the Queen of Holland and a tree was planted in their name in Jerusalem. A plaque has been attached to #61 in Utrecht, Netherlands, commemorating her parents' efforts during the war.

Then, Anneke shared one last miracle with her audience. Although her mother was pregnant, had very little to eat, and was told she needed bed rest for the majority of her pregnancy, she gave birth to a healthy 8-pound baby boy. Anneke noted that she and her sisters all weighed between 4 and 5 pounds at birth.

Anneke's parting words were: "If you have love in your heart for yourself, there is no room for hate."

During a question and answer session, Anneke said that her father would take her on train trips with him as a cover for his work with the Resistance. This happened about 20 times. She said that once she knew this, she was upset that he had risked her life like that.

Although Anneke's father was a baker before the war, he and others were compensated by the Resistance for their activities during this time. Her father was truly a remarkable human being. After the Nazi's surrendered, he learned that Nazi prisoners were not being properly fed and he brought them food.



Utrecht, Netherlands today

Anneke claims that her parents were not heroes. They were just ordinary people making impossible decisions.

## AAUW Used Book Sale



Find great bargains at AAUW's Used Book Sale April 19-21 at the Midland Mall. It runs from 9-9 Friday and Saturday, and 10-4 on Sunday. Most books are priced from \$1 to \$2. Children's books start at 25 cents. Recent publications are \$2-5. Sunday is Bag Day with price reductions. For more information, call 835-1672.

Proceeds support college scholarships and educational projects. Find information about Midland Branch online, [midland-mi.aauw.net](http://midland-mi.aauw.net). On Facebook in Search, type AAUW Midland.

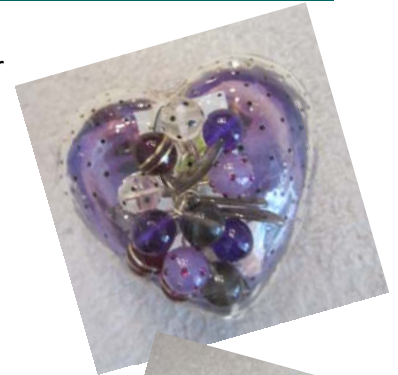
Please consider donating books. Collection barrels are at Kroger, Family Fare, Save a Lot, Sanford Food Center and the Midland Mall entrances at the food court and Ruby Tuesday. If you have a large quantity, please call Pauline at 835-1672.

## Paddles Up! Auction Is On the Way



With only 2 weeks left before the 2013 auction, the Ways and Means Committee has been collecting, sorting, and recording a lot of goodies for the April 16th event. Recent acquisitions include;

- ◆ Estate planning certificate from Wendy Kanar
- ◆ Gift certificates from Whine
- ◆ Jewelry, jewelry box, and candlesticks from Northwood Gallery (valued at \$534)
- ◆ Tickets to "Rounding Third" at the Midland Center for the Arts
  - ◆ One night in a luxury suite with 2 massages at Riverwalk
  - ◆ The Northwood suite at Dow Diamond as well as Northwood University sports passes

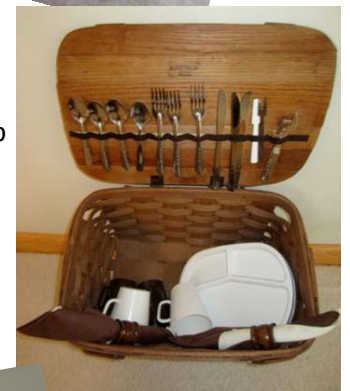


The above items are in addition to the many donations we've already reported and photographed. According to Sandy Weimer, the number and quality of the items we've acquired so far exceed previous years' donations.

There's only one more meeting before the 16th. It's your last chance to donate that not-quite-right accessory, a book you've already read, a couple bottles of wine, or a basket or tray to be used as part of the presentation. Sandy's car will be waiting for you to load it up.

On Monday, April 15, at the Chamber of Commerce starting about 3 pm, we will be creating the gift baskets and logging the items up for bid. We're looking for as many volunteers as we can get to help organize, coordinate, and wrap the baskets. If you'd like a sneak peek at what's in each basket, c'mon down and lend a hand. Food and beverages will be available.

Auction collection samples surround this article. Have you added your cool collectible to the mix?





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## Birthing Kits Adopted as a New ZCoM Program

Cari Francis, Chair of the Intercity/United Nations Committee, presented a proposal from the committee at the March business meeting. The committee researched and recommended that the Zonta Club of Midland participate in the Birthing Kit Project supported by Zonta International and our District.

Cari reported that 86% of the world's births each year occur in developing countries which may or may not have proper facilities, birth attendants, and a clean birth environment. Half a million women die annually due to complications from childbirth.

Using the distribution channels developed by the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), Zonta International and District 15 encourage clubs to prepare birthing kits which will be delivered to countries like Afghanistan, Haiti, and Pakistan. UMCOR is a non-profit organization dedicated to alleviating human suffering around the globe.

Birthing kits save lives and reduce suffering by providing items for a clean birth. There are 7 "cleans" necessary for a clean birth: clean birth site, clean hands, clean umbilical ties, clean cut, clean eyes, clean umbilical cord, and clean perineum. The Zonta birthing kit addresses the entire list and all the necessary items are contained in a gallon-sized resealable plastic bag. In the kit are: a square plastic sheet for the mother to lie on, 1 small bar of soap, 1 pair of sterile latex gloves, 2 receiving blankets, 1 single-edge razor blade, 3 12" pieces of cotton string, and the gallon bag.



Cari explained that each kit costs about \$8 and the committee is recommending we assemble 40 kits for a start-up cost of \$320. The project would be funded by members' donations of supplies and/or money to purchase supplies. Hotel soaps are the perfect size for the kits and are free. Many supplies will be left for future kit assembly. Once the kits are assembled, they'll be sent to District 15 where they'll be sent along to UMCOR for distribution.

Because we'd be working with another non-profit on the project, membership approval is required before proceeding. Through the presentation, the committee brought the motion to the membership, where it was seconded and approved. A basket was passed and \$221 was collected to purchase supplies.

**NOTE:** The Intercity/United Nations Committee will sponsor a ZING to assemble the kits. Details to follow at a later date.

### New Members' News

- \* We are only 3 members away from the goal set by the Membership Committee to increase our numbers this year. We have 12 new members so far.
- \* At the business meeting on 4/2, two new members will be inducted: Kathy Allen and Megan Farrell
- \* On May 14th, Sandy Weimer will host new members' orientation at her home. Committee Chairs are asked to attend and explain the activities and purpose of their respective committees.

## Scrapbooks Galore and More ZING

Carol Arnosky hosted a group of Zontians at her store on March 21st where she taught us how to make a festive Easter card, a butterfly card, and a unique tube greeting. Megan Granda, her friend, Leah Anderson, Lisa Hulbert, Sandy Weimer, and Colette St. Louis glued, threaded, stamped, and taped their way through three projects that turned out beautifully.



Carol had prepared each station with all the necessary supplies. The forms had been pre-cut to make it easier for novices to make something presentable.

Carol told us about the history of her shop and the constantly changing trends in the scrapbooking business. Classes, crops, and Cricut use are just a few of the activities offered. On the last Saturday every month there's a 12-hour crop session with potluck meals and discounts on purchases made during the crop.

After completing our projects, Carol showed us other paper craft creations, which prompted ideas and future projects for each of us. Scrapbooking is just one facet of Carol's business and we learned about the "More" she has available.



Proud creators of paper art: Colette, Carol, Lisa, Megan, and Sandy.



Megan helping Sandy make an egg-ceptional 3-D egg.



## Homewalk 2013 Survey Results

The Homewalk Committee sent out a survey to learn how membership felt about offering different time frames for Homewalk. Here are the results:

- Friday during the day is not an option
- Friday evening looks promising (maybe as a VIP event)
- Changing to one full-day event was evenly split with Saturday as the chosen day

The committee continues to work to make our scholarship fundraiser the best it can be. No immediate changes will be made; the survey just helps the committee focus on what's important to membership.

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## Call To Spring Workshop: 2013 Mission Possible!

Area 1 - Saturday, April 27, 2013

Host Club: Charlevoix

Charlevoix United Methodist Church  
104 State St.

Charlevoix, MI. 49720 Registrar: [Joan Buday](#)

Area 2 - Sunday, April 28, 2013

Host Club: Ludington

West Shore Community College  
3000 North Stiles Rd.

Scottville, MI. 49454 Registrar: [Tasha Holley](#)

Area 3 - Saturday, May 4, 2013

Host Club: Metro Detroit

William Costick Activities Center  
28600 Eleven Mile Rd.

Farmington Hills, MI. 48336 Registrar: [D'Anna Savage](#)

Area 4 - Sunday, May 5, 2013

Host Club: Pontiac-North Oakland

Warwick Hills Golf & Country Club  
G-9057 South Saginaw

Grand Blanc, MI. 48439 Registrar: [Bonnie McArthur](#)

Become a Zonta Investigator (Zi). Choose to accept your mission today!

- Discover Your Path to a Successful Mission
- Solve the Zonta Puzzle - What is Zonta?
- Become a Super Sleuth - Who is a Member?
- Go on a Treasure Hunt - Where is the Money?
- Discover the World of Zonta
- Your Role as a Zonta Investigator

8:30 Registration Cost \$30 (payable to the host club of the area workshop you plan to attend). Look for your Spring Workshop Registration Form in your mailbox soon.

Top five reasons to attend a Spring Workshop:

- Examine how all things Zonta are possible.
- Discover fellowship and explore with other Zontians
- Detect your hidden Zonta Investigator skills
- Investigate your Club's mysteries.

Learn everything you need to know to implement an award-winning, mission-driven project for your club.



### *New Meal Rates*

*Just a reminder that with our new "chef's choice" menu, our meal rates are now \$15 for lunch and \$17 for dinner.*



**Zonta Club of Midland****Business Meeting Minutes - Proposed**

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m. by Zonta President, Diane Moomey. The meeting began with the Zonta blessing and introductions.

**Secretary's Report. Cynthia Chilcote for Rhonda Anderson.** Approved February meeting minutes. Moved by Patty Aspin, supported by Ann Beck; approved.

**Treasurer's Report. Diane Moomey for Lynda Putt.** Approved Treasurer's report. Moved by Maria Cohoon, supported by Jenny Kendrick; approved.

**Birthing Kit Presentation** – The Intercity Committee has been pursuing a birthing kit project from District/ZI. Half a million women die annually from complications from childbirth in countries where a clean delivery environment is not available. This project provides a "clean kit" for deliveries and is a project coordinated by the Zonta districts.

ZI work with UMCOR, United Methodist Committee On Relief, to use their established distribution network for getting the kits to the women who need them. They work in 80 countries around world where women are unable to get help.

Each kit contains the 7 clean items necessary for a safe birth in a gallon-sized bag. Kits cost \$8/kit for supplies. Our club would like to assemble 40 kits for a total cost of \$320. Each will contain a piece of plastic, soap, gloves, blade, string, 2 receiving blankets and the gallon bag and \$1 shipping per kit. District 15 ships the kits to UMCOR. This project would be funded by donations and the committee may consider other options for future projects.

Zonta requires membership approval for a local club to work with another non-profit., Motion by the committee to work with UMCOR for this project, support Linda Malekadel; approved. The committee passed the basket for donations and collected \$221.

**ARR. Lisa Hulbert.** Thanks to Lori McCracken for organizing our ZING at Menu Manager. Megan Granda mentioned the next ZING at March 21 at Scrapbooks Galore & More, 6:00-8:00. Another ZING is planned for June 3 for which we will have the NU suite for a Loons game; 30 people can attend.

**Archives. Esther Seaver.** Esther provided samples of things we would like to collect for archiving, such as fellow Zontians' stories and news, etc. Check it out and contribute.

**Attendance. Harriet Stopyak.** No report

**Bylaws. Cathy Budd.** No report.

**Fellowship/Awards. Lisa Miner.** The June social will be June 25 at City Forest. For the March dinner, bring children's book or coloring books and/or crayons as a donation.

**Finance/Fundraising. Diane Moomey for Cathy Budd.** The budget was presented at the last meeting. Clarifications were made regarding the term "balanced budget". In past years, a conscious decision had been made by the board to spend down the convention fund and use it to balance other funds. As that fund is now becoming depleted, the focus for the upcoming year will shift to spending within the limits of each fund and avoiding transfers between funds at end of year.

Some board members and others have expressed concern over the "elimination" of the June Social and Afterglow. The membership discussed the importance of conducting these events as a way to connect with each other, celebrate success and thank volunteers. The club agreed to not including these events in the budget, but to work on ways to continue to hold them (potlucks, passing the hat, members pay their own way, etc.).

Motion from Finance Committee to approve the 2013-2014 Budget as presented last month, supported by Patty Aspin; approved.

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**Homewalk. Ann Beck & Elizabeth Lumbert.** Thirty-two members have responded to the survey about Homewalk and generally are not in favor of holding the event on Friday during the day. Many members felt that they could work Friday evening. Respondents were split on the concept of one full day vs. two. The committee will discuss these results and think about recruitment of homeowners/volunteers as well as the opportunity for event for a higher-priced ticket event. Two home visits are scheduled and the committee continues to look for homes.

**Intercity/United Nations. Cari Francis.** No additional report.

**Organization, Membership & Classification. Sharon Mortensen.** Our new members are Kathy Allen and Megan Farrell. Induction will be held April 2 at the business meeting with new member orientation on May 14 at Sandy Weimer's home. Committee chairs are expected to attend or send a member to talk about their committee and have new members sign up for service. The committee's goal for new members this year is 15; we are now at 12.

The Kiwanis/Zonta Dinner dance has been cancelled. Not enough signed up in advance.

**Public Relations/Communications. Debbie Stephens. No report.**

**Service/Legislation & Advocacy. Michelle Atwell. No report.**

**Ways & Means. Colette St. Louis.** Auction is coming up. Items were on display in the room. Drop off your items to Sandy's car; we also need baskets and trays and the committee needs help with packaging items on April 15 from 1:30 until done at the Chamber of Commerce. Contact Colette if you can help.

**Parliamentarian. Esther Seaver**

**Ad Hoc – Golden Z Club. Cynthia Chilcote.** We are continuing to work out the details of working on a plan to launch the Golden Z club at Northwood University in the fall. Next week the committee will meet on Wednesday at noon at Mancino's. New members are welcome.

**Nominating/Immediate Past President. Cynthia Chilcote.** The Nominating Committee has prepared a slate of officers and directors for the upcoming year as follows (copies on table). Elections will take place at the April business meeting. Please consider yourself or other members for nomination to these positions.

**Officers** (one-year terms, members are eligible to serve two consecutive terms except Treasurer, who may serve up to four)

President – Cathy Budd

1st Vice President – Sharon Mortensen

2nd Vice President – Ann Beck

Recording/Corresponding Secretary – Rhonda Anderson

Treasurer – Karla Oldenburg

Past President (by position) – Diane Moomey

Parliamentarian (appointed by Pres.)

**Directors/Committee Chairs** (one-year terms, members are eligible to serve two consecutive terms)

ARR – Lisa Hulbert (second term)

Archives – Esther Seaver (second term)

Attendance – Harriet Stopiak (second term)

Bylaws (first vice pres.)

Fellowship/Awards – Lisa Miner (second term)

Finance/Fundraising (first vice pres.)

Golden Z – Megan Granda

Homewalk (filled) Ann Beck, Elisabeth Lumbert

Membership – Bridget Sadenwater

Nominating – one vacancy from membership Nan Blasy (second term)(with Diane Moomey and Cathy Budd)

PR/Newsletter — Colette St. Louis

Service – Michelle Atwell (second term)

United Nations/Intercity – Kathy Swarhout

Ways and Means (second vice president)

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**None.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

At the March dinner meeting, Anneke-Burke Kovistra, a local woman and holocaust survivor from the Netherlands, will share her story of growing up during the holocaust and her family's experiences in housing Jews during the war.

The 50/50 winner was Harriet Stopyiak .

**DOLLAR ANNOUNCEMENTS**


The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Chilcote for the Corresponding Secretary



# APRIL 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 11:30 am Business Mtg— Elect Officers, Induct 2 new members	3	4 Denise Avery 	5 6pm @ MCC	6
7	8 Elizabeth Lum- bert, Casey Mallek 	9	10 Sharon Miller 	11	12	13
14	15	16 5:30 pm <b>Auction!</b>	17	18 7:15 am Board Meeting @ MACF	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Penny Yost 	30				

# MAY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 11:30 am Business Mtg	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Membership Orientation Sandy Wei- mer's @ 5:30	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 5:30 pm Scholarship Dinner Lisa Miner 	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Maria Cohoon 	29 Alice Strange 	30	31 END OF ZONTA YEAR	

# JUNE 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 11:30 am Business Mtg	5	6 Lydia Watson-Pinney 	7	8 Maureen Acker 
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Jana Chotivkova 
16 Esther Seaver 	17	18	19	20 7:15am Board Meeting MACF NEW BOARD Rhonda Anderson 	21	22
23 Susan Hammer 	24	25  5:30 pm June Social @ Whiting Forest	26	27 Kathy Allen, Debra Miller 	28	29
30						