

# ZCoM News



Zonta Club of Midland

SEPTEMBER 2014

## YWCA Empowers Women to “Get Ahead”

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Lisa Grills, Executive Director of YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region in Bay City, was guest speaker at our dinner meeting on September 16th. She shared a video highlighting the mentor program that’s part of the YWCA “Getting Ahead” program and the benefits it brings to participating women. Lisa, undaunted by technical difficulties which prevented her Power Point presentation, spoke passionately about the focus and mission of YWCA.

YWCA advocates for the advancement of women and families and offers programs that support that mission. Some of the areas they address are community education, parenting, and mentoring. Lisa explained that the “Getting Ahead” program is “a long term solution, not a band-aid.” Women commit to a 13-week curriculum, which is based on Dr. Ruby Payne’s “Bridges out of Poverty” program. This program gives women who have low self-esteem, no motivation, poor education and learning habits, an opportunity to improve their situation.

The YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region is updating the “Economic Status of Women in the Great Lakes Bay Region” study published a couple of years ago. The poverty supplement will be uploaded in the next few weeks. Lisa reported that women-led single-parent households are four times more likely to live in poverty and that the Great Lakes Bay Region has a higher percentage than the state average.

Another advocacy program YWCA is developing is a partnership with SVSU for a Political Leadership Initiative to launch in 2015. Lisa explained that it’s purpose is to encourage and empower women’s interest and participation in the political system. In addition, a new Economic Status report will be published in 2016; it keeps YWCA focused on empowering women economically.

How can Zonta help? Lisa suggested that Zonta members can lend support through donations to the endowment fund, volunteering as a mentor, recruiting for programs, and participating in committee work or as a board member. Future plans have YWCA programs opening in Midland.

In closing, Lisa reminded everyone of the Women’s Empowerment Symposium at the Great Hall in Midland on November 17th. Four guest speakers will address empowerment, education, and personal and professional growth. See Page 5 for a copy of the informational flyer for details on the event. Responses to the Q & A session which followed Lisa’s presentation can be found on Page 4.



### October 21st Dinner Meeting Presentation:



# President's Message



Hello Zonta Members,

As Fall is upon us, we are well into our Zonta year. At September's business meeting, we shared the goals the board has set for the 2014-2015 year:

- Provide meaningful dinner programs that connect with Zonta's goals and mission;
- Connect membership with Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation projects;
- Grow our club's membership (with those interested in Zonta's mission and focus);
- Connect service and advocacy, when possible, to organizations receiving funds.

In addition, the board discussed having three specific focus areas for the year: (1) Zonta Says No campaign; (2) women in leadership; and (3) economic empowerment of women. We plan to focus our dinner programs around these topics and incorporate them into service projects and dollars given locally when possible.

Our September dinner program dealt with the economic empowerment of women with Lisa Grills' presentation. Our October dinner program will look at violence against women, to correspond with the Zonta Says No campaign. In November, we will look at women in leadership as three women in local elected positions provide a panel presentation.

We plan to highlight the Zonta Foundation service projects and local service projects in brief presentations at our lunch meetings. In addition, we want to make sure you have time to connect and network with your fellow Zontians at our meetings and at "Zings" that will be planned throughout the year.

I wanted to make sure you are all aware that the board has approved covering the entire cost of registration for the Fall District Workshop. Please consider coming to Gaylord for a wonderful time of learning more about Zonta, hearing fabulous speakers, and fellowshiping with Zontians from around our district.

As we head into the busy time of year for Homewalk, please join me in extending a hearty thanks to our Homewalk Committee for their diligent work. Having chaired Homewalk in the past, I can appreciate the number of hours and work this committee is putting into planning our club's annual fundraiser.

Thanks for your commitment to the mission of Zonta.

Yours in Zonta service,

Sharon Mortensen



\*\*\*\*\*  
 ★ The PR Committee will accept members' articles (with accompanying photos, if applicable) for publication ★  
 ★ in this newsletter. Articles will be edited for content and compatibility with Zonta Club goals. Please sub- ★  
 ★ mit 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, PR ★  
 ★ Chair. 2014 Committee members and contributors: Carole Calvert-Baxter, Cynthia Chilcote, Jenny ★  
 ★ Kendrick. ★  
 \*\*\*\*\*

## AAUW Used Book Sale



Like to read? Find great bargains at AAUW's Used Book Sale October 24-26 at the Midland Mall, 9-9 Friday and Saturday, 10-4 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. For more information, call 989 750 7030.

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



- ◆ Sandy Weimer continues to improve and received encouraging news at her recent checkup. Good to see her up and about at the September luncheon. By the way, Sandy got a new vehicle, but kept it the same color so members would recognize it come auction time. That's dedication to the club!
- ◆ Nancy Barker recovering from hip joint replacement ahead of schedule. She was in fine form at the September dinner meeting.
- ◆ Melissa Anderson spent the summer battling an infection and required surgery at U of M. She's fully recovered and back in fighting form.
- ◆ Sue Putnam will step in as interim Chair of the Membership Committee when the current co-Chairs, Christin Petroski and Jennifer Chappel, are on maternity leave starting in October and November, respectively.

# Zonta

# HOMEWALK

Homewalk is just around the corner! The Homewalk Committee has been busy all summer. They've secured 6 houses for the two-day event on December 6th and 7th.

The committee will present a slide show of the 2014 homes at the October business meeting.

Sponsorship commitments are over \$14,000 so far. Members were sent an opportunity to make a personal sponsor donation with a deadline of 9/12 if you wanted your name published.

**\*\*\* REMINDER \*\*\***



Be sure to put your checkbook or cash in your purse for Tuesdays' meetings if you'd like a meal. The cost for lunch is \$15 and dinners are \$25.

## District Conference in Gaylord



Reunite with your  
*Zisters*

at the Otsego Club & Resort in the Alpine Village of Gaylord Michigan. Become inspired. Network with like minded women. Hear from speakers on topics critical to advancing the status of women both locally and globally. Gain ideas for your local club. Arrive early and take advantage of the area golf courses and natural beauty of lakes, rivers and rolling hills. Book your conference experience today at

[www.Zonta15.org](http://www.Zonta15.org)

The ZCoM Board of Directors has agreed to pay the full registration cost of \$199 for any member who wants to attend the Fall Conference in Gaylord. **Register at [www.Zonta15.org](http://www.Zonta15.org) today!**

Contact Sharon Mortensen to let her know if you'd like to attend so roommates can be matched up if desired. This is a great time to meet others and learn more about Zonta. Even longer-term members will come away inspired with what Zonta is doing to advance the status of women and girls. In addition, you'll hear many new ideas for our club.

The conference is being held at a golf/ski club in the hills near Gaylord. There will be a hayride and bonfire on Friday – the fall color should be beautiful! Saturday's banquet is considered formal (long or short dresses or dressy pants). If you own a fur, bring it! We'll have some extra furs too. Please bring some orange too –we are going to try for an aerial "Zonta Says No" shot on the ski slope.

## "Getting Ahead" with YWCA (continued from page 1)

Following Lisa Grills' presentation, she responded to questions from the audience:



- Q. How many women in Midland will be attending the Getting Ahead program?  
A. 10-12 women per class; there will be 2 classes initially, with a 3 added as needed.
- Q. Does Bay City YWCA serve just the Bay City area?  
A. No, anyone who walks in is served.
- Q. Where will the Getting Ahead program be held in Midland?  
A. Windover High School.

- Q. How are women selected for participation in the program?  
A. A one-on-one assessment is done because not everyone meets the criteria.

- Q. How do you measure success of the program?  
A. Some of the success measures include: continued employment or education; adequate housing acquired; 70% retention; 60% go on to meet employment or education goal.

# Zonta's Mission Advanced Through Symposium

YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region Presents:

## Women's Empowerment Symposium

Monday, November 17, 2014  
Great Hall Banquet & Convention Center, Midland

Join us for an evening of empowerment, education, networking and fun!  
Attending women will be inspired by the dynamic and insightful experiences shared by our presenters in four break-out sessions.

*Imagination & Creativity: Releasing Your Ability to Innovate*



*Unleashing The Power: Women in Leadership*



*If I Knew Then What I Know Now: Creating a Culture of Sisterhood in the Workplace*



*Redefining The 5 Senses: Increasing Your Personal & Professional Growth Potential*



**Cocktails, Appetizers  
& Silent Auction**

5pm

**Symposium**

5:45 pm - 8:30 pm

**eliminating racism  
empowering women**

**ywca**

Great Lakes Bay Region

**Registration: \$40**

**YPN Registration: \$20**

Special ticket price for  
Young Professionals (30 & under)  
courtesy of Wildfire Credit Union

Register online @ [www.ywcaglbl.org](http://www.ywcaglbl.org)  
989.894.9055

Sponsored By:  
AAUW | Wildfire Credit Union

Chemical Bank | Financial Edge Community Credit Union | GM Powertrain | Learman & Kozubal, PLC  
Michigan Sugar | MidMichigan Health | Rehmann | Saginaw Valley State University  
Zonta Club of Midland

**Zonta Club of Midland**  
Business Meeting Minutes - Proposed  
Tuesday, September 2, 2014

The Meeting was called to order at 12:01 pm by Zonta President Sharon Mortensen. The meeting began with The Zonta blessing and introductions.

**Corresponding Secretary Report. Beverly McCray** – *Approved June Minutes.* Moved by Debbie Stephens and supported by Ann Beck

**Treasurer Report – Karla Oldenberg** - *Approved Report* . Moved by Patty Aspin and supported by Jenny Kendrick

**Committee Announcements**

**Advocacy-** *Debbie Stephens.* Our club will support the Zonta Says No initiative. Looking for ways to link Advocacy with the Service Committee

**ARR** – *Carol Arnosky.* No report

**Archives** – *Rhonda Anderson.* No Report

**Attendance** –*Deb Miller.* Deb would like to sign in members who are attending the lunch and dinner meetings instead of members signing themselves in.

**Bylaws** – *Ann Beck.* At the International convention Ann Beck learned that there were 71 proposed bylaw changes.

**Finance/Fundraising** - *Ann Beck.* No Report

**Fellowship/Awards** – *Nan Blasy and Patty Tuma.* Meeting is scheduled for next week.

**Golden Z** – *Megan Granda.* The past vice president has now the president of the Golden Z club because the president did not return. They are having a kick of meeting this Thursday.

**Homewalk** – *Elizabeth Lambert and Denise Avery.* The club has been meeting all summer. They have 6 houses secured. The club will be shown a slide show of homes at the October meeting. We have over \$14,000 in donations so far. A commitment PDF will be sent to club member to be used if they want to personally donate.

**Membership-***Jennifer Chappel & Christin Petroski.* 2 new club members are Trish Steele and Ashleigh Summers. Our membership drive will be in October.

**Public relations/Newletter** – *Colette St Louis.* The committee meeting will be next Thursday. Committee is working on updating the website.

**Status of Women Service** – *Jill Vander Zouwen.* No Report

**United Nations/Intercity-***Kathy Swarhout.* The committee will meet soon. Kathy asked that we get the word out that we have scholarship money to give.

**Ways & Means** – *Lynda Putt.* The committee will meet Thursday Sept 11 at Journeys. The committee would like help with ideas for the auction.

**Parliamentarian** – No Report

**Nominating/Immediate Past President-***Cathy Budd.* Cathy recognized Karla Oldenberg, Lisa Hulbert, Sharon Mortensen and Cathy Budd for recruiting at least 2 new members during this last Biennium.

**Unfinished Business**

**New Business**

Sharon Mortensen presented the following Goals for 2014-2015

- We provide meaning dinner programs that connect with Zonta's goals and mission
- Connect membership with Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation projects

## Zonta Club of Midland

SEPTEMBER 2014

- Grow membership
- Connect advocacy and Service whenever possible to organizations that we support financially

## Focus Areas for for 2014-2015

Zonta Says No

Women in Leadership

Economic Empowerment of Women

Fall District Conference is in Gaylord in October. A portion of the registration is pad by Zonta. Members should consider going. Cynthia Chilcote shared that the conference is a great opportunity for new members to learn more about the club.

Networking List. Sharon Mortensen shared that the club membership list should not be used for networking. Our networking list needs to be revived. A discussion was held on methods to update the list. Lisa Miner volunteered to work on the list.

Closing

50-50 Raffle. Lynda Putt presented Patty Tuma with \$31 from the 50-50 drawing

## Dollar Announcements

Pam Nagel has samples of Dove Chocolate treats on each table. She would love to host Dove Chocolate parties for members

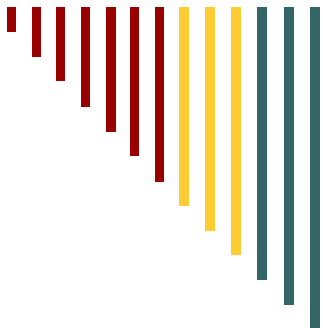
Elizabeth Lumbert spoke about a new nonprofit in town called Children's Grief Center for children aged 3-17 who have experienced a loss. The center was started bu Camille Gerace-Nitschky.

Sandy Weimer thanked everyone for all the support that was given to her during these last 5 months.

## Zonta Code

Important Dates

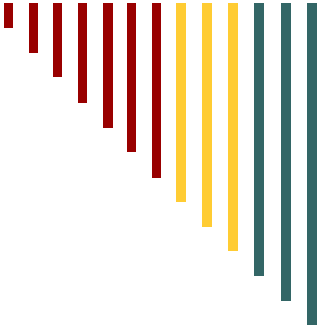
September 11	7:15am	Board Meeting	Midland Area Community Foundation
September 16	5:30pm	Social Meeting - Lisa Grills, Economic Empowerment of Women	Midland Country Club
October 7	11:30am	Business Meeting	Midland Country Club
October 9	7:15am	Board Meeting	Midland Area Community Foundation
October 17-19		District Conference	Gaylord
October 21	5:30pm	Social Meeting – Speaker TBA	Midland Country Club
November 4	11:30am	Business Meeting	Midland Country Club
November 13	7:15am	Board Meeting	Midland Area Community Foundation
November 18	5:30pm	Social Meeting – Panel: Maureen Donker, Diane Brown, Judge Dorene Allen, Women in Government	Midland Country Club
December 2	11:30am	Business Meeting	Midland Country Club
December 6-7		Homewalk	
December 9		Afterglow	TBD
?		Shelterhouse Christmas Party	





# October 2014

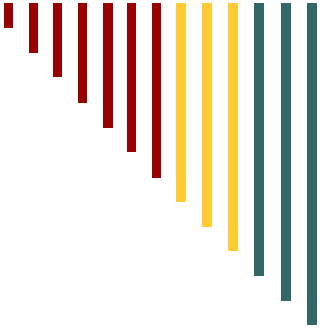
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Business Meeting 11:30 @ MCC	8	9 Board Meeting @ MACF, 7:15am	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Lisa Hulbert happy birthday		Ashleigh Summers happy birthday			District Conference - Gaylord	
19	20	21 Dinner Meeting, 5:30 @ MCC	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	





# November 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	7 Business Meeting 11:30 @ MCC	5	6 Katherine Dollard	7 Julie Ratcliffe	8
						
9	10	11	12	13 Board Meeting @ MACF, 7:15am Harriet Stopyak	14	15
						
16	17	18 Dinner Meeting, 5:30 @ MCC "Women in Government" panel	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 	28	29
30						



# December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Business Meeting 11:30 @ MCC	3	4 Barb VanderKelen	5	6 Homewalk Becky Wieland
7 Homewalk	8	9 AFTERGLOW	10	11 happy birthday	12	13 happy birthday
14	15	16	17 Colette St. Louis	18	19	20 Cheryl Chasnis & Linda Malekadel
21	22	23	24 happy birthday	25	26	27 happy birthday
28	29	30 Sue Moody & Lynda Putt				
		happy birthday				