FROM THE GOVERNOR’S DESK

Dear Zontians,

Happy International Women’s Day and Zonta Rose Day! This is a great time to reflect on the great work we do in Zonta. It is also a great time to make a donation to the Zonta International Foundation in honor of a woman who has made a difference in your life.

Chicago Here We Come!!!

The Zonta International Convention in Chicago, Illinois is less than 4 months away. I hope you are able to join us. The convention takes place July 4 – 8, 2020 at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile. ZI has put together a great program to celebrate our Centennial anniversary. It would be great to have 100 District 5 Zontians attend the convention.

Area Meetings are upon us and I look forward to seeing many of our members at these meetings. Your Area Director and the host club have been busy preparing an informative and insightful day of activities. Each Area Meeting will have district updates, speakers on refugee women, service activities and lots of networking. Your presence is valuable, so we hope you are able to attend.

Zonta’s Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Award recognizes young women, ages 16-19, for demonstrating leadership skills and commitment to public service and civic causes, and encourages them to continue their participation in public and political life. Applications for the award are due to District Scholarship Chair Caroline Menezes by April 1st.

Congratulations to the Zonta Club of Cleveland on chartering the Z-Club of Hawken School in Gates Mills, Ohio. Thank you for sharing Zonta’s mission and engaging high school students in empowering women and girls.

— Gov. Margot Hoffman

The 64th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW64) was originally scheduled for March 9th – 20th at the United Nations in New York City, but has been cancelled due to the coronavirus. As new information becomes available, we will share with you. CSW is comprised of NGOs united to address women’s rights around the world.

Thanks for all you do for Zonta. I look forward to seeing you at your Area Meeting.

— Gov. Margot Hoffman

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SPOTLIGHT ON AREA 1—SUE DYBOWSKI

Greetings, Zontians:

The Sandusky Club and Area 1 Director, Sue Dybowski, are busy planning the Area Meeting for Area 1 taking place on Saturday, March 7, at the Sandusky Yacht Club. In addition to Area & District updates, we’re looking forward to learning “The Real Story of Refugees in the US/Life as a Refugee in Northwest Ohio” presented by our featured speaker, Janelle Metzger, Executive Director, of Water for Ishmael in Toledo.

Findlay and Bowling Green. Here’s what’s been happening in Area 1:

Bowling Green

At their January Club Meeting, Jayne Roth officially handed over the reins of the Presidency to Wendy Chambers. Member Teri Laurer guided the Club through keeping New Years Resolutions. (See photos on this page.)

Plans are under way for the Zonta Club of Bowling Green’s 15th Annual Uncork the Spirit of Giving Soiree to be held on Wednesday evening, April 22, from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at the W.W. Knight Preserve located at 29530 White Road in Perrysburg, Ohio. (See flyer, below.) The evening will consist of heavy hors d’oeuvres, wine tasting and a silent auction. Contact Linda Koehler of the Bowling Green Club at koehler562@gmail.com for tickets and more information.

Defiance

The Defiance Club inducted four new members, with a fifth one being inducted next month. (See photo, on page 10.) Their Club is growing by leaps and bounds, thanks mainly to their growing presence on Social Media. The new members will bring new insight to the many issues surrounding women today.

Plans are underway for their third annual Boutique Bingo, which will be held on May 15th at the Eagles Club. Tickets will be on sale soon. The Membership Committee is planning to participate in the Annual Chocolate Walk in downtown Defiance, complete with homemade chocolates and a sip of wine. They are a very busy bunch of like-minded ladies.

Findlay

The Zonta Club of Findlay is preparing for their Spring Style Show to be held Thursday, April 16, at the Marathon Center for Performing Arts. Proceeds will benefit Keeping Kids Safe Foster Care Agency, the Findlay Enrichment Program and BVH Forensic Nurse Program. See flyer, above right.

Greater Sandusky

Sandusky Club member, Sara Carver, performed a fun and interesting skit on Amelia Earhart at the January Meeting.

The Sandusky Club sold $19,000 worth of nuts during their Fall Nuts sale, with a profit of $4,800 to the Club. Plans are underway (Continued on page 10)
Area 2 Zontians have been active in many community events, touching and improving the lives of women and children. It is an exciting time to be a Zontian and invite others to join and share in our mission.

Cincinnati:
On December 12, 2019 Zonta Club of Cincinnati met for holiday food and comradery. Members also brought toys for girls for the annual FamiliesFORWARD Christmas Gift Drive. FamiliesFORWARD is a neighborhood-based resource center for schools, students and their families, and the community.

On January 25, 2020 the club held a strategic planning meeting, led by President-Elect Melanie Hoffman, to discuss issues of importance to the club (e.g., membership and fundraising goals for 2020-2021, etc.).

On Thursday, February 27, 2020 a representative from the Service Fund Grant Program recipient, Assistance League of Greater Cincinnati (ALGC), spoke at the meeting. ALGC was selected as the single recipient for this cycle to receive the full $2,000 to aid in funding their New Beginnings Kits, which are designed to provide essential household items to women and their children leaving domestic violence shelters in Hamilton and Clermont counties in Ohio and Northern Kentucky. District 5 Area 2 Director, Pat Kenkel attended this meeting.

Hosted by the Zonta Club of Cincinnati this year, the Area 2 Meeting will be held at Gateway West, 644 Linn Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45203, on Saturday, March 21, 2020. The planning committee has distributed the invitation to the Zonta Clubs of Elizabethtown, Louisville, and Paducah.

On Thursday, March 26, 2020 the club will hold a Zonta International Convention Fundraiser, with the proceeds to be used to send the club’s delegate and alternate to represent Cincinnati. Since the 2020 Convention will be held in Chicago, that will be the theme used for the Zonta Bingo, trivia about Chicago, and a lottery tree.

In April 2020, a farewell party is being planned for Ellen Spaeth, who is retiring to Georgia, but will remain a member via conference calls, and Terri Purtee-Stein, who is retiring to Arizona.

The club’s 2nd Kendra Scott Jewelry Fundraiser was held on Thursday, December 5, 2019. Twenty percent (20%) of all sales for the evening (in-store and online) totaled about $450 for donation to the Zonta Club of Cincinnati. The Kendra Scott store management also provided champagne and cookies.
The Zonta Club of Akron, Barberton and Cuyahoga Falls shared information about the importance and happenings during the 16 days of Advocacy with their members and community. This winter they met to host a jewelry fundraiser to earn prizes for their next fundraiser in the fall. They have continued to participate in their local service activities and to warm hearts with their Birthday wishes.

The Zonta Club of Ashtabula Area (ZCAA) is planning their “Champagne Luncheon—Australia Down Under” spring fundraiser for April 18th, which includes a raffle for two to cruise to Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania. They are also working on recruiting members in Area 3 to attend the 2020 Zonta Convention, by offering a tour bus that will pick up in Ashtabula, Cleveland and Toledo. If interested in joining this fun mode of transportation, contact me or a member. CHICAGO, HERE WE COME!

At the ZCAA February membership meeting the guest speakers were from the Suffragists 100-year Celebration Committee of the League of Women Voters. They explained the history and importance of the Suffragists movement, and how it was significantly affected and connected to people in Ashtabula County. (See photo, above right.)

Lois Jones, President of ZCAA, has been trained and has led quarterly work sessions in making the “Days for Girls” kits to be sent overseas. Each of these kits has been estimated to last three years and replaces approximately 360 disposable pads, but even more importantly, they give days of living and respect back to the girls who receive them. The Days for Girls mission is to change the status quo through quality menstrual care solutions, health education and income generating opportunities that give back days of opportunity and health.

In February the ZCAA hosted a spa night for the women of the Beatitude House in Ashtabula. (See photo, above.) Beatitude House is a transitional home for women coming out of an abusive life situation with the mission: By creating homes, providing educational opportunities and fostering healthy families, we provide them with the opportunity to transform their lives. Zonta members provided a light dinner, conversation along with community members to do massage, haircuts and hand therapy.

The Zonta Club of Cleveland (ZCC) has continued offering their series of speakers, “Women in Higher Education” at their monthly membership meetings. Their February 20 speaker, from Case Western Reserve University, spoke on “Educating for Change through Diversity and Inclusion.” The March 19th speaker will be from Cleveland State University’s School of Social Work and will speak on her “Journey to Academia as a Social Work Educator”.

(Cont. on next page.)
**District Newsletter**

**Spotlight on Area 3, Cont.**

ZCC has been working to support their Golden Z Club at Cleveland State University, which was recently designated and approved by Zonta International. Their members have joined, in their first service project, with the Zonta Club of Cleveland at MedWish International, on February 15, 2020. At MedWish the volunteers sort medical supplies that they receive so that they can send the items as humanitarian aid. They also sort medical supplies into categories (gross sort), matching similar items together (fine sort), boxing and labeling inventory (bulking), and other projects as needed. (See photo, bottom left, page 4.)

ZCC always keeps members updated on strides made by women, both past and present, on Facebook. An example is this article on Sophie Yazzie, a WWII veteran and member of the Navajo Nation: “One of the longest living female WWII veterans, Sophie Yazzie, has passed away at the age of 105.” (See photo, above.)

The spring fundraiser for the ZCC will be on April 4th. “Zonta Says Olé!” and will feature the Fairmount Spanish Dancers, luncheon, vendors, silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. This fundraiser supports their club scholarships and service projects, locally and globally.

**Zonta Club of Hudson**

(ZCH) members participated in their annual “Share the Love” service day at the Edna House, a home for recovering women. (See photo, right.) The Hudson Zontians offered support through the donation of clothing and food, leading art activities to help them express their inner feelings with intuitive painting, decorating cookies to share with their loved ones, and conversations that included their story sharing with ZCH members.

ZCH members held their biannual fundraiser of a “Sip n Spa” Night for members and guests, which included spa choices of a chair massage, arm and hand massage, eyebrow wax or a polish change, and membership activities. (See photo, below left.)

**Area 3 Zonta Clubs of Ashtabula Area, Cleveland and Hudson**

have been planning their fifth annual luncheon celebration of Zonta Rose Day, International Women’s Day and the Phenomenal Women in our community. The theme for this year, “Phenomenal Women: We Rise by Lifting Others” will be held on Sunday, March 8th with keynote speakers Betsy Kling, Chief Meteorologist and 5 pm Anchor for WKYC News, and Renee Jones, Executive Director of the Renee Jones Empowerment Center. Both women fit the theme of “rising by lifting others” in their professional careers. DS Governor Hoffman will be introducing Ms. Jones, and as with last year’s Phenomenal Women Event, have a presentation.

Their fundraisers support ZCH scholarships and service donations.

Hudson Club’s February membership meeting discussed further planning for their spring service, fundraising and membership activities. (See photo, below left.)

Members look forward to celebrating together, and with their community, friends and families.

—Linda Coblitz, Area 3 Director
Greetings, Zontians.

The following is an update on Area 4 clubs.

Columbus:

Holiday Party Fun: The joy of the holiday season was certainly alive for Columbus members and their guests at their holiday party on December 3, 2019. There was a delicious dinner, a white elephant exchange and loads of laughter by all! (See photo, right.)

Amethyst Graduation: On February 3, 2020 Zonta was there to help sixteen clean and sober women graduate from the Amethyst recovery program. Zontians Ginny O’Keefe (a founding mother), Gwynn Imlay, Suzanne Martin and Jan Wilhelm attended. (See photo, bottom left and above right corners.)

The Outstanding Young Women (OYW) Service Project is in its 40th Year! Another successful Leadership Seminar was held for 35 local girls on February 8. (See photo, above right corners.)

Euchre Tournament Fundraiser Wins President’s Rose Award for February! Kimm Hrdlicka-Tigges and Susan Finefrock were the chairpersons for the club’s new fundraiser in February, an Euchre Tournament. (See photo, left corner.) Profit was almost $900 on this new event! Wow what fun! What a success!

Save the date for April 18, 2020, as all will enjoy the “Until Death Do Us Part” Murder Mystery Dinner Theater and silent auction. (Please contact Jan Wilhelm for information, at janwilhelm49@gmail.com.)

Mid-Ohio Valley:

Mid-Ohio Valley regrets to announce the passing of former Club President, Beth Spaziani. Beth left big shoes to fill which we are working diligently to do.

We also aided our local Women’s shelter, Eve, in their fundraiser, Chocolate at Glendale.

Newark:

Newark inducted three (3) more members in February. That’s a total of 4 and we have one more who will join us in March.

Our club is focused on planning the 2020 Champagne Luncheon. We selected 2 nonprofits as the recipients of our efforts – The Together We Grow Gardens (providing food, education and work opportunities for residents of Licking County) and The Look Up Center (a Christian community center), both of whom promote valuable services to our community.

Springfield:

The Club of Springfield is hosting the Area 4 Meeting, scheduled for March 28, 2020 at 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. It will be held at 125 W. Main Street, Springfield, Ohio 45502-1331, where United Services Center as well as Eagles Charity Inc. are located. It is the new Senior Center built in 2016 and was funded by Clark County voters. Cost is $25 pp and is made public, through Facebook using Eventbrite. We hope to see you there!

— Kimm Hrdlicka-Tigges

Area 4 Director
On January 17, 2020, Renee Jones Empowerment Center (RJEC) hosted the 2020 National Human Trafficking Day Conference at Notre Dame College, Performing Arts Center, in South Euclid, Ohio. Topics covered at the Conference included:

- Health Consequences of Human Trafficking Not Talked About
- Victim Services offered by the Office of Ohio Attorney General
- Educating the Public on the Realities of Human Trafficking through Theater
- Survivor Reflections
- Outreach Mobile Forensic Nursing
- Law Enforcement
- Panel Discussion

D5 Governor-Elect Roji Rao, a member of Zonta Club of Cleveland (ZCC), was invited to join a group of panelists to discuss the impact of Project Red Cord Night Out Community Street Outreach to the underserved population. The panelists included Jeremy F. Taylor, Safety and Community Engagement Coordinator, Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization and representatives from partnering organizations, of which ZCC was one. (See photos, below.) Moderated by Ms. Renee Jones, President and CEO of RJEC, each panelist was asked to describe their organization’s role in the Project Red Cord Night Out Community Street Outreach, and the impact it had both on the community and the partnering organization. Ms. Rao explained the beautiful relationship Zonta Club of Cleveland has with RJEC. It began when ZCC invited Ms. Jones to speak at one of its meetings that included a hands-on service project called “Purses with a Purpose”. Ms. Rao went on to describe the relationship that developed and cemented when ZI awarded a $5,000 Centennial Anniversary Grant to RJEC and the impact it had both on the members of ZCC and the East Cleveland neighborhood, when ZCC worked alongside with RJEC in September, October, November and December, distributing “Zonta” bags of non-perishable food items and hygiene products to women.

(Photos of the panelists at the 2020 National Human Trafficking Day Conference at Notre Dame College in Cleveland, Ohio. The panelists included Jeremy F. Taylor, Safety and Community Engagement Coordinator, Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization, and representatives from partnering organizations, including Governor-Elect Sarojini Rao, on the right, with some of the non-perishable food items and hygiene products that were distributed.)
Spotlight on Area 2, Continued from Page 3

Kroger Community Rewards – The Zonta Service Fund of Cincinnati received $58.69 for the period of November 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020 for a total of $213.71, from ZCC’s enrollment in the program to date. Ten Zontians signed up the Zonta Service Fund of Cincinnati, Inc. for this program, based on qualified spending through the Kroger Rewards Card program. Easy peasy, just for shopping!

Members have also included small fundraising activities at each meeting, to help offset expenses for guest dinners and other club activities, since discontinuing the Zonta Club of Cincinnati Wine & Dine Fundraisers. Members raised $85 at the October meeting by selling raffle tickets for a fresh produce basket and in November raised $57 for a Ruthven print. For the February meeting, Ellen Spaeth has collected Zonta items from her aunt, ZCC member Joan Mettey, for a basket raffle item. Members voted to have small raffle drawing fundraisers at each dinner meeting.

The Zonta Service Fund of Cincinnati also received money from an online sale of several pictures donated to the club by past member Pat Jude’s famous artist sister for our 2019 Centennial Celebration.

Elizabethtown:
ZC Club of Elizabethtown held its annual Zonta Christmas Tea on December 8, 2019. The Tea was a great success, with former member Cathy Pyrek playing beautiful Christmas music on her violin and Mrs. Claus (Maria Batistoni) paying a visit and sharing a Christmas story with the children. Proceeds from the Tea will fund the Amelia Earhart Essay Scholarship, which is given to a high school senior girl, and the Non-Traditional Scholarship, which is awarded to a young woman who has been out of school for a time, and has made the decision to return to school to further her education. (See photo, left.)

ZC of Elizabethtown Treasurer Laura Nall presented the $1,000 Non-Traditional Scholarship to Amanda Sandoval. (See photo, below.) Ms. Sandoval is presently attending Elizabethtown Community and Technical College (ECTC), majoring in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) as a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP).

Louisville:
Zonta Club of Louisville is in preparation for an exciting March and April. We have been in partnership with the Frazier History Museum to celebrate 100 Years of Women’s Suffrage. The Club has been instrumental in aiding the successful implementation of “What is a Vote Worth?” exhibit.

“What is a Vote Worth?” was designed to have students consider the value of a vote when living in a democracy. Students assess how individuals and groups fought for the franchise, learning its value through their sacrifices.

Upcoming events in conjunction with the initiative at Frazier History Museum include March 19, 2020’s opening of “What is a Vote Worth? Suffrage Then and Now”, an eleven-month Suffrage Voting Rights Act Exhibit, panel and tours; and April 30’s annual Pegasus Parade, the Kentucky Derby Festival’s oldest event, with a special contingent dedicated to a Celebration of Women, celebrating 100 years of Women’s Suffrage.

Other events scheduled for Zonta Club of Louisville are 99’s Annual Girl Scout Day, on March 14, 2020. Zonta members volunteer as tour guides for young Girl Scouts as they learn about the history of women in aviation and career opportunities.

March 16, 2020 is the Louisville Public Media Spring Fundraiser. Our Club will be volunteering to work the phones, and March 31, 2020 is the Women’s Equality Day Event.
Hello Everyone:

I just returned from a four-day Governors Orientation in Chicago. While at times it seemed overwhelming, it was also exciting and fun meeting twenty-nine other Governor-Elects from all over the world. An added attraction was a visit to the Convention site. I believe this was an unique opportunity for the 2020-2022 class of Governors. I hope you have already made your reservations. If memory serves me right, Governor Margot hopes to have at least one hundred District 5 members attend the Convention.

Those of you who attended the District Conference last October may remember that Governor Margot and I initiated another membership recruitment challenge. The challenge was for each club in the district to recruit at least two members for this year. I am happy to report that at least three clubs have reached that goal. They shall be recognized at their respective Area meetings.

Finally, a quick reminder to all of you — renewals are on the horizon and many clubs have already sent out the invoices for 2020-2021. Please renew promptly in order to keep the membership numbers steady, both at the club level and at the District level. Also, urge those members who are sitting on the fence not to give up on Zonta, but to go ahead send in their membership dues. Remember that membership is everyone’s responsibility.

I hope to see many of you at the Area meetings, the first one taking place on March 7, 2020 and hosted by the Greater Sandusky Club.

Thank you,
— Sarojini Rao
ZI District 5 Lt. Governor & Membership Chair

Did you know that the Ashtabula Club donated funds for the Zonta International float in the Rose Bowl Parade in the 1960s? Two club members attended the parade?

Did you know that the ABC Club received a Zonta International Strategies to Eradicate Violence against Women (ZISVAW) grant (2001-2004)?

Did you know that the ABC Club has raised and donated more than $35,000 to local charities and ZI?

Did you know that the Cleveland Club hosted a luncheon for Amelia Earhart, after she completed the first Women’s Air Race Derby in 1929?

Did you know that the Columbus Club owned and operated the Zonta International House, a residence for Ohio State University women international students, from 1950 until 1968?

Did you know that the Marietta Club members average 853 service hours per year?

Did you know that the Newark Club’s 1977 luncheon and style show, from which all proceeds went to the Licking County Unit of the American Cancer Society, seven of the ten models had mastectomies?

Did you know that the Springfield Club raised funds and purchased the first mammography machine in Clark County?

Did you know that the Springfield Club provided anatomically correct dolls to Clark County Family Services counselors to help them with their work with abused children?

A reminder that the Young Woman in Public Affairs Scholarship is due to District on April 1st. Application resources have been sent to all clubs but can also be found on ZI’s web page.

Also note that the deadline for submitting nominees to the District for the Jane Klausman Award is now August 15th. This gives clubs an additional month to recruit nominations. Posters, forms and other resources have also been sent out to all clubs. They can also be found on ZI’s web page.

—Caroline Menezes
Scholarship Chair
for the Club’s Brunch Auction to be held May 16 at the Sandusky Yacht Club. The event includes Live & Silent Auctions, Bag Auctions, a $500 Money Tree and a $500 Gift Card Tree. (See flyer on this page.)

The Club also welcomed three new members, Tamila Darling, Karen Perkins and Jennifer Kinney. (See photo, center.)

**Toledo**

The Toledo Club is happy to report they have added three new members, Christian Percy, Mary Reed and Susan Middendorf.

In celebration of Amelia Earhart month, the Club hosted Major Melanie L. Grosjean, Commander of the Logistics Readiness Squadron at the 180th Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard. Major Grosjean, who has been in the Guard for nearly 28 years, spoke about the differences between the National Guard and other branches of the military, as well as challenges that women in the military face. One of her goals is to pave the way for young women who are considering a non-traditional role in the military.

A Wine Tasting Fundraising event will be held on Saturday, February 29. Plans are moving forward to make Toledo a CEDAW City. The Toledo CEDAW Ordinance is being reviewed by attorney and Toledo Zonta Member, Margaret Lockhart. The CEDAW Steering Committee has plans to meet on March 27.

In recognition of Yellow Rose Month, the Fellowship Committee is planning to present each member with a yellow rose. Toledo Zontians are also looking forward to upcoming programs by Christa Luttemann, Regional Director, NW Ohio Office of Governor DeWine in March, and Erin Thompson, Public Affairs Specialist for the Social Security Administration, in April.

— Sue Dybowski