



Alice Chick, Editor

From the Desk of Governor Bea

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Bridge of Loving Hands Across the Seas

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Dear District 11 Zontians,

Our annual District 11 Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico, is almost here. The theme developed by the Puerto Rico clubs is "Bridge of Loving Hands Across the Seas". While the theme reflects Zonta friendships, it also describes our Zonta actions towards those who are trafficked into District 11 or who are snared into the net of modern day slavery within District 11. Our Conference Keynote Speaker will speak to us on this topic. He will also conduct a workshop on human trafficking, along with Nola Theiss and Karen Pati from the Zonta Club of Sanibel/Captiva.

Combating and preventing human trafficking is a goal of Zonta International. ZI's first position paper has just been released and is part of this newsletter: "Zonta International Position Paper - Trafficking of Women and Girls." I have also included the latest update on a current ZISVAW project called Regional Anti-trafficking Mobilization for Prevention through STAR Network of World Learning that Zontians support with a \$100,000 grant. **Both of these papers will be used in the human trafficking workshop at our conference on Friday, and conference attendees are asked to read both prior to the workshop.** This will make good reading during your flight to San Juan.

YOU CAN FIND THE ZI POSITION PAPER ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING ON THE ZI WEB SITE ALONG WITH THREE OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATED TO TRAFFICKING:

- Fact Sheet on Human Trafficking
- Statement and Agenda for Action
- Strategies to Prevent Trafficking and Protect Trafficked Women & Girls

All three contain much useful information for you. They will give your club ideas on how to undertake a project on behalf of trafficked women or to raise awareness of this evil and dehumanizing practice.

I look forward to seeing many of you in San Juan. For those who cannot attend, be sure to have your delegate make a full report on the conference. There will be good information for all clubs coming out of it on human trafficking, attracting new Zontians, strategies for supporting the ERA, how to start new Zonta Clubs and Golden Z Clubs, and service and advocacy projects. See you "across the seas".

Yours in Zonta,

Bea

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Ruth Walker Honored for 40 Years of Service to Zonta

A Special Reception to honor Past International President Ruth Walker's 40 years in Zonta was held on June 3, 2007, at Seawatch Resort in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Her club, the Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach, had nominated Ruth for the ZI Meritorious Service Award. A plaque from Zonta International was presented to her by the Myrtle Beach Zontians.

Ruth Walker joined Zonta in 1966 and held the position of Zonta International President (IP) in the 1988-1990 biennium. The Meritorious Service Award was given to her for her many activities at the international level. Besides being IP, she was ZI President Elect 1986-1988, Treasurer of Zonta International 1984-1986, International Membership Chairman 1980-1982, Chairman of International Nominating Committee 1978-1980 and 1990-1992, and the 1980 Convention Chairman of Registration. She served on the Zonta International Foundation Board from 1986 to 1990.

Ruth has been a strong presence in her local Myrtle Beach club. From assisting the Hilton Head Club in organizing this club, Ruth remains involved by being an active member and participates in service and fund raising activities. She is a tremendous advocate for her club and for Zonta International. Everyone in the Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach and District 11 has benefited from Ruth's knowledge and kindness.

Ruth Walker continues to play a leadership role in District 11. In 2003 Ruth served as Conference Chair for the District 11 Conference in Myrtle Beach. For the 2004-2006 biennium, she was Chair of the District's Procedures Task Force which revisited existing policies and procedures and made many sound recommendations to improve the district's organizational structure. Most recently, she served on the Leadership Panel at the 2006 District Conference in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

As a caring individual, Ruth Walker epitomizes the values of Zonta International. We thank you, Ruth, for all that you have done. We are so appreciative of your efforts that benefit us today and will continue to benefit Zonta International in the future.

WHY BYLAWS?

By Anne Mitchell, District 11 Parliamentarian

Does your Club have bylaws? Part 2 Section 15 of the Zonta Club Manual (2006) states that "[u]pon being chartered, each Zonta Club *shall* adopt Club bylaws that conform to the ZI Bylaws." Despite this requirement, many Clubs lack their own bylaws.

What good are bylaws anyway? Have you ever wondered whether your Club needs them? Can you rely on the ZI bylaws without having separate ones? Can't you just rely on your local corporate statutes?

If your Club doesn't have bylaws and you have ever asked those questions, consider these situations:

- You are Club president. Your club has six Board members. Four of them get together and decide to take some particular action. The two who were not included are irate and come to you: "Can they do this? Is what they decided binding on the Club?"
- A Board member has missed a series of Board meetings without offering an excuse. Can she be removed? If so, how is this done?
- A woman is nominated for membership in your Club. Some members of the Board vote against her. What size majority is required to accept her into membership?

These and many other similar questions can be answered by Club bylaws. The sample bylaws included in the Club Manual are a great start but may not address all the issues in your particular Club. Generally, you can include other provisions as long as they are not contrary to the ZI bylaws. In some cases, if required by local law, your own bylaws may override those of ZI; you may even be able to override provisions of local corporate law. If your club is not incorporated, however, local corporate statutes will have no legal bearing on how you conduct business.

If your club has no bylaws, start with the ones in the Club Manual. *Robert's Rules of Order* is another good source for how to handle procedural matters, as well as the Zonta International Bylaws. You may also want to review a set of standard not-for-profit corporation bylaws, written for your state, territory, or country and adapted to your Club's particular needs. An attorney club member or friend should be able to produce these for little expense, as well as provide guidance to incorporated Clubs about which provisions can legally be changed. Your Area Director can also help.

Be smart and adopt a set of bylaws that works for your Club before trouble arises, and know that you are in compliance with the Club Manual requirements. Don't wait until one of the situations above – or a similar one – catches your Club unprepared.

Mark your Calendar—Come early and stay later
District 11 — 59th District Conference
San Juan, Puerto Rico
September 28 — 29, 2007

An early reminders for the
 Zonta International 59th Convention — 2008
 Rotterdam, Netherlands
 Visit the website at www.zonta2008.com for more information

**MEMBERSHIP IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL.
 REMEMBER " IF EVERY MEMBER GETS ONE NEW MEMBER WE WILL EXCEED OUR GOAL."**

Zonta Calendar

2007-2008

SEPTEMBER

28-29 — 2007 District 11 Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico

DECEMBER

5 — Period 5 & 6: Quarterly Club Report due to Area Director

APRIL

1 — YWPA club candidates due to District
 30 — Emma Conlon Award (Z and Golden Z Clubs) applications due to ZI

MAY

1 — Club Officers Report form 2008-2009 due to ZI and Area Directors
 5 — Period 7 & 8: Quarterly Club Report due to Area Director
 31 — Klausman Women in Business Scholarship club candidates due to District

JUNE

1 — Club dues payments for 2008-2009 due to ZI
 28 — June 28-July 3 Zonta International Convention Rotterdam 2008

2008-2009

August

15 — Klausman Women in Business Scholarship District candidate due to ZI
 31 — US Districts financial statements due to HQ for Group IRS 990 tax filing

OCTOBER

16 — US Clubs Form 990 due to the IRS if gross revenue is more than \$25,000

NOVEMBER

15 — Amelia Earhart Fellowships applications due

Zonta International Position Paper Trafficking of Women and Girls

Founded in 1919, Zonta International is a global organization of executives and professionals working together to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy. Nearly 33,000 members belong to more than 1,200 Zonta Clubs in 67 countries and geographic areas. Zonta International seeks to improve women's health, education, self-esteem, legal rights, and economic status and prevent violence against women.

Preventing violence against women and girls is a Zonta International priority. Zonta has demonstrated its commitment to reducing the incidence of violence against women and girls by supporting local and international prevention and advocacy strategies and by awarding grants for projects that seek to change personal and/or political knowledge, attitudes and behavior contributing to gender-based violence.

Zonta International condemns the practice of trafficking of persons, especially women and girls, for sexual or labor exploitation as a gross violation of human rights and a crime against humanity. Recognizing the fact that the majority of those trafficked are women and girls who suffer severe physical, mental and sexual violence, Zonta International is committed to preventing and combating trafficking in countries of origin, transit and destination.

DEFINITION

Zonta International recognizes trafficking as defined in Article 3 of the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime:

Trafficking in persons shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.¹

SCALE AND ROOT CAUSES

It is estimated that between 600,000 and 800,000 victims are trafficked across international borders each year. Including trafficking within national borders increases the estimate to two to four million persons per year.² No country is immune. Approximately 80 percent of trafficked victims are women and girls, the majority of whom are trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation. Some are lured by promises of employment, educational opportunities or marriage. Others are sold into service by a relative, acquaintance or family friend. They suffer extreme physical, psychological and sexual violence and exposure to sexually transmitted diseases, and face personal and familial death threats from their traffickers if they dare to escape.

Trafficking of persons is the fastest growing global criminal industry, generating US\$7 billion to US\$10 billion annually, with high profits, low risks and a "commodity" that can be used over and over again.³ Economic inequities, high unemployment, restrictive immigration policies, lack of appropriate legislation and the involvement of transnational organized criminal networks support this lucrative business.

The root causes of the trafficking of women and girls stem from a lack of women's rights and opportunity. Women and girls are especially susceptible to trafficking due to gender-bias, oppression, discrimination, social and cultural practices, and the prevalence of gender-based violence. Potential victims are at even greater risk if they originate from countries experiencing political and economic instability, internal displacement, militarism, civil unrest, internal armed conflict, and natural disasters.⁴ By failing to address gender gaps in the law, many governments fail to promote situations in which women's social, civil, political and economic rights are protected.

INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

A growing number of governmental bodies and international organizations have adopted conventions and action plans to direct their responses to trafficking.

- The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Convention on Trafficking of Women and Children (2002).
- The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2003).⁵

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Zonta International Position Paper Trafficking of Women and Girls (continued)

The following Conventions are legally-binding instruments for countries that ratify them.

- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (1979).⁶
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989).⁷
- The United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000).⁸
- The Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (2005).⁹

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL'S RESPONSE TO TRAFFICKING

Zonta International condemns the practice of trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, for sexual or labor exploitation as a gross violation of human rights and a crime against humanity. In July 2002, Zonta International adopted a Resolution on Trafficking in support of the "Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime" (Annex II supplementing UN document A/RES/55/25). Zonta Clubs have responded to the resolution through local, national and international advocacy, service and educational initiatives focused on preventing and combating trafficking through improved legislation, public awareness and employment opportunities.

Since 2002, grants from the Zonta International Foundation have supported the anti-trafficking mobilization efforts of the STAR Network of World Learning. Contributions from Zontians and Zonta Clubs have supported grants for projects that seek to prevent trafficking in women and girls through policy advocacy and increasing community-based prevention activities and regional cooperation on anti-trafficking issues among the governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, and Montenegro. These anti-trafficking activities have directly impacted more than 5,000 beneficiaries and media campaigns have reached as many as 400,000 people.

AGENDA FOR ACTION - THE WAY FORWARD

Eliminating trafficking requires collaborative efforts of governments, international, regional and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society, including the media, to provide a comprehensive multidisciplinary approach to preventing trafficking and protecting trafficking victims, and an aggressive approach to prosecuting and punishing traffickers. Therefore, Zonta International calls for Zonta Clubs to collaborate with NGOs and civil society and advocate for governments to eliminate trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, through the 3 Ps strategy:

- **Prevent** conditions driving demand and supply for trafficking, illegal prostitution and sexual exploitation.
- **Protect** trafficking victims by providing reintegration assistance and opportunities for social inclusion.
- **Prosecute** and punish traffickers. Criminalize all forms of trafficking.

Prevention

Zonta International calls upon Zonta Clubs, governments, international, regional and local non-governmental organizations and civil society to work together to:

- Provide social and economic initiatives to alleviate conditions that make women and girls vulnerable to trafficking, such as economic and social poverty, lack of employment and educational opportunities, gender-based violence, exclusion and discrimination.
- Increase awareness, involvement, and cooperation of all sectors of society to prevent all forms of trafficking.
- Raise awareness of trafficking and gender based discrimination locally, especially among women and girls.
- Educate the media about anti-trafficking laws, the causes and consequences of trafficking and reporting from a gender sensitive and rights-based perspective.
- Initiate a mass media campaign to educate the public about traffickers, trafficking and its various forms.
- Train teachers and incorporate trafficking prevention into the school curriculum.
- Encourage and support telephone hotlines and support services for reporting of offences in countries of origin, transit and destination.
- Work in partnership with the tourism industry to implement the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism (1998)¹⁰, distribute awareness-raising materials and provide support services to women and child victims.
- Initiate and collaborate with women's grass root organizations to support advocacy campaigns aimed at preventing demand for trafficking.
- Train healthcare providers and social service organizations to identify trafficked persons, especially women and girls.

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Zonta International Position Paper Trafficking of Women and Girls (continued)

Protection

Zonta International calls upon governments to:

- Ratify the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) and adopt all human rights provisions in Articles 6 and 7 for the protection and assistance of trafficked persons in national legislation. State Parties are obliged to "consider implementing" the human rights provisions" in appropriate cases, including appropriate housing, counseling, medical, physical, psychological and material assistance, employment and training opportunities, and residency status."
- Prohibit detention, prosecution, punishment or immediate deportation of trafficked persons for immigration status, prostitution, forced labor or other crimes related to being trafficked. These prohibitions must apply in all cases and not be dependent upon the victim's ability or inability to cooperate with the police in prosecution of their traffickers.

Zonta International calls upon Zonta Clubs, governments, international, regional and local non-governmental organizations and civil society to work together to:

- Train immigration and law enforcement officials, judges, prosecutors, attorneys, international military, peace-keeping forces and other officials to identify and protect the human rights of trafficked persons and use gender sensitive and rights-based investigation methods for trafficking cases.
- Encourage and support collaborative efforts of victim services, law enforcement, prosecutors and attorneys to work together in enforcing and strengthening existing laws.
- Organize community coalitions of law enforcement, service providers, community and faith-based groups to collaborate on effective outreach and education efforts throughout the community to increase leads on potential and undetected victims.
- Support shelters and services for trafficked persons, especially women and girls, including access to legal services, health care, including mental health support and employment.

Prosecution

Zonta International calls upon governments to:

- Adopt, strengthen and enforce effective laws that criminalize all forms of trafficking.
- Prosecute persons who:
 - Sell trafficked persons for sexual services.
 - Recruit, transport, hide or obtain a woman or girl for the purposes of trafficking.
 - Facilitate sexual exploitation of trafficked persons, especially women and girls.
- Apply punishment aimed at discouraging demand for trafficking.
- Advocate for laws that protect the rights of trafficked persons, especially women and girls, throughout the prosecution process.

Position Paper approved by the Zonta International Board, 25 April 2007

¹ United Nations, *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime* (Annex II supplementing UN document A/RES/55/25): Adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession by General Assembly Resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000; Geneva: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Web site: www.ohchr.org/english/law/protocoltraffic.htm,

² United States Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Report*, June 2005.

³ International Rescue Committee Anti-Trafficking Initiative, Web site: http://www.theirc.org/what/irc_antitrafficking_initiative.html

⁴ International Rescue Committee Anti-Trafficking Initiative, Web site: http://www.theirc.org/what/irc_antitrafficking_initiative.html

⁵ Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, *Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings*, Decision No. 557, July 2003, Web site: http://www.osce.org/press_rel/2003/pdf_documents/07-3447-pc1.pdf

⁶ United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly., Web site: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/text/econvention.htm>

⁷ United Nations, Convention on the Rights of the Child, UN General Assembly Resolution 44/25, 1989, Web site: http://www.unicef.org/crc/index_index.html

⁸ United Nations, *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime* (Annex II supplementing UN document A/RES/55/25): Adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession by General Assembly Resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000; Geneva: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Web site: www.ohchr.org/english/law/protocoltraffic.htm,

⁹ Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, Warsaw, 16.V.2005. Web site: http://www.coe.int/T/e/human_rights/trafficking/

¹⁰ World Tourism Organization (WTO) Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism (1998), Web site: <http://www.thecode.org/>

**ZONTA INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES
TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
Regional Anti-trafficking Mobilization for Prevention (RAMP)
STAR Network of World Learning
US\$100,000
Report Summary August 2006 - February 2007**

PROJECT GOAL: On 1 August 2006, the STAR Network of World Learning launched the Regional Anti-Trafficking Mobilization for Prevention (RAMP) Project. RAMP is designed to strengthen regional community-level linkages focused on trafficking prevention. The project targets trafficking along the busy Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia cross-border routes, through which victims from these countries as well as others in the region regularly pass. In doing so, STAR Network draws on its experience organizing community-level anti-trafficking forums in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and Croatia, as well as its 13-year history of supporting regional networking for women's political and economic empowerment in the Yugoslav Successor States.

PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

On 1 September 2006, RAMP issued a call for applications for its small grant program. The call was widely published through various human rights networks across the Balkan region. The call for applications encouraged local women's organizations to submit proposals for innovative cross-border community mobilization projects on awareness raising and prevention of trafficking in human beings. By the closing date, 17 organizations submitted proposals. Some applicants had worked with STAR's earlier anti-trafficking projects, BATCOM and CTPA, but many were new. The Review Board recommended awarding grants to five of the 17 applicants. RAMP's grantees are:

Women's Safe House, Podgorica, Montenegro

Grant amount: US\$5,000

Women's Safe House (WSH) Director, Ms. Ljiljana Raičević, has garnered international recognition for her anti-trafficking efforts, especially after speaking out publicly about the involvement of Montenegrin public officials in trafficking women for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Amnesty International USA honored her with its 2006 Ginetta Sagan Award, whose purpose is "to recognize and assist women who are working to protect the liberty and lives of women and children in areas where human rights violations are widespread."

WSH will support a seminar on trafficking for representatives of employment agencies and bureaus, labor inspectors and police officers from Montenegro, Serbia, Croatia and BiH. The seminars aim to bring together representatives from these different state agencies and different countries in order to focus attention on the problem of trafficking women for sexual exploitation. The specific goal of the project is to raise awareness of trafficking among government representatives with tourism-related responsibilities, especially in regions where tourism is a main economic driver.

Women's Association MAJA, Bratunac, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Grant amount: US\$4,999

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ZONTA INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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Bajina Bašta, in Serbia, is in a remote rural area

MAJA will reach out to Serbian communities on the other side of the Drina River – the border between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. Their aim is to replicate the success of earlier awareness-raising activities supported by STAR's BATCOM project. This new RAMP-supported activity will connect MAJA with small communities in Serbia, specifically Bajina Bašta and Ljubovija. For that purpose, MAJA signed a Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with local NGOs "Drina" in Bajina Bašta and Women's Association "Vila" in Ljubovija. The goal of the MoU between MAJA and its partners is to organize two-day anti-trafficking awareness seminars for representatives of local communities and authorities.

During December 2006, the first seminar took place in Bajina Bašta. Community participants issued an invitation for MAJA's representatives to conduct an on-the-spot anti-trafficking workshop for youth at the local primary and secondary schools. So, immediately following their seminar with local leaders and without advance notice, MAJA went to the schools to speak about trafficking. The importance of the workshops is demonstrated by the fact that more than 30 pupils participated at the impromptu workshops, after school hours. Educators from both schools requested additional trafficking-related materials as well as copies of movies with trafficking-related themes that MAJA had shown them.



MAJA's second seminar, held in Ljubovija, had higher attendance, with 23 representatives of various local institutions present. Reports of numerous cases of illegal immigration and smuggling of people were offered "officially" by a representative of a local police. The officer specifically named an official border crossing at Mali Zvornik as a place used by smugglers.

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We're on the web at www.zonta-district11.org

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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Women's Association Vukovar, Vukovar, Croatia

Grant amount: US\$4,640

The grant awarded grows out of a cross-border workshop held by Women's Association Vukovar (WAV) in 2006 and involves cross-border cooperation with the NGOs "LARA" from Bijeljina (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and "ESPERANCA" from Novi Sad (Vojvodina, Serbia). WAV's current project, titled "Anti-trafficking Campaign on the Balkans Route," is a public information effort that specifically aims at raising awareness of the local population in the three countries, with an additional focus on calls for action. The message of the campaign will be: "*Recognize the victim – we can all help.*" It calls on the local population to open their eyes, to recognize victims of trafficking and to report what they see to authorities. In addition to identifying victims, such messages also challenge traffickers' common practice of using (and therefore abusing) the local popas "shelter providers" for overnight accommodation of victims. Their project also seeks to support local informal women's groups in border areas.



Planning the public information campaign

Ključki Biseri, Ključ, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Grant amount: US\$4,910

The organization's name translates to "Pearls from Ključ." Recently, young people from the town of Ključ used STAR Network and Zonta support to create and perform plays that raise the theme of trafficking to a diverse audience in an accessible way. Their new project, called "Prevention Performance on Tour," aims to extend these efforts and raise awareness of the risks of trafficking in the border communities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia. Due to the slow process of collecting parental approval, as well as other necessary travel documents for minor members of Ključki Biseri, the organization had to postpone its activities until spring 2007.

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We're on the web at www.zonta-district11.org

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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Women's Association Derventa, Derventa, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Grant amount: US\$5,000

The Women's Association Derventa new project, "*Partnership and Cross-border Cooperation for Combating Trafficking in BiH and Croatia*," builds on cooperation established during cross-border workshops implemented by the BATCOM project in 2005-2006. The project brings together women from Derventa, the NGO "Budućnost" in Modriča (BiH), women from Slavonski Brod (Croatia), law enforcement bodies, centers for social work and education institutions on both sides of the border. The project has just begun its implementation phase and has reported one small but important development: Mr. Atif Sirotanović, a high-ranking police officer from the BiH State Border Service, has created a small citizens' group in Breza (central BiH) to initiate awareness raising activities in that region.

Roma Women's Association "Better Future," Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina

"Better Future" also applied for RAMP funding. Unfortunately, due to limited resources in RAMP's small grant program, "Better Future" did not receive funding. However, the difficulties faced by the Roma community have received intensive public attention recently. Given this climate of public interest in Roma issues, the RAMP Coordinator presented "Better Future's" proposal to the US Embassy in Sarajevo with a recommendation for funding; the Embassy is considering the recommendation. If funded, this will mark the first time that a Roma women's association has taken an active role in the prevention and raising awareness of human trafficking in the Roma population. Representatives of "Better Future" will be invited to participate in the RAMP Regional Anti-trafficking Conference in May 2007 and lead a special discussion on the problems of human trafficking among the Roma population.

Regional Conference Preparation

RAMP's Regional conference will take place from 21-24 May 2007 on the island of Krk in Croatia. The STAR Network team is developing the agenda and participant list. The Conference will feature an opening speech by Carol Bellamy, President and CEO of World Learning and former Director of UNICEF. The Conference will also allow discussion between participants from all four countries in which RAMP works – Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia. Discussions will focus on lessons learned, innovative project models, obstacles and ways to further cross-border cooperation on prevention of human trafficking. The Regional Conference will also open the floor for a specific discussion aimed at the prevention of human trafficking among the Roma population.

The last day of the Regional Conference will allow time for the initial meeting of the Modules Working Group that will create the advocacy modules to be used by Zonta clubs worldwide to address trafficking issues in their own countries. These modules will offer approaches for clubs' service and advocacy that can guide local anti-trafficking action on legal reform and implementation, public awareness, and economic opportunities for trafficking victims. The initial meeting will define the goals, propose the content of the modules and will also result in a detailed work plan and timeline for completion.

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ZONTA INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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Raising awareness on human trafficking and violence against women

The first Women's Festival, organized by Foundation CURE, was held in Sarajevo from 14-17 September 2006. RAMP organized an anti-trafficking information desk, arranged the screening of several anti-trafficking movies and the distribution of trafficking-related informational materials produced by BATCOM and RAMP partner organizations. The "info desk," located at the entrance to the Museum hall where the festival was held, drew a great deal of attention from festival participants and visitors.

In December 2006, the Bosnia and Herzegovina Government, in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), organized a roundtable where trafficking of *local* (i.e., Bosnian) victims was discussed. Acknowledgement of the problem of domestic trafficking victims is still relatively rare and was an important focus of the BATCOM project. The RAMP Coordinator (who is the first Bosnian to lead an anti-trafficking effort funded by an international donor) continued STAR's commitment to this important issue at the roundtable. The fact that the BiH government and IOM, which are implementing a major USAID-funded anti-trafficking program, devoted direct attention to this problem is a validation of the BATCOM and RAMP sustained advocacy and attention.

Participants divided into working groups on prevention, health and social protection and prosecution. The RAMP Coordinator, as well as BATCOM and RAMP local partner organization representatives, participated in the roundtable discussion and working groups and contributed their experiences, especially in the area of prevention. The discussion resulted in several documents that have been forwarded to State institutions for further development.

Conclusion

During the past six months RAMP and its partners have begun their efforts to prevent trafficking in the region through awareness raising, advocacy and information exchange. RAMP works with partners from throughout the region, from all sectors (NGOs, government, law enforcement, diplomatic staff, social workers and others) at all levels (local, national, regional and international). RAMP reaches out to communities that other anti-trafficking initiatives often miss and helps link these communities with resources and partners.

The **Zonta International Strategies to Prevent Violence Against Women (ZISVAW)** is a Zonta International program funded by the Zonta International Foundation. In the 2006-2008 Biennium, crucial projects are funded by your contributions to the Zonta International Foundation's: ***Regional Anti-Trafficking Mobilization for Prevention (STAR Network of World Learning)***; ***Anti-Trafficking Advocacy Modules for Zonta Clubs Worldwide (STAR Network of World Learning)***; ***Implementation of Laws, Policies and Action Plans on Violence Against Women in Niger (UN Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women)***; and, ***Creation of women friendly police and judicial procedures in Bhutan (UN Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women)***.

"EVERYONE HAS A TALENT; WHAT IS RARE IS THE COURAGE TO FOLLOW
THE TALENT TO THE DARK PLACE WHERE IT LEADS."

ERICA JONG

District 11 Committees

Organization, Membership & Classification...	Lynn Salvatore, Lt. Governor
Subcommittee:	
Latin American O&E.....	Libia Markus
Status of Women Service.....	Gretchen Williams
Subcommittees:	
Amelia Earhart.....	Ellen Wheeler
Young Women in Public Affairs.....	Yvette Ingraham
Z Club and Golden Z Club	Olga Gonzalez
ZISVAW.....	Carmen Gomez
Legislative Awareness & Advocacy.....	Jean Bryant
Service Coordinator.....	Jo Anne Garcia-Melendez
Jane M. Klausman.....	Helen "Honey" Gardiner
United Nations.....	Christina Salvatore
Nominating Chairman.....	Ina Edens
Finance Chairman.....	Donna Poulton
Public Relations/Communications.....	Alice Chick
Subcommittees:	
IT/Webmaster.....	Alice Chick
Directory.....	Hannah Dixon
Foundation Ambassador.....	Sarah Lee
Bylaws.....	Anne Mitchell
Leadership Development.....	Lollie Harper
District Archivist.....	Michele Marcum Buhler

CONGRATULATIONS TO CLUBS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS:

Clubs that have or will celebrated birthdays between August — October 2007 are:



Zonta Club of Memphis, TN	80 Years—October
Zonta Club of Greater Palm Beaches, FL	60 Years—October
Zonta Club of Columbia, SC	44 Years—September
Zonta Club of Mobile, AL	42 Years—August
Zonta Club of Ponce, PR	39 Years—September
Zonta Club of Nassau, Bahamas	25 Years—October
Zonta Club of Sanibel/Captiva, FL	20 Years—September
Zonta Club of New Providence, Bahamas	10 Years—September
Zonta Club of Franklin, NC	9 Years—September
Zonta Club of Top of the Bay, FL	2 Years—August

Please send me or Alice Chick, our Webmaster, any pictures you may make at celebratory events to be included on the Website.

NOTE: If I have overlooked your club or if we have the charter date for any of these clubs wrong, please let me know.

We're on the web at www.zonta-district11.org