



Alice Chick, Editor

From the Desk of Governor Bea

November 2007 Biennium 2006-2008, Issue 6



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Helen Brown.....Treasurer
Coretta Bedsole.....Secretary

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Alice Chick.....Area 3
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Gilda Wilson.....Area 5
Nola Theiss.....Area 6

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Hannah Dixon.....Area 2
Jane Adams.....Area 3
Roxane R. Dow.....Area 4
Maria del Carmen Boada...Area 5
Patty Gift.....Area 6

Dear District 11 Zontians,

Since I last wrote to you, we had a fantastic district conference in Puerto Rico, with all but two of our clubs represented. The program was excellent, and everyone had a terrific time. Many thanks again to the wonderful Zontians in the Puerto Rican clubs who worked so hard to make us feel at home and welcome. Muchas gracias!

By now your delegate or that of your proxy club should have reported on the proceedings to you. The human trafficking speakers and workshop were outstanding; we had many other interesting topics for Zontians as well. District 11 Zontians were very generous in giving to the ZI Foundation at conference: individual members gave a total of \$4,458.00 with a continuing gift of \$720 and clubs pledged a total of \$53,150 to the Foundation for 2007-2008. It will all go to help women and girls through the ZIF programs.

Conference delegates approved an increase in district dues from \$15 to \$20, due to increased district board costs. Attached is the e-letter to your club president that somehow got lost in the ether when it was sent; it was distributed at conference. The small dues increase puts our district on a healthy financial base.

You should have also received your own "Ask Me About Zonta" pin from your club delegate or president. Wear this pin with pride and answer the questions you get about Zonta. The goal is to increase awareness in our communities about Zonta and its goals. It's a fun way to meet new people and maybe prospective Zontians too!

Many thanks to all for your gift to me. I will wear the Zonta jewelry with pride.

Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season and the New Year!

Yours in Zonta,

Bea

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Rotterdam, Netherlands
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August 7, 2008

Dear District 11 Club Presidents,

At the upcoming District 11 Conference in the beautiful Caribbean island of Puerto Rico, club delegates will be asked to approve the proposed district budget for the 2008-2010 biennium, which is attached. Please review it and this message with your club members.

Proposed Budget: The proposed 2008-2010 budget is based on achieving very realistic levels of membership: 1,100 for 2008-2009 and 1,150 for 2009-2010. Our current district membership is 1,052; therefore our estimates for the next two years are entirely reachable based on recent membership numbers for the district.

Cost Savings Steps: The district board has taken many steps to reduce expenses in order to keep our expenditures within income. As we all know, inflation has been steadily increasing the prices of goods, especially gasoline and other costs associated with board meetings, area meetings, and other travel within District 11. To combat this, the board meets at inexpensive locations and members make part of our own meals during board meetings. Three board meetings annually are required, but two of those are in connection with the annual district conference, one before it and one afterwards. This avoids extra expenses for travel and lodging. When Area Directors travel for training purposes or for area meetings, they minimize their expenses to every extent possible, often by staying with other Zontians to avoid hotel costs. To further reduce expenses, the District has adopted email as the primary form of communication within the district. This has saved a great deal of money in postage.

Fundraisers: In order to balance the budget, an annual raffle at the District's conference has been used to raise operational funds. In addition the District has an ongoing fundraiser with its silver Z pin and matching earrings which are sold at club and area meetings and at conference. We have also raised funds through a cruise raffle.

The District uses fundraisers as recurring sources of income, but these are very unreliable. The conference raffle, used for district operating expenses, has decreased over the past two years, as has the amount raised from the sales of pins and earrings. We no longer have a cruise raffle. While the District will continue to do fundraising, the amounts estimated in our budget are only guesses and could easily be less than projected.

Windfalls and Deficits: Unfortunately, our budgeted income has not kept up with our expenses. In each of the last two years, the District has spent more money than budgeted, even with our fundraisers. The cost of transportation is a major expenditure in our very large district. As we are all aware, the cost of almost everything else has risen as well. The only thing that has kept us from overspending is an unexpected windfall (nonrecurring income) in each of the last two years:

2005-2006: In this year, we received a gift of \$6,000 from the government of the

Bahamas. Without this windfall, District 11 would have had a **deficit that year of \$3,112.20.**

2006-2007: In this year, we received an unexpected profit from the 2006 Hilton Head Conference of \$6,041.84. Without this windfall,

District 11 would have had **a deficit this past year of \$2,573.41.**

Increase in District Dues: The District cannot hope for windfalls in order to avoid deficits or rely on increasing income from fundraisers to offset increased expenses. Budgets must be based on realistic numbers. A budget based on a small increase in district dues of \$5.00 per person is being submitted for approval. While this is not a large amount of money per person, it will make a big difference in putting our district on a firmer financial basis. We will still rely on fundraisers to meet part of our expenses. Without fundraisers, the increase in dues would have been much larger. This increase raises District dues from \$15 to \$20 per person per year. This new amount is in line with dues in other districts.

Membership: As of May 31, 2007, our total district membership was at the same level as it was two years ago. This has contributed to no increase in dues income in these years for the district. District membership has actually decreased since May 31 with non-renewals. It is hoped that each club will bring in several new members this year to offset this annual dip in membership and to increase membership levels. Not only will new members build our clubs, they will also contribute to a sound district budget.

New clubs are another source of new members and district dues. A new club will be chartered soon with 24 paid members: the Zonta Club of Doral in Miami-Dade County. This is the third new club in a little over two years in District 11. Organizing efforts are being made in two other cities: Pensacola and Orlando. With strong efforts by the district and clubs to attract new clubs and new members, District 11 should be able to meet anticipated expenses with our dues of \$20 per person per year.

Please discuss the proposed budget for the next biennium with your club members. Your club delegate will be asked to approve this by vote at the Puerto Rico Conference. While no one likes to have to pay more for anything, be assured that your District Board watches every penny paid by Zontians in district dues. Our goal is to build strong District 11 clubs. With your help this can be done.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me.

Yours in Zonta,

Bea

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A Top Ten List for Zonta Clubs

How strong is your Zonta club? These are the things that successful Zonta clubs do:

1. Ensure that all board members, preferably all club members have a current ZI Club Manual which can be found on the ZI web site.
2. Have an updated strategic plan to include: service, advocacy, membership, public relations & communication
3. Hold at least monthly club meetings
4. Hold at least monthly board meetings
5. Publish a regular, preferably monthly, club newsletter.
6. Be represented at the annual district conference and biennial international convention and have a full report made to the club.
7. Recruit qualified new members on a continuous basis.
8. Annually solicit input via a survey from the membership on club activities.
9. Invite your Area Director to meetings and to set up club board training once a biennium
10. Hold fellowship activities so Zontians can get to know one another.

Strengthening your Zonta club will retain members.

Saludos De Libia By Libia Markus

De nuevo un saludo muy especial para todas las Zontianas.

Quiero hablarles de un tema muy importante y compartir ideas para aumentar la membresía en tu Zonta Club.

Recomiendo poner en práctica el sistema de las 3 AAA.

- ATRAER
- ACCIÓN
- ANUNCIAR

1. Atraer - Buscar en tus comunidades mujeres profesionales y ejecutivas quienes serán las futuras Zontianas.
2. Acción - Invitar huéspedes a tus reuniones para conocer y compartir la misión de trabajar juntas para mejorar la condición de la mujer.
3. Anunciar – Enviar y facilitar a los medios de comunicación locales información sobre los programas de servicio en tu comunidad.

Hay que tomar cada oportunidad para invitar y promover tu Zonta Club.

Les deseo éxito y me despido con un fuerte abrazo

Zontiano.... Libia

*Mark your calendar for you
Area Meeting*

- Area 1 ~ TBD ~ Hosted by the Montgomery Club*
Area 2 ~ March 1 ~ Hosted by the Savannah Club
Area 3 ~ May 3 ~ Hosted by the Miami Lakes Club
Area 4 ~ April 12 ~ Hosted by the Bartow Club
Area 5 ~ TBD ~ Hosted by the Caguas Club
Area 6 ~ April 26 ~ Hosted by the Naples Club

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

Zonta Calendar

2007-2008

NOVEMBER

- 25—International Day for the Elimination of
 Violence Against Women**
**25—Dec. 10 ~ 16 Days of Activism Against
 Gender Violence**

DECEMBER

- 5 — Period 5 & 6: Quarterly Club Report due to
 Area Director**
10—Human Rights Day

JANUARY

- 11—Amelia Earhart Day (January: AE Month)**

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**
**27 — June 27-July 2 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**

SEPTEMBER

- 26-27 — 60th District 11 Conference ~ hosted by
 Tampa, FL**

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 Foundation Supports ZISVAW



Zonta has a long history of helping to prevent the egregious practice of abusing women and girls. ZISVAW grants began in 1999. Through 2004, the Zonta International Foundation provided more than \$540,000 in financial support to 24 collaborative projects submitted by Zonta Clubs and their partnering community-based, non-profit organizations in seven countries. Since 2006, the Zonta International Foundation awarded \$375,000 to support international projects in five countries.

Every year November is the month that the United Nations and Zonta International partner for this cause, because **November 25 is the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**. Zontians participated in the formation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Paragraph 12 states, "In all societies, to a greater or lesser degree, women and girls are subjected to physical, sexual and psychological abuse that cuts across lines of income, class and culture...Violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms."

Clubs are encouraged to participate in **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence** from November 25 to December 10. Personally, you may want to contribute to ZISVAW through our Foundation. You may either take advantage of our secure online giving at www.zonta.org or mail your check to:

Zonta International Foundation
ATTN: Development
4837 Paysphere Circle
Chicago, IL 60674

The Clubs of District 11 generously support ZISVAW. At our recent Conference in San Juan, the 2007/8 stated Club goals were \$21,250. Last year Clubs actually paid 14,308 into the ZISVAW Funds.

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

Changing Traditions— It isn't always easy By Jean McElroy, Area 2 Director

Zonta International has asked that each club keep in mind that Zonta is a nonsectarian organization. The clubs that are still including what has become known as the *Zonta Prayer* are being asked to consider one of the following options:

- Substitute a moment of silence
- Use a reading that would be considered an invocation rather than a prayer (a prayer implies Christian belief. An invocation does not infer a god; it can be phrased without reference to any religious entity.)
- Eliminate using any formal group opening of this nature.

Some customs are more difficult to change than others, and this one seems to stir up strong feelings in clubs that have incorporated the prayer in their opening for many years. Remember, keep things in prospective. Don't loose current members over this, but do realize that your new members are expecting to be joining a *nonsectarian* organization and your club should ultimately live up to that expectation.

(Editor's Note: see the Nonsectarian Invocation in this issue.)

Friends of Zonta How do you use this resource? By Jean McElroy, Area 2 Director



I have been asked many times while visiting our Area 2 clubs, "Why do we have to turn down the help of the many retired women in our community? They are willing to give their time and money, but we can't let them join because they don't qualify as classified members."

You can use their help by creating an arm called "Friends of Zonta". These women cannot vote, but on the other hand, they do not have to pay dues or meet the attendance requirements.

Your club does, however, need to set some specific guidelines. Do you want to set a requirement for donation dollars? Volunteer hours? It is up to your club, but you should be consistent. It is important that you have enough requirements that will make this arm worthwhile to the club, as well as being rewarding to the individuals participating.

President's Corner



Working with a group to get things accomplished is a skill that is learned through practice. Whether it is asking for a budget to be developed, a club dinner to be planned, or a service/advocacy project to be carried out, Zonta club presidents need to be good at the art of delegation. The president always works through others.

A Zonta club president is a director who oversees the activities of the club. With our club board and mandated club committees, members are already identified for many of the tasks of running the club. In other situations, the President must appoint someone to carry out a task. It is useful to give a deadline, as this helps everyone stay organized. This first step is the act of "Assigning Responsibility", but it is not all that is needed to ensure the work gets done.

Most importantly, it is up to the club president to make sure club tasks are accomplished by the appointed committee or individual. This is the critical step of "Follow-up". Without follow-up, tasks/projects can disappear into the mists or the pages of the club minutes. A president should contact the person/committee chair to check on progress, answer questions, and help solve problems. Of course a report to the club or board by the delegated member should be scheduled so that everyone is informed.

As you go through the Zonta year as club president, you will be learning what tasks to delegate to which officer, committee chair, or member. This is a learning experience, and you will become even more knowledgeable about the work of a Zonta club. By involving all your club members, each Zontian will feel like a valuable part of her club and more attached to it. So remember:

DELEGATION = ASSIGNING RESPONSIBILITY + FOLLOW-UP

Nonsectarian Invocation

Note: This is an invocation used by the Zonta Club of Bonita Springs in Area 6.

As we gather in a land of plenty,
 May we remember those who lack the necessities of life.
 As we gather in freedom and safety,
 May we remember those who suffer injustice and life in fear.
 While we celebrate our diversity,
 Let us remember the victims of intolerance and hatred.
 And may we remember that just remembering is not enough,
 That only by translating thoughts and remembrances into action,
 Can we move the world at large toward the ideals that Zonta celebrates.

May we always have hearts to remember and courage to act.

"ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH."

HELEN KELLER

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

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 November 2007 — January 2008 are:



Zonta Club of Birmingham, AL	67 Years—December
Zonta Club of Bartow, FL	48 Years—December
Zonta Club of Pascagoula, MS	30 Years—January
Zonta Club of Dothan, AL	28 Years—December
Zonta Club of Hilton Head, SC	28 Years—December
Zonta Club of Savannah, GA	27 Years—January
Zonta Club of Melbourne, FL	24 Years—December
Zonta Club of Charleston, SC	8 Years—November

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