



Zonta International® District 11

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide



To: ALL District 11 Zontians
Welcome to the 2014/16 Biennium from your Governor

Greetings!

I can barely begin to tell you how ENTHUSIASTIC I am as I officially begin this biennium as your Governor. Convention week was one of the most amazing and inspiring weeks of my life, and I know I'm not alone in that feeling. I believe ZI President Maria Jose will be one of our best leaders ever, and look forward to being the D11 connection to her. She recently shared her video and speech from the installation ceremony together with other relevant material from Convention at: <http://www.zonta.org/ViewArticle/tabid/490/ArticleId/364/Updated-Convention-photos-speeches-and-presentations-now-available.aspx>. I hope you find them as inspiring as I do. Note you are welcome to share and use these.

At the district meeting we discussed the idea that “Wisdom is the ability to make the right use of knowledge”, and I challenged attendees to further our mission by using the knowledge they gain at convention to make a difference in advancing the status of women, both personally and at large, by sharing their knowledge with their club-mates. Please make time to discuss Convention at a club meeting.

We also discussed transitional leadership and our plan for the new biennium.

Outgoing leaders – if you have not already:

- Recap your term and efficiently transition information to the incoming team; share ideas for how things could be done even better in the incoming year, what you ‘wish you had’.
- Let go and allow the new leaders to lead, to try new ideas, even if ‘that didn’t work before’ – times change and teams change, making all things possible.
- Dedicate yourself to ongoing service.

All, ‘this is our time to shine’

- Be a positive force, informed, open-minded & professional.
- Be nice, and be enthusiastic!
- Know and abide by by-laws, policy & procedure
- Listen, really listen, and use surveys to determine club desires vs. being driven by a few ‘loud voices’.
- Update and stay true to your club strategic plan and goals.
- Let others know your interest in future leadership.

My job responsibility is to administer the affairs of the district.

- I will try to do this efficiently, humbly, and respectfully.
- I believe in the leadership compass: –
 - I am primarily a West – they call this the teacher, good at using data and logic, and follow-through. I have some North and South, but
 - East is my least developed side, I am not a visionary thus I need your ideas and creativity.
- I will try to be flexible, open-minded, and open to change
- I will try to be a good communicator, a good listener, and I am interested in your feedback
- By nature I am organized & resourceful and will try to stay well-educated on all things Zonta
 - I hope to expand not only my knowledge but yours
- I can only do these things with your support. We are a team and need to work collaboratively
- I hope we will do so ENTHUSIASTICALLY
- But, I tend to go fast, and don't always do the right thing
- When I fail to live up to these commitments, and I know I will, please let me know

My 3-part plan for the biennium

1. Support ZI goals
2. Continue nurturing and training future leaders, for the club, area, district and international levels
3. Enhance communication

Regarding point 1, ZI Goals, Incoming President Maria Jose presented her Biennial goals at convention, and received 100% approval, a first! There are 3 broad categories:

- a) Service
- b) Advocacy
- c) Resources

The board has already begun an update to the district strategic plans and goals based on these ZI goals. We will communicate them to you once complete, then vote on them at the 2015 District Conference.

Meanwhile, I can tell you we are all excited to focus on effective service and advocacy; truly making a difference in the lives of women and girls in our communities and around the world through ZI. We are also very excited to develop our resources to enhance our ability to efficiently and effectively achieve our mission.

Regarding point 2, Leadership. I hope that by building and empowering more robust District Committees, these individuals will experience personal growth and, through contact with your clubs, will also help develop your club committees. Attached is the latest draft of your district leadership team. There will be changes to this from time to time, with the latest available on the district website, under Who We Are --->Leadership.

We will also be investing in club development through:

- Increased use of the Leadership Compass
- Initiating a new membership sub-committee to help with new club chartering, existing club development, including conflict resolution
- Area Directors becoming more STRATEGICALLY involved with your clubs.

This may mean:

- o Helping with a leadership compass session
- o Visiting with your board or full club
- o Helping develop conflict resolution action plans
- o Helping with surveys and/or input on strategic plans
- o Checking if club bylaws and rules of procedures are in place and up to date
- o Checking that service and advocacy projects are on-mission

The 3rd part of my plan is Enhanced Communication.

- I don't want that to be significantly MORE communication, but more helpful communication that will enhance your Zonta experience and achievement of our mission
- The board is planning quarterly newsletters. The goal is to provide timely updates from the district committees and board. Area directors have been asked to also provide a quarterly update.
- The District Website will remain our hub for information, with Lt. Governor Charlene Rains at the helm, but an increased team to help.
 - o Please help us keep this accurate and interesting.
 - o If you have something to share, or see something that should be updated or correction, please email webcoordinator@zonta-district11.org
 - o Meanwhile, please enjoy the photos from the Awards Dinner

We are adding 2 secretaries, Corresponding Secretary and E-Secretary. Please be sure they are on your safe sender list:

correspondence@zonta-district11.org;
esecretary@zonta-district11.org

Emails will be targeted to club leaders such as presidents, treasurers, committee chairs, with some communications going to all members. If action is needed, or deadlines are relevant it should be highlighted. We will try to not repeat ZI communications, but we need you to be aware of the ZI information.

- o Every member needs to be sure they are registered on the ZI website to receive ZI communications.
- o Check your mailing address so you receive the Zontian magazine and other mailings.
- o Maintain proper contact information with ZI & D11.

I would like to make a request that Zontians check your emails at LEAST once a week. As a leader if you cannot do this please find an enthusiastic volunteer to do so for you. I would also suggest the use of an E-calendar. I love Outlook for email, calendars and task.

In closing I'd like to make a few call outs:

- BIG CONGRATULATIONS to the DOTHAN DARLINGS, the 2013/2014 Governor's Cup winner.
- BRAVO to Melbourne, this year's Lt. Governor's award winner, on ANOTHER AWARD WINNING YEAR!
- In my 4-years of annual report review I believe this is the best batch of D11 reports I have read. You are all winners in my book.

My sincere appreciation to all of you who made the time to attend and/or volunteer at convention and for this I am grateful.

I trust this experience will build our ENTHUSIASM and SUCCESSES and we will have the BEST BIENNIUM EVER!

I look forward to serving with you.

Sincerely,

Karen

District Governor

www.zonta-district11.org or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ZontaDistrict11