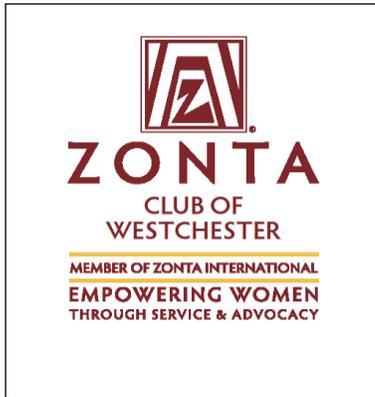


ZONTAGRAM



ZONTA CLUB OF WESTCHESTER
CONSTITUENT OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 3 AREA 1 ORGANIZED 1931

October
2017

Dear Westchester Zontians:

President

Laura Dunckley

Vice President

Joan Mallory

Treasurer

Patricia Latona

Secretary

Coralie Joseph
Rosemarie Cornacchio

Director

Clyde Herring

Director

Jamie Hubert

Director

Fredricka Hreyo

Zontagram

Jamie Hubert

zontaofwestchesterny.org

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zontawestchester@gmail.com

The Garage Sale fundraiser held at Saxon Woods on September 30, 2017 was a success, netting over \$500 in profit. Unfortunately Georgia and Laura did not make EJ's event later in the day as planned, due to exhaustion.

Our second fundraiser, The Opera Experience featuring Bizet's Carmen was also a great success. The feedback was excellent. Our Treasurer, Pat Latona collected the receipts and took several photographs. We netted over \$800 profit from that event. We were pleased to extend congratulations to two of our members during the opening moments prior to the opera presentation. Pat Latona won the election for Lt Gov. and Georgia La Blanc received a bouquet of yellow roses for her forty years of service to Zonta! We are proud and appreciative of both women!

In an effort to help the victims of the Hurricane in the Caribbean, Laura, Joan, Georgia and Gigi will be collecting some non-perishable food products. Please bring your donations to our next meeting or arrange for pickup from one of the above women.

See you soon,
Laura

MONTHLY MEETING
Tuesday
October 17, 2017

J.C. Fogarty's
60 Kraft Avenue
Bronxville, NY

Networking
6:30

Dinner & Meeting
7:00 to 9:00

Program:

Speaker from
My Sister's Place:
Overview of new
programs

Zonta District 3 Conference 2017

In a video from Zonta International, President Sonja Honig Schough welcomed the 96 Zontians and guests assembled in Wilmington, Delaware for the annual District 3 Conference. She thanked us for being dedicated, devoted, and daring in our work on behalf of Zonta and the women and girls everywhere. And stated that an organization is nothing without its members. President Honig Schough reminded us to peruse the newly designed ZI website; in particular to look at ZI's leadership platform.

<https://membership.zonta.org/Tools/Leadership-Development-Tools>

She closed inviting everyone to 2018 ZI Convention in Japan.

Judith Anderson, ZI Board member who hails from Australia was the International Representative to the conference. A warm, inspiring woman she reminded us that Zonta provides so many great opportunities to learn and grow, whatever age or experience. She hoped that we would all come away from the weekend, inspired, better informed and revitalized by the fun and friendship Zonta has to offer. And we definitely were!

During Foundation Ambassador Lisa Fraser's plea for contributions she noted that Georgia LaBlanc from Westchester sent a note with a donation in honor of Carol Beaver. Thank you Georgia!

By the end of the conference members donated over \$9,600 to the ZI Foundation! Because most of the money raised for the foundation comes from clubs, Lisa implored all clubs to give annually to support Zonta's work. In District 3 only 18 out of 29 clubs give to ZI. Hats off to the Westchester club, we give every year. See more on the ZI Foundation website <https://foundation.zonta.org/>

AWARDS - Unfortunately the Zonta Club of Westchester did not receive any achievement awards. However, there is always next year.

SPEAKER – Ms. Diaz – “Ending Rape on Campus”

This young lady was raped on her campus which had a major negative impact on her physically, and emotionally. She described feeling lost and frightened, to the point where she did not want to go into the dining hall because the rapist was there. For the longest time she believed everything was her fault. Fortunately the dean and others supported her. It was then that Ms. Diaz began a campus action awareness campaign which then became EROC.org

Some of the statistics she offered were quite disturbing: one in 10 women has been raped by their intimate partner during their life; 60% of boys find it acceptable to force sex on girls in some circumstance (according to the CDC); majorities of rapist are serial rapists averaging 5.8 rapes each. Unfortunately only 7% of female students report their rape to any school official; and only 4% report it to police. The reasons students do not report is because they believe no one will take them seriously. They also incorrectly believe the rape was their fault. The results of being raped are many: poor academics, dropping out of school, problems with friend and peers. Colleges are now required to give counseling, living accommodations, and connection to law enforcement. For more information on this horrendous crime go to www.ero.org

UNICEF USA - Rachel Steinberg began her presentation with the startling fact that Zonta has been a partner with UNICEF for 45 years! This biennium we partner with them on the program “Let us Learn in Madagascar”-

One of the poorest countries in world with 90% of the country's population living on less than \$2 a day. Illiteracy is high and economic growth is low as a result of the few children who go to school. In fact currently 1.7 million children are not in school. "Let us Learn in Madagascar" program focuses on getting girls in school and keeping them there and training teachers. To date the program has been very successful.

<https://foundation.zonta.org/Our-Programs/International-Service-Program/Let-Us-Learn-Madagascar>

VOTING

District dues – Unfortunately the District has incurred an increase in expenses coupled with a decrease in membership. This along with the fact that fewer members attend district conferences and international conventions held outside US are costly required the district board to recommend a dues increase. Most of the discussions by members were in favor of increase in both dues and the conference assessment fee. It was noted that a dues increase was requested 10 years ago when it became clear then that receipts were declining. Unfortunately it was voted down. The 2017 vote to increase dues and the assessment fee was passed. Beginning next biennium, June 2018, district dues plus conference assessment fees will be \$20.

The vote to approve the Membership grant program also passed. The pilot program appeared to be successful with six clubs participating. It may be worthwhile for our club to submit a proposal for a membership grant!

ELECTION results

Governor - Joanne Gallos - ZC of Annapolis

Lt. Governor- Pat Latona - ZC of Westchester

Treasurer- Rosa Goldsmith - ZC of Washington DC

Area 1 Director – Lisa Burton - ZC of New Rochelle

Area 2 Director – Winnifred Easterling - ZC of Essex County

Area 3 Director- -Pat Rosensteel - ZC of Frederick

Area 4 Director- Gale Allen - ZC of Fairfax County

It is my hope that more of our club members will in the future attend a District Conference. I always return with new ideas, a sense of empowerment knowing so many other Zontians are doing some amazing things, and the warm feeling of spending time with good friends I have met over the years as a member of Zonta.

Submitted by Pat Latona

Newly elected Area Director – Lisa Burton (left) Governor - Joanne Gallos and Lt. Governor – Pat Latona



An Opera Experience Like No Other!

It was a music- filled, entertaining and fun evening. Our own Joan Mallory, “alias Carmen” regaled 33 Zontians and their guests with the scandalous story of the opera Carmen, Monday October 2nd. We listened and watched several videos depicting scenes from the opera while Joan told its fascinating story.

Another highlight of the evening was the presentation of a dozen yellow roses plus a framed Membership Certificate to Georgia LaBlanc. Georgia has been a member of Zonta for 40 years! Thank you Georgia for your dedication and commitment to Zonta.

If you were unable to attend this fall opera experience hopefully you will join us in the spring. Please remember it is a fundraiser.

NOVEMBER AUCTION FUNDRAISER

It's that time again!! Our November meeting will be an auction. This is an opportunity to empty your closets, drawers and storage areas of new or gently used items. Plan to invite friends and family to participate. Bring items to our October meeting. We will also collect items throughout the month.

We will be meeting at the Wartburg – 3 Wartburg Place, Mt. Vernon, NY 10552. Shirley Carter will need to have estimated number of guests so food can be ordered. She will also need to know who will be bringing desserts.

Remember to start inviting friends and family members!!

**Welcome Back to Fredricka Hreyo
So glad to see you at our September meeting**



1552 PIONEER TRAIL
CHESTERTON, IN 46304

FREETHEGIRLS.ORG

September 13, 2017

Dear Zonta Club of Westchester,

As long-time supporters of Free The Girls, you are familiar with the impact of our work on the lives of sex trafficking survivors around the world. I hope you know how very grateful we are for you; we truly wouldn't be able to do what we do without you!

The original dream of Free The Girls (in 2010) was to take a few hundred bras to Mozambique in a suitcase twice a year. We have moved far beyond that dream and are proud to share the following facts:

- Our programs have grown from serving the 3 original trafficking survivors to having served over 75 women - many of whom are now leading vibrant, successful lives of true freedom.
- We have shipped 853 boxes of bras (approximately 170,600 bras) in the last year to sub-Saharan Africa and Central America. These were bras collected and shipped to us by donors in 9 different countries around the globe!
- During this calendar year 13 women graduated from our program in Mozambique (our largest graduation to date) plus another three from Uganda. We are planning on another graduation in El Salvador this fall.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity our bra donors and the sheer number of bra donations we have received and continue to receive from nearly every corner of the globe. As inventory manager it is truly amazing to be part of collecting and processing over 15,000 bras every month. But it takes bras as well as "bucks" to continue to sustain our programs.

I am writing to you specifically because Zonta is an organization that seeks to support and empower women through service and advocacy. Free The Girls goals revolve around equipping and empowering women who are sex trafficking survivors in order for them to achieve their full potential. As part of our annual fundraising campaign I am asking you to consider a financial gift to Free The Girls. Your gift will help sustain our programs, ship bras overseas, and maintain our modest overhead requirements.

Our small FTG team, made up of the Board, staff, and volunteers, is hoping to raise these funds in the next six weeks during our annual fundraiser so we can finish this year well and begin 2018 with the ability to serve the women in the best way we can. Your gift of \$100 or \$150 (or whatever amount you feel led to give) would make an impact in the global fight against sex trafficking.

I also wanted to share with you the story of Fatima, one of our recent graduates from our Mozambique program. Fatima was trafficked as a young girl in Maputo, Mozambique. She was forced into survival sex to care for her young siblings. Fatima was in commercial sex for the majority of her life, having five children and several abusive relationships. When she came to FTG, she was incredibly motivated by the opportunity to own her own business. Before she graduated, she was able to purchase her own land (\$1000USD), construct a house, put all 5 children in school, and even buy pigs for a livestock business -- all from the sale of bras! Her most impactful quote: "You can't get tired of giving because we've already shown you what we can do when you give."

Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have any questions about Free The Girls, I'd love to answer them, so please don't hesitate to contact me. I have been involved with Free The Girls since I first hosted a bra drive in 2011 and have been its inventory manager since 2013.

Working for freedom together,

Pam Gumns
Inventory Manager
Free The Girls
219.508.5978
pam@freethegirls.org

October Birthdays

Shirley Carter – 22nd

