



INKLING

Issue 8

August 2009

ZONTA CLUB OF OLYMPIA P.O. BOX 1881, OLYMPIA, WA 98507

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I read several magazines each month and listen to commentators on the radio and television and frequently suffer from information overload. Recently, I read that there are approximately 6.77 billion people on the planet at this time. The consensus is that the world's population will reach about 9 billion by the year 2050. Of that number, approximately 59 percent will live in Asia, 20 percent in Africa, 7 percent in Europe, 9 percent in Latin America and the Caribbean, 4.5 percent in Northern America and .5 percent in Oceania. Many experts are of the opinion that the sustainable population of the earth is 10 billion people. Of course, there are many factors to consider. At the present time, food production has kept pace with population growth. However, agri-industry has relied heavily on petroleum based fertilizers in the past and that will probably not be the future. In addition, due to the reliance on genetically engineered crops, a crop failure could be widespread. Food prices in the early 21st century are rising sharply on a global scale, and causing serious malnutrition to spread widely. There were approximately 850 million people suffering from chronic malnutrition in 2005. This number will continue to increase. Science Daily predicts that half of the world's population could face climate-induced food crisis by 2100.

Whether or not, these dire predictions come to pass is a matter of debate. Many "experts" have predicted that the worst would happen many years ago and, of course, it didn't. However, there is no doubt that increasing numbers of people in less developed and over populated countries will continue to die of malnutrition and diseases which they are susceptible to because of the lack of good nutrition.

What is the best solution to this crisis in the making? It lies in the mission of Zonta International to advance the status of women worldwide. It is an undisputed fact that as the women in a given population become educated and empowered, the birth rate declines. That seems like a very simplistic answer; however, the simplest solution is almost always the most successful. That is why it is so important to be a Zontian.

So often, the cart is placed before the horse. We try to cure the results of the disease and do not attack the cause of the disease.

Recently, I reviewed the international service programs of Zonta International for the 2008-2010 biennium. One of the programs is to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV in Rwanda. Many of these women were the victims of rape during the war and, as a result, became HIV positive. It is hoped that this project will virtually eliminate the passage of HIV from mother to child. And, more importantly, these efforts will also address the medical, nutritional, psychological and economic needs of HIV positive women and their families.

Another of the programs will focus on urban violence as a gender issue in Guatemala City, Guatemala and San Salvador, El Salvador. It will also strengthen women's rights to active citizenship and make these dangerous cities safer for women. The hope is that women will take on more active roles and become empowered to more effectively combat the increasing violence in their communities.

The last project is the reduction of Obstetric Fistula in Liberia. Liberia is another country still recovering from the recently ended civil wars. Its healthcare system was all but destroyed. Obstetric fistula is devastating to the countless women who suffer from it and yet, it can be treated with a relatively simple operation. The cost is only \$300; however, it is an amount that these women cannot afford.

The above programs are necessary and rewarding programs. The problem is that in many respects they treat the symptoms of larger problems and do not solve the root problems. In many countries, women are the victims of gender-based discrimination, resulting in the lack of education, employment opportunities and participation in government. For example 57% of women with obstetric fistula are abandoned by their husbands, and due to their condition, opportunities to make a living are limited, leading many of them to a life of hard labor and profound poverty. Many of these "women" are girls aged 10 to 19. These young women suffer disproportionately due to their age.

(President's message continued on page 2)

August 6th - 6:00 pm ZONTA PICNIC

JOIN US AT OUR ANNUAL ZONTA PICNIC. Family and friends are welcome. The picnic will be at Tumwater Falls Park, located just below the restaurant.

The club will provide fried chicken, beverages and frozen treats. Bring your favorite salad or picnic side-dish to share. Don't forget to provide a service utensil for your dish. Those needing to sign up, please call Shirley Dunn at 866-9205 or email her at dunn.shirley@comcast.net

New members Laurie and Karyn will be initiated at the picnic.

August 13th - Board Meeting Noon
Dirty Dave's

August 20th - Business Meeting Noon
Dirty Dave's

New member Dotti will also be initiated.

August 27th - Evening meeting - Dirty Dave's Annual Planning Meeting - 6:00 (Big room)
(this replaces the September 3rd evening meeting)

FUTURE DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR

October 17, 2009 - Zonta 22nd Auction

October 2-4 -Governor's Conference in Walla Walla, WA "Discovering Zonta! World of Wonders!" Governor Terri Turi indicated that there was going to be a raffle for Pearson College with baskets from all the clubs themed with "Zonta Country" to be auctioned off at the conference. Items should depict items from that country. The country assigned to Olympia is Argentina. Start putting your ideas to work on how and what to put in our basket. It would be greatly appreciated if we all get started now. (On the internet go to Argentina for ideas) Susan Somers in charge of our basket.

June 24-30 2010 Zonta International Conv. in San Antonio, TX

WALLA WALLA

If you are planning on attending the Governor's Conference in Walla Walla, this will of interest to you. A block of rooms has been set aside for Zonta at the Best Western Walla Walla suites. If you are planning on attending, you may want to reserve your room now. The rate is \$84 a day and the dates are October 1, 2nd and 3rd. The telephone number to call is 1-509-525-4700. You need to tell them that you are attending the Zonta conference or they will tell you the hotel is booked.

Kinship Family

Fred age 65 birthday 7/28
Arlene age 70 birthday 6/9
Samatha age 12 birthday 6/15
Daniel age 9 birthday 2/3

Remember when the bank goes around, to put something in it as it helps when we need to get something for them.

President's Message continued

Unfortunately, it is not unusual for girls that young to be married to older men in some cultures. These men abandon the girls when they give birth and experience an obstetric fistula. There is a culture of silence in these countries that forbids its discussion.

We need more programs in countries where the education of women is considered unnecessary because women are perceived as only being useful for child-bearing and domestic work. We need to seek to change attitudes that prevent women from being useful and productive members of their communities. I have heard it said by many enlightened men that by excluding women from participating in society, we have excluded more than one-half of the potential economic production of that society. We know that education and empowerment of women is essential to solving the problem of population growth and the resulting increase in the numbers of people who are unable to feed themselves and their children and the consequences of disease and death. This should be the primary focus of Zonta International's international service programs. This will be the ultimate cure.

When I visited Zonta International's home page, I found under "Issues and Programs" the language I was expecting to read. Basically, the language is that ZI is on the front lines of global and local efforts to help women overcome barriers to equal education, health care, legal rights, credit and employment, through education, service and advocacy, etc. However, I am not certain that the equal education part of our goals is being addressed. Perhaps, I am mistaken. I intend to inquire. The future is at stake.

Best to all, Ann

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Laurie L. Dumar (Jeff) (2009) 7/18
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Karyn Lindberg (Eric) (2009) 12/27
3211 - 28th Avenue SE
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#2534 Journalists and Related Professionals

Joyce Gillie Has been approved as Parliamentarian for this term and **Toy Kay** has been approved to take Joyce's place on the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT JUNE 2009

General Fund	\$10,311.45
Service Foundation	21,782.71
=====	
	\$32,094.16

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Committee reports will be going into the Inkling so members can be informed on what is going on. Please submit all information to Glenda (drebickg@comcast.net) or by mail 2404 Chandler Ct SW, Suite 200, Olympia 98502 by the 3rd Thursday each month. Thank You!

Membership Committee Update

Thursday, July 16, 2009

Summary of Discussion:

The Zonta Club of Olympia has trouble retaining members and recruiting younger members. Often new members do not fully understand what is expected of them as a Zontian. When this happens, they quietly slip into the "inactive" membership status or they simply do not join the following year. We need to make sure we educate prospective members about the time commitment that comes with joining the club. We need to host recruitment events and programs that appeal to younger members. We need to mentor new members to make them feel welcome and to support their success as an ongoing active member of the club. Below is an overview of the OMC Committee responsibilities and goals, and a list of some of the objectives we have committed to for the year.

The responsibilities of the OMC committee are to recruit, rejuvenate, revitalize, and retain membership for the Zonta Club of Olympia. The goals of the committee are to increase membership by retaining and recruiting members who are committed to and activity work towards achieving Zonta's mission. Below are some of the objectives the committee has set for the year:

- Recruit 10 active members by June 1, 2010.
- Host two recruitment events a year.
- Create application packets for prospective members to give them a better understanding of what they will do as a member of the club.
- Diversify the average age of our members. Focus on recruiting younger members to ensure the longevity of the club.
- Ensure all new members receive orientation and name tags within 30 days of joining.
- Assign a mentor for each new member for the year.

UN/LAA Committee Report

The following is an excerpt from a letter from Denise Conroy Zonta International LAA Committee and Jackie Shapiro Chairman Zonta International United Nations Committee Chairman that is posted on the ZI website.

We, as advocates for US CEDAW ratification, are optimistic that the process will be accomplished before the

thirtieth anniversary of CEDAW on December 18th of this year! However, we must renew our efforts to contact our Senators and each member of the Foreign Relations Committee to enlist their support for CEDAW ratification and for bringing the vote on this landmark treaty for women's rights to the Senate floor this year.

*We must prioritize **national** ratification of CEDAW at this opportune moment. We applaud the efforts of our Zonta members in the states of Colorado and Washington for their outstanding work in their respective legislatures. Their work at the state level will also be part of our strategy to accomplish US ratification. In addition to writing letters to Senators and members of the Foreign Relations Committee, a complementary effort can be made to secure appointments with your US Senators when they are at home and bring the case for CEDAW ratification to them face-to-face.*

The UN/LAA Committee is working on a packet of letters to send to our two US Senators. Club members are invited to write their own paragraph to be included in the packet. The committee is also working on sample paragraphs that could be used. We will have the paragraphs at the August board and business meetings. We need to add our support to the campaign to ratify this important treaty. Violence against women takes many forms – physical, sexual, psychological and economic. It is time for the US to join with the other industrialized countries in the world and add our voice to improving the status of women around the world.

AUCTION

Start planning and getting donations for our auction on October 17th. It takes the entire club for this to be successful. Procuring items is so important and we need your help but if you cannot help in this area, there is a lot of help that is needed to make this all come together. Try to attend the next auction meeting, August 10th at Oneta's club house (call Oneta 357-7671 for directions) Contact Marilyn Nelson or Dee Wolverton for auction information.

TEAM AUCTION BASKETS HAVE BEEN FORMED:

GARDEN

Joyce Gillie, team leader, Patricia Dunsmore, Karyn Lindberg, Judy Norton, Sandra Romero and Katy Stark.

WINE

Glenda Drebeck, team leader, Karen Fraser, Dorothy Heath, Shelly Willis, Laurie Dumar and Linda Matson.

MOVIE

Susan Somers, team leader, Leatta Dahlhoff, Paulette Homann, Gail Dahlhoff, Jan Suess, Dotti Lane

KITCHEN

Shirley Dunn, team leader, Karma Boardman, Ann Jackson, Dawn Hitchens, Toy Kay and Mary Russell

Get creative in selecting items that will be interesting to bidders to fill your baskets, include the value of your donated item and get it to your team leader in plenty of time to meet the September deadline.

All baskets need to be completely assembled, labeled with contents, procurement form filled out, value determined and delivered no later than the September 17th business meeting. Value should not exceed \$75.00

August

- 06: 6:00 pm PICNIC Tumwater Falls Park
- 13: Board Meeting – Noon - Dirty Dave's
- 20: Business Meeting – Noon - Dirty Dave's
- 27: Evening -Annual Meeting
6:00 Dirty Dave's



DISTRICT WEBSITE at www.zontadistrict8.org

Missing an Inkling? They are posted on this site as well as other clubs



August Birthdays

Leatta Dahlhoff	08/12
Katy Stark	08/13

Together we can tell the Zonta story.



ON A SAD NOTE

Former Olympia member, Marion Lemons passed away in July.

Also

Former Zonta Helvi Sipila passed away in Finland in May. She was the first female UN Assistant Secretary-General with specific responsibility for the Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs from 1972-1980. She also was President of Zonta International during this time. She began her career as an attorney in 1941 and was the first woman to stand for election as a candidate for president of Finland in 1982.



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