

# Zonta District 6 Newsletter

September 2020



**Zonta District 6  
Fall Conference  
October 10, 2020**



**Empower Women & Girls**

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## **District 6 Governors E-Newsletter Welcome to 2020-2022!**

It is my pleasure and my honor to welcome you to the first biennium in the second century of Zonta. It is amazing that our organization has been around for 100 years! We have the unique opportunity to launch into the next century.



### **What a beginning to this new Century we have had.**

Thanks so much to all of you who participated in the virtual 2020 convention events. So sorry we missed the opportunity to host the 2020 International convention, but, thanks to technology, we were able to continue to hold many of the events. This is the beginning of doing many things differently!

### **About Me**

As I get to know all of you, I thought I would share with you a little bit about me. I grew up in Aurora, IL, where I began my professional career as a first-grade teacher. In those years as a teacher I got married and left the classroom to begin my family. My first born was a surprise birth of *two* sons (aka twins). I became a stay at home mom to raise our boys and their younger sister. While I was a stay at home mom, I became very involved as a community volunteer in Lombard, IL, where we still reside. I am happy to say all my children are married, in professional careers, reside in the west suburban area of Chicago and have blessed me with 7 grandchildren.

Since those 3 children kept talking about wanting to go to college, I decided I needed to work to supplement the family income. I went back into education in a private school, did some outside sales for a small company and eventually started my own business as an independent contractor of seminar training and professional development. I fell in love with what I do and continue to run my business 26 years later!

### **Zonta Enters My Life**

I learned of Zonta when the Headquarters moved from Chicago to Oak Brook. I was intrigued with the mission of Zonta and became a founding member of the Zonta Club of Oak Brook. I served in various chairmanships, became club president then Area 1 Director. Thanks to the members of our District, I was elected to be Lt. Governor and now serve you as Governor of our District.

Although my tenure in Zonta has been relatively short, I am long on non-profit leadership. I have led most local organizations in Lombard, was a District and State board member of the Illinois General Federation of Women's Club, a state board member of the Illinois Association of Parliamentarians and served the PTA as an Illinois and a National president. With great enthusiasm I look forward to serving the 22 clubs in Zonta International District 6.

### **Together We Empower Women & Girls**

I am delighted to present you with a fantastic District 6 Board who is ready to serve you and inform you of the latest issues and events that will help us all to carry out the Zonta Mission. Although we have many unknowns regarding our immediate future, I know that as Zontians we will rise above all the obstacles and continue to work in our communities, in our District and at the International level.

I hope to see many of you in person soon and want you to know that in the meantime, I am only a phone call, e-mail or Zoom meeting away! Best of luck to you and your clubs in the coming year.

*Anna Weselak*

Anna Weselak, District 6 Governor

email: [aweselak@weselak.com](mailto:aweselak@weselak.com) • Phone or Text: 630-988-0625

**Website Link:**

<http://zontadistrict6.org>

**Calendar link:**

<http://zontadistrict6.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/2020-2022-ZI-Calendar.pdf>

## Membership

**Cheryl Trudeau,  
Lt. Governor**

### Zonta Welcomes the Next Generation



Hello to all of you! I am thrilled to be able to greet you through this revised newsletter. I know Governor Anna and Sandy Peterson will create an interesting and topical newsletter to keep all District 6 Zontians up to date with the District news!

Under the Lt Governor hat, I am also the District Membership Chair. Governor Anna wisely suggested to several district chairs to form a committee with 1 member from each state in our District. I am happy to report that **Jane Hartman**, from the Zonta Club of Madison, **Joanna Shoemaker**, from the Zonta Club of Lebanon, and **Susan Bruzan**, from the Zonta Club of Northwest Cook County, have all enthusiastically agreed to join me in developing this new committee. Our goal is to reach each club in the District, to learn what your practices are regarding membership. We want to share successful methods and events with all clubs. Our belief is that if it worked well somewhere else, it can be adapted to your club as well.

Thank you for your work in making Zonta District 6 one of the best in the Zonta world! If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please contact me at:

[ctrudeau@municipalbank.com](mailto:ctrudeau@municipalbank.com); I look forward to hearing from you!

• Susan: [sabruzan@yahoo.com](mailto:sabruzan@yahoo.com) • Jane: [jlh2776@gmail.com](mailto:jlh2776@gmail.com);

• Joanna: [pjshoemaker@gmail.com](mailto:pjshoemaker@gmail.com).

## Area Directors Updates

*Area Directors are just beginning to meet with their Clubs. Directors have communicated some of their goals for this year. Look for more detailed Area notes in the next newsletter.*

### Area 1

**Kathy Raker, Director**



### International Gender Equality

All Area 1 Club Presidents are on-board and have exchanged basic communications. Our first Zoom Meeting is planned for Sept 16, 2020. At that time, we will do more sharing. All of us express our regret that the International Convention had to be virtual, as its physical occurrence would have been in our backyard if not for the Global Pandemic. Happy so much was accomplished through the efforts of so many in our worldwide Zonta community. Big thanks to all!

Contact: [kathy.raker@comcast.net](mailto:kathy.raker@comcast.net)

### Area 2

**Gail Zalewski, Director**



### Zonta Milwaukee Club Online Auction

### Zonta Club of Milwaukee's 2020 Fundraiser • September 19th – 27th!

Since Milwaukee could not safely hold their 2020 Zonta Fashion Show fundraiser, they were not able to raise approximately \$25,000 for nonprofit services serving women and girls. Our alternative is an online auction along with seeking monetary donations. Funds will be distributed in 2021 to local non-profit agencies that empower women and girls in the Milwaukee metro area.

Auction Site: <https://go.rallyup.com/2020zontafundraiser>

Contact: Gail Zalewski [gailzale@mwwb.net](mailto:gailzale@mwwb.net)

### Area 3

**Isabel Vital, Director**



### It's Time to End Child Marriage!



The new Zonta Biennial has been quiet for Area 3 clubs. We look forward to incorporating the new Biennial Goals into our club meeting agendas, Advocacy and Service Projects. We also welcome and look forward to supporting our new D6 Governor Anna Weselak and our new ZI President Sharon Lengenbeck.

The Zonta Club of Mascoutah installed its new officers and board in May by Zoom Ceremony. The Zonta Club of Lincoln had to cancel its Centennial Celebration with the Public, but did go forward with many members in attendance. With a heavy heart we honor the work and memory of three sisters lost this Spring. Caroline Higgins and Pattie Quint each 5 years with Zonta were lost in May and June, while we lost one year member Missionary and Mission Founder Barbara O'Donohue in August.

Contact: [imvidal@comcast.net](mailto:imvidal@comcast.net)

### Area 4

**Jeni Royalty, Director**



### Goals for The Biennium

I have a couple of goals for this biennium, both in line with two set on the International level. The first is to have either an Area-wide or Club level membership event(s) and invite all Awards/Scholarships recipients for the past 3-5 years that were recognized by each Club. The second is to hold an Area-wide event to promote Advocacy efforts related to our "Zonta Says NO!" campaign, inviting or partnering with other like-minded organizations.

I look forward to working with the other Area Directors and all Board members as together we serve as co-pilots and begin the journey of navigating District 6 into the next century of Zonta International!

Contact: [jeniluroyalty@gmail.com](mailto:jeniluroyalty@gmail.com)

## Advocacy

Laura Baker, Chair

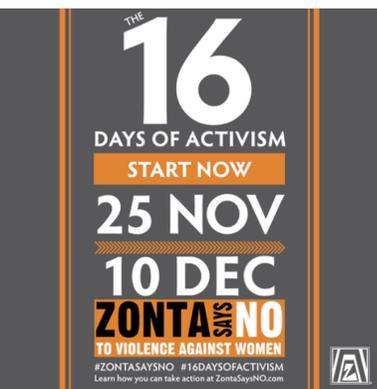
### Get Involved USA Action Center



During a recent Zoom meeting with my home club of Indianapolis, a member pointed out that with Covid-19, it may be tough to do service projects, so now is the time to focus on advocacy. As the 2020-2022 District Advocacy Chair, this was music to my ears. To get clubs started, I want to share a listing of resources. If you are new to advocacy, don't worry. We are well supported! I look forward to serving as your District 6 Advocacy Chair this biennium. Please feel free to contact me directly if you need assistance.

Contact: [L\\_Baker40@yahoo.com](mailto:L_Baker40@yahoo.com)

### Zonta Says No Campaign: 16 Days of Activism (November 25-December 10, 2020)



This year the district is encouraging 100% participation in the campaign. This website will give you ideas and suggestions to help you find what will work best for your club. Why not color a building orange this year! Look for ideas from around the world:

Zonta Says No: <https://zontasaysno.com/>

#### Resources:

##### Laura Baker

District 6 Advocacy Chair:  
[L\\_Baker40@yahoo.com](mailto:L_Baker40@yahoo.com)

##### Christine Sterle

District 6 Advocacy  
Liaison - Indiana:  
[CMSterle@att.net](mailto:CMSterle@att.net)

##### Susan Bursztynsky

District 6 Advocacy  
Liaison - Illinois:  
[Susan.Zonta@gmail.com](mailto:Susan.Zonta@gmail.com)

##### Diane Lindsley

District 6 Advocacy  
Liaison - Wisconsin:  
[DianeLindsley@hotmail.com](mailto:DianeLindsley@hotmail.com)

#### Online Resources:

- [USA Caucus: https://zontausa.org/](https://zontausa.org/) This site is a wealth of information!
- **USA Caucus Advocacy Action Center** Club members can sign up to receive action alerts on different issues that impact women and girls.  
[https://www.zonta.org/Web/Get\\_Involved/USA\\_Advocacy\\_Action\\_Center/Web/Get\\_Involved/USA\\_Advocacy\\_Action\\_Center.aspx](https://www.zonta.org/Web/Get_Involved/USA_Advocacy_Action_Center/Web/Get_Involved/USA_Advocacy_Action_Center.aspx)
- <https://zontadistrict8.org/zonta-usa-caucus-a-new-program-for-national-advocacy-in-the-united-states/>

## Service

Lisa Conard, Chair

### Community Quilt Project



The District 6 Service Project will take a "new format" this biennium. Each state will have a representative for the states clubs to send their service information. We will keep track of individual club service projects in order to share information on successes and ideas. Please share photos too. Our District project is to collect blankets/ quilts for local distribution to service organizations. These blanket/ quilts may be hand made by members who like hands on service or purchased by those who prefer that method. Clubs will keep track of the numbers of quilt/ blankets donated and report those numbers to their state representative quarterly. We also plan to host two informational speakers on equal pay for women, and violence against women.

Contact: [b.conard@comcast.net](mailto:b.conard@comcast.net)

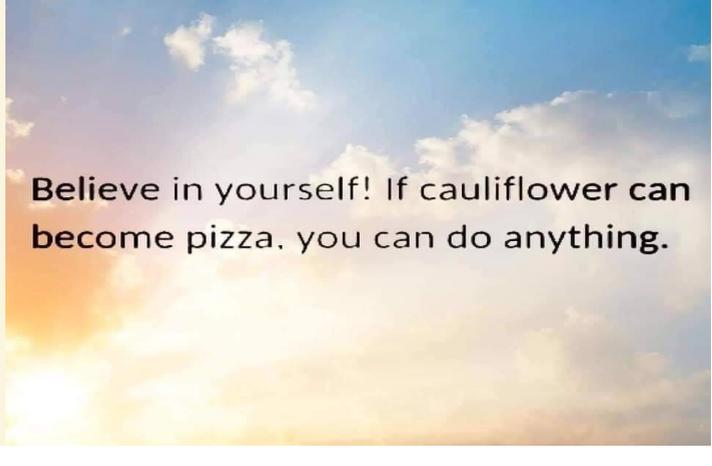
**State representatives:** Tamara Hagen Wisconsin, Marsha Bennett Illinois, and Rachel Tanner Indianapolis

#### Each Club Service Chair:

- Report on number of quilt/blankets donated quarterly
- Report on service projects during quarter and include photos by:  
**September 1, December 1, March 1, and June 1**
- Share ideas, success and "not too successful" information

**Leadership Development**  
**Yvonne Chalfant, Chair**

**Value Proposition For Membership**



At the direction of Zonta International President Sharon Langenbeck, we will be hearing about leadership within Zonta and the importance of recruiting new members and retaining current members through leadership development.

Zonta members already know the value of their Zonta membership and Zonta relationships. Our challenge is to make leadership development part of the value proposition for membership in Zonta. Let women know that Zonta offers leadership development opportunities that will enable them in their personal and professional lives.

Joining me in this journey during the **2020-2022** biennium are **Cheryl Lucas-Deberry** from Wisconsin, **Susan Trees** from Indiana and **Robin Savage** from Illinois. We'll be available to work directly with clubs and areas to support leadership development throughout our district.

Contact: [yhalfant@olivet.edu](mailto:yhalfant@olivet.edu)

**Foundation**  
**Dorothy Suther**  
**Area Foundation Ambassador**

**Zonta's Work Continues**



*Gender-Based Violence Survivors in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste*

The delegates to the Zonta International Convention have adopted the service projects for the biennium. Once again they celebrate our partnership with the United Nations and its agencies. This partnership has benefitted women and girls around the world. In addition to the scholarships and fellowships the service projects will be:

- **Let Us Learn Madagascar Phase III** - A continuation of that successful project
- **Delivering Survivor-Centered Response to Gender-Based Violence Survivors in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste**
- **Ending Child Marriage Phase II** - Building upon the foundation established in Phase I

Zonta's support – YOUR support has enriched the lives of so many women and girls over the years. They thank you.

We will be learning more about these projects as the biennium progresses, but we can determine now to help make these projects successful. Even as we navigate uncertain times they will be depending on us.

The Zonta International Foundation is the avenue through which each of us can reach out to make a difference in the lives of these girls. Our gifts to the Foundation make these projects possible. Please join me in strengthening Zonta's work.

Contact: [cgsuther@att.net](mailto:cdsuther@att.net)

**Award/Education**  
**Christie Plotzke, Chair**

**Zonta District 6 YWPA Winner**



**The 2020 YWPA Recipient** is Elizabeth Wong, a graduating senior at University School of Milwaukee. Elizabeth plans to pursue a degree in biomedical engineering, which “fuses both my love of medicine and scientific innovation, but also allows me to fulfill my greatest personal goal: serving others. As a biomedical engineer, in order to help save lives, I will work to develop creative solutions to global health issues and help improve the way in which we diagnose and treat patients. In doing so, I endeavor to address global health inequities and develop and improve not only healthcare products, but society as a whole.”

Contact: [cplotzke@aidcares.org](mailto:cplotzke@aidcares.org)

**PR / Communications**  
**Sandy Peterson, Chair**

**What Is Zonta?**

ZONTA IS ••• 28,000 Members  
 1,200 Clubs  
 In 62 Countries  
 All Working Together to Empower Women

ZONTA IS ••• Ending Violence Against Women

ZONTA IS ••• Empowering Women Through Service

ZONTA IS ••• Empowering Women Through Advocacy

I am honored to serve a second term as District 6 Public Relations / Communication Chair. As Zontians, we all struggle to communicate what “Zonta is” to the community, funders, government and potential members. In 2020, we have more tools than ever to help us communicate. The key question to answer, however, is still always “What is Zonta?”

**Our Plans**

- **Build on the Momentum** of the Zonta International Centennial. Stress the past successes while looking to what we want to achieve in the biennium.
- **Learn from Each Other!** This biennium, you are experts on what works in your community, let's share club successes and failures. Tell us about what you do in advocacy, service, fundraising, membership, and more.
- **The Zonta District Website** will feature a special section on club activities beginning in November. I will be asking Club Presidents and PR Chairs to help me identify these activities and promotional ideas.

**Official District 6 Photographer, Donna Mae Schlueter**

Contact: [sandy.or.tom@gmail.com](mailto:sandy.or.tom@gmail.com)