Zonta District 6 Newsletter

July 2023



District 6 Governor Cheryl Trudeau

A Great NADIM event! Thank you District 6

Zontians



District 6 Governors Message

Hello fellow Zontians!

We did it! One of, if not THE, best *NAIDM* was held in Indianapolis on Friday June 30 through Sunday July 2, and District 6 hosted it! Applause and kudos to Yvonne Chalfant, Host Committee Chair, for pulling District 6 and all five Areas of District 6 together to present Hoosier Hospitality to the entire North American group of Zontians. As well as the entire Zonta International Board! I also want to applaud all those Zontians from



Cheryl Trudeau, District 6 Governor

District 6 that worked so hard to host the over 200 Zontians that attended. A big part of that number

was the over 60 District 6 Zontians that attended! I am so proud of our District, not only for hosting such a great event, but attending and participating in the workshops. Of course, no one person can attend all the workshops presented, but I heard great things about all of them. I encourage all that attended to share your takeaways with members of your clubs.

If you are not receiving the Zonta International newsletter, you are missing out on a great way to get the latest happenings from around the Zonta world. It is available to everyone, and you can subscribe by visiting the Zonta International website.

One of the links available through the newsletter is *Zonta Spirit* sessions for area directors and club presidents. You are guaranteed to leave with new inspiration to ignite the flame of *Zonta Spirit* in your club. Get into the Zonta spirit, don't delay!

Each D6 committee has been working diligently for you since our March mailing,—and are providing updates regarding each of their committees in this newsletter. Take the time to read through what these committees are doing to "Build a Better World for Women and Girls".

Each club is being reminded to submit your club officer information to Zonta International. Even if there are no updates from previous years, it is important to have the most up-to-date information on file so that ZI can communicate with your club leaders. Please visit the Zonta International website and navigate to the Club Officer Form to submit.

District 6 Fall Conference will be here before you know it! Mark your calendars for October 5 through 8, 2023. We will be visiting Alton, IL and the committee has planned an exciting conference. Reminder that this year's conference will include your opportunity to vote on your leaders for the next biennium. Be sure to attend to lend your voice!

I want to say again how proud I am of all of District 6 for your dedication and all you do to "build a better world for women and girls"!

Cheryl Trudeau

District 6 Governor (2022 - 2024)

email: ctrudeau@municipalbank.com
Calendar Link

Area 1 Mary Kay Nelsen Director

Ratify the ERA



The Zonta members of Area 1 have worked hard this year supporting the ideals and goals of Zonta International and District 6. Our Spring Workshop was held on March 25th and was attended by members of 4 of our clubs and District Leaders. We had presentations on *The History and Status of the ERA* by Mary Nagel, and *Teaching Women to Negotiate* by Barb Yong.

E-Club of USA 3

The E-Club has just completed a strong second full year of operation meeting monthly on zoom. Since club members live in various locations, they were encouraged to attend the *Spring Workshop* closest to their location. Their members have volunteered 248.5 service hours to 13 organizations. And have supported the District service project to address food insecurity by contributing cash or in kind donations to 14 organizations in 7 states. The Advocacy Chair encourages all members to sign up for *Fast Action Fridays and* to receive legislative updates on *Ending Child Marriage*. In addition, members reported contacting legislators regarding the *ERA* and equality, writing postcards to encourage young women to vote, making presentations to their own work organizations about *Child Brides*, and making presentations to local Rotary and PEO clubs about Zonta.

Northwest Cook County

The Northwest Cook County Club hosts a monthly book club alternating between fiction and nonfiction. Their advocacy has centered around activities to *End Child Marriage* including several members submitting witness slips as proponents for *IL HB 1252 Coalition to End Child Marriage*. Their service projects include hosting a donation drive for *WINGS* (WINGS - largest domestic violence service provider in Illinois, provides housing and integrated services to adults and children escaping abuse.) At this event they also passed out brochures about Zonta. In support of the *District 6 Service Project* they donated \$150 Jewel gift card to *Miracle House* for food supplies for the house. (Miracle House is a facility whose primary purpose is helping women age 18 years and older in their recovery from addiction using the 12 Steps of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. They offer a 3 month live-in program in a warm, nurturing environment and *Alcoholic Anonymous* meetings to hundreds from the community six days per week.)

St Charles/Geneva/Batavia

The St Charles Geneva Batavia club was thrilled to present 12 scholarships this year! They attended each of the school's scholarship award nights and presented in person! They also hosted a dinner for the winners and their families. Sadly, they learned that *Lunafest* will not be offered going forward. They are partnering with local restaurants in our communities to help raise funds by designating a percentage of proceeds on a given day/night/week.

Oak Brook

Oak Brook celebrated International Women's Day/Zonta Yellow Rose Day with their annual International Women's Day Breakfast which raises funds for both The Zonta Foundation of Greater Chicago and the Oak Brook Club. At the breakfast purses and personal items to fill purses were collected from members as well as from generous attendees who donated to our #LovePurse Project. The project was extended through the end of March and thirteen lovely purses were filled with all kinds of personal necessities for clients of the Metropolitan Family Shelter DuPage. This year they are offering the YWPA Scholarship, the JMK Scholarship and the Zonta Women in Stem Scholarship. The club is proud that their YWPA recipient, Catherine Tang, was also named the District 6 winner. The club provides both monetary and service support for Poised For Success and Metropolitan Family Shelter DuPage. And in the coming months will be sponsoring a computer drive for Compudopt, an organization that collects, refurbishes, and distributes computers to underprivileged families. In support of the District 6 Service Project, food is collected for the FISH Food Pantry. An average of 5-10 bags of groceries are delivered to the pantry each month. Advocacy efforts include members participating in Fast Action Fridays. And the club Facebook page often features articles raising awareness of *Domestic Violence*, the need to *End Child Marriage*, and other topics consistent with Zonta's principles and goals.

Contact: maryknelsen1305@comcast.net

Area 2

Karen Smith
Director

Spring Workshop Discussion with Wisconsin Legislators



As Area 2 Director I was able to attend both the *Janesville* and *Madison Club* meetings in April and the Milwaukee club in May as their program. Belvidere is still pending due to tornadic activity in the area.

Spring Workshop: The Area 2 Spring Workshop was held in Janesville, WI hosted by the Zonta Club of Janesville. We had 33 members, five district board guests and one scholarship winner in attendance for a total of 39. All clubs in Area 2 had members at the workshop as well as a few Zonta E-Club of USA 3 members. Thank you to the District 6 board members who gave updates to Area 2 and the Zonta Club of Janesville who served as wonderful hosts. The workshop focused on ending child marriage with a goal of getting the 2019 Assembly Bill 715 reintroduced and sponsored in 2023. We had three state legislators in attendance who provided insight into how to gain support for the bill, what timing we should plan on and committed their personal support of the bill. Outcome of the workshop generated ideas for the Wisconsin clubs to form a Wisconsin team that would work across the clubs to present a unified approach. Eight workshop attendees volunteered to be on the WI team and the invitation will be extended to club members who were unable to attend. The goal is for all Wisconsin clubs to fully participate under the organization and leadership of the WI team. The Zonta Club of Belvidere is sharing their messaging that they have used for letters for the Illinois bill with Wisconsin.

Advocacy: The Zonta Club of Madison is planning for International Women's Day 2024. Meeting with seven community groups in Madison and a key issue will be selected for the event with the program built around that issue. The Janesville Club hosted an Inspiring Women event on International Women's Day which was a tribute to women who are standout role models and guides. Service Activities: The Madison Club is in the process of collecting 175 books for Little Libraries. The Little Library project was started with RCC Sexual Violence Resource Center. The Janesville Club participated in a lip-sync battle performing "Change, Change, Change" from Menopause the musical for an event that raised \$60,000 for homeless youth. The Zonta Club of Milwaukee collected items needed for women residing with Exploit No More who serve women coming out of sex trafficking through housing, education, and support services.

Membership: The *Zonta Club of Madison* welcomed new member Judy Brandt. The *Zonta Club of Milwaukee* welcomed new member Lynda Jackson Conyers in February.

Fundraising: The Madison club has been hosting *LunaFest* for their annual fundraiser. This year they raised over \$8,000, however they are looking for a new fundraiser as LunaFest has been put on pause by the producer. Both the *Belvidere* and *Janesville Clubs* have traveling nut sales as a fundraiser. The *Zonta Club of Milwaukee* is actively planning their *Fall Fashion Show Fundraiser* scheduled for Oct 21.

Other: Sarah Williams, *Zonta Club of Janesville*, was recognized by the *YWCA's 84* the *Women of Distinction Awards* on May 10. The *Janesville Club* is also planning a *Women's Business Expo* for October 26 at *The Venue* in Janesville and invites District 6 clubs to attend.

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Area 3

Jean Heil

Director

Zonta District 6 Conference

Zonta Club of Alton Wood

River, Host

October 5-8, 2023

Alton, Illinois



Service: Clubs are working hard to take action with the district-wide initiative addressing food insecurity through monetary donations (over \$1,500), food pantry and gift card donations and donating time and talent to food pantries or women's shelters. They have donated personal care items to crisis pregnancy center, bought underclothes for school nurses to hand out, provided fresh start kits to several families through the women's shelter supported after school mentoring/tutoring programs, sponsored dinners to help shelters provide housing for women and children, blood drives, donated monies to children's advocacy centers, collected and donated school supplies, gave donations to the *Police Benevolent Fund*, and worked with local library to sponsor a summer reading program.

Advocacy: Clubs have done social media campaigns, printed posters with domestic violence information and put in businesses, participated in *Fast Action Fridays*, participated in *Equal Pay Day*, handed out roses on *International Women's Day*, listened to lawmakers discuss *ERA*, and learned more about using the new *UN and Advocacy Toolkit* available on www.zonta.org.

Awards: Clubs have given over \$8,000 in various scholarships.

Membership: Efforts in all four Area 3 clubs are being made to increase membership. Membership drives, get-togethers, taking time to define our "whys" and caring for our current members are ways we are promoting Zonta and encouraging more women to consider joining our ranks.

Spring Workshop: On a very cold, windy Saturday the 18th of March, close to 40 women from Area 3 AND from across District 6 met in Mascoutah, IL for a marvelous day of learning, inspiration, laughter and challenge. All four club presidents were present and gave wonderful presentations celebrating the amazing things their clubs are doing to empower women and children in their communities. It was a memorable day of Zontian networking and activism.

NAIDM: Area 3 was represented in full force! From greeters to photography to decorating to trivia-hosting...Area 3 SHOWED OUT! We had a really wonderful time learning together and networking with so many other passionate and zealous Zontians!

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Area 5

Mary Baudino
Director

5th grade girls first Zonta Youth Leadership Awards



Area 5 clubs are active with their service, advocacy, fundraising, membership, awarding their club scholarship opportunities, and being Zonta present in their community partnering with other like-minded local organizations. Some highlights include:

Kankakee has focused on their meeting programs which has encouraged new member interest and current member engagement. They celebrated Yvonne Chalfant as their 2023 Zonta Woman of Achievement.

Joliet Area funds their scholarships and endowment with over 230 attendees at their *Lunafest*. Their 2023 Woman of Distinction Award was presented to the executive director of a counseling agency providing affordable counseling services to families and children.

Ottawa continues their collections of feminine hygiene products. Many members attended an event focused on survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Streator celebrated ten 5th grade girls selected by their teachers with their first ever *Zonta Youth Leadership Awards*. They continue their ongoing collection of female hygiene products and will again be sponsoring a free community meal in June anticipating serving 125.

LaSalle Peru hosted an online book club session in cooperation with IVCC's One Book, One College program. They attended and participated in an event for girls to be introduced to community resources to help them, such as Zonta, Safe Journeys and merchants who cater to mostly female clientele.

Area 5 had a well-attended *Spring Workshop* hosted by the *Ottawa Club*. *Joliet Area, Ottawa, LaSalle Peru* and *Streator* held officer elections for 2023-2025

Contact: mfbaudino59@aol.com

Service Rhonda Thomas

Engaging Girls on Climate Change in Madagascar



It is so inspiring to see all the service projects that the clubs in District 6 have been working on! The list is long, ranging from school supplies and books to address literacy, personal care items for trafficked and sheltered women, food and monetary donations to address food poverty and even blood drives, District 6 Zontians are working hard in their communities to empower women and girls.

Please remember to follow and share information regarding the *Zonta International Service Projects*:

- Ending Child Marriage
- Adolescent Girls' Health and Protection in Peru
- Strengthening services for survivors of gender-based violence
- Engaging girls on climate change in Madagascar

There is wonderful information regarding these projects on the Zonta International website, including information regarding President Ute Scholz October/November 2022 site visit to India for the *Ending Child Marriage Project*. Interestingly, there are 8 donors currently supporting the programme who are all members of the steering committee. As such, they receive reports about the outcome of the project and will decide soon how the next Phase III (2024 – 2030) will be designed. These 8 donors are the *Governments of Belgium, Canada, Italy, Netherlands, Norway*, United Kingdom the *European Union* through the *Spotlight Initiative* and *Zonta International*. Zonta is the first – and, so far, only - private-sector donor to the Global Programme. This is a great honor and acknowledges the broad work and successes of Zonta International in strengthening women's rights and empowering women worldwide.

District 6 Service Project Competition Winner - Zonta Club of Joliet

Finally, I would like to congratulate our winner of the *District 6 Service Project Competition:* The *Zonta Club of Joliet* volunteered at the *Northern Illinois Food Bank* on Larkin Avenue in Joliet, Illinois on March 4 th , 2023. They packed 3,420 pounds of cereal that will provide 12,960 meals for hungry neighbors in Northern Illinois. The food bank provides food for more than half a million people every year through a network of 900 partner feeding programs. Thank You Zonta Club of Joliet for volunteering!!

Contact: rhondaz@netzero.net.

Advocacy Susan Bursztynsky Chair

Zonta Says Now to Gender-Equal Climate Action



I am writing this still energized by the excitement and information received at *NAIDM*. Several of the sessions that I attended mentioned having a club advocacy plan. Does your Club have one? Please consider one for the 2023/2024 year. What issue(s) does your Club wish to address? What advocacy actions does your Club wish to take to address the issue(s)? Some actions are public displays, walks or luminaries, education sessions, and legislative advocacy. You may also wish to start with providing education to your Club.

Zonta International has recommended that all Clubs participate in an action to combat gender-based violence. Perhaps you wish to include this in your advocacy plan. Other issues that the USA Caucus is working on include the elimination of Child Marriage, the full recognition of the Equal Rights Amendment, and Gender Equal Climate Action.

One tool that can be helpful to you as your plan for 2023/2024 is the USA Caucus website. The website has information for each of these issues. Other Zonta resources include

<u>USA Caucus: https://zontausa.org/about-zonta/usa-caucus/</u>https://www.zonta.org/Web/Causes/ZontaSaysNOW home

The *USA Caucus* website also has other resources. For example, the bimonthly Advocacy Bulletins are uploaded onto the website.

The *District 6 Advocacy team* is also putting together a list of dates that you may wish to recognize (example, *Equal Pay Days*) and other ideas from other clubs that may be helpful.

Please reach out to us if you would like to receive information for your Advocacy Plan

Susan Bursztynsky, Pauline Corderre (Area 4), Jean Heil (Area 3), Linda Hiltabrand, (Area 5), Dr. Ellen Weinstein (Area 1)

Contact: susan.zonta@gmail.com

Zonta Foundation for Women

Jeni Royalty Ambassador Adolescent Girls Health and Protection in Peru



With the first year of this biennium behind us, District 6 is at 51.5% of our biennium goal of \$144,000 in support of the Zonta Foundation for Women! A big "THANK



YOU!" to all of you who have donated and kept the work of Zonta's projects and programs in mind with your gifts - way to go fellow Zontians!

Our District 6 clubs and members have supported the Foundation during the first half of this biennium with a total of \$74,221.77 by making the following donations:

AE Fellowship Fund	\$ 4,822.00	Rose Fund	\$ 50,080.67
JMK Women in Business	\$ 470.00	YWPA	\$ 350.00
International Service Fund	\$ 8,744.01	Endowment Fund	\$ 9,755.09

This represents giving by 16 clubs and 84 members in our District. This is less than 18% of our membership, so just imagine what we can do if every member contributes during this second year of this biennium!

Total donations to the Foundation for this biennium's International Service Projects and Educational programs came to \$2,048,194.28 or nearly 45% of the \$4,573,000 needed to fund these projects and programs. Gifts to the Endowment Funds came to \$503,036.32 for overall contributions of \$2,551,230.60 to the Zonta Foundation for Women during the first half of the biennium. (Note: Although not reflected in these amounts, preliminary figures show over \$33,00 was raised at the NAIDM in Indianapolis, so "thanks" to all who supported the Foundation during that weekend!)

There were two more Zoom meetings/trainings on the work of the Foundation in May: one for Foundations Ambassadors and another for/with Endowment Specialists. These are always good to attend as it gives the opportunity to "meet/see" my counterparts throughout North & South America, as well as Endowment Specialists from around the globe!

As shared previously, I would be happy to visit any club to share information about the Foundation and its work, so just let me know! If I am unavailable, I will check with our state liaisons on their schedules: Michelle Miller - Illinois, Marlene Brant - Indiana, and Jane Thompson - Wisconsin, or our District Endowment Specialist, Jackie Beaudry.

Our gifts to the Foundation are central to honoring our commitment to fund this biennium's international service projects and educational programs, and our support to the endowment funds helps ensure our future work to "<u>Build a Better World for Women and Girls</u>." **Please**, donate today!

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Leadership
& Development
Yvonne V. Chalfant
Chair

LD Team Great Update



During the April A5 Spring Workshop, a delightful discussion erupted at the close of the Leadership Development Committee update. It was one of those discussions every speaker hopes to have, but doesn't always experience. Attendees asked probing questions about how to make this work, tips to get started, etc. Area Director Mary Baudino guided the conversation to a positive point.

As a result of that discussion, the **Zonta Club of Ottawa** reached out to **Robin Savage, Illinois Liaison**, and invited her to their May club meeting. Robin drove over and shared her experience with *Core Competencies and Leadership Development*.

In early June, Robin and I received an email from Konni Rodeghier who shared with us that she has accepted the chairmanship of the Leadership Development committee and she and the club members were making plans to complete two modules during the summer. Yay!

In her email, Konni shared, "I am working on a plan for our club to work through the *Core Competencies* over the summer. The Matrix tool is so cool, I am blown away by the resources right at my fingertips".

This could happen in your club. Contact your state liaison. Get a conversation going and select a LDC chair. Exciting things can happen. Your club can also do this by using the resources at your fingertips.

Let us know how we can serve you.

Yvonne Chalfant, LD Committee Chair Robin Savage, Illinois Leadership Liaison Cheryl Lucas DeBerry, Wisconsin Leadership Liaison Susan Trees, Indiana Leadership Liaison

Contact: <u>ychalf@olivet.edu</u>

Communications & Public Relations

Sandy Peterson Chair

What is Zonta?



The goal of this newsletter is to share all the amazing news and activities of District 6. This internal communication gives you a snapshot of our accomplishments. This is an important part of a comprehensive internal communication plan but it needs to be accompanied by strong external communications. We all struggle with the endless question: What is Zonta? Don't you sometimes wish you could rent every community billboard, drop flyers out of planes, take over the local media and have a front page and electronic feature everyday? Since we can't do this, ZI does have an excellent PR Toolkit, to guide you with more realistic options. I encourage you to check it out. You can also learn from each other. There are great ideas in the ZI newsletter, ZI website, The Zontian Magazine and Facebook page. You will be hearing more about the District Idea Exchange this fall.

Zonta International PR Tools:

Contact: sandy.or.tom@gmail.com



Zonta Supports Our Future Leaders



The awards committee is in the thick of our awards season, and we have selected the first of our awards, the district 2023 YWPA Award Recipient, which was forwarded to ZI for international consideration. Our district committee received 7 very strong applications, which made selecting just one difficult decision. There were 18 applications received by district clubs, so a good response overall from YWPA applicants. The awards committee has sent congratulations to the Oak Brook, IL Club for their applicant being selected to represent our district. Our congratulations to Catherine Tang of Northbrook, IL, who has also been selected by ZI to receive an additional \$5,000 award as an International recipient from district 6. Miss Tang was one of 37 young women representing 21 countries to receive the ZI International award. Thank you to each district club for your continued support in promoting Zonta International and its Young Women in Public Affairs Award program.

The awards committee has received good questions from clubs asking for clarification on particular award eligibility. As our committee continues to learn, I like to forward on to district clubs, so that they too have answers to common questions. One question asked on the YPWA Award was, "can previous applicants re-apply the following year, assuming they are still attending secondary schools?" The answer from ZI is yes, they can, just previous award recipients cannot apply again for the same award. So if your club had a good applicant this year, and she is still enrolled in secondary school for 2023-2024, the applicant may apply for the YWPA award a second time, as long as the the applicant did not receive the district award.

Specific district clubs have been marketing the 2023 Women in STEM Scholarship and most have passed their club application deadline date. The district application due date is July 1, 2023. Many applicants begin their application process by contacting ZI, which then forwards to me to find a local club for each interested applicant. Because not all district clubs offer this scholarship, it takes communication between me, area directors and club presidents to find an appropriate club closest to each applicant. So a heartfelt thank you to each area director, club president and award chairman who have helped in this process for the 2023 Women in STEM Scholarship.

A detailed email on the 2023 JMK Women in Business Scholarship was sent to all area directors, club presidents and club award chairs in February. All were encouraged to review this email and the attached documents for important information on eligibility, information for club awards, and resources available for clubs. Please note the district application deadline is August 15, 2023. As a reminder to all clubs, there are wonderful resources for each award/scholarship on the ZI website, and I hope all clubs are using these. Besides the poster and scholarship description, there is a wonderful evaluation criteria sheet, scoring sheet, and the district application club cover sheet, which is required when sending a club application to the district. After login, you can find these under My Zonta, Tools, Awards/Scholarships, and each scholarship will be listed with

Please contact myself or any state liaison committee member with any questions that may arise for any award. We are most happy to help!

Contact: susie trees@yahoo.com



individual resources named above.

District 6 2024-2026 **Board Nominations**



On behalf of the *District 6 Nominating Committee*, it is my pleasure to report the following candidates who will be placed in nomination for the following elected positions to serve in the 2024-26 Biennium at the 2023 District 6 Fall Conference.

Officers Governor Isabel Vidal, Zonta Club of Lincoln

Lieutenant Governor Brandy Harrington, Zonta Club of St. Charles-Geneva-Batavia

Treasurer Karen Smith, Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Area Directors Area 1 Director Karen DeMuro, Zonta E-club of USA 3

Area 2 Director Catherine Myers, Zonta Club of Janesville

Area 3 Director Susan Harmon, Zonta Club of Lincoln

Area 4 Director Stephanie Bunton, Zonta Club of Frankfort Area 5 Director Kelly LaMore, Zonta Club of Kankakee

Nominating Committee Nominees (elect 3)

Area 1 Representative Sally Bean, Zonta E-Club of USA 3 Area 2 Representative TerriJo Saarela, Zonta Club of Madison

Area 3 Representative Marsha Bennett. Zonta Club of Alton-Wood River

Area 4 Representative Judi Wilson, Zonta Club of Lebanon

Area 5 Representative Cheryl Trudeau, Zonta Club of Kankakee

2024-2026 Biennium. If you or your club wishes to support a candidate for the International Board of Directors or the Zonta International Nominating Committee, please let me know if the District 6 Nominating Committee can be of help in completion of the application to Zonta International. If anyone wishes to be considered for a committee position for Zonta International, please let me know and the District 6 Nominating Committee will submit those names to the Zonta International Committee to pass along to President- Elect Salla. and for saying "Yes" to Zonta. Anna Weselak, Chair, Zonta International District 6 Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee of Zonta International is seeking candidates for the

My thanks to the District 6 Nominating Committee. Thank you all for your leadership

Michelle Miller, Zonta Club of Mascoutah, Gail Zalewski, Zonta Club of Madison

Contact: <u>AWeslak@weselak.com</u>

District 6 Historian

Amber Brainard

Building a Better World for Women and Girls is our District's History

Celebrate Our History

One of my goals while serving as the District 6 Historian is to seek opportunities to create visibility into the rich history of each club, focusing on how those histories and the work the club's have continued to do through the years has positioned each of us to build a better world for women and girls. I wanted to begin by working with the *LaSalle Peru Club* since they are celebrating 98 years, so we have been in communication over the last few months and they recently made some updates to their club history that was previously documented. Sandy and I have agreed that once the updates to the District 6 website are completed, we can begin featuring the histories out on the website

Once we have LaSalle Peru's history featured, I'll start reaching out to more clubs to begin additional features. So, be on the lookout for an email from me in the future! :) I think this is a great opportunity to get more public visibility into the amazing histories of each club, highlighting your service & advocacy!

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