



Zonta Club of Johnson County

Member of Zonta International

Z-Newsletter

ISSUE 2

2014-2016 BIENNIUM

AUGUST 2014

From the President

I love being a Zontian! It was absolutely awesome to take part in the 62nd Annual Zonta International Convention!

Almost 1,600 Zontians were in attendance (with 380 of those being first timers) to elect new international office positions, vote on bylaw amendments, and vote on the proposed goals for the next biennium.

Zonta International will continue its efforts in International Service and ZISVAW projects. We will continue the projects of (1) Eliminating Obstetric Fistula in Liberia and (2)

HIV-Free Generation in Rwanda. It will also assist in the project of Gender Responsive Schools in Vietnam.

ZISVAW projects include (1) Delaying Early Marriage in Niger and (2) Voices Against Violence in 12 countries.

Throughout the course of the year, our club will learn more about these projects.

Thank you again for allowing me to be your delegate at the convention. I can't wait for the next one – in Nice, France! Start saving your pennies! You'll want to go, too!



Zontian Iyabo Bassir from the Zonta Club of Ibadan II, Nigeria

I see you all working steadily for our Save the Ta-Ta'Z Event! I know this year is going to be a great success! If you'd like to help, but you're not sure where, please get in touch with Dee Dee and/or Dena.

Thanks for all you do for Zonta and our community!

Angie

Zonta Club of Johnson County

District 10, Area 1
Club Number 0990
Chartered October 1981

President: Angie Allen
allen.angie@rocketmail.com

Editor: Connie Allen
conniekallen2000@gmail.com

2014-2015 Board Members

President – Angie Allen
President Elect – Kasey Giddens
Vice President – Dee Dee Babcock
Treasurer – Marty Peters
Secretary – DeeAnn Strother
Director – Ni'cole Alemy
Director – Connie Allen
Director – Kim Chance
Director – Tiffany Strother
Past President – Dianne Packwood

Committee Chairs

Advocacy – Sharron Miles
Art Bra – Dee Dee Babcock & Dena Bartlett
Bylaws – DeeAnn Strother
Fellowship – Ni'cole Alemy
Finance – Marty Peters
Long-Range Planning – DeeAnn Strother
Membership – Carolyn Smith
PR/Communications – Connie Allen & Nicole Luna
Scholarship – Terri Wilson
Service – Jennifer Enright
United Nations – Jessica Applegate
Ways & Means – Gina Jones

NEXT MEETING

Joint Meeting with Rotary
Thursday, August 14, 2014
Noon
Cleburne Conference Center
Plate lunch served for
\$10 at door

www.zontaofjc.org

Dates to Remember

August 8 at 9:00 am – APPLES Coalition Back-to-School Prep at Wheat Middle School

August 9 at 9:00 am – APPLES Coalition Back to School Fair at Wheat Middle School

August 14 at noon – Joint Meeting with Rotary Club at Cleburne Conference Center

September 17 at noon - Club meeting at First Christian Church

October 4 – United Way Day of Caring

October 11 at 6:30 – Art Bra Event at Cleburne Conference Center

October 14 at noon – Family Crisis Center luncheon at Cleburne Conference Center

October 16 – 18 – District 10 Conference in Weatherford

November 19 at noon – Club meeting at First Christian Church

December 18 – Club – Christmas Party

January 22 at 5:30 pm – Club meeting

February 18 at noon – Club meeting at First Christian Church

March 8 – International Women's Day and Zonta Says No 5K

March 19 at 5:30 pm – Club meeting

Zonta International is a global organization of executives and professionals working together to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy.

District 10 News

Judy Kautz was installed as D10 Governor at the Zonta International Convention closing ceremony.



Judy Kautz (left, Zonta Club of Central Oklahoma) pictured with outgoing District 10 Governor Donna Dodgen (Zonta Club of Seguin)

The Zonta Club of Parker County will host the District 10 Conference October 16-18, 2014! Please watch for the Call to Conference in your email inbox!



Fifth Annual Art Bra Event

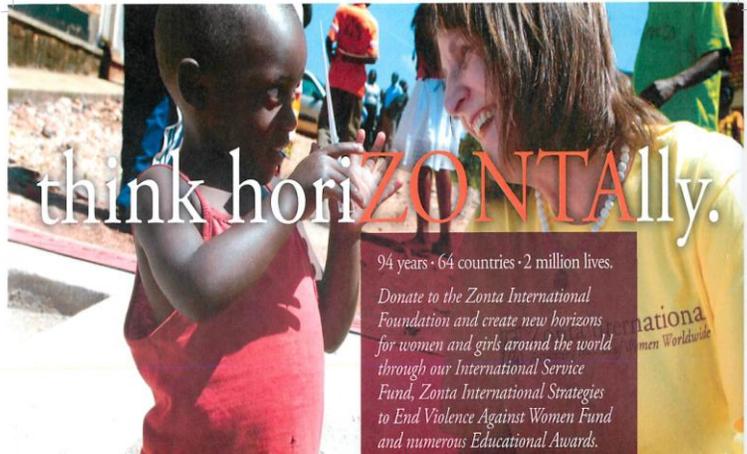
It will be here before we know it! Please make contact with your business owner friends, your acquaintances, and everyone else! We need sponsors! We need auction items! We need decorations – anything western-related – saddles, ropes, halters, stick horses, hay! Please make contact with Connie Allen if you have any decorations.

Dena or Dee Dee may be contacting you soon to find out who you have contacted to be a sponsor.

Remember – our goal is \$50,000 with 400 attending! But we need your help!

All auction items need to be to DeeAnn Strother by September 15th!

Zonta International News



ZIF CONTINUES TO WORK TO ELIMINATE OBSTETRIC FISTULA

Eliminating obstetric fistula will continue to be a goal this biennium. ZIF is partnering with UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund) and pledging \$600,000 over the next two years to eliminate obstetric fistula and to reduce maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity in Liberia. Since 2008, Zonta International has provided a total of \$1.95 million to support this project. Almost 1,100 women and adolescent girls have received surgical treatment. There are 600 to 1,000 new cases of obstetric fistula every year in Liberia and a backlog of more than 5,000 cases awaiting treatment and care. Extending Zonta's support for an additional two years will continue to change women's lives. Moneys from ZIF equip hospitals to treat and repair obstetric fistulae and assist in training health care providers in fistula management.



Outstanding Members



Ashlee Loewen with members of the village of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, Africa

In July, Ashlee Loewen and her husband, Nathan, traveled to Zimbabwe, Africa, to begin a church. Below is her experience:

It was the beginning of July in Texas, with the boiling 100-degree heat, so it was a nice respite to travel to the 70-degree winter weather of Zimbabwe, Africa. My husband, the Senior Minister at First Christian Church Cleburne, Associate Minister, Corey Meyer, and I traveled with Zimbabwe native and now Cleburne local Raphael Methombeni. I initially considered myself a tag-a-long for this inaugural mission, but I had a feeling this trip was going to change my life.

After a 2-day trek to get to Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, we hit the ground running with some sightseeing around town, and we marveled at nature's beauty with wild zebras grazing by the road. While I was not privy to the

complete itinerary, I hopped in the van for a bumpy 3-hour trip to the village of Zhukwai. Here we met some amazing women who freely take care of 120 orphans who have lost their parents to AIDS. Twelve of the children have HIV and receive some medications from a clinic that is a 25-mile walk away. This village has graciously taken in these kids and provides them with one meal each day. Unfortunately, there are fees with schooling in Zimbabwe and these orphans cannot fully participate because they cannot afford the \$42 annual cost.

After that day, I thought that was all my emotions could handle, but the next day we went to the more remote village of Kafsui. Here we got to see the water well and raised bed, drip water bucket gardens that our church had helped to fund. It is amazing to see how clean water can truly change people's lives and offer hope. These men and women were so grateful because they could finally see a future as this simple gardening system offered them the chance to pursue commercial farming and help their community.

Other events from the week included an ordination of new Disciples of Christ Minister, we helped evangelize for the new Disciples of Christ International Church, and my husband led the Sunday worship with the people of New Luveve followed by

17 baptisms. Finally, we said our goodbyes and headed to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe home of one of the 7 natural wonders of the world. After exploring, we had another eye-opening experience meeting the women involved in a sewing club called The Sisters of Joy. This is women empowerment at its finest! These women have taken the initiative to create this sewing club, and they envision selling quilts to hotels so they can help their families. We had the honor of presenting them with 3 new sewing machines and \$300 to supplement their mission. These women were so excited and thankful. I am amazed that such a small gift allowed them to dream and provided hope for their families to escape poverty.

These are just a few blurbs from our awesome adventure, and I have plenty more! I love telling people about my friends in Africa, but I must admit I have a hard time keeping my emotions in check. My heart is heavy with the needs of these people. I am so thankful to have met Raphael Methombeni; he is one of the most selfless people in the world and has dedicated his life to helping the people of Zimbabwe. His charity, Great Grace Cares, changes peoples' lives by providing access to basic needs, empowering them to reach their full potential, and giving them hope for a better future.

Written by Ashlee Loewen



Help Wanted!



We need about 100 pairs of women's shoes for our display! This would be a great opportunity to look in your closet and donate the ones that you no longer wear! Also, please ask your co-workers and friends if they'd be willing to donate a pair or two. This is going to be a great display and will have a great impact on those who view it! Our first chance to display it will be October 14, 2014.