A November to Remember

It’s finally here Zonta’s 100 Centennial Birthday! Our club will participate in the District 8’s advocacy project focusing on educating the public about another atrocity upon women – Child marriages. Our posters and young girls’ shoes will be displayed at the Roseburg City Library Nov 6th Through Nov 26th. In addition, we obtained a proclamation from the Roseburg City Mayor that Nov 8th, 2019 is Honor & Empower: The Centennial Anniversary of Zonta International Day. Going on simultaneously, is the Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Campaign for which we are holding our annual Dignity Drive. We have 4 locations with drop boxes and are running the drive for a month Oct 15- Nov 15.

On 8 November, the centennial anniversary will begin at the stroke of midnight in New Zealand and close 47 hours later when the day concludes in Hawaii. To honor Zonta’s 100th birthday, the International Board is inviting members to give US$100 to our Foundation. It will be a special giving event where donors will be recognized for this unique gift. If 1,000 people donate, ZF can meet the goal of US$100,000. See Common Action Flyer emailed earlier as a separate document.

Our club has been busy since our last Newsletter... We held a limited sale raffle, inducted 2 new members, received a centennial grant for the Douglas County Human Trafficking Task Force, had our D 8 Conference in Shelton, WA where we did some on the spot fundraising, and served up Breakfast at Applebee’s. And now we’re heading into the Holidays. Where did 2019 go??

Calendar of Events

- Oct 15 – Nov 15 Dignity Drive – YMCA, Red Robin, Backside Brewing and Hawks Realtor Co
- Nov 6-26 End Child Marriages Girls Shoes Display at Roseburg City Library
- Nov 8th Centennial celebration See Common Action ZI Flyer
- Nov 13th Business Mtg Elmer’s
- Nov 20-Universal Children’s Day
- Nov 25- International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- Nov 25-Dec10- 16 Days of Activism
- Nov 27th NO MEETING Happy Thanksgiving
- Dec 4 – Exec Comm 12-1 Waddell & Reed
- Dec 7- Holiday Potluck and Ornament exchange Connie’s
- Dec 10-International Human Right’s Day
- Dec 11 Holiday Auction at Elmer’s
At the October 28th council meeting, the City of Roseburg proclaimed November 8, 2019 as “Honor and Empower: The Centennial Anniversary of Zonta International Day.” Zonta was founded November 8, 1919 in Buffalo New York by a group of women hoping to provide more professional opportunities for women and serve the needs of women and girls. It now encompasses 63 countries worldwide and has 1,200 clubs and 29,000 members. Zonta International (ZI) advocates for women and children and since 1969 has had consultative status with the United Nations (UN) Economic and Social Counsel, plus participatory status with the Council of Europe. In 1986, ZI was the first nongovernmental organization to support the UN Women and status of women program. Zonta also started a global “Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women” campaign.

The Zonta Club of Roseburg Area was chartered in 1947 and is now 72 years strong. The Roseburg club has assisted ZI with projects ranging from orphanages, pediatric clinics and Sir Lanka water wells to prevention of HIV and gender violence in Rwanda and the reduction of obstetric fistula in Liberia. Education-wise, Zonta has learned the way out of poverty is educating girls. Families casting girls off into early child marriages results in higher birth rates, death from children bearing children, and increased poverty. Additionally, many of the girls become the victims of domestic abuse, addiction, and mental health issues. The Let Us Learn in Madagascar program, which Roseburg assisted, found that by letting the girls go beyond middle school education the girls developed self-esteem, learned skills that could contribute to a family’s economic status, delayed marriage, reduced high birth rates, plus reduced gender violence and women’s health issues. Culturally, the girls acquired value and by reaching their potential they could help their communities economically and socially.

The Roseburg club is now helping with Zonta’s 100th Anniversary End Child Marriage program. Worldwide, one in five girls are married as children less than 18 years old. In the US, 25 states don’t have a minimum age for marriage, and only one state has a law to prevent child marriages. Starting November 6th, the club will have a display at the Roseburg City Library about the persistence of child marriages in the US. Additionally, Roseburg Zonta is holding its Dignity Drive through November 15 to collect bras, panties, and sanitary products for women forced to leave their homes due to domestic abuse or pregnancy. Zonta also partnered with the Douglas County Human Trafficking Task Force to offer a trafficking prevention curriculum to all the county’s middle and high school in 2020. Douglas County’s
youth are highly vulnerable to trafficking due to the proximity of major trafficking corridors such as I-5 and highways 101, 38, and 42.

Roseburg Zonta also helps women successfully navigate difficult transitions to improve their lives through the Hand Up program. Needs range from legal advice or technical training, to help with job interviews and transportation. Over the last 72 years Roseburg has contributed thousands to the Amelia Earhart Scholarship to assist women with their PhD in aero science, and local awards to Young Women in Public Affairs. This year the club will also offer a Technology scholarship. All these awards help encourage careers in fields where women are currently underrepresented.

On November 8 celebrate Honor and Empower: The Centennial Anniversary of Zonta International Day. Visit the library to learn more about child marriages, donate undergarments to the Dignity Drive drop boxes at Red Robin, YMCA, Backside Brewery or Hawks Co. Realtors, or tell your school you support teaching our youth how to avoid human trafficking. For additional information visit our Facebook page or website at: www.zontaroseburg.org.

**District 8 Conference Highlights**

District 8 encompasses 1.2 million miles as it stretches from Alaska to Washington, Oregon and across to Idaho. The conference held in September was a mix of procedures, voting on candidates, informative talks and a Centennial Gala. Of the 15 clubs in the district, 14 were represented and the total attendance was 127, including International Representative Sigrid Duden from Germany.

Office-wise, Lt. Governor Maggie Calica (Anchorage AK) was voted in as Governor, while Deb Lal (South Puget Sound WA) was voted as the new Lt. Governor. Locally, Rosa Mohlsick was voted as the Area 4 Director, while Gail Trimble was voted onto the Nominating Committee. All offices begin in 2020.

Procedure-wise, dues to District 8 (covered in you member dues), were raised by $2 to help host conferences. It was also voted to update the grammar in our policies to be gender neutral and replace fax with email addresses. Wording on hosting District Conferences and District Governor’s Seminars was changed from “shall” to “may” to provide flexibility. The district also sent a proposal to Zonta International proposing that the Zonta International Strategies on Violence Against Women and Children (ZISVAW) name be shortened to Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women and Children. The Zonta Says No title is a more powerful stand-alone name and marketing tool to recognize Zonta’s mission.

Board members and current Governor, Jeanie Martin, noted that to make Zonta successful, every member needs to be inspired and inspire others. They also need to feel safe to make mistakes, be creative and feel fulfilled during their Zonta journey. It was also noted that club leaders set expectations, BUT you can’t lead volunteers like employees. Recognize that younger generations want more hands-on projects. So, include actions that are more immediate. Also talk to younger members to see how to best attract other younger members. Engage more with partner groups with similar missions and remember to ask them if they want to join Zonta. Ask your friends and acquaintances
to join—they may be waiting for you to ask. Additionally, have your 30 second elevator speech ready, so when somebody asks, “what’s Zonta?” you’re prepared to answer. One response is: “Zonta is a leadership organization to honor and empower women.”

The keynote speaker was Fraidy Reiss, Founder of Unchained at Last. She talked about her experience with a forced marriage as an Orthodox Jewish girl in New York City in the late 1990s, and it still happens. Setup by a matchmaker, she was forced to marry the man picked for her after 7 chaperoned dates. A few weeks later, he threatened to kill her as the abuse escalated. Although 19 years old, in her culture she had no financial rights, money, reproductive rights, and sex was required despite the abuse. She could only escape the marriage if her family would take her back—they refused. Ultimately, she was declared dead by ALL members of her family as she went to college, got a divorce, gained custody of her children, and founded Unchained at Last. Forced/Child marriages are a human rights violation. In Alaska, Oregon, and Idaho 78 to 84% of the girls younger than 18 that become married, are forced to marry adult men. These girls are 50% more likely to drop out of high school, four times less likely to go to college, face a 23% higher chance of physical and mental problems, and are three times more likely to be beaten by their spouse. Since the girls are younger than 18, they have no legal ability to rent an apartment, have insurance, or file for divorce. Shelters consider them runaways, and are required to turn them in. In the US, 25 states have no minimum age for marriage and only one state (Delaware) prohibits marriage under 18 years old. Bills have been introduced in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska, to end child marriages (or increase the minimum age to 16—ID) but all were either voted down or allowed to die.

Kelly Procida, of UNICEF’s Global Cause Partnerships, also talked about child marriages. Globally, one in five girls are married as children. It robs the girls of their childhood, opportunity for higher education, jobs, financial security and many become victims of domestic abuse, live in poverty, die during childbirth, and suffer physical and mental health issues. Zonta was the first private sector group to join UNICEF’s Global Program to end these marriages. The plan is to target 12 countries and focus on outcomes of education, engaging communities to support girl’s rights, reaching school with health care and protective services, and creating national laws. Although the program is new, of 1.73 million participants in community dialog, 41% now support girls having rights and 11 of the 12 countries have started developing plans to end child marriages. Six governments have funded their plan. One of the major lessons from Zonta’s Let Us Learn Madagascar program where 91% of the people live on less than $2 per day, is that the best escalator out of poverty is education for girls. Instead of casting girls into child marriages, letting girls continue their education beyond middle school results in a sense of value for the girls, reduced gender violence, reduced birth rates, reduced physical and mental health issues, and allows the girls to contribute to their families and communities economically and socially. This results in a reduction of poverty.

Via Skype, attendees also got to meet Aysha Emmerson from Victoria who won the club, district and international Young Women in Public Affairs award. A sophomore at Harvard, she was the first youth observer to the UN Commission on the Status of Women. She sees Zonta mission as a future that encompasses: Empathy, Effectiveness, and Effervescence. She noted while walking in another’s shoes is a worthy goal, since our backgrounds do have a bearing on how we perceive the world, we might also want to consider walking next to one another and listening. The conference concluded with a gala Centennial Celebration banquet. Being unable to contain themselves, Sandy and Laura dressed up as 1919 flappers and had marvelous time! Check out the District 8 Facebook page and website for more details on the conference.
Far Left: Shon, Sandy, Laura and Gail enjoying the D8 Gala party on Saturday night.

Left: Opening presentation of colors.

Left: Sandy, Gail, and our ZI Board visitor from Germany Sigfrid Duden.

Lower Left: Gala Going Flappers, Sandy & Laura.

Below: Drone Photo of D8 Conference attendees
Remind your friends, family, and co-workers that Zonta’s Dignity Drive continues through November 15. The drive is to collect bras, panties, and sanitary products for women forced from their homes, with little clothing, due to abuse or pregnancy. The undergarments help restore the women’s dignity as they work to rebuild their lives.

There are four Dignity Drive Drop Boxes this year! The items (preferably still packaged) can be dropped off at the YMCA (1151 NW Stewart Parkway); Red Robin Gourmet Burgers and Brews (2200 NW Stewart Parkway); Backside Brewery Co. (1640 Odell Avenue); and Hawks Co. Relators (612 SE Jackson St. Suite 2).

The Dignity Drive distributes the items collected to the Battered Persons’ Advocacy, Safe Haven, Adapt/Crossroads and other agencies.

**2019 Dignity Drive Locations**

Due to the declining number of participants, the Roseburg Club dropped the Santa Run which was initiated in 2014. It was disappointing to drop because the run was fun, so instead the club offered a limited draw raffle with fun prizes. The club would only sell 200 tickets at $25 each, to potentially raise $5,000. The grand prize of a guided fishing trip for two, worth $500, was donated by Casey Malepsy. The club then purchased $200 worth of spa treatment at Seven Feathers, an overnight stay and high tea at the Painted Lady Bed and Breakfast ($155), and a $100 gift card for True Restaurant. Printing the tickets cost $53.70. While we didn’t reach our goal of selling 200 tickets, we did sell 133 tickets, thus making $2,816! Sandy sold the most tickets, and members who were initially shy about selling tickets found out that due to the fun range of prizes, tickets were readily sold to both men and women.

Congratulations to our winners: Dotty Stapleton won the fishing trip, Kelley Janzon the spa treatment, Crystal Bunnell the bed and breakfast, and Mike Stumbo the gift card. For 2020, Casey’s Guide Service has already committed to donating another trip. With our newfound ticket selling ability, we should be able to measurably increase our profit in 2020.

At the District 8 Conference, the club hosted a fun M&M guessing game where for $1 people could guess how many M&Ms were in the jar. The club made $81, and the lucky winner got a jar full of Zonta candy! To all the members that helped sell tickets and worked the various events. Because of you, we can meet our Zonta goals to Honor and Empower Women.
The Iron Woman this year was also a success. The venues changed slightly to offer disc golf and basketball hoops instead of target shooting, but the participants still had fun. Kathy Steele and Christina Hruska snatched first place back from their mom and aunt who were last year’s champions. Second place was Zonta’s Rosa Mohlsick and Connie Benham, while Jenn Perron and Crystal Roland took 3rd. Overall the event raised $1,657.

Lastly, the group tested their waitressing skill with an Applebee’s breakfast fund raiser. Members sold tickets for folks to attend a breakfast served at Applebee’s. While Applebee’s cooked everything, members served and bused tables. Members had fun learning or refreshing their waitressing skills and visiting with guests. The club was able to raise $526.

Our next 2 FUN-RAISING events will be our Holiday Auction at Elmer’s on December 11th. Members and guests can purchase a variety of fun gifts ranging from homemade foods and crafts to wines and decorations. Followed by the Double Donate Drive clearing your closet of women’s professional out fits and getting paid by the pound from Sunrise Enterprises for donating to them. Thanks to all the members.
The Douglas County Human Trafficking Task Force is moving forward with the Zonta Centennial Award to provide a curriculum to prevent trafficking to Douglas County’s middle and high schools. Last week the Task Force contacted In Our Backyard (IOB) to establish dates for the Survivor Speaker for schools. Per the grant, over the course of 2 days, the survivor would give 4 talks. Once IOB has confirmed dates that work for them, schools will be contacted to finalize dates. Currently Oakland, Yoncalla, Phoenix, Rose, Days Creek and Winston schools are interested in talks.

The Task Force also confirmed January 27 and April 3 as teacher training dates. These dates correspond to in-service training dates for several school districts. The training will take 2 hours, so both morning and afternoon sessions will be offered. Teachers attending the training will receive a free copy of the curriculum for their school. Others interested in the training will also be allowed to attend and can potentially use a copy of the curriculum to teach classes in schools which were unable to attend.

Dates for the Survivor Speaker presentations will be posted as soon as they are confirmed. Stay tuned!!!

To help celebrate Zonta’s 100th birthday, multiple District 8 clubs have established displays to educate people about child marriage. The display also highlights the persistence of child marriage in the US. Locally, we were able to secure a spot in the newly opened Roseburg Public Library for our display! The display will run from November 6 to 26, which encompasses: Zonta’s Centennial, Universal Children’s Day, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Zonta Says No Campaign, and the kickoff of Zonta’s 16 Days of Activism.

Zonta has partnered with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to end child marriage since it is a violation of basic human rights. The key consequences of child and forced marriages include:

- Reduced education, therefore minimum vocational and economic opportunity
- Increase risk of domestic violence
- Higher risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases
- Early, more frequent, and high-risk pregnancies
- Girls 15 and younger are 5x more likely to die during childbirth
- Babies of child brides are 60% more likely to die during their first year
- Child brides face a 23% higher chance of health issues and mental problems
- Girls under 18, have no legal rights to divorce, rent an apartment, or even stay in a shelter
- Child marriages continue to propagate poverty
With its partners, Zonta has targeted 12 nations with high child marriage rates. Progress in these nations demonstrates progress for the world. Strategies for these countries include improving access to education and retaining more girls in secondary schools or beyond. Adolescent girls will also be taught life skills, health care, economic empowerment, and be provided knowledge and protection of their human rights. Partners will foster community dialogue to inform communities of the dangers of child marriage and the benefit of investing in girls. Huge strides have already been made. Ultimately educating girls helps them value themselves, have value within their community, contribute to the economy, and delays marriage—therefore reducing birth rates, health issues, domestic abuse, and a life of poverty.

For Zonta’s 16 Days of Activism, November 25 to December 10, the Roseburg club will post facts about child marriage each day. Building awareness can help end child marriage, both abroad and at home.

FOCUS ON NEW MEMBERS

Pam Conner grew up in Bullhead Arizona with her brother. She attended Mohave High School where she participated in extracurricular activities such as literature, speech, and drama. She used these communication skills throughout her career path. Her jobs have always been customer service and people oriented, from her first jobs in her youth to the present. She’s ranged from entry level customer service and managing client relations to training development and implementation. She is currently the Customer Service Manager at Cardinal Services.

Pam has one (almost) spouse, 2 grown children, and a great dog. She changes her hobbies, but she enjoys planning, but not necessarily doing, home improvement projects. She also really relishes baking.

Pam joined Zonta because she wanted to find a way to give back to her community. Zonta’s mission of empowering and improving the lives of women seemed like a perfect fit since she has always been passionate about women’s equality issues.

Grace Farenbaugh grew up in Roseburg and was the youngest of five girls in her family. She attended Roseburg High School, Umpqua Community College, and UCLA. She enjoyed both drama and tennis. Grace recently returned to Roseburg from California. She worked in California for 23 years as a licensed real estate agent. While working in Burbank she was twice awarded Women in Business honoree by Southern California’s Business Life Magazine. She is now a Principle Broker at CENTURY 21. She joined Zonta to continue the service that she saw her Mom provide as a Zontian in the 60s and 70s.