



ZONTA

CLUB OF  
ST LOUIS

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MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

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EMPOWERING WOMEN

® THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

## March 2019 Zest Newsletter

### *Letter from the President*



Hello Zonta Sisters!

It was so nice to see so many of you at the Amelia Earhart Event. It's been a long time since we have been together....darn snow!

I have been reflecting on all that has happened since the last time we got together. The last quarter of 2018 was busy! After the wonderfully successful Little Stones Event in October, we got snowed out in

ground breaking career, we were able to see the many ways women can lead even in areas where women have not gone before. How inspiring!

The Service Committee is still collecting old/broken/unwanted jewelry. The jewelry will be repurposed and sold by our partner Mosaic and the proceeds go to Crisis Aid to support their work helping women trafficking victims. Bring your jewelry to the Mar 21 meeting!

Mark your calendars for a variety of events with other Zontians to be held this year. All of these are nice

November....crazy... and though we did not have a membership meeting in December, it was a very busy month for St Louis Zontians. We continued our long history of bell ringing at the Galleria; our collection in our kettle was the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest for the Salvation Army thanks to our singing and our annual gift. Also we had a lovely holiday trip to Our Lady of the Snows for dinner and a drive through the lights, thanks to Laura Burton for organizing us.

Then more snow in January but we outsmarted mother nature and rescheduled our Amelia Earhart Event for February. We celebrated the wonderful inspiration that Amelia continues to be as we try to follow her courage and willingness to take risks and break boundaries. Our speakers, from AE Fellow Aslihan Veruskan breaking barriers in aerospace research early in her career to Patrice Billings with a long

opportunities to catch up with other Zontians and hear what other clubs are doing and I'd like to see Zonta Club of St. Louis well represented.

*Area 2/4 meeting* will meet April 26-27, 2019,

*North America Interdistrict Meeting* is June 7-9, 2019,

*District 7 Conference* is September 13-16, 2019

We are starting to plan for Zonta International's Centennial! Hold the date for Convention July 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2020, to be held in Chicago....road trip!!!! There will also be opportunities to help make this convention happen so please volunteer to help out (a link to the form is below).

I am looking forward to this year in Zonta; I hope you are too!

Sherri



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### **2019 Amelia Earhart Membership Event - February 9, 2019**

In addition to learning more about Zonta, the St Louis Club, and Amelia, the group had a great time inducting Dr. Rashmi Nair (pictured left with president Sherri Brown). Rashmi was born in Delhi, India. She credits her grandmother with her foray into Agricultural technologies. She holds a PhD in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the University of Mississippi and a MBA from Washington University. Dr. Nair joined Monsanto in 1980 working with worldwide regulators for Agricultural Biology and Chemical products as well as serving as an adjunct professor. Welcome Rashmi!

Pictured on the right with President Sherri are Patrice Billings (center) and Aslihan Vuruskan (right). These two amazing women were guest speakers at the event.

Patrice is retired from the St. Louis County, Missouri Police Department. She served as the chief pilot and certified flight instructor for the Metro Air Support Unit. Patrice has the distinction of being the first female police officer to become a helicopter pilot and earned a Purple Heart for her heroic achievements. She served as a member of the board of directors of Safe Connections and currently co-owns Butterfly & Moon in St. Charles, Missouri.

Aslihan is a PhD student in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology. She became an Amelia Earhart Fellow in 2017. Aslihan's research area is aerodynamic shape optimization.

For more details on these three women, and to see the full presentation from the meeting click this [link](#).

M. Wright



The Individual Enrichment Award (IEA) committee was established to assist members of our community in special circumstances, or emergencies that are not covered

through our other programs.

In the past, IEA has assisted in car repairs for students, electric bills, and day care for a mother fleeing an abusive situation. This year, the IEA committee assisted three specific cases.

One was for a nursing student not involved in WAC who didn't have the funding for this semesters' books. The second was a former student who had successfully graduated from SLU, but now is in hospice and overdue on her monthly rent. The third, a divorced mother of 2 (one special needs child - autistic and blind) unemployed due to the govt. shutdown, who had received an eviction notice and needed assistance with her rent.

We, as an organization, are fortunate to be able to assist these and others when the situation arises.

This makes us all appreciate that much more the health of our loved ones, and the blessings we have.

Norma Nisbet

IEA CHAIR



## Little Stones Update - Distribution of Proceeds

As you may remember, Zonta Club of St Louis participated in a first of its kind event mid-October 2018 when it held a silent auction and premiere showing of the Little Stones documentary. Through hard work and lots of time the club successfully raised over \$12 thousand dollars to go toward service projects that support women and children. In the months since that event, we've made donations to our three partner organizations: Safe Connections, Gateway Human Trafficking, and Crisis Aid. The club has also used proceeds to make donations to Zonta International's ZISVAW program, the Maryville University Empower group, and purchased a table at the Women's Leadership Luncheon being held later this month.

The latest donation went to an organization called Dig Deep which has a mission to bring hot and cold running water to Navajo families. Even with all the work this organization has done, 40% of the Navajo still don't have a sink or toilet in their homes. To read more about this organization and the work it is doing visit their [website](#).

M. Wright

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Collecting old jewelry - broken, mismatched or just no longer wanted!  
The Service committee will be collecting your old jewelry at the March 21st Membership Meeting to be re-purposed and sold. The proceeds going to Crisis Aid to support their mission to assist women trafficking victims. M. D'Angelo

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Pictured from left to right: A new friend, Judy Jensen, Carla Russo, Peggy Gilbertson, Mary D'Angelo, Rashmi Nair, Kay Moss, and Sherry Brooks volunteering at the Diaper Bank.

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, we again volunteered to wrap baby diapers at the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank. This has been a fun and rewarding effort arranged by Mary D'Angelo while Judy Jensen has supplied great support for all the "Hands On" team of Zontians. Our picture reflects the Zontians who could attend this time and we hope to see more of you for the next "wrapping" opportunity. Kay Moss

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MARCH  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
03/21/19 @ Trattoria Toscano

[See flyer for details.](#)

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The following slate of candidates have agreed to be nominated for the 2019-2020 year. As per the bylaws the term of office is one year except for the treasurer who has been nominated for a two-year term.

Voting will be at the April Membership Meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at that meeting.

<b>President</b>	Kay Moss
<b>Vice President</b>	Linda White
<b>Treasurer</b>	Michelle Wright
<b>Secretary</b>	Gerda Thalheimer

**Directors**

Finance	Jill Cooper
Long-Range Planning	Barbara Meyer
Membership & Classification	Elizabeth Heitman

Public Relations & Communications  
Service & Advocacy

Shima Rostami  
Judy Jensen

**2019-20 Nominating Committee**

Sherry Brooks, Sherri Brown, Linda Daus

The 2018-19 Nominating Committee wants to thank all who graciously agreed to be nominated. Laura Burton, Sharon Carmody, and Miriam Schuchardt





## NEWS FROM ZONTA DISTRICT 7

M. Wright

**The Area 2 / Area 4 Meeting is scheduled for April 26th and 27th in Kansas City, Missouri.**

*Area 2 Clubs (that's us) are asked to bring a Silent Auction basket or item as a donation to the event. Money raised will be used for the District 7 Conference and 100th Birthday party. Club volunteers to work on this should contact President Sherri.*

*Also, all Clubs will need to prepare a "Best Practices" presentation (1 – 6 slides and a 5-minute presentation) so volunteers will be needed for that as well.*

Click here to access the [meeting agenda](#).

Click here to access the [registration form](#).

**The North American Inter Districts Meeting is scheduled for June 7th - June 9th in Dallas, Texas**

*This is a great networking opportunity and a chance to interact with fellow*

*Zontians while learning about Service and Advocacy, Leadership and Innovation, Media and Partnerships, or Membership and Outreach. You can even mix and match the learning tracks.*

Click here to access the schedule and registration forms on the [2019 NAIDM website](#).

**KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION - DISTRICT 7 MEETING**

September 2019

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## **NEWS FROM ZONTA INTERNATIONAL**



Zonta International is currently participating in the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women. The Commission was established by a resolution on 21 June 1946 to monitor and promote women's rights and develop global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women. An e-newsletter was sent to all Zontians on March 14th that is full of news and highlights from this session (scheduled March 11 - March 22). For specific

details on the primary themes of the session and links to Zonta International's statement to the Commission, visit this [link](#).

M. Wright

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March 21, 2019 - Club Membership Meeting

April 4, 2019 - Board Meeting

April 18, 2019 - Club Membership Meeting (Year End Business Meeting)

April 26 - 27, 2019 - Area Meeting, Kansas City MO

May 9, 2019 - Proposed date for Board Meeting

May 16, 2019 - Club Membership Meeting (Officer/Director installation)

June 6, 2019 - Board Meeting (Leadership hand off)

June 7 - 9, 2019 - NAIDM

June 20, 2019 - Final meeting of 2018-19 Year, Celebration and Recognition

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