



Zonta Club of Rochester



ZONTA
CLUB OF
ROCHESTER
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

Dedicated to Empowering Women through Service & Advocacy

Message from the President

Dear Zonta Members & Friends,

The end of the year is quickly approaching as we give thanks this month for all our many blessings. Our club had a busy October celebrating our Centennial year with 2 events, the Fall Happy Hour Fundraiser and the CEDAW event. We also volunteered at the Resolve Reveal Fundraiser and St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center's Breakfast Fundraiser (a long tradition for our Zonta club).

Look for a review of CEDAW in this newsletter. Thank you Lesia Telega for leading the successful event and Anne Rasch for writing the article. Watch for more news on CEDAW as Lesia takes the next step to organize an interested group for action on Cities for CEDAW.

Thank you Jackie Kukurudza for all your leadership at our Fall Happy Hour Fundraiser! It was a lot of fun with great music procured by Lynn Nulton. Our next fundraiser is shopping at the Enchanted Garden Boutique & Gifts, Penfield on 12/5 (or all week when you mention Zonta). Help us spread the word! Zonta members will be in attendance from 4 to 7 pm on Thursday.

Our November monthly meeting with a theme of Membership will be on 11/19 at the Perkins Mansion. This is earlier than normal due to the holiday. Don't forget to **RSVP by 11/12** to Isabella Foltyniak, email: isabellafoltyniak@gmail.com or text to 585.363.3068. Our program will be led by Membership Chair Laurie Findlay. Contact her at email: Lfindlay6@gmail.com with any questions. Alyce Van Patten will be selling our Zonta Blend coffee from Coffee Connections. All proceeds go toward our fundraising for the year. Thank you Alyce for leading this initiative.

One of the many reasons I love being involved in Zonta is the global reach. On November 8th Zonta celebrated their 100th birthday (but we continue to celebrate all year!). In case you missed the email sent to all 29,000 members around the world, here is what the celebration looked like.

It is Zonta's birthday - celebrate with us!

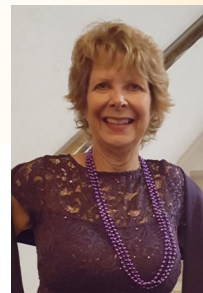
100 years ago today, our founding mothers met in Buffalo, New York, and made history.

To celebrate this amazing milestone, we launched our global giving anniversary event, inviting you and your friends to donate US\$100 to the Zonta International Foundation. This event started in New Zealand and continues until the day ends in Hawaii (9 November @ 9:59 AM GMT).

**So far, your gifts have helped us reach
70% of our US\$100,000 goal!
Thank you!**

Wishing you all many reasons to be thankful. Enjoy the holiday.

Cheri



**November 2019
Newsletter**

Volume 10, Issue 4

PO Box 10545,
Rochester, NY 14610
ZontaRochester@gmail.com

Service News

Service Collection for November

Non-parishable Food items. Bring to November 19th meeting.

As a reminder, you are not obligated to provide anything for our monthly collections, but we appreciate anything you can do to help. If you would like to give a check or cash instead of shopping, please give it to Andrea Somerville and she'll purchase items for you.

These will be distributed to Sojourner Home & Wilson Commencement Park. If you'd like to part of the *Elite Delivery Team*, please let Andrea know.

Need Volunteer to lead the Dress a Girl Initiative

Service Committee is asking for a volunteer to lead and organize a group to help Angels of Mercy with their Dress a Girl project..

Below are the dates that Angels of Mercy have scheduled an event at St. Cecilia's. Contact Andrea Somerville to learn more.

JANUARY 21, 2020

MARCH 17, 2020

MAY 19, 2020

JULY 21, 2020

Adopt a Family for December

We will once again provide holiday gifts to a family in need. Lisa Fluman will lead this initiative again this year. Friendship Children's Center will provide us with the family size and gift request. We hope to have this information at our November meeting so members can shop and bring to our December meeting. Thank you Lisa!

Grant Process to Begin in December

Our annual grant application process will begin in December led by our Service Chair, Andrea Somerville. We look forward to our February meeting when the hard work of fundraising is returned to the chosen grant applicants. One of the most rewarding benefits of Zonta membership! Thank you Andrea for leading our service work. Email Andrea for info at asomerville_fun@yahoo.com



Volunteers at Resolve Reveal Fundraiser. Andrea Somerville, Lesia Telega, Cheri Magin, Lynn Nulton, Joanne Chase



Volunteers at St. Joseph's Neighborhood Breakfast Fundraiser. Andrea Somerville, Edna Silvernail, Melisa Quinn, Lesia Telega, Rita Garretson, Joanne Chase, Cheri Magin, Sierra Stiller Saiger

Ways & Means News

Our annual lottery ticket fundraiser will kick off at our November 19th member meeting. Alyce Van Patten will distribute tickets to members for selling until January 31st. If you are not in attendance, she will mail your tickets. Edna Silvernail will collect the money and unsold tickets at the January meeting. Thank you Alyce and Edna!

Zonta Brew Coffee Project

Our Zonta Blend coffee will be for sale at the November & December member meetings. Consider giving a gift of coffee! We have partnered with Coffee Connections to select a special blend for Zonta only. Look for Alyce Van Patten who will be selling at our meetings. Thank you Alyce!



- Holiday Shopping
- Refreshments
- Samples
- Raffle



15%
Donation!

Clothing, Jewelry
& accessory Boutique

1850 Penfield Rd.
Penfield 4 - corners
Penfield, NY 14526

585-264-1130



December 5th

4pm-7pm

Come Shop for the Holiday
& support

ZONTA

Club of Rochester

At the:





With the elections in Virginia this week, Virginia is poised to become the 38th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Now it's more important than ever to contact your Senators and Representative to make sure they support removing the deadline for ratification of the ERA.

Two joint resolutions have been introduced to remove the deadline - S.J. Res 6 and H.J. Res 38 - but now we need your support to secure additional co-sponsors.

The Equal Rights Amendment was passed by Congress in 1972; however, it has never been fully ratified. Its ratification would provide a constitutional guarantee that all men and women are truly equal under the law and that these rights cannot be easily abridged. **Without the ERA, women do not have equal rights under the law.**

The Equal Rights Amendment will make it clear that sex discrimination in employment, education or any other space is a violation of our constitutional rights as Americans. It will also provide a clearer and stricter judicial standard for deciding cases of sex discrimination.

Now is the time to contact your senators and representative to urge them to support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Take Action

Together, we can ensure equal rights for women under the law.

Sincerely,

The Zonta USA Caucus

Don't shut victims out of justice reforms

(article written for the Democrat & Chronicle by Pat Huntington-Sigel, published 11/2/19)

New York State will enact the Criminal Justice Reform Act on January 1, 2020. Passed as part of the NYS budget, changes include reduced sentences, raising the age, and eliminating bail in most cases. Reforms have received much attention — rightly so. However, what we're not hearing are voices of crime victims and witnesses, soon to be on the short end of unintended but life-changing impacts of these reforms.

Under the new laws, a responding police officer to a misdemeanor assault, cannot take the offender into custody. The defendant, issued an appearance ticket, is simply asked to return to court.

Besides law enforcement's serious concern for flight risk, courts must issue "appearance reminders." With roughly four million defendants per year appearing in criminal cases, combined with a lack of funding, the burden on the court may well be unmanageable.

Victim safety is in jeopardy, as victims of domestic violence and all victims can't obtain a criminal order of protection until the defendant is arraigned before a judge. Defendants, under new discovery law, will have access to police reports disclosing victim and witness contact information. Consider the sobering implications for victims and witnesses.

Most people aren't aware that as of January 1, this new law allows defendants to request a court order to access and view the crime scene "or other premises relevant to the subject matter of the case." Whether or not the defendant is granted access, this possibility strikes fear in the hearts of victims and raises the possibility they may refrain from accessing the justice system. In their minds, doing so might jeopardize their safety.

The Victim's Rights movement in our country, born in the 1970's, coincided with social movements seeking to improve a criminal justice system that had evolved into removing the victim's voice from the system. Victim involvement, at that time, was limited to reporting a crime. Victims were just considered part of the evidence. The system didn't recognize the physical, financial, and emotional impact of crime on victims. Thankfully, grassroots efforts on the part of victims and victim advocates began to change that.

Criminal justice reform needs to include all parties: law enforcement, district attorneys, defense attorneys and judges. It's imperative that reform considers the needs of crime victims and witnesses. When victims do not have a voice in the criminal justice system, it is an injustice. When victims are treated as just a piece of evidence, it is an injustice. Let's not go back to the time when victim's voices were not heard.

Pat Huntington-Sigel is chairwoman of the Rochester/Monroe County Domestic Violence Consortium.

WHAT IS CEDAW AND WHY SHOULD ROCHESTER BECOME A CITY FOR CEDAW

Written by Anne Rasch

On Tuesday, October 29 the Zonta Club of Rochester presented a panel discussion on CEDAW - The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, in honor of our Centennial. The event was attended by over 50 people from our community including Zonta members and panelists. We are grateful to Lesia Telega for being the Rochester community grassroots organizer of this educational event.

We were honored to have a panel of people who are dedicated to women's causes and issues – women who are driven to make the community a better, safer place for women.

Our moderator was Catherine Cerulli, PhD; Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Rochester Medical Center; Director of Susan B. Anthony Center; and Laboratory of Interpersonal Violence and Victimization. She received a PhD in criminal justice from SUNY at Albany, NY in 2004 and her MS Degree in criminal justice from SUNY at Albany, NY in 1998. She holds a JD from the University at Buffalo law school. Dr. Cerulli received the Excellence in Public Service award from the SUNY Albany Alumni Association in 2014 and the National Institute of Mental Health New Investigator Award in 2005.

Lee Fogarty, panelist- a long-term member of the Zonta Club of Pittsburgh, a psychologist and an executive coach. She has worked on gender equity issues throughout her career, personally and professionally, with individuals, corporations, and society.

Deborah L. Hughes, panelist - President & CEO of the National Susan B. Anthony Museum & House. Hughes has spearheaded innovative programming and events such as the VoteTilla.

Candice A. Lucas, Ed.D, panelist- the Executive Director of St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center (SJNC), a nonprofit agency providing comprehensive, integrated medical, dental, mental health care and human services to people who lack adequate health insurance. Additionally, SJNC leads the Racial Equity and Justice Initiative helping organizations achieve equity in their policies and procedures.

Sharon Stiller, panelist- a partner and director of the Employment Law Practice at Abrams, Fensterman, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Ferrara, Wolf & Carone, LLP. Ms. Stiller advises businesses and executives about employment law, represents businesses in federal and state labor department audits, and litigates employment matters, including state and federal wage and hour, discrimination, contract, confidentiality, non-compete, and similar claims.

What is CEDAW, why is it necessary, and what is the Cities of CEDAW Initiative/Ordinance?

It is an international treaty and an agenda of action addressing discrimination against the basic human rights of women to equality in education, health care, employment, economics, law, property, family relations, marriage and political participation.

The State has a moral and legal obligation to uphold discrimination in all areas against women and girls

The CEDAW Initiative establishes CEDAW principles in cities and towns across the USA.

The CEDAW Ordinance encourages local legislation based on the principles of CEDAW

Facts about CEDAW

Adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly

Instituted in 1981

189 countries have signed and ratified the Convention

CEDAW Committee has 23 independent experts on women's rights worldwide

Countries are obliged to submit regular reports to the Committee on how the rights are being implemented

USA has signed but not ratified even though it was one of the first signing the agreement when it was adopted by the UN in 1979

Debated five times since 1980 by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Hearings held in 1994, 2002 and 2010 have failed to advance the treaty

WHAT IS CEDAW AND WHY SHOULD ROCHESTER BECOME A CITY FOR CEDAW, cont'd

Why has it not been ratified in the USA and is there a clearing in the horizon for passage?

Even though President Carter signed the treaty and sent it to the Senate he lacked political clout to get senators to act.
It was opposed by NC Sen. Jesse Helms who has been against it from the start and who used his seniority to block the measure from going to the full Senate.
The opposition believes the treaty is unnecessary and subjects the US to the whims of an international agency.
CEDAW is **unlikely to be ratified anytime soon.**

Who must we engage and what can we do ensure equality or rights for women?

Based on the panelist's discussion, we need 'Make the Global Local' and embark on Cities for CEDAW initiative by bringing it to Rochester.
We can form a local committee by promoting action on legislation while establishing the principles of CEDAW in our community.
Provide tools and leadership to empower local women's organizations to encourage local governments to become more gender equitable.'
CEDAW ordinances require cities to evaluate their programs and budgets affecting men and women equally.

What US city has experienced positive results and progress in implementing CEDAW initiative?

San Francisco passed an ordinance in 1998 with a reduction in DV, resulting in 44 months without DV homicides
There has been an Increase in safety with improved lighting by the Public Works
The Dept of Juvenile Probation created a "girls' unit" to provide gender-specific, trauma-focused services for girls.
Implemented seven gender-equality principles ranging from employment and compensation to supply chain practices.
Developed new codes for police related to DV, stalking, child abuse and elder abuse
Action is being taken on family violence, human trafficking, family-friendly workplace and gender analysis of city agencies to ensure they are non-discriminatory to women and girls

Panelists Discussion and Comments:

Deborah Hughes indicated that the issues involving discrimination against women go as far back as 1903 with issues involving poverty of immigrant women and seniors that still exist today.
We need to think globally and learn more about why people are being discriminated by responding to issues when we see them, and act on them.
Currently ABW as well as Zonta is working on various issues.

Candace Lucas stated that her organization (St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center) deals with issues surrounding women's poverty, health, family planning, incarceration, pay equity, racial equity. She shared how her organization has been working with Racial Equity and Justice Initiative (REJI), Structural Racism Initiative (SRI) as well as Rochester Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative (RMAPI)

Sharon Stiller shared The 1848 **Declaration of Rights and Sentiments** written by Elizabeth Stanton for the first women's rights convention held in Seneca Falls, NY and organized by women.
Sharon shared how laws applying to women's discrimination issues can be litigated using Declaration of Sentiments rights vs the constitutional rights in the Declaration of Independence that demands equality for all in education and employment.
It states that both men and women have equal rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness – which eliminates sexual stereotyping.
It is here where suffrage movement began and women were given equal social status rights, legal rights, the right to vote.

WHAT IS CEDAW AND WHY SHOULD ROCHESTER BECOME A CITY FOR CEDAW, cont'd

Panelists Discussion and Comments:

Sharon Stiller continued:

In April 2019 the House passed the VAWA Reauthorization Act that expired on Dec. 31, 2018 but not ratified by the Senate. Harrassment still exists because we don't have accountability to report it. However, the The ERA needs 38 states to ratify the amendment on gender equality before it can become law. State of Virginia has tried to resurrect the Equal Rights Amendment but without success.

January 1, 2020 the Equity Pay Laws will be enacted for equal pay on the Federal and State level. Employers are banned from asking for salary history.

Lee Fogarty – points of interest

Pittsburgh was the 6th state to pass the CEDAW Ordinance

The national goal is to have 100 by 2021.

40 Social Justice agencies joined together in promoting CEDAW

When writing ordinances, we need to address women's specific issues within a specific group (intersectionality) with regard to discrimination

We need to form focus groups with grassroots action that needs to come from people in our area/city who are most affected by issues on discrimination

We need financial backing

We need to attend public hearings to speak about the ordinances that we wish to have implemented

Difference between ERA and CEDAW -

Sharon pointed out that CEDAW has 17 principles on specific issues of discrimination where as ERA

.....

Start a CEDAW Coalition Group and meet with city or county officials to endorse CEDAW – go wherever it makes sense

By meeting with government officials, the CEDAW Coalition would make officials accountable to the laws implemented

Start by making businesses aware of the CEDAW principles and encourage them to adopt these principles

Make an attempt to involve Governor Cuomo

Hold community meetings for CEDAW awareness

What difference can CEDAW make in our community?

Decrease in poverty among women

Decrease in unemployment

Affordable housing

Provide a safe environment'

Reduce homicides re DV

Lesia Telega will facilitate the initial meeting for all attendees who have an interest in bringing Cities for CEDAW to the Greater Rochester area and forming a grassroots CEDAW Coalition in Rochester.



Left to right: Cheri Magin, Dr. Catherine Cerulli, Lesia Telega, Deborah Hughes, Dr. Lee Fogarty, Dr. Candace Lucas, Sharon Stiller

Upcoming Events

Concerts on Park Welcomes the Charlie Lindner Trio **November 22 at 7 p.m.** sponsored by Coffee Connections

Jazz pianist and electronic music producer Charlie Lindner makes his debut at Concerts on Park this November 22. Melting genres of music together is a talent Charlie Lindner has marinated over time. Charlie has made a name for himself in cities across the US, playing jazz, blues, and especially electronic dance music to push his musical boundaries. Charlie is joined by Matthew Ramerman on drums and Bassist Kyle Vock.

Now in our sixteenth year, Concerts on Park brings local artists to the acoustically beautiful setting for an evening of intimate music with an engaged audience.

We are proudly sponsored by the Coffee Connection, best coffee in town putting women in recovery to work. Cost of the evening is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students with a \$25 family maximum.

Located at Immanuel Baptist Church, 815 Park Avenue in Rochester.

Plan now to join us for our free Annual Advent/Christmas Concert with the Bill Welch Band on Friday, December 6.

**Harriet *Special Screening at The Little*,
11/15/19 6:30 pm**

Part of the The Black Cinema Series series.

About the Film: Based on the thrilling and inspirational life of an iconic American freedom fighter, HARRIET tells the extraordinary tale of Harriet Tubman's escape from slavery and transformation into one of America's greatest heroes. Her courage, ingenuity, and tenacity freed hundreds of slaves and changed the course of history.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NYS EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC. in association with United Nations Department of Public Information INVITE YOU TO ATTEND

Briefing at the United Nations on Climate Change Panel of UN Experts will discuss the topic and what you as individuals can do to help

2020 Events

District 4 Centennial Events

May 2020: *Spirit of Womanhood* walk at Park to highlight advocacy projects of Zonta.

June 2020: Clubs can contribute items to the Time Capsule to be buried under the *Spirit of Womanhood* statue and a brass plate designating Zonta Club contributions.

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

July 4—8, 2020

For those of you seeking early registration for next year's convention, this website has all the information you need: <http://convention.zonta.org/>

The host hotel will be the [Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile](#), 540 North Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60611 USA. Please see the ZI website for convention and hotel rates for members. Your special link to book the Chicago Marriott Downtown hotel at the member rate has been sent to you in your convention registration confirmation email.

Save the Date! February 12, 2020

Susan B. Anthony 200th Birthday Dinner Celebration
Watch for more details next month.

Zonta International
President **Susanne von Bassewitz**
Zonta Club of Düsseldorf Germany

Zonta District 4
Governor **Bonnie Clesse**
Lt. Governor **Janice Durmis**
Area 4 Director **Gina Orsini**

Zonta Rochester Board
President **Cheri Magin**
Vice President **Melissa Quinn**
Secretary **Lisa Fluman**
Treasurer **Sheri Stanton**
Foundation Treasurer **Alyce Van Patten**
Director 18-20 **Joanne Chase**
Director 18-20 **Isabella Foltyniak**
Director 19-21 **Laurie Findlay**
Director 19-21 **Nancy McCulloch**

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Zonta District 4: www.ZontaDistrict4.org
Zonta Rochester: www.ZontaRochester.org
[www.Facebook.com:](https://www.facebook.com/) *Search for* Zonta Rochester, Zonta
International, & Zonta District 4

Happy Birthday!
Laurie Findlay – November 25

Member Anniversaries
Nancy McCulloch—30 years
Alyce Van Patten— 20 years
Joanne Chase— 5 years

Member Meeting Schedule:

November 19, 2019—Membership
December 17, 2019— Social
January 28, 2020—Ameila Earhart
February 25, 2020— Service
March 24, 2020—Advocacy
April 28, 2020—Leadership
May 19, 2020—Annual Meeting

Board Meeting Schedule:

December 9, 2019
January 6, 2019
February 3, 2020
March 2, 2020