

Zonta Club of Grand Rapids  
PO Box 3185  
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www.zontagr.org

2009-2010

#### BOARD

- **President:**  
Allison Reuter
- **Vice-President:**  
Lisa Sostecke
- **Treasurer:**  
Denise Spaulding
- **Secretary:**  
Kate Holbert
- **Directors:**  
Gini Gordon  
Vicki Vandenberg

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**September 8,** 4  
**International**  
**Literacy Day**

# Zonta NewZ



Helping improve the legal, political, economic, health, education and professional status of women and girls locally and internationally.

VOLUME II, ISSUE IV

MARCH 2010

## Zonta International Donates \$100,000 to the UN Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women

Zonta International donated \$100,000 to the UN Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women. During the 2008 - 2010 Biennium, Zonta International is funding three projects through the Zonta International Strategies to End Violence Against Women (ZISVAW) Fund, a fund of the Zonta International Foundation that supports international service projects that seek to reduce the incidence of violence against women and girls. The three projects currently being supported by the ZISVAW Fund are:

- Ending Violence Against Women in Cambodia through Community Action
- Combating Physical Violence Against Women and Supporting the Implementation of Protective and Anti-Discriminatory Laws and Policies in Egypt
- Community-Based Center for Housing and Rehabilitation of Women Victims of Violence in Syria

Since the inception of the ZISVAW program in 1999, Zonta International has provided more than US\$1 million to support 33 projects in more than 20 countries.

Date: 3 February 2010

Action Type: Fundraising

Sponsored By: Zonta International

**SAY NO – UNITE**  
End Violence against Women

(<http://www.saynotoviolence.org/join-say-no/zonta-international-unites-say-no-violence-against-women>)



100,004

Total actions so far



*“There is a special place  
in Hell for women who  
do not help other  
women.”*

*—Madeleine K. Albright*

## Service Committee

**Girls Learning Day:** We have secured the date for the Girls Learning Day for Thursday, May 13, 2010 at 3 pm. We are working on getting attendees with first preference to Blanford and Big Sisters. The Grand Haven library was already booked so we will be hosting the aerospace science portion at UMC Dunes Church Social Hall (just a short distance from the boat docks). We are working on the meal selection and caterer. Anoosheh who helped us last year with the air portion re-

ceived a second AE Fellowship. We invited her to participate again this year in the same capacity and she has accepted citing how much she enjoyed the experience last year.

**Pad and Pillow Projects:**

We will have our next pad sewing service day on April 24, 2010 from 1:00-4:00 pm at Hope Network's offices off 28th Street. Please let Darcie know if you plan on attending and bring your sharp scissors and/or sewing machine with butter yellow or white thread.

Check out our website for photos from the distribution of the pillows that we made in February.

**YWPA Scholarship:** Brittney Reilley from Mona Shores in Muskegon applied. We should consider a club level scholarship should she be a candidate.

**Literacy Center:** A book from the Dear America Series was submitted for consideration as a qualified donation.

## Membership Committee

**PR Intern Work:** The new display board was presented at the January meeting. The tri-fold flyer is also being worked on.

**PR:** Darcie made contact with Sister Barbara Hansen, former member of ZGR and current representative with Community Media Center. This organization is a one-stop shop for 501c3 non-profits to utilize

for all forms of PR. There are many opportunities for free PR and we will be working on taking advantage of them as our 501c3 status is finalized.

**501c3:** The application was mailed on Tuesday, 3/15. Now we await our approval. Thanks to Allison for all her work on this!

**Lunch and Learns:** A Lunch and Learn is being proposed to

Mary Free Bed. Details to follow.

**Contacts:**

Denise made a great contact, Jill Pierce, at the Half the Sky event who belongs to an organization called "Dining for Women". She will be put on our mailing list for upcoming events.

## Ways & Means Committee

**Sparkle Sales:** We have had an inquiry from our website for purchasing sparkles for an entire club in Montgomery. More money in the convention coffers!

**FocuZ on Trafficking**

**Event:** We have decided to host a the event in the early fall that will focus on the issue

of trafficking and will be featuring a book selection, a panel of experts and a movie. Darcie and Vicki are co-chairing the event. If you would like to help out, please contact one of the chairs. The tentative date is Friday, 9/10/10. This falls only 2 days after International Literacy Day so we will have a great opportunity to publicize

this in conjunction with it. We might also consider partnering with the Literacy Center.

**Poker:** Next dates-May 16-18 at Lincoln Lanes, details to be announced. We also have poker dates reserved at Lincoln Lanes on November 10-13, 2010.

# President's Message



Due to her work load, Allison was not able to prepare a president's message. However, there were accolades on Hope Network in the latest Women's Lifestyle Magazine. Congrats!

Hope Network Rehabilitation Services has received the "Excellence in Therapeutic Recreation Programming" award from the Michigan Parks and Recreation Association, an honor that recognizes their accomplishments and consistently high standards in therapeutic recreation as one of the best in the state.



March 2010

/ view from abroad /

## HER SAFE HAVEN WITHOUT MEN

» A women-only village in northern Kenya may sound like the setting for a fictitious feminist utopia, but for Rebecca Lolosoli, it's a practical solution to an otherwise harsh reality. Lolosoli founded Umoja in 1991, banding with 15 women who had been ousted by their families, allegedly for being raped—a shameful "offense" in the region's Samburu culture. (Lolosoli left her husband after he severely beat her for publicly denouncing the abandonment of these women.) Since then, the community has welcomed nearly 100 women and girls, many of whom are fleeing forced or violent marriages.

"We are trying to fight for our rights," says Lolosoli, who improved her English and expanded her leadership skills with the help of Vital Voices, a nongovernmental organization that assists emerging women trailblazers around the globe (vitalvoices.org). "Women need to be able to choose their husbands, and we need to be involved in politics and local government." In Umoja, which is



Swahili for "unity," girls are encouraged to attend a local or boarding school, and as a means of empowerment, Lolosoli has made sure that the village can sustain itself, by making beaded jewelry to sell as popular tourist souvenirs at the nearby Samburu National Reserve.

Despite Lolosoli's attempts to protect Umoja from the outside world, the women continue to face threats: On

several occasions, men have stormed the community; Lolosoli says her own estranged husband once showed up with a gun. "We run to the police, but they are not very helpful. They are corrupt," she says. Still, Lolosoli persists. "We want the younger generations to know they have rights like any other humans. We are trying to make a way for them." —PATTI GRECO

26 more.com | APRIL 2010

AMOUNT OF CASH  
**\$3,000,000,000**  
women-owned businesses contribute to the national economy. In fact, if America's women-owned businesses were their own country, it would have a bigger GDP than France, Italy or the UK. (plus Canada, India and Vietnam combined).  
 22 more.com | APRIL 2010



# Zonta Club of Grand Rapids

## Member of Zonta International

*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*

### **Next Business Meeting:**

**Thursday, April 4, 2010**

5:30pm Social  
6:00pm Dinner  
7:00pm Business Meeting

Pietro's Italian Restaurant  
2728 Birchcrest Dr, S.E.

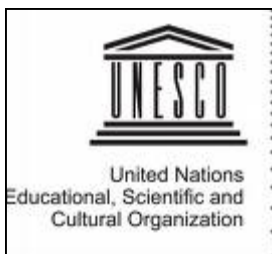
Please email [vvandenberg@yahoo.com](mailto:vvandenberg@yahoo.com) with your meal choice.

Program: Closed Business Meeting for elections and year end/new year business

Dinner: \$15.00, includes meal, tip, room rental and soft drinks. Other beverages can be purchased at the cash bar.

### **Important Dates**

- April 24, 2010, 1-4pm, Pad Sewing, Hope Network Offices
- May 1, 2010, Spring Workshop, Mt. Pleasant
- May 9-15, 2010, National Women's Health Week
- May 13, 2010, 3:00pm Girls Learning Day, Grand Haven
- May 16-18, 2010, Poker Fundraiser, Lincoln Lanes
- June 25-30, 2010, Int'l Convention, San Antonio
- September 8, 2010, International Literacy Day
- September 10, 2010, prospective Book Event
- October 15-17, 2010, Fall Conference, Iron Mtn
- October 18, 2010, Anti-Trafficking Day for the EU; January 11, 2011, Human Trafficking Awareness Day for the U.S.
- Nov 10-13 2010, Poker Fundraiser, Lincoln Lanes
- Nov 25, 2010, Int'l Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women



## **8 September—INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY**

Observed on September 8th every year, International Literacy Day seeks to focus public opinion on the major global problem of illiteracy.

"Despite the efforts and achievements made during the 1990's in the service of literacy, there are still one billion adult illiterates in the world, two-thirds of whom are women. Moreover, in the present age, literacy is becoming, more than ever, of critical importance to sustainable development, peace and democracy. Renewed efforts worldwide to identify and implement alternative approaches to the creation of literate societies therefore need further support and encouragement."

On this day every year UNESCO awards international literacy prizes to the most innovative and inspiring literacy programmes. In the year 2006 five main prizes were awarded. The prizes reward exceptional work in the fight against illiteracy, and the innumerable women and men around the world who work hard every day, often anonymously under difficult conditions, to teach people to read and write.