

Zonta Club of Grand Rapids
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Zonta NewZ



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

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BOARD

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Presidential Commission on Women

Tuesday April 2nd, on the 92nd anniversary of Jeanette Rankin being sworn in as the first female Member of Congress, Congresswoman [Jackie Speier](#) introduced a bill to establish a Presidential Commission on Women.

"Despite advances in the lives and livelihoods of women since Ms. Rankin took her oath of office, their remains in our society many forms of subtle but insidious discrimination," Congresswoman Speier said. "The issues that affect us all - poverty; violence; inequities in healthcare, housing and employment - are still shouldered disproportionately by women. A Presidential Commission on Women will be able to examine these and other issues in a thorough, rational and bipartisan manner and help illuminate a path toward a brighter and more equitable future."

[HR 1887](#) would establish a 15 member non-salaried Commission on Women charged with examining "the circumstances that contribute to discrimination, inequality and economic hardship faced by women throughout the country" and establishing "initiatives and programs that promote equality for women, and protect against discrimination of women, in all areas of public and private life."

In September 2008, Campaign for Gender Equality met with [WomenCount](#) to discuss the idea of calling for the establishment of a Presidential Commission on Women. We worked together for three months to develop the plan of action that launched the Presidential Commission on Women petition drive. We thank WomenCount for all their work with Congresswoman Speier to make this bill a reality.



You can help!

[HR 1887](#) was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. If your Congress member is on this [committee](#) please [CONTACT](#) them (type in your zip code) and ask he/she to support HR 1887 and sign on as a co-sponsor. If your Congress member is not on this committee please ask them to sign on as a co-sponsor.

Service Committee

Sewing Projects:

We completed 102 pads to be donated to girls in Africa. Great work everyone!

I am sorry to report that Goods 4 Girls has closed. The woman who started the organization decided she was overcommitted and couldn't continue. However, Project Thrive has taken over and is continuing the project under its Days for Girls program, so our pads will be sent to Project Thrive.

Girls Learning Day:

We have confirmed holding the dinner portion of our Girls Learning Day at Elegance of the Seasons on Washington Ave. in Grand Haven, a short walk from the boat dock. We are investigating use of Hope Network vans for transportation. We have space for 25 girls and have begun accepting confirmed reservations. Chaperons will be needed. More details will follow as we have them.



"We've begun to raise daughters more like sons...but few have the courage to raise our sons more like our daughters."

—Gloria Steinem

Membership Committee

Guests:

Nicole Kubicek will be a guest at our May meeting. She is a marketing student working at Kohls currently. She loves to volunteer and found us through our website. Please welcome her.

Deb Hill has decided not to renew her membership. We

wish her luck in all her future endeavors and hope she will consider renewing membership in the future.

Lunch & Learns:

We are working on scheduling a lunch and learn with Warner Norcross and Judd.

If you have contacts at other local businesses, please forward them to Darcie to schedule a lunch and learn.

Ways & Means Committee

Poker Fundraiser:

Our next poker fundraiser will be September 16-19 at Eastbrook Lanes. More information will follow.



President's Message



I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as your President over the past two and a half years.

It was a very positive experience and I look forward to continued growth within the Club.

I also want to thank the members of my Board. I appreciated their willingness to serve with open hearts and a "yes we can" attitude. We all worked as a team and contributed to a very successful year.

I am looking forward to a year with less responsibility. However, each one of us needs to be working on membership so we have a continuous pool of qualified candidates to hold office. We have members of our Board who have been serving for eight plus years who also need a much deserved break.

Please invite prospects to meetings and/or

consider serving again in a Board position in future years until we have reached our long term strategic membership goals.

Your Sister in Zonta—

Darcie

Spring Workshop

Sunday, April 26, 2009

Hosted by the Zonta Club of Michigan Capital Area

Country Club of Lansing

2200 Moores River Dr

Lansing, MI



Spring is a time of renewal, growth and enthusiasm. It is a time to shed the winter doldrums and look forward to the warmth of the long days ahead. Spring Workshop will help your club develop a fresh & professional look!

HERE ARE THE TOP REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND SPRING WORKSHOP:

Spring Workshops are your official District 15 Area Meetings.

You owe it to yourself to be as educated about Zonta as possible.

They are an efficient use of time, usually completed by mid-afternoon

You already know the members of your own club; it's time to meet Zontians from other clubs in the area. You never know when your job may transfer you to their side of town.

The return on your investment - \$30 includes breakfast, lunch and informative workshops.

They take place close to home; hosted by a Zonta Club near you.

It's your chance to connect with the District leadership; hardworking ladies who remember when they first joined Zonta and where it has lead them.

You know you're eager to meet and exchange ideas for service and fundraising with your sister Zontians!



Zonta Club of Grand Rapids

Member of Zonta International

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

Next Business Meeting:

Thursday, May 7, 2009

5:30pm Business Meeting

6:00pm Dinner/Speaker

7:00pm Business Meeting

D.A. Blodgett Conference Room

805 Leonard St. N.E.

~Onsite Child Care provided~

Presenter: Governor Sandra Vosper will perform the Officer Installation Ceremony and give an update on the District happenings

Dinner \$15.00, includes beverages—Please sign sheet by drinks so we can track for purchase and reimbursement. Thanks!

Menu: Hawaiian buffet teriyaki ginger pineapple chicken, island rice pilaf, Hawaiian salad, rolls and dessert

Catered by: Catered Creations, Inc.

Important Dates

- April 26, 2009, Area 2 Spring Workshop
- May 13-16, 2009, Poker Fundraiser, Eastbrook Lanes
- May 14, 2009, Zonta GR hosts girls learning day with focus on math and science
- Week of May 28th, screening of "A Walk to Beautiful" more details to follow
- July and August—summer break, no business meetings
- September 16-19, 2009, Poker Fundraiser, Eastbrook Lanes