

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.

2009-2010

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## Vice President Biden Announces Appointment of White House Advisor on Violence Against Women

Vice President Biden, the author of the landmark Violence Against Women Act, announced today the appointment of Lynn Rosenthal as the new White House Advisor on Violence Against Women. Ms. Rosenthal is one of the nation's foremost experts in domestic violence policy, and has worked at the local, state and national levels to create an environment where violence against women is not ignored and perpetrators are held accountable. This is a newly created position at the White House, dedicated specifically to advising the President and Vice President on domestic violence and sexual assault issues. "My proudest legislative achievement in the Senate was passing the Violence Against Women Act. We've made great strides since its passage – shining a light on an all too silent issue and reducing violence against women in significant numbers. But we have to do more," said Vice President Biden. "That's why we're here today – to do more. It's an honor to announce the first ever White House Advisor on Violence Against Women, Lynn Rosenthal. Lynn is passionate about these issues and knows them backwards and forwards. And as a former director of a shelter, she's also seen the human face of this tragic problem. She will be a leader in this White House in stopping the violence and sexual assault of women and will be an integral part of this Administration." "Lynn Rosenthal has been a life-long advocate for women and she has been a real leader in developing effective policies to combat domestic violence," said Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor and Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Relations and Public Engagement. "She will be a tremendous asset to the President, Vice President and the entire Administration as we continue the battle against domestic violence and sexual assault." Ms. Rosenthal's areas of domestic violence expertise include housing, state and local coordinated community response, federal policy on violence against women, and survivor-centered advocacy. She most recently served as the Executive Director of the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence. From 2000-2006, Rosenthal served as the Executive Director of the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) where she represented 54 state and territorial coalitions whose collective membership included more than 2000 local domestic violence programs. She played a major advocacy role in the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act in 2000 and 2005 and has assisted states and local communities with implementation of this groundbreaking federal legislation. She also worked closely with corporate partners to bring millions of dollars to local communities to respond to domestic violence. She partnered with The Allstate Foundation to develop a highly successful national initiative to promote economic empowerment for survivors of violence. Prior to her service at NNEDV, Rosenthal was director of the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence where she developed innovative service models for rural and legal services. On her return to Florida in 2006, Rosenthal developed the state's first comprehensive plan to help survivors of violence find housing. "President Obama and Vice President Biden could not have named a more qualified, visionary leader to advise the White House on violence against women," said Sue Else, President of the National Network to End Domestic Violence. "Lynn Rosenthal is a pioneer in the movement against domestic abuse and sexual assault. Her expertise will help to shape federal policies that will serve countless survivors of domestic and sexual violence." In this new position, Ms. Rosenthal will serve as an advisor to the President and Vice President on domestic violence and sexual assault issues; be a liaison to the domestic violence and sexual assault advocacy community; coordinate with the Department of Justice's Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) on implementation of Violence Against Women Act programs; coordinate with the Department of Health and Human Services on implementation of Family Violence Prevention Act services (including the National Domestic Violence Hotline); coordinate with the State Department and USAID on global domestic violence initiatives; and drive the development new initiatives and policy aimed at combating domestic violence and sexual assault with advocacy groups and members of Congress. Ms. Rosenthal has been widely recognized for her efforts to address domestic violence at the national, state and local levels. In 1999, she received the Florida Governor's Peace at Home Award for making a difference in the lives of battered women and their children. In 2005, Doris Buffet's National Sunshine Lady Foundation honored her for her work on the Violence Against Women Act. In 2006, she was the first recipient of the Sheila Wellstone Institute National Advocacy Award.

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# Service Committee

Coming Soon  
to a theater  
near you...



Zonta  
Film  
Festival

### Film Festival:

Please come to the September meeting prepared to discuss potential titles for hosting a Zonta mission focused film festival to serve as a fundraiser/service/advocacy project.

### Girls Learning Day:

September 7th we have to contact GVSU to reserve our date for this year's Girls Learning Day. We will try again for the week of May 9th since it worked so well for the girls schedule our first go around.



# Membership Committee

### PR Intern:

It was decided at the June meeting that we would investigate "hiring" an Intern from a local college to give our marketing materials a face lift. Darcie has made contact with a young woman who recently transferred to Davenport GR from Lapeer. She has already completed a similar project for the Lapeer Area Club and is

interested in helping us with updating our printed PR materials when she gets settled in September. We may need to have a second phase that covers non-printed materials with a separate intern.

*"Nothing great has been & nothing great can be accomplished without passion."*

*—G.W.F. Hegel*

# Ways & Means Committee

### Poker Fundraiser:

Our next poker fundraiser will be September 16-19 at Lincoln Lanes. Volunteer signup sheets will be passed at the September meeting. We need everyone's participation to make this fundraiser a success.

### Sparkle Shirt Work Bee:

A September date will be selected to iron on the sparkle decals to shirts we will sell at the District Conference in Lansing in October. Additional Z-wear sales items will be presented at the September meeting.

### Book Event::

Darcie has some exciting new ideas for the book event to take it to the next level! All will be shared at the September meeting.



# President's Message



As I'm writing this, I am looking outside my office window upon a golf course. It's sunny and about 80 degrees. What a perfect day. I'm wondering, is it really the end of August? Can the summer be almost over? Why does Darcie have to keep reminding me to write the President's message for the Zonta newsletter?? J Every year, it seems as though the summers go

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faster and faster. But, as I contemplate the speed at which this summer has gone, I can also remember everything that I accomplished in these short months. How did I have the time? It seems impossible, or as I like to say, "inconceivable."

But if I accomplished a lot in a few months, that means you did too. (Come on; we're Zontians!) And when you get several women in a room together who can accomplish so much in so little time, there is nothing we can't do. I was reminded this summer that life can change on a dime. There are women and girls who need

"Women will change the nature of power rather than power changing the nature of women."

-Bella Abzug, Women's Rights Leader

us. Maybe they didn't yesterday. But they do today. And they're waiting. As our first meeting of the season approaches, let's be prepared to roll up our sleeves and accomplish what may seem like a lot to these women and girls, but, to us, may seem like a fading summer.

—Allison

## Clips + Trends

then <b>VS.</b> now	2005	2009
Women's pay as a percentage of men's *	80.4%	80.5%
Percentage of Top 500 board seats held by women †	14.7%	15.2%
Percentage of women corporate officers in Top 500 †	16.4%	15.7%
Number of Top 500 companies with women CEOs †	8	15

SOURCES: \* U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS; † CATALYST

On the occasion of PINK's fourth anniversary, in keeping with our annual custom, we offer a snapshot of how far professional women have progressed — or regressed — as a group since PINK's beginning. This year, as always, it's a mixed bag. The overall pay gap continues to hold

steady, taking some of the shine off the passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act earlier this year. Women do hold a slightly higher proportion of board seats compared to four years ago, though their share of corporate officer positions is down.

The most positive change: today's

15 women CEOs in the Top 500, including the first African-American, who started in July. But with many of those firms struggling mightily in the recession, and shareholders growing antsy, next year's CEO count could be a far different story.

JAMES BURROUGHS

"So many worlds, so much to do, so little done, such things to be."

-Alfred, Lord Tennyson



# Zonta Club of Grand Rapids

## Member of Zonta International

*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*

### **Next Business Meeting:**

**Thursday, September 3, 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~

Program: Discussion of 2009-2010 objectives and action items.

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

Menu: Italian buffet, salad, rolls and dessert

Catered by: Catered Creations, Inc.

### **Important Dates**

- September 2009, Sparkle Shirt Work Bee
- September 8, 2009, International Literacy Day
- September 16-19, 2009, Poker Fundraiser, Lincoln Lanes
- September 21, 2009, International Day of Peace
- October 16-18, 2009, District Conference, East Lansing
- October 24, 2009, United Nations Day
- November 8, 2009, Zonta Founder's Day
- November 25, 2009, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- November 25-December 10, 2009, 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence
- December 10, 2009, Human Rights Day

***Zonta International – District 15 Fall Conference!***

**Please save the dates for this year's conference:**

**Friday-Sunday, October 16-18, 2009**

Headquarter hotel is the Lexington Lansing Hotel



### **Don't Miss...**

Key Note Speaker: Bill Rancic – Zonta PR Makeover from the expert of A&E's "We Mean Business"

Please visit <http://www.lansing.org/zonta> for information about what to see and do while you're in town!

Registration details and forms coming soon!

***It's Zonta's 90th birthday! Come to Lansing to help us celebrate!***