

**ZONTA INTERNATIONAL -- DISTRICT 12**  
**CLUB ANNUAL REPORT**  
**Reporting Period: June 1, 2013—May 27, 2014**

**Please email to Governor Sheila Davis (shedavis@comcast.net) by *May 27, 2014* with a copy to your Area Director.**

Area 1 Director: Reneé Coppock (rcoppock@crowleyfleck.com )	Area 2 Director: Deedee Boysen (deedeeboysen@hotmail.com )
Area 3 Director: Debbie Squires (dasquires316@msn.com )	Area 4 Director: Janet Bergin (janetbergin@hotmail.com )

**Club Administration 2013-2014:**

Zonta Club of Billings

Today's Date: June 1

Area: 1

President: Connie Dillon  
Secretary: Jennifer Lyman

President-Elect (if appropriate):  
Treasurer: Bev Ross

Vice President: Darcie Howard

**Fundraising:**

Please list the major fundraiser(s) your club held during 2013-2014. *(Feel free to add additional fund-raisers.)*

1. Trivia Night
2. Selling t-shirts and mugs
- 3.
- 4.

Total Funds Raised this year: **\$19,321**

**Local Service & Scholarships Dollars Given:**

Please list the contribution amounts given by your club during 2013-2014.

Local Service Organizations: \$5000

Local Scholarships: \$4000

Total Local: \$9000

**Zonta International Foundation (ZIF) Dollars Given:**

Please list the total club & individual contributions given to the Zonta International Foundation during 2013-2014. (Tommie Atanasoff at tatanasof@aol.com can provide this information to you)

Total Club Contributions: \$10,595.98

Total Individual Contributions: \$600

Total Club & Individual Contributions: \$11,195.98

**ZIF Scholarship Information:**

• **YWPA-Young Women in Public Affairs Awards**

Did your club participate in the YWPA program? Yes No

Please list the name of the candidate(s) forwarded by your club to the district for this award. Hannah Krieger

• **Jane M. Klausman Women-in-Business Scholarships (JMK)**

Did your club participate in the Jane M Klausman program? Yes No

Please list the name of the candidate(s) forwarded by your club to the district for this award. Raemarie Tcherneshoff

• **Amelia Earhart Fellowships**

Did your club celebrate Amelia Earhart Day? Yes No

If so, please describe how your club celebrated this year. \$1,000 awarded to a woman student at Montana State University-Billings, with a preference for a non-traditional student; \$1,000 awarded to a woman student at Rocky Mountain College, with a preference for an student in their aviation program.

**Local Scholarship Information:**

• **Local Scholarships** awarded by your club

Name(s) & description(s) of scholarship(s): MSU-B scholarship, \$1000  
Rocky Mtn. College scholarship, \$1000

Our 3 year grant program was designed last year. We have partnered with the YWCA. This is in the amount of \$5000 per year.

## **Membership:**

Please describe your club's recruitment and retention efforts for 2013-2014 in order to meet the *net +1* goal as of June 1, 2014. We have 9 new members. Our goal was 6. We now have 48 members.

We also meet monthly for a social outing (Z-Greet) for prospective new members and to encourage existing members to stay in the loop if they have missed meetings.

This year we had a special luncheon at the Country Club dining room for prospective new members. It was extremely successful. Six of our new members had attended this before joining.

In August, we had a gathering for prospective and current members, held at a sculpture garden.

If your club currently has fewer than 20 members, what plans do you have in place to increase membership in 2014 - 2015?

Does your club have a new member orientation program? Yes No If yes, how many sessions did you hold this year? Our orientation has typically been held in the fall but it is scheduled for June this year.

*The information below will be used to determine the District Service Award to be given out at the 2014 Governor's Seminar, September 20th, Cheyenne, WY*

## **Local Service:** (Hands on work to help women & girls in the local community)

Please name and briefly describe your local service projects including for each item:

(a) category: improved the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional)  
or

helped prevent and fight violence against women and girls (VAW)

(b) % of club members involved in the project

(c) contribution to the Zonta International Foundation is at least 1/3 of the dollars raised this year

(d) visibility and credibility to Zonta created by the project

(e) sustainability of the project (long lasting results, and could the project continue for a certain period of time)

1. We sponsor the High Plains Best Woman Writer \$500 Award. We have a member (Connie Dillon) who serves on the committee board throughout the year. This event brings us a lot of press, especially as we get closer to the October awards banquet.

Club members read the books to help select the winner.

30% of the club involved.

This is an ongoing project that we have done for over 5 years and plan to continue.

2. Blanket Program: Tied 80 blankets for police to give to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault.

At least 80% of the club has been involved over the time we have completed this project. This year approximately 25% was involved.

We have completed this project every year, and sometimes several times a year, working with women in the family shelter, girl scouts, domestic violence victims and other women. This allows us to also mentor the women and girls.

The project has been in the paper each year. We plan to continue this project every year. It has been ongoing for about 4 years.

3. Festival of Cultures at Rock Mountain College: We have a booth annually. We give children "passports" to take to each booth & have brochures available, describing what we do. The children learn about different cultures around the world. 28% of members were involved this year. This is an ongoing project, that we started over 10 years ago. Although there is no press coverage focused solely on Zonta, Zonta receives recognition in publications relating to the Festival and the children and their families get to know about Zonta.
4. Members volunteer at the Audubon Conservation Education Center's yearly Earth Day event. This has been a Zonta project for about 3 years. About 25% of the membership and their families participate. We plan to continue the project in the future.
5. In March we held a Status of Women luncheon in which we honor a segment of women in the community. This year we honored 20 women who work in the field of domestic violence. Almost 80% of the members participated, and 120 people attended the luncheon. The luncheon received coverage from 2 television stations and the Billings Gazette. The club holds some type of luncheon every year relating to the Status of Women. This has been ongoing for at least 40 years and will continue into the future.

The Club has a policy of giving at least 1/3 of the dollars raised to ZI. The budget is based on the dollars raised the preceding year.

The information below will be used to determine the District Advocacy Award to be given out at the 2014 Governor's Seminar, September 20th, Cheyenne, WY

**Advocacy:** The expression of support for or opposition to a cause, argument or proposal. Advocacy may include influencing laws, legislation, or attitudes. Zonta advocacy is an action taken in "the public interest" or for "the greater good" with respect to advancing the status of women and girls and their human rights.)

Does your club have an advocacy committee? Yes No

**(Do Not Include Zonta Says No Activities Here - See Below)**

Please name and describe your advocacy projects including for each item:

- (a) category: improved the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional)
  - or
  - helped prevent and fight violence against women and girls (VAW)
- (b) how closely the project coincided with the advocacy definition above
- (c) did the project reflect one of the District 12 Platform for Advocacy issues which are:
  - Achieving pay equity
  - Supporting measures to oppose gender based violence such as trafficking, rape & domestic violence
  - Ensuring equal rights under the law
- (d) % of club members involved in the project
- (e) names of any community partners
- (f) visibility and credibility to Zonta created by the project

1. 16 Days of Activism was recognized by Governor Steve Bullock, State of MT, by the signing of a letter of support. The request was made by the Zonta Club of Billings together with the Zonta Club of Glendive. The letter of support was discussed on the local NPR station. This project supported measures to oppose gender based violence. The entire membership voted in favor of this project.

2. At the Club's request The Yellowstone County Commissioners issued a proclamation adopting the 16 Days of Activism and the Zonta Says No campaign for all citizens in Yellowstone County, Montana. Three Zontians spoke at the County Commissioner's meeting in support of the proclamation, where television, radio and newspaper reporters were present. Victims of domestic violence attended the meeting with the Zonta members and were given Zonta Says No bracelets. The local public radio station aired a story on NPR relating to domestic violence, the proclamation, the 16 Days of Activism, Zonta Says No and the No More Empty Shoes Art show. This project supported measures to oppose gender based violence. About 25% of the members attended the meeting, and all members voted in favor of requesting the proclamation.

3. Art Window Display of DV victims artwork, on display downtown for 4 weeks.

### **Zonta Says No:**

Describe your club's Zonta Says No activities in 2013 - 2014:

1. No More Empty Shoes Art Project :

During the month of November, the Zonta Club of Billings, in partnership with Angela's Piazza, a local safe haven for women, and local artist Julie Pederson Atkins, organized art classes for victims of violence, giving the women a creative outlet to alleviate stress and anxiety. The art was displayed on November 25 at the No More Empty Shoes Art Show and reception. The art show also featured empty shoes, representing those that could no longer wear them as a result of domestic violence. Statistics and facts regarding domestic violence were interspersed throughout the art work, as well as the Zonta Says No banner. Speakers from local organizations aiding domestic violence victims, medical personnel and club members spoke about the services available to victims as well as Zonta's mission to eradicate violence against women. The reception was covered by local television stations as well as the *Billings Gazette*. After the reception, the art was displayed in downtown Billings during the art walk and holiday parade. It is estimated that over 30,000 people viewed the art in person or heard about Zonta Says No on the radio and television and by reading the newspaper.

Approx. 750 attended. 50% of the club participated.

2. On the first day of the 16 Days of Activism, our club donated much needed supplies to the YWCA Gateway House, a safe house for victims of domestic violence. About 90% of the club participated. The event was covered in the local newspaper.

### **Zonta's Work with the United Nations' Programs/Funds:**

Please describe how your club informed its membership of Zonta's work with the United Nations' Programs & Funds through its International Service Projects and ZISVAW Projects. We had a presentation at one of our program meetings and our Advocacy Committee and Foundation Ambassador generally reported on and discussed projects throughout the year.

### **External Communications/Public Relations:**

Please check box for the PR tools your club uses:

Brochure  Newsletter  Club or Individual Business Cards  Website  Facebook  Other (describe)

**Internal Communications** (e.g., newsletter, directory, website):

Please describe how your club kept its membership informed & connected this year. Every month, 4th Thursday, we have Z-Greet, a gathering for new prospective members as well as current members who have missed meetings and would like to be updated on events.

Members are kept up-to-date on our events through email, our website, and Facebook

There has been discussion regarding having a more organized call system in place for connecting with members who we have not seen for awhile. Members of the membership committee do call many of the members who have been absent, but it has not been as organized as it could be.

**Nominating:**

Please describe the process used by the nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers for 2014-2015.

The committee's goal is to ask existing people in those positions first to gauge interest in continuing their current roles. Other selection is based on experience, past participation, time constraints, and volunteerism.

**ZIF Ambassador:**

Does your club have a foundation ambassador? Yes No

How has your club encouraged individual donations this year? Please describe. We solicited donations at our Status of Women luncheon and at several of our meetings. E-mails were also sent out soliciting donations.

**Z-Club or Golden Z-Club:**

Does your club have a Z or Golden Z Club? Yes No

If yes, please describe key events held during the year.

**Archiving & History:**

Does your club have an archivist/historian? Yes No

Please describe your club's progress to date in:

(a) finding & listing your club archives. We have photographs & documentation of our activities, as well as foam core boards and old minutes, but have yet to organize.

(b) arranging for safe storage of materials. yes

(c) Did your club submit a "History In Brief" by April 1, 2014? Yes No

If no, why not? In the interest of time, it is being submitted with this report.

**Bylaws:** Does your club have a bylaws committee? Yes No Are your bylaws up to date? Yes No