**Zonta International -- District 12**

**CLUB ANNUAL REPORT**

**Reporting Period: June 1, 2014—May 31, 2015**

***Please email to Governor Marcy O’Toole (******motoole48@comcast.net******) by May 22, 2015 with a copy to your Area Director.***

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| --- | --- |
| Area 1 Director: Teresa Forbes (tlarueforbes@hotmail.com ) | Area 2 Director: Michelle Ammerman (AmmermanZonta@gmail.com ) |
| Area 3 Director: Ann Hodgson (johnannhodgson@att.net ) | Area 4 Director: Linda Hawkins (flowerboutique86@hotmail.com ) |

**Club Administration 2014-2015:**

Zonta Club of DENVER II Today’s Date: May 23, 2015

Area: 03

President: Suzanne Fasing President-Elect (if appropriate): Carol Leffler Vice President: Lois Britton

Recording Secretary: Mary Moser Corresponding Secretary: Carol Johnson Treasurer: Ellen Fitzpatrick

**Fundraising:**

Please list the major fundraiser(s) your club held during 2014-2015. (*Feel free to add additional fund-raisers.)*

1. Candy Meininger Memorial Golf Tournament - $ 5,712.49

2. Holiday Sales (Plants, Greenery, Nuts, Candy) $11,486.85

3. Wine Tasting Event $ 2,053.80

4. Donations $ 2,119.00

5. Raffle – $ 904.00

6. Zonta Says No Area Event – $ 1,769.40

7. Lucinda Pins - $ 810.53

8. Taste of Colorado $ 183.63

Total Funds Raised this year: $**25,289.70**

**Local Service & Scholarships Dollars Given:**

Please list the contribution amounts given by your club during 2014-2015.

Local Service Organizations: $19,057.53

Local Scholarships: $0.00

 See Local Scholarship Information below.

 Total Local: $19,057.53

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

Please list the total club & individual contributions given to the Zonta International Foundation during 2014-2015. (Jan Kirch at jankirch50@gmail.com can provide this information to you)

Total Club Contributions: $7,292.79

Total Individual Contributions: $3,065.00

 Total Club & Individual Contributions: $10,357.79

**ZIF Scholarship Information:**

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

Did your club participate in the YWPA program? X[ ]  No

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

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

Did your club participate in the Jane M Klausman program? X[ ] No

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

* **Amelia Earhart Fellowships**

Did your club celebrate Amelia Earhart Day? X[ ] Yes

If so, please describe how your club celebrated this year. The Amelia Earhart Day was celebrated with members of Zonta International, District 12, and Area 3 at a luncheon at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science on January 24. This event was combined with the annual Area 3 meeting. Denver II hosted the first combined annual Area 3 meeting and Amelia Earhart luncheon. In attendance were three current Zonta Fellows, one former Fellow, and a former AE Committee Chairman and Fellow recipient, Sharon Langenbeck.

**Local Scholarship Information:**

* **Local Scholarships** awarded by your club

Name(s) & description(s) of scholarship(s):

**Sue Burch Scholarship** – Florence Crittenton School.

The Club approved $2,000 in scholarships to be awarded to two high school graduates of Florence Crittenton School, to be paid in 2014-2015. $1,000 was a second-year scholarship to a graduate who received one the prior year. Unfortunately, the recipient was unable to continue her schooling. The Club voted to reallocate this $1,000 to our teacher grants for a total of three grants of $500 each to three teachers this year. $1,000 was a first year scholarship, but the recipient has deferred her education for family reasons. The Club voted to hold $500 in the scholarship fund if she is accepted into an educational program by Fall 2015. The remaining $500 was reallocated to our teacher grants for next year.

**Membership:**

Please describe your club’s recruitment and retention efforts for 2014-2015 in order to meet the *net +1* goal as of June 1, 2015. Our Club has had a very active Membership Committee this year with the goal of increasing membership. The Membership Co-Chairs respond to inquiries every month from prospective members, who often attend monthly business meetings. The good news is that we did welcome 3 new members; however, we also lost 3 members due to health issues as well as life/work changes. While we continue to encourage existing members to tell AND sell the Zonta “story”, we also have had success with potential members finding us via our website and PR initiatives and fund raising events.

If your club currently has fewer than 20 members, what plans do you have in place to increase membership in 2015 - 2016?

Does your club have a new member orientation program? X[ ] Yes [ ] No If yes, how many sessions did you hold this year? 1

Does your club have a new member mentor program? X[ ] Yes [ ] No If yes, describe The Co-Chairs of the Membership Committee have attended District 12 membership training. In particular, they found the PowerPoint presentation to be a valuable tool. The Membership Co-Chairs act as mentors for six to twelve months after member initiation.

*The information below will be used to determine the District Service Award to be given out at the 2015 District Conference, Boulder, CO Sept. 25-27, 2015*

**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. **SafeHouse Denver, Inc**. – Welcome Bags, Mailings, Funding—SafeHouse assists women and children in situations of domestic violence. Their efforts meet the service objective of providing a positive impact on the lives of women and, in turn, their families who are in need of housing and safety. The Club continued to provide Welcome Bags for clients of SafeHouse who arrive without many necessities, a project the Club began with the District 12 project for the Zonta Service Recognition Award. Members contributed shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, and other personal items, and the Club allocated service funds to purchase washcloths, razors, and other items in short supply. 15 Welcome Bags are donated each month. The members approved continuing the project through May 31, 2016. A gift basket was donated for the SafeHouse Gala, at which a number of members volunteered. Members volunteer to stuff envelopes for multiple contribution solicitations during the year. Almost every member participates in these projects. Since its charter in 1986, Zonta Club of Denver II has supported SafeHouse Denver and continues to help them make a difference in the community where they assist over 1,243 women and 219 children this year. For the third year, our Club continued its support of the Realizing Your Economic Action Plan (REAP) curriculum at their emergency shelter facility. REAP provides an opportunity for professional growth and education and introduces women to supportive networks and advocacy services that connect survivors to self-sufficiency-related community resources to help them achieve their individual goals.

2. **Excelsior Youth Center**. – Service, Fundraising, Funding – Excelsior is the largest residential treatment center for girls in Colorado, considered the expert in treating troubled girls between the ages of 11 and 18. The Club has adopted a cottage, which usually houses about 18 girls. About one-fifth of the members have committed to monthly activities with the girls, which include creative projects, outdoor activities, or pizza and movies. From their thank you cards, these monthly events are very much appreciated and anticipated by the girls, as their days are very structured otherwise. The Club was also instrumental again this year in helping Excelsior raise $5,150 in two hours by using the Club’s raffle license and selling raffle tickets. The Club’s efforts were acknowledged at the annual Gala benefiting Excelsior Youth Center. The Club’s participation is ongoing. The Club also contributed service funds for the Community Based Service Program again this year. A number of girls from the cottage created original artwork that was displayed and sold at the Zonta Says No event described in the Advocacy section.

3. **Florence Crittenton Services for Colorado** – Zonta Baby Bucks Store, Sue Burch Scholarship Fund, Spring Graduation, Funding—Flo Crit helps teen mothers become strong and self-sufficient through education, counseling, referral and temporary housing. Since the original Baby Bucks Store remodeled by our Club in 2009 was demolished to construct the new Florence Crittenton School, the Club designated service funds for the renovation of space for the new Zonta Baby Bucks Store, which will be a major service project next year. The girls earn “baby bucks” for good citizenship and attendance, awarded by teachers. The bucks are redeemable at the store for a multitude of baby items, including new clothes, diapers, etc. This year the Club distributed service funds to purchase strollers, car seats, diapers, and other needed items for the Baby Bucks Store. The Club awards Sue Burch Scholarship (see scholarships) to a graduate of Flo Crit and has underwritten spring graduation for many years. Over one third of the members participate in the graduation reception and presentation of the scholarship. We are often acknowledged by Flo Crit through their website.

4. **Empowerment**.—Columbine Community Center and Mariposa House are housing programs run through The Empowerment Program. Our major project in 2010 was remodeling and furnishing the clubhouse at Columbine Community Center for the women who live in the 18 residential units. For three years, several members of the Club have committed to come periodically to Mariposa House to provide crafts, games, and food for the women coming out of prison, have drug and alcohol issues, or are homeless.

5. **The Learning Source**.—Graduation, Funding—The Learning Source promotes and provides educational opportunities through collaborative partnerships for adults and families to support their future achievements. Programs include family literacy, GED, English language acquisition, advanced English for college and career, and the learning collaborative. For many years, the Club has sponsored graduation receptions for GED graduates, the majority of whom are women. Approximately one third of the members participate in these events. Funding has supported the needs of the Children’s Room and interactive and educational equipment.

6. **Freedom Service Dogs**.—Graduation, Funding – Freedom Service Dogs rescues dogs from shelters and trains them to assist Coloradans with impairments, to increase their independence by providing a custom-trained service dog and lifetime support to ensure the success of the team. For this organization also, the Club has sponsored graduation receptions for clients and their dogs who have successfully completed the program.

7. **Holiday Funding**.—Excelsior, SafeHouse, Empowerment Program, Florence Crittenton, and Center for Work Education and Employment – have all received special holiday funding each year from Zonta Club of Denver II. Typically, funds are spent on clothing, food gift cards, and toys. Purchasing and wrapping are done by members and delivered to the agencies. The project promotes our Club in the community and provides those extra needs for women and children.

*(Feel free to add additional projects)*

**Linking Service and Advocacy:**

Mention examples of club service activities focused on “Prevention of Root Causes” of inequality and violence against women through education: The Club supports Florence Crittenton Services, Excelsior Youth Center, and The Learning Source through service and funding, with a focus on advancing the educational status of women and girls. The Club supports SafeHouse Denver through service and funding, which furthers the goal of preventing root causes of domestic violence.

What like-minded organizations have you partnered with for service and/or advocacy. Please list and briefly describe how you partnered with them.

All of our service partners have the same goals of empowering women through service and advocacy as we do, so often our service and advocacy efforts cross. One example is our partnership with Mile Hi United Way’s “Bridging the Gap” program to support youth aging out of foster care. The Club also participated in Empowerment’s Forum on Global Nonviolence.

*The information below will be used to determine the District Advocacy Award to be given out at the 2015 District Conference, Boulder, CO Sept. 25-27, 2015*

**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? X[ ] 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. **Mile High United Way’s Bridging the Gap Program**. Our Club enthusiastically participated with Mile High United Way’s Bridging the Gap program for the second year. Participants of the program are young people who have aged out of foster care and face daunting challenges with housing, education, jobs, and a sense of community. Staff endeavors to find ways to help the participants build networks of support for themselves, teach them self-sufficiency, and where to go for assistance. We expanded our Thanksgiving Event in 2014 to welcome over 80 guests for a free homemade Thanksgiving with all the trimmings at Mount Carmel Church in Denver. Attendees were encouraged to share their experiences and thankfulness. Another event to bring together participants with GED providers and local community college representatives is being planned for late summer 2015.

2. **Women’s Collaborative of Colorado**. <http://www.womenscollaborativecolorado.org/>. Sharon Faircloth took over for Past Governor Sheila Davis as Zonta representative with the Women’s Collaborative of Colorado. Their mission is to educate and activate the women of Colorado by bringing together leaders of many groups to affect the future of the State. Participation in that group is an attempt to further pay equity, equal rights under the law, and opposition to violence against women and girls. Our role has been to disseminate information gained from members of the Collaborative to the community and other Colorado Zontians. There will be upcoming events sponsored by the Collaborative with which we plan to participate and support in 2015.

3. **Colorado Women’s Legislative Breakfast**. Our Club attended the Colorado Women’s Legislative Breakfast held on February 24, 2015. Legislative panelists talked about issues facing our State, particularly affecting women. Many questions and the keynote speaker concentrated on the challenges and opportunities of an aging population. It provided an opportunity to discuss Zonta and what we do in our community with other organizations with the same concerns.

4. **International Women’s Day**. To commemorate International Women’s Day on March 8, Club members joined in an event sponsored by one of our service partners, the Empowerment Program. The community forum, to advocate for global nonviolence awareness, was held on the steps of the State Capitol and attended by Mayor Michael Hancock. Mayor Hancock shared his personal experience with domestic violence in his own family. Club President, Suzanne Fasing, addressed the group and shared the Club’s support of the women of the Empowerment Program and their struggles with gender violence.

 *(Feel free to add additional projects)*

**Zonta Says No:**

Describe your club's Zonta Says No activities in 2014 - 2015:

Zonta Club of Denver II participated with Area 3 clubs in the “Zonta Says No” event held at the Posner Center, Denver, in 2014. Denver II participated on the Steering Committee, solicited art donations, sold tickets, and a majority of members attended. Four organizations we work with, including SafeHouse Denver, Empowerment, Florence Crittenton Services, and Excelsior purchased tickets, attended and talked to the community about their services. Students from Excelsior provided artwork that was sold at the event. The girls generously donated a portion of their proceeds to the event. The evening grossed $16,000 (approximately 1/3 donated by a client of a club member Terri Otley), and netted $10,616. One third of the net proceeds were donated to ZISVAW ($589.70 per club), and the Club received $1,179.60 for service distribution.

**Other Advocacy questions:**

What women’s issues have been identified as the most important in your club? Pay equity and high cost of childcare in the State are of particular concern as they affect every group we assist. Educational opportunities are also of concern, which is one reason we support scholarship and teacher grants.

Have statements/letters, etc. been sent to law-makers or government/officials at national/state/community levels? If yes, please send copy to motoole48@comcast.net (and copy your Area Director). Information from Zonta International was sent out on how to contact local lawmakers in conjunction with “Stand Out in the Red” campaign to stand up for Equal Pay. Timing was short so Club members were encouraged to send individual letters.

**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. Members, donors, and the community are informed about ZI service projects through the public relations materials that are described below, and through donor acknowledgement letters sent by the Club.

**External Communications/Public Relations:**

*Please check box for the PR tools your club uses:*

Brochure X[ ]      Newsletter X[ ]     Club or Individual Business Cards X[ ]     Website X[ ]   Facebook [ ]   Other (describe) Bookmarks – Our laminated bookmarks include information about ZI, our Club’s contributions to our community and accomplishments, and our contact information. We include them when we deliver poinsettias and confections for our holiday fundraiser, include them in the golf ditty bags at our annual golf tournament, and distribute them when we host community events.

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

Please describe how your club kept its membership informed & connected this year.

We faithfully publish an online newsletter and the President’s letter for our members on our website each month. The newsletter includes a summary of the month’s activities, announcements of volunteer opportunities, upcoming events, and information about guests and guest speakers at our monthly meetings. Our website includes a members only page which lists committee chairs and the members on each committee.

**Nominating:**

Please describe the process used by the nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers for 2015-2016.

The Committee included three members who emailed and/or called all members to see if they were interested in an officer or board position for the upcoming year, or if they wanted to nominate a member for a position, which then had to be approved by that person. The process covered several weeks; and the slate was presented to the current board at their monthly April meeting, and then presented and voted on by the general membership at the April 2015, meeting.

**ZIF Ambassador:**

Does your club have a foundation ambassador? X[ ] Yes [ ]  No

How has your club encouraged individual donations this year? Please describe. Members were asked to make an individual contribution to ZIF at a monthly business meeting.

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

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

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

If no, please describe what steps taken or plans to add a or Golden Z Club.

**Archiving & History:**

Does your club have an archivist/historian? X[ ] Yes [ ] No

Please describe your club's progress to date in:

(a) finding & listing your club archives. Ongoing process. Big job. Several boxes to go through.

(b) arranging for safe storage of materials. It’s in the Cloud on the Club’s Website.

(c) Did your club submit a "History In Brief" by December 31, 2014? X[ ] Yes [ ] No

 If no, why not?

**Bylaws:**

Does your club have a bylaws committee? X[ ] Yes [ ] No

Are your bylaws up to date? X[ ] Yes [ ] No