



Our Mission: Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

February 2017

ZCH Members Tackle Advocacy

Two Members Attend Women's Marches in DC and Austin

Women's marches were held on January 21st in many cities in the USA to uphold that women's rights are human rights and as a declaration of the support of all human rights. Kristen Koblis attended the Washington, D.C. march and volunteered as a marshal, providing information and support to the marchers. Kristin reports on her experience: "We worked that day with the DC police and the US National Guard to ensure emergency vehicles were able to get to those needing medical support. The Nation of Islam from Baltimore also came to provide safety/security support. It was truly a peaceful protest. By noon, the march marshals, DC police, the US National Guard and Nation of Islam were laughing and taking selfies. Over 500,000 marchers came to the streets of Washington DC and the National Mall."



Marchers near the Washington Monument

She continues "I met a young woman at the airport Sunday from Chicago that said she is normally an extremely introverted person, but felt this was an important day and was happy she came and spoke up. She also feels empowered and knows she has others to support her and will continue to speak up. I also talked with a circuit judge from Illinois who was marching. She presides over the domestic violence division and is very familiar with Zonta and was happy to hear that I was a member."

Therese Hartwell marched in Austin on January 21st and contributes this account: "The Women's March in Austin was a truly amazing experience. Original estimates for participants hovered around 40-50,000 people, but the final count came in at over 100,000! I had the pleasure of marching with my step-

(continued on page 2)

Club Officers 2016-2017

President: Monica de la Cerda
president@zontahouston.org

Vice President: Lolis Steinbeck

Treasurer: Kayleen Kill

Secretary: Mary Quinn

Director: Cynthia Middleton

Director: Suzi Feickert

Newsletter: Suzanne Russell
newsletter@zontahouston.org

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CLUB NEWS

ZCH Members Tackle Advocacy (cont.)

Members Attend Women's Marches (cont.)

daughter and a long-time friend and her husband. We were all impressed with the diversity of the crowd—including the participation of many men and boys—as well as the fervent, but peaceful and loving nature of the gathering. The Women's March on Washington (<https://www.womensmarch.com>) and Women's March on Austin, now called March On! Texas (<http://marchontexas.com>), have follow-up initiatives to keep a focus on women's and human rights issues. Check out their respective websites (listed above) for details.”



Therese (on right) and friend at the Austin march

Save the Date!

- *ZCH Annual Sport Clay Shooting Fundraiser*
Saturday, February 18, 2017
- *International Women's Day and Zonta Rose Day*, Wednesday, March 8, 2017
- *District 10 Area 2 Meeting in Houston*
Saturday, May 6, 2017
- *ZI North American Summit in Washington DC* June 2-4, 2017
- *District 10 Conference in Oklahoma City*
October 20-21, 2017

ZCH Sponsors “The Johns” Performance

Zonta Club of Houston hosted the January 26 production of “The Johns”, sponsored by the National Council of Jewish Women and United Against Human Trafficking, one of the organizations ZCH supports. The play, by Mary Bonnett, was originally based on interviews with hundreds of people involved in sex trafficking in the Chicago area and was adapted to take place in a prominent Houston-area suburb. It has been described as “an unflinching drama [that] explores our values raising boys to men, instant sexual gratification and its impact on women, the family and those purchased”. Periodic gasps from the audience, a temporary silence at the end, and the lively questions to the panel afterwards indicated that the audience found the play both moving and provocative. The small, intimate nature of Mildred's Umbrella Theater served to intensify the experience.

Zonta representative to the Houston Rescue and Restore Coalition, Therese Hartwell, moderated a panel discussion after the play with Elise Griesmyer, Supervising Attorney for the Crime Victims Department at Catholic Charities, and Natalie Shirley, co-founder and board member of NightLight International and case manager for Redeemed Ministries, Houston TX. Lolis Steinbeck provided door prizes and Zonta was well represented with banners, the attendance of around fifteen Zontians and friends, and insightful questions to the panel. Thanks to all who attended and contributed to this enlightening event.

- contributed by Therese Hartwell



Discussion following performance of “The Johns”

CLUB NEWS (cont.)

Congratulations Kristin!



Kristin Koblis (center) with Monica and Lolis at her induction into the Zonta Club of Houston at the January meeting

January AE Speaker

The ZCH January Program speaker was Ms. Becky Nickell, Chairperson of the Houston Chapter of the 99s. In January Zonta International and local Zonta Clubs celebrate Amelia Earhart who was a member of Zonta International and the 99s. The 99s is an international organization of female pilots that promotes advancement of aviation through education, scholarships, and mutual support while honoring their unique history and sharing their passion for flight. www.ninety-nines.org

Ms. Nickell shared how she was originally inspired to get her Pilot's license when a friend told her she had a knack for reading maps. That trait is important when you are an airplane pilot. Her initial pursuit was frustrating and disappointing with the first instructor's method of teaching. Becky had thoughts of giving up her dream of becoming a Pilot. But after Pat Gutierrez invited her to a ZCH January meeting in the early 2000s, she was motivated to go back and was successful in getting her license. The members and guests congratulated Ms. Nickell on her achievement. The presentation was followed by a Q&A session.

- submitted by Lolis

Congratulations Lolis!



Lolis at her 30th anniversary celebration in January with United/Continental Airlines (could that be her original company ID in the frame?)



Happy Birthday!

February

Mary Ann Collier 2/23

Therese Hartwell 2/29

Service Opportunities

Bay Area Turning Point

Saturday March 11

Saturday April 8

The Women's Home

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Public Speaking & Communication Skills | Fri. Feb 17 |
| Career Exploration | Fri. Feb 24 |
| Team Building/Team Player | Fri. Mar 3 |
| Resume Writing- Pt. 1 | Fri. Mar 10 |

CLUB NEWS (cont.)

ZCH Holds Annual Fundraiser February 18th for Educational & Charitable Fund

Zonta Club of Houston Educational & Charitable Fund (ZCHECF)



5th Annual Charity Clay Sport Shooting Event

Saturday, February 18, 2017

Registration: 9AM | Event Start Time: 10AM

Location: American Shooting Center

16500 Westheimer Parkway, Houston, TX 77082

Cost is \$125 per person or \$600 for a team of 5

Everything List Below is Included:

1. 50 Targets per Person at a Reserved Private 10 Station Course
 2. Loaner Shotguns available at no cost (or you may bring your own)
 3. Ammo - Appropriate 12 Gauge or 20 Gauge
 4. Eye & Ear Protection - Yours to Keep Afterwards
 5. Range Officer - one per group/team of five
 6. Scoring & Computerized Printout of Scores
 7. Light Breakfast Snacks Provided Before the Tournament
 8. Lunch and Adult Liquid Refreshments Following the Shoot
 9. Awards and Gifts for the Best Teams
 10. Exciting Door Prizes immediately after the shoot
- **Additional Games and Mulligans will be available for purchase****

Non-Shooter Breakfast and Lunch is only \$25.00 per person.

Supporter Signs: **from \$100 to 400 each.** Please show your support of the Zonta mission by purchasing a Supporter Sign. These signs will be displayed during registration at the stations and the Luncheon.

Underwriter Sponsorships are available through our website for amounts from: **\$500 to \$1,000.** Amounts larger than \$1,000. Please contact Ms. Steinbeck for details

Sporting Clays is an exciting form of clay pigeon shooting, commonly described as "golf with a shotgun". It involves shooting clay targets at multiple locations (called stations).

ZCHECF is a 501c(3) organization. Proceeds to benefit local Zonta scholarships, as well as local and international service projects.

LOCAL SERVICE PROJECT NEWS

The Women's Home News



The mission of The Women's Home (TWH), empowering women in crisis to be productive, self-sufficient individuals, correlates well with Zonta's mission.

TWH is a nationally recognized model of excellence

and clients participate in comprehensive clinical, vocational and chemical dependency programs.

January Awards Dinner

Zonta Club of Houston was pleased to host the TWH Awards Dinner on Tuesday, January 31st, to honor the achievements of the women and celebrate their successes and accomplishments. ZCH hosted the dinner at United Way by providing Valentine table decorations, cakes and door prize gift bags. On Saturday, January 28th, Suzan Miles hosted a fun-filled gathering to prepare over 25 gift bags for the dinner. The ten Zontians attending the dinner left with a greater sense of appreciation for the clients who are working so hard to change their lives. Special thanks to Suzan Miles for coordinating the gift bags and dessert cakes.



Zontians take selfie at January Awards Dinner with Chelsey Gutierrez, TWH Support Services Manager

TWH Workshop

ZCH was asked to host a workshop on Friday, February 3rd from 10am to noon, for twenty enthusiastic participants. The workshop included a session on 'Dress for Success', 'Communications Skills- How to Talk to Anyone' and Interviewing- with a Criminal Background'. Special thanks to Linda Licarione, Mary Ann Collier and Pam Peraud for hosting this workshop.

TWH Vocational Classes

Zonta is excited to be presenting its vocational classes once again to The Women's Home residents. The nine classes began on Friday, February 10, 2017. **Classes are held each Friday from 1:15- 3:15 pm.** The classes are being offered to nine enthusiastic and engaged residents. Thanks to the Zonta volunteers who give up their Friday afternoons to make these classes a success. Chelsey Gutierrez is the new TWH Support Services Manager currently working with Zonta. TWH staff and residents have been so complimentary and appreciative of the Zonta sessions and the impact these sessions are making on the women in their successful job search. Once the women complete the Zonta sessions, they are then ready to begin their job search process. If you are interested in assisting with any of the sessions, please contact Linda Licarione. The upcoming classes are listed below:

| | |
|----------------------------------------|------------|
| Public Speaking & Communication Skills | Feb. 17th |
| Career Exploration | Feb. 24th |
| Team Building/Team Player | March 3rd |
| Resume Writing- Part 1 | March 10th |
| Resume Writing- Part 2 | March 17th |
| Mock Interviewing | March 24th |
| Time Management | March 31st |
| Linked In/Social Media | April 7th |

THANK YOU ZONTA CLUB OF HOUSTON FOR ALL OF YOUR EFFORTS!

- submitted by Linda Licarione



Mildred's Umbrella Theater Company, which produced "The Johns", attempts to feature the work of female playwrights, actors and directors, and promote the empowerment of women through the performing arts. Please consider supporting them by attending another of their plays. Check out their website at www.mildredsumbrella.com.

LOCAL SERVICE PROJECT NEWS (cont.)

Upcoming Events Benefitting United Against Human Trafficking

Concert by Sound Advice

Saturday March 4, 2017

Dinner at 6:30, concert at 7:15

Come enjoy great live music by Sound Advice and help support United Against Human Trafficking. Sound Advice has been wowing audiences since 2002 with classic rock covers and awesome three part harmonies. Tickets are just \$40 and including dinner, water & tea.



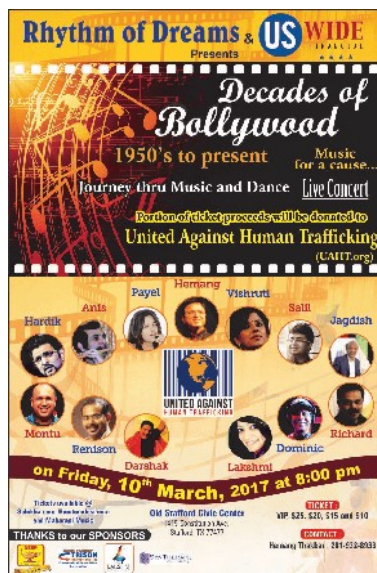
Private Residence

Pearland, TX 77584

Proceeds go to support United Against Human Trafficking's outreach programs in the Greater Houston Area.

[Purchase Tickets](#)

Announcing Rhythm of Dreams Annual Benefit Concert at Old Stafford Civic Center, 1415 Constitution Ave., Stafford, TX., Friday, March 10th at 8pm. This live Bollywood concert will feature many outstanding musicians from Houston, Dallas, LA, NY, and Chicago while raising awareness and benefitting United Against Human Trafficking! Please join us for an exciting evening filled with music and dances from the 1950s to present. Entertainment for all ages. Tickets starting at only \$10, great gift for friends and family!



[Purchase Tickets](#)

**April 8, 2017
10:00 am - 3:30 pm
(10:00 - 11:00 VIP Pre-Shop)**

Conscious Couture Resale Events combines couture shopping from the closets of fashion icons, designer sample sales, words from inspiring Style Bosses, and the fight for freedom of women and girls around the world. They offer women rare access to deeply discounted luxury merchandise, celebrity fashion & beauty secrets, and contagious girl power.



at CityCentre Five
825 Town & Country Lane
Houston, TX 77024

[More information & Purchase Tickets](#)

313,000 Reasons Not to Mess with Texas

A recent study by the Institute of Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault at The University of Texas Austin School of Social Work estimated that there are currently **313,000** victims of human trafficking in Texas.

[Click here to read the study](#)

- UAHT events submitted by Carole Moffatt

Free the Girls Service Project

In line with Zonta's focus on human trafficking, in February we will be collecting new and gently used bras for Free the Girls, a US organization that helps rescued victims of sex trafficking in Mozambique, El Salvador and Uganda seek economic empowerment by establishing their own second-hand bra business. Find more information about Free the Girls here: <https://freethegirls.org/ourstory/>. Please bring any bra donations to events in February and feel free to collect from family and friends. For more information or questions, contact Therese Hartwell.

LOCAL SERVICE PROJECT NEWS (cont.)

We are privileged to have permission to share a poem composed by a resident of The Women' Home

Freedom

By Erin R.

*I look into the mirror and don't recognize me
 I really just want to be forever free
 Of the binds of self-loathing
 That are strangling me
 I don't like who I've been
 And I don't like what I've seen
 I had no idea what it meant to be clean
 Serene, gleaming, my body is screaming
 Please let me out of this hole I've been digging
 For my tired little self with straws and glass
 Even chemicals can't make happiness last
 They hit me like a blast from a bomb
 But I'm learning I don't have to do this alone
 In my being I finally feel a sense of calm
 Because I read this book you see
 It's ripping my delusions apart and setting me free
 From the binds of self-loathing
 That have been strangling me
 And I'm learning I can do anything
 I put this brilliant mind to
 I don't have to keep using
 All this dope like I used to
 Cause I've got a Higher Power supporting me
 On this journey I've started to save my life
 I don't have to live with all this horrible strife
 I don't have to be my abuser's wife
 Because I look in the mirror
 And I recognize me
 I'm finally, irrevocably free!*

DISTRICT 10 NEWS

Area Meetings Announced

Area 1 Meeting Hosted by the Zonta Club of Fort Worth

March 24 (Friday) - 25 (Saturday)

The Oaks Event Center

13765 Southern Oaks Dr.

Burleson, TX 76028

Theme for the Area meetings: Strength in Numbers

The focus will be on membership and on the Zonta International and UN goal no. 5, Gender Equality.

The meeting is March 25th with a welcome reception March 24, from 6-8pm at the Hampton Inn and Suites.

Registration materials can be found at <https://zontadistrict10.org/>

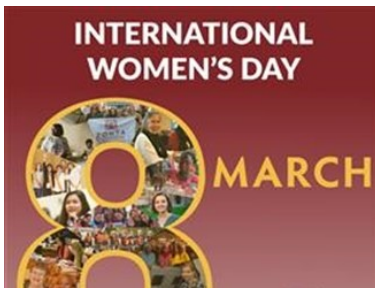
Area 2 meeting: May 6th , Houston, TX

Area 3 meeting: April 22, Austin, TX



ZONTA INTERNATIONAL NEWS

March 8th: International Women's Day & Zonta Rose Day



Zonta Rose Day is celebrated each year on 8 March, which is also International Women's Day, a time to reflect on progress made, to call for change and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities.

-from www.membership.zonta.org

2017 Theme: "Women in the Changing World of Work: Planet 50-50 by 2030"

The 2017 theme for International Women's Day is "Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality".

The idea of this theme is to consider how to accelerate the [2030 Agenda](#), building momentum for the effective implementation of the new [Sustainable Development Goals](#), especially goal number 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; and number 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning. The theme will also focus on new commitments under UN Women's [Step It Up initiative](#), and other existing commitments on gender equality, women's empowerment and women's human rights.

Some key targets of the 2030 Agenda:

- By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and Goal-4 effective learning outcomes.
- By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and preprimary education so that they are ready for primary education.
- End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
- Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.
- Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

- from the website of the United Nations <http://www.un.org/en/events/womensday/index.shtml>



Zonta Club of Houston
P.O. Box 79872
Houston, TX 77279

Member of Zonta International
www.zonta.org

Our website:
www.zontahouston.org

The next general meeting
of the Zonta Club of Houston
is
Wednesday, February 15, 2017

at Kenny & Ziggy's

2327 Post Oak Blvd., Houston 77056

5:30 pm (social hour)

6:00 pm (dinner & program)

Speaker: Attorney Beth Barron, Harris
County Family Violence Prosecutor

ZONTA SAYS NO
TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

WANTED!
Photos & Articles for the March Issue
of the ZCH Newsletter



Photos: Service and Advocacy
photos by Linda L., Lolis, Kristin & Susan G.



The Women's March in Washington, D.C., January 21st, 2017



Decorating for the Awards Dinner

*The Women's
Home Award
Dinner
January 31st*



The finished product



Gift bags ready to go!

*Congratulations to
The Women's
Home Residents!*



Zontians pose for a "formal" portrait