

## President's Message:

Dear Members,

This past week, I was finally able to visit my mom and dad in Missouri. We drove straight though so that we could avoid hotels, carefully wore masks, and used lots of hand sanitizer. It was great to see my parents and sister and brother-in law. While we were there, it snowed. The snow came down fairly hard and the ground turned white, but all melted by the next morning. I was really glad the snow melted as I had not packed a winter coat. I really did not expect snow!

And that is life! The pandemic was certainly not expected and who knew we would all be learning to zoom. But just as the snow melted, eventually and hopefully soon we will be able to meet in person with precautions, of course.

I was back for the District 3 Spring Workshop on Saturday. I hope some of you were able to attend. Three speakers discussed how the pandemic affected women focusing on awareness, challenges, and changes. There were 3 breakout sessions: the first on leveraging local beneficiaries of Zonta Service, contributions, and scholarship to increase awareness of Zonta and our local club; the second breakout session was on advocacy and how to advocate for our causes; and the third covered the 4 scholarships that ZI and the District support. The presentations were good. I believe the main part of the workshop was recorded and will be available for individuals and clubs. The breakout sessions were not recorded.

## Zonta International News

Each month, ZI sends out a leadership email to the presidents and treasurers of each club. Here are a few highlights from that email:

### Zonta reaffirms support for the Istanbul Convention.

There has been recent, troubling news that some countries who had signed and/or ratified the Council of Europe's Convention

on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (The Istanbul Convention) planned to withdraw from the Convention. Zonta International has issued a statement, reaffirming our support for the Convention, which provides a comprehensive framework to prevent violence, protect victims, prosecute perpetrators, and implement state-wide policies that are effective in preventing and combating all forms of violence against women. There are two webinars scheduled to discuss the Istanbul Convention.

**Register now** for a webinar on The Istanbul Convention and its importance, hosted by the Council of Europe Committee:

**Thursday, 6 May, 6:00 AM CDT**

**Thursday, 6 May, 2:00 PM CDT**

## ZISVAW Fund

The ZISVAW Fund is being phased out. Some of you may have noticed that the Zonta International Strategies to End Violence Against Women Fund is not listed under the 2020-2022 fundraising goals. Since all our international service projects incorporate elements of violence against women, health, and education in some form, all four projects are being funded through the International Service Fund. As of 31 May 2021, donations to the ZISVAW Fund will no longer be accepted as the fund will be phased out to create organizational efficiencies.

Zonta International's other funds will continue as in the past.

## Zonta Club of Frederick Reminders

Zonta Club of Frederick's next meeting is May 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. I will email the Zoom information to all the members. Please forward the information to any guests you want to invite. ZI does not recommend putting this info on social media as there have already been incidents of Zoom Bombing.

## Dues

Zonta International and Club dues are due to International by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Please mail your dues check to Laura Duthoy at 12 Kline Blvd, Frederick, MD 21701.

Dues for returning members are \$135. New members have an additional fee of \$15. If the new member is under 30 years of age, there is a special lower rate.

Dues for Zonta International - \$88.00

Mandatory Liability Insurance - \$3.00

District 3 Dues - \$20.00

Zonta Club of Frederick - \$24.00

**Total - \$135.00**

I hope to see you at our next Zoom.

Jeannine

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## Speaker at May Meeting

The May meeting will feature Jenn Metcalf Tousey. She is with the Human Relations Trafficking Taskforce and will speak about human trafficking. If you have a suggestion for a speaker for a future meeting, please feel free to provide the information.

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## Communication Committee Report

The website still needs updating. Members can send their suggestions and comments to Eileen.

Please send input for the next newsletter to Eileen by June 27. Please consider submitting information, even if it is information about your activities.

Anyone may share appropriate material on our Facebook, just like a personal Facebook Page. You can post at:

<https://www.facebook.com/zontafrederick/>

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## U.N. Sustainable Development Goals Goal #5 – Gender Equality

*Taken from the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals website*

Why Is This Important? Women and girls represent half of the world's population and therefore also half of its potential. But today

gender inequality persists everywhere and stagnates social progress. Women continue to be underrepresented at all levels of political leadership. Across the globe, women and girls perform a disproportionate share of unpaid domestic work. Inequalities faced by girls can begin right at birth and follow them all their lives. In some countries, girls are deprived of access to health care or proper nutrition, leading to a higher mortality rate. Disadvantages in education translate into lack of access to skills and limited opportunities in the labor market. Women's and girls' empowerment is essential to expand economic growth and promote social development. The full participation of women in labor forces would add percentage points to most national growth rates— double digits in many cases.

Worldwide statistics: 35 per cent of women between 15-49 years of age have experienced physical and/ or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence. 1 in 3 girls aged 15-19 have experienced some form of female genital mutilation/cutting in the 30 countries in Africa and the Middle East, where the harmful practice is most common with a high risk of prolonged bleeding, infection (including HIV), childbirth complications, infertility and death. The COVID-19 lockdown further caused domestic violence to increase in many countries, showing the critical importance of social protection for women and girls.

### What Can I Do About it?

As a woman, you can address unconscious biases and implicit associations that form an unintended and often an invisible barrier to equal opportunity. Men and boys can work alongside women and girls to achieve gender equality and embrace healthy, respectful relationships. You can fund education campaigns to curb cultural practices like female genital mutilation and change harmful laws that limit the rights of women and girls and prevent them from achieving their full potential.

Learn more about all the Sustainable Development Goals at:  
<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment>

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## Notes from our March Speaker Eileen Kane

Eileen spoke about greenhouse gases that are responsible for climate change, however, she said we need greenhouse gases to help insulate and protect our atmosphere from solar radiation. However, there is now an excess amount of greenhouse gases from human activity.

She provided a history of evidence demonstrating the increase in the gases and how they are negatively affecting the world. For instance, in Jakarta in 1992, NOAA was doing research on fisheries because the water was affecting fish stock and currents because the water was heating up. That was the first time she heard the term Global Warming.

The problem is that we have an excess amount of greenhouse gases that came from human activity. More heat is being readmitted to the earth than is escaping in space.

Most of the increase in greenhouse gases is the burning of fossil fuel, which is the largest contributor to climate change. Department of State is responsible for several environmental negotiations worldwide.

There have been many discussions and worldwide conventions where countries agreed to reduce greenhouse gases, but much still needs to be done. The next big meeting is COP-20 in November 2021 in Glasgow, Scotland.

Eileen provided information about what we can do to help reduce greenhouse Gases. For instance, weatherize your home because heating and cooling are the top energy users. Other suggestions were to use light bulbs that use less energy; purchase energy star appliances; and finally, turn off electronic devices that drain energy even when you are not using them.

She also told our members about Zonta's response to Climate Change and Woman at the 65<sup>th</sup> Session Commission on Status of Women at the UN in 1971. Studies have found that greater female representation in national parliaments leads countries to adopt more stringent climate change policies.

Zonta issues a Call to Action: It called on Member States and the United Nations to address the immediate and long-term effects of climate change on women and girls. One action was to include women and prioritizing women's health and responses to gender-based violence in disaster preparedness and response plans. Another was to acknowledge and include women's voices about the harmful impacts of climate change, as well as listening to and learning from their attempts to mitigate and adapt to those impacts.

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## District 3 Workshops New Leadership Program

This leadership program is designed for club member and board, who wish to advance their knowledge, increase skills, and feel more confident in their roles in Zonta and in their life. There is no charge to attend.

Attend 1, 2, or 3 workshops. Attend all three and earn a Leadership Certificate. The first workshop is entitled "You Are Not Alone," and will take place on May 15, 2021, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Zoom doors open at 9:45.

Workshop #1 is entitled: "Secrets to Building Self Confidence: Basis for Leadership." One subject addressed is addressing negative thoughts.

Eileen sent an email to members on April 28 with the link to register.

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April 29 – Barb Stastny  
May 3 – Maida Wright  
May 22 – Jeannine Jennings  
June 17 – Ann Mossburg

