



Zonta Club of Fort Smith

Member of Zonta International®

Newsletter

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Zonta International is a global organization of executives and professionals working together to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy.

www.zonta.org www.zontadistrict10.org www.zontafortsmith.wordpress.com

Geranium Sale Time!

The 33rd annual Geranium Sale is now underway with the distribution of pre-sale forms. This annual fundraiser supports all of our scholarships and projects. All of the Geranium Sale money is dedicated to service, none of the money is used in club operations. It takes a village to accomplish this sales event and you can smile all spring and summer viewing the yards with fresh curb appeal, loaded with Zonta geraniums.

Please contact Judi Hansen if you haven't received the sales packet. The price is unchanged from last year with a flat of 18 plants costing \$27. Available colors include red, pink, salmon, white and yellow marigolds.



The sale will be held April 12th. Sell, sell, and sell!

Zonta First Impressions Workshop

The Zonta First Impressions Workshop will be held March 6, 5:30-7:30pm at the Reynolds Cancer Support House. There are three ways to help.

Clothing donations - Work related clothing (including scrubs) will be offered at the "store". If you have clothes to donate, call or text Jo Carson at 479-431-8900.

Door prizes - If you have items to donate as door prizes, please bring them on the day of the event, or call/text Lori at 479-353-2520.

Your time - Workers are needed for this event. If you can volunteer your time and expertise on the day of the workshop, call/text Lori (479-353-2520) to let her know in what capacity you can help. i.e. greeter/registration, prepping/serving/cleaning up after food, decorations, etc.

Thanks to all in advance!

Next Monthly Meeting

Monday, March 10th at 6pm

Will Jones, Arkansas Assistant Attorney General and head of the Arkansas Taskforce on Human Trafficking, has graciously rescheduled his presentation for the March 10 meeting. We had so much interest from community members about the program that members should be encouraged to use social media and word of mouth to promote the re-scheduled date. Human Trafficking has become a domestic issue since Zontians first became aware of it as something "over there." I'm sure everyone will want to hear what is planned for the state's efforts to combat this horrible practice.

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Zonta Club of Fort Smith received its charter April 24, 1967.

Our club is part of Area 1, of District 10, of Zonta International.

President: Judi Hansen (judi_hansen7759@yahoo.com) Editor: Caron Roberts (caron.s.roberts@gmail.com)

Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Fort Smith Public Library.





Zonta Goes Italian for the Night!

We might have had to cancel our February meeting due to impending bad weather, but we had almost thirty members and guests at the February Quarterly Dinner. And, we made over \$50 to donate to Zonta International with our Italian gifts raffle (Thanks Iris!).



Thanks to all for attending and bringing guests, it was great to see everyone.



Above: Hostesses Julie, Caron, and Iris

Member News

From Susan: It has truly been an honor to serve the DWR Crisis Intervention Center this last year and a half as Executive Director. My emotions are mixed as I leave the Crisis Center to begin a new chapter of my career as Executive Director at the Cancer Support Foundation / Reynolds Cancer Support House. Both agencies are near and dear to my heart. I greatly look forward to this new chapter to serve our community and represent the Cancer Foundation & Support House to provide quality services to women, men, and children, and their families, who are suffering from cancer.



Congratulations to Susan Steffens on being named Executive Director at the Cancer Support Foundation / Reynolds Cancer Support House!

Editor's note: Please send an email to Caron at caron.s.roberts@gmail.com with your member news by the 20th of each month. Thanks!

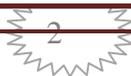
Annual Career Fair Set for May 15th

The annual Zonta Career Fair for Girls will be held the afternoon of May 15 at Kimmons Junior High from 12:00-3:00pm. If members have a prospective Zontian who might like to represent their career field, let Cathy Williams know and the prospective member will be contacted. Or, if a member would like to be involved either as a career representative or a behind the scenes assistant, contact Cathy.

The Career Fair is always a fun way to score service hours and to have direct contact with young women. Contact Cathy at Catwill@cox.net.

Upcoming events

- The annual First Impressions Workshop will be held March 6th at the Cancer Support House from 5:30 to 7:30pm. See you there!
- Our annual geranium sale is set for April 12th at Sagely and Edwards.



Crisis Center Update

The Donald W Reynolds Crisis Intervention Center (CIC) is proud to present our Annual Community Impact Report for 2013.

CIC provides FREE Comprehensive Programs to all who need help across Western Arkansas and Eastern Oklahoma.

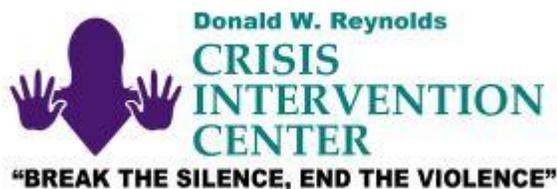
- We offer a 32-bed Emergency Safe Shelter for women and their children who are leaving violence.
- We house an on-side medical clinic to provide free forensic exams to adult victims of sexual assault.
- We work with local Hospitals and Law Enforcement to provide Confidential Forensic Sexual Assault Exams.
- We provide Free Client-Centered Advocacy to EMPOWER Clients to move from “Victim” to become “SURVIVOR”.
- We conduct Free Support Groups in English and in Spanish for women and for children whether they reside in shelter or in the community.
- We offer Free Transitional Housing assistance.
- We provide Free Licensed Therapeutic Daycare Services.
- We teach Prevention Education Curriculum, free to the Junior High and High School students in the areas served.

CIC's Impact is reaching the community!!

- **91.7% success rating for women and their children who did not return to their abuser!**
- 38.4% of women served secured new jobs.
- 23.3% of women served maintained employment while residing in shelter.
- 43.1% of women who exited the shelter attended follow up support groups for one year.
- 231 women left an abusive relationship to call the emergency safe shelter “home”
- 163 children received one-on-one therapeutic daycare
- 7,759 public school students were taught a Prevention Curriculum in an effort to stop the cycle of violence
- 62 women and men received a confidential forensic rape exam
- 130 women walked in the front door seeking information, a safety plan, a community referral, or emergency safe shelter
- 7,059 people visited with a CIC Advocate at a community event to receive domestic violence and sexual assault awareness information or training.

Visit the Crisis Center at <http://www.fscic.org/>.

If you are interested in volunteering for Zonta events at the Crisis Center, contact Kathleen King.





President's Message

Ladies, savor with me these words from Bill Gates: "The world is better than it has ever been. People are living longer, healthier lives. Many nations that were aid recipients are now self-sufficient."

Thus begins the tech billionaire and philanthropist in the Gates Foundation annual letter. I invite you to read it at annualletter.gatesfoundation.org. Gates argues that three myths about poverty and international aid slow down essential work. The belief that "the world can't solve extreme poverty and disease" is false and harmful, he believes, and I think the information he provides to rebut this belief will convince you.

I draw your attention to this because I believe we share a mission to attack poverty and disease. Although we don't always say so explicitly, when we fight violence against women often we are fighting poverty and disease. When we advocate education for girls around the world, it is part of our attack on poverty and disease. When we seek to help a formerly homeless woman or a battered one, when we offer women the tools to find work, and when we urge girls to be strong, smart and bold, at these times too we are fighting poverty and disease and helping others to do likewise.

Read the letter if you have a few minutes. You'll be glad you did.

Moving on, last month it was snow and ice we were battling, except the ice and snow weren't fighting back. Sorry about the canceled February meeting; the fact we had an out-of-town speaker pushed me to make a decision too soon. Later Cathy Williams and I thought we should have announced the speaker wouldn't be here, but still had the meeting if only for the chance to go to dinner afterward. Lesson learned.

Let's consider it providential. We now have extra time to make sure everyone in the community is informed about Will Jones and the important work he is doing to stop human trafficking in our state attorney general's office. Remember Mr. Jones will be at our March 10 meeting. Bring some friends.

Bring your presale geranium orders to that meeting as well so we can see how things are shaping up. Because our meeting is now earlier in the month than it used to be, I will offer you at least one more chance to turn in presale forms after that meeting and before the sale. We'll also look at work schedules for sale day at the March meeting because it will be our last meeting before the sale.

So, three things: Be optimistic because we can do great things. Bring a friend to the March meeting because we have an important speaker. Sell geraniums because they allow us to do so much.

And have a great month.

Judi



Because the First Impressions workshop falls on the board's regular meeting day, they will be meeting on February 28 ahead of the March meeting. Please let a board member know if you have anything to discuss.

March 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4 Happy Birthday Iris Jones! 	5 Lunch at River City Deli in Stonewood Village	6 First Impressions Workshop	7	8 Zonta Rose Day/ International Women's Day
9	10 Zonta Monthly Meeting 6pm	11	12	13	14	15
16 Happy Birthday Judi Hansen! 	17 Happy Birthday Kathy Williams! 	18 Happy Birthday Deborah Avillion! 	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Happy Birthday Sheryl Flanagin! 

April 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31 Happy Birthday Kim Vann! 	1 APRIL	2 Lunch at Mocha Joe's	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Geranium Sale!!!</div>
13 Happy Birthday Lori Bauer! 	14 Zonta Monthly Meeting 6pm	15 Happy Birthday Zena Marshall! (April 14 th) 	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Happy Birthday Jo Carson! 	1 MAY Happy Birthday Kathy Smith and Cissie Pendergrass! 	2	3  Zonta Area 1 Meeting in Cleburne Texas

Zonta Career Fair for Girls – May 15th