



February 2024

2022-2024 Biennium

Zonta Club of Central Oklahoma

Heartland Exprezz

Central Oklahoma Celebrates 39 Years in Zonta International

The Zonta Club of the Mid-Del Area was chartered in February 1985, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Oklahoma City. In the late 1990's the club changed its name to the Zonta Club of Central Oklahoma since we were the only remaining club in Oklahoma.

In the early years, the club's board was comprised of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two Directors. As membership increased, the membership voted to create the position of President-Elect. Historically, the President-Elect chairs the Membership Committee, the Vice President chairs the Programs Committee and the Treasurer chairs the Finance Committee. Although not a board member, a Parliamentarian is selected by the President from the membership at large or a sitting board member. We reflect this same organizational set up today.

We are extremely proud of our advocacy efforts, in particular, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, SANE. In 1994, with the help of local state legislators, the club convinced the District Attorney to allow nurses to testify as expert witnesses in rape cases. This alleviated the problem of long waits by rape victims for an emergency room physician to become available for the exam since only physicians were considered "experts" by the DA at that time. Through club efforts, the Oklahoma Legislature set aside \$25,000 for the SANE program to purchase a colposcope. The club also helped strengthen State laws on Female Genital Mutilation and Human Trafficking.

The club has supported local community projects through goods, services and funding. Examples of the club's support are YWCA Rape Crisis Center/SANE - sexual assault nurse examiners program, Martha's House – a transitional living center for homeless single mothers and their children, Mid Del Youth and Family Services - shelter for at risk children, Project Safe – transition for victims of domestic violence to survivors, YWCA Passageways – battered women's shelter, Habitat for Humanity Women Building/repairing homes for single women, and the Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. There are many other organizations benefiting from our club.

Congratulations, Zonta Club of Central Oklahoma, for your history of making a difference in our communities and around the world. You truly have built a better world for women and girls!

Zonta International is a leading global organization of individuals working to build a better world for women and girls..

www.zonta.org www.zontadistrict10.org www.zontacentralok.org



President's Posting

By Elaine Dockray

Central Oklahoma Zontians,

Wow, we have accomplished tons this year! As I think back over the last several months, I am so impressed with what our club has done to help build a better world for women and girls. And we aren't finished yet! As you will see from the committee articles in this newsletter, there are many achievements to highlight but still a lot of things to look forward to for the remaining months of this Zonta year. We have upcoming service projects including our annual Habitat for Humanity Women's Build, our super-fun joint Membership/Advocacy/Service event at the High Tea with the Z's, and our outstanding Status of Women (SOW) Banquet.

Speaking of the SOW Banquet, tickets are available for purchase through Eventbrite. Our club only has this banquet every other year. For those who have attended previous SOW banquets, you know what a special evening it is. For those who have not previously attended, I encourage you to experience the banquet - you will not be sorry that you did! As we expect to have numerous guests in attendance, we will highlight what Zonta does locally as well as internationally. We will award service funds to local organizations that are working to build a better world for women and girls. And we will honor a Woman of Achievement - - someone in our community who has exemplified the spirit of improving the lives of women.

This year's banquet will be extra special in that we will have an extraordinary woman as our keynote speaker. Ms. Vicki Behenna currently serves as the District Attorney for Oklahoma County. She is the FIRST female District Attorney in the history of Oklahoma County. She has had a long illustrious career where she has seen the criminal justice system from both sides. She was an Assistant U.S. District Attorney for 25 years and, among other notable cases, was chosen to participate in the government prosecution of the Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh. After leaving the U.S. District Attorney's office and prior to serving as Oklahoma County DA, she was in private practice and also served as the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Innocence Project at the Oklahoma City University School of Law working to exonerate the wrongly accused. She plans to speak to us about what is being done in Oklahoma County to protect women and I'm sure her talk is one that you won't want to miss.

Please be sure to invite your family and friends to attend the banquet as we would love to see a full house! If you would like to carpool in order to get to the event, please let me know and I will see if we can make that happen. I am looking forward to the banquet and to seeing you all there! *The photo below is from our last SOW banquet!*



I want to thank you all for everything you have done to support the many outstanding projects we have accomplished over the last several months. **YOU ARE AWESOME!**
Elaine



Ways and Means Recap

by Connie Davis

The club completed a golf tournament where we had 27 volunteers, 33 teams, 48 sponsors and great door prizes - raising \$21,026! Pecans sales are wrapping up. The club purchased 1500#s of pecans and expect a profit of \$2784 once all collections are in. We are planning to sell popcorn through popup stores in April. For the club, we purchased some new items for sale in our Zonta store that included small totes with tassels and charms and stackable Z rings.





Ways and Means Recap - Golf Tournament





Ways and Means Recap - Golf Tournament!





Ways and Means Recap - Pecans!



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Membership

by Stephanie Wilson

March 10, 2024, the Zonta Club of Central Oklahoma Membership committee will host our annual Tea with the Z's membership drive at Nosh Restaurant, Moore, Oklahoma. The event will also give members an opportunity to participate in a local advocacy project and support the District's period poverty initiative. *(Photo below of our last Tea!)*

We also completed a 10-question membership survey for the 2023-24 Zonta year. Members provided valuable feedback on membership satisfaction, communication preferences, club involvement, business meeting productivity, new member engagement, and members shared what they value in their membership.

Membership committee also celebrated membership anniversaries with members throughout the year, recognized member birthdays, and applauded member moments including promotions, new jobs, weddings, and grandkids.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like additional information. Thank you!



Building a Better World for Women and Girls



As we approach Zonta Rose Day, we invite you to join us in honoring the incredible people who have made a significant impact on your life. Show your appreciation by making a gift in their name.

Zonta Rose Day, celebrated alongside International Women's Day on 8 March, is a time to recognize the achievements, strength and resilience of women worldwide. It is an opportunity to celebrate those who inspire us, uplift us and contribute to positive change in our lives and communities.

Your meaningful gift will not only commemorate the remarkable individuals who have touched your heart but will also support projects and programs that empower and uplift women and girls globally.

Mark Your Calendars For Area Meetings!

Area Meetings are coming up. Look for Calls to Area Meetings to begin to be sent in the next few weeks. Area meetings remain an easy and inexpensive way to be exposed to Zonta activities and members beyond your local club. Governor Connie hopes you will make plans to attend! Area 1 meeting is 20 April 2024, hosted by the Zonta Club of Fort Smith. It will be an easy drive for us, as we won't have to deal with i-35 traffic! Plan to attend. If you want a roommate or you want to carpool, reach out to President Elaine to let her know.

Club Corner

...all the latest club happenings!

Members In Need

Debbie Miller (Her Health)
Naila Gutierrez (Her Health)
LouAnna Munkres (Her Health)
Carla Masche (Loss of Father-in-Law)
Stephanie Wilson (Her Health)

Zonta Club of Central Oklahoma

District 10, Area 1

Club Number 1105

Chartered February 1985

President: Elaine Dockray

Email: President@Zontacentralok.org

Editor: Judy Kautz
Email: newsletter@Zontacentralok.org

Meetings third Tuesday of each
month — 6:00 PM

Rose State College

Jeanne Webb Student Union
Room 213A

Significant Events

6 March – Board Meeting, Elaine's House
10 March – High Tea with the Z's Event
26 March – Status of Women Banquet,
Montellano Event Center
3 April – Board Meeting, Elaine's House
16 April – Business Meeting, Rose State
20 April – Area 1 Meeting, Fort Smith, AR
1 May – Joint Board Meeting, Location TBD
15 May – Business Meeting, Rose State
27 – 30 June – Zonta International
Convention, Brisbane, Australia
19 & 20 October – D10 Governor's Summit,
Fredericksburg, TX

Member Birthdays

February Birthdays

Sue Bokemper (11th)

Etola Reyes (12th)

Earline Hall (17th)

Kim Alley (20th)

Terri Hurte (20th)

March Birthdays

Darla Cheek (14th)



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CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

For More Information Check out the Central Oklahoma website to learn about membership and the organization. The address is www.zontacentralok.org