



May 2024

2022-2024 Biennium

Zonta Club of Central Oklahoma

Heartland Express

Central Oklahoma Celebrates Exceptional Biennium!

The Zonta Club of Central Oklahoma has completed another biennium making the world a better place for women...well done! The club has been guided by a dedicated board under the leadership of President Elaine Dockray, including President Elect Stephanie Wilson, Vice President Deanna Shackelford, Secretary Natasha Hill, Treasurer Lori Hines, Directors Terri Hurte and Marcia Walker, and Parliamentarian Angie Weaver.

Service and advocacy have been at the forefront of the club's projects and they have supported many like-minded organizations in their quest to build a better world for women and girls. You can read about some of this year's projects in the pages of this newsletter.

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!

Pictured below is the Central Oklahoma Board, l-r Lori Hines, Terri Hurte, Deanna Shackelford, Elaine Dockray, Angie Weaver, Stephanie Wilson and Natasha Hill. Not pictured, Marcia Walker.



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

It has been an honor to serve as club president for the past two years. As I think back over all of the accomplishments of this club, I am in awe of all that we as a club have achieved! Here are just a few of the things that immediately come to mind:

We hosted the Zonta International President, Ute Scholz, in November 2022. She participated in lighting the Skydance Bridge in orange in recognition of the 16 Days of Activism and attended our November Business Meeting.

We have held two very successful golf tournaments and other fundraisers that generated thousands of dollars for our club to donate to like-minded organizations in the local community as well as donating 1/3 to Zonta International for its international projects.

We held multiple service projects over the course of this biennium - - everything from providing school supplies for Mid-del Emergency Youth Shelter, re-supplying the apartment we sponsor at Neighborhood Services Organization, providing period products for Cardinal Point Family Justice Center and Period OKC, provided clothing to YWCA to provide to sexual assault survivors, worked with Habitat for Humanity on the Women's Build, as well as many others.

Our "Tea with the Z's – A Tea Party for A Cause" was held both years of this biennium and was a joint membership, service, and advocacy event. This event generated prospective member interest, added a service component by providing period products, and was an advocacy event as our members signed letters to state senators and representatives advocating for women's issues.

For advocacy, in addition to the letters our club members signed to state legislators, our club assembled Beloved Bundles to provide to YWCA to utilize for sexual assault victims. We also received mayoral proclamations for the last two years in recognition of the 16 Days of Activism designating "Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women Day" in Oklahoma City, Midwest City, Mustang, and Norman.

We held a highly successful Status of Women Banquet in March, 2024. We had 80+ attendees, making it the best attended SOW banquet ever. It was a truly wonderful event as we honored Anne Bogie, Executive Director of Oklahoma Project Woman, as our Woman of Achievement.

Our website, Facebook pages, and all of the other PR materials were updated with the new tagline – Build a Better World for Women and Girls.

These are just a few of the accomplishments and there are many, many more that were just as impressive.

As I close out my term as club president, I thank all of you for your support during this biennium. Everything we do is a joint effort, and it takes all of us to achieve our goals. I would especially like to thank the Board Members who have contributed so much of their time, energy, and talents to making this biennium so remarkable: Steph-

anie Wilson, Deanna Shackelford, Lori Hines, Natasha Hill, Terri Hurte, Marcia Walker, and Angela Weaver. I would also like to give special recognition to our Committee Chairs: Stephanie Wilson (Membership); Deanna Shackelford (Programs and Inter-city); Lori Hines (Finance); Marcia Walker (Service); Amy Gillis (Advocacy); Angela Weaver and Heather Hollen (Scholarship); Public Relations (Jodie Kanmore); Ways & Means (Connie Davis & Kim Alley); Bylaws & Resolution (Tiffany Smith). Thanks to all of you for helping to build a better world for women and girls!

Best Regards, *Elaine*





Habitat for Humanity Women Build

by Elaine Dockray

The few but mighty participated in the Habitat for Humanity Women's Build on May 4th and the Forth was with us! We knew we were going to be working with another group and it turned out to be the Oklahoma County District Attorney's office so we got to work alongside DA Vicki Behenna and members of her staff. We got to meet the future homeowner and she is absolutely thrilled to be a Habitat homeowner. We did all the framing of the walls this day and the outline of a house emerged from what was just a concrete slab when we arrived!





We had a great time assembling Beloved Bundle bags for the YWCA Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program. Then we turned the Skydance Bridge orange in recognition of Zonta's 16 Days of Activism. Many thanks to Amy Gillis and the Advocacy Committee for coordinating everything and thanks to all those who helped support this wonderful event!





16 Days of Activism—Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women!



Neighborhood Services Organization Apartment

Here we just finished setting up the NSO apartment for a young mother and her 18-month old son. Thanks to all who helped and to those who donated money or items. The apartment looked great! This is such a rewarding project as our club helps this mother and son out of homelessness and on the way to a better life. Club members participating this year were Connie Davis, Elaine Dockray, Natasha Hill and Marcia Walker. Great job all!!

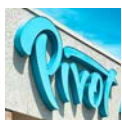


Neighborhood Services Organization Apartment



At right, the car loaded with gifts to take to NSO for Angel and her daughter Lilly. Thank you to everyone who donated—together we raised \$485! We bought most of the items on their needs/wish list plus a \$150 Walmart gift card! Note: Angel & Lilly previously lived in the apartment our club sponsors. We adopted them to support at Christmas!





PIVOT—A Turning Point for Youth



Top left, Marcia Walker, Stephanie Wilson and Elaine Dockray delivered holiday gifts to Pivot for 15 teens and children. Other pics are from the Pivot party where over 50 youth were able to get their presents, winter coats and eat from the build-your-own pancake bar. Looking at their faces you can know holiday magic still exists! Our club was able to help make the holidays brighter for 15 women and children of the over 250 youth the community supported this year.



Upper right, several Central OK Zontians supported the YWCA at its Engaging Men Luncheon. The program featured a powerful message about domestic violence from Rev. Dr. Steven M. Marsh. Those attending were Angie Weaver, Amanda Kemp, Elaine Dockray, Kim Alley, Gale Gendron, and Lori Hines.

Lower right, Central OK Zontians also attended a Galantine's Brunch sponsored by YWCA. Different from other YWCA fundraising events, there was no program or auction at this event. The primary goal was to raise awareness of YWCA's mission while giving women the opportunity to socialize in a welcoming environment. Breakfast was served, mimosas poured, and a photo booth was on hand to capture the fun. There were also several girl-friend-focused items to raffle, and a swag bag for each Galantine to take. This was an excellent opportunity for Zontians to network with women from the local community and help promote interest in Zonta membership. Six club members attended: Stephanie Wilson, Jackie Peters, Terri Hurte, Cathy Hollen, Deanna Shackelford, Soheila Bozorgi. Soheila brought her daughter, Sharon, who is not pictured because she took our photo. . We all had a wonderful time enjoying delicious food, great conversation, and vying for a prize through the raffle.





High Tea With the Z's—Advocacy, Service and Membership

Our “High Tea with the Z's - A Tea Party for a Cause” was a wonderful event. Several guests were in attendance that we hope will become future Zontians! We collected period supplies for donation to Period OKC and heard from Shannon Desherow, a Board Member from Period OKC about the work they do for our community. We signed letters to our state legislators in support of legislation currently being considered by the Oklahoma legislature to require schools to provide period products. We had great food, lots of fun, and our ladies were rocking some fabulous hats!!





High Tea With the Z's—Advocacy, Service and Membership





High Tea With the Z's—Advocacy, Service and Membership





Marti Ribiero served the U.S.A DoD in tours in Afghanistan and Iraq, having joined at the age of 18. She worked during her overseas tours of duty as a print journalist, a writer, covering building of roads and bridges, delivering of firewood, other rebuilding, and other new construction.

When Marti returned, she earned her Bachelor's degree and, from OSU, her Master's of Business Administration degree. Throughout her years as a student, she was also a single parent and working full time. Now, she works at Tinker AFB as Chief, Director's Action Group, AFLCMC/LPZOD. Previous work was in supply chain for helicopters.

Marti learned about Zonta from Angie Weaver. When Marti's schedule allowed, Elaine Dockray became Marti's Zonta Sponsor, answering her questions, inviting Marti to meetings, and providing insight. Marti saw her chance to effectively give back to the community, help stock an apartment, provide Christmas gifts, and more for women who might be feeling undervalued and not realizing their own worth. Marti joined Zonta promptly, and is thrilled about Zonta programs for providing prom dresses, other clothing, and grooming aids. Seeing how women identify critical female needs, that might otherwise be overlooked, motivated Marti. She sees the value in women being able to check out cooking equipment like an insta-pot, and thereby being able to teach others new cooking skills.

Named "Martha" after the sister of Mary, the mother of Jesus, Marti's life hero was her amazing grandmother. Marti's grandmother called her Martha, inspired Marti that she would not falter, and reassured Marty that she would figure it out, get through the hard times, get the challenge done, and be strong.

Marti raised her daughter, who took University of Oklahoma courses in 5th grade, and is now a Brown University student. Marti's intelligent son is in high school. Marti enjoys reading, and passed this love onto her children. Character development is a favorite book-topic for Marti.

Marti looks forward to getting more involved with the Zonta International projects and conferences.

Marti, we are impressed by your ability to pack the work of two ladies into a day, your appreciative nature, and your selflessness.

Building a Better World for Women and Girls

We are so close to our 2022-2024 Fundraising Goal for the Zonta Foundation for Women. At the end of April, we reached 94% of our biennial goal! Please consider a donation to push us over the top! If every member donated just \$10, we would be over the top! Also, as a donor, you can request your giving history by emailing zifoundation@zonta.org.

Help us reach our goal! During these last two years, Zonta International has accomplished so much and we are beyond proud of the work done. Our fundraising goal is in sight. Let's show how this amazing organization and its extended network can make a global impact! Just \$10 brings education, opportunities and so much more to women and girls around the world. Click this link to build a better world for women and girls: www.zonta.org/donate.

What a Great Area 1 Meeting!



Club Corner

...all the latest club happenings!



Members In Need

Debbie Miller (Her Health)
Amy Gillis (Loss of Father)
Naila Gutierrez (Her Health)
LouAnna Munkres (Her Health)
Stephanie Wilson (Her Health)

Zonta Club of Central Oklahoma

District 10, Area 1

Club Number 1105

Chartered February 1985

President: Elaine Dockray

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Editor: Judy Kautz

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Meetings third Tuesday of each
month — 6:00 PM

Rose State College

Jeanne Webb Student Union

Room 213A



ZONTA

CLUB OF
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

Significant Events

21 May – Business Meeting, Rose State

27 – 30 June – Zonta International Convention, Brisbane, Australia

4 October – Zonta Fall Classic Golf Tournament

19 & 20 October – D10 Governor's Summit, Fredericksburg, TX

Zonta Anniversaries

May

Soheila Bozorgi (1 Year)

Elaine Dockray (11 Years)

Marti Ribeiro (2 Years)

June

Theresa Farris (19 Years)

Naila Gutierrez (23 Years)

Natasha Hill (6 Years)

Carla Masche (12 Years)

Deanna Shackelford (8 Years)

Tiffany Smith (22 Years)

Janis Wood (25 Years)

Member Birthdays

May Birthdays

Marti Ribeiro (9th)

Amy Gillis (12th)

Lori Hines (16th)

Cathy Hollen (18th)

Heather Hollen (27th)

June Birthdays

Angie Weaver (28th)

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