

The Zontiana

April 2016



 Zonta Club of Jamestown
Member of Zonta International
Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

Birthdays

Donna Carroll 8, Wendy Present 21, Bonnie Rappole 6, Jody Shely 14

Committee Highlight of the Month: Service

The Service Committee is the heart of Zonta. Fundraising is focused mostly around scholarships (Awards Committee) and our many Service projects.

The sub-committees include:

Anew Center/Salvation Army

The Anew Center of the Salvation Army is a safe home for abused women and their children. We have provided furniture and household goods in the past. We help with any special needs they may have.

Birdie Turner House

A half way house for women who are recovering addicts. We have provided a television and outdoor lighting in the past. This year we are working on getting them a sewing machine and quilting tools. We help with any special needs they may have.

Birthing Kits

Kits made by Zonta Club members for use in developing countries. The kits contain a large sheet of plastic, 3 pieces of medical "string", plastic gloves, a piece of soap, and a razor blade. The kits are packed in suitcases and taken to countries where a club member or someone known to club members, is traveling. So far, kits have been sent to Asia, Africa, Haiti, and Central America.

Boys and Girls Club

Camperships

E.R. Sweats

Sweat shirts, sweat pants, underwear and socks are provided as needed to the E.Rs. in Jamestown, Dunkirk, and Westfield Hospitals. These are given to women and girls who have been violated and whose clothing is not able to be worn home.

Library (James Prendergast)

A monetary donation is given to purchase books and other materials for women and girls.

Lily's Hope

A room at the Cancer Center on Jones Hill where women who are losing their hair due to medical reasons can choose a wig and receive a tote bag, caps, scarves and other items free of charge. We also provide special camisoles for those women who have had breast surgery.

Princess Club

A group for girls (from about 5 to about 16) which meets during the summer to teach girls homemaking skills and social skills, and also has reading incentives and expands the girls' horizons with different experiences during the year. We help with monetary donations.

Soup-er Saturday

This is a fundraiser started by the vendors at Crossroads to help Lily's Hope. We help with set up, clean up and provide some of the soups for tasting on a Saturday in May.

YWCA/TEAM

We help with the annual Christmas Party at TEAM, (an alternative education program for high school girls who are pregnant or have babies, where they can bring their babies while they earn their degrees. Child care is provided for the little ones. Any extra money left from the TEAM budget is used for graduation.

Other projects may be included as needed.

As you can see, there are lots to be done and every member does her part to help out on various projects.

U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #146, FEBRUARY 2016

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS

In his final year in office, President Barack Obama is returning to an issue that was at the heart of the first piece of legislation he signed at the White House: closing the gender pay gap. (This first law enacted was the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.) This act allowed women to collect the difference in back pay between themselves and male colleagues in the same job for every paycheck where there was a pay difference. (The Supreme Court ruled that Ledbetter was only entitled to the pay difference for two paychecks instead of those differences over several years, thus affecting not only her take home remuneration but also her Social Security payments.)

Another piece of legislation called The Paycheck Fairness Act has been introduced in every session of Congress for at least ten years. In this session of Congress it is H.R.1619 introduced by Representative Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut and S.862 introduced by Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland. Both bills have been referred to committee where in the past they have died at the end of the legislative session. Basically this act allows employees to learn what other workers in similar positions are being paid. Currently it is possible for an employee asking about the pay of others to be fired or otherwise punished. A person who is unaware of what others in a similar position are being paid is powerless to try to redress the situation. In Ledbetter's case she was unaware of the pay discrepancy until she retired and someone else anonymously left a note about the pay discrepancy.

Recently President Obama put forth new rules that would compel companies with more than 100 workers to provide the federal government with annual data for how much they pay employees based on gender, race and ethnicity. The president said the information would be used to help public enforcement of equal pay laws while giving more insight into discriminatory pay practices. To view all of what action was taken and anticipated results of the action go to <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/01/29/taking-action-advance-equal-pay>

Historically, full-time white female workers have only been paid a fraction of their male counterparts: In 2014, white females were paid 79 cents for every dollar paid to white males. The difference for women of color was

even greater, and there was a pay difference between the pay of nonwhite male employees and white male employees also thus bringing the problem of racial discrimination in pay to the attention of officials

Upcoming Events: Women in Leadership Awards April 20th

Membership Committee:

Membership

12 guests attended the potential new member Wine and Chocolate reception and dinner on March 16! We enjoyed a social hour complete with wine and cheese and lots of conversation. Dinner was delicious (complete with chocolate dessert). Following introductions (did you know we have lots of JCC employees?) we shared many laughs during the purse game. Then we settled down to learn about Zonta, and concluded with testimonials from five of our members.

The guests were encouraged to consider membership thoughtfully, and welcomed to attend future meetings.

In addition to the 12 guests who attended the evening, there are 8 women who are interested in Zonta but were unable to attend the event. We hope they will attend a future meeting or two!

Thank you to the membership committee, and to the many Zonta members who participated in the evening as a host or speaker!

Service: The Princess Club

Below are pictures from the Tech Savvy event in Buffalo – Zonta Club of Jamestown sponsored The Princess Club's attendance.

The girls really had a great time and enjoyed being at UB!



Zonta Club of Jamestown

www.zontajamestown.org