

DISTRICT 27 NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024

Dear all,

Time flies!

End of January we had our 4th District Board Meeting in Osnabrück, the so called "Peace City".



In the center of the town you can find at the "triangled market place" the City Hall of the "Peace of Westphalia". In 1648 after five years of negotiations in Münster (a very famous and nice city nearby) and Osnabrück, the "Peace of Westphalia" was announced. It stopped the 30 Years` war. In the so called "Peace Hall" till today you can find the portraits of the Envoies from Sweden, France, Germany **and also some Zontians alive and in the guestbook**



Town hall



Town hall door handle



Guestbook

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Besides the DBM business as usual, the main theme of this DBM was the Strategic Plan which we would like to understand a bit better and the Zonta Goals in the Context of Climate Change.

Anne-Marie French-Cudjoe presented the Strategic Plan with its four goals to us during the DC in Luxembourg. Unfortunately there was no possibility to ask questions about it, cause of other interventions to this plan.

Strategic Plan

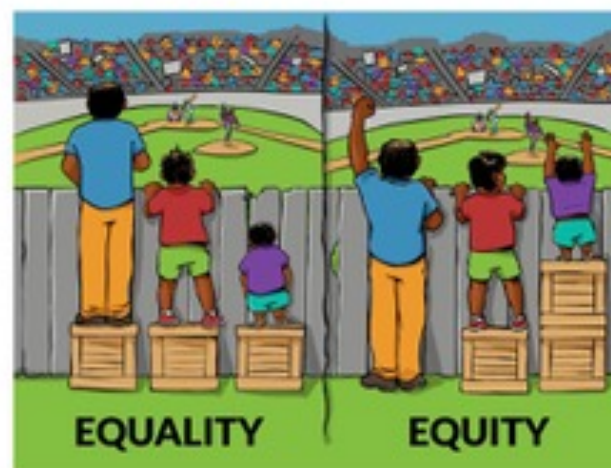
Zonta, Gender Equity, and a Vision for 2030 & Beyond
(Strategic Plan, Goals and Strategies 2023-2030)

Ria Matthijssens (Lt. Governor) gave us an overview of the plan with its four goals:

- 1: Credibility and visibility
- 2: Club success
- 3: International Leadership and sustainability
- 4: Engagement of audiences and allies

We focused on the words equity and equality which are central of the Strategic Plan and which different meanings are often not clear.

In particular, the difference between equality and equity is often unclear. However, the picture by illustrator Angus Maguire sums it up perfectly.



Interaction Institute for Social Change | Artist:
Angus Maguire

These are in short the descriptions we elaborated:

Gender equity and gender equality are related concepts, but they have distinct meanings.

In summary, while gender equality is the ultimate goal, gender equity is a strategy or approach to achieve that goal by recognizing and addressing existing disparities and ensuring fairness in the process. (R. Claes, AD A 06).

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What will district 27 focus on in the next two years?

We will concentrate on goal 1,2 and 4.

For goal 1 our flag ship is **advocacy – Zonta says No**, which all clubs in district 27 have already implemented.

Concerning goal 2 we will increase our **membership** efforts.

Concerning goal 4 we will look for **allies and co-operations** in both areas: advocacy and membership.

The strategy for the concrete procedure, clarification and implementation of the new or elaborated tasks of goal 2 and 4 still need to be worked out.

Karin Lange (Advocacy Committee) introduced to us the Zonta goals in the Context of Climate change.

Why Zonta says Now?

Zonta says Now started in 2020 in District 23 (that covers a large proportion of Australia) and gathered momentum internationally following the release of the ZI Statement on Climate Change in 2021.

Following CSW 66 (Commission on the status of women), Zontians from D27 and District 21 joined Zontians from District 23, District 25 and the USA Caucus to form an International Zonta says Now Working Group.

Will Zonta become an environmental NGO?

It is not a topic, but a dimension!

We say Zonta says NOW for good reasons:

- Global climate impacts, such as intense heat, drought, bushfires, floods and storms, displaced 30million people in 2000.
- 14 times higher risk of death for women in climate change-related disasters.
- Impacts of climate disasters can increase risk of child-marriage.

Earth for all, a survival guide for humanity explains what is needed:

- Ending poverty
- Elimination of glaring inequality
- Empowerment of women
- Creating a healthy food system for people and ecosystems
- Transition to clean energy

The presentation ended with an appeal:

Let us advocate together for an earth for all.

During the hard brain work Helena treated us to wonderful chocolates from Ukraine.



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All in all it was a fruitful and constructive DB-Meeting.



No I would like to bring to your attention the significant events lined up in the coming weeks.

March 08, 2024:

International Women`s Day

That implies: to focus on to impact laws and regulations on behalf of women and girls.

You can do that with your local or federal government authority to impact laws and regulations on behalf of women and girls.

You can do that to focus on women in the workplace, including initiatives around equal pay day or women in boardrooms or women`s leadership in underrepresented industries. You can send a gift to Zonta International Foundation in the name of someone you want to honor.



Or you can participate at “The International Women`s Day”.

The International Women`s Day the 08 of March 2024 and the week around this day (starting the 05 of March) could be promoted as a global week of action.



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This is a wonderful possibility to gain attention and if most (or all) of the clubs of our District (75 clubs) will participate there could be generated awareness and buzz.

It's a possibility to be visible!

Loyal following and last but not least it's also an opportunity to support the fundraising goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women!

And:

Don't forget it's also essential to send a short text and to attach pictures to our Greater Visibility Chair Liesbet van Landegem! Please share them on the Zonta International website too under the heading "Share your Story"!

Besides taking part in the Zonta says No action in November/December, the participation of most of all Zontians in this action (International Women's Day and the week around it) is one of the main goals which ZI president Ute Scholz mentioned in her first speeches.

March 10-22, 2024:

[Commission on the Status of Women CSW68](#)

It is a vital platform to accelerate gender equality achievements.

The focus for this year (the priority theme) is:

Accelerating gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by combating poverty and strengthening gender equality in institutions and financial policy.

"I would like you to make full use of it. It's really inspiring!"

Supporting the Zonta Foundation for Women and Educational Scholarships

Zonta Foundation for Women 2022-2024 Giving Totals*



Amelia Earhart Fellowship

47%

US\$261,983.93
US\$560,000.00



Women in Business Scholarship

31%

US\$115,772.02
US\$370,000.00



Young Women in Public Affairs Award

71%

US\$200,533.63
US\$283,000.00



International Service Program

51%

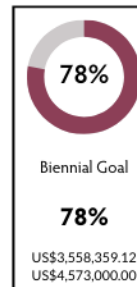
US\$1,642,628.62
US\$3,200,000.00



Rose Fund

836%

US\$1,337,440.92
US\$160,000.00



*As of 31 January 2024

That overview shows that there is a little bit to do to reach the goal we decided for at the Convention in Hamburg.

Fortunately, we have the Rose Fund which gives us the possibility to fill up the other funds which are not filled up at the end of the biennium.

The Generosity of the participants, the great work of the Cycling team, the well-done sponsoring of the DC team and the surplus of our **District Conference 2023** enables D27 to give more than **10.000\$ (\$ 10,839) to the Foundation.**

I want to emphasize the vital importance of our collective support for the Zonta Foundation for women and to encourage you to contribute



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to the Foundation before April 30, 2024, and support educational programs, ensuring that these donations are considered during the International Convention. It also demonstrates our commitment to maintaining and expanding scholarships, including the valuable Women in STEM Scholarship.

June 27-30, 2024:

Zonta International Convention in Brisbane

Join us at the Zonta International Convention in Brisbane from June 27 to 30, 2024, for an enriching experience!

Registration has been open since mid-January, and I would like to encourage you all to take the possibility of the early bird registration fee.

You'll have the opportunity to make wonderful lifetime connections and friendships and you will see, on an international scale, the achievements we make through your work and contributions to the Zonta International Foundation from you personally and through your clubs in D27. You get a really wonderful view of all we do.

You will learn all about our International Projects, Award Recipients and our continued Strategic Plan, as it is being rolled out. We will also be discussing the voting and business side of Zonta, it is very interesting to watch and participate in if you are a delegate for your Club. You get to choose workshops that are of interest to you too.

Experience the countries represented in their fine National Costumes, and the flag ceremony. I'm truly excited that so many of you are going.

A short request at the DBM told us that at present the following clubs of our District 27 are planning to take part in the conference:

- Area 01 - none
- Area 02 - 4 persons of 3 clubs
- Area 03 - 6 persons of 3 clubs
- Area 04 - 3 persons
- Area 05 - 10 persons of 7 clubs
- Area 06 - 7 persons of 4 clubs
- Area 07 - 16 persons of 12 clubs

Don't forget!

District 27 Meeting at the International Convention

A meeting of members of district 27 is planned on **Friday June, 28 at 8.00 p.m..**

I can only encourage you to participate; we will have a wonderful evening of sharing and friendship.

Register now to secure early bird rates



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Dear Zontian,

As a valued member of Zonta, we are excited to invite you to attend the **2024 Zonta International Convention in Brisbane, Australia**. We are all looking forward to experiencing the wonderful views, experiences and hospitality of Australia while reconnecting with old friends and making new ones. We hope you will join us and register today for the **66th Zonta International Convention**.

Registration is now open! Click the button below to reserve your spot and join us in raising our voices for women and girls.

Should you not be able to join your fellow Zontians in Brisbane, we are pleased to again offer a virtual attendee option and a virtual plus one-day on-site option for registration. This allows every Zontian the opportunity to participate in the way that works best for them.

To register, you will need your Zonta member ID, which is.....

<https://www.zontaconvention.com/registration>

[Register Today!](#)



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	Early Registration	Regular Registration	Last Registration
	<i>Ends 15 March</i>	16 March – 15 May	16 May – On-site
Member Full	US\$325	US\$355	US\$395
Guest	US\$150	US\$150	US\$165
Member Virtual Only	US\$189	US\$189	US\$210
Member Virtual + One Day On-Site	US\$252	US\$252	US\$280
Golden Z Full	US\$60	US\$60	US\$60
Golden Z Virtual Only	US\$30	US\$30	US\$30

Hotel Reservations

There are many accommodation options located in South Bank, Brisbane Central Business District and West End to suit a range of budgets. The Zonta Convention Committee has secured special rates for Zontians at many hotels near the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. Explore your options on the [Convention Accommodations page](#) and take advantage of the discounted rates.

We thank all Zontians who already reserved their accommodations at the Rydges South Bank, the official Convention hotel. Please note that this block is now filled. If you do have a reservation, you will have received confirmation from the hotel directly.

Tours

In addition to the events you can register for via the main convention registration site, please note that there are pre and post-tours for which you will need to purchase tickets separately. Information about these tour options and links to purchase tickets can be found on the convention website: www.zontaconvention.com/tours.

To learn more about the program, special events and speakers, please visit www.zontaconvention.com/program.



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[Register Today!](#)

Here are some dates and events for March till May:

March

Women`s Day the 08 of March 2024 (Zonta Rose Day) and the week around this day (starting the 05 of March)

The 68th session of the Commission on the **Status of Women (CSW)** from 11-22 March in New York

April

“Add your voice Campaign”

- April 1 to May 31, 2024 -

Every new member registered during this period enjoys membership until **May31, 2025** without extra dues fees. Participating clubs contribute to a friendly international competition.

April 1 New members can be added for the following membership year

April 1 YWPA club applications due to district

April 30 Donation due to be recognized for Convention

May

May 1 Young Women in Public Affairs District applications due to HQ

May 31 Last day to be counted for recognition in annual report

Save the Date

European Inter-District Seminar

The next European Inter-District Seminar will take place in **Copenhagen, Denmark, 2025**

In the coming months don`t forget to practice the Zonta Spirit.



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It is the heart and soul of clubs and it supports clubs to create a strong culture of community, fun, friendship and an inclusive approach.

Good to know:

**Anyone who wants the world to stay as it is does not want it to stay.
(Erich Fried)**

I wish you health, success and delight in what you are doing!
All the best!

Warm regards,
Yours

A handwritten signature in green ink, which appears to read 'Dr. Peter Bougher'.

