

# ZONTA ZEST

**Zonta Club of St. Louis**

## President's Message to the Club

Happy New Year!

This year has been a testament of unity and power of women working together in our community. I hope you and your family had a merry Christmas and wonderful New Year! It is a time of assessing the past and looking forward to the future! I wish you success if you made a resolution. Looking back, Zonta Club of St. Louis can be very proud of its accomplishments. Our service project participation has increased; we ended the year at Frontenac Plaza for the Kendra Scott event, and on January 18, zontians will volunteer at the StL Diaper Bank. Thank you Zontians for Building a Better World for Women and Girls!



Thank You Membership for hosting our meetings, especially our December meeting at the Missouri History Museum; no agenda, just good food, fellowship, ornament exchange and getting acquainted with our new member Sue Ellbogen.

I want to share some history that involves Zonta. Each year I drive through Nashville on my way to Alabama for Christmas. I recently found out that The Hermitage Hotel in Nashville was recognized as a National Historic Landmark which ratified the 19th Amendment and gave women the right to vote. Tennessee was the 36th and deciding state, and the hotel served as the unofficial headquarters of the Women's Suffrage movement for both sides of the issue. The battle became known as the "The War of the Roses." Those in favor of ratification wore yellow roses and those against it wore red, including TN youngest legislator, Harry T. Burn. He received a letter from his mother urging him to do the right thing and change his vote to "aye" which tipped the scales to a 49-47 tally in the state house of representatives. In 2020 it was the 100th Anniversary that gave women the right to vote. The hotel is going through renovation and has incorporated the color yellow throughout the sky ceiling. I intend to stop in for lunch on my next trip home or we can plan a day trip!

Sincerely,

Laura Burton

President



## December Board Meeting Updates:

- Position descriptions are nearly complete and will be presented at the next membership meeting.
- Once approved, position descriptions will be posted on the members only section of the club website.
- The Finance committee will meet February 6th at 6:00 via ZOOM.
- The Literacy Committee is looking for a project to support
- Sherri Brown is checking into the possibility of the Women's Another Chance Program being selected as a beneficiary of proceeds earned at a Women's Pro gold Tournament at Witmoor Country Club this summer.



**Finance Meeting**  
**February 6th at 6:00pm**  
**Just prior to the Board Meeting**

# Membership Meeting January 16th



**Celebrating Amelia Earhart and Women in STEM**

**Watch for upcoming meeting details!**



## Service Club Leaders Conference

### Presented by: Optimist International and Sertoma International

Optimist International and Sertoma International invited all service club leaders to the 62nd Service Club Leaders Conference. Through lively panel discussions, workshops and seminars, they all came together and learned how to take marketing, membership, technology and leadership goals to the next level. Laura Burton attended representing the Zonta Club of St. Louis. Debbie Redmond attended representing her ties with the YMCA.

#### **Laura Burton and Debbie Redmond's Report to the club:**

Greetings, Zontians, Zonta Intn'l President, Salia Tuuominen and past President Ute were unable to attend. Megan Radavich, Executive Director and Mariah Goodwin, Membership Manager were able to attend for Zonta International, Another Zontian included Britt Vaughan who was Chief Administrative Officer for National Assistance League in our Service Club Leaders Conference. There were 19 different organizations with 65 people in attendance.

There were several presenters during the breakout meeting concerning Membership and Retention. Everyone has the same problem, how to get people involved, how to get philanthropy, specifically, how to get younger people to desire joining and attend meetings. Many club presidents are visiting various clubs asking these questions. People were encouraged to push their logo, get a face book page and get people to share their contacts. One member stated she facebooked all her travels. The group were urged to always wear their badge and consider sharing their facebook travel.

Workshops included risk management for clubs and organizations as well as one presentation on Artificial Intelligence.

Concerning young people, it was mentioned that young people especially do not want to join – they want to participate. They need to be attracted to our projects, especially 30–40 year olds. It was suggested to have a pot luck action club, not just sitting through a meeting. For young professionals another suggestion was to allow clubs to change the format. It is possible to have a club within a club. Whatever it takes encourage young people, especially those with a gift, to form their own club. Concerning dues, consider waiving dues for a year. Consider group differences, example baby boomers 60–70, gen-x 50–60?. Some ask “why pay dues to volunteer?”. Other people are looking or wanting to do something but are waiting to be asked.

We viewed an outstanding documentary called “Join or Die” (<https://www.joinordiefilm.com/>). It gives the history of America when we used to belong to all types of organizations and clubs. Those numbers have fallen drastically, because companies no longer encourage joining groups to help the community. The younger generation is feeling lonely. We are also talked about the severe decline in people joining bowling leagues which is directly associated with the decline in Americans involvement in other. Also, mark your calendars for our next service project which will be with Alleluia Baskets, an organization we volunteered at for the first time last year. It will be on Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. That is President's Day so hopefully more people from the chapter will be available then. They can have no more than 12 people and child volunteers should be at least 8 years old. I will have something for the January Zest with more information.groups. Many use the computer only to make friends, but there are some things you cannot google. It is an honor to be asked to serve. Some people are looking

# Zontians in Action...

## JANUARY SERVICE PROJECT

St. Louis Area Diaper Bank provides diaper and period products to needy families in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

1 in 3 experience diaper needs and 1 in 4 women struggle to obtain period products.

***Saturday, January 18th from 12:30-2:30***

we will work to count/sort/ package diapers and period kits to get them ready for their community sponsors at their warehouse:

6141 Etzel Avenue, 63133

If interested, email [gilbertson.peggy@gmail.com](mailto:gilbertson.peggy@gmail.com) if you haven't already done so.





# Zontians in Action...

## FEBRUARY SERVICE PROJECT

The Alleluia Baskets organization provides Easter Baskets for underprivileged families.

We volunteered for them last year!

Their website is [www.alleluiabaskets.org](http://www.alleluiabaskets.org) to learn more about the organization.

**Monday**

**February 17th**

**10:00 am**

**1016 Rock Creek Elementary Dr.**

**O'Fallon, MO 63366**

**(Lower Level, First Brick Building on the Right)**

We will be assembling baskets which will be distributed at Easter by various non-profit organizations. We can have up to 12 volunteers. There are many good places to lunch locally afterwards for those interested in doing so.

**Please contact Peggy Gilbertson if you are interested in participating:)**

[gilbertsonpeggy@gmail.com](mailto:gilbertsonpeggy@gmail.com)





## Commission on the Status of Women 69th annual meeting

2025 marks the 30th anniversary of the 4th World Conference on Women, and the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform For Action. To commemorate this important year, the Zonta International UN Committee is hosting a series of 12 weekly Conversation Circles from November to February, each covering one of the twelve critical areas of concern in the Beijing Platform for Action.

Join us in the lead up to the 69th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) meeting which will take place March 10-21, 2025

*Are you interested in learning more? Visit the [CSW website](#) to access resources, materials and recordings. Grounds pass applications are also available now. See how you can become a participant in CSW69!*

# CONVERSATION CIRCLES

Jan. 8th	Women and the Economy
Jan. 15th	Women in Power and Decision-Making Positions
Jan. 22nd	Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women
Jan. 29th	Human Rights of Women
Feb. 5th	Women and the Media
Feb. 12th	Women and the Environment
Feb. 19th	The Girl Child

Sign up for a Conversation Circle leading up to CSW69 on the ZI website in the Events section:

[Link to ZI Events](#)



# Zonta International

## AMELIA EARHART MONTH

**January 2025**

Each January, Zonta International celebrates the spirit and impact of legendary pilot Amelia Earhart, one of our most famous former members.

## AMELIA EARHART DAY

**11 January 2025**

On Amelia Earhart Day, we commemorate the records she broke on this day in 1935 and celebrate her contributions to the aerospace industry and her empowerment of women in science.

## ZONTA SAYS NOW INTERCONTINENTAL THINK TANK

**12 January 2025**

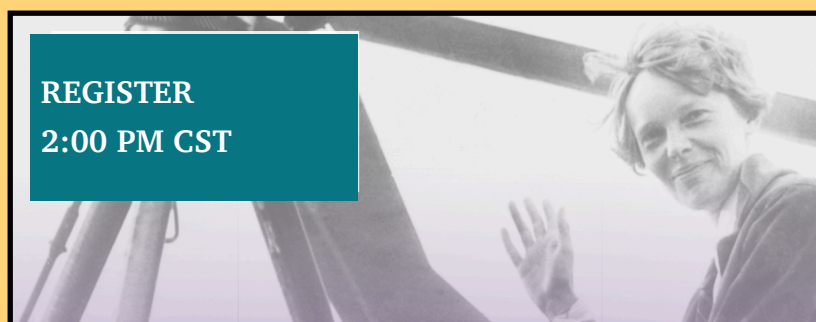
All members are welcome to join the Zonta Says NOW to Gender-Equal Climate Action Intercontinental Think Tank. Come share your ideas and gather inspiration on how we can address Gender-Equal Climate Action NOW! Hosted by Zontians in Asia and Oceania



## AEROSPACE ADVANCEMENTS IN YOUR DAILY LIFE

**16 January 2025**

In honor of Amelia Earhart month, we invite you to a panel with three Amelia Earhart Fellows to hear how their work in the aerospace industry has impacted our daily lives.



# Zonta International

## NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

**16 January 2025**

Are you new to Zonta? Join the Zonta Headquarters Membership Team on this meeting and let us welcome you. We will provide a history of Zonta, the programs we support, resources available to you, and an opportunity to meet with a member of the International Membership Committee. ZONTA USA THINK TANK PRESENTATION: ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY

**REGISTER**  
**9:00 AM CST**

**REGISTER**  
**6:00 PM CST**

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION

**24 January 2025**

The International Day of Education celebrates education's role in peace and development. Zonta International believes that education is essential, especially for women and girls.

## ZONTA USA THINK TANK PRESENTATION: ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY

**26 January 2025**

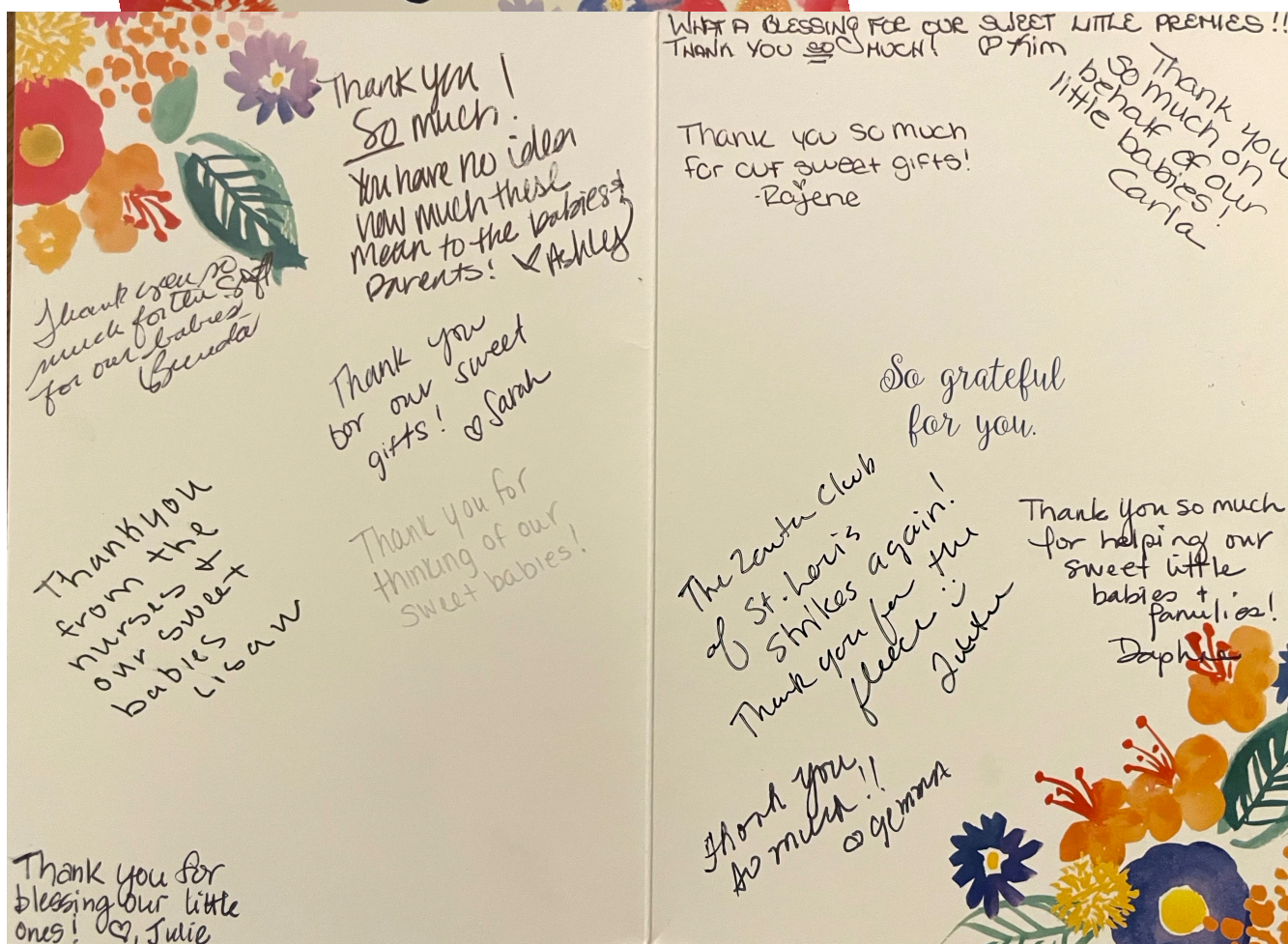
All members are welcome to join the Zonta USA Think Tank with their guest speaker Stevan Lynn from Men Engage Network, North America.

**REGISTER**  
**5:00 PM CST**



Nurses in the Special Care Nursery at St. Luke's thank the Zonta Club of St. Louis for the fleece material.

The fleece is cut up into blankets which are used for covering incubators. Families take the blankets home with them when the baby is discharged.





## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

### January

2nd Board Meeting - 7:00pm  
11th Amelia Earhart Day  
16th Membership Meeting - 6:00pm  
24th International Day of Education

### February

6th Finance Meeting - 6:00pm  
6th Board Meeting - 7:00pm  
20th Membership Meeting - 6:00pm

## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

### January

9th Nancy Schmich  
16th Just Jensen  
30th Gloria Johnson  
30th Miriam Schuchardt

### February

27th Sherri Brown

