ZONTA ZEST

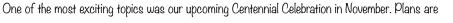
Zonta Club of St. Louis

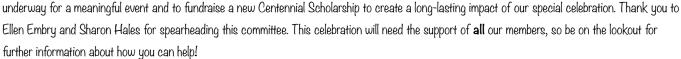
President's Message to the Club

Dear Zonta Sisters,

As we move into August, I am filled with gratitude for the energy and dedication each of you brings to our club. Our recent board meeting was a wonderful reminder of the strength of our Zonta community and the exciting momentum we're building together.

I'm pleased to share that we approved two new members—Mezzy Alexander and Staycee Dixon; please join me in welcoming them at our next meeting! We're also planning a membership drive and a happy hour this spring, so start thinking about friends and colleagues who might be inspired to join our mission. I encourage you to bring them to a meeting or two this fall!







Looking ahead, the District 7 Conference is just around the corner, and I'm honored to serve as one of our delegates alongside Judy Jensen. I hope you will consider attending! We will be crafting purse charms for the conference marketplace and preparing some fun auction baskets! See further details in this issue of the Zest, beautifully made by Linda White.

Finally, please remember to submit your nominations for the Zonta Spirit Award by August 18th using this form. This is a wonderful way to recognize the dedication and passion of our fellow members.

Thank you for your commitment and ideas, and for serving enthusiastically! I look forward to seeing you at our August 21st membership meeting at Moneta, where we will induct our newest member - Bee Girresch.

Let's continue to build a brighter future for women and girls, together!

With appreciation and excitement,

Stacy Donovan

President, Zonta Club of St. Louis





August Board Meeting Updates:

- The proposed budget was presented to the board for input and will be presented to club membership at the August Membership Meeting for input and approval.
- Celebrating our club's 100th birthday was discussed we will be forming a committee to help with panning a really nice event - ideas are already being presented and investigated for feasibility.
- We may be creating a "Centennial Scholarship" in celebration of our birthday.
- Stacy Donovan and Judy Jensen are being promoted as delegates at the upcoming District Conference.
- The Literacy committee is participating in the St. Louis County Library's "Gateways to Reading Readiness" program and honoring Liz Heitman in the process. See pg. 14.
- Zonta Spirit Award nominations will be emailed to everyone. See pg. 10.
- Two new applicants were approved to join the club. We hope that they can make our membership meeting this month: Staycee Dixon and Mezzy Alexander.
- Linda White is finishing up the 2025-2026 Membership Directory. Please reach out to her if you need an update.
- August Membership Meeting: committee signups, budget approval, new member initiations.



6:00 - 6:30 Fellowship

6:30 Meeting

Location to be announced!

Watch for more info coming soon!!



Join in with your friends and sign up for committees!

The Club and Trust budgets will be presented for approval.

Meet your new Zonta Sisters... New member initiation!

Committee Sign-Up at the August Membership Meeting



Committee Descriptions

* New club members are automatically enrolled to join the Membership Committee. However, There are many other committees available to join.

Finance Committee

Responsible for financial health of the Club and Charitable Trust. Plan annual budget. Oversee investment portfolio. Help with annual audit.

Long Range Planning Committee

Evaluate and recommend strategic direction of Club and Charitable Trust. Consider adding new programs, deferral or discontinuation of existing programs, balance current and future interests of Club and membership.

Membership/Classification Committee and Fellowship sub-committee

Work to maintain and increase membership. Promote benefits of belonging to Zonta Club of St. Louis to potential members. Help integrate new members into the club. Support and recognize ongoing members. Update the Club Directory for August distribution. Organize March Membership meeting. The Fellowship Sub-Committee helps plan fun events to increase fellowship, recognized birthdays and deliver sympathy/condolences when needed. Increases the spiritual health of the club.

PR/Communication/International Committee and ZEST Newsletter

Communications to members and enhance public relationships to the community. Responsible for social media, press releases, uploading to website. Partner with Zest Editors. Organize the February Membership Meeting. Ensure timely communications through the Zest to inform members and engage potential members.

Service/Advocacy Committee

Identify service opportunities and organize hands on service activities. Work with membership to ensure balance between annual traditional service activities and new areas. Identify advocacy opportunities and organize projects or events to address these opportunities.

Amelia Earhart/STEM Committee

Identify new projects(s) to increase representation of women and girls in STEM. Help plan the January Membership Meeting with a focus on STEM and a nod to Amelia Earhart.

Bylaws/Parliamentarian Committee

Perform annual evaluation of Club and Trust Bylaws to ensure consistency with Zonta International, LRP direction, and Board/member input.

Community Grants and Partnerships Committee

Identify best nonprofits for support and partnership. Track utilization of funds to ensure desired impact. Organize October Membership meeting.

Literacy Committee

Identify projects that impact literacy for adults or children in our community.

Weinman Shelter Committee

Obtain gift certificates and prepare holiday cards for women staying in the Weinman Shelter over the holiday season.

Fundraising/Charity Clothing Pickup Committee

Organize fundraising projects to support Club needs and/or donations to Zonta International. Ensure member participation in fundraising activities. Work to increase Charity Clothing Pickup donation through flyers, advertisement and events.

Women's Another Chance (WAC) Committee

Administer WAC Program. Identify qualified recipients and administer funds consistent with program rules and desired intentions. Identify and support mentors. Work with Awards Committee to organize the June Membership meeting featuring WAC students and other award recipients.

Golden Z Club Committee

Organize and support Z and/or Golden Clubs in STL community. Recruit member participation. You would be working with the Maryville Liaison for the Golden Z/EMPOWER group.

Awards Committee

<u>Education Awards and Scholarships</u>: Communicate and solicit applications for various scholarships and awards. Most of our awards are set up with an application process through Scholarship Central. Review applications and select winners. Forward winner nominations to District/International for consideration. Follow-up on awards/scholarships handed out by Universities we work with. Work with WAC Committee to organize the June Membership meeting featuring WAC students and other award recipients.

<u>Individual Enrichment Award</u>: Provides funding to individuals who need short term assistance in improving their quality of life.

Program/Location Committee

Partner with committees to plan monthly membership meetings including location, food/beverage and make committees have meeting content/presentation ready.

Also, play a direct role in planning the following MTGs:

August Membership MTG (Business MTG: Committee Selection)

September Membership MTG (Business MTG: International Projects)

November Membership MTG (Founder's Day)
April Membership MTG (Annual MTG: Elections)



The Annual Scholarship Recognition Picnic

Celebrating ALL of our Scholarship and Award Winners!



Jefferson City Zonta Club Yellow Rose Luncheon

Let May, several Zonta club members took a day trip to support our Zonta sisters in Jefferson City. The Yellow Rose luncheon was a huge success. The luncheon honors women empowering women in their community.

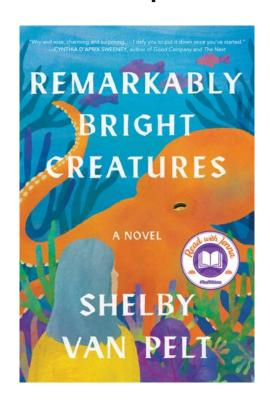
Watch the Program Here!







Amelia Earhart Book Club!Sponsored by the STEM Committee



Our Next Book...

Remarkably Bright Creatures
by Shelby Van Pelt

Remarkably Bright Creatures, an exploration of friendship, reckoning, and hope, tracing a widow's unlikely connection with a giant Pacific octopus.

Learn more about this book on Goodreads

The Amelia Earhart Book Club will meet again on Monday, October 6th 6:30 - 8:00pm

Judy Jensen hosting 8 Big Country Circle Dardenne Prarie, MO 63368-8080 So get reading!

Watch for reminders and ZOOM link if you can't attend in person:)

North American Interdistrict Meeting 2025



Ignite Your Passion

Kay Moss attended the 2025 Zonta NAIDM (North American Interdistrict Meeting) event held June 20-22 in Novi, Michigan. The event was well-attended with over 250 Zonta members, 26 Zonta International Board and Committee members, and representation from 20 districts. Several workshops, keynote speakers, and advocacy programs were featured.

The next NAIDM will be held in South Dakota in June 2027.

Link to
NAIDM Presentations









ZONTA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 7 FALL CONFERENCE 2025

POWERED BY PURPOSE: EDUCATE — ENGAGE - EMPOWER

September 19-21, 2025
Cape Girardeau, MO
Drury Plaza Hotel Cape Girardeau







Zonta Spirit Award

An important part of sustaining club engagement and retaining good members is recognizing and supporting those members who exemplify the **Zonta spirit**, who keeps the passion or flame of Zonta alive and growing. Individuals who embrace the mission of Zonta with enthusiasm and compassion, and who cultivate within the club a strong, inclusive culture of community, fun, and friendship.

Please use this form to submit the name of one person from our club who exemplifies the Zonta Spirit, with a description of why they were identified BY MONDAY, AUGUST 18th

The club board will then select one individual to receive a Spirit Award at District 7 Conference in Cape Girardeau (need not be present to receive the award, but they would love to see you there!)

NOMINATION FORM LINK

68th Zonta International District 7 Conference September 19-21, 2025

Powered by Purpose: Educate ~ Empower ~ Engage

Conference Registration

The District Board and the Zonta Club of Cape Girardeau, MO invite you to attend the 2025 District 7 Conference at the Drury Plaza Hotel the weekend of September 19-21, 2025.

Conference Information

Conference registration fees

Early Bird rate prior to August 1: Regular Member \$240, Young Professional \$220

After August 1: All registrants \$250

Registration fees includes: All conference sessions, Friday night heavy appetizers, Saturday lunch and dinner (no breakfast since it is included with the hotel room), water, coffee, tea stations. You are encouraged to bring your favorite travel mugs and water bottles.

Hotel Venue

Drury Plaza Hotel Cape Girardeau 3351 Percy Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 573-334-7151 druryhotels.com

Room Information

Rooms must be booked by August 17. At that time rooms will be released.

- \$144 Non-smoking King
- \$144 Non-smoking 2 Queen Beds

Direct line to book and request D7 rate: 1-800-325-0720 Code:10099643

Direct link to book on line with D7 rate:

https://www.druryhotels.com/bookandstay/newreservation/?groupno=10099643

Attire

Friday: Dress casual/Zonta gear and bling

Saturday: Business Casual

Saturday Evening: Casual/ Wear Orange- Just Say NO, Zonta gear or Bling

Sunday: Business Casual

Airports

There are flights directly into Cape Girardeau (CGI) from Chicago (ORD). It may be a cheaper option than flying into St Louis and renting a car.

There is no shuttle service from the Cape airport to hotel, but we do have Uber, Lyft and Taxi Service through Cape Girardeau Transit Authority, 573-335-5533. You may prebook your transportation ahead of your arrival.

The Zonta Marketplace provides Clubs with the opportunity to raise funds and increase awareness of your Club's service projects. Registration is required as space is limited and will only be created for Clubs that pre-register on the form.

68th Zonta International District 7 Conference September 19-21, 2025

Powered by Purpose: Educate ~ Empower ~ Engage

Registration Form for District 7 Conference, September 19-21, 2025

Name:	Club Name:
Email:	Phone #
Check all that apply:	
DelegateAlternateYoung Pr	rofessional1 st Time Attendee
Proxy for the Club	
Current Club Office (list)	
Former D7 Governor (list Biennium)	
Former D7 Office (other than Governor, list roles)	
Former ZI Office (list)	
I have been a member of Zonta for (check highest annive	ersary achieved)
5 years10 years15 years20 years	25 years30 Years
35 years40 Years45 years50 Years	
Marketplace: Yes, my Club is requesting to reserve a table for marke	etplace
Please note any needs or accommodations such as diet,	disability, or special needs:

68th Zonta International District 7 Conference September 19-21, 2025

Powered by Purpose: Educate ~ Empower ~ Engage

Boxed Lunches are available for Sunday. The cost will be \$18.00. You must request one when you register.

Fees and Payment Options: Fees will cover conference meeting room costs, technology needs, speaker honorariums, food expenses, and conference materials.

If registering before August 1, 2025		If registering after August 1, 2025	
Regular member Young Professional	\$240 \$220	All registrants	\$250
Box Lunch Requested	\$18.00	Box Lunch Requested	\$18.00
Total Payment	\$	Total Payment	\$

Payment Options (select how elect to make payment & payment date)

_____ Check payable to Zonta District 7

Mail check with this entire completed registration form to:

Peggy Jensen Re: D7 Conference 3523 Amazonas Dr Jefferson City, MO 65109

_____ Venmo _____ Date of Transaction





Paying by Venmo? Don't forget to scan and email this entire completed registration form to: Peggy Jensen at peggy@seaverandforckcpa.com or drop in mail to the above address.

Remember to book your hotel by August 17th for the discounted Zonta Conference Rate.

Questions on hotel, fees or transportation?

Contact Polly Holten at 573-270-8313 or pholten@outlook.com

The Literacy Committee in Action...



Gateway to Reading Program, St. Louis County Library

Zonta Stickers on materials

Zontian, Liz Heitman, taught first grade classes in Webster Groves for over 40 years. She was an advocate for learning to read phonetically. Phonetics was the approach she advocated even when it lost popularity. Fortunately, it is being recognized again for its effectiveness in earning to read.



Zonta Club of St. Louis Endowed Technology 2024-2025 Report

Fund Award Information

2024-2025 Award Amount: \$2,989 | Award Fund Balance for FY26: \$4,511



Deondre

AAS / Cybersecurity | GPA: 2.85

Thank you for the scholarship and I am glad to have been selected for it. I will be sure to use the scholarship money appropriately and make sure it is used to the best of mt ability to help pursue my degree and go further in this field.



Narges

AAS / Cybersecurity | GPA: 4.0

Dear Donor,

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for your generous support in providing me with the Zonta Club of St. Louis Endowed Technology Scholarship award. It is truly an honor to be selected as a recipient, and I am incredibly grateful for your investment in my education and future.

As a student pursuing a degree at St. Louis Community College, this award will have a profound impact on my ability to focus on my academic goals without the burden of financial stress. Thanks to your generosity, I am one step closer to achieving my dreams.

Your kindness is not only an encouragement for me, but it also serves as a reminder of the importance of giving back to others. I hope that one day I will be in a position to help students like myself achieve their educational and career aspirations.

Once again, thank you for your support and belief in my potential. I am committed to working hard, making the most of this opportunity, and giving back to my community in the future.

Sincerely, Narges



Jamie

AAS / Cybersecurity | GPA: 3.2

Dear Zonta Club of St. Louis Endowed Scholarship Committee,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for being selected as one of this year's recipients of the Zonta Club of St. Louis Endowed Scholarship. It is truly an honor to be recognized by your esteemed committee, and I am incredibly grateful for your generosity in funding this scholarship and supporting students like me.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks for your invaluable contribution towards my education. With the financial assistance provided by this scholarship, I am able to continue my studies at Saint Louis Community College, where I am currently in my Sophomore year pursuing a degree in Cybersecurity.

The field of Cybersecurity has always fascinated me, and I have dedicated myself to gaining the necessary knowledge and skills to excel in this rapidly evolving industry. The support and encouragement that I have received by receiving this scholarship has played a vital role in strengthening my commitment to this academic journey. Your belief in my potential has instilled in me the courage and persistence to pursue my goals wholeheartedly.

Upon completion of my degree in Cybersecurity, which is scheduled for December 2024, I will be transferring to Saint Louis University to obtain my bachelor's degree. Eventually, my long-term aspiration is to become a Cybersecurity Operations Engineer, where I can make a meaningful impact in fortifying the security infrastructure of organizations.

I want to emphasize that none of my educational pursuits would have been possible without the support and assistance provided by your organization through this scholarship. Your dedication to empowering students like me to reach our fullest potential is truly commendable, and I am forever grateful for the opportunities that this scholarship has opened up for me.

In addition to the financial assistance, being selected as a recipient of this scholarship has provided me with much more than just monetary support. It has given me a sense of validation and encouragement to continue working hard towards my goals. Knowing that there are individuals and organizations like yours who believe in my abilities has boosted my confidence and motivation to excel in my studies.

Furthermore, the recognition and honor associated with receiving this scholarship will undoubtedly enhance my academic and professional profile. It serves as a testament to my dedication, hard work, and commitment to pursuing excellence in my chosen field. This recognition will undoubtedly open doors of opportunity and help me stand out in the competitive job market upon graduation.

In conclusion, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the Zonta Club of St. Louis Endowed Scholarship Committee for selecting me as a recipient of this prestigious award. Your belief in my abilities has not only provided me with financial support but has also inspired me to strive for excellence in my academic and professional endeavors.

Sincerely, Jamie



lan

AAS / Software Developer | GPA: 2.53

To whom it may concern,

It is an incredible honor to accept the Zonta Club of St. Louis Endowed Technology Scholarship, and I am truly thankful for your generosity and support.

Receiving this scholarship will ease my financial situation and allow me to focus more on my studies. I am committed to making the most of this opportunity and aspire to excel to continue my education. Your belief in my essay and story inspires me to work even harder.

Thank you once again for your kindness and support. I look forward to not only sharing my progress with you, but to also inspire other LGBT+ individuals in my situation to stand up, stand their ground, and never back down from what they believe they can do.

Sincerely,

lan



Zonta International



SHARE YOUR STORY FESTIVAL

26 August 2025 - 3:00pm CT

Don't miss the chance to shine! Zonta International will be hosting its virtual Share Your Story Festival on 26 August. Submit your stories supporting local service and advocacy or Zonta Says NO actions. Six selected clubs will present their submitted stories from the first year of this biennium. You can include pictures!

Register

Share YOUR Story

Zonta International

ZONTA & UNICEF VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE

4 September 2025

Join Zonta International and UNICEF for a one-of-a-kind look into Laaha: A safe space for women and girls. Laaha provides information to women and girls on sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence, including where and how to access services when needed. It is the first-ever platform designed by and for women and girls in humanitarian and development settings to address gender-based violence.

Zontians will hear first-hand from UNICEF program staff on the impact of their support and the lifesaving resources that are now available to women and girls – many who reside in conflict settings. You will get to travel to various countries and see how the platform is being integrated in day-to-day life.

This 60-min virtual session will be co-hosted by Caroline Masboungi, lead of UNICEF's Gender Based Violence innovations, Salla Tuominen, President of Zonta International and Fernanda Gallo-Freschi, President-elect of Zonta International.

Option I | 5:00 AM CT

Register

Option II | 11:00 AM CT

Register





How is Artificial Intelligence impacting Gender Equality – causes and consequences

> 12 PM CDT | Tuesday, 9 September Register at www.zonta.org/events

Sep 9, 2025 12:00 PM

Register





Greetings from Vancouver, Canada!

Dear Zontians,

Get ready for an unforgettable experience! Zonta International is thrilled to invite you to the 67th Zonta International Convention in the beautiful city of Vancouver, Canada, from 11-14 July 2026.

Registration will open in October; however, rates are now available so you can begin planning. Visit our website today to explore what is in the works for the 2026 Convention!



To: All Zontians

From: Zonta International

LINK to Convention Website

Yellow Rose Themed Phone Covers

Share with your friends.... you don't have to be a Zontian to own one!!



- Dual layer case for extra durability and protection
- Available in glossy or matte surface options
- Various styles and brands available

OPTION A - \$30.00

 Supports wireless charging (not including MagSafe)

OPTION B - \$35.00

MagSafe® Compatible for easy charging and PopGrips



- To purchase: scan QR code or click link: https://zonta-stl.printify.me
- Every purchase helps to fund programs sponsored by the Zonta Club of St. Louis

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

August

21st Membership Meeting

September

4th Board Meeting

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

August

Challenge: find and recruit a new member that has an August birthday!

September

3rd Kit Whittington11th Mildred Whitted

24th Barb Meyer

25th Carol Camp-Yeaky

