

# ZONTA ZEST

**Zonta Club of St. Louis**

## President's Message to the Club



Dear Zonta Sisters,

This past month has been exciting and BUSY! HUGE thank you to the 100 Year Anniversary Committee for their countless hours to serve enthusiastically to build an exciting program to celebrate our club centennial on Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. This will serve as our monthly November membership meeting. We are close to meeting our goal of 125 guests – please continue to invite folks – final number deadline for Barb Meyer is Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup>!

The November Zest is packed full of great information including hyperlinks to click on to learn more or RSVP for club related events and Zonta International sponsored events. For example, you can volunteer to help with the Gateway Alliance Against Human Trafficking Annual Dinner by clicking the blue 'volunteer to help with the event' box. For our new Zonta sisters –you can register for a new member webinar by clicking on the teal boxes to sign up. Shout out to Linda White for creating an interactive newsletter!

We also have a wonderful December service opportunity – a Zonta Club of St. Louis tradition – **Salvation Army Bell Ringing!** Please enjoy this 1966 St. Louis Post Dispatch article, courtesy of Debbie Redmond:

## ***Bell Ringers' Varied Styles Elicit Gifts***

**By Charlene Prost**  
*Of the Post-Dispatch Staff*

THERE WAS a slight dispute beneath the Salvation Army's "Tree of Lights" at Eighth and Olive streets the other morning as Zonta Club of St. Louis members compared bell-ringing techniques.

"Hold the bell up—like this," Mrs. Carl Neimann was saying with her arm out, slightly crooked at the elbow, bell dangling.

"Oh no, I think this way is better," Miss Ethel Brimmer suggested with an arm pressed to her side.

"Either way is fine," Miss Clara Bromeyer advised, "as long as you ring the bell with the wrist and not the whole arm. And hold the bell loosely in your fingers. Relax your hand. Then your arm won't get tired."

Miss Brimmer picked up a second bell and began hopping around. "I like to be gay and make lots of noise. Besides, I don't get tired standing if I move around."

"SOURPUSS," Mrs. Neimann muttered. Someone had just walked by ignoring the kettles and her cheery "Merry Christmas."

Others not so sour contributed a total of \$110,440.48 to the Salvation Army's Christmas welfare fund last year. Zonta is one of many clubs whose members have manned the kettles since bell ringing began 20 years ago. Shifts are from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Mrs. Emil F. Figi came to take her turn in flat-heeled shoes. "If we wear spiked heels we get stuck between slats in the platform," she said.

When Dr. Ellen Loeffel arrived, she demonstrated a new side-to-side bell ringing style.

"This must be the warmest day we've had," she said; her fur coat was unbuttoned.

"REMEMBER when it was so cold and I ran over to the dime store to buy some long pants?" Miss Brimmer asked. "I put mine on right there in the store and brought more back for the others."

One volunteer went inside the nearby green and red house to ask Salvation Army Maj. Paul E. Huebner whether he could turn off the heating lights.

"Now that's a switch," he said. "Usually they come in here shivering and wanting more heat."

"Got any bigger bells, major?" a man came in to ask. He was soliciting at a nearby station. "The one I've got is just a toy. 'We have to make lots of noise to be heard above the traffic.'"

Maj. Heubner gave the man another bell, then went outside where he found a volunteer anxiously standing on the curb peering into Olive street traffic. "I've lost the clapper from my bell," she said. "It just flew out there somewhere."

I hope you enjoyed this little article. See page 10 for information on ringing bells for the Salvation Army this Holiday Season.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone again for their wholehearted effort in creating a wonderful event to celebrate our 100 Year Anniversary and honor women making positive changes in our community. This is what Zonta is about!

Stacy Donovan  
Club President



## November Board Meeting Updates:

- The board discussed the December Holiday party at Judy's house on the 11th - it was agreed to include a hat and glove donation activity as we have in the past.
- The board reviewed website updates regarding membership dues, confirming that new members joining after December 1st pay half-year fees while those joining before pay full-year fees.
- Ellen reported on two potential new members and noted that Stacy Dixon still needs induction
- The board discussed creating an ad hoc committee - Zonta Centennial Scholarship Committee to identify gaps in educational funding needs for women that currently are not served by our existing scholarship programs and that may be limited within the St. Louis region. This committee will partner with other organizations, like Missouri Women in Trades and Rung For Women, to review their existing programs and criteria and leverage those organizations' application processes to make an impact in the lives of women.

# 100 years

## Celebrating a Century of Empowering Women



**ZONTA**

CLUB OF  
ST. LOUIS

LOOKING BACK AND TO THE FUTURE  
**Celebrating a Century of Empowering Women**

**Come Celebrate our Club's Birthday!!**  
**Share the news!**

NOVEMBER 13, 2025  
12:00 - 2:00PM

Rung for Women Event Space 2717 Sidnev Street St. Louis. Missouri 63104

[Zonta Club of St. Louis - Empowering Women Through Service and Advocacy](#)





November 2025

Dear President of the Zonta Club of ST. LOUIS with a copy to Governor of District 07,

Congratulations to you and the members of the Zonta Club of ST. LOUIS on your 100th anniversary! You can be proud of the impact that you have made in your community and within the large network of Zonta in the decades since your club was chartered. You have undoubtedly made a difference for many women and girls.

As you celebrate this milestone, we must also look forward to the future and see how your club will continue to elevate Zonta's presence and participation in the global conversation on women's rights and gender equity.

When we add your actions to those taken by other clubs around the world, we can see the importance of Zonta's impact. We also see that Zonta International is needed now more than ever. Around the world, women and girls face increasing challenges due to gender-based violence, climate change and threats to their human rights. However, we are a strong community of committed individuals working together at the local and global levels to fight for equality while addressing these issues.

Collectively with more than 1,100 clubs around the world, the Zonta Club of ST. LOUIS has contributed significantly to building a better world for women and girls. Each member is the heart, soul and hands of our organization, and I am deeply grateful for your continuous dedication and support.

I know that we will reach our goals and fulfill our mission because of clubs like yours! Today, filled with the Zonta Spirit, let us celebrate your club and keep working for that better world.

Once again, congratulations on your meaningful anniversary. I wish you continued success. Let us all together build a better world for women and girls!



Warm regards,

Salla Tuominen

President, 2024-2026

Zonta International & Zonta Foundation for Women

# Highlights from the October Membership Meeting

## Zonta Club of St. Louis Community Grants and Partnerships with Hope Ignites

Project Description: [Hope Ignites](#) is a Residential Program for girls which encourages, guides, and opens doors for low-income young women to achieve their full potential.

The overall Hope Ignites program objective is to graduate young people who are physically, emotionally and academically prepared for post-secondary education, a productive career, and a life of giving back to their communities, breaking the cycle of poverty.

### 1. How were the Community Grant funds spent?

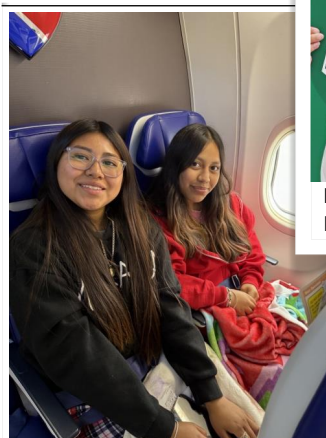
The \$5,000 Community Grant funds were allocated as follows: College visits - \$357; Tuition and Fees - \$2,143, Fleet Maintenance and Care - \$2,500.

### 2. How have these funds helped to meet the project goals?

The Community Grant funds were used to support eight young women in our Residential Program. During this time, these young women worked toward improving their GPAs, completed service plan goals, participated in extracurricular activities, and completed community service. None of this would be possible without the partners like the Zonta Club of St. Louis.



**Genessis – Rosati-Kain**  
graduate now attending  
Lindenwood University



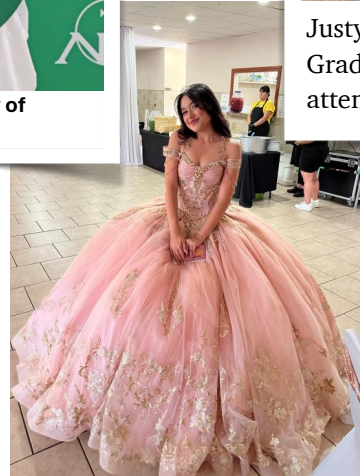
**Anareli and Tania** on the way to  
the Silicon Valley Immersion  
Week



**Hlon's** first day of  
high school



**Justyce - Rosati-Kain**  
Graduate now  
attending SLU



**Georginna's** Quinceanera

## Highlights from the October Membership Meeting



President, Stacy Donovan, with Lizzie Warner (Interim Executive Director) and Sarah Paradoski (Director of Grants) from IHELP.

[IHELP](#) empowers immigrant families by providing individualized, in-home English language education and tools for effective navigation in our community.

## STAY CONNECTED!



Join and share on Face Book!

Let's spread the word about our club and what we do!!

[Link to Our FB Page](#)



Did you know that we have a LinkedIn page as well?

Check it out and follow us on LinkedIn!!

[Link to Our LinkedIn Page](#)





## Zonta Club Holiday Party

Celebrate the upcoming Holiday Season  
with your Zonta Sisters!

**December 11, 2025**

**6:00pm - 8:00pm**

**Judy Jensen is Hosting!**  
**8 Big Country Circle**  
**Dardenne Prairie, MO 63368**

Judy is providing Chicken Tetrazzini and Cesar Salad  
Feel free to contribute appetizers or desserts in celebration!

RSVP with Judy

[thequiltgolfinggolfer@outlook.com](mailto:thequiltgolfinggolfer@outlook.com) or [636-734-1987](tel:636-734-1987)

*Bring Winter Hats and Gloves to be Donated to Charity*





**2025**  
**ANNUAL**  
**DINNER**



THURSDAY

**20**

NOVEMBER



5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

SHERATON WESTPORT CHALET

**Get Tickets!**

**Volunteer to  
help with the event**

## HOW CAN I HELP SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT CAUSE?

- Volunteer to help! Three club members have volunteered. Shima is looking for up to 9 volunteers total.
- Donate Auction Items: jewelry, themed baskets, gift certificates, purses, etc
- Do you know of a restaurant or hotel willing to donate a dinner for a table of 6 or 7 for the live auction?
- Public Relations Help: need a couple of people with public relations experience
- Purchase a ticket! Invite your friends and get a table! Let's encourage attendance!



# Zontians in ACTION!



Hello Ringers and Singers!

I have scheduled our annual **Salvation Army Bell Ringing** for:

**Wednesday, December 3rd from 3:00pm-5:00pm**

**at the Dierbergs located at**

**11481 Olive Blvd. in Creve Coeur**

This is the same location where we have been the past few years.

I have also ordered nice weather for that afternoon but cannot guarantee that the order will be filled.

See you there!

Jill



Please RSVP with Jill Cooper at  
[cooperjill02@yahoo.com](mailto:cooperjill02@yahoo.com) or 636-484-1258

# Zontians in ACTION!



Club President, Stacy Donovan, joined club members Ellen Embry, Jill Cooper, and Valeda Keys in VALEDA'S HOPE: WALK TO WIN 2025. Some of Valeda's friends joined in as well. Fun was had by all on this crisp Fall morning.

[VALEDA'S HOPE](#) is a community breast cancer support organization. They assist women in their journey from diagnosis to remission.

# Amelia Earhart Book Club!

## Sponsored by the STEM Committee

Our last book club meeting for Remarkably Bright Creatures was super fun.

Judy graciously hosted those interested in sharing their thoughts on the book... and thoughts on just about everything else going on in the world :)



The next book that we  
are reading is:

## Hidden Figures

by Margot Lee Shetterly.

We will have our next  
Book Club Meeting in  
January... more to  
come!





The Zonta Foundation for Women has been on the front lines, supporting critical work and programs to promote and protect women's and girls' rights across educational institutions, workplaces, and local communities around the globe. But there is still work to be done.

Upon our 40th anniversary, we ask you to consider what Zonta means to you and make a special gift in honor of all we have accomplished and all we still need to do.

## EVERY MEMBER EVERY NOVEMBER 1 November - 2 December 2025

This November, the **Zonta Foundation for Women** continues celebrating its [40th anniversary](#) with Every Member Every November.

How You Can Get Involved? Here's some ways!



- **Donate:** Make a one-time donation or set up a recurring contribution. Every dollar counts!
- **Spread the Word:** Use your social media platforms to raise awareness and share our mission.
- **Honor [Zonta Foundation for Women's 40 Years of Impact](#):** Celebrate our anniversary by giving in honor of your club, a fellow member, or a woman who inspires you.



**JULY 11th - 14th**

# **Registration is OPEN!**

- \* Early Bird Registration ends March 15th
- \* Discount Code Available on Air Canada Flights
- \* Register for Fun Side Trips and Activities

**Learn more about Convention  
2026**

See what awaits you in Vancouver!  
[www.zontaconvention.com](http://www.zontaconvention.com)



# Zonta International

## ZONTA SAYS NOW INTERCONTINENTAL THINK TANK

**9 November 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!

**REGISTER**

4:00am CT



## ZONTA ADVOCACY SERIES: WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING: INSIGHTS ON NAVIGATING LEADERSHIP JOURNEYS

**18 November 2025**

Join the Zonta International Advocacy Committee in our Quarterly Advocacy Webseries with a focus on women in decision-making and the role that education plays in their leadership journeys. We will be joined by a panel of Zonta leaders, including International President Salla Tuominen, Past International President and two-time Amelia Earhart Fellow Sharon Langenbeck, Ph.D. and past International Director Marguerite Akossi Mvongo. The webinar will include presentations from the three leaders, followed by a breakout room discussion on the themes emerging from their presentations.

**REGISTER**

12:00pm CT

## NEW MEMBER WEBINAR

**20 November 2025**

Are you new to Zonta? Join members of the Zonta Headquarters Team as we welcome you. We will provide a history of Zonta, highlights of the programs we support and tips for the resources available to you. This is also an opportunity to meet longtime members who serve on the International Membership Committee and other new members from around the world.

**Option 1  
REGISTER**

9:00am CT

**Option 2  
REGISTER**

6:00pm CT

# Zonta International

## INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

**25 November 2025**

Zonta International observes International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, which is dedicated to raising awareness and taking action against gender-based violence.

## ZONTA SAYS NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN/ 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

**25 November - 10 December 2025**

The Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women campaign is a platform throughout the year for Zontians to speak up to promote the human rights of women and girls and end gender-based violence.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

#### November

- 6th Board Meeting
- 13th Zonta Club of St. Louis
- 100th Anniversary Gala

#### December

- 4th Board Meeting
- 11th Christmas Party at Judy Jensen's

### UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

#### November

- 7th Jessica Rivas-Middleton
- 9th Sharon Hales
- 12th Mary D'Angelo
- 16th Aslihan Vuruskan
- 17th Betty Davidson
- 18th Cynthia Kirkpatrick
- 24th Peggy Gilbertson
- 25th Malika Horne
- 27th Laura Burton
- 28th Ellen Embry

#### December

- 24th Genevieve Gibson-Newman
- 26th Uma Eachempati
- 27th Jill Cooper

