



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 3
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

Zonta Club President's Year Summary June 2018- May 2019

Zonta Club of Harrisburg-Hershey

Club Highlights

Service

We have elected as a Club to work with a Partner in our efforts to enhance the status of women and children both in our communities and around the world. Shalom House, a like minded organization, is a non-denominational 501©3 providing shelter for women and children at several locations in the City of Harrisburg. Their vision is, "Creating a pathway to lasting independence for women and children through collaboration and community". We started a library for them and continue to staff the library with books for the residents and children. We help them with their many fundraisers: theatre event, gift wrapping, community outreach where we donate back-to-school backpacks filled with school supplies for the children living in the community, we make and distribute shoe boxes decorated and filled with small gifts to brighten their day, and we give many donations that they are in need of: gift cards, hygiene supplies, cleaning supplies, and much more. We again had our Party with a Purpose where club members bring gifts for the women and children to open on Christmas Day. For Rose Day, we (14 club members) arrived with a dozen yellow roses to show the ladies they are special women, we brought cookies for everyone at the shelter and teddy bears for the children. We enjoy visiting with the residents and encouraging them.

Every year, we support another like minded organization, the DVSCP, an emergency shelter for women and children, by attending their Candlelight Vigil, honoring Victims of Domestic Violence. This year we also helped them with a "Shopping at Salon Platinum" project for their shelter.

One of our favorite service projects we try to do each year is the IFP Luncheon. Seventy foreign Officers and their families from fifty countries around the world spend a year at the Carlisle War College in training. IFP stands for the International Fellows Program. We meet with the wives of the officers and we all bring a favorite dish from our own country (about forty-five countries were represented) and share a meal. We again had a program to share the message about Zonta and we were able to give them the names and locations of the clubs that exist in their country. They love having their pictures taken (see attached

pictures) and we give each one of these very special women a long stem yellow rose.

Advocacy (include End Child Marriage involvement, if any, and Say No to Violence Against Women Campaign)

Our “Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women and Children” rally was held at the Harrisburg State Capitol in the main rotunda. Every Legislator, Representative and Senator, received our flyer. At the Candlelight Vigil, we wore our orange Zonta Says NO sashes and handed out our rally fliers. A teacher we met there, came to our rally and brought some of her students. They had their signs and were ready to advocate (see pictures attached). One of the guests recently became a member of our Club! We also rented a billboard during this time (16 days of Activism) that featured our Advocacy cry to stop violence against women and children. Our first speaker at the rally was from PCAR and spoke against early marriage. Senate Bill 1219 and House Bill 2542, originated by Senator John Sebatina were written to stop early marriage of children in PA. Did not pass – yet. One of our Senators spoke, representing children, one of our Representatives spoke concerning human trafficking. Senate Bill 554 passed on October 17, 2018 (the Safe Harbor Bill) to save the rescued women in trafficking. Instead of going to prison for being considered prostitutes, they will now go to a safe house for restoration. We had representatives speak on domestic violence, safe houses to be built in the Harrisburg area, and FGM (House Bill 2526 did not pass – again, however, House Bill 1232 passed). Our own Governor Joanne Gallos spoke and introduced the Advocates standing on the capitol steps holding their advocacy signs and Nancy Baulis from the Zonta Club of Philadelphia attended. Nancy is our Advocacy Extraordinaire.

Scholarships

We at the Zonta Club of Harrisburg-Hershey enjoy the Scholarship program. Our Scholarship Committee Chair will send out notices to all surrounding schools and universities making them aware of this opportunity. Many of our club members will volunteer their time to study and rate each application received. We use the forms and instructions that we receive each year from District and ZI. This works very well for our club. We support the AE Scholarship with our donations to ZI. Our Club gives each winner: YWPA and JMK \$1,000 each. The winners come to a membership meeting and will tell the entire club her journey. We give each scholarship winner a yellow rose (for special women), a plaque and their award.

Membership/Mentoring

We have a Membership Chair who is on fire! She has the perfect gifts for this position. She reaches out to “like minded” organizations, answers everyone who replies to fb or our website (which she helped design) and follows up with every

guest who attends our meetings and people we meet at Zonta functions, or on the street. Because of her attention to detail, we have gained four new members this year alone. At the May meeting we received two more applications (past members who will be reinstated at the June 2019 meeting). Our Membership Chair put together a twenty page informative booklet for new members, had them printed and passed them out to all members. She helped organize a New Member Orientation that was very successful. We had ten members attend. Some new members and some long- time members who wanted a refresher course. Very informative. The advantage of having many long- time members, as we do, they make for wonderful mentors throughout the year. Several of our past presidents also worked for the District in various functions. Their wisdom is very valuable to our Club. We have been blessed.

Centennial Planning/Celebrations

Our Centennial Committee is very active. The Centennial Grant we have applied for took more hours than we ever imagined. No less than 100 hours went into that project when you consider all the “like minded” individuals who helped put this together.

The Committee has given every member a Centennial Pin, they put a ZI Centennial article in the newsletter each month and speak for a few minutes at each meeting with educational topics of our ZI History. They are planning a party for our membership meeting which happens to be on November 8th this year! We will be celebrating with you.

The Harrisburg-Hershey Club celebrates our 40th year in March 2020. The ZI Centennial and our 40th Anniversaries will be celebrated together in April 2020. The last year of this biennium will be a year to remember! We are proud to be a part of this amazing organization!

Fundraising

We had a very good year:

At our New Cumberland Apple Festival Parking project, we made \$2,017.00

Our Holiday Wreath Sales brought in \$2,912.50

Our Boscov's Coupon Sales brought in \$1,085.00

Peg's Pumpkin Roll Sales brought in \$2,125.00

There was a dollar match made to our club for the pumpkin rolls for \$600.00

Memorial and Past Member donations brought in \$1,775.00

Grant came in for Shalom House for \$500

We were able to give out:

\$2,000 in Scholarships (YWPA and JMK)

\$3,000 to ZI

\$6,000 to our Partner, Shalom House

Special Events

We had three Zonta members attend the District 3 Fall Governor's Seminar. Six Zontians from our Club attended the District 3 and 4 Spring Workshop. These were both very well done, very informative and appreciated.

We had an unusual Amelia Earhart Event that turned out to be more special than any of us dreamed possible. We should have invited all Zonta Clubs. The Mount Gretna Theatre Troup (all professionals that perform at the outdoor theatre each summer) came and did a musical on the life of Amelia Earhart, from her birth to her disappearance. It was amazing! Along with that, we had a guest attend, who is the widow of David Earhart (a distant cousin to Amelia Earhart). She told her stories about Amelia. She has a suitcase that AE designed and sold. Amelia was a fashion designer of clothing and luggage.

What a journey this has been. Thank you for all you do to make this possible!

Thank You for taking the time to complete this report!