

The Sparks

A Message from the President

Here we are, job and personal demands have side tracked the Sparks. Your understanding is greatly appreciated.

We had one grand year! Everyone contributed to the Christmas fund raiser by bringing lots of friends and super gifts for auction. Best December in a long time. Thank you, lets do it again.

Also, a couple of new members were added to our roster and a couple left. Yet we remain a club with a good membership number. I hope in the next year more ladies will jion us. For a good time join Zonta, right?

A lot of energy went into the planning and presentation of the Genesee Regional Women's Hall of Fame. At last Zonta I has been recognized. The comments from many of the guests were, "I can't wait to see who is nominated next year". "Be sure to call me with the date for the next program, I'll be there". It was a grand party! Applause to Pam Fernsler for the idea and fortitude to make it a reality. Coupled with the support of the members it was one grand party.

Our new board members for next year are Gwen Kelley and Martica Thompson. Thank you for your service.

Don't forget the Summer birthdays , a card or call would be nice. I hope you enjoy your Summer, relax and have some fun. See you in September. Cheers,
Marlene

Knowing trees, I
understand the
meaning of
patience.

Knowing grass, I
can appreciate
persistence.

-- Hal Borland





Service Committee Report - 2009-2010

The Service Committee started the year off with a celebration; potluck last summer to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of Zonta International. Mother Nature decided to give us a very rainy day, but we still had a scavenger hunt in between down pours, had some great food (ZONTIANS CAN COOK!!) and actually learned some things about each other while we were having fun.

Zonta Club of Flint I members again manned the kettles for the Salvation Army at Genesee Valley Mall in December. This year we covered three areas, Macy's, Sears, and Burlington Coats from 9 am to 9 pm, for a total of **over 70 service hours**. We brought in a little under \$2000 for the Salvation Army and that placed us first among those who manned the Red kettle for only 1 day.

We continued our monthly visits to the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan. For each hour of time donated by a Zontian, Zonta house received 5 pounds of food for free. Starting in September we covered the food bank on the 3rd Saturday of every month and donated **over 126 service hours** (and thus provided Zonta House with **630 pounds of free food**).

Zonta House had another good year. To start the year we visited the horse farm, which was, as usual, a **huge hit**. We continued with the annual pool party (at a member's home with pizza, cake and ice cream) in August, and several birthday parties kept us busy in the fall.

Zontians came through again this year with several ways to donate and help, and we were able to give our girls another **great Christmas** (one of the girls could not contain her enthusiasm and spent much of the time just jumping up and down), including new winter coats for all.

Also, thanks to the generosity of strangers, our girls were exposed to a Saturday night Christmas Pops Concert at the Whiting, with a pre-show reception at the Heddy house, which included a tour of the house by the owner.

Other activities included sledding, baking cookies and a trip out for new shoes and a visit to Red Robin for burgers. Still to come are the Healing Hands 5 K Walk for the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic in May, as well as May Kay facials and pointers on keeping our hair and skin healthy and glowing. Another fun filled year for Zonta House with **well over 100 service hours** for the year.

Our ladies outdid themselves again, this year for the Christmas Party fundraiser luncheon! We made more money than in the past, and set a new high for attendance, with **over 90 members and guests participating**. Good job Zontians!!

We have embarked on a new endeavor for a spring fundraiser; we have developed the **Genesee Regional Women's Hall of Fame**. Sloan museum has agreed to make a permanent display area available. Sloan was also chosen for our First Annual Awards Dinner. We inducted **six women and one group of women into the Women's Hall of Fame** and were very near capacity for the room used. We had good coverage in the Flint Journal and warranted a spot on the ABC12 local 11 pm news that night after the event. The Mayor of Flint was there to present a proclamation declaring April 22, 2010 as Flint Women's History Day and Senator Deb Cherry also stopped by with a proclamation from the state. In addition, Congressman Dale Kildee honored the seven inductees in the US Congress by a reading of their names during a session of Congress. This event was a total success with great participation by Zontians with **well over 300 service hours**, and a promise of great things to come. **What a great way to end the year!!**

Genesee Regional Women's Hall of Fame

The Zonta Club of Flint I presented the first annual Induction Ceremony for the Genesee Regional Women's Hall of Fame on April 22, 2010. The ceremony was held at the Alfred P. Sloan Museum in Flint, Michigan. The Genesee Regional Women's Hall of Fame was formed to recognize the accomplishments of Genesee County women, past and present.

The awards ceremony was preceded by a wonderful dinner and followed up with the presentation of the first inductees to the Genesee Regional Women's Hall of Fame.

There were six individual women and one group of women inducted at the inaugural ceremony of the Genesee Regional Women's Hall of Fame. The list of inductees was as follows:

**Deloris Ennis ~ Sybil Atwood ~
Gladys Beckwith ~ Olivia "Libby" Maynard ~
Margaret McLaren ~ Ruth Rawlings Mott ~
Ladies Library Association of Flint**

"We plan on doing this year after year after year after year," Pam Fernsler said.

"We're hoping other communities will pick up the torch and recognize their outstanding women, too. It's a great opportunity for the young women of today to find out about these women and what a difference just one individual can make in their community and their state," she said.

The club already is seeking nominations for next year and for the years to come. Nomination forms may be downloaded at www.zontaflint1.org.

Gensess Regional Women's Hall of Fame



Pam Fernsler and Sandy Soifer



Laurie Prochazka accepts the trophy on behalf of Margaret McLaren



Rhetta Hunyady, Deloris Ennis and Jean Butler



Sandy Soifer accepts the trophy on behalf of Gladys Beckwith



Dale Weighill accepts the trophy on behalf of Sybyl Atwood



Leslie Acevedo accepts the trophy on behalf of the Ladies Library Association of Flint



Olivia "Libby" Maynard



Steve Wilson accepts the award on behalf of Ruth Rawlings Mott

Annual Meeting and Instllation of Officers

District Lt. Governor Installs Officers

May 13, 2009 - Denise Quarles, District 15 Lt. Governor, joined the members of the Zonta Club of Flint I to officiate the installation of new officers and celebrate the successes of the Zonta year. The luncheon began with welcoming remarks by club President Marlene Morris and was immediately followed up by the installation of the new officers for the 2010/2011 fiscal year. The officers are: Marlene Morris - President; Jody Blackburn - Vice President; Karen Smith - Operating Treasurer; Karen Church - Charitable Treasurer; Sharon Rasmussen - Secretary; Chris Benson, Mary Houton, Martica Thompson, Pam Fernsler, Gwen Kelley, and Pam Costabile - Directors.

Marlene Morris presented the board members with wonderful gifts and recognized an outstanding members of the club naming Pam Costabile "Zontian of the Year".

The day was completed by a wonderful meal provided by the Ruggero's located in the Lincor Plaza in Flint Township. ~



Pam Costabile Named Zontian of the Year

And The Award Goes To...*Pam Costabile*

Pam was named Zontian of the Year at this year's annual installation luncheon held on May 13, 2010. Pam is retired from Hurley Medical Center where she was a Medical Technologist. Pam has been a member of Zonta Club of Flint I since June 12, 2003.

Pam is currently a member of the board of directors and is the chair of the Service Committee and the Bylaws and Roster Committee. Pam is dedicated to the residents of the Zonta House and has proven over and over again that she will do whatever she can to assist the residents and staff in making Zonta House a nurturing place to grow up. Pam, along with her husband Bill, have given their time, talent and treasure to make Zonta House a *home*.

Pam made great use of her medical leave this year and put her administrative skills to work as she prepared and planned for the Awards Banquet of the first annual of the Genesee Regional Women's Hall of Fame. Pam was instrumental in creating the invitations and the powerpoint presentation; organizing the guest list and **lots** of other details for the event.

Pam is always present at Zonta events and is always willing to lend a hand where needed. Pam is truly an example of what "commitment" looks like.

Thanks Pam!!





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