

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Festive Celebrations During a Difficult Holiday Season

The 2020 holiday season looked very different for our Zonta clubs than in past years! But many found unique and creative ways to celebrate, despite the difficulties! Read below to see how our clubs managed to remain festive during a difficult year.

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For the first time, the Zonta club in Salt Lake City, Utah, held its annual Holiday fundraising event online. Instead of the usual large gathering with dozens of gifts and prizes to bid on, this year the group went virtual. The agenda included an ugly sweater contest, a "Never Have I Ever" drinking game, and Bingo. Despite limiting to club members only, the group was still able to bring in a slew of donations. The Salt Lake club had over 25 participants attend the Zoom event and raised over \$5,000.



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The Zonta Club of Nogales spread holiday cheer at the international border as they collected coats, jackets and socks to be donated to the detainees being processed and housed just across the international line. Even in sunny Arizona, the winter night time temperatures can drop into the low 30s with snow at least once each winter!

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Zonta International District 9



The Zonta Club of South Bay adopted a family from the 1736 shelter and were able to provide \$250 in gift cards along with several gifts for the kids in honor of late club member Mary Harper. Impressive for a group of seven members!

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The annual partnership between The Garden Island Newspaper & The Zonta Club of Kauai Foundation is celebrating its 30th year. For the past 25 years, the organizations have teamed up to raise funds for people in their community in need of support through various non-profit agencies.

The Christmas Fund is an avenue for everyone to provide that assistance. Donations are used by Zonta Club members to purchase gift certificates that are in turn distributed to families and individuals who need them for Christmas presents and groceries.

Yoshiko "Dimples" Kano still led the charge again this year at 95 years old as the Honorary Chair of the Garden Island Newspaper & The Zonta Club of Kauai Foundation Christmas Fund. She's joined by Marge Akana and new Christmas Fund chair Cyndi Ayonon, who also serves as the Zonta Club of Kauai Foundation Treasurer. "It feels good to help the children and I enjoy seeing their smiles," Dimples said.



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The Zonta Club of Burbank Area had a busy holiday season! They hosted a winter clothing drive for displaced women and children in Armenia, adopted a family through the YWCA in Glendale, and hosted a Virtual Holiday Social that focused on learning all about the history of their local club and Zonta International as a whole for their five new members who joined in 2020!



Zonta International District 9

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Members of the Zonta Club of Leilehua collected, sorted, boxed and sent seven boxes of donated clothing and household goods along with notes of encouragement to the Philippines for Typhoon VAMCO (known as ULYSSES in the Philippines) relief, the eighth storm in the area since October.

In addition, the club hosted a virtual “Christmas Unboxed Party,” in which “Zonta Clauses” delivered bags of “Zonta Zwag” (treats, necklaces, masks, etc.) island-wide to members, sang several carols with folk singer Doris Justice, and played a competitive game of “Name that Christmas Movie.” A Mele Kalikimaka was had by all!



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On December 5, members of the Zonta e-Club of Silicon Valley donated a holiday lunch, along with holiday treats and reusable face masks, to the Life Moves | Georgia Travis House in San Jose, which provides shelter and services to 50 single women and children experiencing homelessness.

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Zonta International District 9

The Zonta Club of Newport Harbor raised \$1,005 for their three holiday projects: Waymakers Adopt-A-Family, Families Forward Adopt-A-Family, and the Project Hope Alliance Stocking Project. In addition, they were able to grant \$20,000 to 5 organizations serving women and girls in Orange County this year. Club President Lisa Cain, Grants Chair Dr. Bonny Bock and member Wendy Weeks visited each grant recipient to acknowledge the grant and thank them for their work, and then gathered virtually to hear from each recipient and celebrate their efforts!



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Members of the Zonta Club of Berkeley/North Bay caught the holiday spirit, and contributed Target and Safeway gift cards in December to a frequent community partner, the Berkeley Women's Daytime Drop-In Center, which seeks to empower homeless and low-income women and children to move from the streets to a home, serving ~150 clients each month. Club members also shared their good cheer by designing holiday cards featuring their orange umbrellas and sending them out to friends of the Club, including past members they hope will re-join. They celebrated virtually in a holiday party with games and good fun for all.

