



## *District 9 Newsletter*

**2018 – 2020**

**January 2020 — Issue 9**



While Zontians around the world celebrated the Zonta centennial in November, Zonta District 9 also celebrated the forming of the new Zonta Club South Bay (CA).

The newest club in the district is starting strong with 22 members. In attendance at the chartering ceremony on Saturday, November 16 were Governor Ann Banks, Lt. Governor and Governor Elect Brittany Vaughan, Hermosa Beach Mayor Mary Campbell, members of the Sponsoring, Organizing, Mentoring (SOM) club of Newport Harbor, and family and friends of the charter members.

The 55 attendees enjoyed the brunch at Bluewater Grill in Redondo Beach followed by the presentation of the charter and gavel, induction of members and installation of officers.

### **Charter members of the Zonta Club of South Bay**

Cynthia Fisher Rowe, MD: President

Alex Fjoslien: Vice President

Justine Beirne: Co-Secretary

Mary Harper: Co-Secretary

Heather St. Rock: Treasurer

Delores Gilmore: Director

Mae Moody: Director

Laurie Armer

Dian Diebel

Buck Doyle

Faisal Hashmi

Gloria Lee

Yasmin Lopez

Meredith Miller

Crystal Miller-O'Brien

Michelle Mohageg

Carmen Obando

Carol Sue Schoenfeld

Rebecca Thompson

*Welcome to the Zonta family of empowering women  
through service and advocacy!*

By Cris Peterson Area 4 Director



### **District 9 2018-2020 Leadership Team**

#### **District 9 Board**

Governor	Ann Banks
Lt. Governor	Brittany Vaughan
Treasurer	Janis Cotton
Secretary	Wendy Weeks
Parliamentarian	Gwen Black
Area 1 Director	Edie Ignacio
Area 2 Director	Deb Blackmore
Area 3 Director	Laura Gordon
Area 4 Director	Cris Peterson
Area 5 Director	Debbie Angwood

#### **International Director/Liaison**

Judy Gorton

#### **District 9 Committee Chairs**

Advocacy	Gloria Salas
Amelia Earhart	Ella Sciamma-O'Brien
Bylaws	Nikki Chayet
CAEC/Historian	Nickie Bonner
Conference	Carroll Gerow
Finance	Janis Cotton
JMK	Laura Peters
L & D Coordinator	Linda Wieland
Membership	Brittany Vaughan
Newsletter	Lori Montigel
Nominating	Mele Spencer
Public Relations	Lori Montigel
Service	Becky Cutler-Gunn
United Nations	Ela Pandya
Webmaster	Alice Rebecchi
WIT	Laura Peters

*Thank you for your service*

6 new ZONTA Club of Kauai members were Inducted at the December Meeting. Each of the members received their Zonta pin, a yellow rose which represents fellowship and a new member packet. Congratulations to all professional women who are "Empowering Women through Service and Advocacy" L to R: Wynde Thomas, Rebecca Rebeca Carnate, Regina Carvalho, Katherine Todd, Layne Beck and Robbie Melton.



## A Roadmap of How Zonta Club of Kauai Recruited 12 New Members Since July 2019

**In July** the fellowship Committee and Membership Chair met to plan a series of fellowship events for July and August. Before the July fellowship we met with potential members at a Hualani's restaurant on a Wednesday and invited about 2-3 potential members. We kept the subject of Zonta very minimum and mostly got to know the women and they got to know us.

**Mid - July** we planned a **themed "Wine & Water" pool party** at Incoming President, Lori Benkert's home with snacks, soda, & wine. We spoke briefly of Zonta's mission and invited guests to the August General Membership Meeting.

**In August**, we planned another **dinner at Duke's** for dinner and invited about 3 potential members to dinner. Spoke briefly about Zonta and **invited them to the September General membership meeting**. I think we meet during the week after work.

**Mid - August** - The next themed happy hour drinks and snacks was called **"Let's Meet Up at Mahiko Lounge at Gaylord's Kilohana."** We had a total of 18 members & guest attend. From that group, about 6 women committed to join and complete applications for review. Everyone brought a door prize so that everyone had a gift. We also put out flyers and asked the ladies to provide their business cards available to share. It was a great venue.

We had another dinner on a **Wednesday, at Hualani's** (popular venue) and there were about 4 potential members but only one showed interest but didn't know if her work schedule would allow her to be free on our meeting dates. She was **invited to attend the September General meeting** as we discussed the District 9 meeting. The potential members who were not approved yet, also attended September meeting. At the September meeting, we planned a **Halloween happy hour at Lilikoi's Bar & Grill. Members paid \$20 and Non-members paid \$25.** One of our newest members volunteers to pre order the pupus with the money we collected. We asked members and guests to dress up and we had three winners for the best dressed, etc. Again, lots of fun!

**November General Meeting** - several members were approved by the Board and planned a group Induction of New Members at the December 5th General Meeting. Total Inducted = 6

During the **December meeting**, we asked all members to donate at least two 2 make up/toiletry bags that we will be donating to the YWCA Women Domestic Violence Shelter. We all plan to wear orange (optional) for the photo op and presentation to YWCA as part of the 16 Days of Activism.

1. Basically, we had small dinners to get to know everyone. The ladies we invited to small dinners were friends of members. All events involved potluck food or everyone paid their own.

2. Invite them to the next Zonta meeting or Fellowship event.

We never forced them to join. If it didn't work out with their schedule, they declined.

**Social media friends see the photos I post and have also asked me how to join Zonta. I was approached by three ladies through Facebook and they are now members. Social Media works!!!**

For more information contact Edie Ignacio Neumiller, Area 1 Director. She is on Facebook/Instagram

**2019 JANE M. KLAUSMAN  
DISTRICT 9 RECIPIENT**

Please join me in congratulating our 2019 JMK District 9 Recipient, Ilana Walder-Biesanz submitted by the Zonta Club of Silicon Valley.

Ilana is wrapping up her first year at Stanford University pursuing her MBA in Business. Ilana will be graduating in June 2020.

Ilana was a standout as our JMK D9 Recipient for many reasons. She currently works at Lieder Alive! in Marketing and Development. As a volunteer Ilana has sat on many boards including Founder and President of Olin Opera Organization as well as President of the Jewish Business Students Associations at Stanford.

Ilana has many accolades to her name including Knight-Hennessy Scholarship Finalist 2018, Boston Consulting Group MBA Fellow 2018, Fulbright Scholar (for research/study in Germany) 2014.

"O sweet contentment descend upon us ..." Colleen floats above the stage, singing. It is my first opera and I am here to watch my friend make her solo debut. I'm enraptured by the melodramatic plot and by the way music and words work together. I decide to return to the opera as often as possible." This began her 500-word essay and I was so curious I couldn't wait to read and learn more about Ilana's goals and how our JMK Scholarship would help her achieve those goals!

After graduation Ilana plans on using her MBA to manage a major opera company. She believes her Stanford education, knowledge of business and opera as well as using technology as a subject of operas and a tool of staging. Ilana wants to encourage staging's that address current political and philosophical issues! Ilana states "I want to help opera adapt and thrive."

Zonta District 9 congratulates Ilana on her 2019 JMK Scholarship and much success in her career!

Submitted by:  
Laura Peters  
Zonta District 9 JMK Chair



**2019 WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY ZONTA  
INTERNATIONAL RECIPIENT  
AND  
ZONTA DISTRICT 9 RECIPIENT**



Please join me in congratulating Lucy Pei, 2019 Zonta International Women in Technology (WIT) Scholarship Recipient as well as recipient from District 9. Lucy's application was submitted by the Zonta Club of Newport Harbor. Lucy has been awarded \$8,000 on the International level and \$2,000 on the District level.

Lucy Pei is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year PhD in Informatics at University of California, Irvine (UCI) graduating in June 2024. Lucy's Undergraduate Degree and double major was Human Computer Interaction and Global Studies. In 2019 she received the Informatics Travel Fellowship and Resettlement Mentor working with refugees in FORGE.

Lucy has maintained a 4.0 Grade Average while working and volunteering. Her recommendation letters indicated that her Professors considered her in the top 5%!

Pei is pursuing the Informatics PhD program at Irvine's Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences in hopes to become a professor in this field. She wants to contribute to theory and practice around how technologists engage with marginalized populations. Digital technology is increasingly deployed to address social issues encountered by marginalized groups such as low-income immigrants and resettled refugee communities.

Lucy states, "Through my goal of working as a research professor, I also hope to inspire and mentor university students to take action to contribute to positive social change."

Her ZIWIT Scholarship will support her doctoral research specifically conduct field research with local nonprofits serving immigrant and resettled refugee populations.

Lucy Pei is part of the first group of Women in Technology Scholars and the only USA International Recipient! Out of 32 Districts and Regions there were only 2 that did not apply. For the first cycle of a new scholarship that says Women in Technology Scholarship has a place along with our other educational initiatives.

Submitted by  
Laura Peters  
Zonta District 9 WIT Chair

It has been a quiet month with a small amount of regular leader computer based training...however my observation is that everyone is active in the work of making the world a better place for women and children. My Facebook saw many posts on the 16 days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence and Zonta Says NO to Violence against Women campaigns. To me that is leadership training in of itself.

Here is an update on the Zonta Leadership Program. The Zonta Leadership Program was restructured early in the biennium so that the user could take any session they like without being restricted by an order. Unfortunately, that means that the certificates, which were issued when all sessions of a module were completed, could no longer track the user's participation. We are looking into different ways to track and award the participants of the Leadership Program and hope to find a solution that best fits the behind the scenes tracking and the user's experience.

Thank you again for your patience, and for your enthusiasm for the Zonta Leadership Program.

If there is anything else I can do to help you, please let me know. Don't forget you can log and do training at <https://membership.zonta.org/Tools/Leadership-Development-Tools>

By Linda Vee Weiland



### **Zontian Linda Weiland Receives HONOR in South Africa**

Linda Weiland, a member of the Zonta Club of Leilehua in Hawaii, District 9, was honored at the "Women in Aerospace" Breakfast during the 2019 Annual Conference of the Aeronautical Society of South Africa, a division of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

Linda is an associate professor of Aeronautics in the College of Aeronautics at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and recently became the Assistant Program Chair of the Bachelor of Science in Aviation Maintenance degree. She developed the graduate Air Traffic Management (ATM) Specialization for the Masters in Aeronautical Science and was instrumental to the development of the ATM minor in the Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics. She also teaches many of the Master of Aviation Maintenance courses.



She serves on committees throughout the university and is on the editorial staff of aviation journals. She works with high schools and colleges around the world in Robotics, and STEM endeavors. Linda is the current Outreach Coordinator of the Women in Aviation International ERAU Worldwide Virtual Chapter and is active in several organizations including the Zonta Club of Leilehua.

Linda is currently a part-time PhD student at the University of the Witwatersrand in the school of Mechanical, Industrial and Aeronautical Engineering, Johannesburg, South Africa. Her topic of interest is Resilience of communication in ATM, with a focus on aeronautical and industrial engineering methodologies and theoretical framework.

Prior to fulltime employment at ERAU, she worked as a Liaison Engineer and Director of Project Management at a major airline. She is a decorated retired US Navy Lieutenant Commander with 26 years of service. She also spent ten years as an enlisted Air Traffic Controller, two years as a Manpower Specialist Officer in Aviation and 14 years as an Aircraft Maintenance Duty Officer. She has about 40 hours in the Backseat of the TA-4 and finished her Naval career forward deployed as a Maintenance Officer with FA-18s aboard the USS Kitty Hawk.

Submitted by Karen Foissotte



# 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM



Zonta Club of Redlands



Zonta Club of Greater Reno . Each leaf represents 100 cases of reported violence against women in the state of Nevada last year - 42,032 cases reported.



Zonta International celebrated 100 years of service Nov. 8, and the city of Santa Clarita honored the Zonta Club of Santa Clarita Valley for this milestone. At a City Council meeting the Zonta Club received a proclamation from the city. That night, the entrance to City Hall was lit with orange lights as part of the "Zonta Says NO to Violence against Women" campaign.



Zonta Club of Santa Clarita banner on Valencia Blvd.



# 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM



ZC Burbank. We are proud that the City of Burbank supports the mission of #16Days. Burbank City Hall, the Burbank Department of Water & Power, and the tower of the Hollywood Burbank Airport - BUR (not pictured) were all lit in orange.



Day 9 of Zonta's 16 Days of Activism: Each year 12 million girls are married worldwide before the age of 18. Melson Realty of Porterville says NO to childhood marriage and all violence against women and girls!



Children's Christmas Parade in downtown Porterville. Zonta says NO to violence against women and girls!



Day 1 November 25  
ZC Porterville at Family Crisis Center



Day 2 of Zonta's 16 Days of Advocacy: Oacy's Technology Says NO To Childhood Marriage! ZC Porterville



Day 10 of Zonta's 16 Days of Advocacy: The staff at the Family Crisis Center says NO to violence against women and girls!





## EVENTS AROUND THE DISTRICT

For almost twenty years, Zonta Clubs on Oahu have supported the Susan G. Komen "Race for the Cure" by providing the only water station. This year the **Zonta Club of Leilehua** partnered with Plastic Free Hawai'i, a program of the Kokua Hawai'i Foundation...no plastic bottles of water and no plastic glasses. Instead the members filled pitchers with water from a portable filtering system and then fill compostable cups...all 3000 of them!



Congratulations to Marsha McLean who just completed her fourth term as Mayor of Santa Clarita. She is also a 20 year member of the **Zonta Club of Santa Clarita**. She has been doing a great job with our city! With Lois Bauccio, Adele McPherson, Christie Ferguson, Susan Hayward, Kim Kurowski, Cathy Brown Gundy, Marsha McLean, Barbara Levitt Meyer, Phyllis Walker, and Patrice Rifkind.

Mahalo to Mayor Derek Monica Kawakami Kaulana Finn for Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, Felicia Alongi Cowden Mason Chock from Council, **Zonta Club Kauai** members and friends of Zonta for being part of the Zonta Centennial Proclamations. Your support is MUCH appreciated!! Empowering Women thru Service & Advocacy.



**Zonta Club of Redlands & Riverside** assemble birthing kits for Aid Africa. The kits are delivered to rural villages surrounding Gulu (Northern Uganda). Aid Africa's goal is by 2025 Reducing Maternal Mortality: We'll provide a birthing kit to every pregnant mother .



# EVENTS AROUND THE DISTRICT



**Zonta Club of Hilo** celebrated Amy Iwamoto's 50 year as a member of the club.



Two Zontians fulfill bucket list dream in honor of Zonta. Aileen Deleporte, **ZC Riverside** and Laura Peters, **ZC Newport Harbor** decided to skydive in the name of ending child marriage and Zonta's campaign to say no to violence against women.



**Zonta Club of Salt Lake City's** fundraiser netted over \$6,000 & was a great evening!



The **Zonta Club of Leilehua** celebrated the centennial anniversary of Zonta International on Zonta's birthday, November 8. Hawai'i Governor David Ige proclaimed the day "Zonta International Centennial Day" in his Ceremonial Room at the Hawai'i State Capitol. He also noted the club had recently celebrated its sixty-fifth anniversary. A reception was held afterward.



**Zonta Club of Maricopa** president Lucinda F. Boyd received the 2019 Central Arizona College Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award. Along with her husband Rob, she is the founder of the 501(c)3 organization "The Streets Don't Love You Back" with the mission of educating youth against gangs, drugs, violence and abuse.





**Zonta Club of Hilo** members Marge Kanemitsu, Irene Nagao, Janet Fujioka, Amy Iwamoto, Sonia Juvik, and Mele Spencer were presented with length of membership awards--from 20 to 50 years -to celebrate their dedication to empowering women through service and advocacy.

At the **Zonta Club of Kauai's** general membership meeting, the following three women were recognized for their length of service:  
AD 1 Edie Ignacio Neumiller - 15 years,  
Board Director Sue Kanoho - 20 years,  
Past President Darrellyn Lemke - 25 years



#### **The Garden Island/Zonta Club Christmas Fund**

Each year, it seems, Yoshiko "Dimples" Kano says it will be her last as the person spearheading The Garden Island/Zonta Club Christmas Fund. Each year, however, she returns. And this year is no different. The 94-year-old Dimples, while slowed by Father Time, keeps leading the charge, as she has been doing for two decades, to raise money to help those in need. "Having been there, not being able to afford anything, I know what it's like" she said. "Just the joy it brings to the people who don't expect anything. I think that's it — knowing that it really is Christmas for them. I'm told their faces light up." Marge Akana, Zonta Club of Kauai treasurer, will be assisting Dimples. "She's a go-getter," Akana said of her good friend. "You just can't keep her down." Akana, too, loves what the program means to so many facing hardships. "When you read the situations they're in, it just warms our hearts to be able to help them," she said. This holiday season, more than 700 requests for help from the Zonta Club Christmas Fund have come in from families and individuals. "We have received \$30,570 in donations to the Christmas Fund," Darrellyn Lemke, Zonta Club of Kauai Foundation Chair said. "That includes the \$5,000 donor match through the Hawaii Community Foundation. This is what makes it possible for the Zonta Club and its nine agency partners to make Christmas shine brighter for those who could use the help."



*Yoshiko "Dimples" Kano, right, and Marge Akana, left, with The **Zonta Club of Kauai**, present this year's stories of those the Zonta Christmas Fund will help to Averie Soto of The Garden Island newspaper.*





### BETTER WORLD CAMPAIGN FY 20 SUMMARY.

FY 2020 Omnibus: Relevant to Zonta:

Congress released the text of its final Fiscal Year 2020 (FY 20) appropriations bill, the Omnibus.

With \$56.6 billion allocated for international affairs, the bill fully funds US contributions to the UN Regular Budget and core budgets of UN specialized agencies such as UNICEF, UNDP, UN Women and UN Human Rights Office.

The funding for International Organizations and Programs is \$26.5 million above the final FY19 level.

UNICEF, our partner, will receive \$139 million, an increase of \$1.5 million from FY19.

Unfortunately, funding for UNFPA will be reprogrammed to the Global Health Program.

Unlike previous years, there is \$1.5 million allocated to UN Special Coordinator on Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

If anyone wants a full article with many more details. Pl contact Ela Pandya at [elapandya@gmail.com](mailto:elapandya@gmail.com)

