

President's Message August 2006

The Zonta Potluck was a success! It was great to see everyone having such a good time. We missed you members that could not attend. Leftover food was taken to the Comea Shelter and they were very happy to receive it. The next general meeting is at the Hitching Post on August 10th.

I have a favor to ask of all members – the Cheyenne Zonta Club is planning the dinner party for the District Conference. It will be Friday night, September 29th, and we need donations of old poker chips to play cards games. The theme is “Rosie the Riveter” and the center pieces for the tables will be small buckets with old tools, cans of spam, and vintage candy. If you have some old tools that you could donate for the centerpieces, we shall very much appreciate it. We cannot guarantee that you will get the tools or poker chips back, so make sure it is something that you don't mind donating.

In this month's address, I have included an article relevant to Cheyenne Zonta's new goals. This article is from Wyoming Community Foundation Annual Report 2005, this is just one of the programs offer by Our Families Our Future:

“HELPING SINGLE MOTHERS BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT”

More of Wyoming single mothers live in poverty than anywhere else in the country. Thirty-eight percent (38%) of them live like this, which is five percent higher than the national statistic.

One reason single mothers are at a particular disadvantage here is the gender disparity in wages. Wyoming women earn \$.67 cents for every dollar earned by a man – that's the lowest in the country.

Twenty years ago, CLIMB Wyoming, administered by Our Families Our Future, was founded to address these issues. CLIMB is a program for low-income, single, mothers that is exceptionally comprehensive: it offers every element of what a woman might need to become self-sufficient. This process starts with counseling. In groups, women work through issues together creating a peer support network that often carries on after the program is through. Individual counseling includes a mental health assessment and focuses on any personal barriers to success at home and work.

The women also participate in life skills workshops that focus on budgeting, family planning, and housing issues. Job training and then placement, are the final steps. The program directors meet with employers to ensure their graduates will meet the current needs of the local job market and serve as a liaison between their graduates and employers.

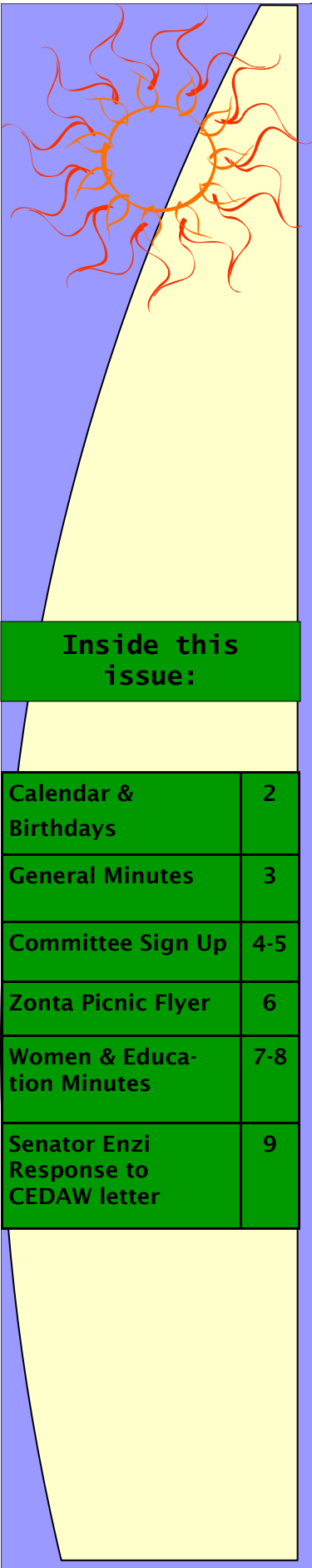
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ZONTA ZEPHYR

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AUGUST 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Board Meeting- Library Noon	4	5 Antique Show Meeting 1PM S. Hudson's
6	7	8	9	10 General Meeting- Hitching Post-Noon	11	12 Raising Readers 10AM Plating Tea J. Uhrich's
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Distribution Party 10AM K. Carlson's
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 New Zee's 5:30PM City News	30	31		

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—AUGUST 2006 (CONTINUED)

HAPPY, BIRTHDAY ZONTA MEMBERS!

Meyer	Cory	3-Aug
Baker	Rosalyn	4-Aug
Morrow	Bev	15-Aug
Thornton	Jimmie	16-Aug
Lindsten	Traci	18-Aug
Gostas	Jody	30-Aug

In 2003, CLIMB expanded statewide. They now have five (5) physical sites throughout the state, reaching into ten (10) counties. Funding, always their biggest challenge, became more important than ever during this expansion. The Wyoming Women's Foundation grant allowed them to help diversify their funding structure and to provide even more women access to this program.

Depending on funding, the CLIMB program can help about 160 women, but in every community they serve, there is a waiting list of single mothers looking for help in finding their way out of a life of poverty. By supporting programs like CLIMB, the Wyoming Women's Foundation is taking important steps to help women and girls attain the economic self-sufficiency they deserve in our "Equality State."

This is a very fine program. I'm so glad we are going to part of it.

**Zonta Club of Cheyenne
Board Meeting Minutes
The Hitching Post
July 6th - 12 Noon**

Present: Betty Squires, Edith Garrett, Sandy Hudson, Peggy Krepelka, Judy Berkley, Jody Gostas. Absent were Lynne Weidel, Traci Lindsten, Betty Siltzer.

The meeting was called to order by the President Betty Squires. Treasurer's report: This was postponed until the next meeting.

Correspondence: Thank you note received from Marion Barnes for flowers. Thank you note received from District Board for dinner held at Linda Bogart's house. The Secretary will send a sympathy card to Gillette club re death of Kathy Novak on June 28.

Old Business:

Antique Show—Jo Ann Ziegler is trying to get a glass chip repairperson. Revised posters and coupons will be going to the printer soon. Next committee meeting is Saturday, 8/5/06 at 1:00 pm at home of Sandy Hudson. There will be sign-up sheets at the picnic meeting at Betty Squires' home.

New Business: Jody Gostas volunteered to spearhead a petition-signing campaign for "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence" which will be 11/25/06 - 12/10/06. She will contact other clubs in the State to see if they want to participate in getting a statewide petition to present to the Governor during this period.

Michelle Ammerman has contacted Our Families Our Future to see how we can coordinate action in line with our Women and Education Service Focus. As more information is available, she will advise Lynne Weidel.

There was some discussion about a holiday-themed meeting in December. Since October will be an evening meeting, this was deferred until someone can talk to Jeri Uhrich about her offer last year to have a Christmas meeting at her house.

Committee Reports: Membership: Board approve the application for membership from Leslie Swidecki. Edith Garrett said Bev Morrow mentioned we had received the application from Curtis Biggs, the gentleman who attended our membership event in February but Jody Gostas stated she has never seen it. She will pursue. Edith also mentioned that Lynne Weidel never received a Zonta pin. More pins will be ordered since there are none on hand.

Literacy: Edith Garrett reported that 190 books were delivered to the Cheyenne Children's Clinic in June. A date has not been set for plating/preparing new books. Since July is a hectic month, Edith will try to set a date for a tea/book-plating party in August at home of Jeri Uhrich.

United Nations/Zonta Birthday Dinner: This will be in October. Eleanor Hanson is chairing that committee of one! Jody Gostas suggested we try to get Debra Lee as a speaker. She is a UN election observer.

New Zee's: Peggy Krepelka has set the last Tuesday of each month as the regular meeting time for the New Zee's. They will meet at City News at 5:30 pm.

Announcements: Next general meeting is the picnic at home of Betty Squires on Thursday, July 13 at 5:30-6:00. The August general meeting will be at the Hitching Post August 10 at noon. Edith Garrett will give a report on the International Convention.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Jody Gostas, (Acting on behalf of Betty Siltzer, Secretary)

SAFETY TIP -- HOME INVASION

Put your car keys beside your bed at night. If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator. Makes sense and it makes dogs bark!!

The Power of Two Women, One Idea and 34 Million Friends

The "34 Million Friends" campaign is a grass-roots movement that was independently initiated in July 2002 by two American women, Lois Abraham of New Mexico and Jane Roberts of California. Although they had never met, Lois and Jane were both outraged by the United States withdrawal of \$34 million approved for UNFPA* and they decided to take action. Each woman started her own email campaign, urging men and women across the United States to donate \$1 or more to help bridge the funding gap. Their goal is to find 34 million friends to help UNFPA continue its invaluable work as the largest multilateral provider of family planning and maternal health care. Jane and Lois continue to maintain an active schedule of speaking engagements and other activities to rally support for UNFPA's work and continue the momentum of 34 Million Friends.

*UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, is an international development agency that promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programs to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV/AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect.

Jane Roberts has written a book that follows the movement from its beginning "as a seed in the minds of two women living a thousand miles apart to today, when funds raised total more than \$3 million."

34 Million Friends of the Women of the World

"A fascinating account of a grassroots movement started by two women that is improving the lives of the women and girls of the world. A great read that should inspire all of us!"

Jerome I. Friedman, Nobel Laureate, Physics, 1990

"Jane Roberts believes that to be a good American is to be a good citizen of the world. She tells powerful stories of women in the developing world who suffer because they do not have access to reproductive health services. With her colleague Lois Abraham, she started a grassroots movement to help the United Nations Population Fund address these women's needs."

Linda Harrar, Executive Producer PBS

"World of Balance"

Message from Past President

A privilege of being immediate past president is that I have the opportunity to select "Zontian of the Year" for our club. Everyone, however, has the privilege of nominating herself or someone she feels deserves to be recognized this way. Several years ago, in an attempt to make the selection objective, criteria were developed for our "Zontian of the Year." Here is that score sheet:

Length of Membership	1 point per year
Committee Chairmanship	2 points each
Special Programs/Projects	2 points each
Board/Officer terms	
International	3 points per term
District/State	2 points per term
Local Club	1 point per term
Evidence of Role Model	5 points
Availability to Help	5 points
Feeling of Trust by other members	5 points
Zonta or Community Special Recognition	5 points
Open/Positive Communication	5 points



I don't remember where I found this information, probably from an old Zephyr, but I can't find it again. So I don't know how binding it is but I will use these criteria to rank any nominations I receive. PLEASE submit your nomination for the member you feel merits this very special award. Submit the name of your choice along with a brief note of why you are making this nomination. Send it by email (booknut@bresnan.net) or surface mail (PO Box 20373, Cheyenne 82003). The deadline for this nomination is August 31, 2006.

Please honor a special woman with this nomination. Thank you.

Jody Gostas

ADVANCING THE STATUS OF WOMEN WORLDWIDE

ZONTA CLUB OF CHEYENNE

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About Zonta International -- Founded in Buffalo, New York, USA, in 1919, Zonta International is a worldwide service organization of executives in business and the professions working together to advance the status of women.

<http://www.zonta.org/>

***KUDOS to Edith Garrett
for
15 Years with Game and Fish!***

