

Rose Petals

November 2022

Building a Better World for Women and Girls

“You’ll never do a whole lot unless you’re brave enough to try.” ~ Dolly Parton

President Alissa’s Message

Greetings!

First, I wanted to thank everyone who participated in our LUNAFEST event! We are still adding up the numbers, but it looks like we raised around 4k! which is great for a first time run. The comments we received were so positive and I look forward to hosting again next year. The films were incredibly heart-warming and thought provoking, exceeding my expectations. If you participated in the event and have any suggestions for next year, feel free to reach out with your observations and ideas.

Coming up on November 25th, Zonta International kicks off the **16 Days of Activism** campaign to bring awareness to the issue of gender-based violence. On the Zonta USA website there are several campaigns to strengthen legislation to protect survivors of gender-based violence. The following is an excerpt:

The Safe from the Start Act (H.R. 571) would keep women and girls safe from violence, early marriage, and other injustices in emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal of the act is to reduce the incidence of gender-based violence (GBV), ensure quality support for survivors from the very beginning of emergencies through timely and effective humanitarian action, and promote standards for prevention, mitigation, and response to such crises. This is one campaign of several on the Zonta USA website and you can help support this legislation, simply by going to:

<https://www.votervoice.net/Zonta/Campaigns/79961/Respond> and submitting your comments to our representative. This is an easy way to be involved and contribute to the safety of women and girls nationwide and internationally. I encourage you all to take a moment to check out the Zonta USA website www.zontausa.org to learn more about other ways you can actively participate.

This time of year can be kind of stressful, so I hope everyone is taking care of themselves and reflecting on the truly meaningful aspects of the holiday season. I look forward to seeing everyone this Friday.

Many thanks! Alissa



Club Calendar

November 18 Club Program Meeting

November 25 – December 10
16 Days of Activism

December 2 Club Business Meeting

December 3 Holiday Party 2-4pm

December 6 Coos Bay City Hall 7pm

December 11 Shore Acres Hosting

December 16 Club Program Meeting



All eight LUNAFEST 2022 movies were great and provided insights to different aspects of human life and struggle and challenges we all face. My top choices were:

TO THE FUTURE, WITH LOVE

**WHEN YOU CLEAN A STRANGER'S HOME
CLOSE TIES TO HOME COUNTRY**

In a way all 3 showed how we all judge others based on a very limited knowledge (such as national origin, jobs, gender identity) of who they really are. ~

Bonnie Foroudi

I thoroughly enjoyed our inaugural LUNAFEST event at the Egyptian Theater. My favorite film that was shown was "Generation Impact: The Coder." The story is about Jay Patton, a teenage girl who began coding a computer program at age 13. She developed an app to help kids connect with their incarcerated parents. Now she's creating a Code

Academy to teach and mentor others! The epitome of STEM! ~ **Terri Turi**

I felt the film festival line up was interesting and inspiring...each in its own story. LUNAFEST brought our community together, creating an enjoyable evening while raising funds to support Zonta's mission. A Huge success. ~ **Madison Spotts**

"Wearable Tracy" was a breath of fresh air in a world where limiting random human contact has become the norm. It also promotes listening to the heightened perceptions of our youth. Creativity can be invented in any medium and that is the way we ultimately find solutions. A National Wearable Tracy Day would be a great social equalizer. "When You Clean a Strangers Home" adds a voice to a community of workers who are paid to say nothing. I enjoyed the many different perspectives in the short films at Luna Fest that left me inspired to notice the impact of the small things in life. "Liz at Large" was a wakeup call, enlightening me to the subtle messages that are overlooked in media. ~ **Leisha Holmes**

Enjoying LUNAFEST at Home with Friends **By Frances Smith**

I was able to enjoy LUNAFEST with friends on Sunday afternoon, the day after the evening showing at the Egyptian Theatre. Figuring out how to stream the movies on my large, Smart TV was a nail-biter. I finally tried the Amazon Firestick connection on the TV and linked an app with the password in the email on my desktop computer, and it worked! But "how" remains a mystery.

The most discussion from this group (average age 70+) was about the film When You Clean a Stranger's Home. Most of us have had house cleaners and sometimes personal care assistants working in the home with family members. We talked about the intimate knowledge that they have of our lives and how we also, at times, have helped them with their personal problems. Close Ties to Home Country was a thought-provoking film about the immigrant who hadn't seen her sister in 10 years, and neither of them could travel in or out of the country because of rules and barriers of the US visa system. And Wearable Tracy was the most enjoyed film. It was about a woman who wore to work (via the subway) a new hat, artistically created from pipe-cleaners, every day for over 2 years. We admired her humor and courage to use her hats to create smiles and start conversations with strangers.

The streaming option for LunaFest was a real advantage for those of us who don't drive at night. And I think that having a group of friends to share thoughts and reactions to the films was a real plus!

Wednesday November 25, 2022, marks day one of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign, an annual international campaign to raise awareness about gender-based violence, challenge discriminatory attitudes and call for improved laws and services to end violence against women for good. This year's theme is: "UNITE! Activism to End Violence Against Women and Girls. Since 1991, more than 6,000 organizations from approximately 187 countries have participated in the campaign.

The campaign dates were chosen to link violence against women and human rights and to emphasize that gender-based violence against women is a violation of human rights. Since 1991, the campaign has been active between November 25, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women to December 10, World Human Rights Day. The 16 Days of Activism campaign calls for action against one of the world's most persistent violations of human rights – violence against women.

Please join club member Nichole Rutherford at the December 6, 7:00 PM Coos Bay City Council meeting for a joint photo op with Mayor Benetti and Coos Bay City Council members standing in solidarity with Zonta and holding our Zonta Says NO to Gender Violence campaign signs. Wear your orange. This photo will become part of our Zonta club's 16 Days Facebook and Instagram postings during the campaign.

Lawn signs will be available for your yard or business at the November 18th club meeting or call or text Genelle for delivery. We request that at the campaign end all signs be returned to Greg Dalton at CASA.

OCTOBER is DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

SAFE PROJECT

ZONTA SAYS NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

COOS ELDERLY SERVICES

PARTNERING WITH COOS ELDERLY SERVICES - ZONTA COOS BAY AREA ASSEMBLES AND DELIVERS DIGNITY BAGS TO BENEFIT DV SURVIVORS AT THE SAFE PROJECT

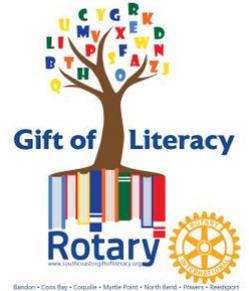


“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you’ll go.”— Dr. Seuss



Reading is fundamental. It develops the brains of young children, provides a window into the world around them and helps them do better in all school subjects. Yet, 800 million people around the world cannot read or write. And many families (and some schools) have no books for children to read.

With the idea of encouraging a love of reading, the Rotary Clubs and school districts of North Bend, Coos Bay, Reedsport, Bandon, Coquille, Myrtle Point and Powers, along with South Coast ESD, and Southwestern Oregon Community College partner to help children on the South Coast get excited about books with the Gift of Literacy Program.



Modeled after the Springfield Gift of Literacy, this well-established, time-tested, award-winning program fosters a love of reading among young children. Through a multi-club Rotary District Grant matched by local clubs, every first-grader (over 600) in each of the club’s coastal communities are participating in this enriching six-month literacy program.

The Gift of Literacy Program will culminate in a festive celebration at Southwestern Oregon Community College in late April or early May, when first-graders from the South Coast will be transported by bus to the College to attend an assembly and receive a cinch bag filled with fun swag ... and a brand-new book!

The **five** selected books, chosen by Coos County librarians and educators, are a wonderful and diverse mix. Each first-grade classroom teacher receives a set of the books in November. Teachers or guest readers read the books in the classroom. Then each first-grade student chose his or her favorite title among the five hardbound books, which is what they will receive at the spring Gift of Literacy celebration.



The importance and enjoyment of reading will be reinforced with the acquisition of a library card. First-graders also will be introduced to a college campus, where they can get a glimpse of college life.

“All Rotarians are committed to promoting literacy, both in the United States and abroad,” said Southwestern President and local Rotarian Dr. Patty M. Scott, who helps organize the event. “We are proud to celebrate and promote literacy for our local first-grade students!”



The Zonta Club purchased 80 books with remaining Little Red Schoolhouse funds. The Rebel Girl books were delivered to South Coast ESD for distribution to Coos County Elementary Schools

Building a Better world for Women and Girls



I am happy to pass on the “**Zontian of the Moment**” award to **Margaret Melvin**. In Margaret’s earlier career she was a member of the Corvallis Zonta Club. Margaret has been a member of the Coos Bay Area Zonta Club since 2008. Margaret has successfully held many leadership positions in our club. As Advocacy chair, on one project Margaret collaborated with state, local and county police on a Human trafficking and Drug Symposium with a cross section of service agencies and the public in attendance.

Margaret was a main coordinator for many years with “Walk a Mile In Her Shoes”. This was where male college students were invited (and always a good turnout) to literally walk a mile in 3” red high heels! This event brought awareness to stop violence against women.

Margaret chaired the budget committee and Celebrity Dinner major fund raiser and led our club as President from 2016 to 2017. Most recently Margaret has been an instructor teaching girls 8 to 12 year how to build their own toolboxes and bird houses during “GRITT”; Girls Rock It Tools & Trade. Currently she is serving on the Zonta Board as Vice President.

Thank you, Margaret, for all your service to Zonta’s mission of Build a Better World for Women & Girls!!!

(The traveling trophy is awarded for outstanding service to the club or for individual member achievement. The current trophy recipient finds the next member to receive the award.)

Advocate for Easy Access to Free Birth Control



In accordance with the [Zonta International Statement on Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Health](#), we urge our members in 62 countries around the world to advocate at the national level to ensure that all women and girls have access to the full range of reproductive health services. We cannot achieve gender equality for all women and girls if they do not have the basic rights to bodily autonomy.



I was born in Ft. Morgan, Colorado and was raised in Ft. Collins, Colorado until my high school years where I finished high school in Iowa. My senior year I was diagnosed with dyslexia and my mother was very supportive and helping me through my school years to learn to study. I still graduated Co-Val Victorian. Iowa high schools worked with state colleges to be able to achieve your college courses while in high school.

I had always wanted to be an accountant but in Iowa back then “girls” weren’t allowed to be accountants. Therefore, I became an LPN. Then after high school I got my associates degree in Automotive Mechanics from Denver Automotive and Diesel College. This is where I first heard of Zonta

because I received a \$500 scholarship. Early 2000’s I received my BA in Accounting and began work in corporate world. For the last 8 years I have been Finance Director for Star of Hope. In 2021, I received my MS in Accounting.

I am happily married to Bob; we have 3 children and 2 grandchildren. I wish “girls” were not discriminated against for careers they want to achieve. Zonta empowers women and girls to be whatever they want to be.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Tammy Dalton* 5th
- Jan Delimont* 5th
- Margery Whitmer* 8th
- Sherry Horne* 10th
- Sheila Wilma* 16th

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Frances Smith* 2nd
- Arnold Hill* 20th
- Julie Brecke* 26th
- Melinda Johnson* 27th

1. What was your childhood like?

It was incredible. I grew up in the country with my parents and two older brothers. Most of my childhood was spent playing outside building tree forts, riding bikes, and getting into all kinds of shenanigans with the neighborhood kids and my brothers.

2. Education post high school:

I earned an Associate of Science and an Associate of Transfer at Southwestern Oregon Community College and a Bachelors Degree in Communication with a Minor in Psychology at Oregon State University.

**3. Family life:**

I have a very tight -knit family. My Grandma, Aunts, Uncles and Cousins get together several times a year to celebrate holidays, anniversaries, and birthdays. Growing up I didn't realize how lucky I was to have such a close family. As a grown up I know now that it tends to be rare and I truly cherish it.

4. Professional life:

I work with TRIO, a program that helps first generation/low-income students to get into and graduate from college. For the past 8 years, I worked with high school students at Reedsport Community Charter School and Marshfield High School. I am now at Southwestern Oregon Community College helping students to succeed in their educational journeys.

5. Life challenges:

One of my main struggles that I had to overcome was crippling shyness. All throughout my youth and into my early 20's, I was barely able to speak to people or even look at people. I was known as a "functional mute" because I was able to make my way in the world without hardly ever speaking. Eventually, I found my voice and I feel I have come a long way from that shy girl who could barely speak.

6. What is something you would like to change in the world?

I would like to bring more kindness into the world. It's not that the world is completely devoid of kindness, but it seems like we are more divided all the time. I would like to see us come together more, work together more, and build a stronger foundation of respect and understanding for a better world.

7. Why Zonta?

I credit Paula Bechtold for showing me the wonderful world that is Zonta. She got me involved helping with Z Club at Marshfield and then brought me into Zonta. I really appreciate this group first off because of the amazing people who are part of it and because of the mission. I feel that any opportunity to empower women is a fantastic and important opportunity.



The NBHS Z Club is underway with plans laid out for coming months. They meet monthly during their lunch break and time to accomplish very much is limited. Yet – see above! they did get their Z Club picture done! The club has between 25-30 members. They have been offered a service and fundraising idea to help with BAH Christmas party ~ They will be working for tips in the coat check room! Tell your friends who work at BAH to be sure to attend the party!! We can also look forward to Z club members assisting with our Zonta Tea in May. Stay tuned for details. ~ **Debbie Schade, NBHS Z Club Liaison, Past President**



New Coos Bay School Superintendent **Dr. Charis McGaughy** attended the November 3rd Z Club meeting. Dr. McGaughy is meeting with student groups to conduct what she calls “listening sessions” with students. Marshfield Z Club was chosen by the Marshfield administration as one of the groups for her in which to converse! 23 students participated! ~ **Paula Bechtold, MHS Z Club Liaison, Past President, Past D8 Governor**

Jingle & Mingle

Saturday December 3

2:00 - 4:00 + stay for some more!

Zonta Bling encouraged
Games, Trivia, Singing means FUN!
Holiday ornament exchange ~ recycle one
Savory & sweet treats we will provide
BYOB if you wish to imbibe

Verna Matthew's Home
999 "I" Street in Eastside

RSVP to secretary@zontacoosbayarea.org
by Thursday December 1

Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Online Summit

Back by popular demand, join the Giving Tuesday, 29 November, for the second Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women virtual summit. Save the date to hear live guest speakers, participate in interactive workshops and leave with life-changing actions you can take. Use this event to introduce your friends and family to Zonta.

Check www.zonta.org - under Events- for more information. Registration will open on 1 November, one ticket will provide access to all sessions, both live and recorded, as they will span multiple Zonta time zones. All proceeds will go to the Zonta Foundation for Women's International Service Fund to support Zonta International Service Programs.

Current service projects are:

Adolescent Girls' Health and Protection in Peru

Her Health and Dignity, Our Priority: Strengthening services for survivors of GBV

Engaging Girls on Climate Change in Madagascar

Ending Child Marriage

https://www.zonta.org/Web/Our_Programs/International_Service_Projects/Web/Programs/International_Service_Projects_Home.aspx?hkey=0f2cc1c6-6d4d-4b4a-b7c3-a71b81356527

ZONTA SAYS NO! TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN – MHS Z Club

Marshfield High School
Z club

We Say NO to Child Marriage!

ZONTA SAYS NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

by Sheilli Cutting, Foundation Ambassador

I want to remind you all that November is when we start the "Sixteen Days of Activism" and it is Zonta's birthday month! ZI has also deemed November as the reminder that all Zontians should be giving to The Zonta Foundation for Women with the "Every Member, Every November" campaign.

Our foundation is truly the cornerstone of our organization. While we all do so much for Zonta, our donations to the foundation are how we make our mark all over the world and solidify our place as the leader in giving and activism directly to women and girls.

I encourage every Zontian to make at least one gift per year. If you have already given or are a monthly giver, I thank you and appreciate your commitment. If you haven't given yet, please consider a gift during our campaign, anything you can give helps and it DOES make a difference. Only together can we reach our goals to help all those that need it.

Please go to www.zonta.org today and give what you can, as often as you can! If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact me.



Have a great fall season.

Shelli Cutting

District 8 Foundation Ambassador

District 8 Advocacy 2022-24
THREE Main ACTIONS

1. 16 Days of Activism Nov. 25- Dec 10th
 - Child Marriage and/or ERA or Orange the World tie in
2. Climate Actions -
 - Club Actions (choose two out of three)
 - Individual Actions (Pledge + Personal 7R's)
3. Rose Day - Public Awareness
 - Pick a Zonta topic, invite others. UPLIFT Women
 - PLUS PARTICIPATION IN FAST ACTION FRIDAY



Monday, November 28
International Days for the
Elimination of Violence Against Women

Join the Zonta Clubs of Oregon & Washington under the Morrison Bridge at sunset (4:30pm) to see the bridge turn **ORANGE**.

(Riverfront Park: Morrison & Naito Pkwy)

Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

Build a Better World for Women and Girls

Zonta International has consultative status with the United Nations.

Portland will join other international landmarks including Niagara Falls, the Eiffel Tower, the Sydney Opera House, etc. in turning the world orange!



#ZontaSaysNo zonta.org





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