

Rose Petals

March 2023

Building a Better World for Women and Girls

President Alissa's Message ~ *Hello All*

I hope this message finds everyone well. We have had a busy month! The first thing to report is the Murder Mystery Dinner Theater was a great event. The reception has been 100% positive and we are looking forward to doing it again next year. Thank you to all who helped, with a special shout out to Colleen Wylie of Blue Dahlia Floral Designs, Chef Torres from OCCI, John Beane, our Master of Ceremonies and Alice Carlson and the Dolphin Players, and of course our fabulous committee for all their hard work. Next year, we will be exploring different venues to accommodate all of you who wished to come but were unable to get tickets. After expenses, the Foundation made \$5,697.78! All and all, it was a fun night, and we raised a good amount of money for our Club projects.



All of the members listed below have tickets to sell. Also, if you can sell tickets, please contact Muriel at the above email.

Alissa Pruess: president@zontacoosbayarea.org
Amanda Perez: amandasue2008@gmail.com
Debbie Schade: dschade2356@gmail.com
Leisha Holmes: threefirs98250@gmail.com
Margaret Melvin: mkmelvin1955@gmail.com
Muriel Richardson: murielr1277@charter.net
Paula Bechtold: paulabechtold@gmail.com
Frances Smith franceshallsmith@gmail.com
Genelle Hanken genellehankenzonta@gmail.com
Jan Delimont jan@coosbayproperties.com
Margery Whitmer margerybwhitmer@gmail.com
Pam de Jong pamiedejong@yahoo.com
Verena Matthews 541-290-8676

Next up, is the Traditional Irish Afternoon Tea, which will be held at the North Bend High School Hall of Champions on May 13th, from 2-4PM. The tea will be prepared by Chef Frank Murphy and the students in the Culinary Arts Program and served by the North Bend Z-Club. Since it is the day before Mother's Day it is an excellent opportunity to honor a mother in your life. Make checks for this fundraiser payable to Coos Bay Area Zonta Service Foundation. The Tea Committee is encouraging you to wear a hat if you have one.

Also, our next Program meeting, March 17th, will be at the Coos History Museum and we will be honoring Chief Deputy District Attorney, Jody Newby, for our Rose Day Celebration. There will be lunch available for payment. If you have any questions, and to RSVP for lunch please contact Genelle.

Thank you all for being part of our Club and I look forward to seeing you all soon!

“Let the good times roll” as they say in Louisiana! And “roll” they did at our club’s inaugural Murder Mystery Dinner Theater fundraising event.

The event was a huge success for introducing a new fundraising concept to our club and our community. Fun was had by all at this social event with friends enjoying a raucous Mardi Gras/pirate treasure themed play, bidding for great silent auction items, and buying bottles of wine from the Zonta Mystery Wine Wall! It was an evening of intrigue, laughter, great food and spirits!

The planning committee, **Terri Turi, Alissa Pruess, Lani Schreiber, Genelle Hanken and Margaret Melvin** along with the expertise of decor designer **Colleen Wylie**, and Silent Auction master, **Julie Reed**,

are so thankful to our event partners Southwestern’s OCCl and the ever-talented Dolphin Players troupe directed by Alice Carlson. Our Master of Ceremonies and Narrator for the evening was John Beane of So It Goes Coffee fame was a bonus for us all! Contributing to our success were our corporate sponsors and donors: **Pam de Jong, Umpqua Bank, NW Natural Gas, Al Peirce Company, LLC**, and an anonymous donor designating a gift for scholarships along with all the donations from Zontians and local businesses for our auction items. And of course, the evening would not have happened without our supportive attendees! The event was sold out early on!



The primary focus of the planning committee was to see if this fundraising concept would fit in our community. We feel that goal was met entirely! A bonus of the evening is that the club has the opportunity to gain potentially 6 new members who have voiced interest in Zonta as well as netting \$5,697.78! Not too bad!

We look forward to expanding this event next year and to utilize the great feedback we’ve received from attendees and committee members alike.

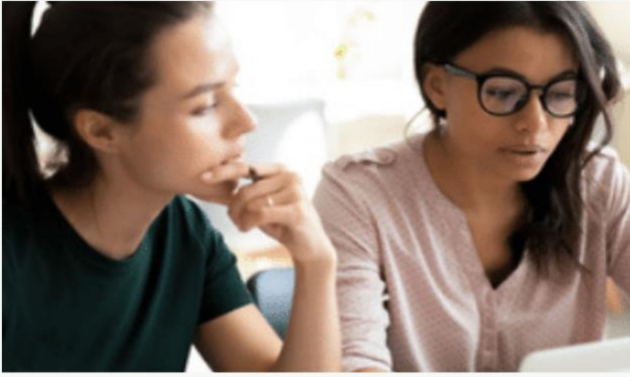
It was a great experience - planning, implementing, and participating in such a fun event with such a great group of people. **I salute you all!**

Special Thank you to Melinda Johnson from Genelle Hanken, PR Chair, for the many photos!!



Club membership 2023-2024 invoices have been mailed.
Your annual dues are expected by April 1st, per our club standing rules.

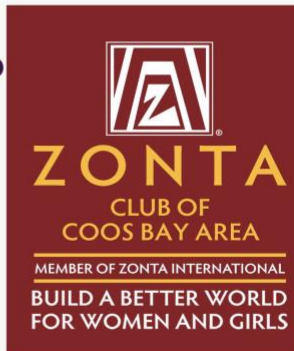




2023 Patty J Barton Memorial Scholarship totaling \$20,000 available now

Scholarship paid directly to applicant's accredited school until expended. Application deadline April 15, 2023, with scholarship awarded by May 31, 2023.

Apply today
www.zontacoosbayarea.org



Patty J. Barton – Zontian extraordinaire!

Greg Dalton Zontian of the Moment selected by Muriel Richardson

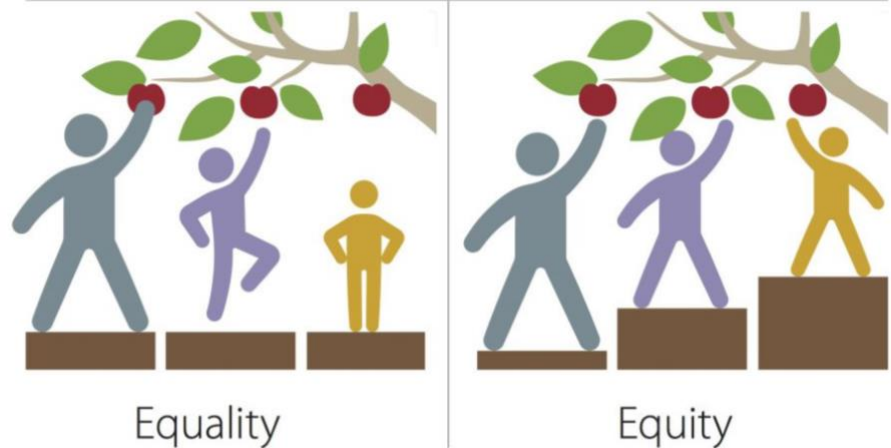
I once again want to thank Margaret Melvin for this honorable award and who ever started it to begin with. Even though I know some things about Greg Dalton there were still things I needed to find out. So, I did some investigating. Greg wants to make sure children have a safe home to live in. Greg is the current program director of CASA of Coos and Curry Counties, a program of Oregon Coast Community Action. His passion is advocating for children, families, individuals, and our community. Greg is changing lives. Greg currently sits on the Oregon CASA Network Board, The National CASA Rural Leadership Coalition, The National Rural Justice Collaborative, The Coos-Curry Foster Parent's Association, and the Foster Coalition of Coos and Curry (FC3). Greg is a current Hospice bereavement support volunteer since 2009. Greg has co-chaired the club garage sale for the past two years and is barbeque chef at GRITT our summer day camp for girls. Greg is looking forward to sitting on the Zonta board beginning the next fiscal year. **I am pleased to honor Greg as the first Zontian of the Moment for 2023.**



For International Women's Day and beyond, let's all fully **#EmbraceEquity**. Equity isn't just a nice-to-have, it's a must-have. A focus on gender equity needs to be part of every society's DNA. And it's critical to understand the difference between equity and equality.

Equality means each individual or group of people is given the same resources or opportunities.

Equity recognizes that each person has different circumstances and allocates the exact resources and opportunities needed to reach **an equal outcome**.





ZONTA
COOS BAY AREA ZONTA
SERVICE FOUNDATION
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
BUILD A BETTER WORLD
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Zonta Club of the Coos Bay Area
presents

Traditional
Irish Tea & Silent Auction



Saturday May 13th
2-4 PM

Please join us for this fundraising event to raise money for scholarships and educational projects. Chef Frank Murphy and students of the North Bend Culinary Arts Program have prepared the menu and service is provided by the North Bend Z-Club.

Tickets \$40
Purchase from a Zonta member
Or Call 541-297-4042
info@zontacoosbayarea.org

NBHS Hall of Champions
North Bend High School 2323 Pacific St,
North Bend



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Ali Mageehon	8 th
Patty Scott	12 th
Rosemary Padgett	19 th
Verena Matthews	20 th
Kathy Erickson	21 st
Lani Schreiber	22 nd

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Shirley MacAdam	8 th
Anne Medhaus Westbrook	12 th
Chelsea Feger	13 th
Suzanne Andrews	18 th
Ali Helms	26 th

1. **What was your childhood like?** As my father pursued better paying positions in management, he climbed the corporate ladder in Orkin Pest Control, and we moved to a different state every year. My mom came from a large humble Midwest family and she impressed me with how she cooked her limited meals while always being pregnant, sewing our clothes, baking bread, washing diapers or nursing a new baby every year. I eagerly looked forward to exploring my new town, school playgrounds, interesting clubs, and wild areas in the neighborhoods.

2. **Education post high school:** Northern Illinois University, Dekalb, IL and University of Florida, Gainesville, FL and BA in K-12 Art Education, Elem Ed, Alternative Ed



3. **Family life:** Raised in large family of 7 in the Midwest IL, MI, IN, IA, WI and GA, LA, FL. Loved scouting, fishing, hunting, teaching swimming, and dancing.

4. **Professional life:** Fascinated by how different minds learn, I had profound interests in Anthropology, Sociology, Neurology, and Linguistics. I pursued a variety of college courses, clubs, and international service work, and eventually degrees in the Arts and Education.

5. **Life challenges:** After my 20 yr. old sister was killed as innocent Good Samaritan in 1987 during a high-speed police chase, I committed my life to inspiring positive change. My focus has always been promoting responsible behaviors in leadership, governing, and social entertainment -particularly with teens and young adults. Experiencing friends and relatives list to suicide, domestic abuse, and substance abuse, inspired me to investigate the science of how the mind really works biochemically. As a survivor, I also learned how important dialogue can be in building a rapport with yourself and the complex,

often unexplained behaviors of human beings. Working and playing in so many different cultures home and abroad, has given me invaluable insight.

6. **What is something you would like to change in the world?** I would like every human to be able to explore 4 weeks in a different culture to learn how they work with their hands, play games, cook/clean, handle disagreements, train their babies, and connect with their elderly. All people should be trained in social/mental health, and every 11-19 yr. old should participate in 5 skill developing mini-apprenticeships.

7. **Why Zonta?** The organization is led by passionate people at every level. Women who have fun playing ball in any playground, work hard to find better ways, and are not afraid to hold each other accountable, have always been the true leaders of society and I want to be part of that team.

Fred Meyer Community Awards Program

If you shop at Fred Meyer, they offer a program called **Community Rewards** to give back to the community! According to their website, they intend to yearly donate \$2.5 million (up to \$625,000 per quarter) to local schools, non-profits, and charitable organizations. Our Coos Bay Area Zonta Service Foundation is one of their registered charities.

You can link your Fred Meyer Rewards card and our Foundation will earn a donation. Linking your card does NOT impact your quarterly Rewards or Fuel points! You'll still receive all those benefits on top of this program. Please sign up today.

Fred Meyer[®]



Early May 1947 my family moved to Allegany. I was an active 16-year-old. My two girlfriends and I went swimming every afternoon in the Coos River. To get to the best swimming hole, we had to climb down the side of a bridge, then swim down river to get out. That year in early July boards on the bridge broke as I stepped on a plank. I fell 36 feet and my back hit a log. The next day a truck crossing the bridge fell through. I was hospitalized for two weeks. Back then x-rays were sent to Portland by Greyhound bus. I was in a 20 lb. body cast and bedridden. I got my body cast off in mid-November, just I time to be cast in the lead role of the Junior-Senior play.

To get to school, we traveled on the boat named Welcome. Welcome not only took us kids to school, but milk and mail to town. It took 90 minutes to get to the Coos River School. We got off for school and the boat sailed on to Coos Bay, delivering milk to the creamery and mail to the post office. Later the boat came back with mail, empty milk cans and picked us up.

There was fun and excitement, always something going on. Once my beautifully dressed girlfriend, who had just moved to Allegany from California, fell off the gang plank getting onto the boat and went into the mud. She had to wear muddy clothes until we got to school, and she could change into her gym clothes, while her clothes dried. We finally got a school bus in late 1948. The bus crossed the river by ferry to get us up to the school.

I spent my junior and senior high school years at Coos River School. I feel I received a good education. There were 8 of us in my 1949 graduating class. Only two of us left living. The school closed in 1954. Now Coos River School is a charter school for 150 students. Every year on the first Saturday in August, we Coos River students gather for a reunion.

I thought my club members might enjoy a little history of Coos River School and what some people went through to go to school and get an education. We never experienced any problems, except maybe boys sneaking out over the hill to smoke cigarettes.

My employment life has been varied. I built houses and remodeled others for resale. After my children entered school, I worked for 6 years as a log scale clerk, then 6 years as an office manager for a mill. With my husband Bob Matthews, we logged, owned Marvine Salvage, we owned and operated two, 12E helicopters, owned twenty lots of land in Eastside, which we sold, and I did all the bookkeeping. I was bookkeeper for a couple different companies. I was Chairman of Associated Contractors where I drove truck and did whatever was necessary. World War II was going on. I also owned my own company Trillion Construction for a few years and when you are self-employed you do it all. Last job we owned a 174-foot King crab boat, and I cooked for 10-12 men, cleaned, did payroll, you name it.

I joined Zonta to help women and girls get an education and to have a better life. I loved to meet likeminded women with goals and a work ethic like mine, and still do. While I took classes at SWOCC, I never finished my degree. I always planned to go back, but I was always too busy.



Slate of Officers for 2023-2025

Nominating Committee for 2023-24

Verena Matthews
Margery Whitmer
Charlene Moore

Directors for 2023-25 (2 YEAR TERMS)

Greg Dalton
Bonnie Foroudi
Megan Jacquot

CLUB TREASURER (2 YEAR TERM)

No candidate

Nominated from the floor at the March 3, 2023, Club meeting:

Jen Shafer

ALL other officer and board positions are mid-way through two-year positions, not expiring until 2024 – [including president, vice president, secretary, foundation treasurer)

Submitted by 2022-23 nominating committee members – Paula Bechtold Lindi Quinn Colleen Wylie

Pearson College Updates

Pearson College of the Pacific, located near Victoria BC is one of seventeen United World Colleges established around the globe to increase understanding among people of the world through international education and community service. Each year, Zonta clubs adopt dorms at Pearson College, and send cards, treats, phone cards, and care packages to the students. Anita Mathur from the Victoria Zonta Club makes our deliveries.

Genelle received thank you emails from some of the students our club supports at Pearson:

Dear Coos Bay Zonta Club, Here is the Room 6 from Ta Wen House at Pearson College Campus. We have received the lovely snack bag from you thanks to Anita's delivery! Although it has only been a few days since we received the package, the snacks are mostly finished already because we love them too much and they arrived at the exactly right time: when exams and deadlines are chasing after us. Thus, sadly, we can only attach a picture of us with an empty bag. However, words can hardly describe how much gratitude we have for you guys! Also, happy International Women's Day! Congratulations, we girls (yes, we and you are all girls lol) have done a great fight! This is a saying from my Denmark classmate. Hope it also works for you! Lots of love and gratitude, Flora- China, May- Myanmar, Romina- Iran, Stephanie- Canada



Thank you to the Zonta Club of Coos Bay for the bag of goodies we received a few days ago! We really appreciate the kind gift. The ramen was so good! All the best, Alicia- Canada, Lexie- UK, Irene- Spain, and Jade- Haiti – Room 4



We had a lovely induction ceremony for several of our newest members, including **Rennie MacNeille, Leisha Holmes, Rachael Espy, and Kim Winker**. Please help us in sending them a huge welcome! The ceremony took place upstairs in the beautiful 7 Devils Waterfront Restaurant and was well attended by many. We have several additional new members to welcome and are planning to have another induction later this Spring.

This time of year is busy as we continue to reach out to and welcome prospective member inquiries, as well as work to remind our current members about upcoming membership dues. We are now able to accept membership dues via Venmo!! There is a small fee to be able to use this service, and more information will be shared for how to pay dues electronically. Of course, checks are always welcome, and can be mailed in or paid directly at one of our club meetings. Invoices were mailed out March 6th to all current members and are due April 1st.

If you would like to invite a fellow community member to learn more about Zonta, we have a membership inquiry form <https://zontacoosbayarea.org/interested-in-zonta-membership-form/> they can complete, and/or invite them to attend one of our Club meetings in person or via Zoom. Once they attend a meeting and complete an application, our committee meets to complete the new member process. If you are interested in joining the Membership Committee, please contact Lani at 971-227-4948 or membership@zontacoosbayarea.org.

Marshfield High School Z Club Updates - Paula Bechtold Advisor

MARSHFIELD Z CLUB HAS BEEN BUSY Z Club had a booth at "Read Across America" held in Coos Bay Library Friday evening March 2 – eight members participated – seven made into the picture with "Sparky" along with some "customers" – The club made balloon animals (thanks to Greg Dalton for all the supplies!) The booth was a huge hit!



The very next day on Saturday March 3 two shifts of Z Club members worked the 3A basketball tournament. (Not pictured, Zontians Paula Bechtold and Lori Schmidt) Three Z Clubbers worked both events!



Focus for the rest of the month will be on organizing the review of the applications received from the programs for their Community 101 grant – and working on a fundraiser (silent auction with music and refreshment) tentatively scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, April 15.

The Z Club is continuing to stay busy with a variety of events and projects.

- Raised funds with a 50/50 drawing at a recent basketball game
- Purchased and donated a new espresso machine for the BBR Counseling Services new office in Coos Bay, for their Internet Café. The cafe will be a place for students to study with free Wi-Fi and counseling services. The Z Club students presented the new espresso machine to BBR (Belloni Boys Ranch) Counseling Services at their new facility on Mar 8th. The location is open to students from both NB and CB with lots of parking.



Z Club Students Heidi, Wendy, Logan and Julia. Erica Street faculty advisor, Debbie Schade Zonta and Bianca Williams from BBR Counseling Services.

- Mental health committee made and delivered anonymous “feel good” cards with messages of encouragement. The student feedback was very positive. Hopefully there will be another opportunity for this project again this school year.

Projects they have going forward include:

- Purchasing supplies for the Coos Waffle project at the Devereaux Center and having a club party to assemble the items.
- Planning a club party to celebrate their successes so far this year, get to know each other more, and be able to plan for the coming year.
- Participate in the Zonta Traditional Irish Afternoon (Mother’s Day) Tea as servers.
- Research what clean-up projects are ongoing that the kids can participate in.

The Z Club continues to meet twice monthly during the lunchtime. One meeting is the officers meeting one week before the club meeting. The officers have done well with organized meetings and discussions to take forward to the club meeting the following week. There have been a steady group of approximately 20 students attending the meetings. With most of the projects they complete they also review how it will be done next time, next year. I have seen nice growth of the officer’s confidence in leadership.

Next year the North Bend Z Club will need a new Zonta representative. I will not be continuing in this role. The Z club is functioning well so now is a good time for a new Zonta member to step in and take my place. I am happy to give you my thoughts, have you attend a meeting with me, meet the students, answer questions, etc. My life has taken unexpected turns, as many are aware, and I cannot commit to continuing past the end of this school year.

So with the snow and ice, **PAULA BECHTOLD** decided to check on **VERENA MATTHEWS**, up on top of the hill in Eastside. Her call went to voicemail and was not returned. No return call after a few days, and Paula got concerned. Ended up prevailing on former club member **NANCYLEE** Stewart (who lives nearby) to go to Verena's house to see what she could see. All locked up tight, curtains pulled – and her car was there! Neither had the phone number or name of Verena's son – but before calling the police, Nancylee suggested calling Barb Anderson (LauraLee Blenz's daughter). Paula said, "Barb lives in Arizona now ... but guess it's worth a try." Turns out Verena was visiting in Arizona!! And yes, she now has phone numbers for both Verena's son AND daughter-in-law!



We haven't seen much of **LORI SCHMIDT** lately --- Lori is keeping really busy – besides her normal law practice, she is now the administrator of the Coos/Curry/Douglas Juvenile Consortium (a state contract), supervising and assigning attorneys in court-appointed cases for families involved with DHS (childwelfare) and/or the juvenile system. She also serves as a "public" board member of the Oregon Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

Congratulations to our Zonta club member **AUDREY M. DUKE** awarded the W. Dean Fitzwater Memorial Community Service award ~ presented to an Oregon posse member who contributes the most to their local community in unpaid community service. The award is named after Dean Fitzwater, past Oregon Assoc. Mounted Posse president, Co- founder of OAMP Search and Rescue Symposium, a horseman, 40-year member of Clackamas County Sherriff's Posse, and a friend to all. Audrey says she was so surprised to receive the award. Audrey is a past captain of the Coos County Mounted Sheriff Posse and current President of the State of Oregon Association Mounted Posses. Award ceremony was held at the annual OAMP convention at the Oregon Garden Resort. **We are proud of you Audrey!!**

Club Reminders

- March 17th St. Patrick's Day – Rose Day Honoree Jody Newby
RSVP to Genelle- Coos History Museum Noon – 1:00
- April 21st Kid's Hope Center Speaker
National Child Abuse Awareness Month
- May 13th Irish Tea & Silent Auction – NBHS Hall of Champions
- June 10th United Way Day of Caring Zonta team needed!

Garage Sale will be back at Pony Village Mall this summer!
Save your stuff. Contact Greg or Genelle for more details.



Jody Newby