



NANAIMO NEXUS
The Zonta Club of Nanaimo
March/April 2008
Club: #1439 District 8
Nanaimo BC Canada

New Members: We are pleased to present our three new Zontians; Sharon Nielson, Maggie Bannister and Donna Mighton.

Sharon is from Vancouver, and she spent 20 years with Purdy's there, after she and her husband owned and ran a Dutch Pannekoek House Restaurant in that city. Sharon and Ralph retired to Lantzville and now Sharon has taken on the job of Coordinator for the club of the Great Canadian Shoreline Clean up; a club environmental project. Sharon has been a friend of Zonta for some time.

Maggie comes to us from Scotland, via Ontario where she was involved in the volunteer community, with the Rebekah Lodge and as an elder in her church. She worked in a Home for the Aged for 20 years and retired to Gabriola Island and since then to Nanaimo. Maggie has accepted the role of Recording Secretary for the coming biennium.

Donna and her husband retired to Nanaimo from Edmonton in June/07. Donna traveled extensively in her job with a company selling coin blanks to several countries for their mints. She also worked in the health care industry

in management positions. Donna is our Corresponding Secretary for 2008-2010.

Vancouver Island International Childrens Festival: taking place on May 11 to 13; for children K to 9 years. You may volunteer on line this year; website: Vancouver Island Childrens Festival; pick your day, your time and the event or position you would like.

There is a brief online video with Colin Gorrie, the Festival's producer.

Notice from International: the club mailing will be received by presidents in late March/early April; instructions regarding selecting a delegate to take our proxy to Rotterdam, for the convention this summer, will be included. We are entitled to one vote at 33 members; clubs with 41 members receive two votes.

There will be information on the proposed by-law changes; and also Zonta International adjustments to our dues. The biennial goals will be outlined as well.

President Carole Ann will have that package for discussion by the Board and membership at the April meeting.

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Do your best, lass, nothing less.
(a grandmother's blessing)

Annual General Meeting: June 17th, at the Grapevine Trattoria; Wesley Street. It is our 15th AGM! Plan to attend this great event; great food, fun, laughter.

Nominations Report: The committee is pleased to present the new Executive members and Board Directors for 2008-2010:

President: Donna Hardstaff
Vice Pres: Heather Bergum
Treasurer: Tracy Raby
Rec. Sec.: Maggie Bannister
Corr. Sec. : Donna Mighton
Past Pres.: Carole Ann Brown

Directors: Jane Adkins, Amber Allin, Ardella Freko, Claudette Keller and Sharon Nielson.

Thanks to all who nominated, who agreed to serve and also to those members who gave their pledge to support and work towards club goals with the new executive.

All members are invited to attend any of the executive meetings; for input, for discussion, for guidance and also encouragement.

This is the first biennium we have not had one or more charter members on the Board; don't be a stranger, every member may contribute to the energy of the Board of Directors, especially those that are "well seasoned".

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Young Women in Public Affairs:

At the lovely IWD luncheon, the 2008 recipient received her cheque for \$500. along with her bouquet of yellow roses in honour of Zonta Yellow Rose Day.

Celia White is a senior student at Wellington Secondary School and an

accomplished student, volunteer within the community and a member of Alianza, the health care project we support in Guatemala. Celia's mother and teachers attended the event with her. Lytta and Lynn did a remarkable job with this project and it showed. Well done, we expect even more applicants next year.



April Meeting: This meeting is being held at Sands, again at 530pm. Team Two will be the host team. The program will include speakers from the Brain Injury Society; we were approached by 4th years nursing students for this presentation.

Donya and Erin will be there early to take photographs with club members; both receiving cheques : Donya with Heart and Stroke receiving the funds raised at the Zonta Red Gala;

Erin will receive the cheque to assist her with the School District's "Mini O" games this spring; and also to receive the "baby shower" gifts for the new program at Barsby SS; Little Ferns, etc.

These particular projects show just what you have accomplished this year alone; helping at the ground level ; and also raising monies for heart research.

Members need to pat themselves and one another on the back for the variety of support to the community.

Date: Tuesday, April 15th; join the fun.

Team Two members: Ronny, Val Alcock-Carter. Patti, Jane, Roz, Amber, Rosanna and Claudette.

Amelia Earhart:

This year there were 35 Fellowship recipients for the Amelia Earhart Fellowships in Aerospace and/or related Engineering disciplines.

The awards were raised to \$10,000. US per Fellowship.

Canada has two recipients:

Jennifer Dawn Goss: a pilot, this is Jennifer's second Fellowship; she is studying a project of "adaptable wings". Working with an aerospace design team.

Tiffany Shaw: a pilot, is working out of the University of Toronto; her specialty is weather climate forecasts, etc.

For more information, go to the ZI website at www.zonta.org

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Pearson College: Lorraine tells us that there is a trip to Metchosin/Pedder Bay planned for Sunday, April 6th, for lunch and a tour with the students.

This year we have 8 students in Japan House; our members will be taking loads of goodies down to the students, all women this year. If you haven't been to Pearson yet, do yourself a favour and take this short trip; Lorraine will have you home before supper.

Tracy, Jane and Sharon will be accompanying Lorraine; other members will meet the group down there. If you plan to go, send Lorraine an email so they can get a meal count, eta: 1130..

Pearson College is one of the World Colleges and is a District 8 project; none of the students, who come from over 100 countries this year, pays a penny for their two year education at Pearson.

District 8 clubs contribute both to the students' welfare and comfort; as well as contributing funds to the endowment.

The Zonta Club of Nanaimo will celebrate with great fan fare its own 15th Anniversary come June and September; we need contact addresses, emails for our former members, so that invitations may be issued for any September events.

And: Zonta International has a milestone birthday coming up also: in 2009 we will be 80 years old! Zonta started in 1919 in Buffalo, New York.

You are part of a grand old team, enjoy the ride.

At dedication ceremonies in February, marking **Black History Month**; a relative of Emily Stark, recognized Zonta Nanaimo for our involvement with Multicultural Society when we sponsored a plaque marking Emily Stark's first home in Nanaimo. Ms. Stark was our first female black teacher.

International Womens Day: once more, a great success with a sold out guest list, a speaker of international focus and a young woman speaking from the heart.

The club has been hosting this particular event since 1999; we had it at the Golf Club and keep the cost modest.

Our speaker: Leilah Nadir, author, *The Orange Trees of Baghdad*; spoke on the effect that war has on women and families.

The committee also honoured Zonta Yellow Rose Day with every attendee receiving a long stemmed yellow rose ; and the program covers held yellow roses. Harp music, draws and door prizes; our YWPA recipient, energy and an efficient reception and ticket taking entrance made the entire occasion a memorable one. Thanks to every member for help above and beyond.

Attention to detail is never overlooked, even if sometimes it is not noticed by our guests. Yes, those Zontians are off again, setting standards.....

Strong women, Strong world....
(From: Status of Women, Canada)

For your interest: our **Charter members** included the following:

Heather Pastro, Diane Turner, Lorraine Markin, Patti Morris, Del McBurney, Corinne Stewart, Anna Reggin, Pat Robinson, Jennifer Wilson, Elli Stewart, Fiona Berry, Lee Mason, Marg Morden, TerryLynn Saunders, Marie King, Sharol Briere, Joyce Smith, Marta Likova, Rowena Kempling and Molly Armstrong, Patricia Comeau.

For a total of 21 members to charter the club. We are working on the history of the club over the next month to have it available for distribution at the AGM.

President's Message:

Members: we have just completed another successful year, filled with growth, interesting speakers, new projects and opportunities. Our community profile remains high and our members benefited from their strong efforts on Zonta's behalf.

We continue to build a proactive membership within the club. On behalf of the Board I wish to thank you all for the valuable support you have shown over the past biennium. We will also continue to assist and provide any guidance we can to the incoming group of club leaders for the next biennium.

We look forward to seeing you all at the AGM on June 17th. Carole Ann Brown

Each time one of us takes a step forward, we pull the entire group forward.

Important dates;

April 6th: trip to Pearson College; tour
April 8th: Board meeting, 530pm
April 15th: General meeting 530pm
April 19th: Flea market, Legion, 9 to 3

All items for the Flea Market table at the 256 Legion: contact Patti with the volunteer hours you can attend or to drop off items; bring them to the meeting on the 15th too; we need folks to set up, work the room with sales; and do clean up. Thanks in advance, it will be a day of laughter and surprises. Wear your comfortable shoes and clothes.

zontaclubnanaimo@yahoo.com
www.zonta.org www.zontadistrict8.org
125 Sylvan Place, V9R 6S1
Nanaimo, BC , Canada
(250.758.8792)