



September 2022

“Building a Better World for Women and Girls”

Vol. 1 Issue 3

**Zonta Club of Mid-Maryland
Board of Directors:**

Nicole Barnes
President

Tammie Edwards
1st Vice President

Denise Dobson McDonald
2nd Vice President

Erma Barron
*Interim Recording
Secretary*

Doris Winston
Corresponding Secretary

Tanya Duckett-Brennan
Treasurer

Carol Gardner
Financial Secretary

Erma Barron
Director

Alice Ross
Director

Stanita Scott
Director

Amanda Welch
Director

Virginia Moore
Immediate Past President

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 187
Glenn Dale, MD 20769**

**The Zonta Club of Mid-Maryland theme for the
2022-2023 year is...**



Calling All Zontians,
To accomplish our goal of Rebuilding & Rebranding, each one of us must be present and engaged, so **SHOW UP AND SHOW OUT** at our Zonta Club of Mid-Maryland - General Body Meeting on **Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 7:00 pm via Zoom.**

[Zonta MM General Body Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 892 6636 4958
Passcode: 709114

This is our opportunity to plan an exciting and engaging program that will make a difference in the lives of women and girls locally and around the world.

We need you there!



Message from the President



Greetings ZMM Members,

September 8th is National Literacy Day. Statistics state that over 773 million people in the world today are illiterate, two-thirds of whom are women. Illiteracy becomes a Women's Right issue when you consider the inequalities women face each day just because of their gender. When a woman is illiterate, it drastically affects the quality of job opportunities available to her. When she can't read or even write her name, it excludes her from basic human rights. An illiterate women can lead to the likelihood of her experiencing gender-based violence, dependence on coping mechanisms, isolation, vulnerability to deception.

Mr. Ban wrote in the United Nations News that "Literate women are more likely to send their children, especially their girls, to school," he said. "By acquiring literacy, women become more economically self-reliant and more actively engaged in their country's social, political and cultural life. All evidence shows that investment in literacy for women yields high development dividends." He also noted "Every literate woman marks a victory over poverty,"

I challenge each of my Zonta Mid-Maryland Sisters to donate a book to a local classroom or gift a book to a shelter in need. Tell us all about your experience or outcome during our next meeting.

Yours in Service and Advocacy

Nicole Barnes
President
Zonta Club of Mid-Maryland



*Thank you President Nicole Barnes,
the Membership Committee and all attendees
for an outstanding Retreat*

Some Highlights . . .



The August 13, 2022, retreat was facilitated by Angela M. Roberts, who did a superb job of keeping us on track and on time.



Janelle Johnson, Advocacy Committee Co-Chair, presented a PowerPoint on the committee's theme – 3A's, Awareness, Advocacy and Accountability. There will be an all-of-Zonta-approach, meaning there are interconnected priorities such as legislation, economics and education. The committee's plans are:

- ⇒ To Enhance Awareness
- ⇒ Take Action (Advocate)
- ⇒ Maintain Accountability



Alice Ross, Service Committee Co-Chair, and Erma Barron Director presented the committee's goals and projects:

- Partner with the Family Justice Center—the Holiday Hope program for Thanksgiving and Christmas
- Free the Girls project will collect new and gently used bras throughout the year and mail them the latter part of the Spring in 2023
- Communicate with the St. Ann's Center to discuss items that can be contributed to young mothers housed at the Center
- Consult with the director of Promise Place, an emergency/temporary youth shelter to determine how we can be of service to the young women
- Incarcerated Women Project will provide Ziploc bags of personal items for the women who reside in the Correctional Institute for

Women in Jessup. MD

- Continue to contribute the scholarship to Prince George's Community College
- Continue the Young Women in Public Affairs award and include extensive outreach activities
- Explore providing services to the residents of Safe Haven, a shelter for victims of domestic violence

Tammie Edwards – 1st Vice President and Membership Chair, presented the following:

Mission - To bring in new members and retain the current membership base. To serve as the primary resource to current and potential members – helping them with questions about Zonta or how to get engaged in the organization once they join. **Committee Goals**

- **NEW MEMBERS:** Outreach and Education efforts that spread the word about the organization through member word of mouth, social media, and informational packages
 - Introduce potential members with a ZING Event
 - Use website effectively...check that it is updated on a regular basis
 - Social Media...a proven way to attract a larger demographic
- **RETENTION/RENEWALS:**
 - Give back to the Members – provide activities or information that improve the wellbeing of all members
 - Work to increase engagement and opportunities for service
- **MEMBERSHIP RETREAT OUTCOMES**
 - Conduct exit interviews for non-renewed members
 - Initiate a Zonta Buddy Program
 - Develop Communication Plan
 - Consider joining Facebook groups - Black Girls Corner and Brown Skin Brunching
 - Expand recruiting to include male prospective members





More from the Zonta Club of Mid-Maryland 2022 Retreat



*You cannot get through a single day
without having an*
IMPACT
on the world around you.

*What you do makes a
difference,
and you have to decide what difference
you want to make.*
- Jane Goodall
©CRANBERRYLANE

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

See excerpts from the District 3 newsletter below. Please read the newsletter in its entirety, as it contains some very important information!!!



In Memory of Margo Sheridan,

A District 3 Governor (2014-16) passed away in May of this year. At the time of her passing, Margo was the Zonta International Chair of the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Committee and a member of District 11. Margo was responsible for making it possible for Zonta MM to be formed. Some of you may remember her from our first organizing meeting at the Crofton Country Club.

Let's Turn the World and Especially Mid-Maryland *Orange* on Nov. 25th

Zonta International President, Ute Scholz, has asked that each club commit to taking action during the Zonta 16 Days of Activism. During the ZI Convention, there was one day when all attendees were asked to wear orange, the color designated in support of ending violence against women. On Friday, November 25th, 2022, the United Nations' International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, all District 3 members, friends, and allies are asked to wear orange and Orange the World in support of ending violence against women. Clubs and allies should look for opportunities, including lighting up local landmarks, to publicize this action in our communities and among your networks.

Some Important Dates:

- Zonta International New Member Webinars – September 15, 2022
- Zonta Club of Washington, DC 100th Anniversary Celebration- September 18, 2022
- District 3 Governor's Event "Human Trafficking-Hidden in Plain Sight - October 1, 2022
- District 3 Zonta Orange the World- November 25, 2022 Zonta
- 16 Days of Activism- November 25 – December 10, 2022
- Zonta Rose Day/International Women's Day – March 8, 2023
- North American Inter-District Meeting- Indianapolis June 30- July 2, 2023
- District 3 Governor's Conference – October 6 – 8, 2023
- 66th Zonta International Convention - Brisbane, Australia -June 2024