



Merry Christmas, Zontians

Ending the year with a bang,

What a busy and fast year! President Lillian's schedule has kept us all pretty busy in all things Zontian. She has another busy year scheduled for 2010—watch your emails for updates.

It is the holiday season and Christmas is just around the corner. To celebrate in style we are having a Christmas Party at SeaWatch. Ruth has arranged a special menu and our newest member, Veronica Walker, is over seeing the gift exchange.

Each member and their guest should bring a wrapped gift (for man or woman) with a value of approximately \$10. A fun exchange will take place at the party.



Zontians have it all wrapped up at the 2009 Christmas Party

Members are encouraged to bring a guest to the fun event, there will be opportunities for fellowship and new comers can meet current members and learn a little about Zontians. Spouses are also invited to join in the fun.

Membership chair, Ruth Walker, wants to remind everyone that we are all members of the Membership Committee.

You must contact Ruth no later than noon on Friday, December 11th. 281-4416

Social begins at 6:00 PM and dinner will be served at 6:30 PM.

Special price this month of \$25 per person.

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ECCAHT— *Eastern Carolinas Coalition Against Human Trafficking*

All Myrtle Beach Zontians are very proud of the work being done by ECCAHT. Since its inception in 2008 the coalition has been hard at work bringing together community organizations, Federal, State and Local law enforcement agencies and the first responders of fire and paramedics in an effort to put an end to 21st century slavery.

The core team of Zontians, Kelly O'Neill-Bagwell and Betty Houbion, along with former Zontian, Bonnie Cirrincionne, and Gold Star Award recipient, Deb Walker, has done an amazing job of bringing together diverse groups around the Grand Strand.

Their latest effort is a media event at Myrtle Beach International Airport **for Jan 11, in conjunction with National Human Trafficking Awareness Day.** Members are asked to contact Kelly for assignments to help make this a successful event for ECCAHT and Zonta.

Members will receive a copy of the minutes from the last ECCAHT meeting to keep everyone up to date on the ambitious program the team has undertaken.

In these difficult times it is becoming more and more difficult for grassroots organizations to find funding sources. To help ECCAHT continue their work the team is selling **Myrtle Beach Attractions Dining and Value Guide Coupon Books.** **The books are only \$20 each** and are not only a great stocking stuffer, but the proceeds are helping a very important Zonta Project.



Contact Kelly or Betty to get your copy today. Coupons are good through December 2010.

Visit www.Zonta.org
Information about
Zonta International Initiatives.

Quick Dates:

- Dec 10—International Human Rights Day
- Dec 15—Christmas Party
- Dec 25—Christmas
- Dec 31—New Years Eve
- Jan 1—Happy New Year
- Jan 11—ECCAHT Media Event
- Jan 11—Emilia Earhart Day
- Jan 4—Board Meeting
- Jan 19—Monthly Meeting
- Feb 1—Board Meeting



Letter to Zontians from International President, Beryl Sten

Dear Zontians,

On 6 November 2009, UNIFEM launched Say NO – UNiTE to End Violence Against Women, a global advocacy initiative to stimulate, count and showcase actions on ending violence against women around the world. Zonta International was one of 80 organizations worldwide to join UNIFEM as a launch partner. Zonta International, our clubs and our members have already found numerous ways to support efforts to prevent violence against women around the globe. To maximize Zonta's participation in the Say NO – UNiTE to End Violence Against Women initiative and to raise awareness of our efforts at the global and local level, we need the participation of all our districts and clubs.

First, please take a minute to sign the global call to end violence against women by clicking on the Say NO banner below. www.saynotoviolence.org If you have already added your name to the global call, please sign it again to support Zonta's participation in this new initiative. Encourage your club members to do the same, and assist members with adding their names to the global call at your next club meeting.

After you have added your name to the global call, notify headquarters of any actions taken (as of 6 November 2009) by your district or club to help prevent violence against women. Actions can include, but are not limited to, participating in a walk to raise awareness of domestic violence, volunteering or supporting a local

women's shelter, organizing community workshops or observing the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence in your local community. Please send your submissions, including the name of your district or club, a description of the action and the number of participants, to advocacy@zonta.org.

The goal of the Say NO initiative is to collectively reach 100,000 actions by March 2010 and 1 million actions in one year. Submit your actions, and help us raise awareness of Zonta International's efforts to prevent violence against women around the world!

Thank you for your participation and support.

Beryl Sten

Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Gold Star Awards 2009

Congratulations to the 2009 Zonta Gold Star Recipients. Three women from our area were awarded for their hard work and dedication to improving the lives of women and girls in Horry and Georgetown Counties.

This year the Gold Star Awards were held at Max and Erma's on Highway 501 in Carolina Forest. Attendees were rewarded with breakfast and the inspiring work of the 2009 winners.

Thanks to Hannah for her hard work in putting together the program and over seeing the event, once again she put together a fantastic program.

Gold Star Recipients for 2009 were Barbara Blain-Olds, Assistant City Administrator for Conway, SC, Ms. Blain-Olds has worked with fundraising for Coastal Carolina University, Girls Scouts and girls leadership programs along with childrens programs with her church. Dr. Deb Walker is a Assistant Professor of Communications at Coastal Carolina University. Dr. Walker is an inspiring leader to her students. She is an active member of the ECCAHT task force to help end Human Trafficking in the Coastal Carolinas. Renee Hall is District 1409 manager for Avon Corporation. She is actively promoting the leadership opportunities provided to women by Avon and their work at ending Domestic Violence and helping to raise funds for breast cancer research.

We were so proud of our 2009 Gold Star Award recipients we knew it be even more difficult to find deserving individuals for the 2010 awards.



2009 Gold Star Recipient from left: Deb Walker, Renee Hall and Barbara Blain-Olds

Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Calendar 2009—2010

December 2009

- 1 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Board meeting
- 1 World Aids Day
- 11/25-12/10 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence
- 10 International Human Rights Day
- 15 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Christmas Party at SeaWatch

January 2010

- 5 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Board meeting
- 11 Amelia Earhart Day
- 19 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Membership Meeting Celebrating Amelia Earhart

February 2010

- 2 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Board meeting
- 16 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Membership Meeting

March 2010

- 2 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Board meeting
- 16 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Membership Meeting

Women's History Month

April 2010

- 1 YWPA Club Candidates Due to District
- 6 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Board meeting
- 20 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Membership/Business Meeting—Elect New Officers

May 2010

- 4 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Board meeting
- 18 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Membership Meeting Install Officers

June 2010

- 1 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Board meeting
- 15 Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach Membership Meeting
- 24-30 **60th Zonta International Convention** — San Antonio, TX

ZI Convention Y'all Come!

District 10 in 2010

Details Coming Soon.....





Directions: From Conway take Hwy 22 east to Hwy 17 North. Turn Right onto Kings Road for about 1/2 mile turn left onto Lakeshore Drive (at caution light). Turn left onto Seawatch Drive (first hotel on left).

From North Myrtle Beach turn left onto Kings Road at Tanger Outlets.

From Myrtle Beach turn right onto Kings Road at Tanger Outlets.

If lost call the hotel—843-918-0000

2010 Convention Tidbits

This is preliminary and for general planning purposes only.

Times and events may change

Registration begins Thursday, June 24th 1:00 PM

Opening Ceremony will be held during the afternoon on Saturday June 26th

Knibbe Ranch Event will be held on the evening of Saturday, June 26th

Final Banquet will be held during the evening of Wednesday, June 30th

Stay in one of our beautiful Convention hotels, the [Marriot RiverCenter](#) or the [Marriott Riverwalk](#)

Important: Hotel Registration must be made

through Convention Registration in order to obtain

the Zonta room rate. Do not reserve your rooms directly with the hotel.

San Antonio Marriott® Rivercenter— The Marriott is a No Smoking hotel chain.

101 Bowie Street, San Antonio, Texas 78205 USA

Phone: 1-210-223-1000

Fax: 1-210-223-6239

Toll-free: 1-800-648-4462

Check-In and Checkout Check-in: 4:00 PM Check-out: 12:00 PM

Parking

- On-site parking, fee: 12 USD hourly, 24.87 USD daily
- Valet parking, fee: 32.44 USD daily
- Maximum Vehicle Height: 6 feet 6 inches

Hotel Details

- 38 floors, 915 rooms, 86 suites
- 36 meeting rooms, 60,000 sq ft of total meeting space
- 1 Concierge level

Business Cards:

- Don't forget – a Zonta International Convention is a great place for networking so bring your business cards along to get the information to stay in touch. A great opportunity to interact will be the Networking Luncheon.

Registration

- We are encouraging all Zontians to register with the electronic (online) registration form. This allows us to save you and Zonta fees. There are also early bird registration rates. **Add link to Registration button.** You will receive an email (or mail if necessary) confirmation shortly after your registration is completed with payment.

Electronic Voting (for delegates):

- It is imperative for delegates to attend the Delegate Training Session on Saturday June 26th – please be sure to be here. We will be using small, state of the art electronic voting machines. While easy to use, delegates do need to understand the process so that business activities will flow effectively.