



ZONTA

CLUB OF  
MADISON

Build a Better World for Women and Girls



ZONTA

Club of  
Madison

1940 • 2020

Newsletter March 2025

Hello Zontians!

Zonta International recently did a virtual program for United States Zonta Club Presidents and Governors focuses on the stresses American clubs may be experiencing because of the political acrimony we experience so frequently.

I couldn't take part, but I recently received a copy of the PowerPoint from that program. One slide addressed the difference between Win-Lose and Win-Win approaches to decision-making.

Win-Lose (fixed position)

- > Me vs. You
- > Us vs. Them
- > Decision by Compromise
- > Pressure
- > Coercion
- > Manipulation

Win-Win (interest-based)

- > Us vs. the Problem
  - > Collaboration & Openness
- > Decision based upon Exploration
- > Fairness
- > Mutual Interests
- > Agreement

I thought another slide summed it up rather nicely:

**Hard on Issues, Soft on People**

- Focus on the issue not the person
- Focus on common interests
- Appeal to shared common interests when you have a conflict
- Use the shared common interests to find a solution
- Be solution-focused



I find it helpful to reflect on these suggestions as I deal with stressful interactions that are daily occurring within our state and national governments which can lop over into all parts of my life. I also remember that, ultimately, all parties need to buy into these approaches for them to be fully effective – which seems to be a challenge right now. That's another whole issue but perhaps these thoughts provide a roadmap that we as Zonta members can use as we strive to serve our community through service and advocacy.

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*President's message continued:*

Be sure you have March 18<sup>th</sup> in your calendar for our Advocacy Into Action – WI ERA NOW. The League of Women Voters-Dane County has joined us as a co-sponsor! Be there that night so you can be part of the process to start generating a public demand for a WI Constitutional Equal Rights Amendment. We need all hands-on deck. AIA-WI ERA NOW begins at 6:30 pm in the Community Room at the eastside Pinney Public Library.

And remember – April Fool's Day is also Spring Election Day this year. Important races on the ballot. VOTE!!! If you need to register to vote or update your registration, you can do that at AIA on March 18. The League of Women Voters will be present to assist you.

JoAnn Gruber-Hagen  
President  
Zonta Club of Madison

Advocacy/Service Committee –  
Pam Duane

**Advocacy:**

*ERA Event*

The ERA event is coming up on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> in the Pinney Branch Library community room from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The event features two excellent speakers as well as an opportunity to interact with others who are interested in getting an Equal Rights Amendment passed in Wisconsin. Please

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continue to get the word out to everyone you know! The League of Women Voters is a co-sponsor of this event as well.



ZONTA Club of Madison & League of Women Voters of Dane County  
Present an "Advocacy into Action Event"  
Pass the Wisconsin State ERA Now!

Tuesday, March 18, 2025  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Location:  
Pinney Library  
514 Cottage Grove Road,  
Madison, Wisconsin 53716  
514 Cottage Grove Road,  
Madison, Wisconsin 53716

**Wisconsin Fact:** Wisconsin was one of the first states to ratify the Federal ERA, but it has not, yet, been added to the Wisconsin State Constitution

Community Room

right — that the U.S. Constitution specifically affirms and applies equally to women and men is the right to vote.

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

Mary T. Nagel,  
Assistant Professor Legal Writing,  
Associate Dean for Academic  
Affairs, Chicago-Kent College of Law  
and District 6 Rep to Zonta International  
USA Caucus.

Michele H. Thorne,  
Attorney in private practice  
and an active volunteer. Long  
time advocate of the ERA.

Join us for the Zonta Club of Madison Advocacy in Action Event.  
Participate and find out why we need to pass the State ERA and how to Make it Happen.

Zonta Club of Madison [www.zontaofmadison.org](http://www.zontaofmadison.org) <https://eracoalition.org/about/>  
Contact: Pam Duane, [pamanddenny@charter.net](mailto:pamanddenny@charter.net)

**Service:**

*Felicia's Donation Closet*

Upcoming service opportunities include organizing donations to Felicia's Donation Closet on March 13<sup>th</sup> (see recent email from Ellen). If you want to participate in this event, please contact Ellen. Exact details about the time will follow soon. This is a great chance to do some group, hands on volunteering.

<https://feliciasdonationcloset.org/>



We have begun helping them by cleaning their new warehouse in preparation for storing household donations!

*New Warehouse prep!*



*JoAnn Gruber-Hagen, Doug Hagen  
Ellen Ermer*

**677 Pounds!!** Thanks to everyone for your donations to our Way Forward Resources food drive. This was our third year for the food drive and our goal was to break the 2024 record of 487 pounds. We did that plus a lot more! Members donated items from the “wish list”: canned goods, pasta/rice/beans, baking supplies, laundry soap, diapers and more. We hope to continue this yearly event, as food insecurity continues to be a significant issue in our community. (And remember, they need donations all year around!)

<https://www.wayforwardresources.org/>

Ellen and Jane are looking into other volunteer opportunities at the Way Forward Resources food pantry. Since there is always a need for volunteers at food pantries, there will probably be a lot of ways in which we can

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help. Stay tuned for details on more hands-on opportunities.

*Delivering donations to WayForward Resources*



*Pam Duane, Denny Duane, Doug Hagen, JoAnn Gruber-Hagen, Tammy Hagen, Jane Hartman*

### DAIS

If you are interested in creating a new dinner team for DAIS, please contact Pam about taking the pre-volunteer training. We would be cooking dinner for residents and staff once per month. The training begins in May.

### Little Libraries – Gayle Galston

April is the month we will be collecting books for the *Bev Duncan Little Libraries* project. You may remember that we named this annual event after Bev Duncan as a memorial for her many active years as a Zontian in our club. We will hopefully be donating to the YWCA shelter as well, and Gayle is waiting to see if they want this. We are once again teaming up with Lake City Books, which is a woman owned bookstore, across from the Children’s Museum.

<https://www.lakecitybooks.com/>

We encourage you to patronize the business there. We will also accept financial donations if you would prefer this – you can make a check out to the Zonta Madison Foundation and send to Laura Curtiss. On April 26th we will be having a gathering (place to be determined) to pick up the books to distribute. More details and a suggested book list will be provided at the March club meeting.



**March Meeting & Program –  
Sandy Peterson & Tammy Hagen**

**Operations Committee:**

Due to our very low attendance in February, The Vintage has reached out early for an estimate of our attendance in March. If it is again low, they are asking us to use the smaller room next to where we meet since they have another group asking about using our usual room. As per usual the price is \$30 and there will be select menu choices for dinner.

**\*\* Therefore, I am asking each of you to reconfirm your attendance (or not) at the March meeting ASAP. \*\***

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**Date:** Wed., March 19, 2025

**Location:** Vintage Brewery  
674 S. Whitney Way  
Madison, Wisconsin

**Time:** 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Social/Sign-in  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Dinner,  
Program, Business Meeting

**RSVP:** To Tammy by noon, Friday,  
March 14, 2025  
[thcormd@aol.com](mailto:thcormd@aol.com)

**Speaker:**

JoAnn Gruber-Hagen  
Zonta Club of Madison President

**Program:**

A follow up discussion on the previous nights' Advocacy into Action ERA Event. How did it go, what did we learn and what are the next steps?

**Why We Need a WISCONSIN STATE ERA**  
Protect More Groups: ERAs can expand other protections; race, creed, sexual orientation, etc.

**Zonta Club of Madison and  
League of Women Voters of Dane County**  
"Advocacy into Action - Wisconsin's ERA"

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 ● 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
Pinney Library, 516 Cottage Grove Road, Madison

Fundraising Committee –  
Tammy Hagen

The Fundraising Committee met recently to work on choosing films for the fall Wild & Scenic Film Fest. We picked seven films focusing on how climate change is affecting women and girls and/or how women are working to make a positive impact on this change. The films are of varying length and genre with a total run time of ~ 90-95 minutes.

The exact date of the Film Fest is still pending since we have yet to finalize a venue. The choices have been narrowed to Edgewood College or Marcus Point Cinema. Your job is to start discussing attendance with your friends, family, and associates. Tweak their interest by relating the information about one of our choices; R.E.S.C.U.E. a heartwarming documentary about resilience, hope, and triumph in the fight to protect elephants and to empower women and their community.



Membership Committee –  
JoAnn Gruber-Hagen

Thank you to the many of you who have met with a Membership Committee member for a “conversation” about your Zonta experience. The conversations will be wrapping up in the next week or so. Then the committee will be discussing notes from each of these conversations to pull out threads of things that are going well, things going not so well and things not happening that should.

The committee will have a summary with recommendations for the May newsletter in preparation for a discussion at our May Annual Meeting.





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## Zonta Club, District & International Calendar of Events

### UPCOMING ZONTA DATES

- March 6, 2025 – “Telling Her Story” Zonta Club of Janesville IWD Celebration
- March 8, 2025 - International Women’s Day and Zonta Rose Day
- March 18, 2025 – Advocacy in Action event
- March 19, 2025 - Zonta Club of Madison Membership Meeting
- April 16, 2025 – Zonta Club of Madison Membership Meeting
- April 26, 2025 – Little Free Library Book Distribution Day
- May 17, 2025 - Area 2 Spring Workshop – New Berlin Public Library
- June 20-22, 2025 - North American Inter-District Meeting - Novi, Michigan
- October 10-12, 2025 - District 6 Fall Conference - Bloomington, Illinois
- July 11-14, 2026 - Zonta International 67th Convention - Vancouver, Canada

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March Birthdays:

- Laura C      March 28
- Sandy P      March 30

*We hope you have a fun day filled with yummy food, family and good friends!*

Zonta Club of Madison  
Newsletter Submission Guidelines

The monthly submission deadline for 2024-25 will be the **24<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

***Please send your submissions to:***  
[zontamadisonnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:zontamadisonnewsletter@gmail.com), or  
[jlh2776@gmail.com](mailto:jlh2776@gmail.com).

All submissions should be in a simple Word document format. Arial font is desired, (however I can easily change font). If you have photos of Zonta events, please send these as well.

Do you want your committee or board meeting dates published! We can do that! Send your dates/times to the email address above and it will be on the calendar of events.

Corrections & suggestions for improvement are welcome and should be sent to the newsletter Gmail or Jane for publication in future editions as appropriate. Thank you!

Jane Hartman  
Newsletter Editor