



ZONTA CLUB OF LAFAYETTE

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

District 10 Area 2, Club 0858
Charter Date – September 8, 1978

Bayou News

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Our Mission: Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy

2021 – 2022 Zonta Club of Lafayette

Officers

Dory Thomassie – President
zontadory@yahoo.com
Geeta Dalal – Vice President
gedalal@yahoo.com
Marietta LaBauve – Secretary
Paulette Yandle – Treasurer

Directors

Suzanne Daigle – Director
Kay Gotte – Director
Clancy Ratliff – Director

Club Chairs

Advocacy – Geeta Dalal
Membership – Suzanne Daigle
Nominating – Maggie Warren
Service – Marietta LaBauve
Amelia Earhart – Sharon Hardy
Historian/Archives – Karen Lestelle
Public Relations – Karen Lestelle
Scholarship – Lisa LeBlanc
United Nations – Clancy Ratliff

Newsletter submissions go to editors

[Dory Thomassie](#) or [Geeta Dalal](#)

Visit us online at

www.zontalafayette.org

or on FaceBook at

Zonta Club of Lafayette

President's Message

Flowers are blooming. The weather is getting warmer. Schools will be concluding their final months of the semester. As the fiscal year comes to an end, so does my term as president. It has been quite the journey for me. I am so very proud to be in Zonta. These two years have had many successes. The main reason for that is the support I have had from the wonderful club members. I appreciate you more than I can say. Thank you for taking this journey with me. The next chapter will be heading my way soon.

Save ze TaTa's was a success! Thank you to everyone who made this event a success. We had this long-awaited event on April 7, 2022 at River Oaks Catering and Event Center.

Save ze Ta Ta'z !!!



Zonta Club of Lafayette Art Bra Event

For those of you who are interested, there is a virtual option for the Zonta Convention in Hamburg. Early Registration ends on February 28, the cost is \$189. Regular Registration is from March 1 through May 15 and the cost is still \$189. If you register from May 16 through the beginning of the event, the cost will be \$210.

Our next meetings will be held on May 2, 2022 and June 6, 2022. The meetings will be in person at Comfort Suites 114 Fernand Street behind Chili's. The social gathering will be at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 6:00p.m.

Dory Thomassie
Zonta Lafayette
President 2021-2022

Achiever Spotlight



Karen Lestelle

Zonta Club of Lafayette

Karen Lestelle has been a member of Zonta Club of Lafayette since 1986. Through the years, she has taken on many positions in this club. The history and archival data for the Zonta Club of Lafayette is carefully recorded and maintained by Karen. She is the one you go to when you need information about Zonta. If she doesn't know it right away, she will find it and report back. As Public Relations Chair, Karen also updates and manages the club FaceBook page. Most recently, Karen chaired the Save ze TaTa's Art Bra Gala Fundraiser. Great job, Karen. She is a wonderful advocate for Zonta. Karen is tireless in furthering the mission of Zonta. We had several virtual Membership Mingles during the pandemic lockdown, in which she prepared PowerPoint Presentations highlighting information about Zonta. She brings lots of potential members to this club.

Karen is presently employed by SLCC as the Executive Assistant to the Vice President for Economic and Workforce Development. Before SLCC, Karen worked in various capacities in the Oil and Gas Industry.

Family is an important facet in Karen's life. Karen and husband, Les, are the proud parent of two daughters, Jeanne and Lillian. They travel nearly every other weekend to New Orleans to care for Les's mom. When they are not working or traveling to New Orleans, they like to go to Cypremort Point to camp. This is a creative family with Karen and Les designing and making Mardi Gras floats for the Cypremort Point Krewe.

Zonta Club of Lafayette is proud to recognize Karen Lestelle. Thank you for everything you do.

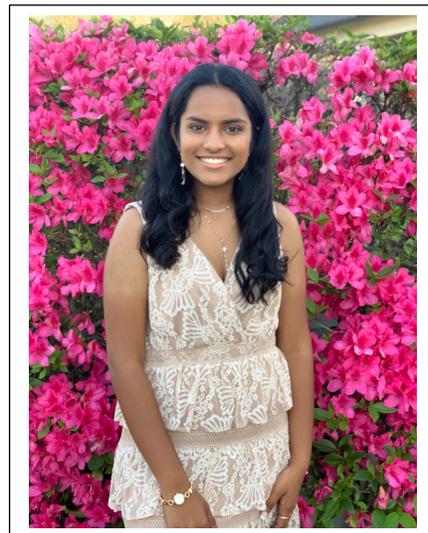
Be Kind – not for any reason other than it is the right thing to do.

Newsworthy Items

Scholarships

[Young Woman in Public Affairs \(YWPA\) Award](#) *(local, district, and International)*

Roma Kolluru is an extraordinary young woman and our Young Women in Public Affairs Award winner. Roma is a senior at Lafayette High School. She is motivated and involved in many school activities. Roma is the president of National Honor Society and Beta Club. She is Vice-President of the Speech and Debate team. She is on the Louisiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council that provides communication between youth and the state legislature. Roma is deeply interested in making this world better and healthier. Her list of accomplishments is long and impressive. We are proud to have this amazing young woman as the Zonta Club of Lafayette's winner.



[District 10 STEM \(Science, Technology, Engineering & Math\) Scholarship](#) *(local and district)*

The goal of the STEM Scholarship is to encourage more young women to pursue a high education degree in science, technology, engineering or math, while also encouraging leadership achievements in science, technology, engineering and/or math and a dedication to the advancement of the status of women. We are targeting currently enrolled undergraduate female students from a District 10 state, who are majoring in a STEM field.

[Application, due May 15](#)

Calendar

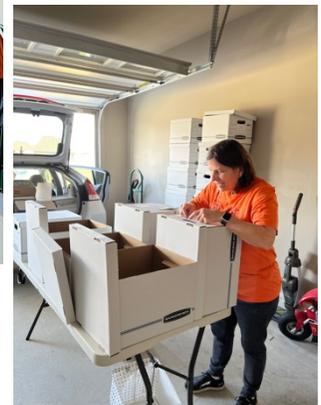
April 2, 2022: World Autism Awareness Day
April 5, 2022: Sexual Assault Awareness Day of Action
April 7, 2022: World Health Day
April 7, 2022: Save ze TaTa's
April 10, 2022: National Youth HIV and AIDS Awareness Day
April 17, 2022: Easter
April 22, 2022: Earth Day
April 27, 2022: Administrative Professionals Day
April 27 – May 1, 2022: Festival International de Louisiane
April 28, 2022: Holocaust Remembrance Day

May 2, 2022: Installation of new officers for Zonta Club of Lafayette
May 5, 2022: Cinco de Mayo
May 5, 2022: Sola Giving Day
May 6, 2022: National Nurses Day
May 8, 2022: Mother's Day
May 8, 2022: Victory in Europe Day
May 13-15, 2022: Area 2 Meeting in Houston
May 30, 2022: Memorial Day

Zonta Club of Lafayette Events

Period Purse Project

On March 15, 2022 The Period Purse Project got underway. Dory and Marietta packed the feminine hygiene products for girls in boxes to be delivered to Lafayette parish middle and high schools. They delivered the donated items to area schools with the help of several ladies from the Zonta Club of Lafayette. These products are provided free of charge to the girls who need them. Thanks to Marietta for coordinating with Natalie Watson and the Lafayette Parish Schools.



Marietta LaBauve and Dory Thomassie with products for the Period Purse Project

Save ze TaTa's



Dory with the bras



Award Winners at Save ze TaTa's



The 11 Annual Art Bra Gala Fundraiser with dinner, live and silent auctions took place April 7 at River Oaks. The last event was held in 2019. Save ze TaTa's was postponed in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid-19. When we got an all-clear message, we were elated. Karen Lestelle was the Chair of the Gala Committee and Sub Committees were created to assist her in this undertaking:

Tickets – Paulette Yandle

Silent Auction – Suzanne Daigle

Decorations – Maggie Maggie Warren

Live Auction and Art Bra – Sharon Hardy

Publicity – Christen Tauzin

Door Prizes – Ismatara Reena

River Oaks Catering and Event Center provided a spacious room and delicious meal. The wait staff delivered the meal to the individuals at the tables. It was lovely to be catered to in this way.

Guest speaker, Dr. Reatha Williams, spoke about the difficulties of having breast cancer during the pandemic. It is difficult to have cancer at any time. During a pandemic, it is especially difficult since family could not be with the patient undergoing treatment.

The room was filled with Silent Auction and Live Auction items as well as door prizes. Art bras were on display as one entered the room. Patrons voted on the bras and a prize given to the People's Choice. Some bras were lighted and one even had sound.

Fred Mills was entertaining as the Auctioneer for the Art bras. As each Breast cancer survivor modeled a bra, (which they wore outside their clothing) he encouraged bidders to up the ante.

The success of the Gala depends on the cooperation of many. Thanks to the Zonta Club of Lafayette for making the evening so memorable. Scholarships will be funded and donations will be made to women's groups who need them.

Some of the Art Bras at Save ze TaTa's



Dr. Reatha Williams



River Oaks



Tenisha Prout with her bra

District 10 News

Area 2 Meeting

The Area 2 meeting is Saturday, May 14 in Houston, Texas hosted by the Zonta e-Club of USA-2 and Zonta Club of Houston

The agenda will include topics pertaining to membership, advocacy, and leadership. You do not want to miss this incredible training that will allow you to walk away empowered to make a difference both locally and globally. You will also be given the tools and resources to strengthen and grow your club. The Area 2 clubs are e-Club of USA-2, Greater East Texas, Houston, Lafayette, Longview, and Shreveport. All district members are welcome to attend, of course.

ZONTA International News and Events

FIRSTS FOR WOMEN: MARCH 2022

Posted on 4/1/2022

Zonta International celebrates "firsts for women" in all different sectors in countries and communities around the world. Looking back on March 2022, we acknowledge the following women.

REMARKABLE ACTIVIST, AUTHOR, FILMMAKER AND ARTIST SHARES HER POWERFUL STORY

Posted on 4/4/2022

Nahid Shahalimi is an author, human rights activist, international consultant on gender, former professional athlete, filmmaker and one of the most prolific international artists in the art world today. Find out more about her powerful story.

INTRODUCING 2021 WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARS

Posted on 4/20/2022

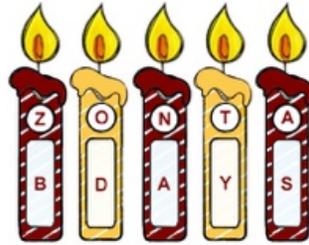
Zonta International is pleased to announce the 2021 Women in Technology Scholars.

HAMBURG INTERNATIONAL ZONTA CONVENTION

Registration rates

The rate to register before May 15 is \$189. After May 15, the cost is \$210.

- **Member Virtual Only**
 - Access to virtual online profile, networking, advance events including district meetings.
 - Opportunity to view select convention events including opening ceremony, keynotes, presentations and closing ceremony.
 - Access to post event recordings.



April
16th Joelle Doguet

May
26th Geeta Dalal
30th Mary Neiheisel