



ZONTA

CLUB OF
LAFAYETTE

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

District 10 Area 2, Club 0858

Bayou News

Volume 7

June 2021

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

2020 – 2021 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 – TBA
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

Send your newsletter submissions to
Dory Thomassie or Geeta Dalal

Visit us online at
www.zontalafayette.org
or on FaceBook at
Zonta Club of Lafayette

President's Message

It is now summertime. A feeling of normalcy has returned. It is HOT ☀️ and HUMID ☁️. Just like it is supposed to be! Life continues to improve. The grass is growing and growing and growing. The light at the end of the proverbial tunnel glows more brightly each day.

WOA has happened! We had our celebration banquet on May 3, 2021. This event was held at Vermilionville on May 3, 2021. Karen Lestelle, Paulette Yandle and Kay Gotte provided an evening to remember. Paulette Yandle handled the ticket sales. Decorations were set up by Kathy Yates, Mary Farmer-Kaiser and Ismatara Reena. Photography was by Maggie Warren and Peyton Phares, Lisa LeBlanc's Kinesiology student. I read along with Karen Lestelle, Mary Neiheisel, Kim Hitt and Clancy Ratliff. Lisa LeBlanc delivered all the items for the silent auction. It was fabulous and I had a wonderful time. It was so special to see everyone who attended.

Save Ze TaTa's is also going to happen! Mark your calendars ✓ for October 7, 2021.

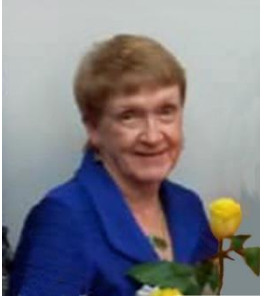


Karen Lestelle has arranged for Kassie Alwich to host "Refuel and Refresh – An Intuitive Talk" Webinar on June 24, 2021. Tickets will be \$10 + \$1.26 service fee. Kassie is a member of the Zonta Club of Albany New York. She wrote a book celebrating the empowerment of women. This will be a wonderful opportunity for all of us to join together in support of each other.

We held an Election of Officers during the April general meeting.
Dory Thomassie – President
Geeta Dalal – Vice President
Paulette Yandle – Treasurer
Marietta LaBauve – Secretary
Suzanne Daigle, Clancy Ratliff and Kay Gotte – Directors

I pray for each of you to have a lovely summer. Be kind to one another. Love is all.

Achiever Spotlight



Chris Weaver
Zonta Club
of
Lafayette
Member since 2011

Zonta Club of Lafayette is saluting Chris Weaver. She has been a member of Zonta since 2011.

Chris Weaver is currently an associate with ERI, Inc. of Baton Rouge, a leading Louisiana consulting firm. She began her career in education as marketing education coordinator at Woodlawn High School and was named Louisiana Teacher of the Year. Chris also served as a high school principal, at Caddo Career Center and Woodlawn High School in Shreveport. She was Assistant State Superintendent of Vocational Education from 1994 to 1996, developing Louisiana's network of HIGH SCHOOLS THAT WORK and Tech Prep.

After a career in education, Chris made a career move to workforce development. She co-authored and administered Louisiana's \$25 million federal School-to-Work grant from the Governor's Office. When the 1997 Legislature created the state Workforce Commission, Chris became the first executive director and served under two governors—one Republican and one Democrat. She created the initiatives for inter-agency development of industry-based certifications and the Work Ready Certificate.

Chris now enjoys the luxury of working on projects she is passionate about—helping Louisiana citizens build a better future for themselves and their children.

It is an honor to have Chris in the Zonta Club of Lafayette. You are one of the best.



Louisiana Women Artists' Exhibit

"Women Helping Women"

July 10 – August 16, 2021

Acadiana Center for the Arts

101 Vermillion St.

Contact Mary Neiheisel for more info

Newsworthy Items

Scholarships

[Jane M Klausman \(JMK\) Woman in Business Scholarship](#)

(local, district, and International)

The Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarships are awarded to women undertaking business studies who have demonstrated outstanding potential in the field. Zonta International offers up to 32 scholarships of US\$2,000 each at the district/region level and six international scholarships in the amount of US\$8,000 each. Any woman undertaking a business program at an accredited university/college/institute, including online students, in at least the second year of an undergraduate program through the final year of a Master's program at the time the application is submitted to the local Zonta club, is eligible to apply. The scholarship may be used at any university, college or institute offering accredited courses and degrees.

[Application, due August 1](#)



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Zonta Club of Lafayette Decorates the Lobby of Family Justice Center for Service Project

On Thursday, June 3, The Zonta Club of Lafayette decorated the new Lobby area of the Family Justice Center at 718 S. Buchanan Street, downtown, Lafayette. Paulette and Suzanne spearheaded this event. Several members donated items to create a welcoming space to those who enter this facility.

Faith House is partnered with the Family Justice Center of Acadiana. It provides a multi-disciplinary team of professionals working together, under one roof to effectively respond to domestic violence. The center houses many partners, but the basic partners are law enforcement, prosecutors, civil legal service providers, and community-based advocates. The core concept is to provide one place where victims can go to talk to an advocate, plan for their safety, interview with a police officer, meet with a prosecutor, receive civil legal assistance, and receive information on shelter.

The Zonta Club of Lafayette is proud to partner with The Family Justice Center.



Pictured l to r: Chris Weaver, Christen Tausin, Suzanne Daigle, Paulette Yandle, Joelle Doguet and Sharon Hardy.



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

Cajun Heartland State Fair

On June 5, 2021, Zonta Club of Lafayette and Faith House of Acadiana shared a booth at the Cajun Heartland State Fair. Karen Lestelle secured the booth and those present spread the word about Zonta and the Zonta Club of Lafayette. Members who manned the booth were Karen Lestelle, Sharon Hardy, Ismatara Reena, Clancy Ratliff, Mary Neiheisel, Marietta LaBauve, Christen Tausin, Paulette Yandle, Tracy Frentz and Dory Thomassie.

ZONTA International News and Events

[ZONTA INTERNATIONAL STATEMENT INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT](#)

Posted on 6/19/2021

Today on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, Zonta International recognizes the impact of COVID-19 on survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN BREAKING BARRIERS IN AEROSPACE](#)

Posted on 6/17/2021

Zonta International is pleased to share more information about the Amelia Earhart Fellows of 2021.

[ZONTA USA CAUCUS STATEMENT ON SENATE'S FAILURE TO CONSIDER PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT](#)

Posted on 6/10/2021

As fierce advocates for gender equality and equal pay, the Zonta USA Caucus is deeply disappointed by the U.S. Senate's decision to block the Paycheck Fairness Act.



June

21st Dory Thomassie
24th Tracy LeBlanc
29th Kathy Yates

July

14th Marietta LaBauve
16th Maggie Warren