
ZONTA

 CLUB OF
CHEYENNE

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

EMPOWERING WOMEN

THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

Zephyr

What's Inside

Silent Witness March

Story Inside

Page 3

Governor's Proclamation

16 Days of Activism

Page 4

Hope Bags

Clothing Items are Needed!

Page 5

Upcoming Events

Board meeting and more

Page 6



Message from the President

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do."

— Edward Everett Hale

2020 was the year we all wish we could forget. 2021 was our rebuilding year. We should be proud of what we have accomplished as Zontians. We were tired of sitting home while there was work to be done, so we went back to our mission of changing the world and making it a better place.

Cheyenne has been reintroduced to Zonta and is starting to get to know us. We engaged our community, waved our arms, and made some noise during Cheyenne Frontier Days. Stop Human Trafficking. End Domestic Violence. NOW.

We celebrated our community artists by featuring them in an on-line Art Contest. Covid-19 would not win. By doing it on-line we could share their talents far and wide while still messaging the world that any kind of Violence Against Women is not okay. Child Marriage is not okay. Interpersonal Violence is not okay. Human Trafficking is not okay. And we sent that message to the world.

We educated ourselves about living with domestic violence by role-playing *In Her Shoes*. It is time to end the thinking, "why doesn't she just leave?" As we learned, it is not that simple – or is it? Discussions on this continue with the help of those who interact with survivors every day.

We raised a little money with the help of our Cheyenne neighbors. People saw us on Cruise Night and supported us. We rolled out our *Respect Women* campaign at Black Tooth Brewery, and engaged in some wonderful discussions about the need to engage men in ending gender-based violence. A few more people asked who we are and what we do.

We added a couple of members to our Club. Some reached out to us – some were asked to reengage. Others are learning who we are and are still in the pondering stage. Some weeks, nearly a 1,000 people see and engage with our social media posts. That is not bad, considering we were happy to have 100 followers a few years ago.

When we put out the call for people to march with us to raise awareness about the evil of gender-based violence in our community, they came. They marched. Dozens of them. Five-fold the number of people who walked with us last year.

We should be proud of our accomplishments as we look back on 2021. As we look to the new year, and start to make our New Year's resolutions, what will we set out to accomplish next year? Dream big. There is still much to be done.

-Denise

ZONTA
100
YEARS

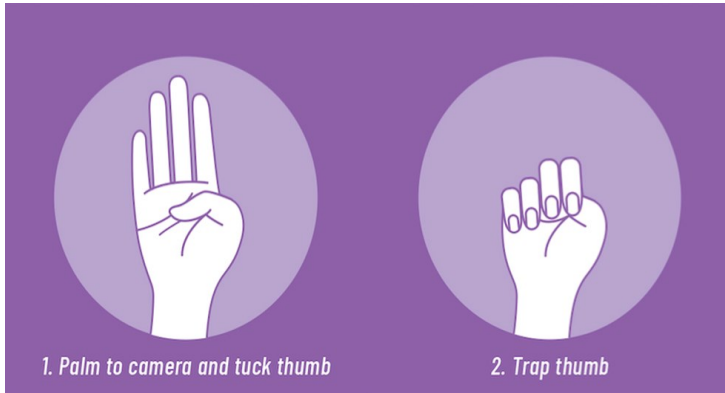
"Respect and honor for the beloved woman is the basis of respect and honor for the family, the children and the earth."

*- White Buffalo Day Proclamation,
August 1998*

Announcements

In 2020, The Canadian Women's Foundation developed an online initiative to assist those who may be experiencing domestic violence. This initiative included a hand signal that would alert others on video calls to possible violence occurring in the home of the signaler. Since the development of this hand signal, the use of it to indicate possible violence has spread to multiple social media platforms such as TikTok and Facebook.

More recently, this hand signal was used in Kentucky, when a missing 16-year-old North Carolina girl gestured to a passing motorist who recognized the signal as a sign of violence from a TikTok post. The motorist then contacted law enforcement which led to the recovery of the missing juvenile, who was with a 61-year-old male, that was subsequently arrested for unlawful imprisonment and possession of material showing a sexual performance by a minor. This bulletin is for informational purposes in the event a law enforcement officer sees or receives a complaint based on this type of hand signal.



DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

When: December 2, 2021 5:30 p.m.

Where: ALIGN @ 822 W. 23rd Street, Cheyenne

How: In-person with a Zoom Option

It has been a few months since we have had a quorum at a Board Meeting. It is important for all current Board Members to attend if they are able and their schedule so permits. The agenda will be sent out a day or two in advance of the meeting. Please advise Denise Parrish if you have an item to be placed on the agenda.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE (Zoom) MEETING

December 7th 5:30 p.m.

Discussion will focus on planning for *In Her Shoes* events in January and any other upcoming events we think we should begin planning.

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE DISCUSSION.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Fundraising Committee meeting is scheduled for

December 14th at 5:30 p.m.

Denise's House (2829 Deming Blvd.)

ALL ARE WELCOME

Discussions will focus on our newly revamped fundraiser currently scheduled for March 4, 2022.

ZONTA OF CHEYENNE CLUB MEETING

December 9th, Noon, Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3159567513?pwd=OTNTaXpEbkRrUTN2eEJPU2taeENHQOT09>

Meeting ID: 315 956 7513

Passcode: 429069

ZONTA QUICK LIST

If you have any updates to the member quick list, please submit those changes to Jody

Gostas

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence



Zonta Club of Cheyenne has once again set up a display of the Silent Witness Silhouettes in the Laramie County Library following a procession on November 20, 2021. The display will be removed on or about December 8 and all club members are urged to visit the representations of victims of domestic violence in Laramie County and also review information about missing and/or murdered indigenous people.

The 16 Days begins on November 25 (International Day Against Violence Against Women) and ends December 10 (International Human Rights Day). Other dates include November 29 (International Women Human Rights Defenders Day), December 1 (World AIDS Day) and December 6 which marks the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre. The 2021 theme for this global initiative is “ending femicide” and also “domestic violence and the world of work”.

Two of the Laramie County Silent Witness women were actually killed while at work (Kari McKinney and Robin Muniz). 2021 also marks the 30th year of the campaign to raise awareness about violence against women. The vision “from awareness to action” continues to be highlighted.

More information can be found at 16dayscampaign.org. Our Zonta club also prepared proclamations for Governor Gordon and Mayor Collins to sign. We had a very emotional presentation by Mary Billiter describing her experience with domestic violence. Family members of several of the victims marched with us and assisted in the display. Kristie Wilson appeared on KGWN television and Denise Parrish provided an excellent news release for the newspaper. Other committee members include Jennica Fournier, Michelle Aldrich, Nancy Freudenthal and Mary Walker.

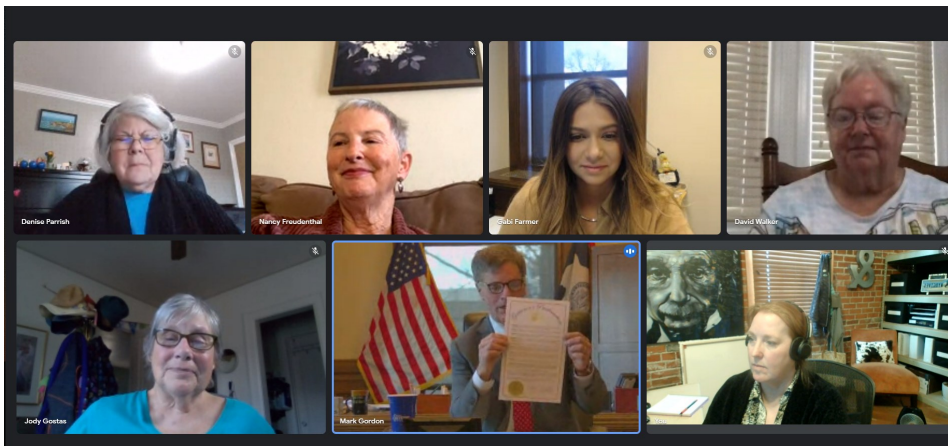
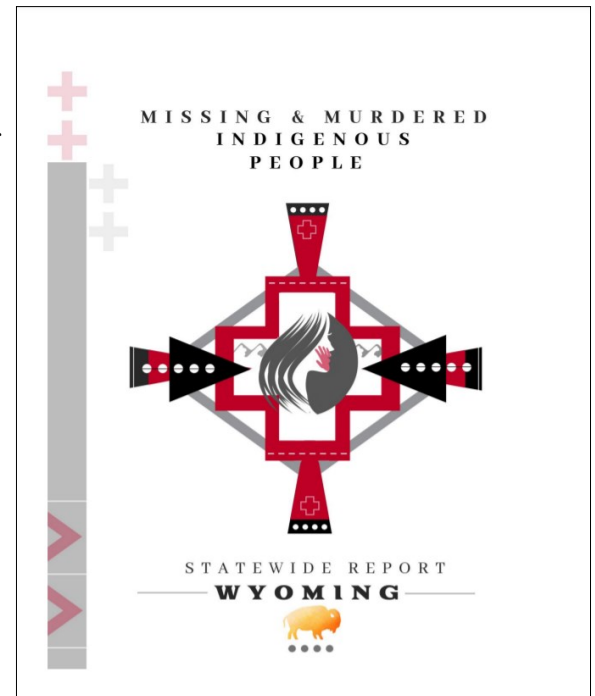


Proclamation to Acknowledge 16 Days of Activism

On November 3, 2021, Governor Gordon signed a proclamation acknowledging the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence and encouraging all citizens to *support those who work to end gender violence* and to *learn about the detrimental consequences gender violence has on the well-being of the community*. At the end of the on-line signing, Governor Gordon asked those Zontians representing our Club if we would touch base with Cara Chambers, the Chair of the Governor's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Task Force, to see if or how we might assist with the work being done. The task force was formed in 2019 and released its first report in January of 2021.

Denise Parrish had a long chat with Ms. Chambers about the issue. Without hesitation, she agreed to add Jody Gostas, Ann Erdmann, and Denise Parrish to the Task Force meeting invitation list. However, she suggested that there was little hands-on activity to be done at the moment, unless we specifically found an Indigenous Group with whom to partner. The substantive work is mostly being done by indigenous people and much work has already been done in Wyoming with some statutory changes and the issuance of a task force report. She also indicated that the report received a fair amount of attention when she and others received calls about the Gabby Petito death, and discussions lead to missing persons.

A task force meeting was held on November 17th and several interesting things were discussed. There was mention that some folks were looking into training applications for coroners that would help with better race identification. There is a film in the works, expected to be issued in 2022, that tells the personal stories of four Wyoming indigenous women who are missing or murdered; PBS has agreed to show this film around the state when completed. Also of interest, Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation has set up a Missing People of Wyoming website which can be found at <https://wyomingdci.wyo.gov/dci-homepage/missing-persons>



As the head of the Wyoming Division of Victims Services at the Attorney General's Office, Ms. Chambers suggested that the most prevalent crimes that might be of interest to Zonta are child abuse, sexual assault, and domestic violence. She indicated that there are still some gaps in the statutes that might need some additional advocates to fix.

Zonta also has representatives on the Human Trafficking Task Force which is part of Ms. Chambers responsibilities. Kathy Orr, and others, continue to report on activities on that front.



International Women's Day Event 2022

The Fundraising Committee unveiled their plan for International Women's Day in March 2022. The name of the event is CANCEL OUT: Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking presented by Zonta Club of Cheyenne.

It will be held at the Metropolitan, March 4, 2022. The committee will be selling individual tickets for \$75 and sponsor tables \$750/8 and \$400/4, limited at 225 attendees.

There will be a plate dinner (choices: Pasta Primavera, Steak Frites and Pan Seared Salmon) raffle, silent auction, limited vendors and a speaker. More details and flyers to come!



Items Needed for Hope Bags

- ◆ Boys and Girl's Clothing (no underwear)
- ◆ Zip up Sleepers for babies and toddlers
- ◆ Women's solid color leggings (S, M, L, XL)

Consider buying some much needed and much appreciated items while out holiday shopping! Thank you

Our Zephyr Editor, Michelle Huff, has made a big change in her personal life. She resigned her full-time job at the WY National Guard and is now working for Frontier Airlines in their corporate safety office. As she says, "It was indeed a big change but definitely for the better!" Good luck with the new job Michelle!

-Reported by Jody Gostas

Meeting Minutes Summary



ZONTA
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 CHEYENNE
 MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
 EMPOWERING WOMEN
 THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

Zonta Club of Cheyenne – Member Meeting
Thursday, November 11, 2021
5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Pre-Meeting Social Time
6:00 p.m. Meeting Begins
The Metropolitan
1701 Carey Avenue

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

Denise called the meeting to order at 6:14pm at The Metropolitan restaurant. 18 members were present. A quorum was established.

Birthdays – Carla Thurin, Audra Gagnon

Sharing – Good News in Our Lives & Not So Good Things for Which We Can Use Some Support

Every Member, Every November –

Zonta Foundation for Women hoping every member will give at least once a year

Mary Walker has donation forms if anyone wants one - can also give on-line

(Information for Donation Form – District 12, Area 2, Club 0372)

Cheyenne Safehouse – Carla Thurin, Executive Director

We will receive an update on Safehouse Services in Cheyenne, how many are using its services, and other information about the services it provides survivors of domestic violence. Carla says they have 16 bedrooms, 44 beds. Currently there are 42 people staying there.

December Charity Project – Collect Needed Items for Safehouse. Items of need are wash cloths and full-size hygiene products.

Update on Plans for Silent Witness March – November 20th – Mary Walker

We will be meeting at the front of the Capitol building on Saturday at 9:45am. We will then march to the library. A room for the speaker has been reserved on the 3rd floor. Kristy Wilson will contact the news station for a possible “event spotlight.” Denise will prepare a press release.

Follow-up *In Her Shoes* -Advocacy Committee is working scheduling a few sessions of this with invited community leaders during Mid-January, 2022

Hope Bags-watch for an update from Pam Pafford

Fundraising Meeting – November 16th, 5:30 p.m. – 2829 Deming Blvd

Focus is on organizing a revamped version of Zonta Night Out to be held, if possible, in March, 2022
 Place, date, and basics of event to be decided and announced next week.

Membership Committee –The Membership Committee has organized a Zonta Secret Sister Santa. Names were drawn. Members were given the guidelines to follow. A Secret Sister Happy Hour will be scheduled for the end of December to reveal the secret sisters.

REMINDER – ZONTA IS NON-PARTISAN – WE ALL SUPPORT WOMEN

Upcoming Meetings / Events

- November 16, 5:30 p.m. – Fundraising Committee Meeting
- November 20, 9:30 a.m. – Silent Witness March and Gathering
- December 2, 5:30 p.m. – Zonta Club of Cheyenne Board Meeting
- December 9, Noon – ZOOM – Zonta Club of Cheyenne Meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm. Respectfully submitted by Belinda Sawyer, Secretary

2021 Club Officers And Board

President: Denise Parrish

parrishzonta@gmail.com

Vice President: Michelle Aldrich

Michelle.aldrich@wyo.gov

Secretary: Belinda Sawyer

belindawyohomes@gmail.com

Treasurer: Kathy Cathcart

kcathcart@TheAlignTeam.org

Board Directors:

Ilaine Brown

Betty Abernethy

Rebecca Reid

Audra Johnson

Kristy Williams

Nominating Committee

Dasa Roberston

Ann Erdmann

Mary Walker

Committee Chairs

Advocacy: Denise Parrish

Communication: Audra Gagnon (Board Liaison)

Finance: Kathy Cathcart

Membership: Betty Abernethy

Service: Audra Gagnon

Zonta International Foundation for Women

Ambassador: Mary Walker

Club Historian: Linda Bogart



Bev Ambrose 12/7

Linda Bogart 12/12

Kathy Scigliano 12/29

Connie Sloan-Cathcart 12/30

Zonta Foundation :

Kristie Wilson (Ch)

Linda Bogart (V Ch)

Denise Parrish (Sec)

Melissa Martin (Tres)

Ann Erdmann (Member at Large)

Upcoming Events:

December 2, 5:30pm—Board Meeting @
Align

December 7, 5:30pm—Advocacy Meeting via
ZOOM

December 9, 12pm—Club meeting via
ZOOM

December 14, 5:30pm—Fundraising Commit-
tee Meeting @ Denise's House

