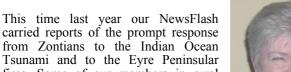


**District 23 News** Vol 9 Issue 10 February 2006



**DISTRICT 23** 

www.zontadistrict23.org.au

carried reports of the prompt response from Zontians to the Indian Ocean Tsunami and to the Eyre Peninsular fires. Some of our members in rural areas were affected by the fires of this summer, and a mudslide just reported from the Philippines has devastated another community.

**Dear District 23 Zontians,** 



NEWS FLASH !!

It was pleasing that Jane Smith's work, supporting Eyre Peninsula communities as they recovered from the fires, was recognised with her award as South Australian Local Hero in the 2005 Australian of the Year Award.

Zontians in Victoria were delighted that Elizabeth Lucas was honoured with the award of OAM in the 2006 Australia Day Honours. Elizabeth was a Charter member of the Zonta Club of Melbourne and a driving force behind the establishment of many Zonta clubs in Victoria. The citation acknowledged her work with Zonta and her support for ex-servicewomen.

Lyn Swinburne from Breast Cancer Network Australia and Leonie Christopherson, National Council of Women Australia were also recognised in the Australia Day Honours list with the award of AM.

It is sometimes suggested that not many women receive awards because not many women are nominated. Do take notice of the work done by women in your own community and nominate them for local or national awards.

Governor Elect Beryl McMillan has been working hard on our behalf at District Governors' training in Chicago. It is an intensive training program, with a great deal of work packed into just a few days. Welcome home Beryl.

Jean van Driel has received a note from Zonta International acknowledging the contribution made to ZIF at Conference: Congratulations on the success of your District Raffle; your support for the Zonta International Service Fund is appreciated.

Congratulations to all of the clubs who held special events in January to celebrate the life of Amelia Earhart, and to raise funds for the Amelia Earhart Fellowships. Detailed reports are in the Area Directors' columns.

Good wishes for International Women's Day and Zonta Rose Day. So many special events are planned; it will be a wonderful week of celebrations.

Ronda Walker



# **Convention 2006: Home hospitality, a fabulous** opportunity to make new friends.

Are you able to offer home hospitality to visiting Zontians? Information for hosts and the form to complete to offer hospitality are published on the District website. The information has also been sent by e-mail to all Club The documents are: Home Hospitality in presidents. Conjunction with Convention 2006. A Fabulous Opportunity to Make New Friends (Introduction for potential Zontian hosts.doc) and Home Hospitality Host (Offer to host.doc).

The form for hosts must be downloaded and signed, and then posted or faxed to Robyn Scholes. The documents for guests to complete are available on the Convention website. These are headed Home Hospitality in Australia and New Zealand and Home Hospitality Request form.

## Convention 2006: 'Eyes on Club Success' photos due Feb 24.

I have received some stunning photographs, but I would love to have more. Entries are due to the District Governor by February 24.

## **Convention 2006: District 23 meeting.**

District meetings are traditionally one of the first events at Convention but our own District 23 meeting will be one of the last events of Convention 2006.

All the other Districts will meet as scheduled at 8.30am on Saturday 24 June. Convention Committee would like to ensure that a strong team of District 23 volunteers is available to direct our visitors to their District meetings, and at the end of the meetings to direct them to the First Timers Briefing. Rather than try to hold our own meeting while so many D23 members are busy helping our visitors, Governor Elect Beryl McMillan and I have agreed that our District meeting will be held at the end of Convention. We will meet at 2pm on Thursday 29 June, in the Auditorium at the Exhibition Centre to celebrate a successful Convention.

This doesn't mean that you can sleep in on the morning of June 24. There will be a briefing for Convention volunteers in the John Batman Theatre (Convention Centre) at 7.45am.

## **Convention 2006: attendance competition.**

The clubs with the best Convention attendance will be recognised at the business session on Thursday June 29. There will be separate categories for Districts 16, 23 and 24 and 'the rest of the world'. The winner of each section will be the club with the highest proportional representation, based on the total number of financial members for each club in ZI records at March 1 2006, and the Convention registration records for each club.

NB: Last date for early bird registration is March 31



### Warmth of Zonta in chilly Chicago

Zontians who have attended Conventions comment on gaining a real sense of the internationalism of our organisation when they meet Zontians from 68 different countries. Working closely for three days at District Governors' Elect Orientation with 32 other incoming Governors, members of the ZI and ZIF Boards and ZI Headquarters staff was a similar experience.



We worked with current and incoming Presidents Mary Ellen Bittner and Olivia Ferry and members of their teams to learn more about Zonta, to hear of exciting plans which will come to clubs in the important March mailing and to share experiences and get to know each other. The atmosphere was warm, and the beautiful city of Chicago met our expectations by being cold and windy. Our program included a visit to our headquarters building with an opportunity to meet the staff. It is quite amazing to think that all the administrative work done at the international level is carried out by just 10 Zonta staff (with three outsourced finance staff) – a very efficient group.

Outside of working time there was plenty of fun and sharing of experiences. Despite many differences across cultures, the common bond we have, of providing service and advocating to advance the status of women, was always at the fore. Many of my new Zontian friends are planning to spend extra time in Australia and New Zealand when they come to convention.

To ensure that my mind was totally focussed for the intense time in Chicago, I first had a couple of days sightseeing in Rome, then spent 4 delightful days in St Charles, the historic part of St Louis, with Linda Jacobsen, Governor of District 7. Part of that visit was meeting with local Zontians who were keen to hear about 'Zonta down under'.

Unexpected snow in St Louis resulted in great excitement – I had never experienced falling snow before, so was quite happy to stand in it and enjoy the magic moment! After a couple of days of snow in St Louis, I arrived in Chicago to another snowscape, with ploughs having cleared the roads and footpaths. It was certainly a change from the day I left home when it had been  $39^{\circ}$ C.

Beryl McMillan, DG Elect

### YWPA: Nominations are due by May 1

YWPA is always well supported by District 23 Clubs and nominations for the 2006 District award are already coming in from clubs that completed local awards at the end of 2005.



For clubs offering the YWPA award in Term 1 this year the time line is tight, particularly for schools where term dates have changed to fit the Commonwealth Games schedule. Club nominations for the District 23 award must be received by April 1. Please send entries direct to YWPA Coordinator Mary Pocock: PO Box 40515, Casuarina, NT 0811.

Hannah Monagle, District YWPA winner 2005, is working her way around the world. Hannah left Australia straight after her year 12 exams and has briefly visited most of Europe. She was in Germany when she heard of her 94.45 VCE score and in Brighton, England when she received an offer to do journalism at RMIT. She has deferred but will be back in time to begin her course in 2007. She is literally, and figuratively, going places. Jane O'Brien, International YWPA Coordinator, would like to remind clubs to include the YWPA program when they send donations to Zonta International Foundation. While there has been an increase in the overall level of contributions, only 19% of clubs donate specifically to this worthwhile program.

Mary Pocock, YWPA Coordinator

#### On a sadder note

Zontian Doris Vaughn passed away peacefully at her home in Hyde Park, Vermont USA on Dec 28, in her 95th year.

Doris was a member of Zonta for more than 50 years, and enjoyed attending International Conventions. She travelled to the UN every week to observe global women's issues for Zonta. Although she wasn't a PIP, she was a VIP for Zonta. Her warmth, humour, intellect and passion for life will be sorely missed by her Zonta friends. Donations in her honour can be made to the ZI Service Fund at www.zonta.org

The Zonta world is also saddened by the recent death of PIP France de La Chaise Mutin, President of Zonta International for the 1974-76 Biennium. She created the first Zonta club in France, in 1950, and helped to create many clubs around the world. She was proud to wear a bracelet with about 40 small Zonta medals, given to her by the clubs she inspired.

## <u>Area 1 News</u>

#### Amelia Earhart celebrations

Thank you to all those members and friends from Area 1 and Area 4 who supported the combined ZC Frankston and ZC Mornington Peninsula Amelia Earhart Breakfast on 15 January. After breakfast we toured the top end of the Peninsula, visiting Galleries and gardens, it was a most relaxing day.



Members from the ZC Melbourne on Yarra marked the occasion by visiting "their" Amelia Earhart Tree, planted some years ago near the Pioneer Women's section in the Melbourne Botanical Gardens.

#### **ZBK** Assembly at Lady Somers Camp

The ZC Frankston and ZC Mornington Peninsula, working with the Powerhouse organisation, recently assembled 1,000 birthing kits for shipment to Madagascar.

Lady Somers Camp is run at Somers on the Mornington Peninsula for one week in January each year. One hundred 16 and 17 year old women of varying backgrounds from all over Victoria and other parts of Australia attend. A staff of nearly two hundred volunteers, who pay for the privilege, plan a series of activities and games designed to give these young women an experience they won't forget and guest speakers from the community discuss contemporary issues.

133 people took part on the night and feedback from both campers and staff has been extremely positive. The organisation is keen to repeat the activity at next year's Camp which indicates that another successful partnership with the community has been established.

#### **Zonta Breast Cushions**

The Breast Cushion project is being supported by Clubs in Area 1 either by sewing or by donating materials and funds to cover mailing costs. Requests for cushions have risen recently due to increased overall publicity and more Hospitals seeking out our Cushions. This has created extra workload for those Clubs sewing and distributing Cushions.

Area 1 and 4 combined workshop will be held on April 22.

Elizabeth Davis, Area 1 Director

## News from Area 2

#### Focus on our Mission

Clubs have reported a great finish to the year 2005 and wonderful plans are developing for 2006. The highlight of 2005 for our Area was the conference held in Glenelg, Truly an example of Zontians working together to promote Zonta. The theme of the conference 'Zonta Action Through Partnership' has been taken up by clubs in the Area.



The Zonta Club of Clare worked with Apex at Christmas to provide a presence, and food, at the local Christmas pageant. We have 'partnered' with the Office for Volunteers and receive information about volunteering that is valuable to clubs. The Birthing Kit project has been awarded an SA Great Award that recognised the value of the project.

At least three tables of Zontians will attend the UNIFEM breakfast in Adelaide for International Women's Day, and Alice Springs and Fleurieu clubs are hosting breakfast in their local areas.

The Area 2 Combined Status of Women committee continues to meet bimonthly, to address issues related to women. Margaret Boyle and Jenny Weaver have a meeting with the Director of the Office of Women every two months and this exchange of information keeps the Area informed of the most pressing issues for women. The big ones are mental health and domestic violence, neither of which is abating. The last meeting discussed the SA Government Safety Strategy.

We have partnered with other service clubs through our Association of Combined Service Organisations. As AD, I suggested that in 2006 all service clubs could recognise the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and wear a white ribbon. They have agreed and this will be implemented in 2006.

Dianne Sinclair has been chosen as a Queen's Baton runner and she will do this in Victor Harbour. Quite a thrill for a Zontian.

### **Combine Service and Advocacy**

Breast cushion and birth kit assembly days provide fellowship, fun and products for all clubs in Area 2. At Christmas Fleurieu Club had a float in the Christmas pageant and won an award for the best float. Port Lincoln had a 'long lunch' float in the Tunarama Parade on the Australia Day weekend to showcase their long lunch fundraising event. A great way for the community to see Zonta in action.

Fundraising continues for all clubs and many ideas have been shared through the collection and presentation of ideas at the 2005 Area workshop.

### Recruit, Retain, Rejuvenate

Several clubs in the Area have inducted new members. The Zonta Club of Noarlunga Southern Vales continues to achieve good publicity in the local media, raising public awareness of Zonta.

Clubs continue to exchange newsletters and Noarlunga Southern Vales and Adelaide Hills Clubs held a very successful combined meeting; a good rejuvenation strategy. A report of the evaluation visit to Vietnam by the Birthing Kit team created great interest at the meeting.

The 2006 Area 2 Workshop will be held on April 1.

Pauline Glover, Area 2 Director

# **UPDATE from Area 3**

Area 3 clubs have returned from their Christmas break feeling rejuvenated and enthusiastic.



Dunsborough members are planning a fun-filled weekend for Area 3

Zontians at the annual Workshop, 25-26 March. A warm welcome will be extended to Governor Elect Beryl, just back from icy Chicago. Motivating and stimulating speakers, mini workshops, interspersed with beach walks and sampling of local wines, will build and strengthen our clubs.

### Focus on our mission

Perth Northern Suburbs members and guests enjoyed the facilities at the Royal Aero Club Café in January to celebrate and raise funds for the Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund. Dawn Newman presented a series of Amelia Earhart Zonta displays and we were entertained by the water bomber light aircraft undertaking practice runs for the bushfire season.

Peel members have maintained their energy and enthusiasm, hosting their 13th annual Golf Day on February 19. A total of \$11,000.00 was raised on the day: it's a lot of hard work but good fellowship for members and terrific PR in the community. The funds raised, which now total \$94,000, are directed towards Breast Cancer Research.

Many clubs have organised International Women's Day Breakfasts but Bunbury always seems to attract excellent speakers and to gain a high level of community support. This year they will also present the Zonta Education Award.

Dunsborough members were happy to present a \$1000 Scholarship of Excellence to a very worthy recipient.

The final ZISVAW camp organised by Perth Northern Suburbs will be held in the April school holidays, funded from money raised by the Celebrity Teapot Project in 2004.

Combining business with pleasure, Swan Hills will hold their February Meeting at the glorious Somerville outdoor theatre, watching the film 'Moolaade' which looks at female genital mutilation in Burkina Faso.

### **Combining Service and Advocacy**

Perth members continue to support and encourage indigenous artists; members attended the Wandjina Art Exhibition in December 2005.

Most clubs are planning and organising one or two Birthing Kit workshops for 2006. Breast Cushions are provided for most WA hospitals, the distribution is managed by our Area Coordinator Ros Warrrick. Bandyup Women's Prison continues to support this project by supplying 20 cushions each month.

### Recruit, retain and rejuvenate

Following the trend of increasing club numbers, all clubs continue to induct new members. Perth Northern Suburbs now have a membership of 44 with a list of prospective members who are very keen to join. Swan Hills Club, teetering on 14 this time last year, now has 21 members; they must be doing something right.

Dunsborough members once again joined with Dunsborough Lions Club and Busselton Geographe Rotary Club for a joint meeting. Dunsborough is currently planning to host a meeting aimed at attracting young professional women, to date 20 young women have been approached to attend.

## Area 4 News

### Focus On Our Mission

Ballarat, Geelong, Bendigo, Kyneton and Melton all plan big celebrations for International Women's Day, with a stunning list of high profile speakers: UNIFEM Australia Advisor Dr Sue Boyd; National Council of Women (Vic.) President Rysia Rozen



OAM; chef and food writer Stephanie Alexander; writer and media personality Kerry Cue and Joumanah El Matrah, CEO of the Islamic Women's Welfare Council of Victoria – WOW!! I look forward to sharing reports of these events with you all in the next Newsflash.

Amelia Earhart has been remembered in Area 4. Ballarat held their annual AE Garden Party where Ballarat Zontians caught up with each other after the Christmas break and welcomed guests from other clubs. Melton celebrated with a BBQ where they made model aeroplanes – great fun! Several Area 4 Zontians travelled to the Mornington Peninsula for the Frankston/Mornington AE Breakfast, starting the day with a great speaker, pilot Laura Chibnall.

### **Combine Service and Advocacy**

Clubs in Area 4 continue to achieve great results with their service and fundraising programs, and are increasingly aware of the importance of advocacy in their club programs. The results of Geelong's Bollard Walk are inspirational, over \$2000 raised for Barwon Health's Post Natal Depression Unit program *Our Women Our Children*.

Bendigo is looking forward to *Brunch in the Vines* at the end of February, with proceeds going to EASE – a local organisation assisting victims of domestic violence. Bendigo Zontians invited guests from EASE to their Christmas function, a generous expression of care. In February Bendigo will welcome a speaker from the Lighthouse Foundation, recipient of funds raised at the *Open Gardens* day. It will be rewarding to hear of the programs their efforts will fund.

Kyneton and Wangaratta continue to focus on partnership, the theme that inspired us all at District Conference. On Australia Day Zontians from these clubs joined with other local service clubs to serve breakfast for the community; it's good to combine local service with International projects, this is often an opportunity to spread the word about Zonta.

Wangaratta Zontians have been invited to be involved in consultations to improve services at NE Health and have made valued suggestions, especially in the aged care area. Melton's President Margaret Hicks was recently invited to speak about Breast Cushions and Birthing Kits at the local CWA, and took the opportunity to recruit some volunteers to assist with these projects – Zonta in Partnership again!

### Recruit, Retain, Rejuvenate

The Zonta Club of Bendigo celebrated their special 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday in November, sharing happy memories with past and present members, and also looking to the future.

Ballarat Zontians came together in January to plan for the coming year. As well as a forum for brain storming ideas for future events, it was a good opportunity for members to consolidate their Zonta knowledge. Melton Zontians have scheduled their own planning workshop in April and are conducting a member survey in preparation for this.

Kyneton inducted 2 new members recently, and Geelong held an information session before Christmas which resulted in expressions of interest from 7 potential members. All clubs are looking at strategies and to boost membership. Wangaratta Zontians are currently reviewing their annual ZAPA (Zonta Award for the Performing Arts) event; members recognize that this is a wonderful opportunity to recruit potential members and raise awareness of Zonta, and will be focusing on this aspect of the event in their planning.

Looking further afield, and ahead, Geelong members are communicating with their sister club in Quaboag Valley, Massachusetts, while a small committee of Ballarat Zontians, led by PIP (and Charter President) Val Sarah, is planning a special event for Ballarat's 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday in 2008!

In closing I would like to share with you the news I received this week from Zonta International Foundation, advising that Jan Furtado, one of Marie Langford's American Zonta friends, had made a donation to the Rose Fund in Marie's name – I was touched and moved by this wonderful gesture. It set me thinking - how often do we consider the Foundation at these times? - just a thought.....

Stella Coffey, Area 4 Director

## In Area 5

### Focus on our mission

The Queenborough Club held an Australia Day event at Odile Glenn's home, coupled with a wine tasting and proved an excellent fundraising event. Queenborough will host the Area 5 workshop at Kingston Christian School on April 8. The theme will be *The effect* of new IR legislation on women.



ZC Launceston assembled 1200 birthing kits in November and made their Christmas Shortbreads which resulted in a profit of \$800. At the moment they are preparing for their major fund raising event – 'Jazz in the Garden'.

#### **Combine Service and Advocacy**

ZC Hobart held a successful sausage sizzle at a local Bunning's store just prior to Christmas and will hold another later in the year. Hobart Club has provided services to Caroline House (for homeless women) and the Sexual Support Service with toiletries and funding for other items of need. They are also undertaking the breast care cushion project, making cushions for Hobart Private Hospital.

The Richmond based members of the Zonta Club of Storm Bay held a local fashion parade and raised approximately \$900. This money, and the majority of funds raised during 2006, will be given to Dragons Abreast towards the purchase of a new boat. A good partnership is developing: the Dragons Abreast members will be invited to attend Zonta club fund raisers and bring along their friends and family.

Storm Bay also received excellent publicity in the local newspaper for a donation towards a young mothers group run by the local Council.

#### Recruit, Retain, Rejuvenate

The Zonta Club of Storm Bay inducted 2 new members in December, and two prospective members will attend the March meeting of the Hobart Club.

The Zonta Club of Devonport is combining service and advocacy to attract new members. Following 3 major events late last year: the Breast Cancer Breakfast, a Women's Health Forum and a film night showing 'Moolaade' to coincide with preventing violence against women, the club has received 5 membership inquiries. These women will attend the club's annual 'Getting to Know Zonta' evening in March, along with another 5 invited guests. Devonport is definitely a strong robust club, with service activities focused on migrant women.

## **Zonta International Foundation**

At this time of the year many Clubs are planning to celebrate Zonta Rose Day, on 8 March, which coincides with International Women's Day. What a wonderful opportunity for a double celebration with women around the world.



Think about this - Your Club could donate the proceeds of a function you are organising to the Zonta International Foundation Rose Fund. This is the Foundation's annual operating and program support fund, so vital to the success of Zonta's International service programs and projects.

You will need to act quickly to get your donations to District 23 Treasurer Joyce O'Loughlin, as 1 April 2006 is the cut off date for contributions to be acknowledged at Convention 2006 in Melbourne. I encourage Clubs to make the decision now to donate the proceeds of your function, and then it will be a quick response by your Club Treasurer to Joyce with a commitment. We can get there with a bit of fast foot work!!

To date in this biennium District 23 Clubs and individuals have donated AUD\$74,893.96, this is a fantastic result and I congratulate District 23 clubs, and individual Zontians. We can make this a record for the District if we include the proceeds from Zonta Rose Day events in our donations to the Foundation.

You will be interested in a brief update on the achievements of one of Zonta's current International Service Projects – the Mata Masu Dubara, Women on the Move project. This is a simple but highly effective model of helping women form savings and loans groups, as a key strategy in the prevention of HIV/AIDS for women in the Bouza District of Niger.

The West African nation of Niger is the second poorest country in the world according to UN Human Development Indicators. Because only 4 percent of Niger's land is arable, men seek work in neighbouring countries for part of each year, and then return home for part of the year, often having contracted HIV/AIDS. In the Bouza District in Southern Niger, more than 80% of households take part in this migration. The impact of HIV/AIDS is so devastating that the district is known as the "Valley of the Widows".

Given the recent food crisis in Niger, Zonta's Project is playing a key role in helping women to survive, protect their children, and where possible, take leadership roles in their community. The income generated by the Mata Masa Dubara group activities has enabled many women to meet the food needs of their households and buy food that they cannot grow themselves. Let's look at an example of the loan program and how it helps women to improve the lives of their family: A US\$10 loan is given to a poor woman to buy a goat and feed it. She cares for the goat, fattens it, sells it for a profit, puts some of the money into savings and uses the rest to buy shoes so that her daughter can attend school.

Since the project began, village leaders have received training on HIV/AIDS related topics. Each week, leaders meet with individual Mata Masu Dubara groups for AIDS awareness education sessions. In addition, the project has organised a HIV/AIDS education caravan where village leaders travel from community to community promoting AIDS awareness and prevention.

### Why We Should Give:

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. (Margaret Mead)

## **United Nations (UN) Committee Update**

To kick off UNIFEM's 30th anniversary year celebrations, UNIFEM Executive Director, Noeleen Heyzer announced the appointment of actress Nicole Kidman as a Goodwill Ambassador. Nicole Kidman was chosen because of her high profile and potential to reach out to a wide audience. Ms Kidman has indicated a special interest in giving visibility to the pandemic of violence against women.

International Women's Day is on Wednesday, March 8. A number of Clubs in the District, and UNIFEM, will host IWD celebrations around that date. I encourage everyone to participate in IWD events and enjoy the celebrations.

Jasmine Koch, District 23 UN Committee Chairman

# **District 23 Projects**

### **Breast Cushion Project**

An article in the December 26 edition of New Idea, describing Zonta Breast Cushions, has created great interest and resulted in a number of requests for cushions, including one from a breast care nurse who had heard about our cushions but was prompted by the article to contact Zonta.

Special thanks to Clubs for responding so promptly to these requests, most of which came during January. Some moving messages of thanks have been received.

### **Birthing Kit Project**

The Committee has recharged its batteries ready for the New Year and we would like to introduce our new team members. Maggi Gregory (ZC Gawler), is our new Zonta Birthing Kit Project Treasurer. Previously our ZBK Treasurer was also our Adelaide Hills Club Treasurer, a huge task.

We have also enlisted the expertise of Jenny Weaver (Adelaide Torrens) and Christine Sweeney (Adelaide Flinders) onto our PR Committee. The diversity of clubs on the Committee reflects the growth of the ZBK Project. We will have a stall at Womadelaide from March 10–12. There were over 400 applicants and we were one of the 40 successful applicants. A short PowerPoint presentation is now available to show at Area workshops.

We have 63,000 kits made or committed to be made from September 2005 to April 2006. We have 8 months left to make another 107,000 kits. If you are planning an Assembly Day please organise it sooner rather than later. All Assembly Days MUST be held BEFORE November 30.

The project is progressing well with only 3000 kits from our original 102,000 still unaccounted for. You are all obviously completing the transport forms and invoices correctly. These kits may yet arrive after 7 months!! A fantastic result. Keep up the excellent work.

Julie Monis-Ivett, ZBK Coordinator

# Happy Birthday to clubs celebrating anniversaries.

### January 'Birthdays' are:

ZC Para District Area (SA) - Chartered 3 January 1978, ZC Frankston (VIC) - chartered 10 Jan 1980, and ZC Swan Hills (WA) - chartered 26 January 1999.

### February 'Birthdays' are:

ZC Bunbury (WA) - Chartered 3 February 1985 and ZC Wangaratta (Vic) - Chartered 25 February 1988

*Congratulations* to past and present members of these clubs.



Liz Woodgate, District 23 Foundation Ambassador