



Zonta Club of St. Paul

Member of Zonta International

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

Volume 84, Issue 5 – October 2010

<http://www.zontastpaul.org>

Zonta Paul

Greetings!

It looks like this will be a wonderful week of peak fall colors. This week we saw brilliant golds, oranges and red colors along the river bluffs and throughout the twin cities. Mums and other fall flowers seem to be even more beautiful than ever.



Here are a few fall foliage facts -

- Birches, tulip poplars, aspens and hickory are always yellow in the fall, never red.
- A few trees, including sugar maple and dogwood are usually red, but may also be yellow or orange.
- The bright colors of fall foliage are a by product of chemical changes as the trees start to go dormant.
- Bright sunshine is essential for the production of the red pigment in fall leaves; if a black mark is placed on part of a leaf before it turns red, the part under the mark will turn yellow while the exposed part will turn red.
- The change in day length that causes the chemical changes starts June 21, the longest day of the year, as the sun starts to move south and the days become shorter.

There are many popular folk sayings about autumn and the weather and, of course, all of them are guaranteed to be true (well at least sometimes).

- When squirrels bury their nuts early, it will be a hard winter.
- A warm November is the sign of a bad winter.
- If the woolly worms head is more black than colored, the coldest part of the winter will come in the first months of winter.
- If berries or nuts are plentiful, it will be a hard winter.
- If an owl hoots on the east side of the mountain (or hill) it denotes bad weather.

As the summer begins to wind down, and the days are getting short, we start to see autumn hawk migrations, geese forming up in groups and all sorts of migratory waterfowl are on wing. Sumacs have already turned brilliant red and most areas have seen their first frost.

If you missed the peak colors up along the north shore and the rest of northern Minnesota, there is still time to take a trip down the Mississippi towards Hastings and Redwing. Iowa is predicting peak colors in the northern part of its state through mid-October.

Joint Event with Altrusa – September 18th, 2010

Six of our members met with the Altrusa Club of St. Paul on Saturday, September 18th to assemble Rub-a-Dub-Dub kits for the MVNA Club 100 program. We learned more about this valuable community program that we are working with and heard about some of the triumphs of MVNA. These success stories are possible because of the help of the community. Mary Ann Blade (MVNA CEO) gave a short talk about MVNA and Club 100 after which we had time for questions.

We assembled about 30 of the Rub-a-Dub-Dub kits. The nurses will take the kits out to the young mothers which will help them teach how to properly bathe a baby in a safe and secure manner.



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"Web Sites to Remember"

Zonta International

<http://www.zonta.org>

Zonta District 7

<http://www.zontadistrict7.org>

The Jeremiah Program

<http://www.jeremiahprogram.org/>

Minnesota Visiting Nurse Agency Club 100

http://www.mvna.org/club_100.htm

Women's Advocates, Inc.

<http://www.wadvocates.org>

Minnesota Women's Consortium

<http://www.mnbusinesswomen.org/>

Neighborhood House

"<http://www.neighb.org/default.asp>"

American Association of University Women

<http://www.aauwstpaul.org/>

Women's Prison Book Project

<http://www.wpbp.org/pages/book.html>

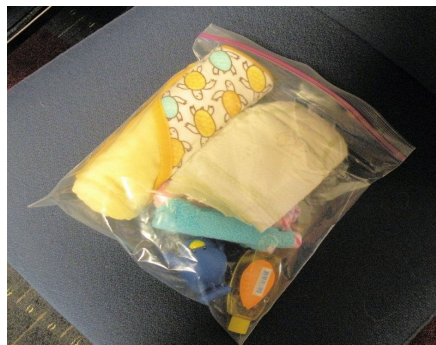
Minnesota Department of Transportation

Aviation Education

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/aero/aved/index.html>

Zonta Paul

We all enjoyed the project and getting together with the St. Paul Altrusans. This is our second project together.



The Rub-a-Dub-Dub Kit.



Zontians and Altrusans assembling the kits.



Connie, Pat, Joan, Carole, Peggy & D with completed kits.



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Thanks to Romelle for hosting the meeting and serving us a scrumptious dinner. We added \$100 to our service fund from this dinner.

October events

Saturday, October 16th

We have been invited to the Altrusa meeting on Saturday, October 16th, in the Community Room at the Plaza, 2353 Youngman Avenue, St. Paul, MN. The guest speaker will be Marybeth Boyle, an Altrusa member, who has just returned from a one-month mission trip to Kenya. As part of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, she conducted health screenings for 200 orphans. She will share her experiences living at the Grandmother's Circles in Kenya. Social customs led these grandmothers to form independent villages to provide homes for their grandchildren. It will start at 10 a.m. with refreshments and gathering time. The program starts at 10:30.

We will need to RSVP for this event. Please contact me by October 13th if you are planning on attending. Romelle had talked to Marybeth at a prior event and we had tentatively planned on having her speak at one of our meetings. This should be a very interesting and informative program and we hope you all can attend. There is no cost to attend this program. I have attached a flyer with more information.

This is not a replacement for our regular October meeting, which will be on Tuesday, October 26th at Pat Richard's residence. See info following.

October 26, 2010 – Program meeting at Pat's (Eagle Crest)

Meeting and social time 5:30 to 6:00 with dinner in one of the meeting rooms at Eagle Crest. The cost will be \$20. We will need to make reservations for



The entire group!

September 28, 2010 meeting

We had a good turnout for the September meeting at Romelle's. We tasted our "new and improved" Zonta Soup Mix and separated into three groups to make the soup mix kits. We put together 24 soup mix kits and also 20 Halloween bags. The soup kits and Halloween goodie bags were dropped off at MVNA on Wednesday, September 29th.

I heard another story about a young pregnant mother with six children who did not have any food in the house. Nothing, not even a crust of bread. The nurse put in a request for some food and was able to bring out rice, tomatoes, and a few other essentials to tide them over. The mother was losing weight because she was giving what little food they had to her children. Our soup mix kits provide a healthy, nutritious, and hearty meal and makes 8-10 servings.

Thanks to the members who brought peanut butter and tomatoes, which was a special request from MVNA. These items are part of the MVNA "staples" that they try to keep on hand for situations like the one just mentioned.



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this meeting – please RSVP to Dorothy by October 22nd. We will have to guarantee the number of reservations for this meeting. If you are unable to attend after making a reservation, you will be billed for the meal cost of \$20.

Our guest speaker will be Gayle Anderson, who will be talking about her experiences in Qatar, an Arab country in the Middle East. It occupies the small Qatar Peninsula on the northeasterly coast of the much larger Arabian Peninsula, and is bordered by Saudi Arabia to the South. The Persian Gulf surrounds the rest of Qatar. It is an oil and gas rich nation with the 3rd largest gas reserves and is ruled by an absolute monarchy.

In recent years Qatar has placed greater emphasis on education. Gayle will be talking about her role in this area along with her overall experiences in the Middle East. It will be a very interesting program and one that we hope everyone will be able to attend.

Please contact Dorothy to let her know if you can or cannot attend so that she does not have to individually contact each of us. If you haven't called to RSVP or send regrets, expect a call from her. Let's all try to do a better job in calling in for reservations.

November 17, 2010 – Service Project meeting:

Our November meeting will be hosted by Phyllis and Erma's in their party room. We will be making fleece blankets. Cost will be \$20. Also, bring any goodies, etc. for the holiday bags to this meeting. Goodies include cookies, snacks, stocking stuffer items, notepads, etc. Please try not to bring anything with peanuts. We will be scheduling a day to put the bags together and take them to MVNA in early December.

We have an ample supply of ingredients for the bean soup mix and will plan on assembling some more at our November meeting.

Dates to Remember:

- October 16-18 – Stand Up Against Poverty
- October 24th – United Nations Day
- November 25th – International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- November 25th – December 19th – 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence
- December 1st – World Aids Day
- December 10th – International Human Rights Day

Poinsettia sales – it is not too early to start thinking about this fund-raising project!

We will be getting information for the sale in October and will be coordinating the event. Since this is our only fund-raising event, it is important that we all do what we can to participate. Last year we made about \$900 for our service projects.

The White House Women's Entrepreneurship Conference

On Monday, October 4th, the White House Women's Entrepreneurship Conference was held. This event brought together a mix of business owners, leaders from the women's community, administration officials, academics and lenders to discuss the critical challenges, opportunities and solutions needed to move the women's business agenda to the next level.

Women-owned businesses are a critical part of America's 21st century economy. Between 1997 and 2007, the number of women-owned businesses grew by 44%, twice as fast as men-owned firms. During this period, women-owned businesses added roughly 500,000 jobs, while other private firms lost jobs. The most recent data show that



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women-owned businesses have annual sales/receipts of \$1.2 trillion. Even during this trying economic time, women-owned businesses continue to create jobs. As our country continues on the path to recovery, women-owned businesses will play an essential role in growing the economy and putting Americans back to work.

This event was coordinated with the White House Council on Women and Girls and was moderated by Mika Brzezinski of “Morning Joe” (on MSNBC), and included Bobbi Brown (Former of Bobbi Brown), Theresa Daytner (CEO of Daytner Construction Group), Rebecca Blank (Undersecretary for Economic Affairs) and Marie Johns (Deputy Administrator at the SBA).

October is United Nations Month!!!!

The following was an e-mail letter from Mary Ann Tarantula, Zonta International United Nations Committee, Chairman to all Zontians:

Ten years ago, on October 31, 2000, the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1325, the first formal document from the Security Council that requires parties in conflict to respect women’s rights and to support their participation in peace processes. Many civil society organizations lobbied for the passage of the resolution. It calls for prosecuting crimes against women, extra protection for women and girls in conflict areas and involving more women in peace talks and reconstruction planning. Since then two more resolutions, 1820 and 1888, have also been adopted unanimously. Both of these resolutions emphasize and build on Resolution 1325.

Zonta International has supported these resolutions and now, ten years later, we find that women are still pawns of conflict. Sexual violence against women is in the headlines every day. According to UNIFEM, “In contemporary conflicts, as much as 90 percent of casualties are among civilians, most of whom are women and children. Women face devastating forms

of sexual violence, which are sometimes deployed systematically to achieve military or political objectives.” We can help to stop this brutality by joining with UNIFEM in Women Count for Peace. This campaign is part of SAY NO UNITE, End Violence against Women.

All Zontians can add their names to a petition which asks governments to support 3 steps to implement Resolution 1325. The petition asks the individual governments to: Prosecute those who command and/or commit sexual violence and exclude them from armies and police forces after conflict; Ensure that women participate in peace negotiations and all post-conflict decision-making institutions; and Increase the number of women in troops, police forces and civilians within international peacekeeping efforts.

You can add your name by going to www.saynotoviolence.org/make-women-count-for-peace where you can sign the petition online or print out petition forms that may be mailed. The women in war torn countries need our help.

Other Zonta International Info:

We had hoped that our proxy to Zonta International Convention would be able to update us on the actions taken, but we haven't been able to coordinate our meetings with Linda's schedule. The following info was received via e-mail from Zonta International regarding the dues action:

A dues increase was approved at Convention beginning June 1, 2011. The end result is a \$15 increase in International dues.

Dues for the next year will be \$80 for all members. New members will also owe \$25 for new member fees, and North Americans pay an additional \$3 for Liability Insurance, for a total of \$83 for current members and \$108 for new members.



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We might also plan on seeing an increase in our district dues as well.

Military and overseas voters can also vote by absentee ballot.

November 2, 2010 – Mid-Term Elections:

General Absentee Information

General Election Day from 7 a.m. To 8 p.m.

There are two ways to vote by absentee ballot: in person and by mail.

The 2010 Election in Minnesota will include:

In Person Absentee Voting

- Minnesota Constitutional offices - Attorney General, Auditor, Governor, Secretary of State
- All 201 Minnesota Senate and House seats
- All 8 United States Congressional seats
- County Attorney, County Sheriff and other County offices in some counties
- About half of the County Commissioners
- Many School District, City and Township offices
- Referenda, and special elections for offices where a current office holder resigned early

You may cast an absentee ballot in person, at your county auditor's office and in many cases your city or township clerk's office, starting 46 days prior to Election Day. This option is available on weekdays during business hours. In addition, the county auditor's office must be open for absentee balloting from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Saturday before the election and until 5 p.m. on the day before the election.

The following information is from the MN Secretary of State website and pertains to absentee voting.

Absentee Voting by Mail

Absentee Voting Information:

In order to vote absentee by mail, you need to complete an [absentee ballot application](#) and submit it to your local election official by mail, fax, or email (print off the application, sign it, scan it, and attach to an email as a .pdf). Find contact information for your county elections official using the [Election Official Directory](#). Your ballot will be sent to you when it is ready - at least 46 days prior to the election if you applied for an absentee ballot in advance. If you apply for an absentee ballot within

You may find that you are unable to get to your polling place location on Election Day but still want to vote in the election. You can vote by casting an absentee ballot prior to Election Day. In Minnesota, citizens are allowed to vote absentee for the following reasons:

46 days of the election, your ballot will arrive within a day or two of your application being received.

- **Absence from your precinct**
- **Illness or disability**
- **Serving as an election judge in another precinct**
- **Religious discipline or observance of religious holiday**
- **Eligible emergency declared by the governor or quarantine declared by the federal or state government**

Returning your absentee ballot

Once you have received your absentee ballot, follow the enclosed instructions carefully and return your ballot as soon as possible. It must be received by the local election official who sent it to you by Election Day, or it will not be counted. There are four ways you can return your absentee ballot:



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1. Mail back your ballot in the pre-paid envelope provided by your local election official.
2. Up until 5 p.m. on the day before the election, you may deliver your ballot in person to your local election official.
3. You may also have someone else return your completed ballot, sealed in its envelope, to your local election official until 3 p.m. on Election Day. Persons delivering ballots may not do so for more than three voters.
4. If you are worried about your ballot not arriving on time using First Class mail, you may choose to pay for package delivery service to return your ballot. Ballots must be received by your local election official on 3 p.m. on Election Day.

To find contact information for your county auditor, use the [Election Official Directory](#).

Zonta Paul

Remember – every Vote Counts!

Upcoming Birthdays!

Judy – October 28th

Peggy – October 31st

Pat – November 3rd

Joan – November 15th

Dorothy – November 21st

Hope you can make all of these upcoming events.

Also included a new address list along with the Altrusa flyer.

Peggy