



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 13
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY



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Governor's Newsletter no. 1

District Goals 2016-2018

The district board for the biennium 2016-2018 took office at Convention in Nice in July.

The board members are Ingibjörg Elíasdóttir, governor, Dorte Olesen, lt. governor, Berit Birkelund, treasurer, Lisbeth Løvenov, AD Denmark, Viduta Bačkierienė, AD Lithuania, Lára G. Hansdóttir, AD Iceland, Mari Ramsten Vangdal, AD Norge and Helena G. Bjarnadóttir, secretary. The board held it's first meeting in Lithuania on May 1st, after attending a joint meeting of the outgoing and the incoming boards of district 13. The board held it's second meeting on September 2nd in Oslo. That meeting was in connection with the area meeting in area four, Norway, which the members of the board also attended. More information on board members [here](#). The goals for the biennium are in accordance with the Zonta International biennium goals, adopted at convention, covering the five areas of advocacy, service, membership, resources and the centennial anniversary. We will keep on working on preventing violence against women through education; areas and clubs continue the campaign *Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women*; men will be engaged as partners for gender equality; we will engage the next generation of gender equality advocates; clubs recruit and retain committed and skilled members; leadership training and membership knowledge will be reinforced; donations to ZIF will be increased and we will establish a Centennial Anniversary Committee.

International Liaison

Lydia Chaillou is the international liaison to district 13. She was governor of district 29 during the biennium 2010-2012 and she was the Chair of the Convention Committee in Nice last summer. Professionally Lydia is an accountant. District 13 is very lucky to have her as liaison with all her knowledge and experience.



Zonta Says No

All clubs in the district are encouraged to plan activities during the *16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence* from 25 November to 10 December. There are plenty of resources at zontasaysno.com Download resources from the website and share actions!

ZONTA SAYS NO
TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Zonta and the UN

Zonta International works closely with the United Nations on projects advancing the status of women and girls. UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) no. 5 is *Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls*. ZI encourages all clubs to work on endorsing that goal which is completely in line with Zonta's mission of empowering women and girls through service and advocacy. More information on Goal no. 5 is [here](#). District 13 UN Committee follows the work of ZI UN committee and keeps clubs up to date.

Members are encouraged to take part in the CSW meeting in New York in March 2017. More information will be on ZI website www.zonta.org Look at how Zonta International responds to appointment of Wonder Woman as UN Honorary Ambassador for Empowerment of Women and Girls [here](#).

News from Areas

Area four, Norway, had a very successful area meeting in the beginning of September. The district board attended the meeting. It was very informative and district four is vibrant and successful in advancing the status of women.

Area one, Denmark, also had a successful area meeting late in September. In Denmark there was a big fundraising event at *Hofteatret* in September, where around 140 people, Zontians as well as non-Zontians, were entertained by artists performing on a very old stage in the castle of Christiansborg. The artists performed for free and the profit of the event went to the organization *Danner huset*, which is a crisis center for women who have suffered violence.

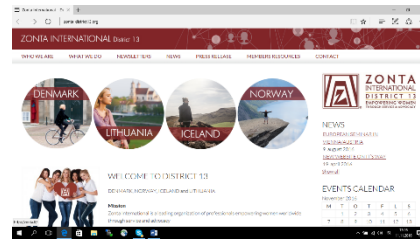
Clubs in area three, Iceland, participated in an event on October 24th where attention was drawn to the gender-pay gap and other discrimination against women. Women in Iceland left work early that day and participated in rallies in different places in the country. A press release from Zonta in Iceland and likeminded organizations was sent out that day, demanding equal pay now.

Remember ZIF

To celebrate Zonta's 97th anniversary in November, all Zontians are called up on to make a donation to the Foundation in honor of a Zontian they think is remarkable. Governor asks members of District 13 to take an active part in this campaign to make our organization stronger.



New Website



District 13 has a new [website](#). Many thanks to all those involved in the work on the new web, especially former gov. Eva Nielsen,

Xenia Nedergaard and Berit Birkelund. All the four areas have their websites connected to this one, as well as all the clubs. Therefore it is easy to access information on what is going on, everywhere in District 13. More information will be added to the website, so please remember to check it regularly.

Inter-District Seminar

In the beginning of February 2017 the 7th European Inter-district Seminar will be held in Vienna. The topic for discussion will be *ZONTA IN A CHANGING SOCIETY – WAYS AND MEANS OF RESPONSE TO EUROPEAN CHALLENGES*. Governor, Lt. governor and a few other members from district 13 will be there. Information from the seminar will be sent to clubs after the event.

Membership Updates

At convention in Nice a new membership category was introduced; *Young Professional Members*. Clubs are encouraged to look into recruiting members in this category; professionals under the age of 30. More information on this new category will be on the ZI website.

The ZI board has decided that clubs may now charter with 15 members, instead of 20; although, they are encouraged to build membership numbers.

Total membership of Zonta as of September 30th is 26.175. To reach ZI's goal of 5% increase by May 31st 2018 membership has to increase by 4.986 members worldwide. District 13 keeps working on increasing the membership in the district and the board has made the membership committee stronger with more members on the committee.

Young Women in Public Affairs

Thit Hammerich Clausen from Slagelse in Denmark received the District 13 Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) award. The award recognizes young women ages 16-19 for demonstrating leadership skills and



commitment to public service and civic causes, and encourages them to continue their participation in public and political life.

District Conference Reykjavík 2017 – save the date!

The next district conference will be in Reykjavík from September 14th to 17th 2017. The venue of the conference is Reykjavík Hilton Nordica Hotel. Preparations are underway. All members are encouraged to come to Iceland next year for an inspiring and interesting conference. Book your flights and accommodation early because Reykjavík is an extremely popular destination!

