



# ZONTA NEWS & VIEWS

## ZONTA



INTERNATIONAL

Club #513

Chartered:  
September 10, 1963

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT  
Melodie Hunnicutt

VICE PRESIDENT  
Judy Barnes

SECRETARY  
Doris Cheek

TREASURER  
Dottie Munsch

BOARD MEMBERS  
Runette Louthian  
Nancy Whiteside

PAST PRESIDENT  
Doris Cheek

### Committee Chairs

FUNDRAISING  
Dottie Munsch/  
Kim Neel

MEMBERSHIP  
Nancy Whiteside

PUBLIC RELATIONS  
Runette Louthian

SERVICE  
MJ Hassell

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR APRIL-MAY 2009

## President's Letter

Dear Zonta Sisters,

As I near the end of my second term serving as your president, I want to express my gratitude for the confidence you have placed in me to lead our club. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve in this role as we work to further Zonta's mission in our community, our nation, and our world.

I want to thank the officers and committee chairs who have so ably carried out their duties for the last two years. Together, the board and the membership have accomplished much during this time period, and our club has been recognized in both The Zontian and in our District 11 newsletter for our efforts. Many thanks go out to our indefatigable press hound (and secretary), Doris Cheek! To Judy, best wishes for the coming year. I know that you will be a very successful leader, and I am proud to serve as your second-in-command. Dottie, your faithfulness to the club in accepting leadership roles continues to amaze me. The Fundraising Chairs and Committee deliver year after year on our bowling event, which continues to be adopted as a signature fundraiser by other Zonta clubs. Runette Louthian has done yeoman's work in getting our club web site launched, and Diane Smith's able assistance in getting our club newsletter published and e-mailed is much appreciated. Thanks to M. J. and the Service Committee for expanding our service project list, thus greatly increasing the number of

local women we are assisting, and for providing us with a service manual. Nancy Whiteside's dedication to growing our membership deserves recognition, as well as her willingness, and that of others, to continue to serve our club in their current capacities for the next program year.

Always the eternal optimist, I want to leave you with one last poem entitled "Blessings," as it has certainly been my blessing to represent our club as your president. Thank you for having given me this opportunity.

"Blessings" by Ronald Wallace  
(from Long for This World: New and Selected Poems)

### Blessings

occur.  
Some days I find myself  
putting my foot in  
the same stream twice  
leading a horse to water  
and making him drink.  
I have a clue.  
I can see the forest  
for the trees.

All around me people  
are making silk purses  
out of sows' ears,  
getting blood from turnips,  
building Rome in a day.  
There's a business  
like show business.

*Continued on page 2*

### District 11 Officers

GOVERNOR  
Lynn M. Salvatore

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
Jane Adams

TREASURER  
Alice Chick

SECRETARY  
Mary Frisbie

AREA 2 DIRECTOR  
Mary Cabaniss

FOUNDATION  
AMBASSADOR  
Doris Larson

Visit [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org) or  
[www.zonta-district11.org](http://www.zonta-district11.org)  
for more information

### International President

Beryl Sten, Sweden

### International President Elect

Dianne Curtis

There's something new  
under the sun.

Some days misery  
no longer loves company;  
it puts itself out of its.  
There's rest for the weary.  
There's turning back.  
There are guarantees.  
I can be serious.  
I can mean that.  
You can quite  
put your finger on it.

Some days I know  
I am long for this world.  
I can go home again.  
And when I go  
I can  
take it with me.

Yours in Zonta,  
Melodie

## Area 2, District 11 Meeting

Saturday, March 14, 2009  
Hampton Inn  
Franklin, North Carolina

*Submitted by Doris Cheek*

On Friday, March 13, Dottie, Ina, and I struck out for the Area 2 Meeting in Franklin, NC. Dottie did the driving while Ina and I furnished instructions. It was raining when we left Columbia, rained all day Saturday, and rained all the way home on Sunday. Nevertheless, it was worth it! One reason it was worth it is that the State of North Carolina has planted daffodils all along highway intersections – thousands of daffodils – a beautiful sight. We ate lunch in Tryon and continued on our journey.

Friday night we went out to a barbeque restaurant and had a great informal meeting with Zontians from all over our area. So many wonderful stories, so many outstanding women. I sat next to an obstetrical nurse who lived (prior to retiring in Franklin) in Key West. She commuted to a large Miami hospital to work four 10-hour days each week. Her hurricane stories were amazing. It never ceases to amaze me what women can do.

Saturday morning our meeting started at 9:00 with the call to order by Mary K. Cabaniss, our Area 2 Director, a roll call of the clubs and the pledge of allegiance to our flag. This was followed by an ice-breaker "Truth or Lies" which involved writing on a card by each person attending three things about herself, one of which was a lie. We were then asked to figure out which statement was the lie. One member stated that she was descended from Attila The Hun. Strangely, people guessed her name.

The first presentation was "Planting the Seeds of Advocacy." This was a long report with multiple ideas about how to advocate for women's issues on a local, state and national level. Zonta International's position on advocacy was covered. CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women) was covered. The Equal Rights Amendment was covered. Passage of ERA in South Carolina was deemed impossible. Our United Nations relationships were discussed as we advocate for women in conjunction with UN committees.

Sharing our Harvest and Nourishing Your Membership was presented before lunch. These topics involved working together in clubs and throughout the area and district.

Our lunch was provided by the Franklin Club. One of their members, Connie Grubermann, has a wonderful old bed and breakfast inn. She and the Franklin members gathered in her magnificent kitchen and made chicken salad, pasta salad, fruit, and dessert which they brought to the Hampton Inn for our lunch. It was pouring rain outside, so we really appreciated not having to go out to lunch. I had lunch with members of a new club in Atlanta. They had interesting stories to tell about their service projects.

After lunch, Ina spoke on "The Art of Growing Successful Leaders." She asked for audience participation as to what are considered attributes of a successful leader. Dottie, wrote all the ideas on a board as Ina was speaking. Many points were discussed, and Ina's talk was well received.

Later in the afternoon, each club had a chance to participate in a panel to showcase fundraising projects or service projects. We were asked to discuss our favorite service project, and I presented Enhancing Your Assets. Area 2 has so many great fundraising projects and so many wonderful service projects. It was so encouraging to listen to what other clubs do.

The entire meeting was both informative and fun. Zonta women certainly know how to laugh. I was glad I attended. Saturday night, all those staying over went over to Connie Grubermann's Oak Hill Inn for dinner. What an interesting old house and delicious chili supper! Connie is one of the most fascinating Zontians I have ever met. She could write a real page-turner about her adventures in renovation.

Sunday we slept in, then headed out (in the wrong direction) toward home. Dottie's GPS lady was talking to us, but we had to go back to the hotel and start over. Didn't matter. We got to see more of Franklin. We ate lunch in Hendersonville and headed on to Columbia. Despite all the rain, fog and curving mountain roads, we never saw an accident or any traffic problems; however, upon arriving at malfunction junction in our own backyard, there was a massive traffic jam. It

appeared that there were some fender benders that caused every car going into Columbia to completely stop and survey the minor damage. Amazing! We are so easily entertained.

All in all, we had a great time, learned a lot, and met some wonderful women who are working hand-in-hand to improve the status of women.

*Ina Edens speaks at Area 2, District 11 meeting.*



## **Member Spotlight on Melodie A. Hunnicutt, M.Ed., CFRE**

Ms. Hunnicutt was born in 1958 in Monroe, North Carolina. She graduated from Wingate College with a B.A. in Human Services (1980); earned a Master's degree in Education from the University of South Carolina (1986); and will complete her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from USC in 2009.

She is the Executive Director of the James R. Clark Memorial Sickle Cell Foundation in Columbia, SC, a position she assumed in November 2000. As such, she is responsible for oversight of all agency operations, including fiscal development, strategic planning, marketing and public relations, and coordination and implementation of clinical, support, and advocacy services. The Foundation's main office is located in Columbia, with five satellite offices in Florence, Sumter, Camden, Newberry, and Winnsboro. The agency provides treatment and support services to adults and children with sickle cell disease and their family members in 15 Midlands and Pee Dee counties in South Carolina. The agency also delivers prevention services through the genetic screening and counseling and community education programs.

Prior to coming to the Foundation, Ms. Hunnicutt served as Executive Director of Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands, an agency serving adult and child survivors of sexual assault and abuse in Richland, Lexington, and Newberry Counties. Before that, Ms. Hunnicutt enjoyed an eight-year tenure at the Alston Wilkes Society, a statewide agency providing services to incarcerated children and adults and treatment services to emotionally disturbed children and adolescents. She held a number of clinical and

administrative positions at the Society, most recently before leaving as Director of Development and Public Relations.

Ms. Hunnicutt is an adjunct faculty member in the Departments of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Midlands Technical College and Limestone College where she teaches psychology. She is also an adjunct faculty member at the University of South Carolina, College of Education, where she teaches graduate and undergraduate educational psychology courses. In addition, she operates Preventive Measures, a research, training, and consulting business that serves the South Carolina non-profit community.

Ms. Hunnicutt is active in a number of professional organizations, including Zonta International, where she serves as President and member of the Board of Directors of the Columbia, SC chapter. She is also the current President of Community Health Charities of South Carolina and just completed a six-year tenure on the Board of Directors of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Central South Carolina Chapter.

Ms. Hunnicutt is the mother of three children, Anthony, Caroline, and Andrew, ages 17-26, and one step-daughter, Kelly, age 28. She is the proud grandmother of Cavan Preston, age 1 ½ years. She spends her free time working as a volunteer and donor for animal rescue and women's rights organizations. She is also an avid runner, spending quality alone time daily literally hitting the asphalt!

## Our YWPA Winner

This year the Zonta Club of Columbia had two exceptional candidates for the Young Women In Public Affairs Award. After evaluation by several members of the Service Committee and interviews by Betty Jo Carson and Doris Cheek, we decided on **Taylor Patterson, a senior at Columbia High School.** Although both candidates were outstanding, Taylor more closely represented the ideals set forth by Zonta International.

Taylor is an active participant in school activities. She is First Violin Chair in the school orchestra, is Parliamentarian for the Future Business Leaders Association and has worked to help prepare students for the FBLA Parliamentarian Competition – where they won first place. She is a member of the Student Council, and is Chairperson for the Columbia High School Teachers Oscar Awards Committee.

Taylor works tirelessly for those less fortunate. She works with Hannah House, which is her favorite charity. She has volunteered at Harvest Hope Food Bank and the Richland County Library, as well as the Salvation Army and other local charities.

On the international level, she has worked with foreign students who are here through the Foreign Student Exchange Program. This has given her a unique insight into other cultures.

Taylor's ultimate goal is to become a pediatrician, and plans to begin her college education at Francis Marion University. She will be an outstanding representative

## Zonta Issue:

*If poverty, HIV/AIDs, illiteracy, violence and trafficking had a face it would be female.*

*The world's plagues are rooted in gender inequality, and the only common solution is the empowerment of women.*

## Zonta Club of Columbia Elects Officers 2009-2010

President	Judy Barnes
Vice President	Melodie Hunnicutt
Treasurer	Dottie Munsch
Secretary	Deborah Cornelison
Fundraising Co-Chairs	Kim Neel and Barbara Scott
Membership & 2-year Board Member	Nancy Whiteside
Public Relations & 1-year Board Member	Runette Louthian
Service Chair	M.J. Hassell

## Recent Meeting Highlights



*Dr. Delorias M. Lenard, Area Veterinarian in Charge, USDA-APHIS-CS speaks to Zontians at the February meeting.*



*Prospective members join Zontians at the March meeting.*

## Happy Birthday!

March	30	Dottie Munsch
April		No Club Birthdays
May		No Club Birthdays