**Presidents’ Update**

**October 30, 2014**

***Zonta Club of Stratford***

At our June meeting, the Club finalized most of the Committee assignments for 2014-2015. We reported that our Funk/Junk fundraiser netted approximately $500.00 and we began discussions about a membership event which will take place in November. We had some general discussion about the ZI conference which Area Director Julie Brown and Club President Anne-Marie Tymec attended.

Our July meeting was a social event, catered outdoor meal at a member's home and we did not meet in August.

In September we finalized a decision to change our meeting venue from one restaurant in town to another where we had previously met earlier in our Club's history. Members are still assessing whether or not this new venue will be our permanent home.

In September and October, convention delegates Julie and Anne-Marie reported to the Club highlights of the convention as our program for these two months. We also committed to service sponsorships in the form of donations to Ride for Refuge; a Woman of the Year award on Person's Day; a fundraising evening for Girl Rising/World Vision and Stratford Basketeers. The Club reaffirmed its commitment to the Teen Esteem program in October and budget planning for 2014-2015 is underway with the Finance committee.

Respectfully submitted

Anne-Marie Tymec,

President Zonta Club of Stratford

***Zonta Club of Guelph***

Our club participated in a very successful International Day of the Girl event in October.  This day was hosted by the University of Guelph and welcomed approximately 160 students from grades 10 and 11 to the campus to explore issues such as what it means to be a girl and social justice issues that girls around the world face.  Planning continues for our Women's Day breakfast and golf tournament.

Michelle Fach,

President Zonta Club of Guelph

***Zonta Club of Owen Sound***

The Zonta Club of Owen Sound and Area ended our Spring Season with our Annual Golf Tournament at Stone Tree Golf and Fitness Centre. The event was very well attended and we were able to raise over $3,000.00 for Breast Cancer initiatives at our local hospital.

We did not meet during the summer and started our new season off with a wine and cheese get together at the home of our President Arlene Wright before we headed off to our regular meeting at Stone Tree. At that meeting we had our Lt. Gov. Lori Robinson induct our new President and then tell us about the International Conference and what her role is on the International Team.

We have set a goal of four new or potential members by Christmas and will induct two new members in November. Our October meeting recognized four local women who have provided valuable service to this community in their own quiet way without asking for or receiving recognition.

Four of our members each choose one woman and honored her by bringing her to our Zonta meeting and introducing her and telling the club about this woman. All four were very surprised and being singled out as they had no idea and thought they were just being invited for dinner. It was a great evening.

Arlene Wright,

President Zonta Club of Owen Sound

***Zonta Club of Cambridge***

Trivia Night

Took place on June 26th  at Café 13 in Cambridge. The room was donated by Café 13. Tickets cost $15/person and $500 was raised for the food bank of Cambridge. This is a great event that we run a few times a year and would like to continue running it

Euchre Tournament

Took place on September 21st at the Newfoundland Club. Tickets were $20/person and $600 was raised for YWCA Body image and self esteem presentations. Learned a lot as this was our first time running this event

Heather Curran,

President Zonta Club of Cambridge

***Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo***

Service Projects:

\* Birthing Kits: September 2014 (1000 assembled)

\* Oktoberfest Reudesheimer Garden: October 17 and 18, 2014. 11 members volunteered

Club Newsletters during the period: 3

Strategic Plan: Currently working on a strategic plan. Next meeting October 21, 2014

Awards focus: Young Women in Public Awards winner Sherry Wong, nominated and won the local Oktoberfest Women of the Year Award in the Youth Category (October 9, 2014).

Planning ahead:

Next Fundraiser: November 18, 19, 20, 2014: Zonta Film Festival (ZFF)

UN/International program: November 26, 2014

Anne McConnell,

President Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo

***Zonta Club of Woodstock***

Club Website: Club voted to hire professional & well established local company to develop a new club website enabling club members to update/post as necessary. Potential design to be available for membership input and refinement by General Meeting held on Sept. 23rd

Membership Committee: Committee met several times to discuss streamlining approach to membership development. Mentorship and a more strategic approach to engaging new and potential members will be initiated. Three potential members attended Sept General Meeting to observe and decide on a Zonta membership.

Advocacy Committee: Initiation of 2014 Zonta Says NO Campaign. Will continue the 2013 16 Days of Activism Campaign by handing out cookies & orange ribbons throughout Oxford County. Organizations within DART will partner with club to promote specific days within 16 Days (Nov. 25 – Dec. 10th). Keynote speaker on Tuesday, November 25th will be Sandy Monture, Executive Director of Ganohkwasra Family Assault Support Services located on Six Nations. Sandy will be addressing the issue of the missing aboriginal women. Canadian women’s groups are pushing for a national inquiry into the almost 1,200 missing and murdered aboriginal women in Canada.

Sheena Poole,

President Zonta Club of Woodstock