

Report for Board Meeting, November 16th. Irene Majchrzak Co-chair District 4 Advocacy US

Just had a GO-To Meeting last night and this is the info from these Clubs. NF, NY is doing the lit up Rainbow bridge at the Falls on November 25th. On November 22 they are doing the Weather Outside and getting coverage from Channel 7 in that way for the 16 Days. Later that week they will walk the bridge and as they walk they will hand out orange ribbons and bookmarks, wearing Orange shirts and carrying the Zonta Says NO Banner. They are looking to have a Proclamation from the Mayor. Which I thought was a really great idea and will possibly look into doing the same thing in Buffalo.

So Buffalo has ordered the Zonta Says No Banner to utilize for this event and many others. We have the Peace Bridge being lit in Orange for November 25th and for December 10th. I have written to all the Area 3 & 4 clubs to join us from both sides of the border and asked them to meet us in Front Park near the Peace Bridge on November 25th. Front Park has a commemorated plaque near the tree, planted by the Zonta Club of Buffalo, in the late 50's. We will gather there. I am hoping the clubs from both sides of the river will join us to create a great group. We have emery boards with the Zonta Says NO logo to hand out. We will invite other organizations to join us. We will have Orange Shirts and ribbons to wear and will encourage everyone to wear them for the entire 16 Days to generate conversation. I will be following up with Channel Two news. I already sent them this information and now I am thinking "Proclamation will be a good idea, too."

Lockport is doing articles for 16 Days on Violence against women in their local paper, Batavia is doing something, Mary isn't sure yet but she will be hearing about their plans soon. It seems they are looking to utilize Pati Aine's 16 Days idea of giving their Z Club girls \$16 and watch how they will utilize it to make an impact. Pati is working with them. Rochester is doing their 16 Days again this year on Facebook and will do a stupendous job. They have all of their practice from last year and have it down to a science. Mary Yunker reported on their panel discussion "Standby Intervention," which she attended and the program was excellent. Attendance was lower than expected and not unusual for a first time program.

Hamburg/OP is doing something but their representative, Elaine wasn't sure what it was. She was invaluable though in discussing the District wide Project because their Club is so involved with the Family Justice Center and the "Behind Closed Door Project. Bonnie DeJoy from Jamestown had some concerns about increasing community awareness of a project that seems to need some secrecy to protect victims of violence. We discussed this aspect and Bonnie's comment also, was very heartfelt and has great connotations for all the clubs looking to prepare for the District Project. Her comment was "The process (for the project) must start with where we want to put the posters. They are looking at Guidance Counselors in High School and College. They will also be working with the Salvation Army because they are very instrumental in helping Victims of Violence.

Mary Yunker also reminded everyone to make sure they use Facebook and Club Websites to highlight the events and projects. Finally there was a consensus to determine and design a District Wide Poster for all the clubs to use. I have another meeting scheduled for 8:00 on November 12th and the poster design will be added to the agenda.

I send out the invitation to advocacy chairs, and Area Directors and I will continue to do so for every meeting yet their attendance has been low. Lorene was ill and could not make it on this one. She is also very interested. Charlene Huber and Kathy Kanaley are always invited. I will send out the email for my next one again on Friday to invite their participation. Judy Powers from Hamburg wants to help out with the District Advocacy and I am thrilled to have her. She was ill but ready to participate so I am sure she will be on the next program. Mary Yunker is always on as is Pati Aine.