

September 20, 2019

## **Welcome**

### **All Zonta District 4 Conference Attendees**

*Thank you for your commitment to our 2019 District 4 Centennial Conference.*

*Irene Majchrzak,*  
Zonta District 4 Conference Chair

On behalf of the Buffalo Club and Chair of this year's District Conference, I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2019 District 4 Conference. The Buffalo Club is proud to host this conference in the city where it all began one hundred years ago.

Members throughout the district have come together in planning this conference. While the business of Zonta is paramount, the program has been designed to ensure that the conference encompasses the latest issues, continues to focus on the empowerment of women and engages you in thought-provoking discussions that will set the course for the future. In addition to carrying out the business of Zonta, activities have been planned to allow you to meet up with colleagues while enjoying time together.

In preparation for this event, I want to provide you with an overview of what you can expect during the weekend. Additional [Conference details and schedule](#) is available on the [D4 website](#). Thank you for taking the time to attend, and I look forward to seeing you!

#### **ZONTA OVER THE PAST 100 YEARS**

Did you know what occurred in the world during the 100 years Zonta was growing? Did you know what was causing Zonta to grow into our Centennial years? You will notice easels and display boards set up to describe these events in the mezzanine area of the conference area. There will be questions for you to answer to win a prize. Please fill out your answers and place them in boxes near the display area. There are prizes for the winners of both contests. The drawings will be on Sunday morning. There will also be a contest for the most interesting bag from Zonta's history! Enter any of your older bags into that contest.

The Archives of our District Clubs will be buried in Buffalo, NY beneath the statue of the "Spirit of Womanhood" a statue inspired by Marian de Forest and sculpted by Larry Griffiths, Jr., Artist. There will be a brass plate at the base of the statue to designate the buried [time capsule](#) containing archival material from many clubs already participating. Find out if your club would like to prepare some documents for your entry in this Centennial event.

#### **ZONTA INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION**

The Thursday evening reception will allow you the opportunity to meet and greet our VIP, Zonta International Liaison Judy Gorton. It will be held in the Sun Garden Room at the top of the escalators from 6 – 9 PM. Prior registration for this event is required. A cash bar will be available for the evening event. D4 website - [Schedule](#) - International Reception web page.

## TOURS

There is a tour scheduled for Friday morning beginning at 8:30 AM. You are still able to get the Trolley for Friday's tour of Marian de Forest's Buffalo. Don't be late Gail Willsky will be in the lobby to greet you. For those members staying at the Hyatt join your tours in the lobby of the Hyatt. Our Wyndham guests, please consider taking the hotel shuttle from your hotel for a direct ride to the Hyatt. Additional information is available on the D4 Website - [Conference Activities](#) web page.

## STORE, AMELIA BASKETS, SMALL GIFT RAFFLES

Starting on Friday, there will be Basket Traffic to set up the "Amelia" and "small gift" raffles. The Committee will show you the display area for the raffles, and your Zonta Store skirted tables beginning at 12:00 PM on Friday if you have purchased a table. For all other attendees, make sure you stop by and shop! Hours will be posted outside of Regency Room A and listed in your program. Details on the D4 Website - [Conference Fundraising](#) web page.

## REGISTRATION

Registration opens on Friday at 1 PM, and the Reception committee is waiting to register you, give you your Conference bags, allow you to peruse and take a historical bag. If you are First Timer, Delegate or Alternate, you will be directed to three discussion areas in the Grand Ballroom beginning at 2 PM. A meeting will also be held for the 2020 Board nominees at 2:30 PM in the Grand Ballroom Hallway. Check for specific times on your conference event schedules.

## CREDENTIALS FOR ALL DELEGATES

Credentials will be located to the right of the Registration table. All Delegates and Alternates will meet with the Credentials Committee to begin the credentialing process that occurs ***before every business meeting***. Don't forget this critical step. Please make sure you have your delegate voting cards for each business session. D4 Website - [Delegate & First Timer information](#) and [schedule](#) web pages.

## FIRST BUSINESS SESSION

It's time for the First Business Session that begins after the Procession and opening ceremony. This event opens with a wonder to behold. Please be seated in the Grand Ballroom by 2:45 PM. Do not miss this moment with Nellie Brown on Harp and Color Guard from McKinley High School ROTC. Governor Bonnie Clesse and the District Board are ready to bring you the business of Zonta. Please take notes on your note pages. I admire the traditions of Zonta using parliamentary procedures to show us the society of business life in the years past. It remains significant in today's world.

## FRIDAY EVENING

Friday evening dinner with begin at 7 PM, followed by entertainment presented by Mary Kate O'Connell's specially designed "**Diva By Diva.**" This evening will be casual business dress. Tables are open to first-come, first served. The conference is full of many of your friends from past conferences and an opportunity to make new ones. Check out the Hospitality Room after the evening entertainment, which is open to 11:30 PM.

### **SATURDAY VOTING**

Voting is scheduled Saturday morning at 8 AM. Do not stay too late at the Hospitality Room. Credentials will be outside the Niagara Room to sign in only voting delegates. The Teller Committee will be there to give you your ballots, guide you to the ballot box, and tally them for the outcome.

### **Alert for 9/28/19**

Breakfast is on your own, so please power up for the long day ahead. There will not be coffee service during the day, but lunch will be available at noon.

### **SECOND BUSINESS SESSION**

The Business of Zonta will continue, and guest speakers will present. We will hear from our ZI Representative, Judy Gorton as she brings us greetings from Zonta International and her perspective on the amazing 100 years of Zonta. We will hear from award winners across the district. Our Area Directors have given us written reports of activities across our clubs. Please use your conference books to read about your club and see the ideas presented by other clubs in other areas.

### **THIRD BUSINESS SESSION**

The Third Business Session will begin after lunch. The Business of Zonta continues. I love the business of Zonta. I enjoy the speakers and the exchange of information. It is wonderful to be a part of these moments. Our afternoon session brings us an opportunity to hear from our Governor and prepare you for the learning experiences of the afternoon breakout sessions. Please attend with confidence knowing that you will be learning something interesting about Zonta that you will want to share with your club members at your October meetings.

### **GALA SATURDAY EVENING**

The highlight of the weekend will be the Reception Line and Cocktail party (Cash Bar) and the Gala event itself. Reception starts at 7 PM followed by dinner and entertainment by the Ladies First Bigg Jazz Band of Buffalo. We invite all attending to wear their finest clothing from these musical eras. Consider Flappers, Rock and Roll, and dress for the band music of the war era. I know many Zonta women will enjoy being "dressed for the Occasion!" There is open seating for dinner with a few exceptions.

### **SUNDAY MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Sunday morning, we will have our very moving Memorial Service in the Niagara Room with Nellie Brown on the harp and her Committee to lend the ambiance we yearn for to honor our 16 friends that have died over the last biennium. This very, moving ceremony is the highlight of my personal existence. Come and join other Zonta members feeling the loss of their dear friends.

### **SUNDAY BREAKFAST**

Breakfast will be available to nourish you for the start of the morning business sessions.

#### **FOURTH BUSINESS SESSION**

We will conclude on Sunday with the Fourth Business Session and the closing of the conference. The meetings will end at noon, and we wish our travelers well on their way. Take your memories home and share them with your club members. We will see you again at the 2020 convention and conference in 2021. Always remember: What Marian de Forest believed, the worlds' Zontians have achieved.