



MINUTES  
ZONTA DISTRICT 4  
CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE  
Buffalo, New York  
September 27-29, 2019

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2019**

Governor Bonnie Clesse, Zonta International Director Judy Gorton, and other members of the head table were led into the meeting. Members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) and Flag bearers proceeded into the meeting as Nellie Brown played harp music. Jackie Davis sang the National Anthems of the United States, Canada, and Australia.

Governor Bonnie welcomed everyone and called the 1st Business Session of the 56th District 4 Conference to order at 3:00 PM. An Invocation was given by Past Governor Joanne Raymond. Governor Bonnie introduced International Director Judy Gorton, International Leadership Chair Kathleen Douglass, International Amelia Earhart Chair Holly Anderson, Past International Director Vivian Cody, Past International Advocacy Chair Connie Deckert, and Past Governors Daisy Waters, Barbara Fera, Dr. Vivian Cody, Anna Parenti-Conn, Sandra Cronk, Kathleen Douglass, Dr. Lee Fogarty, Joanne Raymond, and Lori Robinson. Governor Bonnie then introduced those sitting at the Head Table: International Director Judy Gorton (already introduced), Lt. Governor Janice Durmis, Treasurer Marcia Bliss, Secretary Marianne Chiumento, Area Directors: 1 Brenda Graham, 2 Nita McCown, 3 Jenny Johnston, 5 Diane Balaban, 6 Ann Marie West, and Parliamentarian Kris Fletcher. Governor Bonnie read the greetings sent from Area 4 Director Gina Orsini who was unable to be with us.

Governor Bonnie then introduced Nominating Chair Lori Robinson, Conference Chair Irene (Toni) Majchrzak, Host Club President Mary Vacanti, Credentials Phyllis Dickinson, Registration Lisa Noe, Teller Julie Brown, and Timer Rosie Papalia.

**International President's message**

Zonta International Director and District 4 Liaison Judy Gorton, a 31-year member of the Zonta Club of Perth in Western Australia, introduced a message from ZI President Dr. Susanne von Bassewitz via a short video. The ZI President talked of the work Zonta is doing to end child marriage, especially preventing early marriage in Zambia. President von Bassewitz called child marriage a violation of human rights and a crime. She also shared information regarding Zonta's "Let Us Learn Madagascar" program, as well as reiterated the need to continue the work to achieve gender equality.

ZI Director Judy frequently mentioned Marian de Forest, the founder of Zonta in Buffalo, New York, and talked of the ways Marian, Amelia Earhart, and other women worked hard to gain leadership roles in an effort to help all women achieve equality and basic human rights. She spoke of Zonta as being an organization of service, fellowship and leadership, and encouraged all Zontians to take on leadership positions and embrace the work that Zonta is doing. Governor Judy mentioned the "Hand in Hand" project in Jordan, visited by the ZI President, the many Syrian refugee camps that exist there, and the work that needs to be done to help these refugees. She told of the importance of advocating to change laws, especially with regards to ending child marriage. ZI Director Judy ended by encouraging each and every Zontian to support, encourage, and mentor each other.

## **Voting**

Governor Bonnie explained the voting cards. Roll Call was taken by District 4 Secretary, Marianne Chiumento. Credentials Chair, Phyllis Dickinson gave the credentials report: 8 District 4 Officers, 41 Delegates, 2 Proxies for a total of 51 Voting Delegates.

Motion: Moved by Brenda Graham, Area 1 Director, Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo  
Seconded by Jenny Johnston, Area 3 Director, Zonta Club of Kenmore  
That the Credentials report be accepted as presented.  
Carried.

Registration Chair Carol Spedding, Zonta Club of Lockport, gave the full registration report of 148 registered, 27 first timers. Daily Registration Chair Lisa Noe gave Friday's registration as 132 attendees.

Parliamentarian Kris Fletcher presented the Standing Rules of the Conference as found in the Conference Program.

Motion: Moved by Diane Balaban, Area 5 Director, Zonta Club of Olean  
Seconded by Nita McCown, Area 2 Director, Zonta Club of Toronto  
That the Standing Rules of Conference be adopted as presented.  
Carried.

Conference\_Program: Mary Vacanti, President of the Zonta Club of Buffalo presented the Conference Program, reviewed the schedule, and reminded everyone to bring the Program Booklet to each session.

Motion: Moved by Janice Durmis, D4 Lt. Governor, Zonta Club of Erie  
Seconded by Ann Marie West, Area 6 Director, Zonta Club of Batavia-Genesee County  
That the Conference Program becomes the official program of the business for this 56th District 4 Conference.  
Carried.

Conference Chair Appointments: Governor Bonnie recognized these Zontians and thanked them for the work they have done in providing for this Conference.

Minutes of the 55th Conference: The minutes were previously distributed and approved by the D4 Board. A copy was distributed to all Presidents and was available on the D4 website. Governor Bonnie called for the approval of the minutes.

Motion: Moved by Marcia Bliss, D4 Treasurer, Zonta Club of Jamestown  
Seconded by Jenny Johnston, Area 3 Director, Zonta Club of Kenmore  
That the minutes of the 55th Conference of D4 held in September 2017 in Niagara Falls, Ontario be approved.  
Carried.

Minutes of the 56th Conference: As has been done in previous conferences, Governor Bonnie Clesse recommended that the minutes of this conference be distributed to the District 4 Board for approval prior to being emailed to all clubs and included in the Conference report.

Motion: Moved by Diane Balaban, Area 5 Director, Zonta Club of Olean  
Seconded by Brenda Graham, Area 1 Director, Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo  
That the minutes of this conference be distributed to the D4 Board prior to being available to all clubs and included in the conference report.  
Carried.

## **District Nominating Committee Report**

Lori Robinson, Chair of the District Nominating Committee presented the list of candidates, with bios appearing on the screen, for election as District 4 Officers for 2020-2022:

Governor: Janice Durmis, Erie, Pennsylvania

Lieutenant Governor: Sheena Poole, Woodstock, Ontario

Treasurer: Nancy Peacock, Cheektowaga-Lancaster, New York

### Area Directors:

Area 1 - Jane Newman, Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario

Area 2 - Marion Reeves, Brampton-Caledon, Ontario

Area 3 - Nicki Inch, Niagara Falls, Ontario

Kyle Patterson, Niagara Falls, New York

Area 4 - Lindsay Edwards, Niagara Falls, New York

Mary Vacanti, Buffalo, New York

Area 5 -

Area 6 -

### Vice Area Directors:

Area 1 -

Area 2 - Margaret Geare, Brampton-Caledon, Ontario

Area 3 - Kathryn Bunyan-McClendon, Niagara Falls, New York

Area 4 - Elaine Barkowski, Hamburg-Orchard Park, New York

Area 5 -

Area 6 -

### Nominating Committee:

Diane Balaban, Olean, New York

Brenda Graham, Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario

Karen Grant, Toronto, Ontario

Jenny Johnston, Kenmore, New York

Nita McCown, Toronto, Ontario

Gina Orsini, Cheektowaga-Lancaster, New York

Judy Powers, Hamburg-Orchard Park, New York

Doreen Thompson, Brampton-Caledon, Ontario

Alyce Van Patten, Rochester, New York

Governor Bonnie reported that the next order of business was to accept nominations from the floor, and to have the Chair declare the nominations closed when there were no further nominations from the floor.

District Nominating Committee Chair Lori advised that all nominees from the floor must first have consented to have their names placed in nomination. She then reviewed the procedure to nominate a candidate.

### Nominations from the floor:

for Area 5 Director: Diane Balaban, Area 5 Director from the Zonta Club of Olean, nominated Melinda Johnson, Zonta Club of Warren. Seconded by Brenda Graham, Area 1 Director from the Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo.

for Area 6 Director: Ann Marie West, Area 6 Director from the Zonta Club of Batavia-Genesee County, nominated Janet Dell, Zonta Club of Washington County. Seconded by Nita McCown, Area 2 Director from the Zonta Club of Toronto.

No further nominations came in from the floor. District Nominating Chair Lori declared the nominations closed.

District Nominating Chair Lori declared that according to ZI Bylaws, the candidates must be voted in by ballot, although we had acclamations in some positions. Delegates and voting board members were asked to cast their ballots

on Saturday morning from 8:00-8:20 AM. They were to vote for the positions of Governor, Lt. Governor and Treasurer. They were also to vote for three (3) members of the Nominations Committee, and the candidate with the highest number of votes would be the Chair of the committee. Only club delegates were to vote for their own Area Directors.

All candidates were given the opportunity to introduce themselves to the voting delegates. Maximum time allotted to each candidate: 3 minutes each for Governor and Lt. Governor, and 2 minutes each for all other candidates.

Governor Bonnie thanked the Nominating Committee and the candidates. She reminded all delegates/alternates and voting members of the Board to register at the credentials desk before Saturday morning's business session and each succeeding business session.

Governor Bonnie declared the 1st Business session of the 56th District 4 Conference closed at 5:10 PM.

### **Saturday, September 28, 2019**

Governor Bonnie called the 2nd Business Session of the 56th District 4 Conference to order at 8:30 AM.

Roll Call was taken by D4 Secretary, Marianne Chiumento. Credentials Chair, Phyllis Dickinson gave the credentials report: 8 District Officers, 41 Delegates, 2 Proxies for a total of 51 Voting Delegates.

Motion: Moved by Brenda Graham, Area 1 Director, Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo

Seconded by Jenny Johnston, Area 3 Director, Zonta Club of Kenmore

That the Credentials Report be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Daily Registration Chair Lisa Noe gave the registration report of 144 total attendees.

### **Accountant's Compilation Report**

Treasurer Marcia Bliss read the Accountant's Compilation Report on the Biennial Financial Statements for the biennia ended May 31, 2018 and 2016

Motion: Moved by Nita McCown, Area 2 Director, Zonta Club of Toronto

Seconded by Ann Marie West, Area 6 Director, Zonta Club of Batavia-Genesee County

That the Accountant's Compilation Report for the last Biennium Financial Statements be accepted as presented.

Carried.

### **Budget**

Governor Bonnie explained that the Treasurer's Report is dependent upon income from the members' dues and Conference Assessment. She asked for a motion to adopt the yearly dues as \$20 USD and Conference Assessment is \$3 per person. The half year's dues is \$10 USD and Conference Assessment is \$3 for members who join in the second 6 months of the fiscal year. She advised that the District 4 Standing Rules of Procedure would be amended to enact these amounts.

Motion: Moved by Janice Durmis, Lt. Governor, Zonta Club of Erie

Seconded by Diane Balaban, Area 5 Director, Zonta Club of Olean

That the 2020-2022 dues be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Treasurer Marcia Bliss gave the Treasurer's Report.

Motion: Moved by Nita McCown, Area 2 Director, Zonta Club of Toronto

Seconded by Ann Marie West, Area 6 Director, Zonta Club of Batavia-Genesee County

That the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented.

Carried.

### **Foundation Ambassadors' Report**

Foundation Ambassadors Kathy Smith, Zonta Club of Fort Erie, and Lori Robinson, Zonta Club of Brampton-Caledon provided updates on ZIF projects and the funding needed. They also talked about a new initiative, the "Women in Technology" scholarship, which, at the moment, is a fully funded pilot program. Kathy and Lori are both willing to travel to clubs to talk about the ZIF projects. They ended with a challenge: to have 100 Zontians donate \$100 each to the ZI Foundation.

### **Teller's Report**

Chair Julie Brown, Zonta Club of Stratford, announced the successful candidates:

Governor: Janice Durmis, Erie, Pennsylvania

Lieutenant Governor: Sheena Poole, Woodstock, Ontario

Treasurer: Nancy Peacock, Cheektowaga-Lancaster

Area Directors:

Area 1 - Jane Newman, Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario

Area 2 - Marion Reeves, Brampton-Caledon, Ontario

Area 3 - Nicki Inch, Niagara Falls, Ontario

Area 4 - Mary Vacanti, Buffalo, New York

Area 5 - Melinda Johnston, Warren, Pennsylvania

Area 6 - Janet Dell, Washington County, Pennsylvania

Vice Area Directors

Area 2 - Margaret Geare, Brampton-Caledon, Ontario

Area 3 - Kathryn Bunyan-McClendon, Niagara Falls, New York

Area 4 - Elaine Barkowski, Hamburg-Orchard Park, New York

Nominating Committee:

Doreen Thompson, Chair, Brampton-Caledon, Ontario

Jenny Johnston, Kenmore, New York

Alyce Van Patten, Rochester, New York

Motion:

Moved by Treasurer Marcia Bliss, Zonta Club of Jamestown

Seconded by Brenda Graham, Area 1 Director, Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo

That the Tellers Committee destroy the ballots.

Carried.

Governor Bonnie introduced New York State's Lieutenant Governor, Kathy Hochul, who spoke to the Conference Attendees and presented a Proclamation from the NYS Executive Chamber.

ZI Open Forum: This was an opportunity to speak to International Director Judy Gorton and have questions answered. Past Governor Sandra Cronk, Zonta Club of Hamilton 1, served as Facilitator. Judy's answers to questions elicited the following information:

- As International Director, Judy serves during the Biennium. She sits on the ZI Board and the Board of the International Foundation. She is assigned to 3 Districts - D4, Sweden and Latvia. She attends their conferences and supports these Districts in any way she can.
- As far as increasing membership is concerned, Judy suggests doing a follow-up once women have expressed interest in Zonta. She suggested bringing women in in pairs, and then giving them jobs. She also said that meetings need to be meaningful.
- Judy feels that violence against women and gender equality are the most pressing issues in developed countries.

Governor Bonnie called Vivian Cody, Zonta Club of Buffalo, to speak on behalf of the ZI Centennial Endowment Fund. Vivian spoke about Zonta needing an endowment fund to sustain its future, and to ensure a better world for the women and girls we support, in perpetuity.

**Canada Centennial Country Awardee:** Karin Eckart, President of the Zonta Club of Hamilton 1 introduced Dr. Beverly Jacobs of the Mohawk Nation of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Confederacy, Bear Clan. Dr. Jacobs is the one awardee for all of Canada for her work on empowering and advocating for Indigenous women throughout Canada. Her passion is about peacefulness and safety, particularly among Indigenous people. ZI Director Judy presented the award on behalf of ZI.

Governor Bonnie declared the 2nd Business Session of the 56th District 4 Conference closed at 12:00 PM.

Governor Bonnie called the 3rd Business Session of the 56th District 4 Conference to order at 1:10 PM.

Roll call was taken by D4 Secretary, Marianne Chiumento. Credentials Chair, Phyllis Dickinson, gave the credentials report: 8 District Officers, 41 Delegates, 2 Proxies for a total of 51 Voting Delegates.

Motion: Moved by Brenda Graham, Area 1 Director, Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo

Seconded by Jenny Johnston, Area 3 Director, Zonta Club of Kenmore

That the Credentials Report be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Daily Registration Chair Lisa Noe gave the registration report of 147 total attendees.

### **Service Report**

Sheena Poole, Zonta Club of Woodstock, and Judy Powers, Zonta Club of Hamburg-Orchard Park, asked all clubs to send in reports of their service projects so they can be shared. They reported that 12 Clubs applied for Centennial Grants, and to watch for the application for service awards, as it is coming out soon.

### **District 4 Centennial Recognition Awards**

Governor Bonnie presented the awards to each of the following, or their representatives.

Susan Evans, author and teacher, is the recipient of the D4 Pennsylvania Award. (unable to attend)

Time Nagy, author and survivor of trafficking, is the recipient of the D4 Ontario Centennial Recognition Award. (unable to attend)

Governor Bonnie introduced Mary Travers Murphy, Chief Executive of the Family Justice Center of Erie County, the recipient of the D4 New York Centennial Recognition Award. Ms. Murphy was nominated by 3 D4 Clubs. Ms. Murphy called domestic violence a “public health crisis”. She and her team have worked in high schools, middle schools, and are now working in elementary schools in an effort to break the cycle of violence. She reports that 1 in 3 young girls will be the victims of domestic violence.

### **Advocacy and United Nations Panel**

Members include: Lee Fogarty, Zonta Club of Pittsburgh; Nancy Peacock, Zonta Club of Cheektowaga-Lancaster; Margaret Geare, Zonta Club of Brampton-Caledon; Kyle Patterson, Zonta Club of Niagara Falls, NY; Connie Deckert, Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo; and Julie Brown, Zonta Club of Stratford

Connie explained what an advocate is, and told attendees that we need to let women know that we are working on their behalf. Margaret, working on the UN and gender equality, reminded us that Zonta’s relationship with the UN began in 1945 when the UN Charter was started. Julie answered the question of “What can we do?” by saying that among other things, we can: visit the ZI website, collaborate with other clubs, join the Amnesty International Action Circle, sign petitions, and get involved with the Red Dress Campaign.

## Workshops

The following conference workshops were presented: Achieving Gender Equality, Invigorating Your Club!, Zonta Club Life Cycle - Surviving to Thriving, Zonta Website Navigation - Frustrated to Confident, The Marriage and Divorce Fund

## Bylaws Committee Report

Chair Carma Horner, Zonta Club of Bradford, presented the report. She explained that D4 does not have its own By-laws, so we look at ZI's Bylaws. Kitchener-Waterloo sent a recommendation for changes to the ZI Bylaws. These recommendations involve changes to Elections for Districts and Clubs, and were sent to the clubs for discussion. The recommendations were sent to the District 4 Board at the May 2019 meeting. They are:

Motion: Moved by Nita McCown, Area 2 Director, Zonta Club of Toronto

Seconded by Diane Balaban, Area 5 Director, Zonta Club of Olean

That the changes to Article XIII, Section 6. Officers, (b) Election. Officers, with the exception of the secretary, shall be elected at the district conference immediately preceding the convention. **The election shall be by conference voting members.**

Area directors and/or vice area directors shall be elected by the delegates from the clubs in that area, either at the district conference, or, at the option of the district, at the area meeting immediately preceding the convention. Elections at area meetings shall be in accordance with the procedures in Article XIII, Section 11 (a)(4)(a).  
Carried.

Motion: Moved by Ann Marie West, Area 6 Director, Zonta Club of Batavia-Genesee County

Seconded by Marcia Bliss, D4 Treasurer, Zonta Club of Jamestown

That the changes to Article XIII, Districts, Section 14. Election shall be by ballot vote **unless there is but one nominee for the office. If there is only one nominee, the nominee shall be acclaimed to office and the presiding officer shall announce this to the conference voting members. If a ballot vote is required** a majority vote of the conference voting members shall elect district officers. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for any office, only the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall remain on the second ballot. The district Nominating Committee shall be elected by plurality vote.

Carried.

Motion: Moved by Jenny Johnston, Area 3 Director, Zonta Club of Kenmore

Seconded by Janice Durmis, D4 Lieutenant Governor, Zonta Club of Erie

That the changes to article XIV Clubs, Section 4. Officers and Directors (b) Election. At the election meeting, officers and directors shall be elected by ballot vote unless there is but one nominee for the office, **the nominee shall be acclaimed to office and the presiding officer shall announce this to the conference voting members.** At the option of the club, balloting may be by mail.

Carried.

Motion: Moved by Diane Balaban, Area 5 Director, Zonta Club of Olean

Seconded by Brenda Graham, Area 1 Director, Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo

That the changes to Article XIV Clubs, Section 8 Nominating Committee, (b) Election. If nominees are unopposed, **they shall be acclaimed to the office and announced to the club by the presiding officer. The Nominating Committee may select their own Chair if the Committee has been acclaimed to office.**

If elected by ballot vote, the designated number of committee nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall **Chair** the Nominating Committee.

Carried.

Kitchener-Waterloo also sent recommendations for changes to the Zonta International Policy on Reproductive Health. Since the time of submission, Zonta International adopted a new policy and the Kitchener-Waterloo Club is satisfied with the change. Therefore a vote on the resolution is no longer necessary. The new statement can be found on the ZI website.

### **Membership, Centennial Flag, and Quilt Project**

Governor Elect Janice Durmis reported that as of July 31st, District 4 has 33 clubs and 719 members. All new members will receive welcome letters as soon as their contact information is received. D4 will be hosting a reading group and reading A Good Wife by Samra Zafar, through Go To Meeting on Wednesday, November 13, 2019 from 7-8 PM. The Travelling Flag and book are scheduled for Areas 5, 6, and 4. Governor Bonnie will take the Flag to Convention. The Centennial Quilt was put together by Janet Lindstrom of the Zonta Club of Jamestown. It was presented to Governor Bonnie.

Governor Bonnie declared the 3rd Business Session of the 56th District 4 Conference closed at 5:00 PM.

### **Sunday, September 29, 2019**

A beautiful Memorial Service was held at 7:45 AM for those Zontians we have lost since the last conference. Nellie Brown played the harp, and was invited by International Director Judy Gorton to play the harp at Convention.

Governor Bonnie called the 4th Business Session to order at 9:10 AM

Roll call was taken by D4 Secretary, Marianne Chiumento. Credentials Chair, Phyllis Dickinson, gave the credentials report: 8 District Officers, 39 Delegates, 2 Proxies for a total of 49 Voting Delegates.

Motion: Moved by Brenda Graham, Area 1 Director, Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo  
Seconded by Jenny Johnston, Area 3 Director, Zonta Club of Kenmore  
That the Credentials Report be accepted as presented.  
Carried.

Daily Registration Chair Lisa Noe gave the registration report of 147 total attendees.

Marie Boutillier (wife of Canadian Senator Tony Dean) presented certificates signed by Canadian Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, and by the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford, to Zonta International Director Judy Gorton. Nita McCown Area 2 Director, Zonta Club of Toronto, asked ZI Director Judy to take these certificates to International in the hope that they would be displayed at Convention.

### **Awards**

Governor Bonnie reviewed various D4 Awards not shared in earlier sessions.

- 2018 ZI Amelia Earhart Fellowship presented to Emily Gleeson by ZC Toronto, ON
- Jane M. Klausman Award presented to Katie Chen by ZC Kitchener-Waterloo, ON
- ZI Centennial Grants (12 clubs in D4 submitted grants)
  - Kitchener-Waterloo & Sexual Support Center
  - Niagara Falls, NY & Pinnacle Community Services
  - Rochester & Resolve of Greater Rochester, Inc.
- YWPA - Alyce Van Patten, Awards Chair, Zonta Club of Rochester, presented this award to Virginia Vickers, Zonta Club of Niagara Falls, ON, to be given to Amal Qayum, their nominee.
- ZI Emma Conlon Service Award, Third Place - North Park Z Club, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Brampton-Caledon. ZI Director presented this award to Margaret Geare, ZC of Brampton-Caledon.
- 2019 D4 Z-Club Award - Central Peel Z Club, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Brampton-Caledon.



- 2019 D4 Golden Z Club Award - McMaster Golden Z Club of McMaster University in Hamilton, ON, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Hamilton 1. President Karen Eckart accepted the award on behalf of the students.

### **Area Directors Awards**

Governor Bonnie directed attendees to the Program Booklet and the D4 website for the Area Directors' Reports. Area Directors were now called upon to present their D4 Area Directors' Awards to Clubs.

Area 1 - Brenda Graham, Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo recognized 3 Clubs:

- Membership - Zonta Club of Guelph inducted 4 new members with 3 more soon to be inducted.
- Advocacy for women - Kitchener-Waterloo
- Service - Owen Sound for 25 years of hosting the "Comfort Closet"

Area 2 - Nita McCown, Zonta Club of Toronto, recognized 3 Clubs:

- Communication - Oakville for their great use of social media
- Advocacy - Brampton-Caledon
- Membership - Oakville for recently inducting several new members, now with 35 current members

Area 3 - Jenny Johnston, Zonta Club of Kenmore, recognized 3 Clubs:

- Advocacy - Niagara Falls, ON for lighting the Falls orange
- Membership - Niagara Falls, NY for starting a Z Club this year
- Service - Grand island

Area 4 - presented by Kary Grant, Zonta Club of Toronto, for Area 4 Director Gina Orsini, Zonta Club of Cheektowaga-Lancaster, recognized 4 Clubs:

- Newsletter and a significant social presence - Batavia-Genesee County
- Membership - Cheektowaga-Lancaster saw an increase of 7 members
- Service - Amherst
- Collaboration with local community members/sharing information about CEDAW - Rochester

Area 5 - Diane Balaban, Zonta Club of Olean, recognized 3 Clubs:

- Membership - Olean increased by almost 20%
- Service - Warren for "Free the Girls"
- Advocacy - Corry for "Just Say No" signage

Area 6 - Ann Marie West, Zonta Club of Batavia-Genesee County, recognized 3 Clubs:

- Membership - Washington County, PA doubled their membership
- Service - Three Rivers Pittsburgh North for serving homeless women in the community
- Advocacy - Oil City Franklin for their community involvement

### **Announcements**

- Lori Robinson and Kathy Smith, Foundation Ambassadors, announced that they collected \$8541 from 65 members.
- Donna Ketchum-Colletta, Amelia Earhart Co-Chair announced that \$5000 had been collected through raffles and donations.
- Several announcements were made regarding various events/fundraisers held by the Clubs. All will be on the D4 website when they are submitted.

ZI Director Judy Gorton provided a demonstration of the Australian style of the Installation of new Officers.

### **Call to conference 2020**

The call was given by the Erie Club and Governor-Elect Janice Durmis. The Conference will be September 24-26, 2020 in Erie, PA. Diane Balaban will be Conference Chair. A video of the City Of Erie was shown.

Mary Vacanti, President of the Zonta Club of Buffalo, presented a report on the Conference. She thanked all who attended, with special thanks to the D4 Conference Committee.

ZI Director Judy Gorton presented her report. She said that while her report marks the end of the D4 Conference, it marks the beginning of our work. She was pleased with the great attendance, and congratulated all, especially new members and the incoming Board. Judy commented on the Workshops, the importance of sharing our knowledge, and the Memorial Service.

In closing, Governor Bonnie:

- made a presentation to ZI Director Judy Gorton
- thanked everyone for their work and their attendance
- reminded the current Board of upcoming meetings
- announced the Call to Convention July 3-8 in Chicago, and encouraged all to attend

The flags were retired.

Governor Bonnie Clesse closed the 56th District 4 Conference at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marianne Chiumento, Secretary  
District 4