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DECEMBER
2013

Presidents Report
Maria Zaluski

I attended a meeting arranged by Kevin Godfrey from the Geelong Family Violence unit. The meeting held on 30 October was to present – Norlane/Corio Family Violence hotspots and consider a whole of community approach to tackle this issue. Various agencies were in attendance including Zena Womens Service, City of Greater Geelong, Department of Human Services, and Barwon Health. The agencies present all were employed to provide services affected or associated with reducing family violence. Zonta was the only service organisation. The group was to reconvene and develop a strategy to progress this positive initiative. We at Zonta can give some considerations on how we could support the initiative.

The highlights for the month include the November club dinner. The aims of delivering an advocacy and service activity to align with the “Month of Action” was a very targeted and strategic approach. The targeted approach gained traction from industry and thereby raised our profile in the community. This event demonstrated that we need to look at alternatives in what we do and how we do it. It was also appreciated to have our District Governor speak at the dinner and follow up with a letter of congratulations recognising our efforts.

A great job by a small working group.

The “Girls way program” was also delivered in November. Another successful project which attracted media attention. We can increase our relevant in the community if we continue to deliver projects that are relevant.

Chris and I have been trying to arrange a meeting with Lorraine at Northern Bay Senior College prior to meeting with the Principal. The challenge is to try and find time when we are all three available. We are keen to get some input into how Zonta can continue working with the school.

We have received advice that our Service Recognition Award application has been received and that the ZI Service Committee has allowed for clubs to send an additional 200 word explanation of the project. I will have this complete and forward to relevant personnel.

I would like us to consider if there is any assistance we could provide to the people of the Phillipines caused by Typhoon Yoland.

Finally I have booked the Christmas Dinner. This will be held at Oishii Japanese restaurant. We will have our own upstairs private dining room and the meal will be teppanyaki.



Service & Advocacy Report
By Christine Denmead and Cheryl Gibbons

On Wednesday, 6 November 2013, our Club hosted a successful Dinner meeting in support of the Zonta Says No 16 days of activism and the Geelong Region G21 28 days of action both with a focus on reducing violence against women. We welcomed, Special Guest Speaker, John O'Brien, Head of Industrial Relations at National Australia Bank ("NAB").

The Geelong region has embraced this concept over the past four years and this year there were 13 different activities during this time.

John told us that the NAB have recently introduce a Domestic Violence Policy in the bank and that this policy will be introduced in their new workplace agreements. John spoke about why the bank felt it appropriate to have such a policy and how it fitted with the organisations culture and philosophy of supporting their 300 strong workforce.

This Dinner was a marvelous way of raising the profile of Zonta in our community.



KIDPROOF AUSTRALIA PROGRAM ~ A GIRL'S WAY
By Kirsty Tweddle

I am pleased to report that the Kidproof Australia program which was held early in November was a success. The program was held at Whittington Primary School with Grade 5 and 6 female students participating in our 3 hour program. The program focused on improving self-esteem and body image issues by helping the girls develop their confidence and also identify risky situations, including the importance of saying 'NO'.

Our Club sponsored the program and was pleased to lend our support to the program and its organizer Catherine Gerhardt. Catherine believes that teaching the girls to be aware and to learn about the issues these girls could encounter in their future is important at an early age.

As the program was received so well and supported by all we are looking to expand the program throughout other schools within the Geelong community. We were equally pleased to have had the success of the program reported in the Geelong News newspaper and photographers attend the session and take some pictures of the girls involved.



MEMBERSHIP/FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

By Phillipa Challis

Membership of a club is its lifeline and we are delighted that Shani Cain is adding to ours. We also have several women looking to join us in the New Year.

Our next Zonta Awareness Hour will be presented in February (tentatively Wednesday 12th or 19th). If you have someone who you'd like to attend, please pass on their contact details so an invitation can be sent to them.

The data base of members present and past is constantly being updated. If you have information about any past member, please send it through so we can update our records.

Clyde Park Winery is holding a booking for us on Sunday 19th January 2014 for our fellowship outing. As in the past this includes, members, family and friends and it will be a gathering over lunch. There will be a two course meal offered (sweets are an additional extra) and a cash bar on the day. A flyer with all details is available and RSVP will be through our electronic booking system, TryBooking.com.au

During the Festive Season as you cross paths with women you haven't seen for a while, keep in mind that an invitation to *come along to a Zonta dinner meeting and see what we do for the community* could be one of the best gifts you ever give them.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

Presidents' Christmas Dinner Meeting: **Wednesday, 4 December 2013 6pm for 6:30pm start at Oiishi Japanese Restaurant, 73 Yarra Street, Geelong – for a teppanyaki service**

Membership Fellowship Gathering – **Sunday, 19 January 2014, at Clyde Park Winery**

Board Meeting: **Tuesday, 21 January 2014 at 5:30pm at 27 Lunan Ave, Drumcondra**



Editors Note:

I have had a fantastic time putting together your monthly Newsletters. I wish members, their families and friends of our Club a wonderful and Safe Christmas and New Year.