



### **Zonta International District 13**

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### **Governors letter no 3. June 2011.**

Dear Zontians in District 13.  
My first year as your Governor is nearly over. I have met many Zontians in our District and it has been a great pleasure and very interesting. I have learned that in our organization there are so many energetic and wise women and it is a privilege getting to know them.

#### **Board Meeting.**

Our second board meeting was in Vilnius on the 11th of March. Everything was so well organized by our Area Director in Lithuania **Evalda Jakaitiene**. We came to Vilnius on Thursday the 10th of March. Some of us had to wait on the airport in Copenhagen and then it was uncertain if we could

land in Vilnius because of icefog. We were so happy when we landed there and Evalda was at the airport welcoming us. We stayed at a hotel in the old town in Vilnius that was really nice. We had our board meeting on Friday March the 11th and in the evening we had our dinner in an old beautiful restaurant.

On Saturday March the 12th the board met the club presidents from Vilnius and Alytus and of course Evalda and her secretary Regina from the Alytus club. Unfortunately the president from Mariampole could not attend our meeting and I am sad to say that the Kaunas club has been disbanded. **We had a good discussion with our friends from Lithuania and I hope that they feel that we want them very much to be happy and active Zontians in District 13.**

Saturday evening some of us went to a Symphony Orchestra Concert which was beautiful and on Sunday we left Vilnius so pleased with our stay there. **Dear Evalda and you Zontians in Lithuania, thank you so much.** Our next board meetings will be before and after the District Conference in Akureyri.

#### **Leader meeting.**

I went to a leader meeting in **Trondheim** on the 4th and 5th of February. I had a nice stay there. Everything was so well organized by their **AD Randi Nygaard Lium** and her board. Friday evening we had a dinner together in Randi's beautiful home where we could talk personally and learn to know each other. On Saturday we had the meeting where I learned much about Zonta in Norway. Norwegian Zontians are so active both locally and

internationally. They understand Zonta's mission so well and I am proud of them.

### **Area Meeting**

Then I went to the Icelandic Area Meeting on April the 30th. The youngest club in Iceland organized the meeting.

That is **the Sunna club in Hafnarfjörður** where our **AD Bryndís Bjarnarson** is a member. On the 29th of April there was a reception by the President and his wife at Bessastaðir. That was a great pleasure and also very informative. Then the meeting was on Saturday the 30th of April in Mosfellsbær where many members of Sunna live. In the evening we ended with a nice dinner.

Everything was very well organized and 63 out of ca 200 Icelandic members attended the meeting. Icelandic Zontians sold "**Gender Glasses**" last autumn and have given the profit to **A Shelter for Women who want to give up Prostitution**

Two ladies gave lectures about their stay in Copenhagen where they studied such shelters and the help that these women get there.

### **Homepages**

I remind you to use the homepages [www.zontadistrict13.org](http://www.zontadistrict13.org) **Zonta.dk** , **Zonta.no** and **Zonta.is** and **zonta.alytus.org** and of course the international homepage **Zonta.org** All these homepages give much information and are a great help and pleasure for us.

### **The Service Projects**

Our Foundation Ambassador Aud Aakre has set the goal for this biennium to give 125.000 USD to ZIF. We trust in you

dear Zontians that we will reach that goal.

### **Members.**

I have not got accurate information about the number of members. I am waiting for reports from the Area Directors.

### **Disbanded clubs**

Unfortunately the **Kaunas** club in Lithuania has been disbanded.

Two clubs in Norway have been disbanded. They are the club in **Kristiansand** and **Oslo II** . Both clubs have had difficulties with getting new and young members.

This is sad news and we thank the members for being Zontians for a long time and we hope that some of them can join another Zontaclub in the future. There are also plans about disbanding **Trondheim I** and members there can join Trondheim II that is a very active club.

### **New clubs**

Fortunately we also have some good news. In Denmark the Køge club and Næstved club are Som clubs for **The Zontaclub of Westsjælland**. They have already held their organization meeting and the Charter Celebration for The Zontaclub of West Sjøælland will be on the 27th of August.

**The Zonta club of Skagen** has also been founded and the Charter Celebration will be on the 29th of October. The Zontaclub of Reykjavík is founding a **Zontaclub in Borgarnes and surroundings** and the organization meeting will be in June. We thank these SOM clubs (sponsoring, organizing and mentoring) clubs for their good and great work.

## **Scholarships**

### **Young Women in Public Affairs.**

We got only two applications, one from Iceland and one from Denmark.

### **History of District 13**

Eva Nielsen in Esbjerg Zontaclub has been asked to write the history of District 13 i.e. the new district since 1986.

Eva has sent a letter to all clubs in the District and asked for contact with the **Club Historian.**

If your club does not have a historian it is very wise to nominate one. I ask you to help Eva as much as you can.

Eva Nielsen is a member of the **Centennial Anniversary Committee.**

The Committee proposes plans to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Zonta International with the publication of a centennial history together with a range of celebratory events around the world.

A wise and experienced Zontian in Iceland **Ingibjörg R Magnúsdóttir** has written the history of the Zontaclubs in Iceland from 1941 to 1999. She has given her permission to translate this history into English so that Eva can use it. **Great thanks to you Ingibjörg.**

### **District Conference 2011**

It will be held on the 8th to 11th of September 2011 in Akureyri.

The theme of the conference will be.

**“Gender and climate change”**

The conference will be held in **Hof** the new **Concert and Conference Center** in Akureyri.

**Vigdís Finnbogadóttir** the former president of Iceland and a Honorary Member of Zonta International will attend the Conference.

**Lynn Mc Kenzie President Elect** will be the International Representant.

**On Zontadistrict13.org** you will get all information about the Conference in English, Danish and Icelandic both the program and registration and hotel and travel information.

**Three young Icelandic ladies are lecturers on the theme.**

**Auður H Ingólfssdóttir, Assistant Professor Bifröst University.**  
*Climate Change and Environmental Degradation- What is the link to gender equality?*

**Embla Eir Oddsdóttir, Project Manager Stefansson Arctic Institute**  
*Climate Change – Displacement and Disaster or Resilience and Recovery?*

**Brynhildur Pétursdóttir, Representant of the Consumer Association of Iceland.**  
*Women and Sustainable Consumption*

I hope that many of you can attend the Conference. We look forward to see you. Welcome to District 13 Conference in Hof in Akureyri.

With my best regards  
and thanks for your work for Zonta.

Ragnheiður Hansdóttir  
Governor District 13.



Our Zonta friends in Lithuania



The board in Vilnius



A Leader meeting in Trondheim



Area Meeting in Iceland .  
Happy Zontians from the Sunna club.