

# ZONTA ON THE ROCKS

## ZONTA CLUB OF ROCKHAMPTON INC.

P O Box 323 Rockhampton 4700.

Club No. 1054 - Charter 05.08.83.

Email: [rockhampton@zontadistrict24.org](mailto:rockhampton@zontadistrict24.org)

Rockhampton Web page: [www.rockhampton.zontadistrict24.org](http://www.rockhampton.zontadistrict24.org)

District 24 Website: [www.zontadistrict24.org](http://www.zontadistrict24.org)

Zonta International Website: [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

AREA 4 - DISTRICT 24.

ABN. 51 605 623 392

Incorporation Number.

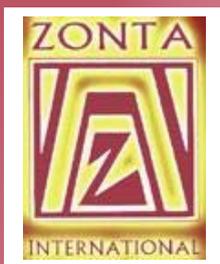
ISSUE 5 –May 2008.

IA13139

### NOTICES.

If you are  
unable to attend  
the dinner meeting,  
please advise  
Anna Tempest  
Ph 4928 7880 (W)  
Ph 4928 7125 (H)  
by 10 am  
on the Monday  
before the meeting.

Failure to  
apologize will  
incur payment  
of \$25.00.



International  
Convention:  
28 June – 03 July  
2008: Rotterdam



## Zonta Club of Rockhampton

### Member of Zonta International

*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*

Fellow Zontians

Our April 'At Home' at Wendy's home was a most enjoyable evening with elegant settings & delicious food. Thanks so much to Wendy for opening up her home and hosting the evening along with the help from Program committee members.

Also in April five Rockhampton Club members travelled to Bargara for our final annual meeting as Area 4 District 24. From July, after the Rotterdam Convention, we will become Area 2 District 22. The meeting was a great opportunity to meet with members from District and others clubs as well as learn more about Zonta. Please refer to website [www.zontadistrict24.org](http://www.zontadistrict24.org) to read presentations.

Interesting presentations were also given by Jacinta Jowett, a local banana producer and Local Rural Achiever and Patricia Eussens, a Bundaberg Zontian and Business Development Manager Bundaberg Rum. We also had an interesting activity to identify personality types by colour. Not surprisingly, most were 'blue' or 'people' people. The dinner was excellent with good food, good company & good

entertainment. Kay McDuff, recently retired Mayor of Bundaberg, was an entertaining after dinner speaker and we were charmed by young soprano, Erin Munn, listen out for her as I'm sure we will hear a lot more of her.

With the AGM this month some office bearers have completed their terms and step down. This is also Berenice's last newsletter after many years, with Teresa taking up the challenge from next month. A big thank you to all of these members for their various contributions during the last year and thank you to those members who have put their hand up for the coming year.

'Til next time

Jan



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President: Jan Landsberg  
[jlands@b022.aone.net.au](mailto:jlands@b022.aone.net.au)

Phone: 4939 8310 (H)  
0423 196 026 (M)

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*Zonta on the Rocks – Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*

**MEETINGS.**

**Board:**

6.30pm:  
2nd Tuesday  
of the month  
Venue:  
Rockhampton Plaza  
Hotel.

**Dinner:**

6.00 pm for 6.30pm  
3rd Tuesday  
of the month  
Venue:  
Rockhampton Plaza  
Hotel.

**Committee  
Meetings.**

**OMC/PR/UN**

**Program:**

Venue:  
Rockhampton Plaza  
Hotel  
5.30 pm—  
2nd Tuesday  
of the month.

**Finance and  
Fundraising:**

Venue:  
Rockhampton Plaza  
Hotel.  
5.30 pm—  
2nd Tuesday  
of the month.

**Status of Women:**

Venue:  
Rockhampton Plaza  
Hotel.  
5.30pm—  
2nd Tuesday  
of the month.

**Calendar:**



**MAY:**

- 13 Committee Meetings/  
Board Meeting
- 20 Dinner Meeting  
Annual General Meeting
- 21 Winter High Tea  
Kershaw House

**JUNE:**

- 10 Committee Meetings/  
Board Meeting
- 17 Dinner Meeting

*Special United Nations Observances  
and Other Significant Days.*

**MAY:**

- 28 International Day for Action  
on Women's Health

"Patience is the companion  
of wisdom"  
St. Augustine

**Dinner Raffle.**

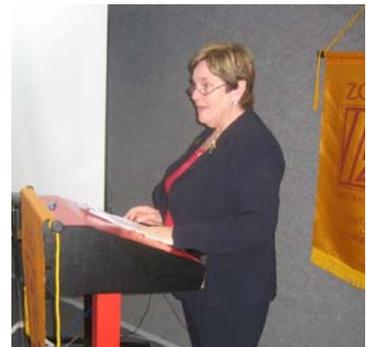
The supply of gifts for the  
Dinner Raffle follows the listing  
in the Members Directory.

- |        |            |
|--------|------------|
| May    | Mary L     |
| June   | Jacki M    |
| July   | Teresa M   |
| August | Berenice P |

Please give your  
raffle prize to  
Elizabeth to co-ordinate.



**Area 4 Meeting – Bargara  
26/27 April 2008.**



If you would like to contribute to your Newsletter  
please forward articles to Berenice Payne  
either by  
Fax: 4922 3315 or Email to  
berenice.a.payne@bigpond.com

**Deadline: First Tuesday of the month.**

**Happy Birthday  
June**

17 Leeanne



## *Zonta on the Rocks – Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*

The article below is taken from the Zonta International Website and is the story of a Zontian who was and who still will be after her death, an inspiration not only to all Zontians, but to all women.

### **Josephine G. Cooke (1931-2008) Zonta International President 1996-1998**

*“Women’s rights are human rights. We, the members of Zonta International, understand that now that we have broken the silence, we must break the cycle.”*

Past International President (1996-1998) Josephine G. “Josie” Cooke’s words are as inspiring today as when she spoke them at a 1998 conference. Josie died 4 March 2008 at the age of 76.

A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (USA), Josie was born 5 May 1931 and at the age of three was diagnosed with rheumatic fever. She was unable to attend school for much of her childhood, but graduated with her class in 1948. She attended Virginia University in Richmond, VA but was diagnosed with sickle-cell anemia at the age of 19 and returned to Philadelphia. Josie was told her life expectancy was 30 years, but with her characteristic tenacity and optimism, she pursued her education and a full family and professional life, despite an illness that was often painful and debilitating.



Josie began her career teaching functionally illiterate adults. In 1967, after moving to southern California, she began a second career in the mortgage banking industry. In 1990, Josie and a partner organized C & L Mortgage Services, Inc., providing consultative training and regulatory compliance audit services to mortgage lenders.



Josie joined the Zonta Club of Los Angeles in 1976. “For me, the appeal of Zonta was its Amelia Earhart Fellowship (to provide scholarships to young women pursuing careers in aviation and aeronautics), but I knew nothing about the Zonta organization in general. And when I learned about what they were doing for women in areas of education, I thought, ‘Oh, great! This is a good thing to do.’”(1) A year after joining, she was elected President of the Club. She went on to serve as area director, lieutenant governor and district governor, and then as International director, vice president and president-elect.

During her service as Zonta International President (1996-1998), Josie opened the country of South Africa to Zonta. “I had the opportunity...to visit South Africa in 1996 and found a country with wonderful resources wealthy and yet stricken with poverty, crime, segregation, and discrimination. Unbelievable.”

She was instrumental in the formalization of the Zonta International Strategies to Prevent Violence Against Women (ZISVAW) Program to reduce the incidence of violence against women and girls by supporting prevention and advocacy strategies. “I was so very pleased at the end of my term [as Zonta International president] the board recommended that ZISVAW should be an ongoing international project ... It’s a beginning. ZISVAW. I would like to see the day come when ZISVAW is no longer needed. That’s the goal.”(2)

In addition to her deep commitment to Zonta activities over 32 years of membership, Josie was actively involved in her church, her community and other industry organizations. She was an activist and Board member of the Sickle Cell Disease Foundation of California. She was also active in Volunteers in Aid of Sickle Cell Anemia and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

She was a lover of music and an accomplished singer, sharing her joy even in the face of many personal challenges.

"Josie was a positive bright light, a determined woman, an extraordinarily wise lady, and a great inspiration to me and to many," said Zonta International Executive Director Janet Halstead.



In 2007, author and founder of Documentary Arts Alan Govenar, himself a member of the Zonta Club of Dallas, included his 2004 interview with Josie in his book, *Untold Glory: African Americans in Pursuit of Freedom, Opportunity, and Achievement*. Josie said, "I guess I've had the pleasure of having more positive results than negative results ... there's an old religious song that we sing, 'I've had some good days, I've had some bad days - Hills to Climb. I've had some lonely days, I've had some sleepless nights, but when I look around and I think it over, all of my good days outweigh my bad days.' If it doesn't go right, I turn around and make another path ... I know I have to do something with the rest of my life. And I don't know what that is; I don't know what that purpose is. But I look at all opportunities as a purpose, as a purpose for me, to do something good for somebody else. That's what I do with my life." (3)

Josie's daughter, Tracey Harris, is a member of the Zonta Club of Los Angeles. Josie's family has requested memorial contributions to the Zonta International Foundation be directed to the ZISVAW Fund.

1 \_\_\_\_\_  
[1] Govenar, Alan, *Untold Glory: African Americans in Pursuit of Freedom, Opportunity, and Achievement*, New York: Harlem Moon, Broadway Books, 2007.

1[2] Ibid.

1[3] Ibid.

*From Berenice:*

*I have been Editor of 'Zonta on the Rocks' since September 1999 and at last I am able to hand over to Teresa who has willingly accepted the post as Editor as from the June edition. I have found that being Editor of the Newsletter has been an interesting activity and has prompted me to research and hunt out information which has also increased my knowledge of Zonta. Please remember that Zonta on the Rocks is your Newsletter and that articles of interest to Zontians are also welcomed from members. Your contributions are appreciated.*

*Thanks Teresa and happy Newslettering!!*

## Celebrating the Life of Josephine Cooke

*Excerpt from Dianne Curtis remarks at memorial service*

"...Zonta International is a better organization because of the leadership of Past International President Josie Cooke. Josie served enthusiastically on every level of Zonta ... During her term as President: the Foundation laid plans for the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Program; celebrated Amelia Earhart's 100th birthday ... Four Zonta International Honorary Members were named ... Oceanographer and marine biologist, Sylvia Alice Earle; Bynecologist and co-founder of a hospital in Ethiopia, Catherine Hamlin; first female Minister of Defense in the world, Elisabeth Rehn; and French and European public official, Simone Veil.

"It would take me a lifetime to share all of Josie's accomplishments. As we celebrate Josie's life, she would want us to remember the beautiful days ahead and embrace the women of the world...

"...Josie often told me: 'Your life will be happy if you wake each morning and give thanks for having another day to do the things that will bring others joy.' As Josie once told me in a letter and now I tell her: I love you, I honor you, and I wish you smooth sailing."

*Dianne Curtis is 2006-2008 Vice President of Zonta International*

*Zonta on the Rocks – Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*



Area Director Berenice Payne  
welcoming all  
to Area Meeting at Bargara.



District Governor Patricia Lawson  
presenting an update on  
ZI and D24 matters at Bargara



Lieutenant Governor Vicki Varthas  
presenting an OMC session  
at Area Meeting.



Trish Collins incoming  
Lieutenant Governor D22  
presenting a session at Bargara



Elizabeth selling Eco bags  
at Bargara.



Trish, Norma, Berenice,  
Elizabeth and Jan



Area Director Berenice and Judy  
Bedford, President Bundaberg Club  
with the Bundaberg Rum Bear.

## *Zonta on the Rocks – Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*

### **Area 4 Meeting - Bargara - 2008**

2008-04-29 11:26 GMT

Area 4 Meeting Report - 2008

The Zonta Club of Bundaberg hosted the 2008 Area 4 Meeting and 41 Zontians enjoyed a very relaxing stay on beautiful Bargara Beach. Members welcomed District Governor Patricia Lawson and Lieutenant Governor Vicki Varthas to the weekend. Representatives from all of our seven Area 4 Clubs attended and all went home inspired by the events of the weekend. Thank you to all who attended. Bundaberg was the largest contingent with eighteen members attending and Maryborough with seven came in second. Rockhampton was well represented with five members and Hervey Bay with three. Gladstone was represented by Gloria. Members from Longreach and Emerald proved to be dedicated Zontians with Bernadine, Barb and Robin driving eleven hours each way from Longreach and Pat driving seven hours each way from Emerald. It is always such a joy to spend time with our Zontian friends whom we see only now and again.

The meeting began after Registration and Morning Tea. Time was spent catching up with Zontians from other Clubs, renewing old friendships and making new ones. Saturday commenced with a welcome from both President Judy Bedford of Bundaberg and Area Director Berenice Payne followed by a District update from DG Patricia Lawson. Lt. Gov Vicki Varthas presented an update on the Proposed District 22 matters.

Presentations were delivered Vicki Varthas, Trish Collins and Berenice Payne. The first of these was by District Chair of Membership and Lieutenant Governor Vicki Varthus and the presentation was full of ideas regarding recruitment and retention of members. Berenice presented two sessions, one on the basic structure at club level and the other on information re Zonta International Foundation and the International Service Program with ideas for clubs for a stronger Local Service Program. Trish presented a session on Strategic Planning and was looking to a future plan for the Proposed District 22.

An interesting presentation was also given by Jacinta Jowett, a local banana producer and Local Rural Achiever. Also a relaxing session by Desma titled Colour Spectrums - Personality Styles was an enlightening experience and sorted us into 'blue, yellow, green or red' people. It was a bit 'spooky' as to how close to the truth it might have been. Great fun for all!!

Club showcase was a great success with seven five minute presentations showing just how active the members are in our Area.

The Area Meeting Dinner was held at the Casablanca Restaurant with the most delicious menu to enjoy. The after dinner guest speaker, Kay McDuff, former Mayor of Bundaberg entertained all with her very witty and interesting speech which told of the lighter side of her time as Mayor. The young teenage soprano, who sang for us, had the most wonderful voice and chose songs which delighted all.

Sunday began with members enjoying breakfast together in the Casablanca Dining Room. After the morning presentations by Berenice and Trish, Trish Eussen's 'life story' of Bundaberg Rum had its entertaining moments as well. The rum balls made by the Bundaberg members, were also well received by members.

Mention must be made of the wonderful organization by the Bundaberg members and the weekend was all the better for the effort which they had put in to the preparations. A special thank you to the host Club, particularly the members of the committee.