



Zonta Club of New Rochelle President's Report 2008-2009

Our Membership:

We are currently at a membership of 21. We hope to have all of the members submitted to international. We anticipate adding three new members by the end of the year. We identified these potential members over the course of the year, as we began searching for guests for our broadcasts. We have a new dynamism as a result of the influence of members who came from our sister club in Mount Vernon, Lavinia Morales and Marsha Gilles. These former Westchester club members have taken leadership roles in our club and brought with them the discipline and knowledge gain from our sister Zonta Club of Westchester. Our meetings are the third Wednesday of the Month.

Our Service:

Our Radio Show now in its 3rd season is helping to gain much needed traction for Zonta in our community raising awareness of issues that impact women locally and globally.

- ❑ Zonta Women's Community Radio participated again in the international action as part of the "16 Days Awareness about Domestic Violence" We probe the impact that media has on gender violence and why so few are engaging boys and men in the struggle for change with film maker activist guest Bryon Hurt. Hurt's 2006 film, Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes explores the billion-dollar hip-hop industry and illustrates how gender violence is exploited by the music industry for profit. His workshops help communities to better understand and redefine the negative stereotypes, gender violence, and sexism perpetuated in the hip hop media, as he helps young artists to reclaim the powerful idiom of rap music as an instrument of progressive social change
- ❑ We did a show that quickly became the 2nd most downloaded episode, "Women in Science" featuring frank discussions with women at work in the sciences and the struggles they face in research and academia.
- ❑ We did a service project- making lunch for the hungry and distributing information about domestic violence and free legal services that subsequently became a broadcast, and a regular monthly service project for our club.
- ❑ We worked with our local Girl Scout Troop, conducting workshops on bullying with 8 girls between the age of 7 and 9 in their meetings. The troop and their leadership then came to the radio station for a tour and to tape their own PSA on Bullying which we aired world-wide and which the station still uses as a PSA. We will continue to work with our Girl Scouts, this year we are partnering with them to do a 3 day Science workshop where the girls will learn about three women scientists and conduct experiments that focus on environmental science, biology and geology from the Cornell Cooperative Extension

Fundraising

We have applied for several grants, getting to the last round on 2 separate grants, namely the Open Meadows Foundation and the Paul Robeson Media Arts Grant. Having a sponsoring organization for ZWCR would put us at a better advantage in being able to secure funding. We have extended advertising opportunities to sponsor the show, and have sold note pads to raise funds.

Roxanne Neilson
President, Zonta Club of New Rochelle

District 3 Fall Conference
October 2-4, 2009, Alexandria, Virginia