



**Zonta Club of Ocean County
President's Report
2008-2009**

The Zonta Club of Ocean County honored its eldest member, Miriam Long this year with a dozen yellow roses on her 90th birthday.

In the spring when we learned that the Monmouth Club was disbanding, an invitation was extended to its members to join our Club. To date, we have welcomed 5 members to our Club.

Our Gift Auction format was changed this year to gift baskets and desserts. Besides being a financial success, we learned that our Club members are great bakers.

Our Service Chair also introduced us to fundraising with the CURRENTS catalog. Our first order in October raised \$500.

Our members like to walk. Through their efforts we were able to raise funds for the March of Dimes and Grace Initiatives.

Our continuing "hands on" fundraiser is performed by our knitting ladies who make beautiful boas in a rainbow of colors. We are always looking for new volunteers to learn the 12 stitches to knitting a great boa.

As a special fundraiser, our members who are employed by the Sovereign Bank were able to get a \$25 donation for our Club for every new checking account customer referred to them by one of our members.

Two new service awards were presented by our Club this year – a Girl Scout Campership and funding for a GED for a woman who is part of the Redeem-Her program which bridges the gap between a woman who was recently released from prison and the community.

We were also introduced to Your Grandmother's Cupboard which now makes 15 stops monthly throughout NJ to help needy families and the homeless with basic necessities.

Our Elder Abuse Task Force continues to clock in hundred of service hours attending Senior fairs and expos and providing mini-seminars on concerns of the elderly.

This spring, our Club was proud to be a sponsor of "The Unstoppable You – A Women's Career Event" at Ocean County College which was coordinated by the College's Displaced Homemakers Program. Their attendees were especially interested in our Dorothy A. Voss Award being offered in the fall of 2009.

At our annual UN program in Nov., 2009, we learned about our newest Zonta country, Niger. To welcome its Zonta Club, we posed for a group photo to be sent with a “Welcome to Zonta” card and a gift of stationery embellished with yellow roses.

At our May meeting, we invited the President of Change a Life – Uganda which has its international headquarters in Ocean County to introduce our Club to its educational program.

Our annual Amelia Earhart event highlighted presentations by Audrey Becker who has been a Zontian for almost 40 years and a future Zontian, the 4th grade granddaughter of a Club member. Their approaches were different. Audrey enlightened us on interesting tidbits about Amelia using a book written by Amelia’s sister as reference, while our future Zontian presented a book report in the first person complete with goggles and flight jacket.

Our Golden Z Club at Georgian Court University though short on members, has been extremely active in the community. Our members were pleased to join its members at their induction ceremony in April.

Karen Porcello
President, Zonta Club of Ocean County

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