

Zonta Club 101

Zonta (noun)

Word Origin: Lakota Sioux

A women's social service organization of Phillips University, founded in 1926

A proud student member of Zonta Club

A proud alumni member of Zonta Club

See also: Zonta Maiden, Zonta Gal, ZG, Zonta Brave

Zonta (adj)

honest, trustworthy, loyal, banded together for a purpose.

Zonta Club Slogan

"Not for Zonta but for Phillips University"

Zonta Club Motto

"Forward ever – backward never"

Zonta Club Colors

Cream, black and maroon

Zonta Club Flower

White Carnation

*“We the members of the Zonta Club
of Phillips University,
do hereby state our intention:*

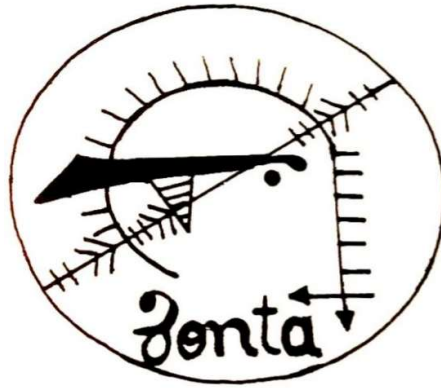
*to strive to obtain more completely
the four pillars of life—
Physical, Mental, Social, Religious –
placing special emphasis on them
through service,
as we render it to others,
limiting it not just to the University
but expanding it worldwide.*

*Through the medium of this
organization,
we hope to become more enthusiastic,
efficient and loyal Phillipians.”*

From the Zonta Club Constitution

Zonta Emblem

ZONTA



The **Crossed Arrows**

symbolize our everlasting bond of friendship.

The **Sun's Rays** represent constancy. As they surround the emblem, they represent the constancy of each member.

The **Thunderbird** represents the calendar of the club, the festive pow wows and times of sincere service.

The **Teepee** represents our temporary home at Phillips University.

The **Morning Star** shows the guidance we receive from others, our sponsors and the Eternal Great Spirit.

Thunderbird Tracks mark the bright prospects

of things to come, continual friendships, worthwhile service, and the abundant accomplishments of Zonta members.

Pledge Season Mental Activity Question

Why is membership in a social service club important to you?

"Membership in a social service club is important for my overall college experience for several reasons. First, the intensity of the pledge season tests my ability to cope with stress, and to budget my time, teaching me patience, even-temperedness and efficiency. Pledge season also shows, in a dramatic sort of way, the frustrations one will experience in life. Having dealt with them once should make it easier next time.

Secondly, the continued experience of fellowship is helpful in building personal security and confidence. A supportive group to build you up makes hard times easier to handle. Learning about the give and take necessary to get along with my pledge class builds skills for later relationships.

Thirdly, a social service club offers an opportunity, for me to say I am interested in more than just what will benefit me. It provides a way in which I can give of myself, my time and my talents, which I feel strongly is my responsibility - just because I am alive and was given the talents I have for a purpose."

From a Pledge book 1978

ZONTA CLUB

Zonta Club was founded in December 1926, with six women students at Phillips University, Enid, OK as the charter members. For their name, they adopted the Lakota Sioux word, ZONTA, meaning “trustworthy.” The club’s purpose was to offer service, to promote loyalty to Phillips and strengthen friendships among students. The four pillars of Phillips University – physical, spiritual, social and intellectual – were adopted as a guiding philosophy.

With an active Pledge Season each year, Zonta Maidens added to their numbers. Pledges proved their loyalty to Zonta, their unity as a pledge class and their love for Phillips University through weeks of testing. Early morning Pledge Courts, both trying and fun, built spirit with rousing choruses of “Gee, I’m Glad I’m a Zonta Pledge! YES, I AM!” Getting Snarfed to the country gave the pledges a bonding challenge and Skip Night a bonding celebration. All 6 men’s and women’s Clubs joined in the chaos of Blind Date Night. Social occasions between pledges and members fostered friendships with Specials and others, so that when HELL Night was over, and blindfolds finally removed, the new Zonta members were fully a part of the tribe! *Phew!*

You could spot a Zonta Gal on campus in her cream skirt and maroon sweater, or later, her black skirt and cream jacket, the name **Zonta** on the back. In more casual wear, it might be a black t-shirt or sweatshirt, emblazoned with the **ZONTA** name. Always, you could tell a Zonta by her Smile, Pep, Charm and Style! You could always find a Zonta at the heart of any campus fun and hear the drumbeat of *Zonta, Zonta, Zonta, Zonta* at every Friendship Fire.

Special club activities included parties for freshman Little Sisters and Little Brothers, a Christmas party with dates and a spring picnic/party – even a river float trip. Regular club meetings gave opportunities for planning, socialization and celebrating the many accomplishments and milestones of the Zonta sisters. Special moments included circling around one of our own to sing “a Zonta girl is a wondrous thing, when she wears an engagement ring” and celebrating our graduating seniors.

Through the years, active members sponsored All-School social activities, such as the Sweetheart Formal, later the Halloween “Spooktacular” or Night of Fun, chili suppers and more. Zonta Gals gave leadership to other campus organizations like Student Government and the Union Board, residence hall board and RAs. They participated in theater, vocal and instrumental music groups, some performing as Ambassadors and Entertainers in settings around Oklahoma. They could be found in Intramural Sports - some years with athletic ability - some years with “*Club spirit!*” In 1980, Zonta won the Inter-Club competition, not by *winning* the most events, but for the most participation points! Over the years, several were honored as Club Sweethearts for the three men’s clubs.

Many proved themselves academically, becoming members of Cardinal Key, winning awards and scholarships for continuing higher education. Zontas were active in language clubs, science pursuits and journalism staff. We are proud to know that a number of Zonta Maidens were chosen as Representative Phillipians in their Senior years.

University wide service projects found Zontas among the workers, like 1963’s Operation Booklift – moving the entire Zollars library! Funds were raised for civic organizations, and Homecoming Mums were sold. Other projects were spearheaded by Zonta including a blood drive, a 1976 bike-a-thon and one to enrich the Enid community, SAFE (School and Family Enrichment) in 1993. As late as 1997, Zonta Gals worked to make a difference, as part of the building crew for a huge Enid playground.

When Zonta Maidens left their “temporary home” of Phillips University, they carried with them lifelong friendships and memories, along with a great love for Phillips University. Younger sisters and daughters followed in the thunderbird tracks to join our Zonta sisterhood. Local Zonta alums returned as club sponsors, some like Ruth Happy Hollow Hedges, serving for many years.

Zonta Alums left our happy tribe with varied experiences and education that prepared them to make a difference in our world. Our Zonta women have impacted our world as educators, medical professionals, therapists, judges,

published authors, ministers and active church leaders, business and civic leaders, coaches and mentors, even elected government officials.

When the university was forced to close its doors, Zonta Alums were principal leaders in establishing the Phillips University Legacy Foundation. PULF scholarships continue our Phillips honors and traditions, standards and ambitions, to carry on our name through history.

Throughout 100 remarkable years of the Zonta Club, the women of Zonta have loyally continued in paths of service, offering friendship and leading their communities toward bright things to come.

***Zonta, Zonta, we're trustworthy;
with crossed arrows our friendships true.
We'll recall our days at Zonta, through our years at Phillips U.
All around the circle, the sun's rays do fall
And the tracks of the thunderbird foresee bright things for all.
Zonta, Zonta, brings you service with our purpose shining bright.
Serving always with sincerity, as we strive for what is right.
All around the circle, the sun's rays do fall
And the tracks of the thunderbird foresee bright things for all.
Gliding swiftly with the morning star,
Lightly as the wings of the bird,
We will conquer the sky of life ahead.
Zonta's voice is always heard.
All around the circle, the sun's rays do fall
And the tracks of the thunderbird foresee
bright things for all.***

*"Zonta taught me more about time management,
organization and leadership than any college course could
do."*

Alisa West, Zonta President 1997

*Blessed are they
who have the gift of making friends,
for it is one God's best gifts.
It involves many things,
but above all,
the power of going out of oneself,
and appreciating
whatever is noble and loving in another.*

*Friendship is the comfort, the inexpressible comfort,
of feeling safe with a person -
having neither to weigh thoughts nor measure words,
but pouring all right out just as they are,
chaff and grain together,
certain that a faithful hand will take and sift them,
keep what is worth keeping
and with a breath of comfort, blow the rest away.*

George Eliot