Area Director Area 02 - Meike Rieken

Report 06/2024-06/2025

1. Membership:

697 members in 23 clubs working together in Area 02.

The club creator working group started activities to found a new club in Fulda.

Club visits by Area-Director and Vice-Area-Directors: 10 clubs have already been visited, and a further 7 club visits have been scheduled. We are working on planning the visits to the remaining clubs.

The clubs are having increasing problems filling their board positions, although the clubs are not too small. 4 clubs have explicitly contacted me. They have received a list from me with suggestions for relieving the President.

2. Area Conferences

The first area conference took place on 12. October 2024 in Darmstadt. At the beginning of the biennium, we had a training for the presidents and treasurer. Topics were the organisation and finance of Zonta. The Zontians also had the opportunity to get to know each other at the get-together party.

The second area conference took place in Trier on 22. March 2025. We started off with a very interesting discussion with the President of Trier University about equal opportunities in the workplace. Another highlight was the presentation of so-called lighthouse projects, for which the Area had announced a prize (see below).

The third area conference will be held in September 2025 during the District Conference in Bologna, Italy. This saves us all travel costs and time. Main topic will be the election of the New Board 2026-2028.

The fourth area conference is already scheduled for the 14.03.2026 in Hofheim am Taunus.

3. Miscellaneous

Zonta Says No 2024

All clubs in the area took part.

German Union call for proposals for violence prevention projects (10/24): 9 of the 38 applications submitted throughout Germany came from our area. 2 of them were awarded prizes.

Area call for proposals for lighthouse projects (3/25):

The prize money was €2,500 per project for 3 long runners and 3 new project ideas.

Intention: Good project ideas as blueprints for other clubs. The money comes from the area's surplus. The projects were selected at the area conference by the delegates (without the involvement of the Board).

Webinar Zonta Basics (3/25)

On March 26, the webinar "Welcome to Zonta - Basics for newcomers and interested parties" took place. I compiled the presentation from the President's training course, the 'Welcome to Zonta' brochure and current information. The intention is to introduce new members to the basics of Zonta in a targeted and timely manner.

The offer was very well received. Around 30 women took part, mainly new members but but also others and even a complete club that used the webinar as a club evening presentation. The plan is to repeat the event every six months, with the next webinar taking place on October 1, 2025.