

## **Zonta Club Welcomes Eight New Members, One Returning**

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Members of the Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva rose to their feet for a standing ovation at their most recent meeting at Beachview, welcoming the largest incoming group in the history of the club. Eight new members were inducted by President Carolyn Gray, coming from a wide range of backgrounds and offering a variety of skills, interests and experiences. Many of these members are already at work on club service projects, and were active in the recent successful fund raiser, A Peek at the Unique. Three are seasonal residents and the remaining five have full-time homes on Sanibel.

Edina Lessack, founder of Meeting & Events U.S.A., is a seasonal resident from Chicago and an accomplished opera singer who has joined the Sanibel Choir. Mary Faegre, also a seasonal resident, is a retired licensed psychologist who volunteers at walk-in clinics both in Fort Myers and her native Minneapolis. Janice Smith has served in executive positions in academic development programs in New Jersey, including Montclair State University and Monmouth University.

The following are all full-time Sanibel residents: Retired teacher Nancy Bender volunteers at The Sanibel School and FISH of Sanibel. Gari Lewis, professional fashion consultant and model, has hosted and produced her own community TV production "In Style With Gari;" she is also a certified yoga instructor and teaches at Sanibel Community Church. Wendy Miller's varied interests include serving as a board member of the international organization Blue Voice which promotes awareness of the plight of dolphins; Wendy also owns a jewelry design business and is a master boat captain.

Jackie Cramer, who hails from Minnesota, is a retired elementary school teacher of gifted children. A gourmet cook, Jackie volunteers at FISH of Sanibel and BIG Arts. Fitness trainer Dalia Jakubauskas is part owner of Planet Fitness in Fort Myers. Dalia volunteers at CROW and her leisure time involves kayaking, scuba diving and the triathlon.

The club also welcomed back Doris Trowbridge, a past president of the club, who is rejoining after several years' absence; Doris was unfortunately unable to attend the induction event.

Presenting each new member with the traditional Zonta yellow rose, Carolyn Gray reminded everyone that membership in Zonta is both an honor and a privilege, and carries responsibilities including the mandatory "enthusiastic volunteering." These new Zontians have already demonstrated their willingness to plunge in and make their mark on the club and on their chosen community. Welcome, everyone!

The Zonta Club of Sanibel/Captiva is a service organization of professional women working together to provide hands-on assistance, advocacy and funds to strengthen women's lives on the islands, in Lee County and around the world through Zonta International. For information, visit [www.zontasancap.com](http://www.zontasancap.com).



Pictured at Beachview are (from L to R): Membership Chair, Claire Mallon, Jackie Kramer, Nancy Bender, Gari Lewis, Edina Lessack, Janice Smith, Dalia Jakubauskas, Wendy Miller, President Carolyn Gray, and Mary Faegre