

## *Brief History of Zonta Club of Aparri*

**ZONTA CLUB OF APARRI**, belonging to Area 4, District 17, is a member of **ZONTA INTERNATIONAL**. The founding of Zonta International occupies a unique moment in women's history. Established in Buffalo, New York, USA in 1919, early members were among the first generation of college-educated women, the first generation of North American women to vote, and a part of the growing, though still comparatively small, legion of women entering the workforce. Over the decades, Zonta International has grown into a worldwide organization of executives in business and professions working together to advance the status of women through service and advocacy. Now, there are more than 30,000 members in more than 1,200 clubs in 67 countries all over the world.

**ZONTA CLUB OF APARRI** was chartered on December 12, 1991. After a series of meetings initiated by Zonta Club of Tuguegarao Foundation, our mother club headed then by Zontian Letty Aquino, our club was born with its 20 Charter Members: Maria Alameda, Lydia Brosas(+), Natalie Buenavides(+), Nora Catalan, Carmencita Chan, Josefina Chy, Criselda Dayag, Marvi Decierto, Leticia Felebrico(+), Emerenciana Garcia, Editha Oñate, Judith Oñate(+), Rosario Pablo, Roselily Padre, Aida Ramos, Florentina Reyes(+), Esperanza Romillo, Florence Tan(+), Melecia Tan(+) and Shalimar D. Tumaru, the Charter President.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary on December 12, 2016, our club has already undergone superior leadership of 13 empowered **PRESIDENTS** namely:

Shalimar D. Tumaru (1991-1994), Edith Oñate (1994-1996), Judith B. Oñate (1996-1998), Emerenciana A. Garcia (1998-2000), Lita O. Usal (2000-2002), Aida Ramos (2002-2004), Marvi Decierto (2004-2006), Criselda Alzaga (2006-2008), Marie Jean P. Gorospe (2008-2010), Norma L. Arellano (2010-2012), Marilyn A. Santos (2012-2014), Benifroi P. Pascual (2014-2016) and Judie Linda G. Miguel (2016-2018).

Through the years, Zonta Club of Aparri continually conducted the following services, advocacies, projects and activities:

### **SERVICE PROJECTS**

We rendered the following: Free Medical Clinic every 3rd Saturday of the Month at the Zonta Club of Aparri Office, *Ophthalmologic Services in cooperation with the UST Ophthalmologists and the Resources for the Blind Inc.*, Free Dental Check up and Extractions, *Relief Operations for Typhoon Victims*, Christmas Gift Giving for less fortunate families in different Barangays, *Christmas party for indigent children at the Aparri park with the Z Club*, Free Bone Density Screening benefitting women of pre and post menopausal age, *Iron & Vitamins Supplementation to Day Care children and kinder pupils*, Visitation and distribution of gifts and vitamins to the children in Cagayan Valley Children's Home, *Lecture on Proper Post Harvest Handling of fresh Fish to the fish vendors association*, Free Eye Refraction and Free Reading Glasses for the elderly, *Free Pap smear to sexually active women*, Skills Training and Livelihood Program on Fish processing and preparation of various value-added recipes from fish and other aquatic products, *Pedicure & Manicure with Massage*, Foot Spa, *Perfume Making*, Dishwashing Soap & Fabric Conditioner Making, *Continuing Medical Missions conducted at different Barangays of Aparri.*

### **ADVOCACY PROJECTS**

We organized Seminars on Anti-Violence against Women and Children held at the different Barangays of Aparri, *Seminars on Women's Rights*, Orientation on Women's Health, *Advice on Reproductive Health*, Early detection of Breast Cancer, *Dental Health education offered to mothers & school children*, Forum on Responsible Parenting and *Guidance on Proper Nutrition*, and Seminar on Teenage Pregnancies.

## **ZONTA VISIBILITY & CREDIBILITY PROJECTS**

We opened the Zonta Office at the Ryan Mall of Aparri during the early years of Zonta Club of Aparri, *Installation of Zonta Markers, Billboards and Streamers in conspicuous places in our town*, Construction of Park Tables & Benches, *Joining the Clean and Green Program of the Local government*, Coverage of club activities in traditional tri-media: 1) Airtime at local radio station 2) Cable TV Community Channel Ads 3) Publication of the ZCA Newsletter "The ZONTA Bulletin", *Clean up of the park & streets*, Annual International Coastal clean-up in coordination with the LGU, *Tree Planting along the coastlines of the Cagayan River & the Philippine Sea*, Organization of Z Club, *Hanging of Streamers*, Motorcade around town in Celebration of Zonta Rose Day & International Women's Day and United Nations' Day.

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

We established the Strengthening of unity among Women's Clubs during celebrations of our Town Festival with Zonta Club of Aparri as the regular Committee Chair of the Women & Senior Citizen's Night, *Attending the ZI Intercity'94 at Baguio City with the theme "Bringing the Zonta Family Together"*, Annual Celebration of Zonta Club of Aparri Anniversary & Christmas Party, *Annual Celebration of Zonta Rose Day & International Women's Day*.

## **FUND RAISING PROJECTS**

Organization of the Zonta Club of Aparri Cooperative, *Bingo Socials and Dinner-Dance for a Cause*, Selling yellow roses on Zonta Rose Day, *Continuous sourcing of funds through letters with solicitations, caroling & communication from friends abroad*.

## **OTHER CLUB ACTIVITIES**

Aparri Zontians regularly attended Biennial Area Meetings, Zonta International District Conferences, Zonta International Conventions and Zonta International Leadership Trainings. *We established networking with like-minded organizations*. We made Club Donations to the Zonta International Foundation, *Members also patronized Zonta Pins as a form of individual donation to Zonta International Foundation*.

To respond to the call of the times, in Biennium 2012-2014, Zonta Club of Aparri introduced New Projects to fulfill Zonta International's Biennium goals and United Nation's Millennium goals: *We held Seminars on ZONTA SAYS NO-The Campaign to End Violence Against Women & Children.* We organized Seminars on HIV/AIDS and STIs aptly initiating it on World AIDS Day on December 1, 2012 . *We chartered the CSU at Aparri Golden Z Club.* Together with the CSU at Aparri Golden Z Club, we held a Seminar on Women's Rights and joined the International Coastal Clean-ups. *We provided Scholarships for women in NCII Bread & Pastry Production.* We organized a Livelihood Program on Meat Processing for women. *We participated in the Zonta International District 17 Advocacy Forum & Website Launch carrying with it the Zonta Club of Aparri Webpage.* We activated Zonta Club of Aparri Facebook Account. *We celebrated Zonta Rose Day & International Women's Day (March 8, 2013) initiating it with a Motorcade and giving Free Pap Smear & Orientation on Women's Health.* The following year, we celebrated the day by holding a Forum on Solid Waste Management. On United Nation's Day, October 24,2012, we held a Poster-Making Competition for HS students with the theme "Eradication of Extreme Poverty for a Better World". *The following year we joined the UN's Day celebration in Manila with the Forum: Peace Efforts Towards the Achievement of Millennium Development Goals.* On our 22nd Club Anniversary, we held a Medical Mission with Free Eye Refraction & Free Eye glasses, and *donated to the victims of Typhoon "Yolanda".* Members patronized Zonta Pins as a form of individual donation to Zonta International Foundation. *Members attended the Area 4 Officers Training in Manila, the Zonta International District 17 Area 4 Meeting in Baguio City & the 61st Zonta International Convention in Torino,Italy.*

Serving as a showcase of our Biennial Accomplishments, Zonta Club of Aparri won **1st Runner-up** in the **Photo/Poster Competition** held during the **Zonta International 17th District 17 Conference in Hong Kong** on September 13-15, 2013.

In the following Biennium up to the present, Zonta Club of Aparri continues to serve with ardor and passion, contending with the needs and call of the present times.

This Biennium we have accomplished the following projects and services:

**September 14, 2016**, we had a feeding program at The Missionaries of Charity at Maura, Aparri, Cagayan. This was in cooperation with Vice President Angelita Usal ,who was in charge with the food.

**November 12, 2016**, United Nation Day was celebrated with ,motorcade around the town of Aparri fallowed by regular meeting at St. Patrick Hotel.

**November 29, 2016**, Medical mission was rendered at Maura Elementary School. This mission was in partnership with Aparri Water District.

**December 12, 2016**, we celebrated our silver anniversary at St. Patrick Hotel at the same time unveiled the ZONTA History Book.

**March 08, 2017** , we celebrated International Women's Day in cooperation with our Local Government Unit headed by our Mayor Shalimar D. Tumaru, who is our Charter President.