

## ZONTA CLUB OF SCV INDUCTS SIX NEW MEMBERS

Six new members were inducted into the Zonta Club of Santa Clarita Valley at the club's January meeting held at the lovely Mimi's Café in Valencia.

Lois Bauccio, current club Membership Chair, individually introduced the diverse group of professional women who have dedicated themselves to Zonta International's new theme: "Build a Better World for Women and Girls." President, Nicole Miller, inducted the newcomers while International Director and honored guest, Britt Vaughan, "pinned" the ladies with their shiny new Zonta pins on a maroon ribbon amid a resounding chorus of approval from the audience. Each woman was invited to share their interest in joining Zonta, while each was presented with a token of Zonta SCV's appreciation and a Zonta yellow rose symbolizing the new friendship.

Here is a brief overview of the six latest inductees to Zonta SCV.

Joining remotely via Zoom was former member and new inductee, **Susan Reynolds Buckley**. Sue is an independent businesswoman and a consummate volunteer having won the Carmen Sarro Award for Volunteerism and receiving nominations for SCV Woman of the Year many times. Sue now lives in Clovis where she participates in numerous community projects, especially those for Reedley College, where her husband, Dr. Jerry Buckley is the President. Sue joins the ranks of our eight "Distance Members", now in 4 states and around California, who love Zonta SCV and want to remain part of its mission from a distance.

**Inez Cadavid** was the next inductee at the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. President Nicole wanted to personally induct Ines when meeting in-person, as Ines joined virtually in November. Ines first became interested in Zonta SCV through the late member, Betty Seldner. As did Betty, Ines has her own consulting business in environmental services helping local businesses and industries to handle hazardous substances and waste in an environmentally correct manner. When Betty introduced her to the Zonta mission, as enthusiastic as Ines was, she felt her children were too young for her to be an effective member. That was years ago, but she has remained interested as time went by. Now that her children are adults, she is ready to serve. Her passion is tackling issues of domestic violence, and she has volunteered for many years in the DV arena with other members of Zonta SCV.

**Cyndi Kleinfeld** has been working with Zontian, Lois Bauccio, for years on the Steering Committee of Nonprofit Leaders Network. In her volunteer efforts for the group, she has become indispensable to the group's operations due to her outstanding communication skills and facility with the social networks. She has given her marketing services pro bono to struggling nonprofits in the SCV improving their visibility for maximum outreach. In her professional life, she has helped KHTS create some of their enormous community events, including the Home & Garden Show. She serves on the boards of the SCV Education Foundation and Mothers Helping Others, among others, and she has chaired the popular Touch-A-Truck

family event. She is the mother of triplets, and since they are now out of high school, she is excited to have the time to fully support the Zonta mission with her talents.

**Tracy Taris** has been a volunteer speaker for Zonta SCV's longest-running service project, LifeForward. She is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) in private group practice with her own local clinic in Newhall. She specializes in helping people defeat negative thinking, heal from past abuse, and create a better life. Her talks with the audience of LifeForward have helped single mothers and other women dealing with extraordinary stress to deal effectively with their psychological problems. She is a published author of a new book, "Many Voices, One Truth", and a dedicated community leader. Her professional theme is "Healing the Mind and Spirit", and she looks forward to helping women and girls to "Build a Better Life".

**Selina Thomas** first heard of Zonta at a Women in Service celebration. She had a friend who was nominated for the Carmen Sarro Award, but while she was in attendance to honor her friend, she was intrigued by Zonta SCV and the Zonta mission. She and Lois Bauccio connected many times in the ensuing months, and Lois witnessed a force of nature at work. Selina started her professional life as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, but she later transferred her considerable people and entrepreneurial skills into creating her own Human Resources business. "Six Degrees HR Consulting", offers HR services to businesses so that they do not have to staff their own HR office. Her business plan is to franchise her business, an idea which was to be featured on Shark Tank; an effort that was scuttled during the global pandemic. Selina serves on numerous nonprofit boards in the SCV including the WISH Education Foundation and the Santa Clarita International Film Festival, among others. She also is interested in community service through civic engagement and recently ran a close race for Council Member of the City of Santa Clarita. Her own personal story is one of remarkable courage, and as the proud mother of three fabulous daughters, she passionately wants to "Build a Better World for Women and Girls".

**Di Thompson** is another incredible community leader. Zonta first became aware of her considerable talents and professionalism at a SCV Chamber of Commerce event, InfluenceHER, where she was a featured speaker. After that event, the Chamber enlisted her to be the Chair of its newest council, the Black Business Council which works to inspire, empower, and promote the economic growth and sustainability of black businesses, entrepreneurs, and professionals within the SCV. In her own business, Di is an independent Realtor, with eXp Realty, based in the SCV. Di has been an effective volunteer for numerous SCV charities including SCIFF and VIA among others. Recently she was a model at the SIGSCV Fashion Show which raised money to improve the futures of girls. She has said, "My dream is to be a positive mentor for young women and to specifically be a positive role model for women of color who often times have unique obstacles and financial hurdles to overcome which can discourage them from seizing opportunities in real estate and investing." She has two daughters and cares deeply about the future of women and girls.