

NEWS RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

ZONTA ANNOUNCES THE 2009 GOLD STAR RECIPIENTS

The Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach is proud to announce the recipients of the 2009 Zonta Gold Star Award. This award recognizes achievements in improving the lives of women and girls in the Myrtle Beach area by individuals or organizations. They demonstrate what one person can do.

“In this year, 2009, the 90th birthday of Zonta International, our umbrella organization” said Lillian Krieger, President, “we believe our recipients are excellent examples of individuals across our community who have dedicated their lives to serve women and girls in the Coastal Carolinas:”

- **Barbara Blain-Olds**, Assistant City Administrator for Conway, SC: Ms. Blain-Olds, attending the 2009 Empowering Girls Symposium in Columbia, has received the 2007 Conway NAACP Ernest Finney, Jr. Historic Achievement Award, and was inducted into the 2006 Inaugural Million Dollar Club of Coastal Carolina University. A former member of Conway City Council, a 1987 graduate of Leadership Grand Strand and a 1990 graduate of Leadership South Carolina; she is a member of Friendship Baptist Church and serves as Youth Usher Leader. She is also a Girl Scouts of America Leader of Troop 88.
- **Dr. Deb Walker**, Assistant Professor of Communications, Coastal Carolina University: Dr. Walker has been on the forefront of the fight to end human trafficking in the Myrtle Beach area. She has been instrumental in success of the local coalition against trafficking. Her relationship with her students brings out their desire to learn and explore the world around them. Her honors include the 2008-2009 Dwight L. Freshley Outstanding New Teacher Award from the Southern States Communication Association; 2005-2006 Edwards College of Humanities Outstanding Teacher Award; and the 2008-2009 Edwards College of Humanities Student Council “Apple” Award in recognition of her innovative methodology.
- **Renee Hall**, Avon Division 1409 Manager: Ms. Hall works with Avon because of the opportunities the company gives to empower women both economically and culturally, and the company focuses on domestic violence and breast cancer. She keeps her team of almost 500 representatives current on domestic violence projects in the Carolinas. She supports the new Avon Foundation’s Children of Domestic Violence Advisory Committee grants to help children affected by domestic violence.

Join us on November 7 at 8:30 am at Max & Erma’s Restaurant in Carolina Forest, to honor these women and the work they do for the community. Tickets are \$20 per person.

Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach has been dedicated to improving the status of women and children locally and internationally. The Club funds projects for CASA (Citizens Against Spousal Abuse) and ECCAHT (Eastern Carolinas Coalition Against Human Trafficking), and has also supported the Rape Crisis Center, Horry County Family Outreach and other local organizations.

As a part of an International Organization of over 1,206 clubs in 67 countries, the Zonta Club of Myrtle Beach has the support and direction of people dedicated to improving the legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status of women globally.

Contact Betty Houbion at 843-357-7010 or email zontamb@earthlink.net, to reserve tickets to this very special event.